



St Barnabas Grange Park

Charity No. 1195102 (Registered 8th July 2021)

Annual reports and financial statements

Financial Year Ending 31 December 2024

Registered Address:

58 Alan Turing Road
Loughborough
LE11 5NQ

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank
25 Gresham Street
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Trustees:

Ben Stockley
Claire Rowles
Paul Oxbrough
Rev Ben Gardner
Stephen Adshead
Lisa Howlett
Chris Martin
Tim Whitehead

Independent Examiner:

Jordon Dennis
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31 High View Close
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CONTENTS

1. TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT	3
2. INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT	7
3. FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES STATEMENT	8
4. BALANCE SHEET	8
5. ACCOUNTING POLICIES	10
6. INCOME UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	12
6.1 DONATIONS & LEGACIES	12
6.2 OTHER INCOME	12
7. EXPENDITURE UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	13
7.1 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	13
Charitable Activities - General Fund	13
Charitable Activities - Discretionary Funds	13
Analysis of Charitable Funds	13
7.2 SUPPORT COSTS	14
8. RESTRICTED FUNDS.....	15
9. STAFF COSTS.....	15
10. FIXED ASSETS.....	15
11. FUND MOVEMENT SUMMARY.....	16
12. DEBTORS AND CREDITORS	16
13. CASH ACCOUNT BALANCES	17

1. Trustees Annual Report

Aims and Purposes

St Barnabas Grange Park, Loughborough (STB): an Anglican Church, seeking to reach and serve the 93% of those who have no or little contact with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, especially among young families, serving across the resourcing partnership in Loughborough and Leicester Diocese.

Objectives and Activities

The Trustees are committed to supporting the Pioneer Minister, Reverend Ben Gardner and the Leadership Team to fulfil, safeguard and sustain the missional and charitable objectives of the Church:

Missional & Charitable Objectives:

- To make disciples of Jesus Christ, especially among young families.
- To identify, equip and release leaders who will plant new worshipping communities/Fresh Expressions.
- To look for new opportunities to partner in mission with other churches and projects in line with St. Barnabas Church's vision and values.
- The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the mission, values and tenets of faith of the Church of England
- The prevention and relief of poverty primarily in, but not limited to, the Parish by, but not limited to, providing grants, items and services to individuals in need and to charities or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Building Church Community - What did it look like in 2024?

2024 was another year of growth as we celebrated the baptisms of three adults after a successful Alpha Course hosted at the Arc Community Hub. Our midweek communities continue to be a place of belonging and discipleship. The fortnightly home communion at Woodthorpe Lodge Care Home continues to thrive and is appreciated by residents and staff. Attendance at our Sunday Gatherings, particularly the monthly evening gathering, has increased as we welcome new people to the life of STB. We have also witnessed an increase in the number of volunteers who contribute to the life and vision of STB. Our termly socials have once again been a huge success as we seek to grow in relationships and build community. The year 2024 ended with several fantastic Christmas services, including STB Carols, which many from the local community attended.

Planting beyond STB - what did that look like in 2024?

Whilst seeking to grow and deepen the ministry and mission of STB, we continue to work in partnership with Emmanuel Church Loughborough and the Good Shepherd Church Loughborough to explore the next church plant. In October 2024, the three churches gathered for a weekend of teaching, worship and prayer as we discern where to plant next. We also gather once a term to worship and pray. Alongside this desire to plant new churches, we continue to engage in Diocesan-wide conversations regarding the restructuring of the Diocese.

Reaching the wider community and bringing relief to those in need - what did that look like in 2024?

Our calling to generosity beyond our community continues to be central to the life of our church. *Give to Give Away*, our monthly initiative to give generously to others, continues to be a blessing. In 2024 significant contributions were given to a new church plant, Christian Aid and Rainbows Hospice. We also partnered with the Charnwood Toy Appeal as toys were given to those who struggle at Christmas. The *STB Grant Fund* was launched in 2024, which aims to release our Tithe funds to support local missional projects and ignite new initiatives.

