Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 14/08/2023 **To** 13/08/2024

Charity name: National Estate Churches Network

Charity registration number: 1192423

Objectives and Activities

The purposes of the charity are the advancement of education through developing and promoting Christian faith communities for the purpose of shaping church policy and supporting community development, learning, social cohesion, sustainability and well-being in the social housing estates of England and Wales.

The main activities of the charity in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts:

- Monthly newsletter sent to front line workers supporting communities on social housing estates.
- Regular social media posts to Facebook and Twitter promoting resources to support front line workers.
- Facilitation of local groups of front-line workers.
- Website highlighting resources for those in estates ministry to use and sharing positive stories of ministry to encourage others through written articles/video interviews and podcasts.
- Conferences to support Christians who work/live in social housing estates.
- One to one support via phone/e-mail contact to direct front line workers to relevant resources/specific sources of support.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commissioner on public benefit.

The charity does not make any grants

The charity is grateful to the volunteer local hub leaders as well as to the trustees who lead the strategic direction of the organisation.

Achievements and Performance

The main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole:

- Over 700 front line church leaders based on social housing estates receive the monthly newsletter providing resources and support for their work in the communities in which they serve.
- Around 15 local groups are operating to provide a means for local leaders to support and learn from each other. New groups are being encouraged and new contacts made through links with Church of England diocesan estate focal leads and others

- Website including ‘NECN directory’ to assist estate church leaders in finding resources for leadership training, supporting their communities through social action projects, specialist ministries etc.
- Inspiring and encouraging church leaders on social housing estates by sharing others’ stories through website, videos and podcasts.
- The Executive Director represents the charity at events with key partners eg Church Urban Fund, Churches Together in England (of which the charity is a Body in Association)
- London regional conference in February 2024 with over 40 attendees.
- Two national conferences held in autumn 2023 at Sheffield Cathedral and Bristol attended by a mix of practioners and support organisations
- 20th anniversary birthday party events held at different locations across the country with material being gathered for a booklet and podcast on prayer.

Financial Review

Financial position at the end of the period

Total receipts:	£ 31,475.81
Total expenditure:	£ 34,366.88
Net deficit:	£ 2,891.07

Designated funds are as follows:

- £435 of a £600 Grant from Society of Retreat Conductors for retreat postponed in May 2020 due to Covid. £165 deposit paid for a retreat booked for November 2024
- £1,000 has been allocated as redundancy provision based on the tenure of the staff

Unrestricted funds provide a cash-flow buffer and supports the general operations of the charity.

The charity had reserves of £23,241.24 at the end of the financial year of which £1,435 were designated.

Additional information

The charity received two grants during the year from the Church of England (£20k) and URC (£2k) national church bodies that covered the majority of the cost of employment of the two part-time members of staff during 2023-24.

Both grant making organisations have indicated that they will make further grants in 2024-25, albeit the Church of England grant reduces to £17k.

The trustees are aware of the need to identify additional sources of income to maintain and/or expand the paid staff team.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity's governing document is a foundation constitution. The charity is a CIO

New trustees are elected to post by the charity's existing trustees.

Additional information

The charity has informal partnership arrangements with over 40 para-church organisations that support front line work of churches in social housing estates.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	National Estate Churches Network
Other name the charity uses	NECN
Registered charity number	1192423
	c/o Barking Lodge Verulam Avenue Walthamstow LONDON E17 8ES
Bank	Metrobank

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Eunice Attwood			
Patricia Brown			
David Champness	Treasurer		
Lynne Cullens	Chair		
Andrew Dorton			
Clare King			
Jonathan Macy	Vice Chair		
Emily McDonald		Elected 27th Nov 2023	
Nigel Poole			
Dean Pusey			
John Rafferty		Period of office ended 27th Nov 2023	
Andrew Turner			

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members

Sara Barron (Executive Director)

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	+Lynne Cullens	*DAV Champness*
Full name(s)	Rt Rev Lynne Cullens	Mr David Champness
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Trustee and Treasurer

Date	27/11/24	27/11/24

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
National Estate Churches Network	1192423

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	14/08/2023		13/08/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	23,542	-	-	23,542	54,448
Donations	1,669	-	-	1,669	1,371
Tax refund for gift aided donations	775	-	-	775	-
Conference	5,484	-	-	5,484	4,160
Book Royalties	-	-	-	-	500
Other grants	-	-	-	-	-
Misc	5	-	-	5	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	31,476	-	-	31,476	60,478
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	31,476	-	-	31,476	60,478
A3 Payments					
Research	1,542	-	-	1,542	9,500
Conference costs	3,892	-	-	3,892	2,871
Salaries	18,468	-	-	18,468	18,782
Other Employment costs	5,665	-	-	5,665	5,235
Website and IT	-	-	-	-	36
Insurance	173	-	-	173	-
Equipment	477	-	-	477	-
Staff Expenses	3,791	-	-	3,791	3,477
Legal fees		-	-	-	-
Bank Charges	240	-	-	240	398
Memberships	75			75	
Trustee Expenses	44	-	-	44	188
Sub total	34,367	-	-	34,367	40,486
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	34,367	-	-	34,367	40,486
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,891	-	-	- 2,891	19,992
A5 Transfers between funds			-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	26,132		-	26,132	6,140
Cash funds this year end	23,241	-	-	23,241	26,132

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Metro Bank Account	23,241	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	23,241	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Mr David Champness	
		Rt Rev Lynne Cullens	

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name National Estate Churches Network		
On accounts for the year ended	13/08/2024	**Charity no (if any)**	1192423
Set out on pages	5-6		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **13/08/2024.**

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

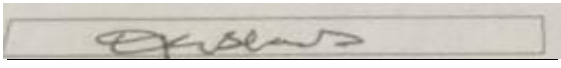
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:		Date:	14/10/24
Name:	Ole Black		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	MA, MSc, Retired senior government economic statistician		
Address:	12 The Hawthorns, Caerleon		
	Newport		
	NP18 1LX		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	