

Oakham Evangelical Church

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the period 3rd December 2019 to 31st March 2021

1. Information

Trustees

Stephen Parkes (Pastor & Chair)	Andrew Hayward
Benjamin Knight	Diane Parkes
Peter Hayward	Jonathan Timbrell
Aimee Cains	Andrew Parkes
Leonard Timbrell	

All the above trustees acted for the whole period.

Charity registration number 1186709

Address

Oakham Evangelical Church
City Rd, Tividale, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 1QZ.

2. Background

The Church was established in 1872 and has a long history of service to our community as a point of teaching the Christian Faith, a place of prayer and worship and a platform of activity and support for the community. The church's work extends well beyond Sundays, providing regular Bible Studies, prayer and worship events and a programme of community activities for young people, children, families, senior citizens and the wider community. The Church provides a place to learn and express the Christian faith, a place for people to connect with one another, an opportunity for volunteering and a source of pastoral care and support.

The Church works well with a range of partners In particular, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, West Midlands Police Service, Grace Mary Primary School and the Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local.

The Church is led by our Pastor, who is both a paid employee and trustee together with the other trustees who meet on a monthly basis. They are also supported by 38 volunteers in the work of the Church.

Much of the period covered by this Report coincided with COVID 19 restrictions and an extended Lockdown which had an impact on our work.

Most of our work revolves around meeting people and providing activities . For that time the youth, childrens, senior citizens work and live Sunday services were paused. We used that time to review the church's work, plan for the future, ensure we followed government guidelines and develop an online presence through social media platforms. Once restrictions eased we gradually began to reintroduce our activities.

3. Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that we have given due consideration to and complied with the Commission's guidelines on Public Benefit. We bear this in mind when planning and delivering activities. We have addressed identifiable needs to individuals, specific groups and the wider community. Much of the church's work involves social contact, connecting with people, removing isolation, giving support and providing opportunities for people to work with others. We have also as a church encouraged people to grow in faith through our church services and pastoral care.

4. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The Church's objects and purposes are detailed in our constitution. Concisely they are to advance the Christian faith through teaching and experience and to address need in order to improve the conditions of life. Our varied, flexible and often developing programme addresses both of these objects. The church is ideally located as a hub for the local community and platform of activity

Given that we faced Lockdown and a series of restrictions over the period from March 2020 our activities fall naturally into four periods

December 2019 to March 2020

Weekly activities

Sunday Worship

Each Sunday the church met together for worship, prayer, teaching and fellowship and 10:00 am and 6:00 pm. In addition, a monthly family service was held with an emphasis on fun activities for families and children.

Prayer meetings are held the first Sunday of each month.

Bible Study

A Bible based discussion and reaching programme each week.

Carer and Toddler group

A popular session each week giving children a chance to interact with each other, play with new toys and for Carers to meet, chat and connect.

Tuesday Crew

A children's club involving games, crafts and activities for Key Stage 2 children.

Worship Team

A weekly practice session for musicians to develop their skills, arrange music and blend as a team. New musicians are welcomed and support given.

TLC

A day club for senior citizens providing a point of contact, crafts, games, chat and refreshments.

Crafty Ladies

Two evening sessions each month providing contact, crafts, talks and refreshments for an intergenerational group of ladies.

Youth Club

Activities, mentoring and games for a large group of young people 11 years plus.

Special events

Christmas 19 Carols on the Car Park community event

Christmas 19 Christmas film fest

Open mic night, an intergenerational event

April 2020 to June 2020 and November 2020 to March 2021

The National and local Lockdowns in both periods meant we needed to pause our regular activities. Church services went online via Facebook and Youtube. Contact with our service users was maintained as far as possible through social media and telephone. Pastoral care and support continued through the Trustees within the limits of Lockdown guidelines.

July 2020 to October 2020

During this respite we were able to open things up slightly. Focusing first of all on safely opening up our Sunday Service. The timing was adjusted and covid secure measures adopted. The church also organised a few outdoor events such as walks.

