



OKEHAMPTON STREET PASTORS

Annual Report – 01 Jan 2022 to 31 Dec 2022

Prepared by Julie Yelland

OKEHAMPTON STREET PASTORS

Annual Report - 2022

Organisation Name: Okehampton Street Pastors

Charity No: 1181119

Principal Address: 21 Brandize Park, Okehampton, Devon EX20 1EQ

Financial Year: 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022

Trustees:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Appointment</i>	<i>Office</i>
Mrs Julie Yelland	27 th July 2016	Chairman
Mrs Juliana Elizabeth Bailey	27 th July 2016	Secretary
Mrs Barbara Lynne Fortnam	27 th July 2016	Treasurer
Mrs Laura Caroline Bird	27 th July 2016	
Mr Timothy Hooper	27 th July 2016	
Mr Barry Stuart Tarr	17 th June 2021	

The organisation is controlled by a Board of Trustees who are appointed by a Resolution raised and approved by a majority of the existing Trustees.

Professional Advisers:

Bankers: NatWest Bank, Bedford Square, Tavistock, Devon PL19 0AQ

Report of the Trustees For the year ended 31st December 2022

The Board of Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022. Those who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out above.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, 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 for Smaller Entities published on 16 July 2014.

History, Objectives and Activities of Okehampton Street Pastors

Okehampton Street Pastors was constituted on 27th July 2016 and registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in December 2018. This Annual Report covers the period 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022. The Street Pastors are licensed by Ascension Trust, a charity registered in England and Wales, No: 1127204 and company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, No. 06751712. Ascension Trust is the registered owner of the Street Pastors Trademark and its trading arm, Ascension Commercial Ltd (ACom) No. 7586400, with the registered address of Alpha House, 158 Garth Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 4TQ. Ascension Trust operates as the umbrella organisation to the Street Pastor Movement.

As a Local Initiative of the Global Street Pastor Movement, our mission is to engage, train and mobilise Christian volunteers from different churches, to be relevant in public life as salt and light addressing issues of vulnerability and social exclusion through the principle of caring, listening and helping people. We work in partnership with the police, local authorities and other voluntary organisations to achieve our goals and attain greater social cohesion in our community in line with our objectives.

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The objectives of Okehampton Street Pastors are for public benefit, in the geographic area of Okehampton, Devon, England and beyond as the Board of Trustees may from time to time determine in accordance with Charity Law in England and Wales, as follows:

- (1) To advance the Christian Faith in accordance with the Street Pastor Licence Agreement as executed with Ascension Trust in Okehampton as the Board of Trustees may from time to time think fit particularly, but not exclusively, by means of caring, listening and helping people on the streets and at various locations.
- (2) To develop the capacity and skills of socially disadvantaged groups in our community in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society; in particular but not exclusively through raising awareness, promoting, sustaining and increasing individual and collective knowledge, skills and expertise, through the practical development of individual capabilities, competences, skills and understanding through formal training, informal talks and capacity building in voluntary services, according to Christian principles and the Street Pastor Urban Trinity principle of church, police and local government working together for the benefit of the community.

This is being achieved by

- (i) the provision of public pastoral care services to help people on the streets and other public places; giving guidance, support and signposting which assist in preserving public order, avoiding anti-social behaviour, relieving sickness and preserving health and by
- (ii) enlightening others about Christianity through raising awareness and understanding of ecclesiastical relevance to community and public life, mobilising the Church ecumenically to unity of worship and to advance the Christian Faith by carrying out the mission and outreach work of the Gospel for the benefit of the public.

The service offered is available to all regardless of race, gender, disability or religion. The work is developed with regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the Board of Trustees ensure that all work undertaken is in line with the Organisation's charitable objectives and aims.

Both the initial donation and additional amounts donated since have been under terms which allow the Board of Trustees to either retain the amounts as capital or to spend them. The governing document gives the Board of Trustees the power to apply the funds in such a manner as they think fit for the benefit of their charitable objective or purpose.

Governance and Management

The Governing Document provides for a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 9 Members on the Trustee Board. Where there is a requirement for new Members, these would be identified and appointed by the remaining Members having due regard to ensuring those with the appropriate skills and knowledge are recruited.

Members of the organisation must subscribe to the mission, goals and values of the Street Pastor Movement, remain active and be willing to participate in and contribute to the work and furtherance of the local Street Pastor initiative.

Being a professing Christian committed to a local Church is a requirement for being a Street Pastor (as permitted under Schedule 9, Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010). Eligibility for Membership is subject to the paragraph above and to a two thirds Christian majority being represented as Members.

