

# OIKOS- BRIGG

England & Wales · Charity number 1184594

## Details

---

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2019-07-25

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

---

**Address** Oikos-Brigg  
67 Wrawby Street  
Brigg  
DN20 8JE

**Phone** 07946 109069

**Email** [malcolm@link2energy.co.uk](mailto:malcolm@link2energy.co.uk)

**Website** <https://www.facebook.com/Oikosbriggcharity/>

## Activities

---

**Objects:** TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION IN NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THROUGH THE HOLDING OF PRAYER MEETINGS, LECTURES, PRODUCING AND/OR DISTRIBUTING LITERATURE ON CHRISTIAN FAITH TO ENLIGHTEN OTHERS ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION.TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE OF THE SAID INHABITANTS.

**Activities:** To advance the Christian religion in North LIncs through meetings, lectures and producing and distributing literature. Also work amongst young people and those in financial hardship or social need.

## Classification

---

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

---

- North Lincolnshire

## Finances

---

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£63,035	£54,160	-	-
2024-03-31	£51,705	£52,630	-	-
2023-03-31	£28,459	£11,460	-	-
2022-03-31	£26,617	£11,483	-	-
2021-03-31	£3,351	£1,830	-	-

## Trustees

---

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Malcolm Richard Bailey MA CEng</b>	Chair	2018-10-07
Angela Smith		2024-01-10
Beverly Anne Barker Lawrance		2024-11-05
Cyril Edward Pettit		2019-11-14
Dr Piero Strina		2023-10-01
Keith Simpson		2022-01-11
Mary Joan Knaggs		2022-01-11

**OIKOS- BRIGG**

England & Wales - Charity number 1184594

---

# Accounts

---

# Oikos Annual Reports 2024/2025

*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*



OIKOS-BRIGG

## Introduction

This year there are two main reports; both included in this one document. One from Mary about the shop and the other from Hannah re the Food Bank. Clearly that is not all that happens at Oikos and last year we received a report on each element. This year I have topped this with a one page summary of 'A Week in the Life of Oikos' and tailed it with how all that happens maps on to 12 markers of a healthy Christian Community taken from the Methodist Way of Life. As individuals we may contribute to one particular attribute; that may be prayer or serving people in our community. However, together as Oikos, we collectively have something to offer in all these and colour in a bigger picture.

So a huge thankyou to each and every one of our 43 volunteers for what you contribute.

Mary steps down as Shop Manager this Christmas and we are grateful to Nick Thompson for being willing to take on this role. Mary was an instigator of what was colloquially known as the 3M's project: this with the sole ambition of providing a six week pop-up shop in the run-up to Christmas 2016. Mary will continue as a trustee but we all owe her huge thanks for what she has brought to Oikos, and its fore-runners, over the past 9 years.

Trustees meet monthly to ensure we remain true to the commitments expressed in our Constitution, and to remain, safe, solvent and legal. There is a separate document on Governance. Following requests we have started to publish summaries of each trustee meeting and to provide space at the beginning of each for anyone to bring any matter to the attention.

Updating or creating new Policies and Procedures has been a significant task during the year and I'd like to thank Alan Smith for his input to those relating to Safeguarding but also Cy Pettit and Piero Strina for keeping on top of the ones relating to finance.

Nothing stands still and you will find details of things that have developed over this last year in the text below: a contract for services with Hannah to deliver our suite of Food Bank initiatives, the Community Fridge, becoming a Cadent Centre for Warmth, provision of support for the neuro-diverse community, running a summer BBQ etc... and to Bev for the initiation of Women's Breakfast group. Later in our meeting we'll have time to consider new things for 2025/26: the Grief Café, Passion Play 2026, the development of a Life Skills Course with North Lincolnshire Council and of a New Place for New People.

# Oikos Annual Reports 2024/2025



*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

## A Week/Month in the Life of OIKOS

(Events are weekly unless indicated otherwise)

<b>OIKOS</b>
<b>Sunday</b>
- Thought for the Week published on social media
<b>Monday</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Food Bank Packing</li> <li>- Bible Study</li> <li>- Brigg AA Meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prayer Meeting</li> <li>- Cafe Fellowship (twice per month on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays)</li> <li>- Space 2 B (twice per month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays)</li> <li>- Community Pantry (monthly on the third Tuesday)</li> <li>- Adult Autism Peer Support Group (monthly)</li> <li>- Peer Support Group for those with partners on the ASD spectrum (monthly)</li> <li>- Grief Café 2-4pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pilgrims Group (monthly, usually the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday)</li> <li>- Death Café (monthly)</li> <li>- Community Meal night (monthly)</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b>
Shop/Drop-In/CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other)
<b>Friday</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shop/Drop-In/CAMEO</li> <li>- School Uniform Exchange</li> <li>- Citizens Advice available 10am-12 noon</li> </ul>
<b>Saturday</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Shop/Drop-In/CAMEO</li> <li>- Men's Breakfast (every 3 weeks)</li> <li>- Women's Breakfast (monthly)</li> </ul>

- Community Fridge is outside the shop when food is available
- From March Oikos has been acting as a Cadent Centre for Warmth

# Oikos Annual Reports 2024/2025

*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*



## Shop Report by Mary Knaggs

The shop continues to open from 10 till 2 every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Customer interest and sales vary from day to day, with most sales being on cards, bibles and books, and the busiest times of the year being Christmas and Easter. Sales this year have been down on previous years, following the national trend. Interest in the Eco-friendly products has increased, especially with customers bringing in their empty bottles for refills.

The cost of our online purchasing of Eco products has increased this year and so a decision was made to stock only the products that are selling. So no Fairtrade biscuits, jams and honey, or biscuits!

The window display, the theme of which is changed regularly, attracts a lot of attention and often brings new customers in. We try to make the display topical. At the moment it is Harvest/Autumn, with prayer books reminding people to thank God for all He has given. This same theme was on the shop's Facebook page a couple of week's ago, with a photo of the window, which, sadly, can't always be seen in the street because of the permanent market stall outside.

My thanks go to the volunteers who work alongside me. They have had quite a number of issues to deal with recently, but hopefully, following a meeting of trustees and volunteers, these issues have been resolved.

And my very special thanks to Anne, Piero, Stephen and Carol, my assistant managers. I couldn't have managed without them.

And my even special thanks go to Nick Thompson, one of the shop volunteers, who has offered to take over from me as manager from January 2026. This is slightly earlier than I intended, but with a bout of poor health, and instructions from family and friends to "slow down and take things easy", I felt the time had come to retire after 10 years. I shall still be a volunteer and a trustee of Oikos-Brigg. I hope everyone will give their full support to Nick.

Mary Knaggs

# Oikos Annual Reports 2024/2025



*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

## Food Bank Report by Hannah Mitchell

Our Food Bank project operations continue to grow, with more of a focus given to supporting outside of food wherever we can, whether this be signposting to services, bringing services in-house, making more partnerships and in general getting to know our clients and understand what they need, with particular focus to each individual.

Our food services are run and managed by the overall Food Bank Project Manager who is contracted in, however, we have a core of 15 volunteers who support the day-to-day running of our food services and this is extremely appreciated and we could not run without our amazing volunteers. As we moved further along in 25/26, we continue to look to grow our volunteer numbers to continue to support the growth in services and provide more support throughout the week, especially during opening hours.

We have a number of elements in which we support through our Food project:

- Emergency Support
- Pantry
- Community 'Fridge'
- Social & Community
- Education & Training
- Support

**Emergency Support:** This is our food parcels system. Our volunteers meet every Monday morning on a rota system to help pack for our emergency parcels. Our emergency parcels are referral only, with some understanding internally that every situation is different and if an urgent case is identified with us without referral, we may provide them with some short-term food to keep them going until a referral or their first parcel without referral, with an explanation of how to receive a referral moving forwards.

During 24/25 there has been a small increase of food parcels now averaging 36 parcels a month, up from 32 in 23/24. We are aware we still have a number of long-term food bank clients with us, who as we now have more support services (for both referring to and in-house) we are able to provide more direction and support outside of "just food". We understand that food parcels are not always short-term as everyone's situations are different and whilst we do see a number of our food parcels referrals (approximately 30%) receiving 3 or less referrals, our other food bank clients have either received more than these from us or have had breaks in between periods, depending on their own personal circumstances.

We work with third parties to refer to us so that we can ensure there is a service being provided to households and individuals to help them move from reliance on emergency

# Oikos Annual Reports 2024/2025



*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

support, with conversations also around the other food services we offer. We are also having internal conversations about our approach, which is mentioned further down this report.

Our emergency food parcels are supported by individual donations of food directly or monetary donations in the main. Depending on our stock levels, we may also direct grant funding (as allowed) and business donations (stock or money) as appropriate.

We also provided Christmas Hampers in December 2024. We provided 96 fresh hampers altogether, which included treats too. These are referred from a number of different organisations, together with anyone we have identified internally who we are supporting.

**Pantry:** We hold our Community Pantry once a month on the third Tuesday. We average 112 households a month with an average of 25% new household rate each time. We have maintained the £4 recommended donation for the year, of which our totals are always slightly above this average as some give slightly more which is always appreciated.

Each month we purchase a fresh (vegetable/fruit), an ambient and a frozen pallet from His Church. This costs £975 (a £50 increase was applied in 2025). Up until recently (July 2025), we collected our own pallets, however, due to no longer having a volunteer with a van, we assessed options and chose to partner with We Are One Foundation in Grimsby who now collect our pallets, deliver them to us, and take our cardboard and crates away. We donate £100 for this service which is in line to costs we would incur through sourcing ourselves, and we felt we could support another Charity who very much supports us by choosing this option.

