

Registered Charity Number 1176260

TOWN CHURCH BICESTER

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

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CHURCH INFORMATION

TRUSTEES

Ian Lancaster
Jonathan Reid
Simon Poole
Peter Cockram

CHARITY NUMBER

1176260

CONTACT ADDRESS

Jonathan Reid
4 Heather Road
Bicester
OX26 3YR

PLACE OF WORSHIP

Longfields Primary School
Bicester
OX26 6QL

BANKERS

TSB Bank Plc
Wantage Branch
PO Box 1000
BX4 7SB

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Geoff Mann ACIE
Geoff Mann Limited
Dee House
Highworth Avenue
Cambridge
CB4 2BQ

TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting the annual report and accounts for the church for the Year Ended 31st March 2024

1. Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Bicester and the surrounding neighbourhood, as well as carrying out such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity trustees put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the basis of faith.

2. Structure, governance and management

The church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, charity number 1176260, and was registered with the Charity Commission on 13 December 2017.

The church is governed by the church members, which includes the Trustees, and the Trustees have ultimate oversight. The Trustees are appointed by a majority of the church members. The Trustees who acted during the year were:

Ian Lancaster
Jonathan Reid
Simon Poole
Peter Cockram (appointed November 2023)

3. Review of Activity

Town Church Bicester became a church 13th December 2017, these accounts are the sixth accounts produced by the church and represent the sixth full year of operation.

The church's vision continues to be the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Bicester and the surrounding neighbourhood.

We have continued to approach this in a number of ways during the period, including:

- gathering together each week on Sunday afternoon at a local school for prayer, praise and learning from the Bible;
- mid-week small groups for mutual support and encouragement;
- monthly and weekly prayer meetings;
- a day away for mutual support and encouragement;
- outreach events such as the Summer Fun Day, Men's Curry and Women's Craft Night where we seek to reach out into the local community, meet those who live nearby to play games, make crafts, build relationships and speak about the Christian faith;

We continue to grow in number, and regularly have almost 100 attendees present at our Sunday services. Our membership is over 40 and continues to grow.

From a financial perspective we have started with a healthy balance in our cash account and have continued to see an increase in the balance. Growth in the cash account is driven by increased giving by current members, along with the addition of new members in the year.

4. Financial review and reserves policy

Funds in the bank at 31 March 2024 were £36,507 of which £2,862 is restricted funds for the purpose of the work of John Ventress with Wycliffe Bible translators. The church seeks to retain enough reserves for the ongoing work of the Church.

5. Public Benefit

The Trustees consider that the activities as described above fulfil the requirements of the Charity Commission's public benefit disclosure.

6. Risk Management

The church members and Trustees regularly consider the risks to which the charity may be exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

On behalf of the Trustees



Trustee

Date: 1/12/24

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

TO THE TRUSTEES OF TOWN CHURCH BICESTER

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year
year ended 31 March 2024

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND THE EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in
accordance with the requirements of the Charities Acts 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts carried out under section 145
of the Act, and in carrying out my examination I have followed 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:

- the 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 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 brought in this report in order to enable a proper understanding
of the accounts to be reached.



Geoff Mann
Geoff Mann Limited
Dee House
Highworth Avenue
Cambridge
CB4 2BQ

TOWN CHURCH BICESTER
YEAR ENDED 31st March 2024

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Income from:			
Donations	3	99,047	72,344
Restricted giving	4	8,361	5,213
Charitable Activities	5	448	610
		107,856	78,167
Expenditure from:			
Charitable activities	6	79,305	78,059
Restricted giving	7	8,006	2,706
		87,310	80,765
General Net income/(expenditure)		20,190	-5,105
General funds at 1st April 2023		30,066	35,171
General funds at 31st March 2024		50,256	30,066
Restricted Net income/(expenditure)		355	2,507
Restricted funds at 1st April 2023		2,507	0
Restricted funds at 31st March 2024		2,862	2,507

