

Eastney Evangelical Church

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2023

EASTNEY EVANGELICAL CHURCH
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	Eastney Evangelical Church 21 Eastney Road Southsea PO4 9JA
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	CIO dated March 2021
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1193860
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Elizabeth Ogundele Gillian Rees Christopher Thomas Matthew Licence (appointed May 2023) Amanda Wallace (resigned May 2022)
BANKERS	CAF Bank Ltd.
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jaimée Young Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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EASTNEY EVANGELICAL CHURCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Objects of the charity

The charity, which is a church, is governed by a constitution and is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The charity's principal objects, as set out in its governing document, are:

- (1) the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Eastney and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- (2) such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity Trustees, put into practice 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.

Review of the charity's main activities and achievements

Church Membership over the period remained at 27.

Trustees of the church were Pastor Chris Thomas (Elder), and Miss Gill Rees, Mrs Elizabeth Ogundele and Mrs Amanda Wallace [until 3 May] (Deacons). Trustee training has included a special session on Safeguarding, and a number of the Charity Commission '5 Minute Guides'.

The period started shortly after the lifting of all COVID restrictions for churches, and confidence and attendance in all activities returned encouragingly quickly. Church life and ministry continued throughout the period, and was marked by considerably increased attendance at worship and in children's' groups from December onwards, which was most encouraging. We are so grateful for the Lord for hearing our prayers.

- *Word ministry* continued in Revelation and then Joshua, but also observing the Christian calendar and noting other significant national and other events. We have reintroduced periodic church lunches which have benefitted the community life of the church.

- As we have continued to seek to be a '*Church for the Community*', the "Eastney Roundabout Coffee Pot" has continued, and between December and Easter was extended to provide "Warm Space", with a simple lunch.

- The *life and outreach* of the church has continued in TeenScene, Women's Fellowship, D Groups Messy Church, Home Visiting, Prayer Pulse, Sparks and Fusion as before, giving a rounded and full church program. It has been gratifying to see some transfer into regular worship, and 2 applications for church membership are in the pipeline.

- The influx of Sunday attendees boosted average congregations from about 45 to 65, and children's groups have particularly grown.

As the last period closed, Trustees had recognised that we must give attention to the future of the church, and a 'Hope and Future' group comprising the Pastor, 2 Deacons and 2 Members met, and then reported to Members' Meetings in July, October and January. The group's considerations were somewhat overtaken by the growth in attendance, but the opportunity for candid discussion and prayer that these meetings and reports gave was far from wasted.

The church accounts have shown an end of year deficit of just over £6,500. However, this was less than the expected deficit of just over £10,000, which can partly be attributed to Gift Aid being claimed, which had not been anticipated in the yearly budget. The increased cost of living had an adverse effect on the church's expenditure, which is mainly reflected in the great increase in the cost of our electricity. The end of year balance was just under £65,460. This is a significant decrease from the last financial period, but still above the reserve policy of £46,500. Susan Licence has been Church Bookkeeper.

Our links and fellowship with Mission Partners across the UK and the world have continued. The local and national ministry and leadership provided by the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC), to which the church remains in committed membership, has been most helpful. We have been able to lend preaching support and prayerful fellowship to the eldership of our sister church in Alverstoke. The Pastor also attends the One Body fellowship of Portsmouth churches. He remains a member of Portsmouth SACRE.

In early March, we led 'Equipped to Engage', a training day facilitated by London City Mission with the active involvement of 3 other local churches, and attendance from 3 others too.

The church has known the Lord's help and blessing in a remarkable way over the past 12 months, but the spiritual and social needs of local people, as well as globally, have pressed in on us. Several Restricted Funds have been active to meet those needs, including a new 'Support Fund' which enables the church to meet individual needs and hardships at the discretion of the Trustees.

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

Reserves policy

The Reserve level was reviewed and increased by 10%. Trustees determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £46,500 (which equates to about 6 months' of unrestricted expenditure) 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 just under £65,200 and the charity is complying with its reserves policy.

Governance

Responsibility for setting policy and for making operating decisions rests with the trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity. New trustees are recruited and appointed by a majority vote of the Church Members' Meeting.

Responsibilities of trustees

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

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

Chris Thomas

Date: 6 July 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
EASTNEY EVANGELICAL CHURCH

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Eastney Evangelical Church ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 on pages 5 to 8 following.

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.

