

DISCOVERING PRAYER CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1190396

Details

Other names	DISCOVERING PRAYER, DISCOVERINGPRAYER.COM
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2020-07-14
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Suite 261 266 Banbury Road Oxford OX2 7DL
Phone	00000000000
Email	michelle.eyre@discoveringprayer.com
Website	https://discoveringprayer.com/

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS:FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, TO ADVANCE AND ENLIGHTEN OTHERS ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN FAITH BY ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO EXPLORE PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY IN THEIR LIVES, TO DEEPEN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:(A) THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF PRAYER RESOURCES;(B) EDUCATIONAL/ TRAINING MATERIALS;(C) COURSES;(D) THE HOSTING AND/OR FACILITATING PRAYER MEETINGS; (E) THE HOSTING AND/OR FACILITATION OF RETREATS; AND(F) THE TEACHING OF ANCIENT PRACTICES OF THE RELIGIOUS LIFE OF ANGLICAN AND OTHER CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS IN THE UK AND WORLDWIDE.

Activities: The goal of the CIO is to help everyone have a joyful and fulfilling relationship with God by teaching and guiding people in Christian prayer. The work of the CIO will include introducing individuals to the study of different types of prayer, for example, Ignatian spirituality, Benedictine spirituality for everyday life, and prayer used by Anglican nuns and monks.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Canada
- Ireland
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Northern Ireland
- South Africa
- United States
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£58,955	£67,763	-	-
2024-08-31	£78,778	£65,053	-	-
2023-08-31	£77,307	£71,011	-	-
2022-08-31	£83,713	£73,368	-	-
2021-08-31	£78,512	£64,115	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Kate Manon Jefferyes		2019-03-14
Michelle Diana Eyre		2019-03-14
Rev Daniel James Heyward		2020-06-14
Robert Andrew Eyre		2019-03-14
Shumi Kupara		2025-04-26

DISCOVERING PRAYER CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1190396

Accounts

Charity number: 1190396

Discovering Prayer CIO

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2025

Discovering Prayer CIO

Contents of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1
Report of the Independent Examiner	4
Receipts and Payments Account	5
Statement of Balances	6
Notes to the Accounts	7

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2025

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Principal office

Suite 261
266 Banbury Road
Oxford
OX2 7DL

Status of Charity and Governing Document

Discovering Prayer CIO was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 14 July 2020. The organisation was previously incorporated as a private limited company called Discoveringprayer.com Ltd (Company number 09177881) from 15 August 2014 until its dissolution in 2021. The charity registration number is 1190396.

Trustees and Office Bearers

Management of the charity remains with the trustees. The constitution requires a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of 12 to serve at any time.

The trustees who served during the year are:

Michelle Eyre
Robert Eyre
Daniel Heyward
Kate Jefferyes
Shumi Kupara (appointed 26 April 2025)
Timothy Pottle (resigned 26 April 2025)

Trustees are appointed for a period of three years by a resolution passed at a trustee meeting. Any person retiring as a charity trustee is then eligible for reappointment.

The board has also been supported by the insight and encouragement of Brother Stuart OSB from Mucknell Abbey and Tamasin Went.

Objectives

Our charitable purpose is to advance the Christian faith by encouraging people to explore prayer and spirituality in their lives and to deepen their relationship with God, including through:

- The development and promotion of prayer resources, educational materials and courses;
- The hosting or facilitation of prayer meetings;
- The hosting or facilitation of retreats; and
- The teaching of ancient practices of the Religious Life of Anglican and other Christian denominations in the UK and worldwide.

Vision

Our vision has been that people everywhere might have a joyful and fulfilling relationship with God — supported by a rhythm of prayer rooted in Christian tradition.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2025

Activities and achievements

During the year, Discovering Prayer continued its ministry of helping people deepen their relationship with God through accessible, high-quality digital prayer resources drawn from the monastic tradition.

A major focus was ensuring that the reach and spiritual legacy of the resources already created was honoured and sustained with gratitude. The Discovering Prayer app now offers more than 290 guided prayers and 34 blessings recorded by Anglican monks and nuns. Our tracks have been downloaded 1,317 times this year, adding to a total audience of more than 70,000 people who have received our prayer resources across all platforms since Discovering Prayer began.

Participants have told us:

'A source of stillness and focus in busy lives — I feel the stillness enter my heart again.' – Aisha

'I've never had a rhythm of prayer before — now I start most days with God.' – Ben

We are grateful for the encouragement we received from across the Church. Dame Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury, kindly wrote:

'Discovering Prayer clearly has a wonderful team supporting its programmes and my prayers are with you as you reach more and more people with the gift of excellent resources for reflective prayer. We need rhythm and structure more and more in these strange times.'

We give thanks for the monks and nuns who have shared their voices and wisdom, and for the volunteers, donors and grant-making trusts whose gifts have sustained this ministry in prayer, partnership and generosity.

Future plans

This year brought a difficult discernment: despite determined fundraising efforts, the charity could not secure the long-term resources needed to continue. In October 2025, the trustees therefore took the decision to close Discovering Prayer CIO and to finish well.

Our focus is now on fulfilling all legal and financial responsibilities, honouring our supporters, and bringing the charity to a prayerful and orderly conclusion. While the closure of the CIO is deeply sad, we remain confident that God will lead forwards those who have been nourished by this ministry, and those who have served within it, into new seasons of prayer and hope.

Thanks

The trustees express their heartfelt thanks to our supporters, including:

- Christ the Saviour Monastic Trust
- Community of St Mary the Virgin
- Gladiator Trust
- Pershore, Nashdom and Elmore Trust
- Sisters of the Love of God
- Souter Charitable Trust

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2025

Financial review

Results for the year

The financial statements for the year are set out on pages 5 to 7. The Receipts and Payments Account reflects a deficit for the year of £32,533 (2024: £13,725) and a corresponding reduction in reserves. With the decision taken to close the charity, the trustees are focused on completing the financial and legal responsibilities required for an orderly wind-up.

Reserves policy

With the decision to close the charity, a standard reserves policy limit was not set. Remaining funds will be used to meet closure costs in line with charitable obligations.

We also extend deep appreciation to the volunteers and contributors whose gifts in web development, administration, script editing and recording made the Discovering Prayer app and courses possible. Above all, we give thanks to God for the lives touched, the peace given and the prayers shared through this work.

The accounts were approved by the trustees on 31 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Michelle Eyre

Michelle Eyre

Trustee

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2025

I report to the trustees on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025 which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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

Alison Franks

Alison Franks CA
Director
Cornerstone Accounting

11 Erngath Road
Bo'ness
EH51 9DP

Date: 4 November 2025

Discovering Prayer CIO

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended 31 August 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Subscriptions						
One-off	45	-	45	535	-	535
Annual	4,042	-	4,042	5,130	-	5,130
Monthly	1,135	-	1,135	1,195	-	1,195
Bursary	171	-	171	180	-	180
Donations						
Major donors	7,500	-	7,500	1,800	1,000	2,800
Personal donors	2,048	-	2,048	568	1,391	1,959
Gift Aid	514	-	514	36	433	469
Grant income	43,500	-	43,500	48,900	17,610	66,510
Total receipts	58,955	-	58,955	58,344	20,434	78,778
Payments						
Fundraising costs						
Fundraising contract costs	10,266	-	10,266	12,092	-	12,092
Marketing and social media costs	4,461	-	4,461	1,752	-	1,752
Donation collection fees	207	-	207	266	-	266
Charitable activities						
Salary costs	37,067	-	37,067	28,888	5,900	34,788
Personal customer service	1,606	-	1,606	1,672	-	1,672
Conferences and retreats	350	-	350	535	-	535
Recording costs	870	-	870	-	3,217	3,217
App design/development costs	3,999	23,725	27,724	-	5,596	5,596
Resources	150	-	150	15	-	15
Travel and subsistence	172	-	172	562	-	562
Insurance	346	-	346	321	-	321
IT and website costs	5,083	-	5,083	2,808	-	2,808
Equipment costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Business address	460	-	460	411	-	411
Administration costs	255	-	255	329	-	329
Charitable donations	1,315	-	1,315	-	-	-
Bank charges	-	-	-	9	-	9
Bookkeeping costs	100	-	100	72	-	72
Cornerstone Accounting costs:						
Independent examination	600	-	600	500	-	500
Payroll fees	300	-	300	108	-	108
Total payments	67,763	23,725	91,488	50,340	14,713	65,053
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(8,808)	(23,725)	(32,533)	8,004	5,721	13,725
Transfer between funds	(8,698)	8,698	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) after transfers	(17,506)	(15,027)	(32,533)	8,004	5,721	13,725
Total funds brought forward	29,736	15,027	44,763	21,732	9,306	31,038
Total funds carried forward	12,230	-	12,230	29,736	15,027	44,763

