

Registered Charity Number 1176260

**TOWN CHURCH BICESTER**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2025**

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CHURCH INFORMATION

TRUSTEES

Ian Lancaster  
Jonathan Reid  
Peter Cockram  
Simon Poole

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

John Caladine  
Caladine Limited  
Chantry House  
22 Upperton Road  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN21 1BF

## TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting the annual report and accounts for the church for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

### **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  
Peter Cockram  
Simon Poole

### **3. Review of Activities**

Town Church Bicester became a church 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017, these accounts are the seventh accounts produced by the church and represent the seventh 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 weekend at home for mutual support and encouragement;
- outreach events such as the Family Fun Day, Curry Night, and 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 around 100 attendees present at our Sunday services. Our membership is over 45 and expected to grow further still.

From a financial perspective we have maintained 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 2025 were £65,037 of which £1,912 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 fulfill 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:

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year year ended 31 March 2025

### 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.



John Caladine  
Caladine Limited  
Chantry House  
22 Upperton Road  
Eastbourne  
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TOWN CHURCH BICESTER  
YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations	3	104,619	99,047
Restricted giving	4	6,931	8,361
Charitable Activities	5	554	448
		<b>112,104</b>	<b>107,856</b>
<b>Expenditure from:</b>			
Charitable activities	6	83,939	79,305
Restricted giving	7	7,881	8,006
		<b>91,820</b>	<b>87,310</b>
<b>General Net movement in funds</b>		<b>21,234</b>	<b>20,190</b>
General funds at 1st April 2024		<u>50,257</u>	<u>30,066</u>
General funds at 31st March 2025		<b><u>71,491</u></b>	<b><u>50,256</u></b>
<b>Restricted Net movement in funds</b>		<b>-950</b>	<b>355</b>
Restricted funds at 1st April 2024		<u>2,862</u>	<u>2,507</u>
Restricted funds at 31st March 2025		<b><u>1,912</u></b>	<b><u>2,862</u></b>

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	8	3,540	4,974
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	11,303	12,362
Cash at bank	10	<u>65,037</u>	<u>36,507</u>
		76,340	48,869
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	6,477	724
<b>Net assets</b>		<b><u>73,403</u></b>	<b><u>53,119</u></b>
<b>Funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		71,491	50,257
Restricted funds		1,912	2,862
		<b><u>73,403</u></b>	<b><u>53,119</u></b>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 15/5/2025

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.



TOWN CHURCH BICESTER  
YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

<b>2</b>	<b>Employees</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	Number of persons employed by the charity	3	4
	<b>Employment costs</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	Wages and salaries	36,662	32,726
	Pension costs	2,345	2,255
		<b>39,007</b>	<b>34,981</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Donations</b>		
	Regular Gift Aidable	65,554	72,428
	Single Gift Aidable	1,072	-
	Regular Non Gift Aidable	21,488	4,864
	Single Non Gift Aidable	-	3,763
	Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	16,505	17,993
		<b>104,619</b>	<b>99,047</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Restricted Donations</b>		
	John Ventress - Wycliffe	5,545	6,689
	Gift aid on restricted giving	1,386	1,672
		<b>6,931</b>	<b>8,361</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Charitable activities income</b>		
	Men's Evening donations	75	123
	Ladies' Evenings donations	389	325
	Quiz donations	90	-
		<b>554</b>	<b>448</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Charitable activities expenditure</b>		
	Elders, Staff and Intern	39,007	37,051
	Sunday Gathering	8,105	7,633
	Children's work	521	767
	Regular groups	2,403	2,616
	Members Training	1,495	1,665
	Communications	1,208	1,106
	One off events	5,419	5,728
	Day Away	1,700	1,127
	Fees/Governance	3,112	2,638
	Vehicle Costs	2,212	1,945
	Bank Charges	373	81
	Depeciation	2,333	2,728
	Missionary Giving	16,051	14,220
		<b>83,939</b>	<b>79,305</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Restricted giving</b>		
	Support John Ventress	7,881	8,006
		<b>7,881</b>	<b>8,006</b>

TOWN CHURCH BICESTER  
YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Tech Equipment	Music Equipment	Vehicles	General Equipment	Total
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 April 2024	3051	3505	6480	548	13584
Additions	899	-	-	-	899
At 31 March 2025	3950	3505	6480	548	14483
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 31 March 2024	2989	1518	3672	431	8610
Deprecation during the year	231	727	1296	79	2333
At 31 March 2025	3220	2245	4968	510	10943
<b>Net book value</b>					
At 31 March 2025	730	1,260	1,512	38	3,540
At 31 March 2024	62	1,987	2,808	117	4,974

9 Debtors	2025	2024
Other debtors	10,616	11,850
Prepayments	687	512
	11,303	12,362

10 Cash at Bank		
Cash at Bank	63,834	35,736
Slodo Account	1,203	771
	65,037	36,507

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
Other creditors	6,477	724

12 Trustees

Simon Poole, a trustee, is employed by the church as allowed and in accordance with the charity's constitution. He received pay of £18,720 (2024: £18,000) and pension contributions of £1,497.60 were paid on his behalf. (2024: £1,440).

As part of their duties as trustees, four trustees received expenses amounting to £904 (2024: £613)

13 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none)