

## **Report of the Trustees, Year ended 31 August 2023**

During the year, NLPA offered placements to five people in total:

Three full time pastoral assistants

One Pastoral Assistant, a Belgian national, completing his second year on a Church of England ministry experience scheme (first year in Netherlands), but limited to two 180 day stays in the UK, and full time during his UK stays

One pastoral assistant in full time employment but following a part time pathway as part of his vocation discernment process.

The scheme supported Pastoral Assistants' discernment in a variety of ways, including:

**Liturgical presence**, serving and observing at Mass and other principal and pastoral services throughout the year; preaching; leading after-service activities, e.g. a Book Group.

**Pastoral work**, which could encompass many elements including:

Informal conversations with parishioners after services

Support of local initiatives, including:

A YMCA drop in centre,

Support in local community gardens, working alongside marginalised groups, including people with mental health issues,

Co ordination of support at weekly Winter Night Shelter sessions, recruiting people to set up church hall spaces for the guests, to cook, serve and clean up afterwards, being a friendly but authoritative presence to ensure the smooth running of the evening – the Pastoral Assistant was “the one in charge” and the back up for any last minute gaps in personnel.

Visiting local primary schools to run or help with Assembly and in some cases to support teachers with Religious Education lessons

Visiting elderly and housebound parishioners

Pastoral Assistants participated in weekly supervision sessions with their incumbents to reflect on their work on areas for development.

### **Formation**

The Pastoral Assistants as a group met monthly with a clergy supervisor for seminars, with preliminary reading and some written work. Subjects covered included basics of Christian belief, some patristics, church history, consideration of the context in which the church operates, some reflection on strands of prayer and spirituality.

In addition, Pastoral Assistants engaged on a week-long study visit/pilgrimage to Assisi and La Verna, accompanied by one of their incumbents, a fluent Italian speaker, and by a former pastoral assistant, now a professed Franciscan Friar.

Two quiet days were also organised during the year, and some Pastoral Assistants accompanied their congregations on pilgrimages to Walsingham.

In addition, pastoral assistants met regularly with their Spiritual Directors, and had access to an External Clergy supervisor.

### **Outcomes**

One of the full time pastoral assistants, following a successful BAP, went on to St Stephen's House, where he is completing an MPhil, one returned to secular employment, and one is undertaking a second year on the scheme, and will attend his Part II conference in July 2024.

Further information is available in our Reports To Funders, published at regular intervals

Judy Powell

North London Pastoral Assistants

**Charity Number: 1175492**

**North London Pastoral Assistants**

**Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

**North London Pastoral Assistants**

**Independent Examiner's Report – Period to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of North London Pastoral Assistants Council**

We report to the Charity Trustees on our examination of the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

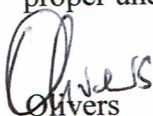
We report in respect of our examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out our examination we have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no material matters have come to our attention in connection with our examination giving us no cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records ; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts) 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.

We 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.

  
Oliver

Maple Cottage  
Arkesden Road  
Clavering  
Saffron Walden  
Essex CB11 4QU

27-8-2024

**North London Pastoral Assistants  
Statement of Financial Activity  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
<b>Grants Received</b>				
- No. 1 Trust	-		8,000	
- Cleaver Ordination Candidates Fund	6,000		9,000	
- Fellowship of St. John	18,000		18,000	
- Church of England Ministry Experience Scheme	7,760		7,260	
- Greig Trust	18,000		18,000	
<b>Total Income</b>		49,760		60,200
<b>Expenses</b>				
Expense Allowances	24,221		27,946	
Formation and Training Costs				
Formation Visits	4,470		4,761	
Other	3,293		4,039	
	<u>31,984</u>		<u>36,746</u>	
<b>Accommodation Costs</b>				
Council Tax	5,334		4,867	
Utility Costs	6,008		4,668	
Insurance	1,722		-	
Emergency Accommodation	5,330		-	
Repairs and Maintenance	3,716		2,274	
Furniture and White Goods	2,368		967	
Sundry	1,911		1,796	
	26,389		14,572	
Less: Contribution from Lodger	( 1,635)		-	
Rebatess	( 657)		-	
	<u>24,097</u>		<u>14,572</u>	
<b>Others</b>				
Recruitment Costs	1,706		1,959	
Independent Examiner	500		500	
General Administration	538		450	
	<u>2,744</u>		<u>2,909</u>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		(58,825)		(54,227)
<b>Net (Deficit)/Surplus for the Year</b>		( 9,065)		5,973
<b>Balance brought forward</b>		79,093		73,120
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<u><u>£70,028</u></u>		<u><u>£79,093</u></u>

Jahill TRUSTEE



**North London Pastoral Assistants  
Principal Accounting Policies Year to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

**Basis of preparation**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing the accounts in accordance with the Financial reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

**Assessment of going concern**

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**Critical areas of judgement or uncertainty**

There are no significant areas of judgement or key assumptions that affect items in the accounts other than those included within the accounting policies described below.

**Cash flows**

The Trustees have taken advantage of the disclosure exemption in respect of the requirements of Section 7 "Statement of Cash Flows" in preparing these accounts as permitted by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102) Update Bulletin 1.

**Income**

Income is recognised in the period in which the Charity is entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty.

**North London Pastoral Assistants  
Principal Accounting Policies Year to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is included on an accounts basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure.

Charitable expenditure comprise grants which are provided for when approved by the Trustees, and support costs which are identifiable as wholly or mainly in support of the Charity's objectives based on the allocation of staff time and office resources.

Support costs are those costs which enable fund generator and charitable activities to be undertaken. Where activities incurred relate to more than one cost category, it is apportioned on the basis of time incurred.

**Taxation**

As a registered Charity, the Council is exempt from tax on assessable income applied within the objects of the Council.

**Unrestricted funds**

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects.

**Debtors**

Debtors are recognised initially at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

**Creditors**

Creditors are recognised initially at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and balances with banks, and investments in money market instruments which are readily convertible, being those with original maturities of three months or less.



**North London Pastoral Assistants**

**Independent Examiner's Report – Period to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

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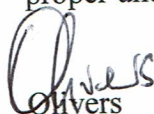
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