The notes on page 7 form part of these financial statements.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Statement of Balances

As at 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025			2024		
		Opening balance £	Deficit for year £	Closing balance £	Opening balance £	Surplus for year £	Closing balance £
Cash at bank and in hand							
Current account		44,763	(32,533)	12,230	31,038	13,725	44,763
Total cash at bank and in hand		44,763	(32,533)	12,230	31,038	13,725	44,763
Represented by:							
Unrestricted fund	2						
General fund				12,230		29,736	
				<u>12,230</u>		<u>29,736</u>	
Restricted funds	3						
App fund				-		15,027	
				<u>-</u>		<u>15,027</u>	
Total funds				<u>12,230</u>		<u>44,763</u>	
Statement of assets at 31 August				2025		2024	
				£		£	
Expenses refund due				-		45	
				<u>-</u>		<u>45</u>	
Statement of liabilities at 31 August				2025		2024	
				£		£	
Accounting and independent examination fees				600		600	
PAYE payable				560		560	
Pension payable				725		278	
Fundraising costs due				-		1,416	
Charitable donation due - Salvation Army				-		970	
Staff expenses				-		150	
				<u>1,885</u>		<u>3,974</u>	

The financial statements on pages 5 to 7 were approved by the trustees on 31 October 2025 and signed on their behalf by the undernoted:

Michelle Eyre

Michelle Eyre
Trustee

The notes on page 7 form part of these financial statements.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Receipts and Payments Account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments Account as shown on page 6, funds are defined as follows:

Unrestricted funds comprise donations, grants and other income received for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds comprise income which has been received for the objects of the charity and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

2. Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1.9.24 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.8.25 £
General fund	29,736	58,955	(67,763)	(8,698)	12,230
Total unrestricted funds	29,736	58,955	(67,763)	(8,698)	12,230

Explanation of funds

The *General fund* represents all income and expenditure relating to the primary focus activities of the charity, other than those for which funding is restricted.

3. Restricted funds

	Balance at 1.9.24 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.8.25 £
App fund	15,027	-	(23,725)	8,698	-
Total restricted funds	15,027	-	(23,725)	8,698	-

Explanation of funds

The *App fund* represents funds received towards the development of a new mobile application for guided prayers.

4. Donated facilities and services

We are grateful for the office space at St Andrew's Church, Linton Road, Oxford, which allows us to be at the heart of this prayerful community. We also acknowledge the invaluable contribution of our volunteers and trustees who lend their expertise in various areas, including audio design, editorial guidance, finance and fundraising.

5. Trustee and related party remuneration and expenses

Michelle Eyre, who is a trustee, is employed by the charity as Chief Executive. Remuneration paid, including pension costs, in the financial year was £37,513 (2024: £36,469).

Michelle also attended a retreat paid for by the Charity at a cost of £190 (2024: £535).

There were no remuneration or expenses paid to any of the other trustees or their related parties during the year ending 31 August 2025 (2024: nil).

DISCOVERING PRAYER CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1190396

Accounts

CHARITY NUMBER: 1190396

Discovering Prayer CIO

Trustees' Report & Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Table of contents

Report of the trustees	3
Report of the independent examiner to the trustees	10
Receipts and payments	11
Statement of balances	12
Notes to the financial statements	13

Report of the trustees

The trustees are pleased to present their report, together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024.

STATUS OF CHARITY AND GOVERNING DOCUMENT

Discovering Prayer CIO was registered as a charitable incorporated organisation on 14 July 2020. The organisation was previously incorporated as a private limited company called Discoveringprayer.com Ltd (company number 09177881) from 15 August 2014 until its dissolution in 2021. The charity registration number is 1190396.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICE BEARERS

Management of the charity remains with the trustees. The constitution requires a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of 12 to serve at any time.

The trustees who served during the year are:

- Michelle Eyre - Director
- Robert Eyre - Technical Business Consultant
- Revd Daniel Heyward - Vicar of St Andrew's, North Oxford
- Kate Jefferyes - EMEA Microsoft Lead at Tanium
- Timothy Pottle - Development Director at Regent's Park College, Oxford

Every trustee will be appointed for a period of three years by a resolution passed at a trustee meeting. Any person retiring as a charity trustee is then eligible for reappointment.

Additionally, the board of trustees benefits from the expertise of our advisory board, which includes: Shumi Kupara, Operations Coordinator for The Relay Trust, Brother Stuart OSB from Mucknell Abbey and Tamasin Went, former Head of Commercial Intelligence at Vodafone Business Group.

1

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

Discovering Prayer CIO, Suite 261, 266 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DL

OBJECTIVES

Our objectives, as laid out in our governing document, are:

'To advance or enlighten others about the Christian faith by encouraging people to explore prayer and spirituality in their lives, to deepen their relationship with God, including but not limited to:

- The development and promotion of prayer resources, educational training materials and courses
- The hosting and/or facilitation of prayer meetings
- The hosting and/or facilitation of retreats
- The teaching of ancient practices of the religious life of Anglican and other Christian denominations in the UK and worldwide.'

VISION

Our vision is for everyone to have a joyful and fulfilling relationship with God. Our goals are to:

01 HELP PEOPLE TO DEEPEN THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH PRAYER

Many people want to pray, but don't know how to get started. We work with Christian nuns and monks and other experts in prayer, who record guided prayers and teaching on prayer. We aim to help people benefit from their wisdom each day.

02 RESEARCH AND TEACH THE BEST WAYS TO HELP PEOPLE LEARN TO PRAY

We hope to glorify God in our teaching on prayer and that means learning the best, most evidence-based ways that we can help people to flourish in their walk with God. We will continue to develop best practice in researching what we do and teaching those in the church who are keen to learn more about fostering prayer in their communities.

03 GIVE GENEROUSLY TO THE WORLDWIDE COMMUNITY

We believe that prayer is always linked to action, in our homes, our communities and throughout the world. We pray for others and take action that supports communities that care for those in need.

Activities and achievements

We are delighted to report that over 2,000 individuals joined us in prayer throughout 2023–2024 and our reach continues to grow each year. As a small charity with a big heart, we have dedicated time to developing a platform to allow Discovering Prayer to connect with many more people.

