

THE BRIDGE CHURCH BIRMINGHAM

Registered Charity: 1186458

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT
AND
INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION REPORT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

**Luke Silver
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Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Receipts and Payment Accounts

Report to the trustees/members of The Bridge Church Birmingham

Registered Charity Number 1186458

On the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Set out on the following pages

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- Have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed *L A Silver*

Date: 7 October 2025

Luke Silver HNC Business & Finance
Accountancy Practitioner

25 Ellicombe Close, Minehead, Somerset. TA24 6DQ

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees and Church Council

Introduction

Thank you for submitting the accounts for independent examination. They have been well maintained and the treasurer and others responsible are to be commended for their hard work. I will therefore keep my comments to a minimum.

Charity Law and Financial Regulations

The independent examination has been carried out in accordance with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995 (Statutory Instruments No 2724) and the Accounting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Signing of Accounts

I shall be obliged if you will please forward a copy of the signature page for my records after the accounts have been signed by a representative appointed by the Trustees and Church Council. A spare copy is enclosed.

Conclusion

There are no other matters I feel need to be brought to your attention.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further clarification or for further assistance.

Luke Silver

Date: 7 October 2025

THE BRIDGE CHURCH BIRMINGHAM
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND CHURCH COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

ACTIVITIES REVIEW

The financial results are set out in the enclosed accounts.

The object of the charitable incorporated organisation is the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of faith and in such ways as the Charity Trustees may from time to time, think fit.

TRUSTEES

The trustees during the year were as follows:

Errol Lawson

Yvonne Brooks

Tobi Labeodan

Michelle Lynch

Kehinde Lawson

STATEMENT

We certify that the books, vouchers and information produced to enable the independent examination of our accounts to be conducted contain a full and correct record of our financial transactions and activities to the best of our knowledge and belief.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

Please print name: _____

Date: _____

The Bridge Church Birmingham
Registered Charity No: 1186458

Summary Receipts and Payments For The Year Ended 31st December 2024

	2023 £	2024 £		2023 £	2024 £
Giving (see note 1)	46,281	60,540	Pastoral & Ministry Costs (see note 4)	7,270	6,804
Other Income (see note 2)	39,827	33,595	Church Family (see note 5)	16,596	19,475
Restricted Income (see note 3)	5,285	5,992	Establishment Costs (see note 6)	48,752	58,439
Investment A/C (see note 4)	77	97	Administration (see note 7)	7,301	10,358
	91,470	100,224		79,919	95,076

Opening Balance 01.01.24

Closing Balance @ 31.12.24

Benevolent Fund (Women)	1,477	Benevolent Fund (Women)	1,695
Barclays	1,357	Barclays	5,582
Women's Ministry	139	Women's Ministry	(81)
Account 93251403	4,000	Account 93251403	2,184
Tangible Assets	32,917	Tangible Assets	36,510
Other Assets	667	Other Assets	667
Creditors	9,606	Creditors	2,487
Building Fund Restricted	5,135	Building Fund Restricted	11,402
Total	55,298	Total	60,446

The Bridge Church Birmingham
Registered Charity No: 1186458

Receipts for the year ended 31st December 2024

	2023		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Giving (Note 1)				
Donations Received	46,281		60,540	
Gift Aid	0		0	
		46,281		60,540
Other Income (Note 2)				
Gift Aid Tax Refund	15,036		18,722	
Conference	9,803		2,531	
Groups	0		2,261	
Junior Church	1,600		1,366	
Worship	270		448	
Young Adults	295		0	
Tuck Shop Sales	12		29	
Sales & Services	9,931		130	
Rent Income	1,460		4,356	
Book Sales	0		(95)	
Facilitator Fee	0		1,304	
Sundry Income	1,420		2,543	
		39,827		33,595
Restricted Income (Note 3)				
Building Fund	5,285		5,992	
		5,285		5,992
Investment Income (Note 4)				
Interest	77		97	
		77		97
Total		91,470		100,224