Our National Lottery funding which supports our Pantry runs out in November 2025 for our pallets, therefore, we are currently looking at other ways to purchase these moving forwards with active bids submitted and proposals being discussed at Trustee meetings.

As well as His Church collections, we also use our LIDL and ALDI Neighbourly pick-ups to support our stock on the day.

Our Pantry is open to everyone, with no exception. We take a view that all our services should be accessible and without judgement, with appreciation that no matter your situation, if you can save circa £50-60 a month on your shop which could be allocated elsewhere, this is worthwhile and helps everyone as we are all feeling the effects of the cost of living crisis regardless of our situation.

During Pantry days, we continue to be thankful for support from Nottingham Building Society in the way of volunteers and we are also grateful for our young volunteers who also help to run the day.

# Oikos Annual Reports 2024/2025



*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

**Community 'Fridge':** We were successful in November 2024 in becoming a Hubbub Community Fridge and receiving funding in order to setup. We were already putting our excess donations out before this point, so this step helped us formalise what we were doing.

Most days of the week, we utilise the market stalls outside the front of the shop, which we are thankful to the Council and Town Council for the support in allowing us to do this, to put our 'fridge' out. This consists of predominantly excess food from our pickups at ALDI and LIDL which ensures we can reduce our waste and help in any way we can to ensure food is directed away from refuse.

Any food which is not take from the 'fridge' for any reason, is then offered to contacts we have made who have animals and livestock; with the final destination being a food bin that the Nottingham Building Society allow us to share to ensure the waste becomes energy through anaerobic digestion.

**Social & Community:** It is really important we support the community through interaction, and food is a great way to do this. This includes our twice-monthly *Space 2 B* sessions where we open up for 2 hours and provide free refreshments and cakes, and chat in any way anyone needs.

Further to this, we provide a monthly Community Meal Night which we host at the Methodist Church, where we come together as a community and cook together. On average we have around 30 individuals at a meal night, with 65% usually being young people. We run the activity jointly with Brigg Youth Club, and Grace (Methodist Youth Worker) supports the young people with making the dessert and running activities, and the adults cook the main course.

We did Christmas, Easter and Summer slightly differently where we either brought in third-party suppliers, bought in a buffet or cooked a BBQ which meant there was more of a social aspect and through Christmas and Easter, we could also provide space to link to the Bible through an *Open The Book* style performance.

**Education & Training:** We are always looking at ways to further enhance our education and training offering. Our most notable training through 24/25 was our air fryer training which we applied to the Council for funding. We trained and distributed air fryers to 59 households through this funding and training. We are also pleased to now be a Cadent Centre For Warmth through funding via Community VISION. To date, as at September 2025, we have trained and distributed slow cookers to 25 households, with more in plan to do. We are also able to support with Carbon Monoxide monitors/training, Priority Services Register registration/awareness and other energy awareness offerings.

# Oikos Annual Reports 2024/2025



*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

During 24/25, we worked once again with the Nottingham Building Society and the Police to deliver a Fraud and Romance Fraud awareness session, with another planned in September 2025.

We are pleased to be entering into partnership in November 2025 with Adult Education services who will initially be running a life skills course from our premises, with hopes this will grow further in 2026 subject to success and community voice.

**Support:** We continue to work closely with third parties including Council services, Citizen's Advice and Ongo. When identifying further support, we will always signpost our clients to the relevant service, or support them in contacting/engaging.

We are regularly asked to support with facilitating phone calls, online help and other guidance too. Whilst we are not trained in everything, we will always endeavour to ensure we find someone who can help. This has also included sharing details of mental health services and drug/alcohol support services, amongst other services.

We are fortunate to have secured 2 hours a week (Friday 10am – 12) from Citizen's Advice as a drop-in service which adds to the overall package of support available to all those who interact with Oikos and the wider community too.

## Neurodiverse Groups

In a voluntary capacity, Hannah setup a neurodiverse peer support group which runs out of Oikos usually twice a month, with just one a month over the Summer holidays. There is still growth for the group, with a discussion around what is needed or what everyone wants, and we are all learning together. It is a safe space for any individuals aged 18+ to come together with their experiences of neurodiversity whether it be themselves who are neurodiverse, they live with someone who is or they a parent to a neurodiverse child. Hannah is neurodiverse herself and has a passion to support and connect with other individuals. This is not an advice group or a professional service, but simply a get-together of individuals to talk, make friends, socialise and grow together.

# Oikos Annual Reports 2024/2025



*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

*<sup>37</sup> “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?’ <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ <sup>40</sup> “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ Matthew 25:36-40*

**Pray:** Weekly Prayer Meeting: Men’s and Women’s Fellowship. Active involvement in Thy Kingdom Come

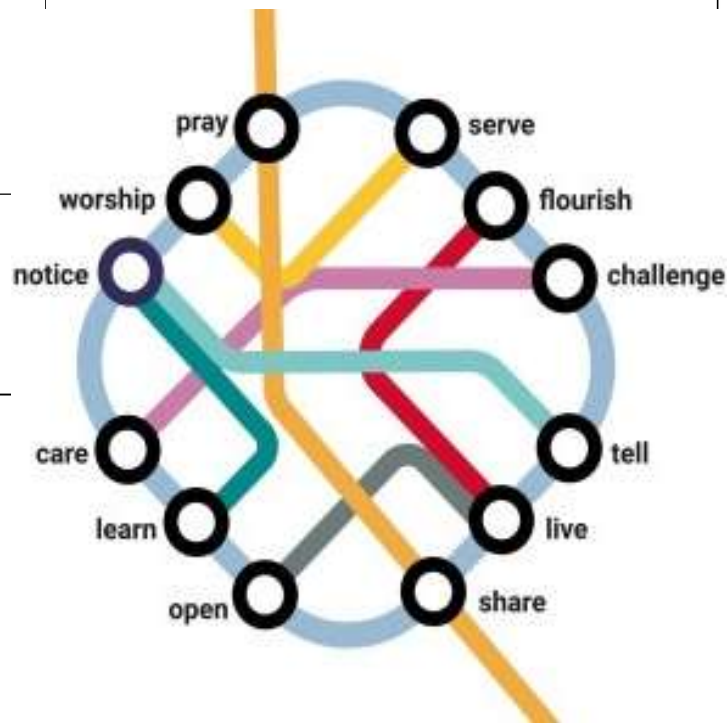
**Worship:** “We worship with others regularly”. Not through formal worship but through everything

**Notice:** “We notice God in scripture and the world”: Weekly Bible study. Café Fellowship, Pilgrim group, Ecumenical richness, diversity and insights

**Care:** “We care for ourselves and those around us”. Through formal and informal fellowship and the wider care for the community

**Learn:** “We learn more about our faith”: Bible study and various fellowship groups within the richness of ecumenical diversity

**Open:** “We practice hospitality and generosity”: Community Meal Nights



**Serve:** “We will help people in our communities and beyond”: Food Bank, Community Pantry, Community Fridge, Community Meal Night

**Flourish:** “We care for God’s creation and all God’s gifts”: Low energy lighting, Eco-refills, Fair Trade, Food Waste minimisation, Cadent Centre for Warmth

**Challenge:** “We Challenge Injustice”: We aim to alleviate food poverty and minimise some consequences of low incomes, such as social isolation, through Space 2 B, Community Meals etc..

**Tell:** “We tell of the love of God”: Hopefully in everything we do but specifically in open conversation at the shop and through the high street window displays and “Thoughts for the Week” posts.

**Live:** “We live in a way that draws people to Jesus”: Oikos is based on Matthew 25, above. Oikos runs as a mixed community of people who do and don’t express faith.

**Share:** “We share our faith”: With other Christians (Bible Study, Prayer Meetings and Fellowship groups) and with others (through the Pilgrim group, at the shop and through acts of service in the Food Bank)

Oikos-Brigg, Lower Ground Floor, 67 Wrawby Street, Brigg  
Charity Registration No. 1184594

# Oikos Annual Reports 2024/2025

*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*



## Appendix: Passion Play 2026 (taken from text provided by Nick Thompson)

*The Greatest Story Ever Told* is the title of Bear Grylls's new book, his compelling retelling of the life of Jesus. In a parallel spirit, **The Brigg Passion Play 2026** seeks to bring part of that narrative vividly to life; namely, the final, climactic days leading up to and including the Crucifixion. This open-air, no-ticket performance will unfold in public spaces on Good Friday (3rd April 2026), drawing on drama, music, and community involvement.

Audiences are invited to move through living scenes: the Last Supper, Gethsemane, Peter's denial, the trials before Pilate, confrontations with religious leaders, Roman humiliation, and finally, the Crucifixion witnessed by Mary and Jesus' followers. This dramatic and emotional journey underscores the central narrative: God's sacrificial love for all humanity, demonstrated through Jesus' death.

**Oikos-Brigg**, an inter-denominational community hub on Brigg's high street, serves as the organisational anchor. Its mission, to unite people of faith and none in shared purpose, is reflected in this project's collaborative design. Major contributing partners include **Brigg Live Arts**, **Brigg Community Partnership**, the Methodist Church's youth outreach, **Purple Pineapple** performing arts group (Cast & Director: Lizi Welch), and an inclusive network of local churches (St John's, St Mary's, Brigg Methodist Church, Connect Church). Local primary schools will be involved through **Open the Book** teams, and secondary students via church youth workers.

This collaborative model ensures that the Passion Play is not merely a performance but a shared communal celebration, uniting generations, abilities, and backgrounds. It supports artistic development, inter-faith connection, civic engagement, and cultural heritage. Free admission ensures accessibility for all, echoing the universal nature of Jesus' message. The Passion Play will provide an opportunity for audience interaction, shared reflection, and collective celebration of our town's rich arts heritage.

