

Trustees Annual Report

Year ending 30th April 2025

In accordance with our Constitution the object[s] of the CIO are:

- a. The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith and the Church Rules, primarily but not exclusively within Shaw, Oldham and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- b. Such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the members of the church in general meeting further the work of the Church.

This report seeks to summarise the progress that has been made during the year to meet the objectives of the CIO. This report is split into a number of different areas to cover the activities that were undertaken during the year.

In planning the activities, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

1. Church Membership

This year we saw a relatively stable number of people in membership, and it remains around 30. However, we are thankful that our Sunday services continue to grow, and we have a number who attend regularly but have not yet been brought into membership.

2. Church Ministries

There are a number of church ministries that are in place and operate on a regular basis. Each of them is listed below with a summary of activities that have taken place during the year.

a. Sunday Services

The Sunday Services provide the main focus of the Church, and generally we achieve somewhere between 50-60 people. Throughout the year we have seen a number of people come to the church for Sunday Worship – not all have remained regular, but some have, and we continue to encourage them and make them welcome. We have seen an increasing number of people of different ethnicities coming to join us, and this is especially encouraging. In our sermons we continued with our theme of looking to the return of Christ and explored further what sort of people we should be as we look for this life changing event. In January we were directed by the Holy Spirit to open up the book of Revelation and to look in detail at what this prophetic book tells us about the culmination of the end times.

We understand the necessity of the Holy Spirit to be at work amongst us to change us so that we demonstrate the love of God to one another and to the people who live in the community of Shaw.

Prayer

We have continued to press our congregation into understanding the vital need for prayer. We know that God is more than capable of building His church on His own, but He gloriously seeks partnership with His people in prayer. In that sense none of the ministry we seek to deliver will make any head way unless and until we pray. We continued with our Monday morning prayer meeting, and we achieved between 6 and 10 people each time. These have been some very blessed times, and we have heard God speak to us during these times. We also include a time of prayer during our midweek Life Group meetings and before our Sunday morning worship services.

b. Sunday School

Sunday school attendance has now grown with new children attending, growing to an average of 10-12 attending each week. Positive relationships are building among the children. Following earlier requests, we have received help from one additional teacher and others who are willing to help in the class. The Sunday school is key to instructing our young children and remains supported by only a few faithful volunteers. We will continue to seek additional members to help with this work. We need those whom God has gifted to work with children to help with this work.

c. Mid-week meetings

Our 2 Life Group meetings have continued to function throughout the year and provide the opportunity for those attending to discuss together and to delve further into the sermon that was delivered on the preceding Sunday. The groups do help to establish a closer relationship with those attending, but we have not seen the numbers attending increasing. We regularly encourage everyone on a Sunday morning to join one of these groups, and we would be delighted to see a third group being needed.

Youth Group

The youth group continues to be quite small in number but has continued to meet a need. We continue to look for more leaders and helpers to engage in this vital ministry. It continues to meet only fortnightly during the sermon as part of our Sunday service but then monthly on a Friday evening which is more focused on social activities and for the young people to get to know one another as friends.

d. Street Evangelism

This ministry is responsible for organising, strategizing, and executing planned activities for the Street Evangelism and other activities in line with Jesus's great commission to the church (Matthew 28:18-20) and the church's vision. This activity plays an important role in connecting with the larger community of Shaw, seeking to meet deeply felt needs in the community and act as a channel of feedback to the local church about the community of Shaw.

The Outreach ministry holds their regular evangelism once a month during autumn and winter and twice a month during the summer months. They go into the local community of Shaw to share the gospel, by sharing Gospel tracts and having meaningful conversations with the public and praying for those who request for prayers. Whilst this group goes out on the streets a second group remains in the church in intercessory prayer for those connections that are being made on the streets. Although this year we have seen little breakthrough in people coming to Jesus for salvation, but we believe that as we continue to sow seed, it will at some point lead to a harvest.

e. Coffee 3:16

Last year, we began the process of developing the refreshment area of the church building into a coffee shop and in October we were able to fully open this new ministry. Its purpose is to provide a safe and welcoming place for the people of Shaw to come in and find a warm welcome, great coffee and light lunches, and homemade cakes. We have been able, through the efforts of a good number of committed volunteers, to open 3 days a week. It has been a delight to see people from Shaw come into 3:16 and to sense that there is something different about this place. In the feedback we have received, it has been evident that not only do they enjoy the fayre we offer but more especially the welcome they receive all the volunteers and a real sense of peace that pervades the building. This is the fragrance of Jesus.