CREATION OF POCKET ABBEY

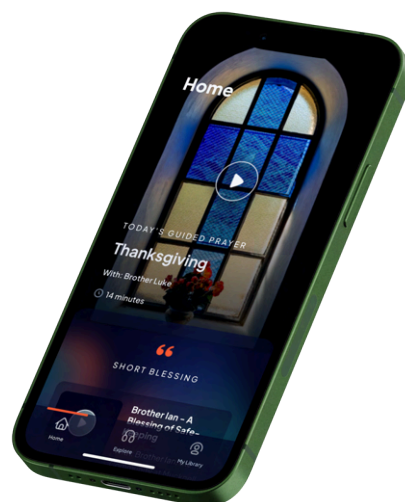
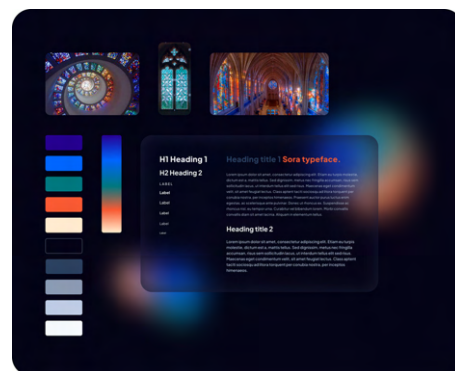
We are delighted to announce the successful development of our transformational new app, which has been tested by 200 participants. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with nearly 80% of participants rating it as either 'Excellent' or 'Very Good'.

This project was made possible through the collaboration of 12 dedicated people, including developers, UX/UI professionals, copywriters and designers from Discovering Prayer, Amperative, Fruto and Signpost Creative.

Participants have particularly praised the app's sound quality and intuitive design. We're thrilled with the positive responses received for this foundational work, which we're building on for our public launch.

'Firstly, and most importantly, the app's sound quality is excellent and much appreciated. Secondly, the simplicity of the layout is beautiful, making navigation entirely intuitive. I think the Holy Spirit has definitely been with you in this work. Well done everyone. It promises to be a thirst-quenching resource.'

– Josh, Pocket Abbey participant



DESIGNED A UNIQUE USER EXPERIENCE WITH DAILY BLESSINGS

Taking inspiration from a community member, we developed a unique feature that offers a daily prayer, followed by a blessing from a nun or monk. This has been especially well-received, with feedback such as,

'I have particularly enjoyed the daily blessings :)'

- Amy, Discovering Prayer app participant

EXCEEDING OUR TARGET FOR RECORDED BLESSINGS

The generous support of funders also enabled us to exceed our target of 25 recorded blessings. We recorded **37 blessings** and **six in-depth interviews** from **10 nuns and monks** from four religious communities.

'I experienced a deep sense of homecoming, which was incredibly moving and something I haven't felt before.'

- Olivia, Discovering Prayer app participant





Anglican nuns and monks who made recordings to inspire participants this year

In addition, we:

- Wrote and recorded 20 new prayer times based on St John's Gospel
- Created 12 guided meditations for Christmas Day to Epiphany
- Recorded a further 33 prayer times for Lent
- Enhanced our praying presence at St Andrew's Church, Oxford by welcoming a small group of 'Friends of Discovering Prayer'
- Provided a placement for an ordinand from a local church of England training college as part of their development, training and exposure to a breadth of Christian spirituality.

We continue to be inspired by the heartfelt feedback from our community:

'I stumbled on Discovering Prayer at a time when I truly needed God. I wasn't sure how God spoke or answered prayer. I now understand there is a time and a place for all prayer. I have got more out of this than the three years I have been on this journey. I now know my God is truly alive and listening to me and me to him.'

– David, Discovering Prayer participant

'Just what I needed, having felt "lost" and rudderless through significant life changes. Learning how to draw closer to God and exploring new ways of praying has been a priceless gift.'

– Adam, Pocket Abbey participant

Future plans

In 2024–2025, we aim to help even more people discover peace, strength and communion with God through prayer, particularly during challenging times. These plans are contingent on future fundraising. Our plans include:

01 PUBLIC LAUNCH OF THE DISCOVERING PRAYER APP — TO HELP TRANSFORM PEOPLE’S RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

We are excited to work towards the app’s public launch for Lent 2025, with a brand new series called ‘Prepare the Way for Easter’. We will gather feedback from members to see the impact of the app on individuals and communities. We will also refine the app based on user feedback and collaborate with a digital agency, Amperative, to develop a roadmap for new features, such as the ability to ‘Share a Prayer’.

02 CREATE ‘PRAYER FOR ALL SEASONS’ —TO REACH OUT WIDELY INTO THE COMMUNITY

Following what we hope will be successful fundraising, we will launch ‘Prayer for All Seasons’, a calendar of prayer courses available throughout 2025 and 2026. The aim will be to provide individuals and groups with seasonal courses of prayer and teaching on Lectio Divina, contemplative/listening prayer, Ignatian prayer and daily office (short prayers throughout the day). The aim is to address the crisis of quiet in our time and allow people an opportunity to be still and know God more deeply.

03 PREPARE NEW COURSES, SUCH AS JOURNEY OF THE HEART — TO HELP PEOPLE TO BE STILL AND HEAR GOD’S VOICE

We are exploring partnerships with external organisations to create resources that connect the app with physical events such as retreats and pilgrimages, as well as engaging with religious communities. We also want to pilot groups within the app that enable prayer triplets to be created.

Financial review

Results for the year

The financial statements for the year are set out on pages 11 to 14. The receipts and payments account on page 11 reflects a surplus for the year of £13,725 (2023: £6,296). Total reserves, including restricted funds, amounted to £44,763 (2023: £31,038).

Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted charitable expenditure. They consider that this will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered. We are pleased to report that we have maintained reserves of £29,736 and carried over £15,027 in additional funds for the building and launch of our new app in February 2025.



Thanks

The trustees are immensely grateful for the generosity of the religious communities, trusts, churches and individual donors who funded us during the year. We would specifically like to thank:

- Community of St Mary the Virgin
- Community of St John Baptist
- Community of St Francis
- Pershore, Nashdom and Elmore Trust
- Christ the Saviour Monastic Trust
- Diocese of Oxford
- Souter Charitable Trust
- Gladiator Trust
- An anonymous religious community
- Individuals who gave generously to our app appeal

We would also like to extend deep thanks and appreciation to the volunteers who provide invaluable support for Discovering Prayer's website development, administration, script editing and recordings.

The accounts were approved by the trustees on 10 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Michelle Eyre, Trustee

Report of the independent examiner to the trustees

I report to the trustees on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024, which are set out on pages 11 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

