



Church of St John the Evangelist

Working Together for Jesus Christ in Kingston Park

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CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, KINGSTON PARK

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Charity Registration Number: 1187186

Introduction

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their Report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the Charity are the advancement of Christian faith within the area of benefit in accordance with the principles and practices of the participating denominations which are the Anglican, Methodist, United Reformed Church and Baptist Churches.

The activities of the Charity are; the celebration of public worship; the teaching of the Christian faith; mission and evangelism; pastoral work including visiting the sick and the bereaved; the provision of facilities with a Christian ethos for the local community including the elderly, the young and other groups with special needs; and the support of other charities in the UK and overseas.

The Trustees are aware of the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 concerning public benefit, the guidance published by the Charity Commission on this subject and the obligation to report on ways in which they believe St Johns meets the public benefit requirements established by the Act. Fuller details of the Charity's objectives and activities undertaken in support of these objectives will be found in other sections of this report.

Achievements and performance

St John's continues to thrive as a worshipping community and as a hub for our neighbourhood.

In November we were saddened to say farewell to Rev Annie Gray; we wish her well in her new adventures. Rev Adele Moorhouse, the Churchwardens, and the Worship Leadership team, are working hard to provide our Sunday, in person, online, and Wednesday services. We are now in a process of discernment to establish what we need/want from our Ministry team, to enable the Charity to further its aims.

Following the end of Covid restrictions we now gather regularly in the building for worship, meetings and fellowship, we have continued to make use of online opportunities wherever appropriate. Numbers attending Sunday Worship and midweek Holy Communion are gradually increasing and we are regularly welcoming new attendees amongst the congregation. We continue to provide service sheets and services on the Website and Facebook for those unable to attend in person. The pastoral and prayer teams work incredibly hard to facilitate our work to maintain contact with those who cannot attend for whatever reason.

In furtherance of St John's Mission Statement objective of being good stewards of our resources, the Eco-group has undertaken several initiatives to reduce our carbon footprint. We now have enhanced recycling facilities (including coffee cups, toothbrushes, pens and toner cartridges); installing a cycle rack; establishing native wildflower areas in the grounds; erecting bird and bat boxes around the grounds. Users of the building as well as the congregation have been very positive about these initiatives. We are very proud, following the submission of data to A Rocha, to have been awarded a Bronze Eco Church Award. We are not resting on our laurels and spurred by that success have completed, in early 2023, the installation of solar panels, which will cut our electricity costs and our carbon footprint. More action is planned for 2023!

Tiny Tots (toddler group), the Beacon (coffee drop-in) and Paint Pots art group all welcome people from both within and outside church membership each week.

We have continued our support for asylum seekers by donating gifts at Christmas and providing items of clothing/toiletries as required and are always pleased whenever any of our neighbours staying at the Novotel are able to join us for coffee or for worship.

Small groups of members continue to meet both online and in-person and it is intended that we should build on this in 2023, giving the opportunity for as many as possible to join such a group to encourage discipleship and strengthen relationships with one another.

St John's has continued to host regular outdoor Community events capably organised by the Social Events group. There was a very successful celebration of the, now late, Queen's Diamond Jubilee, our Easter and Harvest events were linked with Messy Church activities. The group staged a most enjoyable carol singing event in Tesco car park, this in particular would not have been possible without the eager support of the children's choir of Kingston Park Primary School and the Newcastle Choral society. These were opportunities for us to engage with people beyond our immediate membership and to share our faith in a relaxed environment. Positive feedback has been received for all the events.

Again in furtherance of the charity's aims we are delighted to offer two Warm Space times per week to support the local community through the cost-of-living challenges and have appointed a Children's Worker to co-ordinate the crucial role of offering Christian teaching to our younger members.

We are looking forward to 2023 full of hope.

Financial Review

At the end of 2021 we were still seeing the impact of Covid-19 in the long church closure periods for worship and other activities, affecting rental income, with the resulting deficit in our 2021 General Account. However, as seen below, surpluses in other funds produced an overall positive outturn. The year 2022 by contrast has seen the church activities spring back to life in both expected and unexpected ways. Rental use of the facilities recovered remarkably quickly, helping to return regular income to a surplus. Decisions to invest in various initiatives to improve church facilities, enhance our environmental credentials and support our community outreach, drew down significantly the balances in other accounts, giving the combined deficit shown below.

