

Registered Charity number: 1194362

Village Church Emersons Green

Trustees' Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2025

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Managing Trustees who have served since the 1st of April 2021 are:

Elders:	J Byrne	J Herring (Pastor)
	J Taylor	B Jones
Treasurer:	M Latham	

Registered Charity number: 1194362

Registered Office: 11 OAKLANDS ROAD
MANGOTSFIELD
BRISTOL
BS16 9EY

Bankers: HSBC UK
26 Broad Street
Reading
RG1 2BU

Independent examiner: P Hodges CPFA
74 Cottrell Road
Bristol BS5 6TB

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report, the accounts for the charity for the period of 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

The Trustees confirm that they have regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the charity commission.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Documents/Constitution

Village Church, Emersons Green, is a registered charity (no. 1194362), registered in England and Wales. The Charity is governed by 2 main documents, which are the 'Village Church Constitution' and 'Village Church Handbook', both of which were adopted on 25/1/21 as part of the submission to become an independent charity. This constitutes as an incorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees/Elders/Deacons

The Church's appointment of Elders and a Treasurer are the Managing Trustees of the Charity. The Managing Trustees are selected on their membership and position within the Church and are elected by a majority vote of members present at a Members' Meeting (66% for Elders and Deacons). Elders and Deacons are elected for an indefinite period.

At Village Church the Managing Trustees are the Elders (including the Pastor) and the Treasurer (who is a Deacon) who have been appointed (Pastor) or elected (Elders/Treasurer) by those people who have been admitted into full membership of Village Church.

The Managing Trustees are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the Church, including deciding on how the funds are to be spent over the year.

Deacon positions are appointed to support in overseeing the practical running of the Charity to support the Managing Trustees.

All those who can agree with our basis of faith and submit to the Church rules are encouraged to apply to become members of the Church.

The Elders retain spiritual oversight of the Church, in accordance with the Church handbook, and meet regularly during term times over the course of the year.

The Managing Trustees meet a minimum of 3 times a year together and, if required, meet with the Deacons during the year. The Charity also hold a minimum of 3 Members' Meetings a year with the wider members of the Charity/Church.

Aim and Purpose

Village Church was started in April 2010 as a satellite congregation of Kensington Baptist Church (Charity Number 1135272). On 6th May 2021, Village Church was formed as a separate CIO Charity. We have been functioning independently but during this period Village Church accounts were still managed as part of Kensington Baptist Church (Charity Number 1135272), until 28th February 2023.

From the 1st of March 2023, the Village Church became fully independent from Kensington Baptist Church and commence maintaining our own finances.

Village Church (VC), Emersons Green exists to advance the Christian Faith, primarily but not exclusively, within the Bristol and surrounding neighbourhood and to undertake other charitable purposes that further the work of the Church.

Our aim is to know Jesus and make Him known in the community.

Objectives and activities

The objective of the Church is to know Jesus and make Him known through preaching, people, and prayer.

In setting objectives and planning activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit.

Risk management

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises of:

- An annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the Charity faces.
- The establishment of policies, systems, and procedures to mitigate those identified risks.
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the Charity.

The risk management review has identified that financial sustainability is the major financial risk for the Charity. A key element in the management of financial risk is the regular review of reserves and the ability of liquid funds to settle debts as they fall due.

In addition, attention is also given to non-financial risks which includes governance, operational, external and environmental risks and compliance with law and regulations. The risk management review has identified safe recruitment, training and regular monitoring of all Children and Youth workers and those working with adults where safeguarding is applicable.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Worship, Prayer, and Community

Village Church offer a range of services during the week over the course of the year.

Village Church hold services on Sunday mornings, where the congregation and visitors can sing, and hear the Bible being taught and can see how it can be applied to our day to day lives.

In addition, the Church places an important emphasis on and prayer and bible study. There is opportunity on Friday mornings for people to pray online together, as well as prayer meetings approximately twice a month on a Sunday afternoon. There are also Homegroups where we study the Bible on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings throughout each term.

We continue to offer opportunities for our Youth to meet socially together and other times to explore and asked questions about the Christian faith.

Over the past year, we have continued to encourage one another and have been exploring how we can engage and support the community. Last Christmas, we reached out to local primary schools to see how we could help provide food vouchers for families who were struggling.

The Church Premises

Village Church, Emersons Green does not own its own premises and therefore we meet at our primary location, a local Primary school: Mangotsfield Primary School.

Mission and Evangelism

During the year, we held special services: Remembrance Service and Christmas Services that proved popular; for example, a Traditional Carol Service and an All-Age Carol Service.

In the local magazine we place an article usually at least once a quarter to advertise our services and events.

Staffing

Village Church has two members of staff: a Pastor and trainee Pastor. They were funded by the Village Church, Emersons Green for this financial year.

Outside relationships

Village Church continues to be a member of the FIEC and adopts the Basis of Faith as its own. We are also part of the Southwest Gospel Partnership.

We are seeking to build relationships with other local Churches in the surrounding area.

Volunteers

The practical running of the Church on a Sunday and other activities that are put on is supported by volunteers from within the Church. We would like to thank all our volunteers who serve in setting up each week, music, audio visual, refreshments, Children's work and Youth Clubs to name a few.

Training

Child Safeguarding training is arranged for new volunteers supporting Children and Youth work and refresher training is run as required for existing volunteers.