St Barnabas Grange Park Annual Report – 31 December 2024

Loughborough Streets of Light continues to be very popular across our local community as we connected with over 1000 people and gave away 600+ free hot chocolates. Other community events such as The Autumn Social and STB Carols continue to be well attended. STB also partners with Loughborough Churches Partnership (LCP) as it seeks to love and serve Loughborough through projects such as The June Project 2024, which saw over 150 people serve the town in practical acts of kindness (i.e. painting the local wellbeing centre, garden clearances and litter picks).

We look forward to 2025 as we continue to encounter Jesus, build community and see transformation in Grange Park, Loughborough and beyond.

Structure, Governance and Management

STB was created as a church planted from Emmanuel Church, Loughborough in September 2019 and registered as a separate charity (No. 1195102) with effect from 8th July 2021. Emmanuel is the lead church for the Loughborough Resourcing Churches. The Resource Church program is supported by the Diocese of Leicester and in part funded by a broader Church of England Strategic Development Fund (SDF). Emmanuel received SDF grant funding of £50,000, plus some other smaller grants to support the start-up costs of STB.

The Trustees are listed on the first page of this report. Trustees are responsible for the charity on behalf of its beneficiaries. The day-to-day operational work is delegated to the church leader and operations manager who in turn work in partnership with the many volunteers who contribute generously of their time to lead and support the activities that comprise the life and work of the church.

We encourage all who come to STB to consider becoming members of the church. Members are asked to commit to:

- Pray for the life and vision of STB
- Invest in their own, and others, discipleship
- Prioritise Sunday Gatherings
- Serve the community and STB and
- Give financially to the work of STB

St Barnabas Grange Park Annual Report – 31 December 2024

Financial Review

Overall net income for the year reported in the Statement of Financial Activities is a net increase in funds of £5,886 (2023: £15,914). The table below show a breakdown of this overall movement to provide a clearer view of the “ordinary” income and expenditure of the church.

Description	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash Flow from Operating Activities		
General Fund: Voluntary Income - Donations & Gift Aid (note 6.1)	56,289	48,084
General Fund: Expenditure on Charitable Activities (note 7.1)	51,365	49,391
General Fund: Expenditure on Support Costs (note 7.2)	4,878	5,797
Tithe Commitment: Transferred from General to tithe funds (note 11)	4,808	3,744
Total Expenditure and Commitments	61,051	58,932
Net Ordinary Income/Expenditure (ie. excluding grants and other income)	- 4,762	- 10,848
SDF Seed funding (note 6.2)	-	7,087
SDF expenses claimed (note 6.2)	5,015	7,999
Total SDF contributions	5,015	15,086
Net outcome after SDF Grant Funding	253	4,238
One-off sales of equipment (note 6.2)	-	1,120
Emmanuel church refund (and other) - Flourish weekend for 2024	923	-
General (Unrestricted) Net outcome after other income	1,176	5,358
Adjustments to accounting for our tithe commitments:		
Reverse accruals from the 2022 accounts so tithe monies can be held in a separate fund	-	8,811
Tithe commitments: Received in the tithe funds	4,808	3,744
Tithe funds spent	-	-2,135
Net movement in Tithe Funds (note 11)	4,808	10,420
Net outcome after Tithe Funds Movements	5,984	15,778
Net movement on Restricted Funds (note 8)	-98	136
Overall net outcome reported in the Statement of Financial Activities	5,886	15,914

Voluntary income for 2024 was £56,289 (2023: £48,084). This is a 17% increase from 2023. Thank you to our many generous givers.

Expenditure on charitable activities was £51,365 (2023: £49,391) similar cost per month with an increase in *Community, Mission & Outreach Events* mainly due to Alpha, Street of lights and STB's 5th birthday celebrations. Support costs (office, systems and admin) were £5,878 (2023: £5,797) similar in cost per month.

Therefore, we had a deficit of £4,762 (2023: £10,848) on ordinary income and expenditure.

We benefitted from the SDF grant for expenses £5,015 (£7,999) and other income of £923 (2023: £1,120).

