

## **Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)**

### **Sharnbrook Evangelical Church (Registered Charity Number 1179954)**

#### **Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements of Sharnbrook Evangelical Church CIO For the year ended 31 March 2024**

##### **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

##### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Registered Charity Name: Sharnbrook Evangelical Church. Charity Registration Number: 1179954

(Previous Charity Name: Sharnbrook Evangelical Church Charity Registration Number: 1145375)

Place of Meeting Science Centre, Sharnbrook Upper School, Odell Road, Sharnbrook MK44 1JL  
Administrative Office: 15 The Bury, Pavenham MK43 7PX . 14 Manor Farm Way, Sharnbrook MK44 1PH until 31/12/2023).

##### **THE TRUSTEES**

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows: Brian Bennett, John Heron, Myles MacBean & Steve Freshwater.

Elders: Rev John Heron (until 31/12/23), Dr Myles MacBean

Deacons: Mr Brian Bennett, Mr Stephen Freshwater

Independent Examiner: Monico Tunley Limited, Louise Tunley FCA CTA DChA, 19 Goldington Road, Bedford, MK40 3JY.

New elders & deacons are elected following a period of prayer, teaching or discussion on the requirements of scripture regarding the office of an elder or deacon.

##### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Sharnbrook Evangelical Church was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Registered Charity Number 1179954), by the Charity Commission on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Preparations for this new body to take over from the old Sharnbrook Evangelical Church charity (Registered number 1145375) were progressed during 2018/2019, and a planned formal handover took place on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

##### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**OBJECTIVES:** The object of the CIO is, for the public benefit, to promote the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of faith, primarily but not exclusively within Sharnbrook and the surrounding neighbourhood.

ACTIVITIES: The church organised many activities during the year in support of its objects. These included Sunday worship, midweek House Groups during the daytime and evening, monthly Prayer Meetings and children and youth work.

#### ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE Year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

A summary of the main achievements is set out below:

We hold regular Sunday meetings in the Science Centre at Sharnbrook Academy. These meetings are recorded and later uploaded to YouTube. We meet in people's homes for House Groups and Prayer meetings. Regular pastoral visiting by elders, deacons and church members continues, as does pastoral care through phone and video calls, and electronic messaging.

We run a programme of events for young people aged 3 to 16+ which are open to all, overseen by our Youth and Children's worker, Samantha. This includes Sunday School with different age groups from creche upwards. We serve the local Primary School, through taking Christmas and Easter RE lessons for each year group and run an after-school club (JC's Club) of games, craft, activities and Bible Teaching every Monday for children in years 1-4. Uncover is a teenage group, helping young people to look at the Bible and discuss contemporary issues that they face, that is held in the home of the pastor or a parent.

Our activities are open to all and operate under the church's Child Protection Policy. All those working with young people are required to have an appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service certificate and our volunteers receive appropriate safeguarding training.

Many in the church ensure that older people, especially those living on their own and those who are now unable to come out of their homes to regular meetings, receive regular visits, especially if they are unwell or in hospital. This includes times of bereavement and taking communion to those who are house bound. The church also provided meals for those in need at particular times throughout the year.

Locally, the church supports our local Bedford Foodbank. We also take part in the Sharnbrook Village Christmas Fayre, offering Christian literature and invitations to all in the community, while also raising funds to support The Stables charity, through cake sales. Church members are also involved in their local communities in various voluntary capacities, including working with asylum seekers from the local hostel, a pregnancy crisis centre and facilitating a weekly Man Cave in the village.

More broadly, the church supports charities ministering in eastern Europe, Africa and Asia. This is augmented by church members personally active in wider ministries in the UK and beyond.

Approximately 10% of gift income (and tax reclaimed) is given annually to support this work. In allocating this money we seek to give long-term support to individuals or organisations with whom we have personal links as a church to make a tangible difference to those we support.

#### Leadership

The church is led by Elders & Deacons, who are responsible for the spiritual oversight and overall direction of church life. Our Pastor, John Heron, was employed by the church in a full-time capacity until 31/12/23 when he departed to minister in Reading.

## Public Benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities Sharnbrook Evangelical Church should undertake. In fulfilling our charitable aims for the public benefit, we have undertaken the following activities:

To advance the Christian Faith: Our regular Sunday Services, midweek House Groups and Monthly Prayer Meetings are open to all members of the public regardless of background and belief. These have been more widely accessed by those in the local community and further afield over the past year. Special Services such as our annual Remembrance Sunday and Christmas Carol Services continue.

The elders of the church are available to give counsel and support to any in need and, along with other volunteers are involved regularly in providing support to the vulnerable, sick and bereaved.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The charity received income for the year of £60,855 (2023: £64,881), all of which was unrestricted. Expenditure for the year was £64,608 (2023: £69,344). The receipts and payments account for the year showed a deficit of £3,754 (2023: deficit of £4,463). Total net assets of the charity amounted to £24,878 (2023: £29,341) which was all held as cash or bank balances.