Jaimée Young

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 19 July 2023

EASTNEY EVANGELICAL CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
Income receipts						
Donations		48,633	-	2,445	51,077	36,676
Gift aid receipts		6,691	-	-	6,691	11,045
Grant from Eastney Evangelical Church [Trust]		-	-	-	-	71,694
Rental Income		12,326	-	-	12,326	8,765
Hall Hire		1,715	-	-	1,715	455
Interest		476	-	-	476	9
Other		-	-	-	-	249
Total receipts		69,842	-	2,445	72,286	128,894
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	61,585	-	86	61,671	44,900
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	14,600	-	2,565	17,165	11,986
Total payments		76,185	-	2,651	78,836	56,885
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		(6,343)	-	(207)	(6,549)	72,009
Transfers between funds	5	(500)	-	500	-	-
Net movement in funds		(6,843)	-	294	(6,549)	72,009
Cash funds as at last year end		72,009	-	-	72,009	-
Cash funds at this year end	A	65,166	-	294	65,460	72,009

The notes on pages 7 - 8 form part of these accounts.

EASTNEY EVANGELICAL CHURCH
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted	Total	Total
	General	Designated	funds	2023	2022
	funds	funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
A Cash funds					
Cash at bank with immediate access	308	-	294	602	4,062
Notice deposits	64,858	-	-	64,858	67,947
	<u>65,166</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>294</u>	<u>65,460</u>	<u>72,009</u>
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	9,371	-	-	9,371	6,691
Other debtors	218	-	-	218	105
Prepaid church insurance	1,817	-	-	1,817	-
	<u>11,405</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,405</u>	<u>6,796</u>
C Liabilities					
Falling due within one year:					
Taxes due	944	-	-	944	1,162
Independent examination fee	870	-	-	870	990
Accrued expenses	-	-	-	-	1,597
Retention for McCann remedial work	833	-	-	833	833
	<u>2,647</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,647</u>	<u>4,582</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use				Value	Value
				2023	2022
				£	£
Freehold property - church				691,972	647,915
Freehold property - manse				394,329	368,533
Contents and equipment				32,395	44,697
				<u>1,118,696</u>	<u>1,061,145</u>

The trustees have used insurance values as the trustees are unable to reliably estimate current values; insurance values may differ materially from current values.

E Guarantees and secured debts

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

by _____ date 6 July 2023
Chris Thomas

The notes on pages 7 - 8 form part of these accounts.

EASTNEY EVANGELICAL CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 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.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total 2023</u>	<u>Total 2022</u>
	<u>General funds</u>	<u>Designated funds</u>			
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Employment costs	40,828	-	-	40,828	29,867
Utilities	4,167	-	-	4,167	1,258
Insurance	3,735	-	-	3,735	273
Administration and support services	4,065	-	-	4,065	2,791
Ministry and outreach activities	2,351	-	50	2,401	1,326
Building maintenance and equipment	3,807	-	-	3,807	6,703
Work among the young	550	-	-	550	296
Governance and legal fees	2,082	-	-	2,082	2,385
Support Fund	-	-	36	36	-
	<u>61,585</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>61,671</u>	<u>44,900</u>

3 Grants and gifts paid to others

Organisations:					
OMF	3,500	-	-	3,500	2,625
STEP(UK)	3,500	-	100	3,600	2,875
Grace Church, Brighton	3,500	-	-	3,500	2,625
Barnabas Fund	800	-	-	800	1,173
London City Mission	-	-	600	600	-
Organisations < 1000	600	-	1,865	2,465	1,338
Individuals	2,700	-	-	2,700	1,350
	<u>14,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,565</u>	<u>17,165</u>	<u>11,986</u>

EASTNEY EVANGELICAL CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

4 Transactions with related parties

Chris Thomas served as church leader and was paid £40,610 for serving in that capacity, not for serving as a trustee; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

The brother and sister-in-law of trustee Chris Thomas were paid a total of £3,500, through OMF, in their role as missionaries. These payments are authorised by the charity's governing document.

5 Movement of funds

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	72,009	69,842	(76,185)	(500)	65,166
	<u>72,009</u>	<u>69,842</u>	<u>(76,185)</u>	<u>(500)</u>	<u>65,166</u>
Restricted funds					
Refreshments	-	50	(50)	-	-
Special appeals	-	2,084	(2,565)	482	-
Support Fund	-	311	(36)	19	294
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,445</u>	<u>(2,651)</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>294</u>
Total funds	<u>72,009</u>	<u>72,286</u>	<u>(78,836)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,460</u>