Surplus/Deficit on Accounts/Funds Year-on-Year:

	2021 (£)	2022 (£)
General Account	-6,094.30	523.50
Restricted Account	9,885.41	-9,447.58
Reserves	740.77	-1,372.30
Mission Fund	-1,232.58	25.93
Combined Total	3,299.30	-10,270.45

General Account

This is the main transactional account of the Charity. It shows the move from working deficit to surplus over the year.

Income for the year was up by 12.4% overall. Regular planned giving of church members by standing orders continued to hold up well, increasing by 1.9% over the year. A growing number of new people attending or visiting, often attracted during lockdown through worship and groups, contributed generously to our unplanned giving. We are sincerely grateful to all those who managed to continue or even increase their planned giving during the year, and also to those making occasional donations and cash offerings at the resumed worship services and social occasions.

Rental income from outside users of our premises was well above the amount cautiously budgeted for, by as much as 70.5% and dramatically above that for 2021. The rebound in our use by the wide range of these organisations and groups, including various musical interests and well-being classes, is good news for the important part our adaptable facilities play in the life of our local community and the social benefits that accrue.

Total Expenditure was close to our budget expectation for regular activities and some 6.2% below the total for last year. Savings have been made largely through postponing maintenance spending and this will become increasingly unavoidable. A church or charity that is committed to worthy objectives will have difficulty finding serious economies in everyday working expenditure and will be most reluctant to make cuts in those objectives. In the case of St John's, we continue to maintain our commitment to support financially a variety of charities, both religious and secular, and ranging from international aid to local welfare groups. The agreed share of our annual working income in the previous year 2021 came to £10,000, distributed in 2022 to 11 chosen organisations.

Restricted Account

The Account holds funds for matters such as donations to be used for specific purposes and proceeds of fundraising activities on behalf of causes. These are separate from those mentioned above as supported out of General Account income.

Fundraising includes our usual Christmas carol singing at Marks & Spencer and Tesco, in aid of West End Refugees Service and Action for Children.

The Account also holds monies donated for enhancing specific features of the church that might not be considered for General Account support. Significant donor funding was drawn on to improve Wi-Fi within the whole building and the audio-visual system in the Worship Area, as reflected in the fund movements accounted for above.

Reserves and Mission Fund

Funds from past years' surpluses including substantial past donations for unrestricted purposes are held to be used appropriately in cases of major structural or equipment problems, and other expenditure challenges that we might face.

The Mission Fund, which holds legacy and other donations made for outreach events, was a source of £1,500 for equipment to be used in organising outreach community events. Due to time constraints, this was paid from a Restricted Account and funds subsequently transferred to replenish the fund.

Amounts in these funds are spread across an instant access saving account and fixed term accounts which pay a higher rate of return. The latter are deposited so that in each year one will mature, and a decision made where to reinvest or whether there is an immediate major need for their application, as recently. Over 2022, £5,000 was withdrawn from reserves to support the General Account. In addition, a sum of £26,335 is currently being held on instant access, pending planned works on the church porch and a retaining wall that needs rebuilding and strengthening. Our main boilers are close to the end of their useful life and may need significant spending on their replacement.

We record with deep gratitude the following grants received in the year and acknowledge the time taken by members in completing the applications for them.

Organisation	Sum (£)	Purpose
URC Trust	100	Holiday Club
Community Fund	3500	Jubilee Celebration event
Hobson Charitable Trust	240	Wildflower Garden
Garfield Weston Foundation	2000	Solar Panels

A further grant of £9,000 has been approved toward the cost of the solar panels with funds expected in 2023. Finally, funding of £1137 was received from the government to subsidise rising heating costs.

We have undertaken the now annual exercise of reviewing our financial controls. No changes were deemed necessary at this review.

We continually give thanks to God for all those members and others who contribute the financial resources to support the mission and activities of St John's church. Recently the challenges have been substantial and in this report we find gratifying evidence that we may continue in faith to weather the storms. St John's is fortunate in having a still healthy level of Reserves which will act as a financial cushion in what looks like an unsettled immediate future, not least from the impact on individuals and institutions of the war in Ukraine.

Reserves policy

It is the Trustee's policy to try to maintain a balance in Reserve funds that equates to at least three months' unrestricted payments. It is held to support cashflow and to meet emergencies. The Trustees can report that the funds held in Reserves reported in the accounts exceed the policy requirement. The sums held are deemed appropriate for the anticipated needs for maintenance of the church building in the next 3 – 5 years and to support the Charity through 2023.