### Project Description

A core team of a dozen volunteers, meeting at Oikos, has already achieved threshold milestones: secured script and core cast list, established a fundraising group, agreed support from Brigg Live Arts for marketing, and received commitment from Brigg Community Partnership for event logistics (including road closures and first-aid provision). We have secured the town's bandstand, formal dialogue with North Lincolnshire Council events team, and designated Grace Smith (Methodist youth/schools outreach worker) to act as liaison to secondary schools. Most importantly, we have appointed producer/director Lizi Welch (Purple Pineapple), whose performing arts track record assures a high-quality outcome.

**OIKOS-BRIGG Charity 1184594**  
**Balance Sheet 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

	Brought forward 1st April 2024	2024 / 2025 Income	2024 / 2025 Expenditure	Balance 31st March 2025
<b>General fund</b>	£17,555			
		£6,253		
			£9,045	
Services contribution			£1107	
				£13,656
<b>Food Aid fund</b>	£14,917			
Food Aid		£33088	£22225	
Contract		£12669	£6372	
Services contribution			£4263	
				£27815
<b>Retail fund</b>	£3236			
		£4933		
			£4407	
Coffee transfer to Social			£407	
Services contribution			£2501	
				£853
<b>Social fund</b>	£1352			
Social		£3181	£2593	
Youth		£1125		
Coffee		£1379	£1240	
Coffee transfer from Retail		£407		
				£3610
<b>Reconciliation</b>	£37060	£63035	£54160	£45934

Name of Organisation  
Charity Number  
Accounting Period

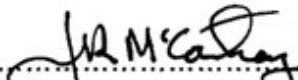
Oikos-Brigg  
1184594  
1st April 2024-31st March 2025

**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 (other than that disclosed below\*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- 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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature of independent examiner ..... 

Name of independent examiner ..... JOHN MCCARTNEY

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ..... N/A

Name of firm (where appropriate) ..... N/A

Address ..... 4 GREENWAY, BARTON UPON HUMBER

..... NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ..... Post Code DN18 5H7

Date ..... 31/08/25

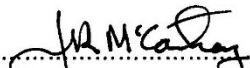
Name of Organisation Oikos-Brigg  
Charity Number 1184594  
Accounting Period 1st April 2024-31st March 2025

**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 (other than that disclosed below\*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- 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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature of independent examiner ..... 

Name of independent examiner ..... JOHN MCCARTNEY

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ..... N/A

Name of firm (where appropriate) ..... N/A

Address ..... Lt. GREENWAY, BARTON UPON HUMBER

..... NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ..... Post Code DN18 5H7

Date ..... 31/08/25

**OIKOS- BRIGG**

England & Wales - Charity number 1184594

---

# Accounts

---

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



The 16 Oikos activities presented below by various contributors are roughly in the sequence they occur during the week. This starts on a Monday morning with a team packing bags ready for delivery throughout the week....and ends with a 'Thought for the (following) Week' posted on a Sunday. Within the write-ups you'll see opportunities for prayer, bible study, various forms of fellowship and numerous opportunities for service in and with the community.

## **Food Bank: Monday morning & Every Day**

Our food bank continues to grow in our area as we continue to engage and collaborate with third-party services in order to receive referrals and support as many people as possible who are struggling with food for many reasons.

One of our biggest achievements was receiving our 5-star food hygiene rating in April 2024. We have also implemented a number of new processes and procedures in to ensure we manage our food and premises at the highest level possible. Our next priority is enabling as many volunteers as possible to complete their Food Hygiene Level 2 certificate.

In 22/23 year, we averaged 31 parcels a month and in 23/24 there has been a small increase with us averaging 32 parcels a month. Altogether from April 2023 to March 2024, we provided 383 parcels. Our parcels are currently split by household as follows: 31% single, 20% couple, 26% small families, 22% large families and then a small amount to those with no fixed abode. The true increase of parcels isn't truly reflected as in 22/23, we provided 56 parcels to those in temporary accommodation, compared to just 4 in 23/24 due to the Council no longer using a premises in Brigg for housing homeless people. Therefore, without the no fixed abode parcels, the average in 22/23 was 26 parcels a month compared to the 32 this year which is a 22% increase. We are expecting an increase for 24/25, as 2024 YTD we have already provided 299 parcels, averaging 33 a month, however as we have not yet hit our busiest period (November-March) this isn't a true reflection.

Through our parcels in 23/24, we have supported approximately 690 individual people.

We also provided Christmas Hampers in December 2023. We provided 72 fresh hampers altogether, which included treats too. Our Christmas Hampers were supported through a grant provided from Singleton Birch and a donation from Brigg Lions and topped up with a grant from the National Lottery's Community Fund. As with our food bank items, our Hampers are supported heavily by item donations which are gratefully received.

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



OIKOS-BRIGG

We continue to deliver a high proportion of our parcels but where possible have moved to a pickup system. This also allows for more time to talk and discuss with users, and signpost as required. We have identified more need to talk with our clients and our referrers, so we can be sure users are receiving the support they need. We are also identifying ways in which some of them can move in-house. This is an ongoing development of the food bank system and an element we are very keen to progress.

Hannah Dobson

## **Bible Course: Monday afternoon**

The Bible study group was started up about a year ago. The Bible Course and a study on Romans were the first two study materials. The material for both of these came from the Bible Society in the form of DVD's with Dr Andrew Ollerton as presenter. This was followed by the Simply Jesus course; the format was again by video by with Tom Wright as presenter. The intention was to take us back to the first century and feel the impact of Jesus ministry as if it were today. Tom is an eminent theologian as well as historian and it was quite a challenge at times.

What was evident from the use of these three pre-prepared sets of material was that as the group got to know each other then the most valuable experience was that from sharing thoughts with each other. The format has changed since. We have used study guides on both Genesis, using the Bible Month material from the Methodist church, and are currently studying the book of James.

It's not this number every week but we have had up to 18 people at an individual study. It is very much an ecumenical gathering and one of the joys is the exchange between people of different traditions.

Malcolm Bailey

## **Brigg AA: Monday evening**

The Brigg meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous continues to thrive. It meets at 7 pm on Monday evenings.

We are a very friendly bunch of people

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



OIKOS-BRIGG

The room is often full to overflowing and those who come have varying lengths of sobriety, from days and weeks to many years.

On the first Monday of the month meetings are open to all comers who might, for example, be curious about what happens in a meeting of AA or have a relative with alcohol problems. All other meetings are restricted to those who have a desire to stop drinking.

## **Prayer Meeting: Tuesday morning**

The prayer meeting has been the cornerstone of Oikos before we even became Oikos! The meeting is weekly at 9.15am each Tuesday and lasts for half an hour. Prayers are free form but two common themes have remained throughout: that of Christian unity and prayers for children and young people. It would be normal to pray for each activity of the week, the people involved and those that might come onto the premises.

The weekly pattern was replaced with daily prayers for the 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come between Ascension and Pentecost. As well as watching the videos, and usually including a Cheeky Pandas one too 😊, we each took up the invitation to pray for at least 5 people we know to come to faith and develop a relationship with Jesus. Those prayers continue.

Malcolm Bailey

## **Café Fellowship: Tuesday morning**

I must confess to never being too sure as to whether I am attending a Café or Coffee Fellowship because both are intrinsically linked to what we are about. Allow me for a moment to reminisce; as a youngster all that was on offer was 'Camp Coffee', chicory essence as it said on the bottle, lovely to flavour cakes but a poor beverage!

Certainly our meetings began when 'Costa Coffee' made their premises available to Christian groups alongside their regular clientele – an opportunity for Christian witness! Numbers grew so that it became difficult to hear one another above the in house music, air conditioning and general conversation; so a move of venue was arranged to the Angel, where we met until Covid intervened.

Since the opening of these Oikos premises; we have met here in the main meeting room, initially on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings and more recently the 2nd and 3rd at 10 – 11 am to avoid clashing with the Food Bank's Pantry.

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



OIKOS-BRIGG

We now gather in the shop area, as attendance has dramatically declined to perhaps five or six, nevertheless representative of our Brigg Churches. Occasionally we are joined on Zoom with our friends Revd's Andrew Ballard, and Peter and Sylvia Thomas.

We do enjoy some interesting discussions; anyone caring to join us will be most welcome; we would certainly be open to any suggestions for topics. Of course, fellowship is a truly scriptural word occurring 19 times, so I read in the Greek New Testament. 'Koinonia' speaks of sharing, friendship, support, fellowship and our relationship with Christ – actually that might be a word to talk about! Come and share fellowship with us, some great coffee or even tea!

Bill Smith

## Community Pantry: Tuesday

Our Community Pantry continues to be a resounding success. It is very popular and continues to attract a queue. We open at 10am, and have people queueing from 9am. As the months go on, the queue has started to even out over the day which shows our publicity and conversations reassuring people that we have sufficient items throughout the day has started to garner confidence which means people do not queue for as long now as they don't all rush for the opening time.

From April 2023 to March 2024, we have taken £4,530 in donations for our Community Pantry. Since our increase from £2 to £4 for a basket of food in September 2023, we average £480 a month in takings from Pantry. On average we have 115 households a month through our Pantry and have approximately a 25% new attendee rate. This equates to approximately 434 unique households a year supported via the Pantry, approximately 1,519 people.

We made the decision to increase the donation amount to allow for increased sustainability of our Pantry, whilst still providing a very cost-effective offering.

Our Pantry costs approximately £925 a month to run as we spend this amount on pallets from His Church which includes a fresh, frozen and ambient. Some ambient items may go into our food parcel supplies, rather than our Pantry if we are running low, but this gives an approximation. Given our average of donations, the net cost of running Pantry is approximately £445. On average, our users receive around £50 worth of items, which costs us less than £4 per household to provide (and £4 donation from our user too). We are very pleased and proud of our offerings and will continue to look for funding to keep this at the highest levels we can. We are grateful to have another year of funding through the National

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



OIKOS-BRIGG

Lottery's Community Fund, which means we are currently funded until December 2025 at our current costings.