As and when training needs are identified, we will endeavour to ensure people attend appropriate training, for example First Aid.

Financial review

For the period of 1st April 24 to 31st March 2025, the accounts were fully managed by the Village Church, Emersons Green.

The financial report will reflect the funds that Village received from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. During this period, the income was £149,843 and expenditure was £125,191. There was a surplus of £24,652 for the year.

We are, carrying over funds of £76,720 into the following financial year. We are thankful and grateful for the generous gifts of our members and congregation.

Reserves policy

Village Church, Emersons Green has a policy which is to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible). This equates to a minimum of £30,000 to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

Principal funding sources

The Charity is mainly dependent on the generosity of individuals and the associated Gift Aid to continue its work.

For the period of 1st April 24 to 31st March 25 giving was given directly to the Village Church.

Plans for the future

Village Church continues to manage its own accounts, building the local Church in Emersons Green and the surrounding area.

The Village Church continues to claim Gift Aid from giving from the congregation who have completed the appropriate forms.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

John C. Byrne

M. L. Latham

Signed: John Byrne, Trustee (Chair)/Mark Latham, Trustee/Treasurer Date: 19/01/26

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

The financial report will reflect the funds that Village received from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. During this period, the income was £149,843 and expenditure was £ 125,191. There was a surplus of £24,652 for the year. We are, carrying over funds of £ 76,720.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF Village Church

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025 set out on pages 11-14.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Trustees of the Charity are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is the responsibility of the Examiner to:

- Examine the account under section 145 of the 2011 Act.
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (Under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).
- To state whether particular matters have come to the Examiner's attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's Report

The examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view', and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with the examination, the Examiner states that no matter has come to his attention

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

P. Hodges.
P Hodges CPFA

19/01/26.
Date

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025 TOTAL FUNDS	2024 TOTAL FUNDS
Note	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Voluntary income	101,124	-	101,124	87,480
Gift aid and tax recovered	35,987	-	35,987	2,504
VC Weekend Away	-	5,129	5,129	5,705
KBC Transfer	-	-	0	265
Bank Interest	1,117	-	1,117	796
Other Income	185	6,300	6,485	175
Sub Total	138,414	11,429	149,843	96,925
TOTAL RECEIPTS	138,414	11,429	149,843	96,025
PAYMENTS				
Charitable activities				
Buildings	(8,359)	-	(8,359)	(7,669)
Employment costs	(71,635)	-	(49,664)	(71,635)
Mission	(27,246)	-	(27,246)	(22,357)
Activities/Outreach	(1,250)	-	(1,250)	(9,275)
Church Holiday	(7,370)	-	(7,370)	
Management & Administration				
Administration	(9,331)	-	(9,331)	(8,289)
Sub Total	(125,191)	-	(125,191)	(97,253)
Assets and investments purchases etc				
Interest free loan repaid	-	-	-	-
Total payments	(125,191)	0	(125,191)	(97,253)
NET RECEIPTS(PAYMENTS)	13,223	11,429	24,652	(328)
Total funds brought forward	51,252	816	52,068	52,396
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	64,475	12,245	76,720	52,068

VILLAGE CHURCH, EMERSONS GREEN

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES at 31 March 2025

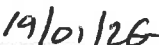
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash - HSBC Current Account		15,399	0	15,399	7,420
HSBC Saving Account		60,244	1,078	61,321	44,648
NET ASSETS		75,643	1,078	76,720	52,068
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds		75,643		75,643	51,252
Restricted funds		0	1,078	1,078	816
TOTAL FUNDS		75,643	1,078	76,721	52,068
OTHER ASSETS					
*Gift aid recoverable		1,657	-	1,657	18,268
TOTAL		1,657	-	1,657	18,268
LIABILITIES					
Interest free loan		-	-	-	-
TOTAL		0	0	0	0

*We will submit a reclaim of Gift Aid to the value of £1,657 (Mar 25) in the next financial period (Apr 25-Mar26).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


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Mark Latham


.....

Date

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 on a receipts and payments basis. All donations and other income are accounted for when received and tax refunds under Gift Aid are credited to the respective funds as and when the tax refunds are received. All expenditure is accounted for when paid.

Fund Accounting.

Restricted funds comprise amounts received for special purposes and used for those purposes during the year or held for those purposes at the balance sheet date. The use of donations and grants received for a specific purpose is restricted to that purpose.

Taxation

The Trust is a Registered Charity and accordingly is exempt from taxation on its income and gains which are all used for charitable purposes.

2. TRUSTEES' EXPENSES AND REMUNERATION

Remuneration of Managing Trustees is permitted and regulated by the Governing Document. The following Trustees were employed by the Trust and received remuneration (taxable pay) and expenses from the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2025 of:

Trustee	2024 Salary £
J Herring	43,181
S Howson	16,355 (Pro rota – 7 months)

3. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets were not capitalised, being written off in the statement of Receipts and Payments in the year of purchase.

4. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance brought forward £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Balance carried forward £
Charitable Activities - Other				
Village Church Weekend Away	0	0	0	0

Description of restricted funds

The specific gifts fund represents donations where the donor has expressed a wish that the donation be used for a specific purpose within the church.

5. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance brought forward £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Balance carried forward £
General Funds	52,068	149,843	(125,191)	76,720