

Charity Number	1192346
Company number	CE023860

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Report and Accounts

for the year

31 December 2023

the **L I G H T** church

The Light Church • The Jubilee Centre• Jermyn Street • Bradford W Yorks • BD1 4EJ

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Report and Accounts for the year to 31 December 2023

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THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Trust Information
for the year to 31 December 2023

Charity Number	1192346	
Company number	CE023860	
Trustees	Peter Geoffrey McMahon (Chairman) Peter Jonathan Edward Snell Florence Sakufiwa Carol Joy Ball Jason Stokes Daniel Bullen	Appointed 23/10/2023
Address	The Light Church The Jubilee Centre Jermyn Street Bradford West Yorkshire BD1 4EJ	
Independent Examiner	S J Sutcliffe FCCA Torevell Dent Limited 1-3 St Ann's Place Pellon Lane Halifax HX1 5RB	
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank plc 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP	

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Trustees Annual Report for the year to 31 December 2023

The trustees present their Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The Light Church Bradford Trust is a CIO FOUNDATION registered 16 Nov 2020.

Trustees

Peter Geoffrey McMahon (Chairman)
Peter Jonathan Edward Snell
Florence Sakufiwa
Carol Joy Ball
Jason Stokes
Daniel Bullen

Risk Management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the charity are:-

- a) To advance the Christian faith, in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs, in Yorkshire and other parts of the UK or the world
- b) To relieve persons who are in conditions of need or hardship, or who are aged or sick and to relieve the distress caused thereby
- c) To advance education in accordance with Christian principles

Annual report 2023 - Church activity commentary

2023 was our first full year of truly inhabiting our new building, using it to the full, generating income from rentals and refurbishing our top floor to host all of our children's work. It was also a year of significant change and transition in some key roles, but through these changes the church demonstrated the commitment, talent and loyalty that lies within our church family.

The year saw us do what we do best as a church - we joined together to encourage one another in our worship of God, spurring one another on to live lives of love, devotion and active service. We taught the bible, we ran our kids groups, we worshipped together, we shared food, we built community and we served the community beyond our walls. Through home churches, Sunday meetings, youth weekends away, Foodbank and advice centre, Renew Wellbeing and many socials we created a safe place for those with strong faith, those with dwindling faith, and those with none, to come together, experience family and community and find a place of hope.

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Trustees Annual Report (continued) for the year to 31 December 2023

Review of progress and achievements (continued)

As we look back on the year, we would like to give very special mention to our volunteer leadership members and trustee team for the way they navigated the church through significant change in such a way that the church barely felt the impact of it. Matt Barlow, who was our Lead Pastor, gave notice of his time in post coming to an end at the beginning of the year and moved on from post at the end of October. We then celebrated the birth of a baby to Rachel Dawson, our Assistant Pastor which naturally saw her leave for maternity leave in early November. In addition to this, two of our leadership team stepped down due to health concerns. All of this led to increased burdens upon our other leaders and our trustees. In addition to this, we ran two unsuccessful recruitment campaigns for a new Lead Pastor. However, into the gaps our many very capable leaders and trustees stepped up to the plate including two new leaders joining our leadership team and one new trustee joining the trustee team. We are grateful to God for the provision of these amazing people. We are also so proud of our church, who navigated this instability with incredible trust and loyalty. At year end we were still without a Lead Pastor, but our programmes just carried on running and our community carried on functioning, supporting one another so well, and welcoming in new people. Trusting that God would bring the right person or solution, an open ended, flexible recruitment campaign was then launched towards the end of the year.

Financially the church has remained strong, able to meet all of its commitments through the generosity of the church family along with Foodbank raising enough money to cover the costs of hosting it within our building. We were excited to raise an encouraging amount of money from renting out the Jubilee Centre. We entered a partnership with Bradford Theology school to run their one year course once a month. We rented out a section of our top floor to Tech Styles, a community breakdancing company, bringing young people onto our premises. We hosted many meetings for Bradford Forster Academy, a day conference for Makin Dixon, as well as two weddings, the venue proving to be a beautiful wedding venue.