We are also grateful to our Neighbourly pickups at LIDL and ALDI as these make up a large amount of our Pantry items too. We have also received donations from Golden Wonder and Bakkavor for our Pantry. A further thank you to be extended to Broughton Allotments who provide us with freshly grown items each month to go into our Pantry.

We have a brilliantly dedicated Pantry day team, which we would also like to extend a thank you to the Nottingham Building Society for providing volunteers for both our day and evening Pantry every month.

As well as having third parties attending our Pantry to provide support to our users, we have also trialled other elements during Pantry. We have had the Wild Weed Kitchen earlier in the year who cooked plant-based burgers which was a great talking point. We will continue to look at our offerings during Pantry to provide entertainment and support, and not just a shop.

Hannah Dobson

## **Space 2 B: Tuesday afternoon**

We began Space 2 B in April 2024 following discussions with the community in Q1 of the year where a need for a space for people to come, meet each other, tackle loneliness and offer a warm space. Space 2 B runs twice a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday for 2 hours. We average 10 attendees on each Space 2 B, with others popping their heads in, asking questions or viewing the shop. During the first 6 months of Space 2 B, we have welcomed approximately 30 unique people to Space 2 B, with us also bringing quite a few children in over the summer months on top of this.

We recognise there is more we can do with Space 2 B to impact more people and bring more people in, a main focus will be a warm space in the winter months and possibly also integrating cooking / eating into it a bit more; and not just bought-in cakes. However, this in no way is to take away the success of Space 2 B to date, and the key isn't the numbers impacted but the impact you have on individuals.

Hannah Dobson

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



## **Pilgrim Group: Wednesday morning**

The Pilgrims group (a follow on from the Alpha course) continues to meet on the first Wednesday of the month.

We discuss a variety of topics, often with people sharing what's happening in their lives, or of particular concern to them.

We have a Bible text and consider how it speaks to us at that particular time, and what we can take from it into the coming month.

We always have a time of prayer, and these are open for each of us to offer up our own prayers - and it's so encouraging that "pilgrims" are becoming more comfortable to voice their own prayers during this time.

Recently, some of our Pilgrims were invited to attend the "Air fryer" course, and not only was it great that they took up this offer, but also that others attended on an "informal basis" to share in the conversation and pick up recipe ideas!

We are delighted that 2 of our group, although having moved some little way away, are still coming back to join us each month.

Kate Marr

## **Death Café: Wednesday afternoon**

The Death Cafe group continues to meet about every six weeks. All meetings are on a Wednesday at 12-30 pm. Meetings finish at 2-00 pm.

Topics are very varied but within the broad frame of gentle discussion about life and death with tea and cake. We always have a lot to say!

We had a prolonged break in 2023 when interest seemed to be waning, but the group has regained energy in 2024 with two new members and no loss of original attendees.

If you're interested our next meeting will be on Wednesday 30th October. If you can't make that particular date contact John Cottingham on 07850366315.

John Cottingham

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



## Community Meal Nights: Wednesday evening

We trialled the idea of running a community meal night in July 2024 just before the schools broke up. We are grateful to Sir John Nelthorpe for their support of trialling this at their school canteen and with their students. Altogether, we had 12 families join us for the event and including volunteers we cooked for 35 people. The adults all cooked the main course together and the young people did activities with Grace followed by making the dessert. We cooked Pasta Bolognese and Eton Mess.

We received really good feedback from the attendees and it was clear there was an appetite for this offering. Following a grant application to the National Lottery, we were successful in receiving £6000 to run a year's worth of community meal nights. We plan to run these on the second Wednesday of the month from October onwards and are grateful to St John's for allowing us to use their premises.

The idea of the community meal nights is to bring a variety of different people together to create a community feel and a collaboration where we cook and then eat together. There is no cost to the attendees, and we will also be able to share skills from both those running the event and from the attendees too.

Hannah Dobson/Grace Smith

## The Shop: Thursday/Friday/Saturday

The shop continues to open from 10 till 2 every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Customer interest and sales vary from day to day, with most sales being on cards, bibles and books, and the busiest times of the year being Christmas and Easter. Though we were very grateful, at the time of opening the shop in these premises 3 years ago, to the Ice House in Grimsby for their generous donations of stock, most of this has now sold or has "passed its sell by date". A few months ago, I took the decision to go a bit more "upmarket" and so introduced more modern gifts and cards. The collection of Hannah Dunnett gifts, cards and posters has proved extremely popular with many customers, as have our range of cards, jewellery and candles. Of course, the initial purchase of this stock meant an initial outlay to Oikos, but I believe it has proved worthwhile.

The window display, the theme of which is changed regularly, attracts a lot of attention and often brings new customers in. We try to make the display topical. At the moment it is Bible Stories, to coincide with the Open the Book teams returning to the local schools and re-enacting bible stories.

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



OIKOS-BRIGG

The 24 volunteers who work alongside me in, the shop, now have more than the cards, books and gifts to sell. They also have refills of Eco washing-up and laundry liquid to dispense, cups of coffee to make from our coffee machine in the Cameo Café, bags of food that are brought in for the Foodbank to be taken into the back, and enquiries to be answered about the Foodbank and Food Pantry. Not forgetting the School Uniform Exchange Scheme, jigsaw library and nearly new bookshelves. And, most importantly, being a listening ear for anyone who needs a chat or maybe advice. Not what they all initially signed up for but are happy to help in whatever way they can.

As ever, I am indebted to, and so grateful for, the time and work that the shop staff offer to the Oikos shop. We couldn't keep open without them.

And my very special thanks to Anne and Piero, my 2 assistant managers, and to Stephen, who often fills in for us.

More volunteers would be nice and, as my 80th birthday creeps ever nearer, thoughts about a new manager!

Mary Knaggs

## **Youth Work: Throughout the Week but especially Thursday evening, Friday afternoon and evening.**

The youth work programme that has started this year, has involved the development of 3 groups, they are Brigg Youth Club, TBD group and the Adult Youth Group.

The Youth Club meets every Friday from 6:30-8pm at Brigg Methodist Church. Here young people aged 11-14 years old come to play games, make things, chill with friends and have a safe space to call theirs. We usually have about 12 young people who attend each week but can vary who we have as we do have 30 young people on our register. We have benefitted from Caistor Methodist Church as they have given us resources such as the table tennis equipment, table football, air hockey and bean bags.

TBD group was a group for 14-18 years old at the beginning, however, we have progressed to making it a group for anyone aged 11-18 years old, who wants to focus on awards and making a change to their society. At the moment, we have been focusing on leadership and participation. For the young people this has meant that they have planned and delivered sessions for the youth group, they have also investigated where the government gives money and whether they agree with it or not. We hope to look at ASDAN awards with them soon.

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



OIKOS-BRIGG

The adult youth group runs before the youth group, allowing those over 18 to come and experience what the youth group get up to. The table tennis proves popular at the moment and different board games. We also try to have other options available such as origami, planting seeds and film afternoons. Here we have between 8-10 people turning up each week.

During the school holidays, we have tried to run activities for children and young people. In the Easter holidays we had a table outside the Oikos shop offering games, crafts and activities. With the number of families and children who participated in these events, we could see the need for future activities during the holidays. Therefore, in May Half Term, we ran a children's club for 3 days. We did games, crafts, cooking and had a drum workshop one day. With the number of children who came we realised this needed to be continued during the summer holidays. The youth group started in June and therefore allowed us to also run activities for the young people over the summer too. We had one day trip for the children to the Scout campsite, where they went on go karts, built fires, did archery and went on scavenger hunts. Then there were 3 afternoon activities which were based on 3 different themes: space, under the sea and camping. We did a day trip for the young people too, there's was to Hatfield Water Park, here they got to kayak and go on the Aqua Park. They also had 3 afternoon activity sessions. The themes for theirs was: Olympics, Ready Steady Cook and a film afternoon with a colour run.

Last school year, we worked in Sir John Nelthorpe in two different areas. The first being a Social Enterprise club. Here they managed a budget, bought the required resources, made the products and then they should have sold them, however due to an unseeable situation, this couldn't be achieved. The other area was a craft group at lunchtime focusing on different cultures and countries in line with the Olympics. For example, we did string art of the Eiffel tower and make scratch art Greek vases.

Grace Smith

**Footnote:** Grace is employed by the Barton, Brigg & Wolds Methodist Circuit. This is a full-time permanent employment with finances raised by the Circuit from a number of sources, including the Methodist Circuit and District and from Oikos itself. Grace is based at Oikos in an office that was refurbished in the main through a grant provided by the Bishop of Lincoln's Transformation Fund.

The desire within Oikos for the development of youth work can be traced back to at least as far back as a Doodle Vision circulated in July 2017 😊

## School Uniform Exchange

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



The school uniform exchange nearly does what it says on the tin. The difference being that its not a requirement to bring a uniform before taking one...and its not a requirement to take one if you bring one. Apart from that it's an exchange!! 😊

Oikos became the permanent home of the school uniform exchange a couple of years ago and is available whenever the premises are open, so that's the Community Pantry day, Space 2 B sessions and the three days that the shop is open of course.

We stock whatever people donate but there is a good selection for Brigg primary school and SJN in particular and with some availability for St Marys Wrawby, Broughton and Barnetby.

## **Men's Breakfast: Saturday morning**

The Men's breakfast is held every 3 weeks! (Long story). It starts at Wetherspoons and migrates to Oikos around 9.15am for prayer, fellowship and conversation. This is often the most theologically challenging experience of any other meeting! It benefits hugely that it is held in a truly ecumenical and friendly setting.

