

CORNERSTONE CHURCH BRIDLINGTON CIO

Trustees Annual Report 1 October 2023 - 30 September 2024

AIMS, PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

The main aim and purpose of Cornerstone Church Bridlington is to advance the Christian Faith by preaching the message of the Bible and the central tenets of faith, forgiveness, love and care for others in our community. By doing this, the church educates its members and those of the local community of the beliefs of the Christian faith and how that understanding and knowledge can have a positive and helpful impact on their lives and community.

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Having due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance and the need to provide benefit to the public, the Trustees seek to achieve the aims and purposes in the following activities:

Sunday Morning Services

Between 30-40 people attend our Sunday services. During the summer season numbers increase because of new and returning visitors on holiday in the area. Visitors find us through our website, Facebook page and the Fellowship of Independent Churches (FIEC) website. Visitors tell us they appreciate the warm welcome they receive at Cornerstone, and they appreciate our facilities which makes Cornerstone a great place to meet.

Our services are led by our Elders and invited speakers, some from as far away as the Leeds area. We are thankful for them and for the sound and practical teaching from God's word that they share with us each week. Refreshments are served after each service, and this is a great time of fellowship.

We share our recorded morning services via You-tube with those unable to attend church due to ill health etc. For Christmas 2023 we had a Sunday Morning Carol Service. The Easter Sunday service included contributions from members of our congregation. A Communion service takes place every month and on Good Friday.

Tots & Co

The Tots & Co group for pre-school children accompanied by their parents met on Friday afternoons. Numbers can vary depending on the weather and the other commitments of the parents. The activity runs in school term time and is led by a team of church volunteers, and we are so thankful for their commitment to this group. At Christmas the group had a party and a visit from Father Christmas. Presents of a book and some chocolates were given out to the children and parents were given a lovely nativity scene coaster.

This group has been an invaluable time of social interaction for the youngsters and their parents with refreshments included each week. The outdoor garden is used on good weather days. This activity is free of charge, but a box is available for any donations, and these are given by the church to support a chosen cause.

Due to staffing levels being reduced due to health and other commitments we couldn't restart the group in September after the summer break. We are seeking new volunteers and are keeping in touch with the parents for the time being until we can restart the group.

Bible Study & Prayer meetings

Bible study groups were run on Wednesday mornings. Starting in January we had 5 consecutive Sunday morning services focused on the book of Philippians which became the subject of 4 Bible study sessions on the following Wednesday mornings. In September we had weekly studies reading and discussing the book of Ruth. The sessions were well attended and included group participation in reading the Word, open discussion and application in modern times. Sessions finished with corporate prayer.

Prayer meetings take place on the fourth Saturday of every month in the morning.

Bookstall

We have a bookstall in the Church with a range of Christian books. We often give away devotional books and those that are for sale are sold on a not-for-profit basis and are discounted from the recommended retail price.

Outreach

Through the summer months volunteers visited two new housing estates and the area around the Church to do door to door leaflet drops. The leaflet comprised of an open invitation to our Church services and events and included contact details and useful emergency phone numbers for local support services.

Our website was redesigned and upgraded to enable a wider reach on the internet and easier access on mobile devices. The website is updated weekly with news and events.

We publish a monthly newsletter which is available in print form and distributed to subscribers through a mailing list. It is also available to be downloaded from the Church website. Content includes a devotional message, upcoming events and details of weekly services. Church members are invited to contribute.

Men's breakfasts

Bi-monthly men's breakfasts took place Saturday mornings. These have been well supported, and we have seen an increase in attendance to over 20 men. This is a great time of fellowship over breakfast and the morning concludes with a Gospel message with an opportunity to take away some literature for further study. The group is supported by men from the church who invite their friends and men from other churches come too. There is no charge for this event. In September a collection was taken to give to Macmillan in place of us doing a coffee morning.

The breakfasts are run by a team of church volunteers, and we are so thankful for all the effort they put into organising the breakfasts and making them so valuable and enjoyable.

Ladies Lunches

Bi-monthly ladies' lunches take place on Saturdays. The numbers regularly exceed an attendance of 30 ladies. We are so pleased that some of the ladies now come to other events because of the first attending the lunches. At each session there is a short bible message/thought for the day. There is no charge for this event. In September, a collection was taken to give to Macmillan in place of us doing a coffee morning.

We are very grateful to volunteers who organise the lunches.