In anticipation of a major repairs to the car park retaining wall and the porch in 2023, it was decided to transfer the proceeds of a fixed rate the current account. Once the works are completed, any residual sum will be reinvested.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity was established under the constitution adopted on the 25 July 1996 as a Charitable Unincorporated Association, constituted on 6 July 1996 (amended on 3 November 2013), to give effect to a Local Ecumenical Partnership.

The sponsoring body is North East Christian Churches Together.

The Charity is administered and managed by a body of Trustees consisting of:

- a) ex officio Trustees, being the minister(s) of the LEP;
- b) up to eight Elected Trustees elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting; and
- c) not more than eight Co-opted Trustees appointed by the Trustees.

The Trustees meet formally on a bi-monthly basis and have delegated the day to day running of the Charity to the Ecumenical Church Council. The Trustees have appointed a Treasurer to administer the financial policies of the Charity. There are two permanent established sub-committees of the Ecumenical Church Council, accountable to the Trustees for the matters delegated to them: 'Finance & Property Group' and 'Planning Group.' Other Groups, which have a significant bearing on the Charity's governance and which report to the Ecumenical Church Council, are Worship Planning, Safeguarding and Core Prayer Team.

There is a constitutional requirement for an Annual Congregational Meeting, the business of which is to:

- a) receive the report of the Trustees on the Charity's activities since the previous Annual Congregational Meeting;
- b) review the life and witness of the Charity;
- c) elect Trustees from among the Members by processes that are clear and open;
- d) receive the accounts of the Charity for the previous financial year;
- e) appoint an auditor or independent examiner for the Charity; and
- f) consider any other business put before it by the Trustees.

We additionally facilitate governance related requirements specific to our participating denominations, for example by maintaining an Electoral Roll for and on behalf of the Church of England and incorporating any denominational meetings within our meeting schedules.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding structures and policies are in place in accordance with Church of England guidance and we also work closely with the safeguarding teams of other denominations. The Church Council (Trustees of the Charity and Parochial Church Council for Anglian matters) are responsible for Safeguarding. The minister with responsibility for Safeguarding resigned in November 2022 and we are currently in a vacancy for an Anglican Priest. The Church Council reappointed Tim Rogers as Safeguarding Officer.

The safeguarding policy and list of authorised workers were reviewed in July 2022 and were approved for the year 2022-2023. The Guidelines of the policy are undergoing a more detailed review.

Training and DBS requirements have been kept under review, with both a number of new appointments requiring them and a number of refresher training and reapplications for DBS being undertaken as they became due. Members of the Church Council who were not up to date with training requirements by January 2022 all completed them in the first half of the year. In addition, an extra training requirement (Domestic Abuse Awareness) is now required for all Church Council members. All but one has completed that. There are some training requirements for the music group, the choir and some pastoral carers that are still outstanding.

A number of activities began again (or became more active, e.g., returned to the building having been online) during the year as well as a number of new activities starting. The regular activities (and known about events that occur from time to time, e.g., Messy Church) have been approved by the Church Council and only require updates to risk assessments and safer recruiting when there are new helpers (or new leadership). In addition, the procedures for new activities have benefited from a 'pro forma' developed with the Coordinator of the Events Group, in relation to the events they organise, and a number have been approved this year.

Two new activities that were approved in 2022 deserve mention. Cranlea (the Care Home next to the Church) invited us in to lead an act of worship each month; the necessary checks, risk assessments, safer recruiting requirements etc. having been done, the Church Council agreed this activity. St. John's offers a 'Warm Space' to our community in response to the fuel and cost of living crises. This was able to be approved quickly and safely partly because of the work that had been completed on the pro forma.

Non-Church activities (hirers of our building) that are primarily (or significantly) for children or vulnerable adults are required to provide evidence of their safeguarding policies and procedures and are approved by the Church Council.

The priorities for the new year (2023) include getting the few remaining training requirements up to date whilst ensuring all new appointments (and activities) have the training in place from the start and refresher courses are undertaken promptly so that all training remains up to date.

There were no serious incidents in 2022 .

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the situation of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed/constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Trustees

Ex-officio Trustees

Adele Moorhouse (Minister & Chair of Trustees). Appointed Chair of Trustees, November 2022

Elected Trustees

Timothy Rogers (Safeguarding Officer). Re-elected April 2022. Chair of Trustees, January to May 2022

Julie Horton. Re-elected April 2022.