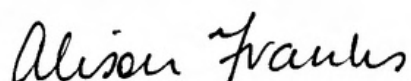
Independent examiner's statement

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

SIGNATURE



Alison Franks CA

Director

Cornerstone Accounting

Date: 18 March 2025

11 Erngath Road, Bo'ness EH51 9DP

Receipts and payments

for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
<i>Subscriptions</i>						
One-off	535	-	535	165	-	165
Annual	5,130	-	5,130	6,555	-	6,555
Monthly	1,195	-	1,195	1,311	-	1,311
Bursary	180	-	180	180	-	180
<i>Donations</i>						
Major donors	1,800	1,000	2,800	6,643	-	6,643
Diocese and church donations	-	-	-	1,500	-	1,500
Personal donors	568	1,391	1,959	124	1,220	1,344
Gift Aid	36	433	469	109	-	109
Grant income	48,900	17,610	66,510	52,220	7,280	59,500
Total receipts	58,344	20,434	78,778	68,807	8,500	77,307
Payments						
<i>Fundraising costs</i>						
Fundraising contract costs	12,092	-	12,092	14,999	-	14,999
Marketing and social media costs	1,752	-	1,752	3,777	-	3,777
Donation collection fees	266	-	266	299	-	299
<i>Charitable activities</i>						
Salary costs	28,888	5,900	34,788	35,369	-	35,369
Other staff costs	-	-	-	249	-	249
Personal customer service	1,672	-	1,672	1,100	-	1,100
Conferences and retreats	535	-	535	330	-	330
Recording costs	-	3,217	3,217	2,731	-	2,731
App design/development costs	-	5,596	5,596	-	7,500	7,500
Resources	15	-	15	65	-	65
Travel and subsistence	562	-	562	182	-	182
Insurance	321	-	321	319	-	319
IT and website costs	2,808	-	2,808	1,415	-	1,415
Equipment costs	-	-	-	69	-	69
Business address	411	-	411	383	-	383
Administration costs	329	-	329	439	-	439
Charitable donation – Christian Aid	-	-	-	1,020	-	1,020
Bank charges	9	-	9	57	-	57
Accounting costs	72	-	72	-	-	-
Cornerstone Accounting costs:						
Independent examination	500	-	500	600	-	600
Payroll fees	108	-	108	108	-	108
Total payments	50,340	14,713	65,053	63,511	7,500	71,011
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	8,004	5,721	13,725	5,296	1,000	6,296
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) after transfers	8,004	5,721	13,725	5,296	1,000	6,296
Total funds brought forward	21,732	9,306	31,038	16,436	8,306	24,742
Total funds carried forward	29,736	15,027	44,763	21,732	9,306	31,038

Statement of balances

as at 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024			2023		
		Opening balance £	Surplus for year £	Closing balance £	Opening balance £	Surplus for year £	Closing balance £
Cash at bank and in hand							
Current account		31,038	13,725	44,763	24,742	6,296	31,038
Total cash at bank and in hand		31,038	13,725	44,763	24,742	6,296	31,038
Represented by:							
Unrestricted funds	2						
General fund				29,736			21,732
				<u>29,736</u>			<u>21,732</u>
Restricted funds	3						
App fund				15,027			9,306
				<u>15,027</u>			<u>9,306</u>
Total funds				<u>44,763</u>			<u>31,038</u>
Statement of assets at 31 August				2024			2023
				£			£
Expenses refund due				45			-
Staff salary overpayment				-			751
Reclaim due from HMRC				-			339
				<u>45</u>			<u>1,090</u>
Statement of liabilities at 31 August				2024			2023
				£			£
Fundraising costs due				1,416			-
Charitable donation due – Salvation Army				970			-
Accounting and independent examination fees				600			600
PAYE payable				560			-
Pension payable				278			247
Staff expenses				150			-
				<u>3,974</u>			<u>847</u>

The financial statements on pages 11 to 14 were approved by the trustees on 10 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by the undernoted:



Michelle Eyre
Trustee

The notes on pages 13 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Receipts and payment account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments Account as shown on page 11, funds are defined as follows:

Unrestricted funds comprise donations, grants and other income received for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds comprise income which has been received for the objects of the charity and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

2. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1.9.23 £	Receipts £		Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.8.24 £
General fund	21,732	58,344		(50,340)	-	29,736
Total unrestricted funds	21,732	58,344		(50,340)	-	29,736

Explanation of funds

The General fund represents all income and expenditure relating to the primary focus activities of the charity, other than those for which funding is restricted.

3. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at 1.9.23 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.8.24 £
App fund	9,306	20,434	(14,713)	-	15,027
Total restricted funds	9,306	20,434	(14,713)	-	15,027

Explanation of funds

The App fund represents funds received towards the development of a new mobile application for guided prayers.

4. DONATED FACILITIES AND SERVICES

We are grateful for the office space at St Andrew's Church, Linton Road, Oxford, which allows us to be at the heart of this prayerful community. We also acknowledge the invaluable contribution of our volunteers and trustees who lend their expertise in various areas, including audio design, editorial guidance, finance and fundraising.

Robert Eyre, who is a trustee, maintains the website as an unpaid volunteer, representing a gift in kind of £5,000 per annum. This year, Robert has also played a pivotal role in developing and maintaining the app, representing a generous in-kind gift of at least £35,000.

5. TRUSTEE AND RELATED PARTY REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

Michelle Eyre, who is a trustee, is employed by the charity as Chief Executive. Remuneration paid, including pension costs, in the financial year was £36,469 (2023: £34,013). Michelle also attended two retreats paid for by the charity at a cost of £535.

There were no remuneration or expenses paid to any of the other trustees or their related parties during the period ending 31 August 2024 (2023: nil), other than the reimbursement of direct expenses and mileage incurred on behalf of the charity.

6. TITHING TO CHRISTIAN CHARITIES

We tithing 10% of the income received from individual donors to Christian charities that are consistent with our charitable aims. This year, our donation was processed after the financial year-end and will therefore be reflected in the 2025 accounts.

DISCOVERING PRAYER CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1190396

Accounts

Charity number: 1190396

Discovering Prayer CIO

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2023

Discovering Prayer CIO

Contents of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1
Report of the Independent Examiner	4
Receipts and Payments Account	5
Statement of Balances	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2023

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Principal office

Suite 261
266 Banbury Road
Oxford
OX2 7DL

Status of Charity and Governing Document

Discovering Prayer CIO was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 14 July 2020. The organisation was previously incorporated as a private limited company called Discoveringprayer.com Ltd (Company number 09177881) from 15 August 2014 until its dissolution in 2021. The charity registration number is 1190396.

Trustees and Office Bearers

Management of the charity remains with the trustees. The constitution requires a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of 12 to serve at any time.

The trustees who served during the year are:

Michelle Eyre
Robert Eyre
Daniel Heyward
Kate Jefferyes
Timothy Pottle

Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee will be appointed for a period of three years by a resolution passed at a trustee meeting. Any person retiring as a charity trustee is then eligible for reappointment.

Objectives

Our objects, as laid out in our governing document, are:

'To advance or enlighten others about the Christian faith by encouraging people to explore prayer and spirituality in their lives, to deepen their relationship with God, but not limited to:

- The development and promotion of prayer resources, educational training materials and courses;
- The hosting and/or facilitation of prayer meetings;
- The hosting and/or facilitation of retreats; and
- The teaching of ancient practices of the Religious Life of Anglican and other Christian denominations in the UK and worldwide.'

Vision

Our vision is for everyone to have a joyful and fulfilling relationship with God.

Our goals are to:

1. Help people to deepen their relationship with God through prayer

Many people want to pray, but don't know how to get started. There is a wealth of experience and guidance available in prayer through the lives of Christian monks and nuns, and we aim to help people benefit from this daily.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2023

Vision (continued)

2. Research and teach the best ways to help people learn to pray

We hope to glorify God in our teaching on prayer and that means learning the best, most evidence-based ways that we can help people to flourish in their walk with God. We will continue to develop best practice in researching what we do and teaching those in the church who are keen to learn more about fostering prayer in their communities.

3. Give generously to the worldwide community

We believe that prayer is always linked to action, in our homes, our communities and throughout the world. We pray for others and take action that supports communities that care for those in need.

Activities and achievements

Over the course of the year, we are delighted to report that over 2,300 people registered for our new Still Small Voice: 10 Ways to Go Deeper in Prayer course (rated 'excellent' by 66% per cent of those who responded to a post-course survey and 'very good' by 29 per cent).

Participants learned how to practise Lectio Divina – including slow reading, meditation, contemplation and silence – and Ignatian-inspired imaginative prayer. Asked to give a rating on a scale of 1-10 (where 10 is 'Strongly Agree') for the following statements, their average scores were:

- 'Still Small Voice has had a positive impact on my prayer life' 9 out of 10
- 'During Still Small Voice I became more aware of God's presence in my daily life' 8 out of 10
- 'Still Small Voice has had a positive impact on my mental wellbeing' 8 out of 10.