As we have extended our menu offer from just cakes, we realised that this ministry required an overseeing manager to give direction and oversight to this work. As Trustees we agreed that this manager role should be paid and we sought to advertise it within the fellowship. We prepared a job description and carried out an interview process to find a manager who God had called. In March we appointed Hannah Evans as the Coffee 3:16 manager. This role has already made a difference to the delivery of this ministry and has allowed the Elders who were initially overseeing it to step back. We look forward to the continued success of this ministry, and we have already established a substantial number of regulars. Whilst all the necessary training and environmental health registrations have been successfully made, we are still awaiting our Environmental Health inspection by the Local Authority.

f. Community Connections

After a number of years of hosting the Age UK Luncheon Club on a Friday lunchtime, Age UK were unable to continue to operate this club due to lack of funding. We encouraged all those who regularly attended this luncheon club to come and join us in Coffee 3:16 but as yet we have had no takers.

We have now been connected with the Shaw and Crompton Events Committee for some years. This is a volunteer organisation that seeks to put on community events based in Shaw. We were invited again to take part in the events for the Christmas light switch on. We planned to sing carols for them as part of this event but due to exceptional storm conditions the event was cancelled. We hope to be able to do this again next year.

g. Blessing Box

We have continued to operate a Blessing Box in the church. This is not a full Food Bank but does provide a source of free food to those in the community who are increasingly struggling with the cost-of-living pressures. The food is provided by the fellowship, and we have also been able to connect with Asda, who have also provided us with some food. This has been a way of meeting the needs of very vulnerable people in the town. We have a number of people who now come regularly to Coffee 3:16 with whom we are able to share pre-prepared food parcels.

3. Financial Status

The current overall financial position of the CIO has stabilised throughout this year. There was an income of £59,945 and an expenditure of £41,473. All of the assets of the CIO are made up of the church building and the physical equipment necessary to operate the church functions and cash in the bank. At the end of this year there was £65,381 in the bank.

The Charity continues to hold a mortgage with The Kingdom Bank which is tied to the main church building. Monthly payments for interest and repayment have been fully met. The self-contained flat in the church premises continues to be let and income of £6,000 was received from this. Following the appointment of a salaried Manager for Coffee 3:16 all the payroll, NI and tax exposures have been managed by Stewardship. Coffee 3:16 does not yet fully meet this financial obligation, and therefore the Church account meets the deficit.

Work has also begun on upgrading the storeroom upstairs to provide a purpose-built Sunday School/Youth room. In this year £1,116 was spent but the full cost of around £25,000 will occur next year. The cash assets of the charity are able to meet this expected expenditure

4. Safeguarding

During the year we continued with a Safeguarding Lead but without a Deputy (we continue to seek someone competent to fill this role. The DSL was supported by 2 Elders. Training was completed for all Trustees using the online training services of Christian Safeguarding Services. Our policy that was revised last year was issued and we have continued to review it and believe that further enhancement will be required. This will be carried out as part of next year's review as we believe that the policy currently remains acceptable.

There have been no issues or incidents during this year that have required any Safeguarding intervention. The Trustees are not aware of any issues that require monitoring or oversight. The DSL continues to update DBS assessments for existing and new volunteers.

Risk assessment documents have been completed for all the activities that happened within the church.

Financial review

During the year income reduced slightly, to £59,945, and expenditure also increased slightly to £41,473, compared to last year. As a result, the cash held by the charity increased by £18,471, to £65,381. These reserves are unrestricted and can be used for any charitable purpose. These funds will be used to complete the work on creating a Sunday School room in what is now a large storeroom.

Reserves policy

Our current cash reserves remain significantly in excess of our minimum set in our policy dated Aug 2024. The Trustees believe that the Charity remains in a strong financial position even with the higher expected expenditure for next year.

Responsibilities of trustees

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Changes to Trustee Board at the time of signing of this annual report.

