

Bethel Free Church
Unaudited Financial Statements
31 December 2023

BOHORUN & CO LTD

Chartered Certified Accountants
6 Howley Park Business Village
Pullan Way
Leeds
England
LS27 0BZ

Bethel Free Church

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023

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Bethel Free Church

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Bethel Free Church
Charity registration number	1184691
Principal office	Bethel Free Church - Leeds CIO Fourteenth Avenue Leeds LS12 1LE

The trustees

M Donoghue
J Peel
E Reeve
G Reeve

A search for others to serve

Independent examiner	D P Bohorun FCCA FCMI 6 Howley Park Business Village Pullan Way Leeds England LS27 0BZ
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Bethel Free Church

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

Structure, governance and management

Bethel Free Church- Leeds is a non-profit Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales under number 1184691.

A list of the current Trustees can be found above. Its principal place of business is:

Bethel Free Church - Leeds CIO
Fourteenth Avenue
Leeds LS12 1LE

Organisational Structure

Bethel Free Church - Leeds CIO is governed by its constitutional documents, including an 'Expression of our Church practice and Christian ethics' statement, filed with the Charity Commission for England and Wales from its inception.

By constitution Bethel Free Church - Leeds CIO must have a minimum of three Trustees. All new Charity Trustees must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Charity Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as Charity Trustees, the Charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. All Charity Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the Statement of Faith.

Governance and Management

Policy and strategic decisions are referred to and made by the Trustees at properly Constituted Meetings or electronic communications when the subject matter allows. Decisions are taken according to a 60% majority of votes of those eligible to vote at that meeting. Day to day decisions are delegated to the Church Elder and Church Members in line with agreed principals and objectives.

A potential conflict of interests has been identified following Charity Commission training; in as much as, Liz and Giles Reeve are a married couple and therefore, it could appear, that either one could exert inappropriate or disproportionate influence upon the other's decisions. It is agreed by Janet Peel and myself that, whilst it is to be expected and hoped that they will discuss Trusts matters between themselves outside of formal Trustees meetings, much as any Trustee may, we are confident that their individual allegiance and commitment to God first and foremost, coupled with their respect for each other, will result in them expressing their own views and decisions in regard to Trust matters.

Risk Management

The Trustees have identified the major strategic risks to which Bethel Free Church - Leeds CIO is exposed and has established controls and actions to mitigate them. Risk Management is carried out annually and is monitored at each of the Trustees quarterly Meetings.

The Trustees take all reasonable steps to moderate and manage the potential risks along with business and financial risks.

Bethel Free Church

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

Objectives and activities

Objectives:

The Objectives of the CIO are, for the public benefit: the advancement of the Christian faith in Leeds in accordance with the Statement of Faith and such other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Charity Trustees may from time to time decide.

Activities:

Although we remain conscious that although the risk of Covid 19 has now been assigned to that of other infectious diseases and newer public health issues have arisen, in particular in regard to mental health, and will continue to be identified, we have, more or less returned to pre covid levels of activity where volunteers and time allow: A plan to open up the Church as a 'warm space' under the Local Authority scheme was unable to go ahead as we were unable to obtain advice from them in regard to our kitchen facilities in time. In principle, improvements were agreed and plans to upgrade the kitchen area are now in place and relevant members are undertaking training in the necessary Food Hygiene Certificates.

Other activities:

- Distribution of 600 'Good News' papers each month to local families.
 - Rotated personal visits to 170 families who have been contacted via this general distribution and wish contact with someone from the church.
 - Throughout the year a monthly book-table, offering free Bibles and Christian Books took place in the local Town Street. This continues to be popular with many local families and individuals, both UK and world citizens, and by God's grace we intend to continue it as an ongoing service to these peoples from differing cultures, communities and countries whom we would not meet in our normal distribution area. Although sometimes our regular timing conflicts with another group there have been no issues and we respect each other's right and desire to be there.
 - A themed Children's Book Table has been run at the end of each school-term where families and local children have been invited to find a reading or colouring book for use in the school holidays. Books for the parents have also been freely available and Bibles on request.
 - Bethel took part in the 'Leeds City of Culture' day and a 'MacMillian' Coffee afternoon.
 - Mike has continued taking assemblies at a local primary school, where he is also a Governor with lead responsibility for safeguarding.
 - Mike continues to support local primary schools to resist any attempts by radical groups to press their views on school policies and practices that would have been damaging to the pupils and staff's mental and emotional wellbeing and attended the local 'anti- knife and organised crime initiatives.
 - Bethel provided an interactive Bible Exhibition for the local school and Workbooks for RE on Christianity to assist teachers with minimal preparation for the Christian part of the syllabus.
 - Bethel has used its links and contacts to provide an opportunity for residential groups from the school and staff at a reduced cost, but these have not yet been taken up. The member of staff currently responsible is due to retire and this offer will be made again once the new person has been identified.
 - Bethel was again able to be a conduit for the distribution of Christmas presents for families in need from the Sainsbury stores collection scheme.
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Bethel Free Church

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

- Mike undertakes occasional leadership of a local walking group for those men who are socially isolated and at risk of self-harm (suicide amongst young men is reported to be in top 10% for England).
- Mike is available to take Funeral services of individuals who had some association with Bethel if the family requests that we undertake this last act for them. This offered free as many families struggle to pay for the basic funeral, even so many are now diverted into the low-cost cremation service approach. This is now raising issues regarding the relative's unfulfilled bereavement and Bethel members are sought out for comfort, guidance and emotional support. Where more expert support is required people are supported to access these. Any monies forthcoming to the church or individuals from offering Funerals are paid into the Church account.
- Mike has had to be extensively involved with those attending church in: resolving inheritance claims; searching for lost relatives; encouraging people to make Wills; supporting those who appear to have been tricked into coming to UK on promise of non-existing work and liaising with Immigration Department when required.
- Telephone and email support is made available to anyone in the Community who needs it and where appropriate face to face meetings took place.
- General Sunday services and midweek meetings remained open to all adults who wished to attend and could respect others' rights to be present and not feel intimidated.
- 'Sunday School'
- Limited and time sensitive financial support to those known to the church whose income does not meet their needs eg. Paying a phone bill to allow continued communication and access to Universal Credit accounts.
- Advice and assistance in ensuring homes are warm, dry and safe.
- Arbitration between neighbours to reduce social tension and avoid escalation of violence.
- Information sharing (CCTV footage) with the Police to identify possible perpetrators and solve crime.

Bethel Free Church

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

Achievements and performance

Further to those outlined above and in furtherance of our duty to God to meet the whole needs of people and not just spiritual, Bethel Free Church- Leeds CIO, has used every opportunity available to support those in the Community who have sought or needed emotional, mental and spiritual support and guidance especially at weekends or holidays when the professional agencies are unavailable.

Utilizing new and traditional methods, we have sought all those who attend to become 'good neighbours' or friends' to any in need whilst endeavouring to protect those volunteers offering such services from over commitment or exploitation.

The Elder and pastoral team have also: continued to support one family through the Family Court process; engaged with Children's Services or Schools on behalf of children and families to ensure fairness and understanding; supported individuals into work; continued to raise the difficulty local families have of obtaining inexpensive Photo ID, as the local Agency failed after one success to work with a private company offering such services.

Bethel has been invited to take a major part in the local Community Days in 2024.

Throughout 2023, Bethel saw an increase in those attending who originate from outside the UK and who were unknown to each other before attending. We have, by therefore become in 'international church' and created a 'family' where people feel welcomed, supported and encouraged.

It is rare for anyone who comes into the church for the first time not to have some complicating issues and whilst our first priority to spread the Christian message, we believe we are following the Lord's example of His love to all in seeking to address their whole needs.

Consequently, by God's grace, we are able to continue to serve the Armley and New Wortley Communities in His Name and are a recognised, respected and received addition to the Community.

Financial review

The trustees submit the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023. The Statement of Financial Activities shows a deficit of £1,562 (2022: surplus £4,494) which is unrestricted. Funds of the Trust at 31 December 2023 amount to £146,560 (2022: £148,122).