Over one hundred individuals wrote to say what a difference the series had made to them, including:

Helena – *'I have been praying for God to help me with my disbelief. I joined this series for that very reason. I have found your contemplative prayers very useful. Connecting with God in the twenty-first century, particularly, in the midst of everything that is going on, has been a struggle for me. Yet at the core of me, is Jesus. Therefore, I will continue to strive for a deeper understanding. Thank you so much for keeping my curiosity going.'*

David – *'I stumbled on Discovering Prayer at a time when I truly needed God. I wasn't sure how God spoke or answered prayer. I now understand there is a time and a place for all prayer. I have got more out of this than the three years I have been on this journey. I now know my God is truly alive and listening to me, and me to him.'*

Mandy – *'I found the Still Small Voice series so wonderful. It brought me closer to God and to listen to his voice. Thank you for Discovering Prayer and providing such valuable resources – they are such beautiful treasures.'*

We also:

- Wrote and recorded 27 new guided prayer times, of which 15 were meditations on passages from the Gospel of St John
- Provided a library of 250+ guided prayer times and interviews with nuns and monks that draw on the treasures of Christian monasticism
- Raised the funds needed to launch Phase Two of our app project – turning the designs into reality.

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and all our activities are undertaken to further the charity's purposes for that public benefit.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2023

Future plans

In the year to 31 August 2024, we want to help more people find greater peace, strength and communion with God through prayer, even in demanding or difficult circumstances. To achieve this, we are aiming to:

Develop a transformational new prayer app

- We will soft launch the new app to a selected number of users, collecting feedback in order to refine it so the final version is as effective as possible.

Record new guided prayers

- We plan to record at least 60 new guided prayer times for Lent, plus 11 blessings and interviews with Anglican nuns and monks, to provide fresh ideas about prayer.

Introduce more people to the riches of monasticism

- Enabling participants to ask nuns and monks questions about prayer and to benefit from their insights
- Inviting people to go on retreats hosted by a range of religious communities
- Equipping people to adopt a regular rhythm of prayer through morning, midday and evening guided prayer times
- Encouraging individuals to consider the religious life and the testing of vocation.

Financial review

Results for the year

The financial statements for the year are set out on pages 5 to 7. The Receipts and Payments Account on page 5 reflects a surplus for the year of £6,296 (2022: £10,345). Total reserves, including restricted funds, amounted to £31,038 (2022: £24,742).

Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted charitable expenditure. They consider that this will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered. We are pleased to report that we have maintained reserves of £21,732 and carried over £9,306 in additional funds for the building and launch of our new app.

Thanks

The trustees are immensely grateful for the generosity of the religious communities, trusts, churches and individual donors who funded us during the year, and would specifically like to thank:

- Community of St Mary the Virgin
- Community of St John Baptist
- Community of St Francis
- Pershore, Nashdom and Elmore Trust
- Christ the Saviour Monastic Trust
- Diocese of Oxford
- Souter Charitable Trust
- Gladiator Trust
- An anonymous religious community
- Individuals who gave generously to our app appeal

We would also like to extend deep thanks and appreciation to the volunteers who provide invaluable support for Discovering Prayer's website development, administration, script editing and recordings.

The accounts were approved by the trustees on 29 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Michelle Eyre
Trustee

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2023

I report to the trustees on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023 which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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

Alison Franks

Alison Franks CA
Director
Cornerstone Accounting

11 Erngath Road
Bo'ness
EH51 9DP

Date: 29 November 2023

Discovering Prayer CIO

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended 31 August 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £
Receipts						
Subscriptions						
One-off	165	-	165	600	-	600
Annual	6,555	-	6,555	7,860	-	7,860
Monthly	1,311	-	1,311	1,549	-	1,549
Bursary	180	-	180	213	-	213
Donations						
Major donors	6,643	-	6,643	-	-	-
Diocese and church donations	1,500	-	1,500	-	-	-
Personal donors	124	1,220	1,344	568	2,593	3,161
Gift Aid	109	-	109	-	-	-
Grant income	52,220	7,280	59,500	43,539	12,858	56,397
Fundraising income	-	-	-	-	13,933	13,933
Total receipts	68,807	8,500	77,307	54,329	29,384	83,713
Payments						
Fundraising costs						
Marketing and social media costs	3,777	-	3,777	2,303	1,685	3,988
Donation collection fees	299	-	299	369	-	369
Fundraising dinner	-	-	-	-	720	720
Charitable activities						
Salary costs	35,369	-	35,369	32,274	3,856	36,130
Contractor costs	14,999	-	14,999	15,524	-	15,524
Other staff costs	249	-	249	-	-	-
Personal customer service	1,100	-	1,100	1,465	-	1,465
Conferences and retreats	330	-	330	442	-	442
Expert Reviewer costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Recording costs	2,731	-	2,731	663	-	663
App design/development costs	-	7,500	7,500	-	7,500	7,500
Resources	65	-	65	280	-	280
Travel and subsistence	182	-	182	393	-	393
Insurance	319	-	319	319	-	319
IT and website costs	1,415	-	1,415	3,491	-	3,491
Equipment costs	69	-	69	-	-	-
Business address	383	-	383	435	-	435
Administration costs	439	-	439	434	-	434
Charitable donation - Christian Aid	1,020	-	1,020	-	-	-
Bank charges	57	-	57	33	-	33
Accounting costs	108	-	108	482	-	482
Independent examiner's costs:						
Accounts production	300	-	300	400	-	400
Independent examination	300	-	300	300	-	300
Total payments	63,511	7,500	71,011	59,607	13,761	73,368
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	5,296	1,000	6,296	(5,278)	15,623	10,345
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) after transfers	5,296	1,000	6,296	(5,278)	15,623	10,345
Total funds brought forward	16,436	8,306	24,742	21,714	(7,317)	14,397
Total funds carried forward	21,732	9,306	31,038	16,436	8,306	24,742

The notes on page 7 form part of these financial statements.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Statement of Balances

As at 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023			2022		
		Opening balance £	Surplus for year £	Closing balance £	Opening balance £	Surplus for year £	Closing balance £
Cash at bank and in hand							
Current account		24,742	6,296	31,038	14,397	10,345	24,742
Total cash at bank and in hand		24,742	6,296	31,038	14,397	10,345	24,742
Represented by:							
Unrestricted fund	2						
General fund				21,732			16,436
				<u>21,732</u>			<u>16,436</u>
Restricted funds	3						
App fund				9,306			8,306
				<u>9,306</u>			<u>8,306</u>
Total funds				<u>31,038</u>			<u>24,742</u>
Statement of assets at 31 August 2023				2023			2022
				£			£
Staff salary overpayment				751			-
Reclaim due from HMRC				339			-
				<u>1,090</u>			<u>-</u>
Statement of liabilities at 31 August 2023				2023			2022
				£			£
Accounting and independent examination fees				600			600
Pension payable				247			247
App design fee due				-			7,500
Charitable donation to Christian Aid (due for 2022)				-			1,020
PAYE payable				-			266
				<u>847</u>			<u>9,633</u>

The financial statements on pages 5 to 7 were approved by the trustees on 29 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by the undernoted:



Michelle Eyre
Trustee

The notes on page 7 form part of these financial statements.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Receipts and Payments Account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments Account as shown on page 5, funds are defined as follows:

Unrestricted funds comprise donations, grants and other income received for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds comprise income which has been received for the objects of the charity and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

2. Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1.9.22 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.8.23 £
General fund	16,436	68,807	(63,511)	-	21,732
Total unrestricted funds	16,436	68,807	(63,511)	-	21,732

Explanation of funds

The *General fund* represents all income and expenditure relating to the primary focus activities of the charity, other than those for which funding is restricted.