There is no set plan to the conversations but the topics spring up in the moment often sparked by a particular passage from scripture.

It has been the custom over a number of years to continue this experience over a full weekend during an annual retreat to Ampleforth Abbey in the autumn. This year it will be 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> October. The setting is beautiful and the food and fellowship great. Attending the set services in the Abbey is optional, though it has been known for some to forego requirement for sleep and attend every available service betwixt taking part in the group's conversations. An impressive feat!

Grateful thanks to Vince Adams for organising both the breakfasts and the retreat over this and many years.

Malcolm Bailey

## **Facebook: Throughout the week**

There are 3 facebook pages in operation: Oikos-Brigg, Brigg Food Bank run by Hannah and which is dedicated to 'what it says on the tin', and Brigg Youth Club page run by Grace and likewise.

# A 'Week' in the Life of Oikos

Prepared for the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 and  
the Annual Charity Commission Report.



OIKOS-BRIGG

The Oikos page did have a pattern of posts on various themes throughout the week: Monday food bank matters, Tuesday prayer, Wednesday shop, Thursday schools, Friday eco matters, Saturday roundup and Sunday Thought for the Week. Some of that structure remains but is now more populated by news of the day! Followers have steadily increased to 538.

Through our Brigg Food Bank Facebook, we have a wonderful community and interaction levels. Our Brigg Food Bank page is now up to 1,215 followers. We continue to grow this and post a variety of posts. We recognise we need to use this more for thank you posts, as well as information of what is going on. From Harvest Festival 2024, we will make more of an effort to focus on this too.

Malcolm Bailey/Hannah Dobson

## Thoughts for the Week: Sunday

'Thoughts for the Week' are posted each Sunday on the Oikos facebook page. With the exception of this September when it has been 'open house', contributors have mostly been either a minister or local preacher. There is no direction, or requirement to stick with a lectionary, other than to provide something of encouragement and/or challenge to folk on their Christian journey.

Hugely grateful to all contributors who contribute for a month of Sundays: again this is very much an ecumenical mix. They have included: Rev<sup>d</sup> Peter Thomas, Ven Andrew Ballard, Mags Eames, Pastor Tom MacDonald, Fr Lim, Rev<sup>d</sup> Enid Knowles, Rev<sup>d</sup> David Eames, Nigel Pimlott, Keith Simpson, Anna George, Bishop David Tustin, Rev<sup>d</sup> Heather Wilson, Rev<sup>d</sup> Sally Long, Rev<sup>d</sup> Julie Wearing, Bev Barker Lawrance, John Pullen, Rev<sup>d</sup> Ian Wales, Revd John Boardman, Rev<sup>d</sup> Joy Osbourne, Jonathan Oatridge.

Malcolm Bailey



# Oikos-Brigg

2023 – 2024 Financial report for AGM

Start of year      Income      Expenditure      End of year

<b>General fund</b>	<b>£24,345.00</b>			
Donations & Grants		£14,500.02		
General expenditure			£110.54	
Fixtures and fittings			£20,433.67	
Utilities			£746.25	
				£17,554.56

<b>Retail fund</b>	<b>£2,155.38</b>			
Retail sales		£6,379.60		
Stock purchase			£4,422.65	
Coffee		£902.00	£495.00	
Utilities			£876.20	
				£3,643.13

<b>Food Aid</b>	<b>£10,670.03</b>			
Donations		£29,722.71		
Purchases			£24,497.96	
Utilities			£977.57	
				£14,917.21

<b>Social fund</b>	<b>£813.74</b>	<b>£201.07</b>	<b>£70.00</b>	<b>£944.81</b>
--------------------	----------------	----------------	---------------	----------------

<b>Reconciliation</b>	<b>£37,984.15</b>	<b>£51,705.40</b>	<b>£52,629.84</b>	<b>£37,059.71</b>
-----------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------



OIKOS-BRIGG

of Organisation

Oikos-Brigg

Number

1184594

ing Period

1st April 2022-31st March 2024

**ndent Examiner's Statement**

Completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below\*) which give me cause to believe that in material respect:

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

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 obtained.

Name of independent examiner

*J.R. McCartney*  
.....  
J. R. MCCARTNEY

Address of independent examiner

Professional qualification of independent examiner

N/A

Name of firm (where appropriate)

N/A

Address

4 Greenway

Carbon upon Humber

Post Code

DN18 5HY

01/09/24

**OIKOS- BRIGG**

England & Wales - Charity number 1184594

---

# Accounts

---

# Trustees Report for the year 2022-2023

## SECTION A: Current Activity

### a) Health and Safety.

Mike reported that a full set of general risk assessments and fire risk assessments is near to completion; just waiting on a few minor outstanding items before updating/printing for the Health & Safety folder which is kept on shelving in the packing room. A Volunteer Welcome Pack has been put together by Malcolm which includes Health and Safety information for all new volunteers. No accidents have been recorded in the Accident Book and no specific health and safety issues were raised at the meeting. Two actions are still to be taken: to remove unused metal shelving near the back door and to carry out a fire drill.

### b) Shop/Drop-in/School Uniform.

Mary provided her report in advance (with copy on file as Appendix 1). Anne reported at the meeting that whilst takings for the shop vary greatly, the real value of the shop is the growing number of people who simply drop in for a chat. In some cases, this has been to share difficult or stressful situations, Our shop volunteers are great listeners and Anne shared two moving stories relating to customers who called in at the shop to talk. In both cases our volunteers responded brilliantly!

After a slow start the **School Uniform Exchange** has really taken off since moving to the shop. We are now looking for someone to specifically manage this part of our operation. Concerns were raised about the Vale Academy introducing a new school uniform, we discussed the potential of purchasing new VA uniform to support disadvantaged families.

### c) Food Bank/Community Pantry.

Hannah provided her report (with copy on file, Appendix 2) which details just how much both the **Food Bank** and **Community Food Pantry** has grown over this last year. The monthly food pantry continues to be held every third Tuesday of the month between the hours of 10am to 1pm and 5 to 6.30pm with an average of around 124 households supported every month.

Hannah's report details the increasing number of people using both the foodbank and the Food Pantry, which is largely due to word of mouth and personal recommendation. In August we had a hugely successful food drive at Tesco in Brigg, where local shoppers generously provided over seven full trolleys of our most needed items of food. Like the shop, the Food Pantry is not just about providing food, and we are getting to know many local people who have been open to share their stories with us.

### d) Tuesday Prayer Meetings and Café Fellowship/Wednesday Pilgrims Group

Janet Kendrew provided an update on the weekly Tuesday morning prayer meetings which are informal and well attended, everyone is welcome! Café Fellowship follows the prayer meeting on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. This year the Café Fellowship hosted a get-together of

representatives from all the local foodbanks and in October there will be a presentation by the Police and the Nottingham Building Society on fraud prevention and scams. Again, all welcome to attend!

The **Pilgrims Group** is run by Janet Kendrew and Kate Marr and this takes place monthly on a Wednesday following on from a successful Alpha Course. The purpose of this group is to 'travel on' with Jesus at the centre. All welcome! Janet asked if anyone was interested in running a future Alpha course.

#### **e) Monday Evening AA/Wednesday Death Café**

John Cottingham provided an update on both Monday evening AA meetings and the Death Café. **Alcoholics Anonymous** meets every Monday evening at Oikos where around 20 people attend. This group is successfully aiding recovery, which is the main aim of the group; however, everyone is welcome to attend and find out more!

The **Death Café** will resume at Oikos this September. This is simply a group of people who meet to eat cake, drink tea and discuss death, helping them to make the most of their lives and face their own mortality. Previously the Death Café has had up to nine attendees and newcomers (of any age) are welcome.

#### **f) Saturday Men's Breakfast**

Vince Adams gave an update on the Saturday morning Men's Breakfast, for Christian men who meet from 08:30 for breakfast at Wetherspoons, followed by an informal meeting at Oikos. This takes place every three weeks. Highlights have included weekends at Ampleforth Abbey in North Yorkshire; with the next planned 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> October.

It has previously been suggested that there should also be Women's Fellowship; this is yet to be established.

#### **i) Finance Report**

Cy Pettit whilst unfortunately unable to attend the AGM owing to illness has provided a report on the financial status of Oikos and the balance sheet from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 (copy on file: Appendices 3 & 4). As before, the money has been divided into four funds – Food Aid / General Fund / Retail / Social. As suggested by Cy, it has now been agreed to open a new account with Lloyds as soon as possible for ease of management.

At the meeting John Cottingham asked what is our minimum reserve? For the general fund (without Cy's input at this stage) this was thought to be around £9,000. We do however have more flexibility on the other funds which are always closely monitored by Cy.

The principle of funds being for 'using rather than keeping' is at the forefront of what we do, and whilst there is a much greater cost to run the Food Pantry in particular, we have been so blessed to have received funding, donations and practical support from so many people and organisations over the last year. Many thanks go to Cy for his close attention to the Oikos accounts and for keeping us on

track. We are grateful also to John McCartney for auditing the accounts which were accepted at this meeting.

## ii) **Chair's Report including Property Report**

Malcolm provided the Chairs Report where he firstly acknowledged and thanked the contribution made by all volunteers, for taking ownership in their various roles and responsibilities. Looking forward, we always need to keep a balance between developing both our social and faith activities.

**Property:** The Nottingham Building Society have given us incredible support and this year they have increased our one-year lease with them to 5 years. The Nottingham continues to fundraise for Oikos! Malcolm confirmed that he will send a formal letter of thanks to the Nottingham for all the amazing support they are giving us.