The Members are unpaid and details of Member expenses and any related party transactions during the financial year are £0 (2021: £0)

The Chairman is responsible for the induction of any new Members and will make available to each new Member, on or before their first appointment:

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- (a) A copy of the current version of the Constitution; and
- (b) A copy of the organisation's latest Annual Report and statement of accounts; and
- (c) A copy of the current version of the Ascension Trust Licence Agreement.

Public Benefit

Okehampton Street Pastors acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or "aims" that are for the public benefit. Details of how the organisation has achieved this are provided in this Annual Report. The Board of Trustees confirm that it has complied with their duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties.

Risk Assessment

Okehampton Street Pastors is aware that the activities undertaken are subject to significant risks and therefore review these risks on an on-going basis to ensure adequate systems and procedures are in place. If key objectives are to be achieved, the Trustees accept that the management of risk is inevitable. The risks that have been identified are:

1. Financial - sufficient funds are available to fulfill the aims of the organization.
2. Operational - risks to volunteers
3. Achievement - ensuring our aims and objectives and expectations of supporters are met.

In reviewing these risks, the Trustees ensure:

1. Close monitoring of cash flow and adherence to agreed budgets
2. Regular monitoring of equipment; patrol route; reviewing and implementing training.
3. Regular assessment to ensure existing and new projects conform to the overall objectives of the charity.

Achievements and performance of Okehampton Street Pastors

The volunteers worked over two mixed gender teams and patrolled the town centre twice a month between the hours of 10.00pm and 3.00am on a Saturday night. They continued to build up and strengthen the relationships with the pub door staff, mobile food outlets and taxi drivers who recognise the work and value of Okehampton Street Pastors.

The Street Pastors had opportunity to engage positively with people of all ages and, while the team would have liked to provide the service during the afternoon and night time, there just aren't enough volunteers currently. It remains an aspiration and there is the potential to recruit specifically for daytime patrols in the future.

There have been 21 patrols during the year. During that time Okehampton Street Pastors spent 513 hours patrolling the streets with Prayer Pastors providing prayer cover. 141 bottles and broken glass have been collected and safely disposed of; 452 lollies; 30 pairs of flip flops, 17 bottles of water and 3 space blankets distributed, First Aid applied to 5 people and the emergency services called twice. 3 people were accompanied to a place of safety.

While details of conversations held are confidential, examples of the impact the team have had when on patrol include:

- A woman sat on the ground with some passers by supporting her. She was unable to give her name or say who she was with. The Prayer Pastors prayed and, within a few minutes, the woman's husband arrived and took her home.
- Assisted the Police and shared information regarding a missing person with door staff.

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- Provided first aid and called an ambulance for a man who was unconscious and whose breathing was impaired. He was found lying between two vehicles on a very cold night so could easily have been missed and not found until the morning. He may not have survived the night.
- Responded to a call for help when a young girl was attacked with a glass bottle. Stayed with her and provided re-assurance until the police and paramedics arrived.
- An observer came out with the team one night and made the following comment on social media: *"Many thanks to Okehampton's Street Pastors for allowing me to observe, closely, their community patrol last night. As a highly organised voluntary team they walk stealthily into the wee hours of the night giving reassurance to anyone in need of care. They quietly clear dangerous glass and bottles from the streets, whilst quelling rowdy groups with sweet lollypops and a smile. Ladies with wobbly or lost heels are offered safer walking flip flops, and those the worst for wear given a plastic bottle of water to cleanse their palate. Without prejudice, barter or command they passively assist in reducing stress on late night alcohol fuelled streets. They're a Christian group that pray for all involved before the night ahead, however do not promote their faith during their patrol. For me, as Parent to a late Teen, I feel reassured that there are around 270 of these teams in England, let alone globally. Thank you Street Pastors!"*
- Provided a listening ear and first aid to someone who had recently been bereaved.
- Supported a man who became very agitated when he couldn't get a taxi immediately. The team sent in a prayer request and one arrived within a couple of minutes. The man was very pleased.

The local police and the taxi drivers have specifically commented on the peace and calmness that exist on the streets of Okehampton when the Street Pastors are out on patrol. The police have reported that calls to places that are known to attract anti-social behaviour have reduced. This continues to be notable due to the fact that the teams do not deploy every week. The team have had many positive conversations with door staff and members of the public and continue to be warmly welcomed by all.

During the year, Okehampton Street Pastors have directly helped, cared for and listened to 704 people and have had a positive impact by their presence at 6 anti-social incidents.