Note

This was a challenging period for the church. We continued to provide pastoral support, our trustees performed several funerals and developed a social media presence. People regularly viewed our online services and podcasts. This online presence and service live streaming will continue to be developed to meet local needs.

Our programme of activity, community connections and soft presence in the community for many years has been a very real support to both individuals and the community. We have reached many people and given them the opportunity to find faith, grow and express their faith. To develop skills, connections, develop friendships, express themselves and try new things . The Church is often active in signposting people to any services, help or support they need. We also act as an advocate for local needs.

5. Governance and Management

Constitution

The Church's governing document is our CIO constitution.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed in line with the specific guidelines given in our constitution

Structure and decision making

The Church employs a Pastor who contributes significantly to the churches teaching programme, provides pastoral care and shares with the trustees, the responsibility for the leadership and development of the Church and its work. The Trustees meet monthly to oversee the work, decision making and direction of the Church.

The Church had spent many years as an Unincorporated Charitable Association, the movement toward becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) was a significant step. We were incorporated on 3rd December 2019 and much of 2020 was taken up transferring our lease to the new CIO.

6. Plans for the future

Moving into the future we are assessing the types of activity we need to be rolling out in the future. In doing so we are bearing in mind our objects, our resources and the needs of the church, community and individuals around us.

We are intending to begin to gradually roll out our programme of community activities. We have begun with the Church services and Bible Study. The Youth and Toddlers work is the next priority and then the Senior Citizens and

Ladies groups. Special events will be added as we have the opportunity in order to reinforce our presence in the community. A new publicity campaign and the use of social media will be used to enhance this.

We aim to improve the building by enhancing the kitchen, toilets and garden. All this is being done with creating a better space and more opportunities to develop our work

7. Financial Review

Our main source of income is regular donations and offerings from those who attend and support the Church. This has been bolstered by the HMRC Job Retention Scheme grant to assist us in providing furlough payments for our Pastor, during the period of COVID 19 restrictions on opening. We have also received grants from Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local to undertake improvements which have not yet been spent due to the lockdown and subsequent shortage of contractors able to take on the work.

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commissions, "Reserves: building resilience 19" guidance. We are in the process of developing a Reserves Policy.

8. Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Peter Hayward

Peter Hayward
24th March 2022



Andrew Parkes
24th March 2022



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name Oakham Evangelical Church	No (if any) 1186709
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Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date 3 December 2019	To	Period end date 31 March 2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Regular Donations	20,850	-	-	20,850	-
Offering Box	10,877	-	-	10,877	-
Community Activities	1,011	-	-	1,011	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	14,324	-	14,324	-
HMRC JRS grants	-	11,624	-	11,624	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	32,738	25,948	-	58,686	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	32,738	25,948	-	58,686	-
A3 Payments					
Payroll	15,514	11,624	-	27,138	-
Utilities & Internet	3,265	-	-	3,265	-
Consumables	419	-	-	419	-
Insurance & Admin	1,798	-	-	1,798	-
Legal	4,080	-	-	4,080	-
Property Maintenance	75	-	-	75	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	25,151	11,624	-	36,775	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	25,151	11,624	-	36,775	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,587	14,324	-	21,911	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Vested funds	26,055	-	-	26,055	-
Cash funds this year end	33,642	14,324	-	47,966	-

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 £
B1 Cash funds	CAF Bank	33,642	14,324	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	33,642	14,324	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account (s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

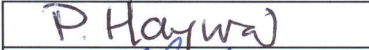

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Peter Hayward	23/03/2022
	Andrew Parkes	23/03/2022

Dear Trustees,

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Oakham Evangelical Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Oakham Evangelical Church for the period 3/12/2019 to 31/3/2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Church you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: *C. Davis*

Name: Claire Davis

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): N/A

Address: 72 Tower Road, Oldbury, B69 1NA

Date: 06/04/2022