

Hope Church, Ashton-in-Makerfield

Reports & Accounts

Financial Year Ending 31/12/2024

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Legal & Administrative Details

Charity Name: Hope Church, Ashton-in-Makerfield

Charity Number: 1193133

Charity Address: 24 Heath Road
Ashton-in-Makerfield
Wigan
WN4 9DY

Trustees: Andrew Parsons

Harold Heath

Howard George Williams

James Edward Magleave

Michael Richard Cornall

Nick Williams

Philip John Robert Davies (Appointed 01/07/2024)

Independent Examiner: Heather Middlehurst

Trustees Report

Objects of the charity

The objects of the CIO are: (1) The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Ashton-in-Makerfield Wigan and the surrounding neighbourhood; and (2) Such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the Charity Trustees, further the work of the Church.

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

To further the above objects and vision, the charity's main activities and achievements were as follows:

The main activities in relation to those objects are the regular meetings of the church. These include the main gathering of the church on Sunday mornings and evenings, as well as regular mid-week groups for church members there are separate events for, children and young people. In addition, throughout the year the church runs various events.

All activities are offered free of charge to ensure they are accessible to all and are regularly promoted and publicised in the local community. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Over the year, we had 9 people baptised; this was a source of real blessing for the church family for which we give thanks to Almighty God.

During the course of the year the Church has run a range of activities and each has been a source of encouragement. The regular Sunday gatherings of the church have been well attended, both by members of the church, regular attenders and those exploring the Christian Faith. It has been particularly encouraging to see good attendance on a Sunday evening.

The church has supported other mission endeavours locally and further afield. Thousands of pounds and many man hours have been given to see God's kingdom extended. We give thanks to God for the work he is doing in the lives of many people in the church family.

The work with children and young people has been a source of encouragement. Following on from difficulties in 2023 a decision was made to develop our youth ministries resulting in XtB (year 6 to younger teens) and Rooted (older teens and young adults) forming. These have gone from strength to strength.

The Church benefits from many voluntary hours and unclaimed out of pocket expenses, contributed by many people. It would be impossible to place a value on these gifts in kind, for which the Trustees are extremely grateful. But through these gifts the Church has been able to meet its objectives.

In planning the activities, the trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

Financial Review

We give thanks to Almighty God for his abundant provision through the generosity of his people. Throughout the year we have been able to cover all our ongoing ministry costs and also add to our building fund.

Reserves Policy

The charity aims to hold unrestricted cash reserves to be able to cover 12 months operating costs, so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £245,859.75.

The church is looking to undertake a building project and therefore is seeking to increase its cash reserves.

Signature

This report was approved by the trustees, and is signed on their behalf by:

Name: Michael Cornall

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M R Cornall', written over a light blue grid background.

Date 30/04/2025

Independent Examiners Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Hope Church, Ashton-in-Makerfield ('the charity') for the year ended 31/12/2024.

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 2011 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 2011 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 accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Independent Examiner's Details

Name: Heather Middlehurst

Address: 29 Brandforth Gardens
Westhoughton
Bolton
BL5 3ZP

Name: Heather Middlehurst

Signature



Date 16.04.25

Receipts & Payments Statement

	Unrestricted	Total	Prior Year
Receipts			
Donations & Legacies			
Donations	104,633	104,633	94,476
Gift Aid	19,412	19,412	15,932
Investments			
Bank Interest	5,780	5,780	3,237
Other			
Other Income	3,301	3,301	2,321
Total receipts	133,126	133,126	115,966
Payments			
Charitable Activities			
Activities	69,226	69,226	52,748
Other Expenditure	2,126	2,126	9,020
Premises	5,980	5,980	10,347
Governance Costs			
Governance Costs	9,262	9,262	10,333
Total payments	86,595	86,595	82,448
Net Receipts / Payments	46,531	46,531	33,519
Total Cash Funds Brought Forward	199,429	199,429	165,910
Total Cash Funds Carried Forward	245,960	245,960	199,429
Represented By			
General (Unrestricted)	245,960	245,960	199,428

Asset & Liability Statement

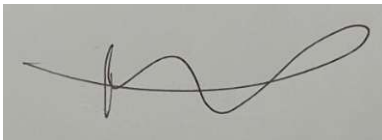
	Unrestricted	Total	Prior Year
General (Unrestricted)	245,960	245,960	199,428

Signature

These accounts have been approved by the trustees, and are signed on their behalf by:

Name Philip John Robert Davies

Signature



Date 30/04/2025

Notes to the Accounts

Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

The charity maintains sufficient reserves to cover 12 months costs and is currently growing reserves as we look to embark on a building project.

Transactions to Related Parties

Michael Cornall (trustee) received remuneration for serving as church Pastor in line with charity commission authorisation. There were no other related party transactions during the accounting period.