Our vision is to be a family of disciples making disciples, we chose this wording because it reminds everyone that they have a part to play and disciple making isn't just the work of the leaders. We were grateful to everyone who played a part in this, especially our Home Church leaders, our Kids and Youth leaders, our pastoral team, our worship team, our preaching and leading team, all of whom play a direct role in making disciples. We're also grateful for many service teams who enable church life to happen. Throughout the year, because of everyone's hard work and the power of the Holy Spirit, we have seen many grown and strengthen in their faith as well as those coming to faith for the first time with 8 people getting baptised in the year.

Foodbank & Advice Centre

The Cost of Living Crisis deepened this year, pushing even more families into food crisis than Covid. With less food donations coming in we saw our lowest levels of food in stock. But the whole community came together to give their time and donations and we still met the need.

We fed 16,184 people and gave 24,167 meals to help families put food on the table for their children. Families who have nowhere else to turn facing impossible choices every meal time. 139,395kg or £280.00 of food was donated by our generous supporters, schools, churches and the council which is so inspiring when everyone is feeling the pinch. Alongside our emergency 3 day parcels we give away fresh vegetables, bread and other produce. We delivered 2,430 parcels to people who were too ill to leave their houses. Our volunteer drivers stopped them going hungry and cold in their hour of need. We also run a café and served approximately 2,000 free hot meals to people who sometimes haven't eaten for days!

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Trustees Annual Report (continued) for the year to 31 December 2023

Foodbank & Advice Centre cont

We don't just feed families, we also help people with the root cause of their food crisis. The first step is to meet with our wonderful team of sign-posters, who chat to every client to see what more we can do.

We provide expert benefits advice in all our sessions through our partnership with Equality Together. Benefits advice and helping people to apply for the benefits to which they are entitled is key to putting more money in people's pockets so they won't need a Foodbank.

In April we launched one to one Job Coaching in all our sessions backed up by excellent resources from CAP and funded by Yorkshire Building Society. Since April we've coached 122 people, helped write 97 cv's, helped with IT skills and job searching. As a result 12 people secured employment, a further 15 entered into training opportunities and 14 started volunteering.

We have accessed Council funding to provide emergency fuel grants to 1,107 households with these grants and associated budgeting help releasing £110,700 into people's pockets.

Through the Trussell Trust's partnership with Vodafone, we have given out 1,382 free Vodafone SIM cards to help people overcome digital exclusion.

We have also started to provide a Welcome / Warm space on a Monday, Wednesday and Sunday. On a Wednesday this is accompanied by a free hot meal within the Foodbank space.

Many people in food crisis are struggling with their mental health and being alone and 46 people have benefited from our Renew Wellbeing café, a safe space where it's okay not to be okay.

At Christmas we gave out 600 Christmas hampers and hundreds of toys which parents chose for their children.

Ultimately government policy needs to change to put more money into people's pockets as Universal Credit simply isn't enough money for people to live on. The media is a key to raising the voice of the voiceless and powerless to say this isn't fair, it's not right. We've been featured on Look North, ITV Calendar News, Radio 4, Heart Radio, Capital Radio and local BCBC radio regularly campaigning to 'Guarantee our Essentials'.

Our wonderful team of 80 volunteers along with our supporters made all this possible. We have all stepped up to the mark to say I'm willing to do what I can to help. As a result we have all achieved something very remarkable together.

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Trustees Annual Report (continued) for the year to 31 December 2023

Financial Review

Full details of the financial transactions are contained in the attached accounts. The total incoming resources for the year were £541,734 (2022 : £969,442) and, after deduction resources expended of £543,797 (2022 : £731,915), the net expenditure resources were £2,063 (2022 Incoming resources : £237,527).

