

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD:
01.01.2020 TO: 31.12.2020

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name: Life Church Lichfield

Charity address: Netherstowe, Lichfield, WS13 6TS

Charity registration number: 1182297

Names of the charity Trustees:

Trustee Name	Office	Dates acted if not whole year
Steve Speight	Chair	
Peter Bate	Vice chair	
Mark Andrews	Treasurer	
Juliet Smithson	Secretary	

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Type of governing document: CIO Constitution adopted 01.07.2019

How the charity is constituted: The CIO members are the Senior Leadership Team

Trustee Appointment: New senior leaders are appointed by current senior leaders as per the constitution

There is a safeguarding policy in place. DBS checks are carried out prior to commencement of employment, trusteeship or relevant volunteer work and renewed every three years. Life Church Lichfield is a member of Thirty One: Eight who provide support and guidance for safeguarding matters.

Life Church Lichfield is affiliated with The Pioneer Network of churches, who provide helpful advice, leadership and accountability.

Life Church Lichfield has a leadership structure, which includes Senior Leaders, Core Team Leaders, Team Leaders and a Church Manager to carry out the day to day requirements of the church.

Trustees of the charity give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits, with the exception of the Minister Steve Speight who is employed.

Bankers for the charity are The Co-operative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document: The Object of the Church is, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts: The overall programme of worship and community activity was maintained, although due to the Covid19 virus we had to adapt and present differently this included:

- Worship, communion, and family services for all in our community to benefit from had to be pre-recorded and accessed online due to outbreak of the covid virus. This has resulted in many people outside of our known congregation watching our services weekly.
- Programmes for children and young people from the community had to be also recorded and accessed online. Additionally, as part of this our children's team began a sending monthly 'activity packs' to all the children via royal mail to keep the contact and link them with the online Sunday Life Kids presentations.
- Home Groups also went online and most groups met through zoom. They continue to be promoted as a place to believe and belong to the church community.
- Alpha was adapted for online delivery which allowed people from anywhere to join. This continues as our introduction to faith of new people from the community and beyond.
- Weekly outreach activities into the community continued prior to COVID including a Parent & Toddler group and a Lunch Club for those who would normally eat alone. Alternative contact was maintained to prevent isolation during COVID. We have continued to maintain contact mainly through telephone and email conversations.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit:

The church aims to continue to:

- Provide space for worship and connection.
- Contribute to the spiritual and moral education of children & young people.
- Contribute to a better society by the provision of a lunch club to reduce social isolation and a toddler group to promote social cohesion.
- Provide comfort to the bereaved.

Contribution made by volunteers: A great contribution is made by our partners and volunteers. We are grateful for the many hours which volunteers have spent to enable the charity to fulfil its purpose with all generations of our community. Without this valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise we would not have been able to achieve so much.

Grant-making Policy: The Trustees alongside the Finance Team decide upon individuals and organisations that are to receive financial support out of the charity's assets.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole:

One of the key and unexpected achievements was Online Church – with the pandemic altering the way church existed and carried out its charitable objectives. We saw more people 'attending' our gatherings online and worked with new ways to connect people together digitally.

Drive in church – During Sept to attempt to gather people we organised a 'drive in church' on a farm owned by one of our church families. This was a great success with people appreciating the collective worship.

Kids Presentation morning – Children and teenagers have always had a large place in the vision and drive of Life Church. We have introduced an annual event to inspire our pre-school and primary age children, building value and resilience into them, publicly presenting them with gifts, prayers and promises in show of that appreciation and investment from the whole church. This was of course done online with many of our children's team involved and we were able to achieve the same level of investment into the young people as in previous years

Christmas activities – all our 2020 Christmas activities were online which included:

A Christmas reflection and meditation which was live streamed from the building.

A Christmas eve children's special involving many of our children's team. The Saltmine theatre company Christmas production was watched by a great crowd and because it was digital, we were able to have many more join with us, as there was no seating restraints!

We also offered the Saltmine production to all local schools and 12 of them joined with us, with 2,500 local children hearing the message of love and hope at Christmas.

Our Carol service streamed on YouTube, which included choir contributions from two local schools.

Christmas day was a live zoom celebration available to all.

Our pastoral team lead changed, and a new team was formed. They have adapted during this time and have established a system of regular phone calls across the congregation to keep people connected and to pray with them.

Our administration was moved from the building to home which meant the bulk of our organisational system was done via zoom and telephone calls. We also took this opportunity to digitalise and centralise our records. People have responded and adapted well to the changing environment, with the community spirit still flourishing and people reaching out to their neighbours more than ever before.

FUTURE PLANS

During our vision morning in January 21, we delivered our plans, which had taken a number of months to establish. Our aim is to focus on discipleship and mission over the next years. This is to be achieved primarily through the formation of a series of LIFE GROUP which will replace the current home groups. We launched with 11 groups and encouraged all the congregation to join this momentum. The plan is to be a church that is not simply 'Sunday-centric' but develop faith and mission all week, through the newly launched Life Groups.