- o Lighting has been replaced by new LED/PIR lights; all work carried out by local electricians Sam and Phelan. This work has been fully funded by an anonymous donor.
- o New kitchen units installed by Howdens, thanks to Stephen for arranging this.
- o Hot water units for sinks, covered by the UKSPF.
- o Decorating - wallpapering in the shop and upper room, new ceiling tiles and flooring in the back kitchen - all provided by B&Q Grimsby, all fully funded by B&Q including manpower.

Malcolm and Cy have been working 'behind the scenes' to stop water coming into the building following periods of heavy rain. Early signs are good in that much less water is now getting into the building.

It was encouraging to hear from Malcolm about our "Hopes and Dreams" from last year's AGM and to see much of this come to fruition, including the Community Food Panty, the school uniform exchange, the Eco Fair and having safeguarding officers in Alan and Angela Smith. We are now in need of further administrative support as the workload is increasing and we may need to 'contract in' a paid administrator. The need to have additional support for our volunteers was also recognised; both areas to be confirmed by the Oikos Trustees.

### **Oikos Management teams:**

**The structure of our management teams are as follows -**

**Shop / Shop purchasing:** Mary / Piero / Jane (for coffee purchasing)

**Foodbank/Food Pantry:** Hannah / Mike

**Property / Governance:** (including Grant Applications and reporting, Compliance as a charity, Safeguarding and Administration (rotas, publicity, thank you letters etc.) Cy / Malcolm / Mike

**Safeguarding:** Alan / Angela

**Administration:** TBA

Special thanks go to Janice Keilthy who together with Malcolm and Hannah have secured grant funding for so much that been achieved this year.

## iii) **Trustees/Charity Commission**

Mike and Piero have been appointed as Oikos Trustees this year, whilst Stephen Nightingale has stepped down as a Trustee. Our thanks go to Stephen for all his support and guidance, especially in setting Oikos up with the Charities commission. Stephen continues to volunteer in the shop and on food pantry day.

Our Trustee structure is currently –

Keith Simpson / Cy Pettit - St. John's

Malcolm Bailey / Mary Knaggs- Brigg Methodist Church

Piero Strina / TBC\* - St. Mary's and St Augustine Webster's

Hannah Dobson / Mike Creese / TBC\* - working to support the community.

(Mike is a member of Connect Church in Scunthorpe).

\*Two Trustee positions still to be filled.

## **SECTION B: Looking Forward**

### **a) Bible Study (The Bible Course)**

A new eight-week Bible study group is set to start at Oikos from Monday 16th October at 2pm to study The Bible Course, this is good material and we are expecting new people to attend! Depending on the demand we are looking to repeat this on Tuesday evenings for those who can't attend on Monday afternoons. Mary will produce a flyer and be a point of contact for enquiries.

### **b) Youth Work Opportunities, for discussion –**

Comment was made that following the Youth, Schools and Outreach worker appointment being put on the agenda a further 4 related agenda items were inspired, as below:

#### **o Youth, Schools and Outreach Worker**

Following on from what Anna George has achieved over the last year in our local secondary schools, a Job Description and Person Specification has been put together for a **Young People, Schools and Family Worker** to be in place for a 3-year period. Primarily this is to have increased engagement with young people in both schools and the community. This is a Methodist Circuit appointment, but the intention is for the person to be hosted at Oikos and actively involved with its work; in particular with opportunities presented by the Food Bank/Community Pantry. It will be for a committed Christian with experience in youth work.

The salary for this position is £23k pa and funding from the National Lottery and Garfield Weston is already in place with a top up from the Methodist circuit. Whilst there is still a shortfall, other potential funding is in the pipeline to have the right person on position from early 2024. **A proposal had been put forward by Cy Pettit to have a contribution from Oikos, recommended as £5k for the first year with £2k for the following two years from our general fund.** All meeting attendees were happy with this recommendation however Vince Adams voiced reservations about funding received from the National Lottery fund.

Post Meeting Note: The proposed Oikos' contribution to the lay worker appointment was accepted unanimously at a meeting of trustees immediately following the AGM. Further pledges from individuals of £2,000, to be made via Oikos, have also been made. As a consequence of this and other monies made available at the Circuit Meeting of the Methodist Church the following evening, sufficient funding has now been pledged to meet year 1 requirements. It is anticipated that advertising and recruiting will start w/c 18<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **o Hull University placement or intern**

Another option proposed by Jane Woolliscroft is to have a Hull University placement with us over 2024 Spring and Summer terms.

#### **o Street Dance Classes**

Mike proposed running a 12-week programme of midweek after-school street dance classes for primary school aged children in Brigg. The sessions would be provided by Tash Oti (who Mike knows from Connect Church. This will take place in St. Johns Church Hall over the forthcoming Autumn/Winter period.

Tasha is a Christian who has lots of experience working with children and young people, she has her own street and contemporary dance business called YGM (You've Got Moves).

This initiative was unanimously approved, and Mike is applying for funding available from Voluntary Action North Lincolnshire.

#### **o Cookery Classes**

Jane Woolliscroft has proposed running cookery classes together with one of her personal contacts who is a trained chef, this would be for young people and their parents and is an activity that could also be held at St. Johns Hall. This initiative was also given approval to further explore.

#### **Rock Solid**

For the future some thought was given to the need for youth facilities in Brigg and/or simply somewhere for a safe space where teenagers can 'hang out'. Hannah mentioned Rock Solid from her personal experience as something that she feels would work really well.

#### **o Mini-conference Suite and Broadband**

Malcolm is investigating options to set up broadband with an interactive TV and laptop in the back room to support people without internet to reach the services they need. We are a little nearer to achieving this with support from Nick Shoot at Quickline Communications who Malcolm met at our recent food drive. Another aspiration is for people to be able to donate and buy digitally at Oikos. There is further funding available from the UKSPF.

#### **o Oikos at the NLC Promotion event, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

North Lincs Council have an event at the Angel Suite on this date to promote independent living and to prepare people for old age. The trustees have agreed that we should have a stall at this event.

**o Oikos Social: 7pm at the Doghouse on Wednesday 20 September.**

Lastly, a reminder about the Oikos Social. Please contact Jane Woolliscroft if you have not already signed up for this event.

Malcolm thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting with The Grace.

+

## Appendix 1: Shop Report from Mary Knaggs

The shop is now into its 2<sup>nd</sup> year at 67 Wrawby St. and we continue to attract customers and people just popping in for a chat. Sales of the cards, gifts, books, bibles etc vary. Some days we can take between £50 and £100, other days just a couple of pounds. What we haven't got, we try to get. It's not always possible or practical. Several customers have asked for a giant- print bible. Yes. We can get them and have got them. But the book is very large, very heavy, and very expensive!!!

With the demise of Traidcraft, sourcing Fairtrade products has become a bit of a headache but hopefully customers are happy with the products we now sell. Fairtrade Chocolate bars and cookies are always popular, tea and coffee less so because of the price. Our Eco products attract some attention, and more people are getting to know about the refills for washing-up liquid shampoo etc. This is helped by the promotion of one free 300ml refill for Food Pantry customers.

Our jigsaw lending library is very popular, and we have started letting customers buy them for a donation. The pre-loved books too are popular.

We were fortunate, when we opened the shop, to have unwanted stock from the Ice House in Grimsby to stock up our shelves. Now, with that stock diminishing, we are having to spend some of our money to replace it. We are always open to suggestions as to what items to stock.

A big attraction in our newly- decorated shop is Cameo Corner- our café area. Cameo was the name suggested by one of Oikos' supporters- Come And Meet Each Other!!!. But it is no good having a café without good coffee- and we have the best coffee (and hot chocolate) in Brigg, according to many people. So for a small donation, you can enjoy a drink, a Fairtrade biscuit and a chat with friendly people.

I must give thanks to Anne and Piero, my 2 assistant managers, without whom I couldn't keep going, to Stephen, who "fills in" for Anne and Piero, and to Jane, who sorted, bought and looks after the coffee machine and its refills. And also comes in regularly and cleans the premises. And to all the shop volunteers. They not only serve in the shop for 2 hours at a time but often have to deal with Foodbank and school uniform enquiries. You are all brilliant! Thank you.

Mary

## Appendix 2: Food Bank Report from Hannah Dobson

The Food Bank has grown considerably over the last financial year, and even more up to today's date. We have put a lot of time and effort in making sure our marketing, social media and information is informed and up-to-date. This has also enabled us to increase our awareness across third parties and to ensure we are receiving as many referrals as possible from those that need us. We are still aware there is some work to be done to ensure more people in need know about us, particularly in accessing the elderly population who are our currently lowest supported group via our Food Bank. We do however see these more during our Community Food Pantry days.

We started the Community Food Pantry in December 2022 following a need identified across the country and us visiting other local sites who run similar services. Following the resounding success and positive feedback from the first Community Food Pantry, we have run one a month since. We have quarterly meetings with volunteers to discuss any feedback, improvements, and important points for the following quarter; this enables us to keep adapting and providing an improved service each month across both the Food Bank and Pantry.

We provided 371 food parcels to households from April 2022 to March 2023 (approximately 650 unique people) and so far to August 2023, we have provided 243 food parcels to households (equating to approximately 420 unique people). At Christmas, we also provided 38 fresh Christmas Hampers and a further, 30 treat Hampers. This year, we expect to have over 100 fresh and treat Hampers (budgeting for 135).

Since December 2022, our attendance at Community Food Pantries has been an average of 124 households each month. Overall, with the new users we have seen across the year, this equates to approximately 346 unique households supported so far in 2023.

Altogether in the first 8 months of 2023, we have therefore helped approximately 1450 people from 766 households.

We have also welcomed many new volunteers over this time which has been wonderful. Further to this, we have received a lot of support from third parties including the Nottingham Building Society, Barclays, Tesco, Citizen's Advice North Lincolnshire, and the Health Visitors' Team.

