



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From January 1st 2024 To December 31st 2024

Charity name: Whitfield Tabernacle Trust c/o

Charity registration number: 1175034

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	The objects of the charity are to conserve, preserve and improve the Whitfield Tabernacle for public benefit as a building of historic interest, and to educate the public about the history and heritage of the building.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	<p>During the period of this report, the charity has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worked with an external consultant to prepare a Business Plan to provide a financially sustainable future for the Tabernacle• Sought grant funding from various bodies to support specific items of work in relation to the Tabernacle• Worked in co-operation with the local authority to include the preservation and development of the Tabernacle in schemes for the regeneration of the wider area• Worked with the local authority and architects to prepare a Tender document for the proposed Phase II work on the building; monitored and responded to Tender submissions from contractors and selected the approved contractor for the work.• Maintained contact with members and the wider public to inform on progress
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	The Trustees acknowledge that their project will only succeed with the support of the local community, and our objective is not just to preserve a Grade I listed building, but to engage the local community so as to give them a better understanding and pride in their local area. We have therefore established links with other local groups and taken many opportunities through the local press and various local forums, to explain what we are doing and encourage others to assist us in the project.

Additional information

Policy on grant making	The charity does not make grants
Policy on social investment including program related investment	The charity does not invest in other projects. However, social investment was an important factor in our choice of contractors to carry out Phase I (the stabilisation work) and we will be a consideration when appointing a contractor to complete Phase II
Contribution made by volunteers	The Trustees and members are all voluntary. The condition of the Tabernacle means there is little opportunity for volunteers to be engaged in any practical activity on site. (The building was open once during the year for the public to see the space, when trustees were available to show the public round) However, there have been regular engagement activities away from the site to tell the story and explain the aims of the project to the local community.
Other	The Trust continues to view the development of the Tabernacle as a key element in the regeneration of this part of Kingswood (in the Kingswood Masterplan it is known as the Cultural Quarter). In the Conservation Area, the neighbouring Grade II listed church ruin has been converted into apartments and the adjacent burial ground is to be a local authority pocket park that will compliment the development of the Tabernacle.

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	<p>Given the complexity of bringing an ancient building in a very poor condition back into community use; the Trustees recognise that their project is a long term one. Having secured funding for extensive stabilisation work, we achieved our first objective of carrying out the work necessary to save the building from further deterioration by the end of 2022.</p> <p>This has turned an eyesore of a building in a corner of the town that has suffered from neglect for many years into a beacon of hope. Many local residents are pleased that it is no longer an embarrassment, and no longer a source of antisocial behaviour. Much of our work in 2024 was focussed on preparing plans and funding for next Phase that will result in an asset for the wider area and will bring more visitors to Kingswood.</p> <p>The local community will have gained little direct benefit from our 2024 activities other than the opportunity to see inside the Tabernacle and see and hear our plans for its future use. Difficulties over land transfer issues have delayed the commencement of Phase II of the work.</p>
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Additional information

Achievements against objectives set	To prepare the Trust for the opening of the Tabernacle, the Trustees have been aware that they need to strengthen the membership of the Board in order to improve our external communication and use of social media. We also need to improve our fundraising activities and prepare to set up a trading subsidiary to take on the day-to-day running of the Tabernacle once it is open to the public. One new Trustee was appointed in 2024
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	The charity has continued to raise some funds from Members during 2024, and small donations have been received from the public. There have been no specific public fundraising events during the year. The charity continues to rely on grant funding.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Reserves are retained based on three month' operating costs.
Amount of reserves held	£3966
Reasons for holding zero reserves	
Details of fund materially in deficit	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	No concerns

Additional information

A description of the principal risks facing the charity	<p>Until the development of the Tabernacle has been completed, the Trust will rely on grant funding and public donations to support its activities. When the building is in a suitable condition, the Trusts activities will be partially funded by income from events held at the Tabernacle.</p> <p>The principle risk to the Trust is that grant applications are unsuccessful or that public funds become less available as a result of other funding pressures.</p> <p>Cost increases since our major grant support was approved have led to the risk that the Tabernacle will not be able to open with the extent of fit-out envisaged for a full range of activities to take place.</p>
Other	

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:	
Type of governing document	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	The charity is Charitable Incorporated Organization managed by a Board of Trustees that is accountable to the Trust's membership.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Founding Trustees volunteered to set up the charity and were reappointed by Members at first Annual General Meeting. At each subsequent AGM, Trustees retire in rotation and can be reappointed in addition to new Trustees. Members and Trustees actively seek to encourage Trustees with particular skills to join the Trust. The Chair of Trustees is appointed by the Trustees at the Board's first meeting following the Annual General Meeting.

Additional information

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	The Secretary has the responsibility for ensuring that new Trustees have the information they need to carry out their duties. A welcome pack is being developed.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	<p>The charity is managed by a Board of 6 Trustees assisted by a Project Manager. The Chair of Trustees is appointed by the Trustees at their first meeting after the AGM. Other functional posts such as Secretary and Treasurer are appointed by the Trustees.</p> <p>The charity works closely with South Gloucestershire Council and is a Member organisation of CVS South Gloucestershire</p>
Relationship with any related parties	Only informally

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Whitfield Tabernacle Trust CIO
Other name the charity uses	None used
Registered charity number	1175034
Charity's principal address	20 Verwood Drive Bitton Bristol BS30 6JP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Anthony Hick	Chair		
Robert Chapman			
Kim Scudamore	Secretary/Treasurer		
April Begley			
Patricia Rooney			
Alyson McKeown			
Adam Rees		09/04/2024 – 31/12/2024	

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
Does not apply		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name		
Does not apply		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None held
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Does not apply
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Does not apply

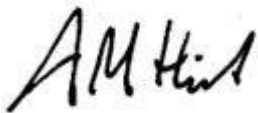
Names and addresses of advisers


Type of adviser	Name	Address
Business Plan Consultant	Joh Nicholls: Arts Quarter LLP	35 Berkeley Square, London W1J 5BF

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature		
Full name	Anthony Michael Hick	
Position	Chair	
Date	October 24 th 2025	

Whitfield Tabernacle Trust															
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS for year ending 31 December 2024															
RECEIPTS						PAYMENTS									
Detail						£	P	Detail						£	P
Donations from Trustees and Members						1030		Internet (email + website)						126.00	
Financial support from SGC						7549.00		Insurance						9655.79	
Kingswood Town Council Grant						5000.00		Events						1046.09	
Kingswood Rotary						300.00		Audit and Accounting						539.36	
Gift Aid rebate						457.53		Room Hire						108.00	
Income from events						132.56		Power and Water						554.28	
								Security						405.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS						14469.09		TOTAL PAYMENTS						12434.52	
Excess of Receipts over Payments in 2024						2034.57									
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st December 2024															
Brought forward on 1st January 2024						1930.94		WTT Bank account on 31st December 2024						3965.51	
Plus															
Excess of Receipts over Payments in 2024						2034.57									
Balance						3965.51		Carried forward on 1st January 2025						3965.51	
Signed by Chair															
Name Anthony Hick															
Date 20.04.2025															
															
Signature															
Following acceptance by Members of the Trust at the Annual General Meeting held on March 20th 2025															