Robin Wallace. Re-elected April 2022.

Jackie Collins. Re-elected April 2022.

Maureen Kennedy. Elected April 2022.

Co-opted Trustees

Irene Hatton (Secretary). Co-opted since April 2019.

Ivan Weir (Treasurer). Co-opted since April 2019.

Paula Rogers (Church Warden). Co-opted since 2020.

Ruth Dawson (Church Warden). Co-opted April 2022.

Changes in Trustees:

Rev Annie Gray (Minister) resigned November 2022. Chair of Trustees, May to November 2022.

Stephen Huggan (Church Warden) resigned April 2022.

John Dawson resigned April 2022.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, KINGSTON PARK**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT****FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDING: 31 DECEMBER 2022****RECEIPTS**

	2021	2022
	£	£
GENERAL ACCOUNT	84,235.64	93,958.31
RESTRICTED ACCOUNT	16,800.00	7,713.40
RESERVE ACCOUNT	740.77	527.70
MISSION FUND	17.42	25.93
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>101,793.83</u>	<u>102,225.34</u>

PAYMENTS

GENERAL ACCOUNT	90,329.94	93,434.81
RESTRICTED ACCOUNT	6,914.59	17,160.98
RESERVE ACCOUNT	-	1,900.00
MISSION FUND	1,250.00	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u>98,494.53</u>	<u>112,495.79</u>
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	<u>3,299.30</u>	<u>- 10,270.45</u>

SUMMARY OF MONETARY ASSETS

	2021	2022
	£	£
General Account	11,159.29	16,726.19
Reserves	61,184.57	54,812.27
Restricted Account	18,676.02	10,685.04
Mission Fund	12,430.88	10,956.81
TOTAL	<u>103,450.76</u>	<u>93,180.31</u>

GENERAL ACCOUNT RECEIPTS YEAR ENDING: 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2021 £	2022 £
Planned Giving		
Standing Orders with Gift Aid	44,270.00	45,242.00
Standing Orders without Gift Aid	8,944.00	8,977.00
Donations		
Donations with Gift Aid	286.70	312.00
Donations without Gift Aid	-	3,413.15
	53,500.70	57,944.15
Collections at Services	334.01	1,694.57
Rental Income	7,650.25	20,170.25
Grants	9,320.00	1,137.00
Miscellaneous Income		
Photocopying	39.80	8.70
Gift Aid Claim	11,288.60	11,315.84
Fees	228.00	302.00
Literature Income	12.45	1,328.30
Sundry items	1,861.83	57.50
	13,430.68	13,012.34
	84,235.64	93,958.31
Transfers from Other Accounts/Reserves/Funds	12,178.36	5,204.05

RESTRICTED ACCOUNT RECEIPTS YEAR ENDED: 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2021	2022
	£	£
Legacy to Holding Fund	15,000.00	1,000.00
Grants for Restricted Purposes	1,800.00	5,840.00
Charitable Fundraising inc. Carol Singing		873.40
	<u>16,800.00</u>	<u>7,713.40</u>
RESTRICTED ACCOUNT TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>16,800.00</u>	<u>7,713.40</u>
Transfers from Other Accounts/Reserves/Funds	6,181.12	1,660.65

RESERVE ACCOUNTS RECEIPTS YEAR ENDED: 31 DECEMBER 2022

Interest	740.77	527.70
	<u>740.77</u>	<u>527.70</u>
RESERVE ACCOUNTS TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>740.77</u>	<u>527.70</u>
Transfers from Other Accounts/Reserves/Funds	-	-

MISSION FUND RECEIPTS YEAR ENDED: 31 DECEMBER 2022

Interest	17.42	25.93
MISSION FUND TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>17.42</u>	<u>25.93</u>
Transfers from Other Accounts/Reserves/Funds	-	-

CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, KINGSTON PARK

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

GENERAL ACCOUNT PAYMENTS YEAR ENDING: 31 DECEMBER 2022		
	2021	2022
	£	£
Payments to the denominations		
Anglican Share	29,400.00	29,118.03
Methodist Assessment	23,364.00	26,642.97
URC Mission & Ministry	2,508.00	1,995.99
Baptist Church	4,316.00	3,136.01
	59,588.00	60,893.00
Management & Administration		
Minister Expenses	40.00	14.40
Council Tax - Vicarage	2,492.29	2,079.87
Water Rates - Vicarage	185.53	196.32
Gas	1,892.58	1,081.69
Electricity	1,007.80	1,339.12
Telephone	364.06	392.77
Water Rates - Church	217.17	333.78
Insurance	1,286.91	1,383.55
Maintenance	2,782.68	3,222.91
Maintenance - Grounds	1,196.00	500.00
Equipment	529.18	1,224.95
Secretary	1,269.60	1,320.00
Stationery	46.58	159.52
Photocopier	435.46	432.30
Bookings Secretary	120.00	90.00
Flowers	-	243.98
Cleaner	1,767.00	1,822.04
Window Cleaner	115.20	115.20
Cleaning Materials	309.59	233.67
Fees & Licences	1,504.88	2,291.96
Refreshment - Tea, Coffee etc	118.85	92.09
Worship Requisites	138.86	169.09
Literature & Promotion Costs	1,260.10	1,394.50
	19,080.32	20,133.71
Other Expenditure/Projects		
Children's Worker	1,132.54	-
Children's Worker Expenses	81.81	-
Choir	103.80	580.26
Sundry Costs	2,067.53	608.20
	3,385.68	1,188.46
Church Groups		
Outreach	-	570.81
Junior Church	5.25	87.92
Holiday Club	240.69	267.45
Social Events	-	293.46
	245.94	1,219.64
Donations		
Charitable Giving	8,030.00	10,000.00
Charitable Donations	-	-
	8,030.00	10,000.00
TOTAL GENERAL ACCOUNT PAYMENTS	90,329.94	93,434.81
Transfers to other Accounts/Reserves/Funds	2,141.28	160.65

RESTRICTED ACCOUNTS PAYMENTS YEAR ENDING: 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2021	2022
	£	£
AV & WiFi Upgrade	1,301.00	7,303.14
Outreach Events Equipment & Costs	5,613.59	5,120.65
Charitable Donations	-	698.40
Eco Initiatives funded from Donations & Legacies	-	4,038.79
TOTAL RESTRICTED ACCOUNT PAYMENTS	<u>6,914.59</u>	<u>17,160.98</u>
Transfers to other Accounts/Reserves/Funds	2,178.36	204.05

RESERVE ACCOUNT PAYMENTS YEAR ENDING: 31 DECEMBER 2022

Methodist Pension Scheme	-	1,900.00
	-	-
TOTAL RESERVE ACCOUNT PAYMENTS	<u>-</u>	<u>1,900.00</u>
Transfers to other Accounts/Reserves/Funds	10,000.00	5,000.00

MISSION FUND PAYMENTS YEAR ENDING: 31 DECEMBER 2022

Grant to Kingston Park Life Magazine	1,250.00	-
TOTAL MISSION FUND PAYMENTS	<u>1,250.00</u>	<u>-</u>
Transfers to other Accounts/Reserves/Funds	4,039.84	1,500.00

CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, KINGSTON PARK

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

STATEMENT OF MONETARY ASSETS YEAR ENDING: 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Current Account £	Restricted Account £	Reserve Account £	Mission Fund £	Total £
Balance Brought Forward	11,159.29	18,676.02	61,184.57	12,430.88	103,450.76
Prior Year Adjustments					
Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Adjusted Balances Brought Forward	11,159.29	18,676.02	61,184.57	12,430.88	103,450.76
Plus					
Receipts	93,958.31	7,713.40	527.70	25.93	102,225.34
Credit Transfers	5,204.05	1,660.65	0.00	0.00	6,864.70
Less					
Payments	93,434.81	17,160.98	1,900.00	0.00	112,495.79
Debit Transfers	160.65	204.05	5,000.00	1,500.00	6,864.70
Notional Carried Forward Balance	16,726.19	10,685.04	54,812.27	10,956.81	93,180.31
Uncleared Effects:					
Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cleared Balance at Year End	16,726.19	10,685.04	54,812.27	10,956.81	93,180.31

