

Trustee Annual Report

Trinity Church Milnthorpe

Charity no. 1193424

This report relates to **financial year: 1st February 2023 to 31st January 2024**

The **principal address** of the charity is 31 Beetham Road, MILNTHORPE, LA7 7QN

The following individuals were the **charity trustees on the date the report was approved**

Peter James Bramhall

Adam Mark Taylor

Kevin John Gregory

The following individuals served as **charity trustees during the year:**

Peter James Bramhall

Adam Mark Taylor

Kevin John Gregory

Trinity Church Milnthorpe was entered into the **register of charities** on 5th February 2021

The Charity is governed by a Constitution as a **Charitable Incorporated Organisation**.

The **Charitable purposes** of Trinity Church Milnthorpe are:

- the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, primarily, but not exclusively, within Milnthorpe and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity trustees, put into practise the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to: the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness; the advancement of education; and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life;

provided that the advancement of such purposes must be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the Doctrinal Distinctives and Ethical Statements as may be adopted and amended by the Church from time to time.

Trinity Church has been meeting in Milnthorpe since October 2016, but until February 2021 was operating as part of the charitable organisation Parr Street Evangelical Church (charity number 1141454). With registration of Trinity Church Milnthorpe as an independent charity on 5th February 2021 work commenced to open a bank account so independent operations could commence. Unfortunately, with COVID this proved to be a difficult task and a bank account was not fully effective until the end of January 2022. Consequently, the first few months of the 2022/3 financial year were a time of transition with members of the church

family changing from being restricted donors to Parr Street Evangelical church to giving directly to Trinity Church Milnthorpe (hereafter referred to as TCM).

In 2023/4 all the Trinity Church activities were directly funded by TCM.

To further the Charitable Purposes for the public benefit, TCM carried out the following in 2023/4:

- Provided church services over this period to everyone who wanted to come along. This was a source of spiritual and physical support to members of the church as well as to those in the wider community seeking comfort and support in the difficult times of the cost-of-living crisis, and other aspects of life. These church services were recorded for the benefit of those who are unable to attend.
- Continued to enable members of the church to volunteer and serve others in the church and community in various ways.
- Encouraged church family involvement in community initiatives.
- Continued to meet in smaller weekly groups for Bible study, prayer and support. These groups are open to anyone and have been one of the ways pastoral care has been provided.
- Continued to run the Trinity Youth Group to serve secondary school aged children both in our Sunday church service and in Sunday evening groups during term time. This Sunday evening group has been a mixture of in-person meetings in the local Primary School, a community building (M:HUB), outside in open spaces, and in people's homes.
- Continued to run Trinity Kids groups on Sunday mornings for primary and preschool age children to share the Gospel and encourage the children.
- A number of other events were put on by Trinity Church for the community:
 - In April 2023 we organised an Easter Trail around Milnthorpe looking at 'Easter eggs' provided by church family and community groups. This told the story of why Easter is a time of celebration. Around 100 people from across the local community completed the trail and joined us for refreshments on the village green.
 - On Easter Sunday we held an All Age inclusive meeting in Dallam School followed by an Easter Egg hunt and a large bouncy slide in the grounds of Dallam School. This allowed us to share the gospel with people outside of the usual church family, and to engage with people in the community.
 - On 12th November, 31 Shoe boxes were packed at a Packing party organised by the Kid's Team for Samaritan's Purse for overseas distribution. TCM funded the postage and packing cost of £5 per box.
 - In November 2023 a women's Wreath Making event was held at Storth Village Hall, and just under 30 attended. Many of the attendees were from outside of the church, and a short gospel message was part of the evening.
 - In November 2023 we organised a Christmas Pantomime (Little Red Riding Hood) performed by Saltmine Theatre Company. Ticket prices continued to be made

affordable to the community, and the shortfall was funded by Trinity Church. Close to 150 people attended.

- In the same month we started leading a monthly service in Hartland House, an Abbeyfield Residential Home in Milnthorpe. These meetings are usually attended by 10-14 of the residents and staff members and a group of 6-7 members from TCM. We held a well-attended Christmas service on 22nd December to remember and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Some family members of residents also came along.
- In December, following craft activities, we held a participative Nativity Service which was well attended by people from Milnthorpe and the surrounding villages. This was followed by 'Hot Dogs' and further encouraged the building of community relations.
- Later in the month an evening Carol Service was held to provide an opportunity for the community to focus on the amazing incarnation story and its impact in our lives.
- On Christmas morning an All-Age Sunday morning service was held to share the wonderful news of that first Christmas and what it means for us today.

The **main achievements** of Trinity Church in the year were:

- New people attending the Sunday morning meetings and getting involved in mid-week events. This covered all age groups, different backgrounds and varying needs. This was accompanied by a willingness to serve within the church and community
- Attendance at the youth meetings continued to be higher than the number of teenagers in our church family. This reflects a need being met in the community, and an opportunity to share about the Christian faith.
- A significant number of people outside TCM completed the Easter Trail and enjoyed a time together on the Village Green.
- A significant number of people outside TCM came along to the Saltmine Christmas Pantomime and had fun, as well as hearing a short Gospel message and being invited to other Christmas events.
- A number of the community outside of TCM came along to the Carol Service, singing songs about Christ's incarnation and hearing a clear Gospel message.

