

**NORTON CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH  
(Charity No. 1177762)**

**ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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**Norton Christian Spiritualist Church  
(Charity No. 1177762)**

**Trustees Report  
for the period from 1st January to 31st December 2023**

**Contact address:** Darlington Lane  
Norton  
Stockton on Tees  
TS20 1ER

**Governing document:** Charitable IO Constitution registered 29 March 2018

**Organisation type:** Charitable Incorporated Organisation

**Trustees:** Ms Mary Griksatis  
Ms Irene Morris  
Ms Linda Richmond  
Mr Kyle Richmond

**Committee members:** Mr Chris Archbold (President and Treasurer)  
Ms Glenys Robson  
Ms Tina Grace  
Ms Mary Griksatis (Vice President)  
Ms Pam Raine (Second Vice President)  
Mr David Cole  
Mr Terry Green  
Ms Maureen Garbutt  
Mr David Garbutt

Committee members are appointed/reappointed at each AGM.

<b>Bankers:</b>	Yorkshire Bank	Santander
	53 High Street	Customer Service Centre
	Norton	Bootle
	TS20 1AJ	L30 4GB

**Objects of the Church:** For the public benefit, to advance the religion and the religious philosophy of Spiritualism on the basis of the following beliefs:

- Belief in one God who is love;
- Acceptance of the leadership of Jesus the Christ;
- Belief that God manifests through the illimitable power of Holy Spirit;
- Belief in the survival of the soul and its individuality after physical death;
- Belief in communion with God, with his angelic ministers and with souls functioning in conditions other than the earth life;
- Belief that all forms of life created by God intermingle, are interdependent and evolve until perfection is attained;
- Belief in the perfect justice of the divine laws governing all life;
- Belief that sins committed can only be rectified by the sinner himself or herself, through the redemptive power of Jesus the Christ by repentance and service to others.

**Activities and Achievements:** The Church bases its work upon the Bible teachings, causes the Scriptures to be read regularly and does not permit any writings to be read or preached which are contrary to the records and teachings of the Gospels. It preaches a firm faith and trust in God through Jesus the Christ. It does this by holding regular services and special services of mediumship which are open to Church members and the general public. Several fund-raising events have taken place during the year including Psychic Workshops and readings.

**Reserves Policy:** All funds held by the Church are to be used for the objects of the Church.

**Norton Christian Spiritualist Church  
(Charity No. 1177762)**

**Trustees Report  
for the period from 1st January to 31st December 2023**

**Statement of Trustees**

**Responsibilities:** The trustees and committee members are responsible for preparing an account and statement for each financial year which fairly represents the receipts and payments of the Church and its assets and liabilities at the period end in accordance with relevant regulations. In preparing the account and statement, they are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the account and statement on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Church will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Church's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

**Declaration:** I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee, that:

- the trustees have approved the report above; and
- have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

**Signature:** M Griksatis

**Full name:** MARY GRIKSATIS

**Position:** TRUSTEE

**Date:** 24/02/2024

**Norton Christian Spiritualist Church  
(Charity No. 1177762)**

**Receipts and Payments Account  
For the Period from 1st January to 31st December 2023**

	<b>Restricted Funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2022 £</b>
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>				
Collections	-	6,055	6,055	6,072
Raffles	-	2,040	2,040	1,663
Tea and Coffee	-	407	407	245
Goods	-	94	94	87
Candles	-	19	19	26
Donations	-	1,236	1,236	693
Subscriptions	-	215	215	115
Room hire	-	40	40	-
Fundraising	105	-	105	-
Miscellaneous	-	22	22	-
Angels	-	66	66	34
Bank interest received	-	182	182	21
	<u>105</u>	<u>10,376</u>	<u>10,481</u>	<u>8,956</u>
<b><u>Payments</u></b>				
Speakers	-	1,131	1,131	879
Fundraising costs and goods for events	-	728	728	788
Donations paid	-	-	-	300
Heat & light	-	1,811	1,811	1,428
Insurance	-	612	612	615
Water	-	317	317	190
Repairs, maintenance and gardening	-	301	301	810
Church Improvements	-	-	-	4,010
Telephone and internet	-	897	897	879
IT equipment and software	-	359	359	257
Miscellaneous	-	42	42	186
Audit & Accountancy fees	-	360	360	360
Sum up fees	-	1	1	2
	<u>-</u>	<u>6,559</u>	<u>6,559</u>	<u>10,704</u>
<b><u>Net Receipts</u></b>				
Net of receipts/(payments)	105	3,817	3,922	- 1,748
Cash funds at 1st January	-	26,063	26,063	27,811
Cash funds at 31st December	<u>105</u>	<u>29,880</u>	<u>29,985</u>	<u>26,063</u>

**Norton Christian Spiritualist Church  
(Charity No. 1177762)**

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities  
at 31st December 2023**

	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b><u>Cash Funds</u></b>				
Bank Current account	105	7,067	7,172	3,433
Bank Savings Account	-	22,633	22,633	22,450
Cash	-	180	180	180
	<u>105</u>	<u>29,880</u>	<u>29,985</u>	<u>26,063</u>

**Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use**

Church building, including fixtures and fittings Valuation at 31st December	<u>150,000</u>	<u>150,000</u>
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**Amounts due to Church**

Gas and electricity	674	-
Wave Water	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**Liabilities**

Audit & accountancy fees	360	360
Gas and electricity	-	151
Telephone	22	19
Wave Water	119	53
Virgin Media	<u>54</u>	<u>54</u>

**Transactions with Committee Members**

Out of pocket expenses of £597.58 were reimbursed to committee members during the year

**Signed on behalf of the trustees**

<u>C Archbold</u>	<u>M Griksatis</u>
C Archbold	M Griksatis

Date: 24/02/2024

# **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF**

## **NORTON CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Norton Christian Spiritualist Church for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise of a Receipts and Payments account on page 3 and a Statement of Assets and Liabilities on page 4. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law.

In our opinion:

- the statement of account complies with regulations at s133 of the Charities Act 2011 dealing with receipts and payments accounts, and
- properly presents the receipts and payments of the Church for the financial year and the statement of balances at the year end.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Church in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRCs Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the committee members' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Church's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the committee members with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees Report but does not include the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. The Committee members are responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the Accounts; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

# REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF

## NORTON CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

### Responsibilities of the Committee

The Church's committee members are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they comply with the regulations included in the Charities Act 2011 relating to Receipts and Payments Accounts.

In preparing the accounts, the committee members are responsible for assessing the Church's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee members either intend to liquidate the Church or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken based on these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations, identified through discussion with committee members and from our knowledge of the Church, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Church's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur by:

- making enquiries of committee members as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud and their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud.

To address the risk of fraud through 'management' bias and override of controls, we:

- tested records to identify unusual transactions.

In response to the risk or irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial records to underlying supporting documents.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the committee members and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

### Use of the audit report

This report is made solely for the exclusive use of the Church's members and solely for the purpose as set out in our engagement letter. Our report is not to be used for any other purpose, recited or referred to in any document, copies or made available (in whole or in part) to any other person without prior written express consent. We accept no duty, responsibility or liability to any other party in connection with the report or this engagement.

Signed: *JBC Accountants Limited*

**JBC Accountants Limited**

**Statutory Auditor**

**Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006**

**3B Lockheed Court**

**Preston Farm**

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES**

**TS18 3SH**

Date: *15/3/2024*