



Darlington Vineyard Church

Trustee Report

April 2024 - March 2025

Registration Number - 1182008

Registered Office - Darlington Vineyard Church, Salt Yard, Darlington, DL3 7DX

Trustees:

Chairman - Philip Crosby

Treasurer - Bethany Armstrong

Secretary - Keith Morley

Robert Stephens

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Report of the trustees for the year ending 31 March 2025

The trustees of Darlington Vineyard Church, Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), present their annual report and independently examined accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 and confirm they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the Trust Deed and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Our Aims and Objectives

We aim, through Darlington Vineyard Church, to equip Christians in Darlington and beyond to live their life as the Bible calls us to. We aim to teach people how to be loving and generous neighbours to each other and our town and how to love Darlington.

The objects of Darlington Vineyard Church are:

- To advance the Christian religion for the public benefit in accordance with the Statement of Faith in the Schedule hereto attached in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world through:
- The organisation and provision of Christian worship;
- The provision of such facilities and services as are appropriate for the Church, to enable it to fulfill its mission to the members of the Church, visitors to the Church and the local community and the wider community;
- The provision of facilities for Christian training and service;
- The support and provision of Christian evangelism and outreach;
- The provision of assistance to the wider Christian church in its ministries.

Review of Activities and Achievements

The organisation of Christian worship and Church Life

The year began in April 2024 with all our leaders gathering at the Vineyard Leaders Gathering (VLG) in Nottingham. This was a significant time of connection and vision for our leadership team.

In June 2024, a small team attended the Multiply Summit, also held at Trent Vineyard in Nottingham, to focus on church planting and growth.

During the same month, we were privileged to have Open Doors spend an evening with our Youth. This session was incredibly valuable, teaching our teenagers a lot about the persecuted church and broadening their perspective on the global faith community.

In July 2024, we celebrated baptisms on the beach. This is always a highlight of our calendar, and it was a great day as we celebrated with people making their public declaration of faith. On this occasion there were six baptisms adding to those that we have done over the last 7 years totalling more than 40 people

From 27th July to 1st August 2024, our youth attended the Dreaming the Impossible (DTI) youth festival, accompanied by a small team of adults. They had an amazing time enjoying camping, sports, talks, and much more. As part of this, Darlington Vineyard provides a significant amount of team to support the event from team on Operations, PA and media to kids.

In August 2024, we took the church to Wydale Christian Retreat Centre near Scarborough for a weekend away. It was a time filled with worship, games, fun, and opportunities to walk in the countryside and eat together. It is always a formative time for the church, and everyone involved had a great time.

We were delighted to have two students start the Vineyard Leadership College for the first time in September 2024, which has been a great step for their self-development and leadership training.

In October 2024, we opened our newly refurbished craft room following a National Lottery grant. This grant allowed us to create a beautiful space to welcome our community into as well as being able to run courses for the Local Authorities Leaving Care department.

On 15th and 16th November 2024, our young adults attended "The Cause to Live For" at Trent Vineyard, a conference specifically for young adults. They came away changed, having experienced amazing worship, great teaching, and the opportunity to spend quality time with one another.

In December, the Church celebrated Christmas with a fun family service on 22nd December and a more traditional Carols by Candlelight service on Christmas Eve. Both events were well attended and were true highlights of the year.

Throughout the year we held regular prayer and worship evenings, and our small groups continued to meet faithfully. Additionally, every Tuesday we held prayer meetings to anchor the church in prayer.

Our Sunday mornings continue to grow as we see more and more new families joining us on a Sunday.

Community

Vineyard Cafe went from strength to strength this year. Our cafe manager has done a great job of creating community, improving the menu and working with multiple volunteers from the church.

Hope and Glory continues to be a place where our community love to come to give clothing another life. Many relationships have been built and hours of conversation have taken place with our volunteers and the community, showing the huge isolation and loneliness crisis we are in and the need for people to find places to connect.

Grow Baby and Tippy Toes continue to grow with many families now accessing the service. We have seen huge need met through refugees, asylum seekers, women's prison as well as many local people accessing the service.

Future Plans

Salt Yard is 17,500 square foot and has been a huge undertaking for us as a church. We plan to continue upgrading the building after years of neglect. In January 2025 we put in planning permission to restore all the exterior doors which if successful will be implemented in the summer of 2025.

Our Finances

The financial statements show net incoming resources for the year on Church activities of **£341,811** (2024: **£275,296**).

The main source of income for the Church is people's regular giving who attend the Church. The trustees are continuing their strategy of ensuring all net incoming resources are invested in advancing the Christian faith.

Reserves and Financial Health

As part of the effective stewardship of our finances, the trustees regularly meet to review finances and budgets with a monthly cash flow analysis.