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	4,974	5,606
Current assets			
Debtors	9	12,362	7,614
Cash at bank	10	36,507	23,073
		48,869	30,687
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	724	3,720
		53,119	32,573
Net assets		53,119	32,573
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		50,256	30,066
Restricted funds		2,862	2,507
		53,119	32,573

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on XXXX

Jonathan Reid

Chair of Trustee

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 **Accounting policies**

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

Going Concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognized when the charity becomes entitled to the income, the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the income; and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost minus depreciation.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Motor vehicles	20% straight line basis
Equipment	33.33% straight line basis

Debtors

Trade debtors and other debtors are recognised at their settlement amount due after any discounts. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discount due.

Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Taxation

As a charity, Town Church Bicester is exempt from Corporation Tax.

Pensions

Contributions to defined contribution plans are expensed in the period to which they relate.

2	Employees	2024	2023
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TOWN CHURCH BICESTER
YEAR ENDED 31st March 2024

	Number of persons employed by the charity	4	4
	Employment costs	2024	2023
	Wages and salaries	32,726	35,821
	Social security costs	0	1,209
	Other pension costs	2,255	2,077
		34,981	39,107
3	Donations		
	Regular Gift Aidable	72,428	52,320
	Single Gift Aidable	0	600
	Regular Non Gift Aidable	4,864	1,800
	Single Non Gift Aidable	3,763	5,283
	Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	17,993	12,341
		99,047	72,344
4	Restricted Donations		
	John Ventress - Wycliffe	6,689	4,170
	Gift aid on restricted giving	1,672	1,043
		8,361	5,213
5	Charitable activities income		
	Men's Evening donations	123	88
	Ladies' Evenings donations	325	266
	Quiz donations	0	75
	Explore More donations	0	180
		448	609
6	Charitable activities expenditure		
	Elders, Staff and Intern	37,051	40,675
	Sunday Gathering	7,633	5,665
	Children's work	767	409
	Regular groups	2,616	3,000
	Members Training	1,665	1,331
	Communications	1,106	885
	One off events	5,728	3,732
	Day Away	1,127	1,443
	Fees/Governance (IE Fee £600)	2,638	2,236
	Vehicle Costs	1,945	1,760
	Bank Charges	81	5
	Depeciation	2,728	2,746
	Missionary Giving	14,220	14,172

TOWN CHURCH BICESTER
YEAR ENDED 31st March 2024

		79,305		78,059		
7	Restricted giving					
	Support John Ventress	8,006		2706		
		8,006		2706		
8	Tangible fixed assets					
		Tech Equipmen t	Music Equipment	Vehicles	General Equipment	Total
	Cost					
	At 1 April 2023	3051	1477	6480	480	11488
	Additions	0	2028	0	68	2096
	At 31 March 2024	3051	3505	6480	548	13584
	Depreciation					
	At 31 March 2023	2125	1123	2376	258	5882
	Deprecation during the year	864	395	1296	173	2728
	At 31 March 2024	2989	1518	3672	431	8610
	Net book value					
	At 31 March 2024	62	1,987	2,808	117	4,974
	At 31 March 2023	926	354	4,104	222	5,606
9	Debtors	2024		2023		
	Other debtors	11,850		7,065		
	Prepayments	512		549		
		12,362		7,614		
10	Cash at Bank					
	Cash at Bank	35,736		22,626		
	Pleo Account	-		447		
	Slodo Account	771		-		
		36,507		23,073		
11	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024		2023		
	Other creditors	724		3,720		
12	Trustees					

TOWN CHURCH BICESTER
YEAR ENDED 31st March 2024

Simon Poole, a trustee, is employed by the church as allowed and in accordance with the charity's constitution. He received pay of £18,000 (2023: £18,000) and pension contributions of £1,440 were paid on his behalf. (2023: £1,440).

As part of their duties as trustees, three trustees received expenses amounting to £613 (2023: £191)

13 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none)