The trustees' annual report was approved on 14 October 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



M Donoghue
Trustee

Bethel Free Church

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Bethel Free Church

Year ended 31 December 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Bethel Free Church ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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


I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.


Prakash Bohorun (Oct 23, 2024 14:30 GMT+1)

D P Bohorun FCCA FCMI
Independent Examiner

6 Howley Park Business Village
Pullan Way
Leeds
England
LS27 0BZ

Bethel Free Church

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 December 2023

		2023		2022
		Unrestricted	Total funds	Total funds
	Note	funds	£	£
Income and endowments				
Donations and legacies	4	6,725	6,725	9,334
Charitable activities	5	4,532	4,532	5,813
Investment income	6	6	6	—
Total income		<u>11,263</u>	<u>11,263</u>	<u>15,147</u>
Expenditure				
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	12,825	12,825	10,653
Total expenditure		<u>12,825</u>	<u>12,825</u>	<u>10,653</u>
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		<u>(1,562)</u>	<u>(1,562)</u>	<u>4,494</u>
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		148,122	148,122	143,628
Total funds carried forward		<u>146,560</u>	<u>146,560</u>	<u>148,122</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

Bethel Free Church

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	13	126,229	126,536
Current assets			
Debtors	14	—	4,598
Cash at bank and in hand		21,576	17,618
		<u>21,576</u>	<u>22,216</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>1,245</u>	<u>630</u>
Net current assets		<u>20,331</u>	<u>21,586</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>146,560</u>	<u>148,122</u>
Net assets		<u>146,560</u>	<u>148,122</u>
Funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds		<u>146,560</u>	<u>148,122</u>
Total charity funds	16	<u>146,560</u>	<u>148,122</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 14 October 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



M Donoghue
Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

Bethel Free Church

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is Bethel Free Church - Leeds CIO, Fourteenth Avenue, Leeds, LS12 1LE.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Bethel Free Church

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Bethel Free Church

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets *(continued)*

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment	-	20% reducing balance
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Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Bethel Free Church

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations				
Donations	3,225	3,225	7,334	7,334
Grants				
Grants	3,500	3,500	2,000	2,000
	<u>6,725</u>	<u>6,725</u>	<u>9,334</u>	<u>9,334</u>

5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Other income from charitable activities	4,532	4,532	5,813	5,813

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Bank interest receivable	6	6	—	—

Bethel Free Church

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Charitable Activities	11,918	11,918	9,699	9,699
Support costs	907	907	954	954
	<u>12,825</u>	<u>12,825</u>	<u>10,653</u>	<u>10,653</u>

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total funds 2023	Total fund 2022
	£	£	£	£
Charitable Activities	11,918	—	11,918	9,699
Governance costs	—	907	907	954
	<u>11,918</u>	<u>907</u>	<u>12,825</u>	<u>10,653</u>

9. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>307</u>	<u>384</u>

10. Independent examination fees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>630</u>	<u>630</u>

11. Staff costs

The average head count of employees during the year was Nil (2022: Nil).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

12. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

Bethel Free Church

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2023

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	<u>125,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>128,000</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2023	—	1,464	1,464
Charge for the year	—	307	307
At 31 December 2023	<u>—</u>	<u>1,771</u>	<u>1,771</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2023	<u>125,000</u>	<u>1,229</u>	<u>126,229</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>125,000</u>	<u>1,536</u>	<u>126,536</u>

14. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	<u>—</u>	<u>4,598</u>

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and deferred income	630	630
Other creditors	<u>615</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>1,245</u>	<u>630</u>

16. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>148,122</u>	<u>11,263</u>	<u>(12,825)</u>	<u>146,560</u>

	At 1 January 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>143,628</u>	<u>15,147</u>	<u>(10,653)</u>	<u>148,122</u>

Bethel Free Church

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2023

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	126,229	126,229
Current assets	21,576	21,576
Creditors less than 1 year	(1,245)	(1,245)
Net assets	146,560	146,560

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	126,536	126,536
Current assets	22,216	22,216
Creditors less than 1 year	(630)	(630)
Net assets	148,122	148,122