Although the trustees do not wish to see a buildup of reserves as we want all our money to further the Christian faith and to see people's lives transformed, we recognise the need to have some free reserves available to assist with cash flow purposes.

To this end we aim to have free reserves of approximately 3 months expenditure available should it be needed. Based upon the last few years activity that amount would be approximately **£75,000** (2024: **£68,000**); the level of free reserves is currently **£19,278** (2024: **£10,842**) but once the level is reached, the trustees wish for any excess to be used in the work of extending the Christian faith. The recommended reserve level is under regular review.

Structure, Governance And Management

The trustees who govern the charity are responsible for the overall management and control of Darlington Vineyard Church and meet regularly throughout the year..

The work of implementing their policies is carried out by the Senior Leadership team of the Church. The Senior Leadership team meets on a monthly basis to ensure the direction of operations.

All trustees give their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid in the year. Philip Crosby, Chairman of Trustees is paid full time for his position as Senior Pastor.

Darlington Vineyard Church Trustees and Leadership

Trustee Name / Board of Trustees

Philip Crosby (From February 2019 ongoing)
Bethany Armstrong (From February 2019 ongoing)
Keith Morley (From December 2019 ongoing)
Robert Stephens (From February 2023 ongoing)

Senior Pastors

Lisa Crosby
Philip Crosby

Professional Advisers

Accountant and Independent Examiner

Martyn Burt

Adventus Accounting Solutions

10 Walnut Lane, Laceby,

Grimsby, DN37 7BY

adventus accounting solutions

Supporting Charitable Organisations

27 January 2026

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Darlington Vineyard Church

I report on the accounts for the period ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on the pages following.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

Since the gross income for the year exceeds the amount provided in section 143(3) of the Act, I confirm that as a member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants I am qualified to act as an Independent Examiner under the provisions of that section of the Act and that my qualifications are set out as below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Yours sincerely



Martyn Burt

B.Sc.(Hons), ACMA, CGMA

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DARLINGTON VINEYARD CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The charity is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or else, for gifts- in-kind, at a reasonable estimate of their open market value on receipt.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the capitalized cost of fixed assets less their currently anticipated residual fair value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Land	Nil
Equipment, Fixtures & Fittings	5 years
Computers and IT equipment	3 years

No depreciation is provided on buildings as the currently estimated residual value of any properties is not less than their carrying value and as the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, any depreciation charges would be immaterial.

An impairment review is carried out at each year-end and any resultant loss identified is included as expenditure for the year.

Investments

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange or whose value derives from them are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at the trustees' best estimate of market value.

Short term deposits

These are the cash held on deposit either with the bank or another deposit taking institution.

INCOME

Income is recognised for any item when the charity has a legal entitlement to receiving that income. Any income not received at year end is accrued in the accounts accordingly as a debtor at the value of the actual amount to be received for that accounting period, or a fair estimate if the actual amount cannot be accurately determined.

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is recognised for any expense when there is a liability to pay. Any expenditure not paid at year end is accrued as a creditor at the actual amount that should be paid out for that accounting period, or a fair estimate if the actual amount cannot be accurately determined.

FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

These represent the remaining income funds of the charity that are available for spending on the general purposes of the charity, including amounts designated by the trustees either for fixed assets for its own use or for use on a particular project and which are therefore not included in its 'free reserves' as disclosed in the trustees' report.

Restricted Funds

These are income funds that must be spent on the purposes for which the funds have been given and details of the funds held and restrictions provided are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds

These are restricted funds that must be retained as trust capital either permanently or subject to a discretionary power to spend capital as income, and where the use of any income or other benefit derived from the capital may be restricted or unrestricted. Full details of all their restrictions are shown in the notes to the accounts.

DARLINGTON VINEYARD CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2025 £	<i>Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2024 £</i>
Income and endowments					
Voluntary income	2	177,130	50,000	227,130	167,485
Activities for generating funds	3	114,681	-	114,681	107,811
Investment income		-	-	-	-
Total income		291,811	50,000	341,811	275,296
Expenditure					
Church Activities	4	78,396	6,139	84,535	65,377
Raising Funds	5	78,186	-	78,186	79,496
Staffing, Admin & Other Overhead Costs	6	139,355	-	139,355	129,559
Total expenditure		295,937	6,139	302,076	274,432
Net income/(expenditure)		(4,126)	43,861	39,735	864
Transfers between funds	14	12,562	(12,562)	-	-
		8,436	31,299	39,735	864
Net movement in funds		8,436	31,299	39,735	864
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	14	10,842	-	10,842	9,978
Total funds carried forward	14	19,278	31,299	50,577	10,842

