

Market Overton Free Church
CIO 1174840
Annual Report 2023

The trustees are:

Peter Rush

Tim Perkins

Roy Palframan (Re-elected Acting Trustee Aug. 2023)

Correspondence address:

The Croft

11 West End

Wymondham

Leicestershire

LE14 2AX

Market Overton Free Church is an independent church affiliated to the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC). The church is governed by its Head, the Lord Jesus Christ, as he has made his will known in the Bible. It operates with a congregational form of church government. The number of members at the end of 2023 was 16. We have appointed Carl Meachem from a neighbouring church to assist with leadership.

Church activities Sunday morning meetings are held at Market Overton Village Hall throughout the year, with a regular congregation of around 50 people. We post recordings of the message on our YouTube channel. Sunday evening meetings are held in Edmondthorpe, including a monthly all-age special service. Thursday evening meetings are held in members' homes. A monthly informal ladies' gathering has continued throughout the year. Prayer meetings are held on a regular basis, some in person and some online. We have held united prayer meetings with evangelical churches from Newark, Grantham, and Melton Mowbray. We have linked in with The Rural Project, which supports church work in rural communities.

Community activities. Our monthly coffee hour meetings in Market Overton and street evangelism in Oakham have continued through the year. We hosted a Time with Friends event with lunch in May. We held various events around Christmas, including an advent community craft event. Our ministry to schools continues with a Bible Times Exhibition in February, and our pastor's regular assembly visits to 10 local primary schools. Our pastor visited Malawi in April with the Zambesi Mission – one of our mission partners.

Finances. The Lord has continued to provide for the financial needs of the church through the faithful giving of members and friends, and through grants from local Christian Trusts. During the year, gifts have been made to UK missionary organisations working in the UK and abroad, amounting to £1,993. Additional gifts to other gospel work makes a total of £2,493. Harvest gifts were sent to the local Oakham Food Bank and a special offering was made at our Christmas Day service for support of church workers in Central Asia.

The overall income for the year was £45,590 and expenditure £48,394. The year therefore ended with an overall deficit of £2,803. With £8,382 brought forward from 2022 our balance at the end of the year is £5,582 for which we are grateful to God. However, we are having to draw on our reserve fund on an almost monthly basis (of between £500 and £1000) which presents a significant risk to the financial viability of the church beyond six months, if things remained unchanged.

Market Overton Free Church CIO
Charity No. 1174840
Accounts 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Receipts	2023	2022	Payments	2023
Balance brought forward from 2022:				
Treasurers Account	1881.28	2033.54	Admin	693.93
Reserve Account	6504.28	10000.75	Safeguarding	50.00
Gifts	7810.00	7940.21	Copyright Licence	93.00
Offerings	32977.53	29594.34	FIEC Donation	500.00
Other income	0.00	0.00	Food/Catering	126.00
Gift Aid refund	4727.55	4445.50	Insurance	266.47
Interest (Treasurers Account)	0.00	0.00	Literature	111.70
Interest (Reserve Account)	75.87	3.53	Missionary Support	1993.00
			Outreach	1664.66
			Publicity	133.23
			Rent	2593.59
			Equipment	0.00
			Speakers	1220.00
			Others	50.00
			Employment Costs	38838.44
			Conferences/Training	60.00
			Balance to Carry Forward	5582.49
	53976.51			53976.51
Summary			Current Assets	
Receipts in 2023	45590.95		Lloyds Treasurers Account	502.34
Payments in 2023	48394.02		Reserve Account	5080.15
Surplus	-2803.07		Cash in hand	0.00
Balance brought forward from 2022	8385.56			
Balance to Carry Forward	5582.49			5582.49

Checked and agreed  31/1/24

**3 Ascendale
Deeping St James
PETERBOROUGH
PE6 8NZ**

01778 342699 or 07736 335234

paul.muldoon@btinternet.com

Mr T R Palframan
The Croft
Rookery Lane
WYMONDHAM
LE14 2AX

31 January 2024

Dear Roy

Market Overton Free Church CIO

I am pleased to confirm that I have examined the accounts and supporting documents for the church for the year ended 31 December 2023 and have found everything to be in order.

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Paul Muldoon