

CORNERSTONE CHURCH GRAYS

Accounts - 30 June 2024

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CORNERSTONE CHURCH GRAYS

General Information

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1192558

TRUSTEES: Jill Brock
Leslie Brock
Eileen Kelly
Karl Newman
Paula Newman
Felix Norman-Williams
Rev Michael Walton (Chair)

ADDRESS: 15 Buttell Close
Grays
Thurrock
RM17 6UN

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: Jason Foxwell FCCA FCIE
39 Enfield Road
Poole
BH15 3LJ

July 2023– June 2024

Cornerstone Church, Grays

Trustees' Annual Report

Report approved by Trustees on 22nd July 2024

Cornerstone Church Grays is a registered charity

Registered Charity Number 1192558

Registered Office: 15, Buttell Close, Grays, Essex, RM17 6UN

Trustees

Eileen Elizabeth Kelly

Felix Ayodele Norman-Williams

Jill Brock

Karl Francis Newman

Leslie John Brock

Michael Roy Walton

Paula Ann Newman

Structure, Governance and Trustee Recruitment

Cornerstone Church, Grays is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

Cornerstone is both a church and a charity. As a church we are led by elders, as outlined in the Bible. As a charity we are required by law to have trustees. Since the elders are the leaders of the church, they are also trustees of the charity. However, there are various administrative, financial and legal tasks required of charities. As such some of the trustees include non-elders to help spread the load and to oversee important areas of ministry.

The trustees are free to govern the charity based on its constitution and the charitable aims stated in the constitution.

From July 2023 to June 2024 the Trustees met 7 times to manage the affairs of the charity.

The charitable members of Cornerstone Church, Grays are the elders of the church. These members, in line with the Cornerstone's constitution, are able to amend the constitution, if necessary.

The charity was formed on the 27th November, 2020. There have been no changes to the Trustee body in the last 12 months.

Activities and objectives in the year

As stated in our constitution our charitable objectives are the advancement of the Christian faith and such other charitable purposes that put the Christian faith into practice.

As a church we held regular Sunday services and mid-week bible studies with the aim of

- Helping existing Christians grow in their faith
- Helping people who are interested, to investigate the Christian faith for themselves.

Achievements and performance including reporting on public benefit

On Sundays, we continue to meet in person at Woodside Academy and for some of the time online via Zoom. We're thankful that individuals who might struggle to join us in person are able to be included via Zoom.

Creche, Sunday School and regular Church Family lunches were able to continue in the last 12 months.

We have had 2 bible study groups running for adults and a separate group for our secondary school aged young people. Some of these have had to stop for a while, whilst our Pastor was off ill for 3 months.

We have continued to support a ministry in Kenya, where Gerald and Louise Mwangi (Crosslinks Mission Partners) serve to train and equip those working with youth and children in Kenyan Anglican churches.

The Sunday services have grown numerically in the last year with now over 40 people regularly worshipping together Sunday by Sunday.

Financial Review

We were blessed that we received a few large one-off donations which boosted our income during the year. Our regular donations from Church family members also increased by a significant amount over the year. Both these factors mean that we were also able to claim around £2,000 more in gift aid than we had budgeted for. Our costs were slightly lower than

anticipated during the year; we underspent in many areas, but then had overspends related to new tech for Sunday morning gatherings and the increased cost of renting Woodside School. We're so thankful that this year our actual income has exceeded our actual expenditure.

We have set aside the following amounts:

Saving towards staff costs after June 2024	£23,834
Reserve	£11,500

The Trustees have agreed the budget for July 2024 to June 2025 based upon:

- Current regular giving from our church family, and from outside of the church family
- Funds that have been set aside to help pay our Pastor.

Reserves Policy

Cornerstone Church will aim to keep reserves equivalent to 3 month's running costs. If our reserves fall below this level, the Trustees will review the budget and adjust accordingly.

Safeguarding

Cornerstone Church Grays is committed to the safeguarding of all children and adults, particularly those with care and support needs, and ensuring their well-being. We use a Christian charity, Thirtyone:eight, who are specialists in safeguarding to support and advise us in this area. Our safeguarding policy is available on our website and in paper form on request and we ask that all those in our church who work with children or vulnerable adults read and understand the policy.

Laurie Eve continues to service as our Safeguarding Co-ordinator (from January 2023).

All our trustees and Sunday School leaders have been through the safer recruitment process and are DBS checked. They have also either completed or are scheduled to complete safeguarding training specific to their role.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CORNERSTONE CHURCH GRAYS

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Cornerstone Church Grays ("the charity" for the year ending 30 June 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity, 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 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.

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



Jason Foxwell FCCA FCIE
independent-examiner.net
39 Enfield Road, Poole, BH15 3LJ

Date: 16 August 2024

CORNERSTONE CHURCH GRAYS

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
RECEIPTS			
Regular donations including gift aid		35,927	28,420
One off donations and collections		8,256	12,659
Total receipts		<u>£44,183</u>	<u>£41,079</u>
PAYMENTS			
Office expenditure		1,908	1,393
AMIE Central costs		1,100	1,100
AMIE Seed money		250	250
AMIE Conference		380	390
Worship expenditure		2,125	3,834
Mission expenditure		2,000	500
Premises hire		5,420	4,770
Insurance		242	242
Licences		479	446
Safeguarding expenditure		1,030	281
Other expenditure		26	55
Staff costs		26,266	21,205
Total payments		<u>£41,226</u>	<u>£34,466</u>
Surplus of receipts over payments		2,957	6,613
Bank balance at 1 July 2023		<u>54,458</u>	<u>47,845</u>
Bank balance at 30 June 2024		<u>£57,415</u>	<u>£54,458</u>

CORNERSTONE CHURCH GRAYS

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 30 June 2024

Assets

The charity has the following bank and cash balances:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Yorkshire account	57,415	54,458
	<u>£57,415</u>	<u>£54,458</u>

Liabilities

None.

Funds

The charity has a number of designated funds which are included in the receipts and payments accounts and asset balances. The respective balances at 30 June 2024 were:

Unrestricted funds

Designated salary fund	23,834	24,150
Designated office equipment fund	-	550
Designated emergency reserve fund	11,500	6,500
General funds	22,081	23,258
	<u>£57,415</u>	<u>£54,458</u>

Approved by the trustees on
and signed on their behalf by

M. R. Walton 15/08/2024

Rev Michael Walton
Chair