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

DARLINGTON VINEYARD CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2025 £	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9	3,045	-	3,045	-
Current Assets					
Hope and Glory and Cafe Stock		8,250	-	8,250	8,250
Debtors	10	2,864	50,000	52,864	4,455
Cash at bank and in hand		22,385	(18,701)	3,684	8,013
		33,499	31,299	64,798	20,718
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(17,267)	-	(17,267)	(9,876)
Net current assets / (liabilities)		16,232	31,299	47,531	10,842
Net assets		19,278	31,299	50,577	10,842
Funds					
Unrestricted Funds					
General Funds	13/14	19,278	-	19,278	10,842
		19,278	-	19,278	10,842
Restricted Funds	13/14	-	31,299	31,299	-
Total funds		19,278	31,299	50,577	10,842

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 28 January 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:


[name]


[name]

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

DARLINGTON VINEYARD CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2 Voluntary income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2025 £	<i>Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2024 £</i>
Regular Donations	90,352	-	90,352	87,900
One off Gifts	30,868	50,000	80,868	27,535
Gift Aid	24,833	-	24,833	26,796
Sunday Offerings	5,087	-	5,087	2,416
Misc Income - Refunds/Equipment Sales	2,781	-	2,781	1,438
Donated Goods	-	-	-	8,000
Grants	20,230	-	20,230	13,400
Retreat Income	2,979	-	2,979	-
	177,130	50,000	227,130	167,485

3 Activities for Generating Funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2025 £	<i>Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2024 £</i>
Café Sales	103,348	-	103,348	90,352
Hope and Glory Sales	11,333	-	11,333	17,459
	114,681	-	114,681	107,811

Expenditure

4 Church Activities:

Charitable giving

Away Giving - Overseas Compassion	1,693	-	1,693	596
Vineyard UK&I	4,200	-	4,200	4,452

Church Services and Pastoral Support

Saltyard Equipping/Maintenance	5,924	4,758	10,682	13,943
Saltyard Rent/Utilities	37,841	-	37,841	17,669
Sunday Set Up	3,287	-	3,287	4,724
PA Kit	1,626	-	1,626	3,998
Small Group/Prayer Snacks	137	-	137	7
Rev Well Room Hire and Costs	-	-	-	-
Childrens Ministry	4,296	-	4,296	3,587
General Church Expenses	17,392	-	17,392	16,253
Peaced Together	-	-	-	148
Toddler group	2,000	-	2,000	-
Baby Basics	-	1,381	1,381	484
CAP Resources	-	-	-	624

Total Church Activities

78,396	6,139	84,535	66,485
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DARLINGTON VINEYARD CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Expenditure (continued)	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2025 £	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2024 £
5 Raising Funds:				
Café Costs				
Rent & Utilities	16,418	-	16,418	18,922
Maintenance	879	-	879	1,599
Kitchen Equipment	-	-	-	-
Equipment/Non Food	2,061	-	2,061	2,063
Craft Renovation/Equipping	1,941	-	1,941	-
Café Direct Costs	1,375	-	1,375	1,523
Café Stock	39,967	-	39,967	35,847
Tea/Coffee/Consumables	17	-	17	180
Hope and Glory Costs				
Rent	10,800	-	10,800	12,800
Hope and Glory Utilities	4,643	-	4,643	1,621
Hope and Glory Shop Expenses	85	-	85	775
Hope and Glory Stock	-	-	-	4,166
Total Raising Funds	78,186	-	78,186	79,496
6 Staffing, Admin & Other Overhead Costs:				
Employment and Personnel Costs				
Salaries, Employers NI and Pension Costs	122,494	-	122,494	113,204
Accommodation	-	-	-	-
Transport Local	2,395	-	2,395	1,867
Staff Development	3,935	-	3,935	2,564
Administration & Overhead Costs				
Utilities	-	-	-	615
Rates	-	-	-	1,879
Insurance	1,028	-	1,028	1,206
Bank Charges	44	-	44	44
IT Equipment	734	-	734	930
Equipment Depreciation	1,478	-	1,478	763
Licenses	-	-	-	71
Stationery	392	-	392	519
Postage	5	-	5	27
Telephone & Internet	1,970	-	1,970	1,592
Office and Computer Equipment	1,346	-	1,346	921
Cleaning/R&M	205	-	205	287
Comms/ Marketing	1,517	-	1,517	1,237
Miscellaneous/General Admin	-	-	-	-
Accountancy/IE fee	1,782	-	1,782	1,826
Motor Vehicle Costs	30	-	30	-
Total Staffing, Admin & Other Overhead Costs	139,355	-	139,355	129,552
Total Expenditure	295,937	6,139	302,076	275,533

DARLINGTON VINEYARD CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and remuneration of trustees

Staff Costs		Year Ending 31/03/2025 £	Year Ending 31/03/2024 £
Wages and Salaries		116,261	107,924
Employers National Insurance	-	3,940	3,092
Pension Scheme Costs	-	2,293	2,188
	-		
		<u>122,494</u>	<u>113,204</u>
Average No of Employees (FTE)		5.1	4.2

At the beginning of the period there were 2 personnel directly employed as full-time Senior Leaders, Phil and Lisa Crosby. 2 full-time staff were engaged in the running of the cafe, and 2 part-time staff in the cafe and church. Total number of personnel engaged in the year as FTE was 5.1 (2024: 4.2) although some staff were on maternity leave during the period. Other than these persons, all of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers. No one earned more than £60,000 in the period.