Coffee & Chat

Once a month on Wednesday afternoons we meet at a local garden centre for coffee & chat. The numbers vary from month to month between 10-15 persons. It is mainly supported by church members who bring along their friends. This is an opportunity to meet and encourage each other socially and to build relationships in the church.

Special Events

November 2023

Julian Gutteridge, from Counties, came to Cornerstone in November to speak about his evangelism work in Hull, West Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire. They take part in door-to-door work, open air outreach and sharing their Christian faith.

We held our Annual General Meeting.

December 2023

We joined with other Bridlington Churches to sing Christmas Carols in the marketplace in Bridlington. Bible Tracts and New Testaments (provided by Good News for Everyone) were distributed to members of the public.

January 2024

We had a New Year party and invitations were extended to everyone who attends Church services and events and their friends.

March 2024

We joined with other Churches for a special Good Friday communion service followed by lunch.

July 2024

A representative from the Soldiers' and Aviators' Scripture Readers Association (SASRA) came to update us on the work they do and lead at a Sunday morning service.

September 2024

We had a Church barbecue which was well attended by members and local families.

Representatives from Caring for Life visited us and led one of our Sunday services in which they shared about the vital work they do with homeless and at-risk people.

Volunteers

All the work that takes place at Cornerstone is carried out by volunteers. To comply with health & safety and building regulations some work is undertaken by qualified contractors (electrical, gas etc.).

We are grateful to each one for their commitment to the church. Teams of volunteers are responsible for the cleaning of the church on a rota basis and for serving refreshments after the Sunday morning services. We have 2 volunteers who look after the gardens and car park areas for us. The help given is much appreciated by the Church Trustees.

Groups who use Church Facilities

The Church Trustees agreed to let the Hull & East Riding Immunisation Team use the church again this year to run clinics on two occasions during the year. There is no charge made for this arrangement.

Community Support

The church fellowship has:

- donated their used stamps which were given in aid of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance
- brought items from home suitable for use for craft work and these have been donated to a local pre-school

Finances

As usual each year, we recognise, and give thanks for, God's continued provision in supplying the financial needs to continue the work at Cornerstone Bridlington in wonderful ways.

Our receipts for Church use amounted to £19,676.87, plus the giving of £3,003.54 for the regular Missions we support, and gifts to Barnabas Aid of £837.75 for their work in Ukraine. A collection of £240.65 was also made in support of Macmillan at the men's breakfast and ladies' lunch. In addition to this regular giving, we received a Grant of £20,000 from FIEC which related to a bequest they had received which was to be used for Gospel Work in our area. This, plus the interest of £360.45 that this fund earned, amounted to total receipts of £44,119.26.

We became aware of financial problems which Barnabas Aid had reported to the Charity Commission, and were seeking to address, but the Trustees made the decision to suspend collections until further notice.

The total cost of the work amounted to £21,394.50, including payments of £3,437.25 to regular Missions and Barnabas Aid, and the collection of £240.65 to Macmillan. £1,017.95 of the FIEC Grant was used for legal advice and advertising for a Church Worker.

Although our income is relatively small, we are blessed to have Reserves, in accordance with Charity Commission guidance, which would allow for large repairs and maintenance bills which our income would not cover.

We wish to thank all those who faithfully give of their finances, but also their time, effort, and skills to

support the work. We also thank Ms Helen Gilson for examining the accounts for us.

So, again at the end of another financial year, we have proved God's faithfulness to us, and look to Him again for the growth of the work in the current and future years.

Structure, Governance and Management

Cornerstone Church has a CIO Foundation Constitution whose Trustees are selected by its Charity Trustees only. The Trustees oversee all matters of policy, safeguarding and legal requirements for the operation of Cornerstone's charitable status. They have the general control of the administration of Cornerstone Church and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the church. They also have a duty of care to perform their function as Trustees of the church in a manner that would most likely further the purposes of Cornerstone Church.

A review of governance took place in early 2024 and three Elders were appointed in accordance with Biblical principles contained in both Old Testament and New Testament scripture in which Elders are referred to as suitably gifted and qualified men. The FIEC also endorses this Biblical truth. The Elders are responsible for the leading, teaching and pastoral oversight of church members so that the church members be encouraged to grow in spiritual maturity.

A Support Team compliments the leadership with various skills in administration and practical applications. They also give advice to Trustees on day to day matters in the operation of the Church.