The net assets of the Charity at 31 December 2023 were £670,653 (2022 : £672,716).

Summary

With the changes in leadership, it is fair to say that 2023 wasn't perhaps the vision-rich, ambitious year that we may have wanted it to be. But it was a year that demonstrated the faithfulness and commitment of our church. A year that demonstrated great trust in the God who the church belongs to anyway. As we look back we celebrate many small acts of goodness and kindness both within our church family and outwards towards the community that we are there to serve. Jesus said, 'They will know you are mine by your love for one another,' and we look back with thanks that this has been demonstrated in so many ways.

The Trustees Report was approved on...15th July..... 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



P McMahon
Chair of Trustees

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities for the year to 31 December 2023

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charity Act 2011 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SOP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Light Church Bradford

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year to 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- 1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respects, the requirements
 - (a) To keep accounting records in accordance with S130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - (b) To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



S J Sutcliffe FCCA.

Torevell Dent Limited
Chartered Certified Accountant
1-3 St Ann's Place
Pellon Lane
Halifax
HX1 5RB

Date:

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 December 2023

				Year to 31-Dec-23	Year to 31-Dec-22
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Incoming Resources:					
Incoming for generated funds:					
Voluntary income		259,729	-	-	259,729
Investment income	2	2,217	-	-	2,217
Transfer from The Light Church Trust		-	-	-	-
Other Income		279,788	-	-	279,788
Total Income		541,734	-	-	541,734
Resources Expended:					
Costs of generating funds:					
Charitable activities		529,402	-	13,285	542,687
Governance costs		1,110	-	-	1,110
Total Expenditure		530,512	-	13,285	543,797
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		11,222	-	(13,285)	(2,063)
Funds Brought forward		549,488	50,000	73,228	672,716
Transfer between Funds re Discretionary Fund		-	28,179	(28,179)	-
Balance as at 31 December 2023		560,710	78,179	31,764	670,653

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

			Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds £	Year to 31-Dec-23 Total Funds £	Year to 31-Dec-22 Total Funds £
	Notes						
Fixed Assets							
Tangible assets	5		1,064,106	-	-	1,064,106	1,090,384
Current Assets							
Debtors	6		2,349	-	-	2,349	2,914
Cash at bank			128,974	78,179	31,764	238,917	222,872
			131,323	78,179	31,764	241,266	225,786
Creditors:							
Amounts falling due within one year	7		(2,618)	-	-	(2,618)	(5,611)
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			1,192,811	78,179	31,764	1,302,754	1,310,559
Creditors due in more than one year							
Loan	8		(632,101)	-	-	(632,101)	(637,843)
Net Assets			<u>560,710</u>	<u>78,179</u>	<u>31,764</u>	<u>670,653</u>	<u>672,716</u>
Funds							
Unrestricted funds	9					560,710	549,488
Designated	9					78,179	50,000
Restricted funds	9					31,764	73,228
						<u>670,653</u>	<u>672,716</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 15th July 2024 and signed on their behalf by:-



P McMahon
Chair of Trustees

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Notes to the Accounts for the year to 31 December 2023

1. Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting by Charities 2005 and the Charities Act 2011.

b) Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

c) Resources Expended

Resources expended comprise all expenditure directly relating to the objects of the charity. When necessary, costs are allocated between direct charitable expenditure, fund raising and management and administration on an equitable basis

d) Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment	- 25% on reducing balance
Building	- 2% on cost
Land	- no depreciation

e) Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

f) Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. Investment Income

	Year to 31-Dec-23	Year to 31-Dec-22
	£	£
Deposit account interest	2,217	294

3. Trustee's Remuneration and Benefits

There were no trustee's remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 (2022 :Nil)

Trustee's Expenses

There were no trustee's expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2023 (2022 :Nil)

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Notes to the Accounts for the year to 31 December 2023

