

City Church Wolverhampton

Trustees Annual Report 2021

The trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2021.

Aims and Purposes of the Charity

As an independent, Bible-believing church, as per our statement of faith, City Church Wolverhampton purposes are (as stated in the Church's Constitution) for the public benefit the advancement of the Christian faith in such ways as the Charity Trustees may from time to time decide.

As a church, we are committed to spreading the Bible's message concerning Jesus, to develop people's knowledge of him, and to encourage them to worship, trust and serve him. We seek to encourage as many as possible to follow Jesus's example of love and compassion in serving each other and the wider community.

Despite 2021 being a highly unusual year because of the Coronavirus pandemic and the consequent government regulations which severely limited the gathering of people as the bible commands, we were able to partially fulfil our objectives through other means. January 1st 2021 found the UK in our third lockdown. All physical gatherings of people as a church were stopped and Biblical Sunday Worship became an informal on-line bible study and prayer time. On February 28th we began meeting again in rented facilities. With our official recognition as a legal entity on 22nd March we have been able to pay a small rental for these premises. However, there were many statutory restrictions which had to be observed. Social distancing, wearing of face masks and the restriction of singing to people in the music group were the most challenging. Gradually through the year things returned to near normal. As a new church, financial giving has increased as more people became involved in our work, so that we have been able to make donations to other Christian work and buy the supplies that we have needed.

Objectives and Activities

The Trustees have read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the activities described below clearly demonstrate that the charity is providing a benefit to the public.

In order to fulfil the aims and purposes of the Church as stated above, a variety of activities are provided for both the benefit of church members and for the benefit of members of the

public. Our weekly Sunday services, at 10.00 am meeting in rented space and a weekly gathering for prayer in somebody's home are central to our church life and are open to the whole community. They are advertised electronically via our Facebook page and literature distributed in the local communities as well as word-of-mouth.

We seek to encourage attendance by members of the wider community by making these gatherings friendly, informal and joyful occasions. In addition, these services are "streamed" and are accessible to all via the Internet, whilst recordings of them are available on the Church's website. During most Sunday morning services "Junior Church" is run, which is open to all children aged 3-11.

On Mondays we are regularly in the local community distributing Bibles, gospels and other Christian literature to those who are interested.

We held a Christmas carol concert (previously to our legal recognition) in the open air and followed all regulations in place at the time, both local and national, which was well received.

We held a holiday Bible club during the summer in a local park, again following all local regulations and national guidelines which again was well received by the wider community, this being advertised through Facebook and fliers in the area. Despite the rain, we were able to provide a service for at least one period for about 40 children in the area surrounding Bantock park.

Where possible, we have responded to invitations to speak in local schools who want to hear a perspective on Bible-believing faith in Jesus Christ. We are grateful for the opportunity afforded by St Peters Collegiate school and the Kings school to do this.

We have offered from time-to time courses to all who are interested in finding out more about the Christian Faith.

Individual pastoral and spiritual advice is offered to people living in the church's locality, both to those who attend our meetings and to those making inquiries electronically.

We have informal relationships with several other churches in the Wolverhampton area (Life City Church, St. Luke's, and local FIEC churches) to be supported and to support them in our mutual endeavours to advance the Christian faith.

The Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for all matters of the CIO, both the finance and work of those who are designated as holding positions of spiritual responsibility. We hold insurance for events that we might have both regular and time to time and for the work that is done by individuals as to the propagation of the Christian faith.

The Trustees have a safeguarding policy in place which it to be reviewed annually. The Trustees meet four times a year. These meetings are formally recorded, and these records are available for inspection by the Charity Commission and the Independent Examiner.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its ministries mainly in numbers, including financial numbers, but in less tangible ways like growth of individuals in their Christian faith and in opportunities to the share the Christian gospel with members of the community. Such "success" is difficult to measure, but the Trustees rejoice in another year when the Gospel of Jesus Christ has been shared with the city of Wolverhampton. This year we have provided free literature in the City Centre and in the area around Bantock Park. These include Bibles, books and leaflets. These have proved popular, and hundreds of items have been taken. We are encouraged to find that they have not then been dropped in the street and have not contributed to littering.