Members of the Trustee Board have spoken at 9 different events to 318 people highlighting the work of Okehampton Street Pastors. Those who attended expressed considerable interest in gaining an understanding of how the night time economy works and the value that Street Pastors bring in terms of helping; caring and listening to people in a non-judgemental manner.

All Street Pastors underwent Refresher Training during the year in "Safety on the Streets" which is delivered by Ascension Trust.

Under the terms of our Licence Agreement Ascension Trust provide the licence, basic insurance, legal advice and a website. This is funded by the local Street Pastor initiative paying a quarterly fee to Ascension Trust and this was allowed for in our budget.

OSP has its own website: <http://streetpastors.org/locations/okehampton/>

The service that Okehampton Street Pastors provides is available to all who wish to avail themselves of it. There is a Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy; a General Data Protection Policy; an Equality Policy, a Health & Safety Policy and a Financial Policy together with a Standard Operating Procedure for working with the Police. All policies are reviewed annually and copies are available on request.

Contributions made by volunteers – The Organisation is very grateful to all its volunteers who provide their time and expertise. As of 31st December 2022, there are 7 Street Pastors made up of 4 male and 3 female members. They are ably supported by 4 Prayer Pastors made up of 1 male and 3 female members.

Benefit in kind – Storage facilities and a Prayer Base are very kindly provided free of charge by Fairplace Church.

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Financial review, investment policy and reserves

Okehampton Street Pastors has no permanent endowment or fixed assets. The net incoming resources for the period 1st Jan to 31st Dec 2022, after grants and operational expenses of £1,115 (2021: £1,183) was -£99 (2021: -£1,051). A draft Budget is presented to Trustees in November for approval and a Fundraising Strategy considered. There are collection tins in the pubs and fund-raising events are held throughout the year. Trustees deliver talks to churches and community groups which may result in a donation for the initiative.

Okehampton Street Pastors has general reserves which it has drawn down to meet expenditure not covered by restricted funding and has exercised extreme prudence in its spending during the financial year.

Principal sources of funding in 2022:

1. Donations from the general public, fundraising activities and a grant for general use

Reserves - The Trustees have set a reserves policy which requires that reserves be maintained at a level which ensures the organisation's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty for three months. The reserves are maintained in a readily realisable form. The calculation of the required level of reserves forms an integral part of the organisation's planning, budget and forecast cycle.

It takes into account:

- a. Risks associated with each stream of income and expenditure being different from that budgeted
- b. Planned activity level
- c. Organisation's commitments

2. Restricted Funding

A grant was received via the West Devon Borough Council Localities Fund in the sum of £300. This was restricted for recruitment, equipping, training and insuring Street Pastors and Prayer Pastors and was fully expended during the financial year. The charity holds a separate reserve of £412 from a non-time limited grant given in a previous financial year which is restricted to direct patrol costs.

Future plans

Okehampton Street Pastors will continue to fundraise to ensure sustainability of the work; recruit and train volunteers together with raising the profile of the work of Street Pastors.

Annual Report approved by the Board of Trustees at the AGM and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Julie Yelland (Chairman)

Date: 14th June 2023

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Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31st December 2022

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	TOTAL	2021
	£	£	£	
RECEIPTS				
General Donations	£716			£132
Restricted Funding		£300		
Total Receipts	716	300	1,016	
EXPENDITURE				
Refreshments		0		
Patrol Materials		48		£97
Training/DBS Checks/Uniforms	166	179		£252
Licence & Registration Fees	576	0		£670
Insurance	0	121		£149
Post/Stationery/Printing	25	0		
Publicity	0	0		
Room Hire/Gifts	0	0		
Sundry Expenses	0	0		£16
Equipment	0	0		
Total Expenditure	767	348	1,115	
Net incoming (outgoing) Resources			-99	
Opening Balance - 1st Jan 22			7,280	
Balance c/f at 31st Dec 2022			7,181	

Balance Sheet as at 31st Dec 2022

	£
Current Assets:	
Cash at Bank made up of:	
Unrestricted Funds	6,768
Restricted Funds	412
	7,181
Liabilities:	
Amount falling due within one year	0
	7,181
Amount falling due after one year	0
Net current assets	7,181

Accounts approved by the Board of Trustees at the AGM and signed on its behalf by:

Julie Yelland
Mrs Julie Yelland (Chairman)

Barbara Fortnam
Mrs Barbara Fortnam (Treasurer)

14th June 2023
Date