4. Staff Costs		Year to 31-Dec-23 £	Year to 31-Dec-22 £	
Wages and salaries		<u>202,493</u>	<u>193,502</u>	
5. Tangible Fixed Assets				
	<u>Land</u> £	<u>Buildings</u> £	<u>Equipment</u> £	<u>Total</u> £
Costs				
At 1 January 2023	263,617	801,840	57,437	1,122,894
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>263,617</u>	<u>801,840</u>	<u>57,437</u>	<u>1,122,894</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2023	-	16,037	16,473	32,510
Charge for the period	-	16,037	10,241	26,278
Elim on disposal				
At 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>32,074</u>	<u>26,714</u>	<u>58,788</u>
Net Book Value				
At 31 December 2023	<u>263,617</u>	<u>769,766</u>	<u>30,723</u>	<u>1,064,106</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>263,617</u>	<u>785,803</u>	<u>40,964</u>	<u>1,090,384</u>
6. Debtors		Year to 31-Dec-23 £	Year to 31-Dec-22 £	
Trade debtors		<u>2,349</u>	<u>2,914</u>	
7. Creditors		Year to 31-Dec-23 £	Year to 31-Dec-22 £	
Taxation and social security		-	2,993	
Other creditors		2,618	2,618	
		<u>2,618</u>	<u>5,611</u>	

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Notes to the Accounts for the year to 31 December 2023

8 Long term creditors

	At 31-Dec-23 £	At 31-Dec-22 £
Loans from congregation	-	1,825
Other Loans	632,101	636,018
	<u>632,101</u>	<u>637,843</u>

9 Movement in Funds

	At 01-Jan-23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfer between funds £	At 31-Dec-23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	549,488	11,222		560,710
Restricted funds	73,228	(13,285)	(28,179)	31,764
Designated Funds				
Foodbank	50,000	-	-	50,000
Discretionary Fund	-	-	28,179	28,179
Total Designated Funds	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,179</u>	<u>78,179</u>
Total funds	<u>672,716</u>	<u>(2,063)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>670,653</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	541,734	(530,512)	11,222
Designated funds			
Foodbank	-	-	-
Discretionary Fund	-	-	-
Restricted funds			
Tithe /Land	-	(13,285)	(13,285)
Total funds	<u>541,734</u>	<u>(543,797)</u>	<u>(2,063)</u>

THE LIGHT CHURCH BRADFORD

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 December 2023

	Year to 31 December 2023		Year to 31 December 2022	
	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources:				
Voluntary income				
Offerings and donations		222,333		229,739
Gift Aid tax reclaimed		37,396		41,370
Other income		279,788		698,039
		<u>539,517</u>		<u>969,148</u>
Investment Income				
Bank interest		<u>2,217</u>		<u>294</u>
Total Incoming Resources		541,734		969,442
Resources Expended:				
Staff salaries and pension	202,493		193,502	
Light, heat, rates and water	12,602		29,333	
Telephone	1,613		2,815	
Postage and stationery	4,807		5,241	
Sundry expenses	1,396		2,226	
Insurance	7,734		8,115	
Hire of premises	-		17,821	
Gifts and other aid	134,220		45,831	
Hospitality and refreshments	14,703		12,267	
Administration fees and licences	3,252		5,590	
Training	2,402		5,232	
Teaching materials	2,861		5,087	
Travelling and volunteers expenses	14,024		23,529	
Equipment and software	13,912		14,570	
Refurbishment costs	13,527		286,500	
Cleaning and maintenance	32,090		12,447	
Advertising	1,142		55	
Bank charges	603		226	
Legal and professional fees	1,468		1,518	
Depreciation	26,278		29,692	
Security	261		1,369	
Loan interest and set up charges	51,299		27,341	
Accountancy	1,110		1,608	
		<u>543,797</u>		<u>731,915</u>
Net income		<u><u>(2,063)</u></u>		<u><u>237,527</u></u>