One of the big things we have been considering over this year is the possibility of employing a Families, youth and Children's minister. The aim of this appointment would be to help us reach out to this demographic in the community, as well as equipping the church. Whether that is families in discipling their children, the children and youth teams as they serve, or directly with the children and youth.

The trustees have read the Commission's Public Benefit requirement statutory guidance and have had regard to this when running the charity.

A review of the charity's financial position at the end of the year:

- At the end of the financial year TCM held £26,180 in the charity's Bank Accounts and petty cash (up from £17,998 the previous year). This now represents just over 5 months of average operating costs and is above the trustees' initial target of 4 months. The trustees will take any necessary steps during future periods to maintain reserves at or above the target.

- The general principle of investment for Trinity Church Milnthorpe remains one of financial conservatism to avoid capital risk. This approach recognises that financial returns on capital will be low but balanced by certainty.
- During 2023/4 financial year interest bearing accounts were opened with Kingdom Bank and Barclays Bank to hold funds not required for immediate use. The deposits are both covered by FCS guarantees.
- In the financial year 1st February 2023 to 31st January 2024 the Charity had an unrestricted income of £67,889, on face value slightly down from the previous year £69,742. However, 2022/3 income included a donation from Parr Street Evangelical Church corresponding to the Gift Aid they received from HMRC for TCM members prior to the charity becoming fully independent. This amounted to just over £5,000 – so excluding this one-off 'Gift-Aid' donation, there would be an underlying income increase of around £3,200 in 2023/4.
- Operating costs on unrestricted activities were £59,707 compared to £52,544 for 2022/3.
 - o Employment costs in 2023/4 reflect a full year, while the 2022/3 number excluded 2 months of employment costs because at that time Peter Bramhall was employed by Parr Street Evangelical church. We commenced his employment 6th April 2022.
 - o Running costs increased by around £2000 in the year. This reflected the Independent Examination fee, (we didn't need it in 2021/2), attending the FIEC conference for the Pastor, and increased hospitality costs.
 - o Event Costs reduced by £1300 because we didn't hold a Ceilidh in 2023/4 (it's planned for 2024/5) but did hold an Easter event for the community.
 - o Mission giving was lower by £3,300, reflecting a late donation to the FIEC in 2023/4 (paid in February 2024 instead of the 2023/4 financial year as it should have been). 2022/3 also included redirected donations to Crosslinks for a TCM attendee's mission trip to South Africa, and 2022/3 also included a late donation for 2021/2 to FIEC.
- There were a small number of short-term liabilities totalling £2,337 at the end of January 202 - most of these were paid in February 2024 although the M:HUB charge was paid in April – the month it was received.
- No trustee received payment or benefits from the charity for being a trustee.
- The charity does not raise funds from the public.
- This charity does not have any trading subsidiaries.
- The principal risk and uncertainty which the charity faces are that it relies heavily on donations to continue its operations. Adequate reserves at the end of January 2024 (5 months expenditure) should provide a buffer to any short-term issues.

Signature



Peter James Bramhall

19/8/2024

Date



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trinity Church Milnthorpe

CN :1193424

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	1st February 2023	To	31st January 2024
------------------------	-------------------	----	-------------------

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	56,431	-	-	56,431	58,106
Tickets for events	1,148			1,148	2,075
Gift Aid	10,160	-	-	10,160	9,561
Interest	150	-	-	150	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	67,889	-	-	67,889	69,742
Total receipts	67,889	-	-	67,889	69,742
A3 Payments					
Employment Costs	42,877	-	-	42,877	33,700
Running Costs	6,201			6,201	3,933
Building hire costs	5,790			5,790	5,401
Event Costs	2,439			2,439	3,746
Mission Giving	2,400			2,400	5,665
Donations	-	-	-	-	100
Sub total	59,707	-	-	59,707	52,544
Total payments	59,707	-	-	59,707	52,544
Net of receipts/(payments)	8,182	-	-	8,182	17,198
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	17,998	-	-	17,998	800
Cash funds this year end	26,180	-	-	26,180	17,998

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

Barclays Community	1,989	-	-
Barclays Premium	14,009		
Kingdom Bank	10,141		
Cash	42	-	-
	-	-	-
Total cash funds	26,180	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

B5 Liabilities

Details

Fund to which liability relates

Amount due (optional)

When due (optional)

HMRC	Barclays Comm	705	Feb 2024
FIEC	Barclays Comm	1,128	Feb 2024
Dallam	Barclays Comm	384	Feb 2024
M:HUB	Barclays Comm	120	Apr 2024


 PETER J BRAMHALL
 19/8/2024


 ADAM TAYLOR
 19/8/2024



STABLES THOMPSON & BRISCOE

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & REGISTERED AUDITORS

Lowther House, Lowther Street, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4DX

Tel: (01539) 720465

Email: enquiries@stb-accountants.co.uk www.stb-accountants.co.uk

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF TRINITY CHURCH MILNTHORPE

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st January 2024 which are set out on the attached CC16a.

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 charity 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.

H Holmes FCA
ICAEW
Stables Thompson & Briscoe
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
Lowther House
Lowther Street
Kendal
LA9 4DX

Date: 8 July 2024