3. Restricted funds

	Balance at 1.9.22 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.8.23 £
App fund	8,306	8,500	(7,500)	-	9,306
Total restricted funds	8,306	8,500	(7,500)	-	9,306

Explanation of funds

The *App fund* represents funds received towards the development of a new mobile application for guided prayers.

4. Donated facilities and services

We are grateful for the office space at St Andrew's Church, Linton Road, Oxford, which allows us to be at the heart of this prayerful community. We also acknowledge the contribution of an amazing team of volunteers who contribute to audio design, editorial guidance, bookkeeping as well as our wonderful trustees who contribute their expertise in prayer, website design, finance, HR, marketing and fundraising.

5. Trustee and related party remuneration and expenses

Michelle Eyre, who is a trustee, is employed by the charity as Chief Executive. The remuneration paid, including pension costs, in the financial year was £34,013 (2022: £34,070).

Robert Eyre, who is a trustee, maintains the website as a volunteer. This represents a gift in kind of £5,000 per annum which the charity would otherwise need to outsource.

There were no remuneration or expenses paid to any of the other trustees or their related parties during the period ending 31 August 2023 (2022: nil), other than the reimbursement of direct costs paid on behalf of the charity.

DISCOVERING PRAYER CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1190396

Accounts

Charity number: 1190396

Discovering Prayer CIO

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2022

Discovering Prayer CIO

Contents of the Financial Statements *for the year ended 31 August 2022*

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1
Report of the Independent Examiner	4
Receipts and Payments Account	5
Statement of Balances	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2022

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2022.

Principal office

Suite 261
266 Banbury Road
Oxford
OX2 7DL

Status of Charity and Governing Document

Discovering Prayer CIO was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 14 July 2020. The organisation was previously incorporated as a private limited company called Discoveringprayer.com Ltd (Company number 09177881) from 15 August 2014 until its dissolution in 2021. The charity registration number is 1190396.

Trustees and Office Bearers

Management of the charity remains with the trustees. The constitution requires a minimum of three trustees and a maximum of 12 to serve at any time.

The trustees who served from the date of registration to the date of this report are:

Michelle Eyre
Robert Eyre
Daniel Heyward
Kate Jefferyes
Timothy Pottle

Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee will be appointed for a period of three years by a resolution passed at a trustee meeting. Any person retiring as a charity trustee is then eligible for reappointment.

Objectives

The charity's objects, as laid out in its governing document, are:

'To advance or enlighten others about the Christian faith by encouraging people to explore prayer and spirituality in their lives, to deepen their relationship with God, but not limited to:

- The development and promotion of prayer resources, educational training materials and courses;
- The hosting and/or facilitation of prayer meetings;
- The hosting and/or facilitation of retreats; and
- The teaching of ancient practices of the Religious Life of Anglican and other Christian denominations in the UK and worldwide.'

Vision

Our vision is for everyone to have a joyful and fulfilling relationship with God.

Our goals are to:

1. Help people to deepen their relationship with God through prayer

Many people want to pray, but don't know how to get started. There is a wealth of experience and guidance available in prayer through the lives of Christian monks and nuns, and we aim to help people benefit from this daily.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2022

Vision (continued)

2. Research and teach the best ways to help people learn to pray

We hope to glorify God in our teaching on prayer and that means learning the best, most evidence-based ways that we can help people to flourish in their walk with God. We will continue to develop best practice in researching what we do and teaching those in the church who are keen to learn more about fostering prayer in their communities.

3. Give generously to the worldwide community

We believe that prayer is always linked to action, in our homes, our communities and throughout the world. We pray for others and take action that supports communities that care for those in need.

Activities and achievements

We are delighted to report that, over the course of the year, we:

- Recorded and released 32 new guided prayer times and interviews with nuns and monks.
- Created and hosted the *NEW Rhythm of Grace* course. Each prayer time was designed to provide a space for people to bring others to God in prayer and hold them in his presence. The course included five inspirational short talks from Brother John and 100-year-old Brother Herbert from Turvey Abbey. 2,700+ registered to take part, and people reported notable improvements in their prayer life and mental wellbeing in a post-course survey. One participant, Rachel, wrote, *'My daily prayer time is increasing, and I feel more and more in touch with God and am finding it easier to put myself in God's presence. My intercessory prayers for other people are feeling more meaningful and deeper all the time.'*
- Invited 1,300+ to learn the practice of stopping and stilling themselves in prayer through the *Christ-Centred Mindfulness* course. This offered both Christian theory through inspiring daily interviews with mindfulness expert, Revd Shaun Lambert, and prayerful practice through daily guided meditations focusing on scripture and incorporating increasing periods of silence. 64% of respondents to a post-course survey rated it 'excellent'. Bernadette wrote, *'Thank you. Without this spiritual encounter, which was made possible by you, I was lost. It has touched my life in so many ways.'*
- Worked with app developer Fruto to create the design, functionality and pathways of an exciting new mobile app.
- Continued to provide a library of 200+ guided prayer times in a range of styles of Christian prayer.
- Diversified our funding streams, holding a successful major donor event and individual appeal for the first time.

Future plans

In the year to 31 August 2023, we will seek to help people find peace, strength and deeper communion with God through prayer, even in volatile and challenging circumstances. To do this, we aim to:

Build a transformational new prayer app

- We want to simplify and enrich people's experience of praying with us by building, testing, refining and launching a new mobile app.

Record new guided prayers

- We aim to record at least 30 more guided prayer times, with the ultimate goal of producing prayer times covering the whole of St John's Gospel.

Create a new course

- *Still Small Voice: 10 Ways to Go Deeper in Prayer* – we will host and widely promote a brand-new, foundational course which will include inspiring interviews with nuns and monks.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2022

Future plans (continued)

Introduce more people to the riches of monasticism

- Enabling participants to ask nuns and monks questions about prayer and to benefit from their insights.
- Inviting people to go on retreats hosted by a range of religious communities.
- Equipping people to adopt a regular rhythm of prayer through morning, midday and evening guided prayer times.
- Encouraging individuals to consider the religious life and the testing of vocation.

Financial review

Results for the year

The financial statements for the year are set out on pages 5 to 8. The Receipts and Payments Account on page 4 reflects a new surplus for the year of £10,345 (2021: £14,397). Total reserves, including restricted funds, amounted to £24,742 (2021: £14,397).

Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered. This currently equates to a working reserve policy of £15,000 which we have met at the year-end.

Thanks

The trustees are immensely grateful for the generosity of the religious communities, trusts, churches and individual donors who funded us during the year, and would specifically like to thank:

- Community of St Mary the Virgin
- Community of St John Baptist
- Community of All Hallows
- Pershore, Nashdom and Elmore Trust
- Christ the Saviour Monastic Trust
- Souter Charitable Trust
- Gladiator Trust
- An anonymous religious community
- Individuals who gave generously to our app appeal

We would also like to extend our thanks and appreciation to the volunteers who provide valuable support for Discovering Prayer's website development, administration, script editing and recordings.