There have been no changes to personnel making up the Trustee Board since year end.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Emmanuel Oyowe

Date: 29/11/2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF

HOPE CHURCH SHAW

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Hope Church Shaw ('the charity') for the year ended 30 April 2025 on pages 8 to 10 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Sarah Crispin ACA

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date:

HOPE CHURCH SHAW
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
Income receipts						
Donations		36,781	-	-	36,781	47,117
Gift aid receipts		6,385	-	-	6,385	5,707
Charitable activities		9,184	-	-	9,184	-
Rental and hire income		7,595	-	-	7,595	8,258
Total receipts		59,945	-	-	59,945	61,082
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	33,214	-	1,718	34,932	34,739
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	960	-	-	960	5,077
		34,175	-	1,718	35,892	39,815
Purchase of fixed assets		-	-	5,581	5,581	-
		-	-	5,581	5,581	-
Total payments		34,175	-	7,299	41,473	39,815
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		25,770	-	(7,299)	18,471	21,267
Transfers between funds	5	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		25,770	-	(7,299)	18,471	21,267
Cash funds as at last year end		39,611	-	7,299	46,910	25,643
Cash funds at this year end	A	65,381	-	-	65,381	46,910

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

HOPE CHURCH SHAW
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			<u>Total 2025</u>	<u>Total 2024</u>
	<u>General funds</u>	<u>Designated funds</u>	<u>Restricted funds</u>		
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
A Cash funds					
Cash at bank with immediate access	65,381	-	-	65,381	46,910
	<u>65,381</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,381</u>	<u>46,910</u>
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	1,248	-	-	1,248	2,009
Other debtors	-	-	-	-	428
	<u>1,248</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,248</u>	<u>2,437</u>
C Liabilities					
Falling due within one year:					
Mortgage	2,423	-	-	2,423	2,391
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-
Fee for independent Examination	1,020	-	-	1,020	864
	<u>3,443</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,443</u>	<u>3,255</u>
Falling due after one year:					
Mortgage	83,680	-	-	83,680	86,103
	<u>83,680</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,680</u>	<u>86,103</u>
Total	<u>87,123</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>87,123</u>	<u>89,358</u>

The mortgage amount borrowed in 2023 was £90,000 over 20 years secured on the church property. The current interest rate is 6.4%.

D Assets retained for charity's own use	<u>Purchase</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Value</u>
	<u>cost</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Church building (freehold)	90,000		
Contents and equipment		28,863	28,863
		<u>28,863</u>	<u>28,863</u>

The trustees have used insurance values as the trustees are unable to reliably estimate current values; insurance values may differ materially from current values.

The charity leased a commercial building until the building was purchased in August 2023. The purchase cost is shown.

E Guarantees and secured debts

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

by 
Emmanuel Oyowe

date 09/11/2025

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

HOPE CHURCH SHAW
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2025

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Employment costs	3,139	-	-	3,139	-
Rent	-	-	-	-	4,956
Mortgage	8,076	-	-	8,076	5,632
Repairs, maintenance, equipment	5,563	-	-	5,563	5,280
Utilities	4,611	-	-	4,611	5,588
Café project	6,213	-	7,299	13,512	7,159
Ministry costs including training	1,950	-	-	1,950	1,842
Insurance	1,131	-	-	1,131	897
Governance, legal and professional fees	864	-	-	864	2,688
Subscriptions and licences	1,666	-	-	1,666	629
Other costs	-	-	-	-	70
	<u>33,214</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,299</u>	<u>40,513</u>	<u>34,739</u>

3 Grants and gifts paid to others

Organisations	700	-	-	700	-
Individuals	260	-	-	260	5,077
	<u>960</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>960</u>	<u>5,077</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

Hannah Evans, wife of Trustee Nahum Evans, was employed as the café manager and received payment of £2,750 plus pension contributions of £34.20.

5 Movement of funds

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	39,611	59,945	(34,175)	-	65,381
	<u>53,578</u>	<u>59,945</u>	<u>(34,175)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,381</u>
Restricted funds					
Café	7,299	-	(7,299)	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>7,299</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(7,299)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u>60,877</u>	<u>59,945</u>	<u>(41,473)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,381</u>

The Café fund relates to donations provided specifically for the Café refurbishment project.