

Trustees Report – September 2023

This report was presented and accepted at the church AGM (13th September 2023).

Introduction

The Trustees, who are the church officers have pleasure in presenting this report for the past year, ending August 2023.

As a CIO, the aims of Hamilton Road Evangelical Church are:

- The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Whistable and the surrounding neighbourhood;
- Such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity trustees, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to: the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness; the advancement of education; and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life;

Report

In August 2022, HREC called their first full-time Pastor since 2004. The Pastor accepted this call and began his official pastoral duties on 1st October 2022. He and his wife have become members and are now living in Whitstable, for which we give thanks.

During the past year, we have held regular Sunday worship services morning and evening, as well as weekly prayer meetings on Wednesday evenings. These have usually be led by our Pastor, with occasional meetings led by other church members or visiting preachers. Sunday attendance has increased during the past year, with a number of new adults and families attending (more or less) regularly. All these meetings are open to the general public and any guests are warmly welcomed. Average attendance in the morning would be around 22-26 adults and 4-8 children approximately. Evening attendance is generally lower.

From September 2022, Junior Church amended their start times to allow families and children to spend the first 15 minutes approximately in the morning service. The main teaching resource was, "Go Teach," but we have recently begun trialling resources by, "Faith in Kids." Attendance has grown during the year, with typical numbers averaging around 7-9 children. This does not include secondary school age children, who we are now encouraging to attend the morning service. The regular adult team consists of 5 church members.

Our Thursday morning Toddler group has met regularly through the past year, with breaks that coincide with typical school holiday dates. There are usually around 6-9 carers who attend with the pre-school children. In the past year, we have changed the group name to, "Little Oysters," and we have introduced short devotional style messages, designed to engage with the adults and to encourage them to consider the Christian message. Those who attend speak very positively about the group. The regular adult team consists of 4 church members.

Our Tuesday Bethany Lunch Club has also met regularly through the past 12 months, with breaks that coincide with typical school holiday dates. Bethany is very popular with those who come and attendance has grown during the year, with 25-30 now being a regular number. The meetings always begin with a short gospel message, followed by a cooked lunch and dessert. With the arrival of our Pastor, we have also been able to run, "Hope Explored," and "Just Looking," evangelistic groups before Bethany begins.

These were well received and a number of Bethany attendees have now begun attending Sunday services as a result. The regular adult team consists 5 church members, assisted by a number of other members as appropriate.

HREC has also held a number of one-off evangelistic events, including a Christmas Carol service, Easter Service (with breakfast) and Coronation Celebration. All events were well attended, and we were able to make contact with encouraging numbers of non-Christians. The Coronation Celebration also gave us more contact with Jewsons, who advertised the event on their social media accounts.

During the past year we have lost one member, who passed away. We have received 5 new members. Current membership stands at 24.

The church officers currently consist of one Elder (our Pastor) and 3 deacons. All church officers are Trustees of the CIO, the Pastor being Chair of Trustees. During the year one deacon stepped down from the diaconate; we wish to formally acknowledge our thankfulness to him for his faithful service to the church as a deacon and now as a member.

Adam Laughton
on behalf of the Trustees

Income and Expense by Category

From 01/ 04/ 2022 to 31/ 03/ 2023 (in GB Pounds)

Category (Income)	
Bank Interest	268.15
Bethany Lunches	2,778.10
General	27,948.86
Gift Received	44,293.37
Manse Rent	12,000.00
Other Income	590.00
Transfer from antecedent organisation	36,192.37
Total Income	124,070.85

Category (Expense)	
Advertising and Publicity	-904.27
Bethany	-2,456.46
Caretaking	-333.09
Catering	-506.38
Charitable contributions	-50.00
Church Utilities: Electricity	-1,617.18
Church Utilities: Gas	-4,820.22
Church Utilities: Phone & Wifi	-510.02
Church Utilities: Refuse	-455.65
Church Utilities: Water	-242.89
Category Total:	-7,645.96
Equipment	-35.93
Funeral: Flowers	-40.00
Gift Sent	-25.00
Insurance	-2,574.31
Legal Services	-447.48
Literature	-918.87
Maintenance: Church	-2,022.34
Maintenance: Manse	-1,280.00
Category Total:	-3,302.34

Hamilton Road Evangelical Church

Ministry: Bethany	-300.00
Ministry: Bible Study	-870.00
Ministry: Funeral	-150.00
Ministry: Lord's Day	-2,870.00
Ministry: Missionary	-480.00
Category Total:	-4,670.00
Misc Exp	-322.88
Missionary	-1,125.00
Pastor: Accommodation	-15,796.85
Pastor: Conference expenses	-300.00
Pastor: Pension	-1,185.00
Pastor: Salary	-11,472.10
Category Total:	-28,753.95
Photocopier	-431.70
Stationery	-57.93
Sunday School	-300.65
Training	-84.83
Total Expenses	-
	54,987.03

Total: 69,083.82

Account Balance

Account: All Accounts

Net Worth at: 31/03/2023 (in GB Pounds)

Bank	
Cash	10.00
Current	8,504.57
Reserve	60,569.25
Bank Total	69,083.82

Investments	
Investment Total	0.00

Assets	
Asset Total	0.00

Credit Card	
Credit Card Total	0.00

Liabilities	
Liability Total	0.00

Overall Total: 69,083.82



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

HAMILTON RD EVANGELICAL CHURCH WHITSTABLE

On accounts for the year
ended

MARCH 31ST 2023

Charity no
(if any)

CIO REG. NO.
1189551

Set out on pages

1 & 2 and SUMMARY SHEETS ABC+D

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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

~~The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to~~
~~undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of~~
~~applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable. N/A~~

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 gives me cause to believe that in, any material
respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130
of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

R. J. Hutton

Date:

30 | 8 | 23

Name:

ROBERT JOHN HUTTON

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

N/A

(if any):

Address:

62 BEACON RD

BROADSTAIRS

KENT CT10 3D9

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A