The accounts were approved by the trustees on 5 December 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Michelle Eyre
Trustee

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees for the year ended 31 August 2022

I report to the trustees on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2022 which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. 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 seeks explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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

Alison Franks

Alison Franks CA
Director
Cornerstone Accounting

11 Erngath Road
Bo'ness
EH51 9DP

Date: 5 December 2022

Discovering Prayer CIO

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended 31 August 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Receipts						
<i>Subscriptions</i>						
One-off	600	-	600	580	-	580
Annual	7,860	-	7,860	8,864	-	8,864
Monthly	1,549	-	1,549	1,776	-	1,776
Bursary	213	-	213	171	-	171
<i>Donations</i>						
Personal	568	2,593	3,161	420	-	420
Grant income	43,539	12,858	56,397	40,000	7,858	47,858
Fundraising income	-	13,933	13,933	-	-	-
Transfer from Discoveringprayer.com Ltd	-	-	-	18,843	-	18,843
Total receipts	54,329	29,384	83,713	70,654	7,858	78,512
Payments						
<i>Fundraising costs</i>						
Marketing and social media costs	2,303	1,685	3,988	6,157	-	6,157
Fundraising dinner	-	720	720	-	-	-
Donation collection fees	369	-	369	329	-	329
<i>Charitable activities</i>						
Salary costs	32,274	3,856	36,130	33,233	12,775	46,008
Contractor costs	15,524	-	15,524	-	-	-
Other staff costs	-	-	-	947	-	947
Personal customer service	1,465	-	1,465	1,663	-	1,663
Conferences and retreats	442	-	442	150	-	150
Expert Reviewer costs	-	-	-	25	2,400	2,425
Recording costs	663	-	663	235	-	235
App design costs	-	7,500	7,500	-	-	-
Resources	280	-	280	-	-	-
Travel and subsistence	393	-	393	371	-	371
Insurance	319	-	319	311	-	311
IT and website costs	3,491	-	3,491	1,578	-	1,578
Equipment costs	-	-	-	760	-	760
Business address	435	-	435	400	-	400
Administration costs	434	-	434	45	-	45
Legal fees	-	-	-	2,250	-	2,250
Bank charges	33	-	33	29	-	29
Accounting costs	482	-	482	457	-	457
Independent examiner's costs:						
Accounts production	400	-	400	-	-	-
Independent examination	300	-	300	-	-	-
Total payments	59,607	13,761	73,368	48,940	15,175	64,115
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(5,278)	15,623	10,345	21,714	(7,317)	14,397
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) after transfers	(5,278)	15,623	10,345	21,714	(7,317)	14,397
Total funds brought forward	21,714	(7,317)	14,397	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward	16,436	8,306	24,742	21,714	(7,317)	14,397

The notes on pages 7 to 8 form part of these financial statements.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Statement of Balances

As at 31 August 2022

	Notes	2022			2021		
		Opening balance £	Surplus for year £	Closing balance £	Opening balance £	Surplus for year £	Closing balance £
Cash at bank and in hand							
Current account		14,397	10,345	24,742	-	14,397	14,397
Total cash at bank and in hand		14,397	10,345	24,742	-	14,397	14,397
Represented by:							
Unrestricted fund	2						
General fund				16,436			21,714
				16,436			21,714
Restricted funds	3						
Out of the Cloister fund				-			(7,317)
App fund				8,306			-
NEW Rhythm of Grace fund				-			-
				8,306			(7,317)
Total funds				24,742			14,397
Statement of assets at 31 August 2022				2022			2021
				£			£
Reclaim due from HMRC				-			887
				-			887
Statement of liabilities at 31 August 2022				2022			2021
				£			£
Accounting and independent examination fees				600			600
App design fee due				7,500			-
Charitable donation to Christian Aid (due for 2022)				1,020			-
PAYE payable				266			-
Pension payable				247			215
				9,633			815

The financial statements on pages 5 to 8 were approved by the trustees on 5 December 2022 and signed on their behalf by the undernoted:



Trustee

The notes on pages 7 to 8 form part of these financial statements.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 August 2021

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

Receipts and Payments Account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments account as shown on page 5, funds are defined as follows:

Unrestricted funds comprise donations, grants and other income received for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds comprise income which has been received for the objects of the charity and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

2. Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1.9.21 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.8.22 £
General fund	21,714	54,329	(59,607)	-	16,436
Total unrestricted funds	21,714	54,329	(59,607)	-	16,436

Explanation of funds

The *General fund* represents all income and expenditure relating to the primary focus activities of the charity, other than those for which funding is restricted.

3. Restricted funds

	Balance at 1.9.21 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.8.22 £
Out of the Cloister fund	(7,317)	7,858	(541)	-	-
App fund	-	16,526	(8,220)	-	8,306
NEW Rhythm of Grace fund	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	(7,317)	29,384	(13,761)	-	8,306

Explanation of funds

The *Out of the Cloister fund* represents funds received towards a six-month project to create the 14-Day Prayer Challenge.

The *App fund* represents funds received towards the development of a new mobile application for guided prayers.

The *NEW Rhythm of Grace fund* represents funds received towards the production of a new guided prayer resource.

4. Donated facilities and services

We are grateful for the office space at St Andrew's Church, Linton Road, Oxford, which allows us to be at the heart of this prayerful community. We also acknowledge the contribution of an amazing team of volunteers who contribute to audio design, editorial guidance, bookkeeping as well as our wonderful trustees who contribute their expertise in prayer, website design, finance, HR, marketing and fundraising.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 August 2021

5. Trustee and related party remuneration and expenses

Michelle Eyre, who is a trustee, is employed by the Charity as Chief Executive. The remuneration paid, including pension costs, in the financial year was £34,070 (2021: £27,539).

There were no remuneration or expenses paid to any of the other trustees or their related parties during the period ending 31 August 2022 (2021: nil), other than the reimbursement of direct costs paid on behalf of the charity.

DISCOVERING PRAYER CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1190396

Accounts

Charity number: 1190396

Discovering Prayer CIO

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 August 2021

Discovering Prayer CIO

Contents of the Financial Statements *for the period ended 31 August 2021*

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1
Report of the Independent Examiner	4
Receipts and Payments Account	5
Statement of Balances	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the period ended 31 August 2021

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the period ended 31 August 2021.

Principal office

Suite 261
266 Banbury Road
Oxford
OX2 7DL

Status of Charity and Governing Document

Discovering Prayer CIO was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 14 July 2020. The organisation was previously incorporated as a private limited company called Discoveringprayer.com Ltd (Company number 09177881) from 15 August 2014 until its dissolution in 2021. The charity registration number is 1190396.

Trustees and Office Bearers

Management of the charity remains with the Trustees. The constitution requires a minimum of 3 trustees and a maximum of 12 to serve at any time.

The Trustees who served from the date of registration to the date of this report are:

Michelle Eyre	(appointed for 1 year)
Robert Eyre	(appointed for 4 years)
Daniel Heyward	(appointed for 2 years)
Kate Jefferyes	(appointed for 3 years)
Timothy Pottle	(appointed for 2 years)

Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee will be appointed for a period of three years by a resolution passed at a Trustees meeting. Any person retiring as a charity trustee is then eligible for reappointment.

Objectives

The Charity's objects, as laid out in its governing document, are:

'To advance or enlighten others about the Christian faith by encouraging people to explore prayer and spirituality in their lives, to deepen their relationship with God, but not limited to:

- The development and promotion of prayer resources, educational training materials and courses;
- The hosting and/or facilitation of prayer meetings;
- The hosting and/or facilitation of retreats; and
- The teaching of ancient practices of the Religious Life of Anglican and other Christian denominations in the UK and worldwide.'

Vision

Our vision is for everyone to have a joyful and fulfilling relationship with God.

Our goals are to:

1. Help people to deepen their relationship with God through prayer

Many people want to pray, but don't know how to get started. There is a wealth of experience and guidance available in prayer through the lives of Christian monks and nuns, and we aim to help people benefit from this daily.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the period ended 31 August 2021

Vision (continued)

2. **Research and teach the best ways to help people learn to pray**

We hope to glorify God in our teaching on prayer and that means learning the best, most evidence-based ways that we can help people to flourish in their walk with God. We will continue to develop best practice in researching what we do and teaching those in the church who are keen to learn more about fostering prayer in their communities.

3. **Giving generously to the worldwide community**

We believe that prayer is always linked to action, in our homes, our communities and throughout the world. We pray for others and take action that supports communities that care for those in need.