Despite starting the church during lockdown our attendance on Sunday Mornings rose to about 24 persons by year end. Our mid-week gatherings would be anywhere from 4 – 10 persons

Much of the work of the church was carried out by a large number of volunteers who, amongst other ministries, serve as musicians, Sunday hosts, hosts for mid-week, children's workers, literature distributors, AV technicians, set and pack down teams, and so on. We give thanks to the Lord for their faithful and fruitful efforts. Our Pastor, Timothy D. Berry and part time associate Andrew L. Berry led the majority of services whilst Timothy D. Berry has done the majority of contacting those in need of pastoral support. Andrew L. Berry chaired the Trustees and the other decision-making meetings. His experience with other Boards is invaluable to the smooth running of the Church. Mr. Jonathan Maggs, also a Trustee, provided vital leadership in establishing the relationship with the St. Peter's Collegiate School where the church meets as well as supporting other ministries of the church such as our Men's Midweek Group and the distribution of literature. We are equally grateful to another Trustee, who likewise has invaluable experience with other boards and is a qualified accountant, in dealing with the financial matters of the church: Mrs Lyn Towers. Mr Timothy Howard, with his experience as chief operating officer has proved invaluable in drawing up various documents and dealing with matters of insurance, risk registers and safety forms.

Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31st December 2021

Summary of the Year

The church bank account was opened in July 2021 and by the end of the year a balance of £5,385 was held, most of which was generated from offerings and donations. The expenditure of the church was minimal and hence the surplus funds available. This position has given the financial security as the work of the church continues to grow and develop in 2022.

Other Causes

The Trustees have established the principle that City Church Wolverhampton will give proportionately and regularly to other organisations and people who are involved in Christian Gospel related programmes. During 2021 the church gave £150 to support another Christian charity involved in relief work in Afghanistan.

Reserves Policy

Our present reserve policy says that we shall keep £2000 in reserve. This policy is regularly reviewed and we have that amount in reserve. The Charity Commission expects the Managing Trustees to decide, publish, implement and monitor their charity's reserve policy so that they can comply with their legal duties.

Conclusion

The Church enters 2022 in a financially stable position, having grown in size both numerically and in terms of its activities, positively impacted the local community, and fulfilled its purpose of seeing the Gospel of Jesus Christ shared in our local community and across the City of Wolverhampton.

Structure, Governance and Management

City Church Wolverhampton is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

As such it is solely run by its Trustees (presently 5), with the desire of having 'covenant partners'. Currently the church doesn't have a process for formally recognising these persons, so the body of believers is considered to be those who attend regularly and contribute to the financial needs of the church.

The church is recognised as a church plant with the goal of being affiliated to the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) in due course. As such we adhere to their doctrinal statement and to their other ethos statements which bring clarity to our life and ministry as part of that fellowship.

Administrative Information

City Church Wolverhampton has as its registered office at 11 Birches Barn Ave, Wolverhampton WV3 7BT and its website <http://www.citychurchwolverhampton.com>

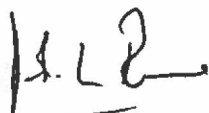
City Church Wolverhampton's Charity Registration Number is 1193886.

The Trustees who have served from when first registered (22nd March 2021) and 31st December 2021 are as follows: Andrew L. Berry (Chair), Rev. Timothy D. Berry (Trustee), Lyn D. Towers (Trustee & Treasurer), Jonathan P. Maggs (Trustee), Timothy Howard (Trustee)

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the above report.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Andrew L. Berry (Chair)



Lyn D. Towers (Treasurer)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

City Church Wolverhampton

1193886

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

22-Mar-21

To

31st December

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					
Offerings & Donations	7,208	-	-	7,208	
Gift Aid & Bank Interest	1	-	-	1	
Other Income	20	-	-	20	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	7,229	-	-	7,229	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	7,229	-	-	7,229	-
A3 Payments					
Property Costs	37	-	-	37	
Catering	49	-	-	49	
Publicity & Outreach	759	-	-	759	
Tech Equipment & Licences	666	-	-	666	
Gifts to other causes	150	-	-	150	
General Expenses	183	-	-	183	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	1,844	-	-	1,844	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,844	-	-	1,844	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	5,385	-	-	5,385	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	5,385	-	-	5,385	-

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	Cash at bank	5,385	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	5,385	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets			Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Tech Equipment		275	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	d Towers	LYN DIANE TOWERS	28/9/22
	pe LR	ANDREW L. BERRY	28/9/22



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
CITY CHURCH WOLVERHAMPTON

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 December 2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

Set out on pages

2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021.

**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 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:

J. Swart

Date:

04/10/2022

Name:

Jacobus Johannes Swart

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

B.Comm Management Accountant (Hons)

Address:

1 Lake View

The Quinta

Weston Rhyn, SY 10 7LT

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.

none