The Bridge Church Birmingham
Registered Charity No: 1186458

Payments for the year ended 31st December 2024

	2023		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Pastoral & Ministry Costs				
Pastor Ministry Expenses	2,395		84	
Social Media Co-Ordinator	1,600		1,189	
Guest Speakers	1,032		1,400	
Staff Supports	400		280	
Follow Up Role	1,500		2,950	
Travelling Expenses	343		901	
		7,270		6,804
Church Family				
Leadership Development	42		588	
Outreach / Missions / Evangelism	550		1,200	
Worship Ministry	4,407		5,478	
Text Giving Fees	197		428	
Conference & Crusade Cost	8,952		4,021	
AOG Contribution	300		517	
Catering / Hospitality	950		1,987	
Junior Church	953		124	
Men's Ministry	0		1,170	
Young Adult Expenses	0		317	
Women's Ministry	45		3,645	
Missions Giving	200		0	
		16,596		19,475
Establishment Costs				
Establishment / Admin	0		0	
Sound / PA	0		64	
Equipment Hire	532		0	
Cleaning	3,861		5,290	
Insurance	3,942		860	
Light & Heat	797		12,794	
Rent	36,000		38,000	
Repairs & Maintenance	3,620		1,219	
Room Expenditure	0		212	
		48,752		58,439
Administration				
Cost of Sales	63		56	
Advertising	2,270		3,083	
Printing, Postage & Stationery	1,281		551	
Church Management Software	136		0	
Media / Tech	75		1,195	
Dona, Digital Collection Plate Charges	0		120	
Safeguarding	187		163	
Legal & Professional Fees	232		120	
Accountancy	425		450	
Subscriptions	1,199		1,563	
Telephone & Internet	758		830	
Bank Charges	0		153	
Sundry	675		2,074	
		7,301		10,358
Total		79,919		95,076

The Bridge Church Birmingham
Registered Charity No: 1186458

Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As At 31st December 2024

	£
Fixed Assets	
Furniture & Fixtures	33,182
Computer Equipment	3,328
Total Fixed Assets	36,510
Loan to Individuals	0
Current Assets	
<u>Bank Balances:</u>	
Account 63895378	(3)
Benevolent Fund (Women)	1,695
Building Fund Restricted	11,402
Barclays	5,582
Account 93251403	2,184
Women's Ministry	(81)
Stock - Apostle Arome Osayi	667
Total Current Assets	21,446
Total Assets	57,956
Current Liabilities	
Creditors	(2,487)
Net Assets	60,443

The Bridge Church Birmingham

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Administrative Information

The Bridge Church Birmingham is situated at **86 Watery Lane, Middleway, Birmingham, B9 HN**.

It is part of the **Assemblies of God** and a registered charity with the Charity Commission (No. 1186458).

Trustees who served during the period (January – December 2024):

- **Prof. Errol Lawson (Chair)**
- **Kehinde Lawson**
- **Yvonne Brooks**
- **Tobi Labeodan**
- **Michelle Lynch**

Officer roles: No Treasurer and no Secretary were appointed during this period.

Safeguarding Co-ordinator: Jackie Lawrence

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when planning and carrying out the church's activities.

Aims and Purposes

The Bridge Church is an Assemblies of God fellowship in Birmingham. The trustees and church leadership work together to advance the mission of the church: **to win souls and make disciples**, providing worship, discipleship, pastoral care, and community outreach in alignment with the Great Commission.

Achievements and Performance

Worship and Prayer

- The church maintained **daily prayer for one hour**, providing a consistent space for members to pray, worship, and intercede.
- Regular Sunday services continued throughout the year, with an increase in participation across all age groups.
- **Children's work** ran **weekly**, offering teaching, worship, and pastoral support to our younger members.
- Baptism and thanksgiving services took place regularly, celebrating lives transformed through faith.

Discipleship and Pastoral Care

- **Prayer cells** continued to serve as the primary space for fellowship, discipleship, and pastoral connection.
- Ministers-in-Training and departmental leaders received support and mentoring to strengthen leadership capacity within the church.
- Pastoral care and follow-up remain a priority through one-to-one ministry, home visits, and prayer support.

Facilities and Venue

- The church celebrated its **6th anniversary** in 2024.
- A **Building Fund Team** has been established to support our objective of **acquiring a permanent church building**.
- The trustees continue to explore suitable venues that can facilitate growth and accommodate ministry activities more effectively.

Mission, Outreach and Community

- The church continues to emphasise evangelism and mission as central to its vision.
- We provide **monthly financial support to a local missionary serving in the Small Heath area**, helping to extend the gospel and meet practical needs within the community.

Ecumenical Relationships

- The Bridge Church remains an active member of the **Assemblies of God UK** and collaborates with other local churches for prayer, youth, and community engagement initiatives.

Financial Review

Income in 2024 was generated through regular tithes, offerings, designated gifts, and Gift Aid. Expenditure reflected our priorities in venue hire, outreach, worship resourcing, and children's ministry.

The trustees continue to manage finances prudently, balancing ministry needs with long-term sustainability.

Reserves Policy

The trustees are working towards a **reserves policy** to maintain funds equivalent to six months of general running costs. This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure the church remains financially secure.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is governed by its trustees under its constitution and the oversight of the **Assemblies of God UK**. Trustees meet regularly to review governance, finances, and safeguarding.

Day-to-day ministry operations are overseen by the pastor and departmental leaders, supported by volunteers and ministry teams.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees are responsible under the **Charities Act 2011** for preparing financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the church's activities and financial position. In preparing these statements, trustees must:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained.
- Prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless inappropriate to assume the charity will continue.

Trustees are responsible for maintaining accurate accounting records, safeguarding the assets of the church, and taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud or irregularities.

By order of the Trustees,
Prof. Errol Lawson
Chair of Trustees