We would also like to extend a thank you to Broughton Allotments who supply lots of fresh items for our Community Food Pantry each month. A further thank you to Kelly Lowry who is a Trustee and Volunteer at the One Foundation in Grimsby, and works very closely with us as we distribute food supplies back and forth depending on each of our needs at that time. We have also recently started using HIS Church based near Binbrook, who we have been purchasing well stocked pallets from and who also support us with other discounted or free items depending on their supplies at the time. We also receive support from the Lincolnshire Co-Op in the way of dedicated donation pushes within their stores (Scawby and Barnetby).

We have received financial support from various individuals, groups, organisations and grants which have been key in supporting the running of the Food Bank and Pantry. From April 2022 to March 2023, this has included the Nottingham Building Society, the CoOp, Brigg Lions, Brigg Rotary, Singleton Birch, the Scouts and Tesco grants. Full information for all donations is available in the financial update.

I appreciate this needs to be an overall summary of the year and hope this summarises well what we have achieved so far and that I've included everyone that needed mentioning by name – but please advise if I need to update for the minutes and report. We continue to work on being well-known and well-established in the Community and for everyone to know we are here for their needs as and when they come up. A key focus currently is finding financial support to keep our ever-growing services running and allowing us to then move towards future aspirations such as providing more hands-on support i.e. cookery classes and recipe cards.

### Appendix 3: Financial Statement 2022-23 from Cy Pettit

OIKOS - Brigg Charity 1184594		Balance Sheet 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023			
	Brought forward 1st April 2022	22/23 Income	22/23 Expenditure	Balance 31st March 2023	
<b>General Fund</b>	£ 14,807.84				
Donations		£ 13,071.99			
General Expenditure			£ 870.98		
Fabric and Fixtures			£ 2,305.50		
Utilities (25% allocation)			£ 358.35		
					£ 24,345.00
<b>Retail Fund</b>	£ 1,304.62				
Retail Sales		£ 4,660.00			
Retail Purchase			£ 3,092.54		
Utilities (50% allocation)			£ 716.71		
					£ 2,155.38
<b>Food Aid</b>	£ 4,058.95				
Donations		£ 10,727.33			
Purchases			£ 3,757.90		
Utilities (25% allocation)			£ 358.35		
					£ 10,670.03
<b>Social fund</b>	£ 813.74	£ -	£ -		£ 813.74
<b>Reconciliation</b>	£ 20,985.15	£ 28,459.32	£ 11,460.33		£ 37,984.14
<b>Location of funds</b>					
Barclays account	£ 14,936.83				
CAF account	£ 23,047.31				
<b>Accounts balance:</b>	£ 37,984.14				

Accounts examined and found  
correct to the vouchers presented.

*J McCarty*

14/08/2023

## **Appendix 4: Current Financial position by Cy Pettit**

Latest information on financial status of Oikos

### **Food Aid**

Start of financial year with £10,670.03

Income to 18th Aug - £1,674.09

Spend to 18th Aug - £6,524.75

Balance 18th Aug - £5,819.37

### **General fund**

Start of financial year with £24,345

Income to 18th Aug - £6,519.39

Spend to 18th Aug - £8,332.4

Balance 18th Aug - £22,531.99

### **Retail**

Start of financial year with £2,155.37

Income to 18th Aug - £2,882.6

Spend to 18th Aug - £949.52

Balance 18th Aug - £4,088.45

### **Social**

Start of financial year with £813.74

Income to 18th Aug - £142.2

Spend to 18th Aug - £0

Balance 18th Aug - £955.94

OIKOS - Brigg Charity 1184594	Balance Sheet 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023			
----------------------------------	--	--	--	--

Brought forward 1st April 2022	22/23 Income	22/23 Expenditure	Balance 31st March 2023
-----------------------------------	--------------	----------------------	----------------------------

General Fund	£	14,807.84			
Donations			£	13,071.99	
General Expenditure			£	870.98	
Fabric and Fixtures			£	2,305.50	
Utilities (25% allocation)			£	358.35	
					£ 24,345.00

Retail Fund	£	1,304.62			
Retail Sales			£	4,660.00	
Retail Purchase			£	3,092.54	
Utilities (50% allocation)			£	716.71	
					£ 2,155.38

Food Aid	£	4,058.95			
Donations			£	10,727.33	
Purchases			£	3,757.90	
Utilities (25% allocation)			£	358.35	
					£ 10,670.03

Social fund	£	813.74	£	-	£	-	£	813.74
-------------	---	--------	---	---	---	---	---	--------

Reconciliation	£	20,985.15	£	28,459.32	£	11,460.33	£	37,984.14
----------------	---	-----------	---	-----------	---	-----------	---	-----------

Location of funds	
Barclays account	£ 14,936.83
CAF account	£ 23,047.31
Accounts balance:	£ 37,984.14

Accounts examined and found  
correct to the vouchers presented.

*J. McCarty*

14/08/2023

Name of Organisation  
Charity Number  
Accounting Period

**Oikos-Brigg**  
**1184594**  
**1st April 2022-31st March 2023**

**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 (other than that disclosed below\*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- 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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature of independent examiner



Name of independent examiner John McCartney

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner .....

Name of firm (where appropriate) .....

Address 4 Greenway, Barton upon Humber, North Lincolnshire

..... Post Code DN18 5HY

Date 30th December 2023

\* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-22

**OIKOS- BRIGG**

England & Wales - Charity number 1184594

---

# Accounts

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

## SEPTEMBER 2020 TO AUGUST 2021

### BARTON AND BRIGG CIRCUIT

**Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**

#### **Objectives and Activities**

Barton and Brigg Methodist Circuit (Circuit) exists to advance the mission of the Methodist Church throughout the Circuit by providing support for the ten churches in line with the Connexional priorities. The Circuit comprises of 10 local Methodist churches served by a ministerial team of some 3 ordained ministers plus a number of part time active retired ministers, lay workers and volunteers.

The Circuit was led by an Acting Superintendent Minister assisted by Superintendent Ministers from the 3 neighbouring Circuits of Grimsby and Cleethorpes and Wolds and Trent, Scunthorpe and Epworth plus a Deacon.

The Circuit Meeting, which met 4 times during the year, sets the policy for the Circuit, serving as a link between the Lincolnshire Methodist District, the Methodist Conference and the Connexional team on the one hand and the local churches on the other. It has oversight of all Circuit affairs, formulating and promoting policies, through its various officers and committees to assist the mission of the Church, to give inspiration to the leaders in the churches and to ensure the interrelation of all aspects of the Church's life throughout the Circuit. The members of the Circuit meeting are the trustees of the charity registered with the Charity Commission. As a registered charity, the Circuit takes seriously its responsibilities to the Charity Commissioners and adheres to their guidance concerning public benefit in relation to charitable objectives.

The day to day work of the Circuit is carried out by the Circuit Leadership Team, which consists of the Superintendent Minister, the Deacon, four volunteer Circuit Stewards and the Circuit Safeguarding Officer, with the additional assistance of a Circuit Administrator and Circuit Minute Secretary.

#### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

The Barton & Brigg Methodist Circuit follows 'Our Calling' priorities for mission. The Circuit and Circuit Leadership Team aimed to support each church in their community, and encouraged them to be a vibrant place of worship, service, learning and fellowship, and take risks for the gospel outreach.

We encouraged churches to discover the needs of their communities and prayerfully consider how God calls them to respond, both inside and outside the church building, working ecumenically wherever possible.

We encouraged churches to

- explore new forms of worship
- work with children and young people in schools, messy church, school assemblies, creative crafts
- to be a 'presence' at community events and mark major events in the nation and locally with invitational acts of worship
- support and raise awareness of the world church through justice and peace – support for mission eg All We Can, Christian Aid, Action for Children, Methodist Homes for the Aged, Methodist Ministers' Housing Society, Food Banks, Homelessness Project.

We did this by

- strengthening and supporting our Local Preachers and Worship Leaders

- finding resources that are accessible and interesting for congregations
- encouraging Mission Audits, and Healthy Church Audits
- enabling congregations to have a rich prayer life and spirituality, with 'Space to Be' - Be Still, Be Silent, Be Creative; Bible Study; Local Preacher groups and monthly Circuit Prayer groups
- providing opportunities for discipleship including abundant hospitality and generous giving; costly service and radical grace eg OIKOS-BRIGG which became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation during the year, and through Foodbanks in both Brigg and Barton and a Homelessness Project in Barton.

We do none of this in our own strength; we rely upon the grace of God, the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the example of Christ who is with each one of us in this pilgrimage of faith.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The year 2020/2021 will be remembered for the Covid 19 pandemic. Churches experienced periods of closure and the cessation of all activities in person followed by a gradual return to more familiar ways of meeting and working. The Circuit responded by changing to online meetings, events and worship, and in many instances these have proved to be very fruitful, engaging greater numbers of people than would usually meet face to face.

Work on conversations across the 3 Circuits of Barton & Brigg, Epworth & Scunthorpe, and Wolds & Trent which was given impetus by the curtailment of Rev Nichola Jones as superintendent for Barton & Brigg is continuing, albeit in a changed fashion due to the restrictions we find ourselves in.

2 morning sessions with stewards, local preachers and others looking at the imperative for mission and the life of the Circuits were held in December and the small oversight group working alongside Tim Peebles (consultant for this work) is looking at developing resources so that those ideas and questions might be rolled out on a wider scale to encourage both the Circuits and local churches to examine how they might be able to do to identify what their mission is in their places.

The prevailing image is that of seasons; what season is your church in? Realistically for many that will be autumn or winter, but even in these seasons there is opportunity for re-seeding the ground with a new crop. That crop may be radically different to what grew before but there may still be fruitfulness to come. But, with the growth of digital church presence there are opportunities which are very-much of spring.