Pension scheme contributions were commenced in the year for all staff, and are being paid into the government National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) pension scheme. The employer (DVC) contributes 3% of salary and the staff member contributes 5%.

For Related Party Transactions see Note 12

DARLINGTON VINEYARD CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2025 £	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2024 £
Cost		
Brought Forward	3,835	3,835
Additions	4,523	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>8,358</u>	<u>3,835</u>
Accumulated depreciation		
Brought Forward	3,835	3,072
Charge for the year	1,478	763
Disposals	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>5,313</u>	<u>3,835</u>
Net book value		
At 31 March 2025	<u><u>3,045</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>
At 31 March 2024	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>763</u></u>

10 Debtors

	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2025 £	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2024 £
Gift Aid	2,864	4,155
Other Debtors	50,000	300
Prepayments	-	-
Total Debtors	<u><u>52,864</u></u>	<u><u>4,455</u></u>

11 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2025 £	Total Funds Year Ending 31/03/2024 £
Payroll, HMRC and Pensions	16,188	8,364
Accounting Fees & Independent Examiner	880	840
Miscellaneous Creditors	199	672
	<u><u>17,267</u></u>	<u><u>9,876</u></u>

DARLINGTON VINEYARD CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

12 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity:

- received donations totalling £67,884 (2024: £28,919) from related parties (which includes trustees and anyone closely connected to them).
- No expenses were paid to, or for, the trustees in the period (reimbursements for expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity or incurred when undertaking employment duties not connected with serving as a trustee are not included in this disclosure).

During the year the charity also made the following payments to, or for, related parties:

Phil Crosby received payments of £26,520 in the year (2024: £27,040) in the period in respect of his engagement as joint Senior Leader

Lisa Crosby (as spouse to Phil Crosby) received payments of £27,040 in the year (2024: £26,520) in respect of her engagement as joint Senior Leader

13 Funds

CAP and Life Skills: comprise grants given from the Cinnamon Network towards Baby Basics (giving support to new mothers who may be struggling to make ends meet) and towards CAP, Christians Against Poverty (giving life skills to people in respect of money management, budgeting and general living principles)

Building Scheme: money given towards the purchase, development and equipping of the Saltyard building.

14 Summary of Fund Movements

Current Year

	General Fund £	Restricted CAP & Life Skills £	Restricted Building Scheme £	Total £
Balance B/Fwd 01/04/24	10,842	-	-	10,842
Incoming Resources	291,811	-	50,000	341,811
Resources Expended	(295,937)	(1,381)	(4,758)	(302,076)
Transfers Between Funds	12,562	1,381	(13,943)	-
Balance C/Fwd 31/03/25	19,278	-	31,299	50,577

Prior Year Comparatives

	General Fund £	Restricted CAP & Life Skills £	Restricted Building Scheme £	Total £
Balance B/Fwd 01/04/23	10,723	363	-	11,086
Incoming Resources	275,296	-	-	275,296
Resources Expended	(274,432)	(1,108)	-	(275,540)
Transfers Between Funds	(745)	745	-	-
Balance C/Fwd 31/03/24	10,842	-	-	10,842

DARLINGTON VINEYARD CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Summary of Assets by Fund

Current Year

	General Fund £	Restricted CAP Life Skills £	Restricted Building Scheme £	Total £
Fixed Assets	3,045	-	-	3,045
Debtors	2,864	-	50,000	52,864
Cash/Current Assets	30,635	-	(18,701)	11,934
Creditors/Liabilities	(17,267)	-	-	- 17,267

Net Assets/Funds 31/03/24

19,278	-	31,299	50,577
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Prior Year Comparatives

	General Fund £	Restricted CAP Life Skills £	Restricted Building Scheme £	Total £
<i>Fixed Assets</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Debtors</i>	4,455	-	-	4,455
<i>Cash/Current Assets</i>	16,263	-	-	16,263
<i>Creditors/Liabilities</i>	(9,876)	-	-	(9,876)

Net Assets/Funds 31/03/23

10,842	-	-	10,842
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Free Unrestricted Reserves

19,278 (prior year = 10,842)