Activities and achievements

We are delighted to report that, over the course of the year, we:

- Hosted a total of 37,906 individual prayer times using the Discovering Prayer website, which people view both as an online community and a resource to inspire prayer
- Created the *14-Day Prayer Challenge for Peace*. This innovative two-week prayer programme combined insights from nuns and monks from four Christian traditions with guided prayer times for 1,886 people across three continents – Europe, Southern Africa and the United States
- Invited 2,689 people into a gentle rhythm of daily prayer through the six-week prayer series, *Rhythm of Grace*
- Continued to provide a library of 200+ guided prayer times in a range of styles of Christian prayer.
- Achieved charitable status and changed the structure of the organisation from a private limited company to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
- Moved towards financial stability, raising £78,512, a 35% increase on the previous year through our previous limited company.

Over 445 people took part in surveys or got in touch to say how much Discovering Prayer had helped them – including Barbara, a *14-Day Prayer Challenge* participant, who wrote,

'Each day, I feel as though I am entering into a holy place, like a chapel where the door has been purposefully left open, for me to enter in. It feels wonderfully personal (just for me) but also like His big open arms welcoming me into a beautiful sense of the community of God. I have tears in my eyes as I write, as only Jesus knows how very much I have needed this.'

Future plans

In the year to 31 August 2022, we will seek to respond flexibly to the changing pandemic so we can help people find peace and strength through prayer, even in difficult circumstances. We aim to do this by:

Recording new guided prayers

- *Absorbing God's Word*. We want to record 30 more guided prayer times for this series with the ultimate aim of producing prayer times covering the whole of St John's Gospel

Creating new short courses

- NEW *Rhythm of Grace* in November
- *Christ-Centred Mindfulness* in January
- NEW Discovering Prayer Course Plus, a brand-new course, always available, and including inspiring interviews with nuns and monks

Rerunning a popular existing course

- *14-Day Prayer Challenge for Peace* in the summer

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Trustees for the period ended 31 August 2021

Future plans (continued)

Revitalising the website

- We will refresh the website in order to improve the user experience.

Financial review

Results for the year

The financial statements for the year are set out on pages 5 to 8. The Receipts and Payments Account on page 4 reflects a surplus for the year of £14,397. Total reserves, including restricted funds, amounted to £14,397.

Reserves policy

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The Trustees consider that this level will provide sufficient funds to respond to applications for grants and ensure that support and governance costs are covered. This currently equates to a working reserve policy of £15,000 which we have met at the year-end.

Thanks

The Trustees are immensely grateful for the generosity of the religious communities, trusts, churches and individual donors who funded us during the year, and would specifically like to thank:

- Community of St Mary the Virgin
- Community of St John Baptist
- Community of All Hallows
- Pershore, Nashdom and Elmore Trust
- Christ the Saviour Monastic Trust
- Sir Halley Stewart Trust
- Westhill Endowment
- Souter Charitable Trust
- Gladiator Trust
- Anchor Foundation
- Two anonymous religious communities

We would also like to extend our thanks and appreciation to the volunteers who provide valuable support for Discovering Prayer's website development, administration, script editing and recordings.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 18 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Michelle Eyre
Trustee

Discovering Prayer CIO

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees for the period ended 31 August 2021

I report to the Trustees on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 31 August 2021 which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. 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. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. 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 seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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

Alison Franks

Alison Franks CA
Director
Cornerstone Accounting

11 Erngath Road
Bo'ness
EH51 9DP

Date: 18 January 2022

Discovering Prayer CIO

Receipts and Payments Account

For the period ended 31 August 2021

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Receipts			
Subscriptions			
One-off	580	-	580
Annual	8,864	-	8,864
Monthly	1,776	-	1,776
Bursary	171	-	171
Donations			
Personal	420	-	420
Grant income	40,000	7,858	47,858
Transfer from Discoveringprayer.com Ltd	18,843	-	18,843
Total receipts	70,654	7,858	78,512
Payments			
<i>Fundraising costs</i>			
Marketing costs	6,157	-	6,157
Donation collection fees	329	-	329
<i>Charitable activities</i>			
Salary costs	33,233	12,775	46,008
Other staff costs	947	-	947
Personal customer service	1,663	-	1,663
Conferences and retreats	150	-	150
Expert Reviewer costs	25	2,400	2,425
Recording costs	235	-	235
Travel and subsistence	371	-	371
Insurance	311	-	311
IT and website costs	1,578	-	1,578
Equipment costs	760	-	760
Business address	400	-	400
Administration costs	45	-	45
Legal fees	2,250	-	2,250
Bank charges	29	-	29
Accounting costs	457	-	457
Total payments	48,940	15,175	64,115
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	21,714	(7,317)	14,397
Transfer between funds	-	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) after transfers	21,714	(7,317)	14,397
Total funds brought forward	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward	21,714	(7,317)	14,397

The notes on pages 7 to 8 form part of these financial statements.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Statement of Balances

As at 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021		
		Opening balance £	Surplus for year £	Closing balance £
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current account		-	14,397	14,397
Total cash at bank and in hand		-	14,397	14,397
Represented by:				
Unrestricted fund	2			
General fund				21,714
				<u>21,714</u>
Restricted funds	3			
Out of the Cloister				(7,317)
				<u>(7,317)</u>
Total funds				<u><u>14,397</u></u>
Statement of assets at 30 June 2021				2021
				£
Reclaim due from HMRC				887
				<u>887</u>
Statement of liabilities at 30 June 2021				2021
				£
Accounting and independent examination fees				600
PAYE payable				-
Pension payable				215
				<u>815</u>

The financial statements on pages 5 to 8 were approved by the Trustees on 18 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by the undernoted:



Michelle Eyre
Trustee

The notes on pages 7 to 8 form part of these financial statements.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Notes to the financial statements

for the period ended 31 August 2021

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, on a receipts and payments basis and in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Receipts and Payments Account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments account as shown on page 5, funds are defined as follows:

Unrestricted funds comprise donations, grants and other income received for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds comprise income which has been received for the objects of the charity and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

2. Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 14.7.20	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31.8.21
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	-	70,654	(48,940)	-	21,714
Total unrestricted funds	-	70,654	(48,940)	-	21,714

Explanation of funds

The *General fund* represents all income and expenditure relating to the primary focus activities of the charity, other than those for which funding is restricted.

3. Restricted funds

	Balance at 14.7.20	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31.8.21
	£	£	£	£	£
Out of the Cloister	-	7,858	(15,175)	-	(7,317)
Total restricted funds	-	7,858	(15,175)	-	(7,317)

Explanation of funds

The Out of the Cloister fund represents funds received towards a 6 month project to create a 14 day prayer challenge. A further grant receipt of £7,858 is due to be paid in the new financial year to cover the deficit.

4. Donated facilities and services

We are grateful for the office space at St Andrew's Church, Linton Road, Oxford, which allows us to be at the heart of this prayerful community. We also acknowledge the contribution of an amazing team of volunteers who contribute to audio design, editorial guidance, bookkeeping as well as our wonderful trustees who contribute their expertise in prayer, website design, finance, HR, marketing and fundraising.

Discovering Prayer CIO

Notes to the financial statements

for the period ended 31 August 2021

5. Trustee and related party remuneration and expenses

Michelle Eyre, who is a Trustee, is employed by the Charity as Chief Executive. The remuneration paid, including pension costs, in the financial year was £27,539.

There were no remuneration or expenses paid to any of the other Trustees or their related parties during the period ending 31 August 2021, other than the reimbursement of direct costs paid on behalf of the Charity.

6. Comparatives

As this is the first year of the organisation, no comparatives have been provided.