At a Circuit level as well as asking that same question, this work is also developing some conversation about how the Circuits can resource local mission most helpfully and, in the interest of efficiency and not re-inventing the wheel in all 3 Circuits, how we might be able to pool our efforts.

This latter conversation crosses over with a request from the Chair of District for every Circuit to have conversations with neighbouring Circuits about how we work. The eye of the 'Faithful and True' conversations is undoubtedly on Circuit boundaries and does put the question of whether larger Circuits would make more sense.

The 3 Circuit leadership teams have identified a number of areas where we may be able to create cross-Circuit teams. It is likely that people from all 3 Circuits involved in these bits of work will be invited to participate in conversations about what would make their lives easier and what might be possible. As well as existing areas of what could be seen as more functional requirements. The 3 Circuits aspect looks to stretch this model to include new areas of mission resourcing as mentioned above.

Our work with young people continued during the pandemic, finding new ways to do 'Messy Church' and delivering 'Open the Book' stories via video links through you tube, as well as recorded Worship which was 'streamed' into classroom rather than face to face assemblies.

A new Superintendent Minister has been appointed to the Circuit to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 and we look forward to working with her.

### **Plans for the future**

As identified in the 3Circuit discussions we will further explore the following possible Cross-Circuit Groups:

(Not a definitive list)

- Safer recruitment - for Circuit posts only, or also acting for chapels?
- Safeguarding oversight for the Circuit safeguarding officers?
- Property - overseeing schemes?
- Property - helping churches review their buildings?
- Finance - a team to help chapels do their accounts?
- Finance - a team who can look over cash-flow/trends/budgets etc?
- What other admin stuff could we streamline?
- Is there newsletter/website stuff we could streamline? Co-ordinating Connexional or local news?
- GDPR
- Digital church
- Work with young people
- Work with Third Age groups
- Eco-church matter

Seek a Presbyterian to be appointed from September 2022 to work with the churches at the South end of the Circuit.

Seek volunteers to continue the work with schools that has begun and not to lose momentum for this as the Deacon responsible for the success of this leaves the Circuit in August 2022

A proposal for a 5- year appointment of a Family Outreach Worker, based in Brigg

### **Financial review**

The circuit finances are in a strong position. In part due to a staffing level of one during 2020/21 and the sale of Barnetby the circuit finances had risen to £424,000. This compares with a reserves policy requiring £80,000 and requires us to think about spending that money wisely

At the Circuit meeting in June 2021 a number of resolutions were proposed with the prime intention of supporting mission:-

**Resolution 1:** We should retain the decision of the March 2019 Circuit Meeting to set the Circuit budget in line with financing 2 full-time members of staff from present income i.e. assessments

**Resolution 2:** As churches are still recovering from the last year, we should repeat the offer to refund 50% of one quarter's assessment during 2021/22, to those churches which request this (and intend to pay their assessments in full)

**Resolution 3:** We should set a budget of £15,000 to cover supernumerary costs and this should come out of reserves.

**Resolution 4:** We should reserve £50,000 of the circuit monies to fund a **loan scheme**.

**Resolution 5:** We should allocate the remaining monies to be available as **grants to fund missional projects**. (The cap on these is that the Circuit funds will not go below £130,000 within the next 5-year plan: £80,000 as 6 months reserves plus the £50,000 for the loan scheme)

**Resolution 6:** That we make £6,000 available to cover the extension of the Outreach Worker for the Elderly at Barton, should it be needed.

**Resolution 7:** That we adopt an application process for loans/grants.  
All resolutions were accepted by the meeting.

**The Circuit has the following principal sources of Income**

Assessment on Churches in the Circuit

The letting of;

Brigg Manse for £895 per month.

Hibaldstow manse for £675 per month.

**Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period**

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Barclays	5,083	-	-
	CAF	11,029	4,873	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>16,112</b>	<b>4,873</b>	<b>-</b>

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

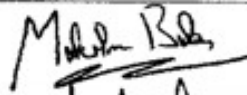

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Malcolm Bailey	12th Jan 2023
	Malcolm Bailey	14th JAN 23

Name of Organisation  
Charity Number  
Accounting Period

Oikos-Brigg  
1184594  
1st April 2021-31st March 2022

**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 (other than that disclosed below\*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- 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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature of independent examiner ..... *John McCartney*  
Name of independent examiner ..... JOHN ROBERT MCCARTNEY  
Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner .....

Name of firm (where appropriate) .....  
Address ..... 4, GREENWAY, BARTON UPON HUMBER  
..... NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ..... Post Code ..... DN18 5HY  
Date ..... 10/01/2023 .....

\* delete or circle as appropriate  
Sep-22

**OIKOS- BRIGG**

England & Wales - Charity number 1184594

---

# Accounts

---

**OIKOS – BRIGG**  
**Charity No. 1184594**

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 2021**

## **SECTION A**

### **INTRODUCTION**

OIKOS-BRIGG is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation that received Charity Status on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2019. This report is the second to be submitted to the Charity Commission and covers the period 1 April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. During this period the nation was in the grip of the Covid19 pandemic, and trading had almost ceased, although the Foodbank work continued at an increased level.

### **BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR**

The income received during this period amounted to £3,350.73 and expenditure was £1,830.42. Together with the balances carried forward we ended the year with £5,586.92

### **PLANS for 2021 – 2022**

We have been successful in obtaining a lease on 67 Wrawby Street from the Nottingham Building Society, to whom we are very grateful. The premises will secure storage and packing area for the Foodbank and also use as a Drop-In Centre.

We have not been able to secure new Trustees as had been hoped last year, and we have had a resignation from Ven. Andrew Ballard, who resigned his Trusteeship following his move out of the area. In addition, Colin Illman has also moved out of the area and has submitted his resignation. We are most grateful for the support that Andrew in particular, and Colin have given to our organisation. It is hoped that we will have nominations from St Mary's Church, and St John's Church to add to our Trustee numbers, and we welcome Mary Knaggs as a Trustee.

We expect that the close working relationship we have with Hannah and her group and the Social Services Department at the Brigg Children's centre will continue to develop.

We are especially grateful to North Lincolnshire Council for allowing us to use the premises with 100% council tax rebate, and to those who gave gifts and donations.

### **Basis of Preparation and legal framework**

We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation constituted on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

**Full Name of Charity:** OIKOS-BRIGG

**Charity Registration No.** 1184594

**Registered Address:** The Methodist Church

Wesley Road

Brigg DN20 8TR

**OIKOS – BRIGG**  
**Charity No. 1184594**

**Trustees:**      Malcolm Richard Bailey      Chairman  
                         Stephen Arthur Nightingale  
                         Cy Pettit                                      Treasurer  
                         Mary Knaggs

## **Section B                      Structure, governance and management**

### **Aims and organisation**

#### **Charity Objectives:**

To advance the Christian religion in North Lincolnshire for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, producing and/or distributing literature on Christian faith to enlighten others about the Christian religion.

To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of North Lincolnshire and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public benefit at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

#### **Public Benefit**

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The work of volunteers with the Foodbank has particularly been appreciated. Demand continues to increase.

#### **Governance**

The constitution sets out the governance of the CIO.

#### **Day to Day Management**

This is carried out by the officers appointed. Cy Petit has kindly agreed to oversee the work of the Foodbank and organises rotas for volunteers and has contact with the Children's Centre and Schools in the area. Mary Knaggs has agreed to oversee the work of the Drop In Centre/shop

#### **Trustee Training**

Oikos is committed to ensure that appropriate training is carried out for Trustees and volunteers. For example, both the Methodist Church and St John's Church hold appropriate training for Trustees in relation to safeguarding.

# OIKOS – BRIGG

## Charity No. 1184594

### **Related Parties**

We have arrangements to work with other Foodbanks in the North Lincolnshire Area. In addition the three Church Councils, St Mary's, The Methodist Church and St John's Church submit their nominations to serve as Trustees on the board of OIKOS. The Trustees then determine whether those nominees should be appointed having regard to their experience and gender.

### **Risk Management**

The major risks continue to be identified and recorded. We are establishing a regular annual review process. Income and Expenditure is monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on at least a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process.

### **Safeguarding**

We have a Safeguarding Policy which is reviewed annually. As mentioned earlier, we ensure that the Trustees are kept up to date with training on Safeguarding provided by the relevant Church Councils.

### **Reserves Policy**

At the present time, with no paid employees, no specific Reserves policy has been agreed. We shall continue however, to keep this under review in the event of finding new accommodation and/or taking on paid staff.

## **SECTION D Achievements**

The Board of Trustees have met either in person or on-line during the pandemic in order to progress the lease of new premises and to steer the work of the Foodbank.

As a result of the pandemic, our work during the year consisted almost entirely of dealing with the increased demand for the Foodbank, and liaising with neighbouring foodbanks and the Children's Centre. Because the Churches in Brigg were closed during most of the pandemic, collections of donations were limited to Tesco Store, where respective congregations were encouraged to leave their food donations. The public have been very generous, and the Foodbank has been well stocked throughout the year. We are extremely grateful to the generous citizens of Brigg and the surrounding area.

During the year we became aware of another local group who were also involved in the provision of food from the start of the first lockdown, mainly to single people or couples without children, for whom distribution through the Children's centre was not appropriate. In addition this group also supplied non food items. A number of on-line meetings were held so that our respective areas worked in harmony, and we were able to share the donated food and non food items including nappies, toiletries etc.

**OIKOS – BRIGG**  
**Charity No. 1184594**

We also entered into discussions with a view to developing a voucher system for fresh meat, and vegetables and how we might improve the system of meeting the demand. These discussions are on-going.

During the year we continued to search for alternative High Street accommodation, and entered into protracted discussions with the Nottingham Building Society regarding a property they owned adjacent to their own which had been empty for two years.

**SECTION E Financial Review**

**See appendix A**