We aim to further pursue the part time employment of a youth leader in the next 12 months and are pressing forward with that.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy: The church's policy on holding cash reserves as Unrestricted Funds, is to hold a minimum equivalent to four month's expenditure and a maximum of eight month's expenditure, excluding any designated funds, so as to enable it to continue operating during a short-term down-turn in its income, or to allow a period of restructuring should a longer-term down-turn occur. This amounts to a min of £47,941 for the period of this report. Actual cash reserves held on 31st December 2020 were £115,612. Reserves were higher than normal as during 2020 we carried over more from the previous year due to catching up on GA claims in 2019 and additionally we were unable to engage in the same way during 2020 with our community and Kenya due to the Pandemic.

Investment Selection Policy: The church currently only invests in cash deposits with UK banks.

The charity's principal source of funds continues to be partner donations.

Details of any funds materially in deficit: Not applicable

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:		
Full Name:	Steve Speight	Mark Andrews
Position:	Chair of Trustees	Treasurer
Date:	29/9/21	29/9/21

Life Church Lichfield

Receipts & Payments Account: Year to 31/12/20

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts:	Note	2020	2020	2020	2019	2019	2019
<u>Donations and similar receipts</u>							
Offerings		97,347	41,656	139,003	63,243	3,135	66,378
Gift aid scheme		20,565	929	21,494	24,850	905	25,755
<u>Operating activities to further charity's objects</u>							
Children/youth activities		16	0	16	943	0	943
Luncheon club income		417	0	417	824	0	824
Event income		939	0	939	1,996	0	1,996
<u>Operating activities to generate funds</u>							
Hire of hall		0	2,252	2,252	0	4,661	4,661
<u>Investment income receipts</u>							
Deposit interest		212	0	212	121	0	121
Sub-total		119,496	44,837	164,333	91,977	8,701	100,678
<u>Other receipts (not counting as 'gross income')</u>							
Other income		1,690	0	1,690	850	0	850
Total Receipts		121,186	44,837	166,023	92,827	8,701	101,528
Payments:							
<u>Charitable payments</u>							
<u>Grants paid</u>							
Mission expenditure		0	45,520	45,520	1,349	10,892	12,241
<u>Charitable activities</u>							
Salaries and national insurance	1	63,794	0	63,794	30,147	0	30,147
Ministry fees		757	0	757	0	0	0
Books & literature		110	0	110	215	0	215
Motor & travel expenses		382	0	382	503	0	503
Children/youth/group activities		4,615	0	4,615	4,522	0	4,522
Life Family		5,624	0	5,624	0	0	0
<u>Support costs</u>							
Administration expenses		8,975	0	8,975	2,331	0	2,331
Heating, lighting & water		5,169	0	5,169	1,165	0	1,165
Telephone		540	0	540	490	0	490
Insurance		2,016	0	2,016	980	0	980
Building maintenance		3,948	1,854	5,802	3,572	0	3,572
Miscellaneous	1	520	0	520	7,340	0	7,340
<u>Management & administration</u>							
Independent examination		0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total		96,450	47,374	143,824	52,614	10,892	63,506
<u>Other Payments (not counting as 'expenditure')</u>							
Capital expenditure		0	1,505	1,505	0	1,208	1,208
Total Payments		96,450	48,879	145,329	52,614	12,100	64,714
Net receipts for the year		24,736	-4,042	20,694	40,213	-3,399	36,814
Cash & bank balances at 1st Jan		90,876	25,392	116,268	0	0	0
Transfers in (see note 2)		0	0	0	50,663	28,791	79,454
Cash & bank balances at 31st Dec		115,612	21,350	136,962	90,876	25,392	116,268

Life Church Lichfield
Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31/12/20

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
	£	£
Cash funds		
Petty cash	306	0
Current account	81,990	4,000
Deposit account	33,316	17,350
	<u>115,612</u>	<u>21,350</u>
Other monetary assets		
Gift aid claim	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Assets retained for the charity's own use	Fund	Cost
Church building	Unrestricted	355,692
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Unrestricted	39,462
		<u>395,154</u>
Liabilities	Fund	Amount due
Current liabilities - suppliers	Unrestricted	81
Taxation and social security	Unrestricted	3,147
		<u>3,228</u>

Notes to the accounts

1. Trustee salaries and expenses

Trustees salaries paid (Incl Employers Pension Contributions)
Trustees expenses paid

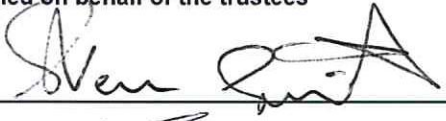

£
42,181
2,620
44,801

2. Trustee Ex Gratia Payment

Contribution to gift for long service

£
199

Signed on behalf of the trustees

S. Speight

M. Andrews

Date of approval 15/10/21

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Life Church Lichfield Charitable Incorporated Organisation ('the CIO')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the CIO 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. 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 respect of the Trust 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 proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Ian Barnes FCA
39 Smiths Way
Water Orton
Birmingham
B46 1TW

Date

6th October 2021

LCL Current Liabilities

Inv Date	Supplier	£
	Talk Talk	55.77
	Go cardless	25.00

80.77

LCL Restricted Funds Balance @ 31/12/20

	B/F	Movement	C/F
	£		
Mission Fund	17,265	-3363	13,902
Building Fund	8,127	-817	7,310
Youth & Kids	0	138	138
	<u>25,392</u>		<u>21,350</u>