SUMMARY OF MONETARY ASSETS

	Opening Balance £	Closing Balance £
GENERAL ACCOUNT		
Co-operative Bank	11,159.29	16,726.19
RESTRICTED FUNDS ACCOUNT		
Individual Funds		
Proceeds of Fundraising Awaiting Distribution	0.00	215.00
Hardship	541.02	541.02
Donations Held for Planned Projects	18,135.00	9,929.02
Outreach Event	0.00	0.00
	<u>18,676.02</u>	<u>10,685.04</u>
RESERVES ACCOUNT		
Virgin Money Instant Access	18,849.89	11,989.21
Cambridge & Counties	16,324.68	16,487.93
Cambridge & Counties	26,010.00	0.00
Cooperative Bank	<u>0.00</u>	<u>26,335.13</u>
	61,184.57	54,812.27
MISSION FUND		
Virgin Money Instant Access*	12,430.88	10,956.81
*Same account as Reserves		
TOTAL OF MONETARY ASSETS AT YEAR-END	<u>103,450.76</u>	<u>93,180.31</u>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE
EVANGELIST, KINGSTON PARK, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1187186

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Mr G Clark FCPFA
7 Teesdale Gardens
High Heaton
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE7 7RB

Date: 15th February 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

Accounting Policies

a) Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis. The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

b) General Fund

This is an Unrestricted Fund. The monies are available for use, at the discretion of the Trustees, in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity provided they have not been received for a restricted purpose or been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds form part of unrestricted funds and have been identified as being for a particular purpose by the Trustees. They are not restricted and can be transferred to general funds at any time at the discretion of the Trustees. Currently, the following are designated funds.

Hardship

Funds available to support those in need. In the year, no donations were made from the fund.

Donations Holding Fund

A legacy of £1,000 was received in the year. It is currently being held to cover the costs of the continuing audio-visual upgrade project. The Trustees will consider options for any residual monies once this project is completed.

The following grants were received:

URC Trust	to support our Holiday Club costs	£100.00
Hobson Charitable Trust	toward costs of wildflower garden.	£240.00
Garfield Weston Foundation	to assist with installation of solar panels.	£2,000.00

This fund had significant expenditure in support of our investment in improving the technology within the building and the eco-initiatives.

Wildflower Garden	£290.15
Installation & maintenance of new data projector	£7,303.14
New Bike Rack	£459.99
Recycling Initiatives	£101.47
Solar Panels initial cost	£3,187.18
Initial fee repairs to retaining wall & porch	£204.05
Total	£11,545.98

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with the specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for a particular purpose. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund are:

Mission Fund

This is held on deposit and is from a previous donation. The monies are available subject to approval of the Trustees for projects and schemes to further the mission of St John's church, as set out in its Vision Statement; and fund, in part, the children's work of the church. In the year, payments totalling a £1,500.00 were made toward the costs of purchasing a generator to enable the staging of Outreach events. The balance of the cost was covered by a donation from the Kingston Park Development Fund.

Fundraising

In total; £913.40 was credited from fundraising activities and £698.40 distributed. The remaining sum has been distributed in early 2023.

2. Analysis of Charitable Donations

Each year, 10% of our General Account income, subject to adjustments, is donated to charities. Of this sum, 25% is donated, in turn, to the mission society of each of our constituent denominations. In 2022, this fell to the Methodist Fund for World Mission. Since 2017, donations have always been made to Tearfund, The Barnabas Fund, Compassion UK and Debt Justice (formerly Jubilee Debt Campaign). Members of the congregation make nominations in respect of deserving causes which are decided upon by Church Council.

In the year, Church Council decided that due to adverse media reports, no further donations would be made to Barnabas UK. It was also decided that Open Doors UK should be an ongoing recipient of donations instead.

The table below records those charities supported from the annual distribution, with a comparison to the previous year for information.

Organisation	2021	2022
BMS World Mission	£2,000	
Methodist Fund for World Mission		£2,500
Tearfund		£750
Compassion UK	£603	£750
Debt Justice (Jubilee Debt Campaign)	£603	£750
Open Doors UK		£750
International Justice Mission	£603	£750
Kisima Trust Europe	£603	£750
Alpha UK		£750
West End Refugees		£750
Action for Children		£750
CADA North East		£750
Betel UK	£603	
Action Foundation	£603	
Northern Learning Trust	£603	
Safe Families	£603	
West End Refugees	£603	
Action for Children	£603	
	£8,030	£1,0000

We also supported the following:

From events around Christmas 2021	
West End Refugees	£75.00
Action for Children	£75.00
Christian Aid Week (inc. plant sale)	£524.40
Salvation Army through our Harvest Collection	£410.00

3. Staffing Costs

The Charity had no employees in the period under review. No Trustee expenses or remuneration were recorded in the period under review. The Independent Examiner fee was £180.00.

4. Taxation

The Charity is exempt from Corporation Tax on its charitable activities.