An up-to-date Safeguarding Policy is in place and training and DBS checks are completed where necessary.

Cornerstone is an associate member of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) for which we pay a subscription.

Names of the Charity Trustees who managed the charity in this reporting period:

David Collier (resigned 3 July 2024)
Susan Collier (resigned 3 July 2024)
Rosemary Gilliland
Rosemary Gray (appointed 3 July 2024)
Ian Marson
Sophia White (resigned 30 September 2024)
Audrey Woodman (appointed 3 July 2024)

Church Officers:

Sara Dean (Secretary)
Ian Marson (Chairman)
Sophia White (Safeguarding Officer)
Audrey Woodman (Treasurer)

ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Cornerstone Church Bridlington CIO

St Johns Walk

Bridlington

East Yorkshire

YO16 4JH

Email: cornerstonechurchbrid@gmail.com

Web: www.cornerstonechurchbrid.co.uk

Phone: 01262 228 650

Registered Charity Number 1173459

Approved by the Trustees:

Date: 26 March 2025

Signed by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Mason', is written over a light grey rectangular background.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Cornerstone Church Bridlington CIO

1173459

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/10/2023

To

Period end date
30/09/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
General Offerings	14,556	-	-	14,556	13,146
Other Income	1,169	-	-	1,169	60
GASDS	2,000	-	-	2,000	2,000
Gift Aid	782	-	-	782	642
Interest	1,170	-	-	1,170	463
FIEC Grant		20,000		20,000	
Grant Interest Earned		360		360	
Regular Missions incl Tithed Grants		3,004		3,004	3,045
Special Purposes		1,078		1,078	1,164
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	19,677	24,442	-	44,119	20,520
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,677	24,442	-	44,119	20,520
A3 Payments					
Premises	5,878	-	-	5,878	2,977
Utilities	3,519	-	-	3,519	1,982
Insurance	984	-	-	984	1,005
Licences/Subscription	1,577	-	-	1,577	1,253
Youth Work	29	-	-	29	140
Outreach/Publicity/Events	1,371	-	-	1,371	1,789
Catering	134	-	-	134	170
Sundries	465	-	-	465	268
Visiting Ministry	1,170			1,170	1,520
Grants to Missions	1,456			1,456	1,915
Training	1,134			1,134	47
Missionary/Special Purposes		# 3,678		3,678	4,777
FIEC Fund Payments		1,018		1,018	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	17,717	4,696	-	22,413	17,843
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	17,717	4,696	-	22,413	17,843
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,960	19,746	-	21,706	2,677
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	1,960	19,746	-	21,706	2,677

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current Account	11,235	814	-
	Savings/Reserve	38,226	19,342	-
	FIEC Grant		-	-
	Total cash funds	49,461	20,156	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Missionary Gifts	Restricted	814	October/November 2024
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Cornerstone Church

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of The Act.

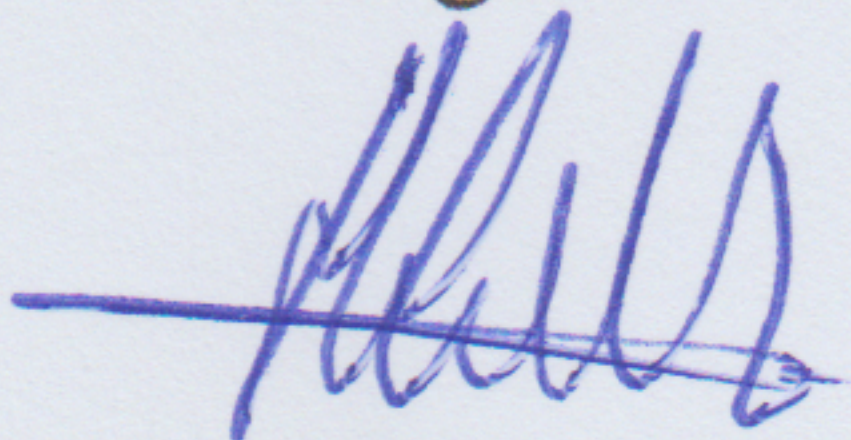
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of The Trust as required by section 130 of The Act, or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records, or
3. The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Helen Gilson
Qualification Association of Accounting Technicians
9 Main Street
Buckton
BRIDLINGTON
YO15 1HU

4 November 2024