## RESERVES

The Trustees consider that the level of reserves is appropriate. At the year end, the free reserves of the charity amounted to £21,217 (2023: £24,878).

All funds of the charity are unrestricted in nature. The charity has no designated or restricted funds.

Approved by the trustees for issue and signed on their behalf on 10th November 2024.

Steve Freshwater (Trustee) Brian Bennett (Trustee, Deacon and Treasurer)

[Attached: Summary of Full Year Accounts April 2023 – March 2024 for SEC AGM]

# SHARNBROOK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Registered Charity No: 1179954

## ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

### GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

#### Receipts

	<u>TOTAL</u> 2024 £		<u>TOTAL</u> 2023 £
<i>Incoming resources from donors</i>			
Planned giving	39,445		42,000
Collections & other giving	9,918		12,315
Income tax recovered	10,001	59,364	10,391
			64,706
<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>			
Sundry income	905	905	-
			-
<i>Income from charitable &amp; ancillary trading</i>			
Bookstall	-		-
Less: expenses	-		-
Other sundry income	92	92	-
			-
<i>Other incoming resources</i>			
Special gifts in	1,250		750
Special gifts out	(1,250)	-	(750)
			-
<i>Income from investments</i>			
Bank interest		586	175
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£ 60,947</b>		<b>£64,881</b>

#### Payments

	<u>TOTAL</u> 2024 £		<u>TOTAL</u> 2023 £
<i>Grants</i>			
Away giving	6,100		6,100
Other giving	-	6,100	0
			6,100
<i>Activities directly relating to the work of the Church</i>			
Employment & housing costs - minister	26,793		34,018
Employer's Pension costs - minister (see note on page 2)	11,504		11,943
Ministers expenses (books, telephone, travel etc.)	1,413		1,642
North Bedfordshire Youth Trust	9,250		7,900
Employment & housing costs - youth worker	-		-
Employer's Pension costs - youth worker	-		-
Youth worker's expenses	856		749
Hire of premises	3,460		2,724
Worship	-		-
Insurance	552		526
Sound & music	266		133
Visiting speakers	700		500
Books	-		-
Evangelism	419		567
Youth & childrens work	75		195
Pastoral	-		-
Sundry	1,131	56,419	131
			61,028
<i>Church management &amp; administration</i>			
Printing, postage & stationery	656		655
Subscriptions	330		254
Advertising and publications	280		225
Sundry expenses	-		-
Independent Examination costs	456		456
Payroll service fees	367		466
Legal and professional fees	-		-
Sound and visual equipment purchase	-		160
Equipment hire & maintenance	-	2,089	-
			2,216
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£ 64,608</b>		<b>£ 69,344</b>

EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME

CASH BROUGHT FORWARD

CASH CARRIED FORWARD

2024 £	2023 £
( 3,661)	(4,463)
24,878	29,341
<b>£ 21,217</b>	<b>£ 24,878</b>

**HARNBROOK EVANGELICAL CHURCH**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS**  
**AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

Registered Charity No: 1179954

*Monetary assets*

Bank current account  
 Deposit account  
 Petty cash

*Adjustments:*

Short term loan to designated funds

**NET ASSETS**

Represented by:

**GENERAL FUND**

**DESIGNATED FUNDS**

General fund	Designated funds	2024	2023
£	£	£	£
3,500	-	3,500	2,117
17,680	-	17,680	22,724
37	-	37	37
21,217	-	21,217	24,878
-	-	-	-
£ 21,217	£ -	£ 21,217	£24,878
21,217	-	21,217	24,878
-	-	-	-
£ 21,217	£ -	£ 21,217	£24,878

**NOTE FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS**

**Pension Costs**

Pension Costs in the year to 31 March 2024 include £6,456 (2023: £6,226) being payments towards making good a deficit on a pension scheme of which the charity is a former member. These deficit payments are a mandatory requirement, and are part of the Pension Trust's plans for clearing the deficit and will cease after 31 May 2024, after which only scheme expenses will apply. As at 30 September 2023 (the latest available valuation) the potential liability to make further contributions was considered to be £33,396 which consists of the remainder of the deficit payments plus scheme expenses.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees at their meeting on  
 and signed on their behalf by:

10/11/2024

B BENNETT

S D FRESHWATER

**SHARNBROOK EVANGELICAL CHURCH (REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1179954)**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHARNBROOK EVANGELICAL CHURCH**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 1 to 2.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

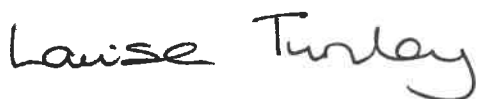
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I 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.



**Louise Tunley FCA CTA DChA**  
Chartered Accountant

19 Goldington Road  
Bedford  
MK40 3JY

Date: 11/11/2024