The general fund surplus for the year was therefore £1,176 (2023: £5,358).

Accounting for our Tithe commitments is changed to provide better visibility of the funds accrued and spend of those funds. The movement in funds for 2024 records our continuing commitment to accrue 10% of voluntary income for tithe projects set at £4,808 for 2024 available for distribution to various projects under the STB grand fund and our Church Plant commitments on an equal basis.

Financial Strategy

The budget for 2025 is similar to 2024, we've tried to be careful in our commitments with a whilst still allowing the church to function well.

STB benefited with start-up grants from the Diocesan/SDF Resourcing Church program. These were materially spent out in 2023. Some deferred income remains in the accounts to cover depreciation of grant funded assets that were capitalised. We do anticipate further contribution from SDF funds towards allowable expenses in 2025, but our allocation will be lower than previous years and then SDF funding will further phase down and end in 2026.

At present our clergy costs are covered within the Resourcing Church program but this arrangement will end in 2026.

Looking ahead STB needs to be financially sustainable with ministry and operating costs being met from church income within the minster community.

The trustees have set up a sustainability working group that will report in 2025. This group will consider mission, ministry, planting and resourcing for STB and the context of our relationships as Resourcing Church Partner with Emmanuel and The Good Shepherd and as a member of the emerging Minster Community "Area 2C".

Reserves Policy

The general fund balance of £8,287 carried forward from this year will be held as reserves to ensure adequate cash flow and cover any deficit in the next financial year.

Consideration of Major Risks

The trustees note the following risks:

Safeguarding: The consequences of a safeguarding issue would be very serious. As a church we prioritise our safeguarding responsibilities and have established a good culture around safeguarding led by one of our volunteer leaders.

Finance: The potential for volatility or decline in our income from donations and our lack of reserves are a risk in the event of unexpected costs or change in income. This is managed by regular financial reporting to trustees and periodic updates to church member and at least annual appeals to review giving. To date members have responded positively to calls to give regularly and in response to specific giving appeals such as generosity Sunday pledges. The likelihood of unexpected costs is low. STB hires for the community centre building where we host our gatherings so is not liable for building risks.

Gathering venue: As noted above STB hires the local community centre as a Sunday gathering venue. We have good relationships with the community centre management. However, in the event the community centre was not available or the costs increased significantly we could approach local schools for an alternative venue.

Volunteers: We are dependent on the generosity of volunteers to ensure the smooth running of the church and to sustain and develop activities. We continually seek to encourage engagement of existing and new church members to serve as part of their discipleship and contribute to the life of the church.

2. Independent Examiners Report

We report to the trustees on the examination of the accounts of St Barnabas Grange Park ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 1 to 17.

This report is made solely to the trustees, as a body, in accordance with the regulations made under Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's trustees, as a body, for our work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the examiner:

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act)) and that an independent examination is needed. We are qualified to undertake the examination by being a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's statement:

Our 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 seeks explanations from you as 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 statement.

Independent Examiner's statement:

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no material matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination giving us cause to believe that in any material accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Independent Examiner's Details:

Jordan Dennis
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31 High View Close
Leicester
LE4 9LJ
Date:

3. Statement of Financial Activities

Statement of Financial Activities	Note	2024			2023
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Prior Year £
Donations & Legacies	6.1	56,289	995	57,285	50,494
Charitable Activities		923	193	1,116	-
Other	6.2	7,037	-	7,037	18,508
Total incoming resources		64,249	1,188	65,437	69,002
Charitable Activities	7.1	53,387	1,286	54,673	47,291
Support	7.2	6,634	-	6,634	5,797
Total resources used		60,021	1,286	61,307	53,088
Net Incoming / Outgoing Resources (before transfers)		4,228	-98	4,130	15,914
Fund Transfers In		4,808	-	4,808	3,744
Fund Transfers Out		4,808	-	4,808	3,744
Net Incoming / Outgoing Resources (before gains/losses)		4,228	-98	4,130	15,914
Net Movement of Funds		4,228	-98	4,130	15,914
Total Funds Brought Forward		17,531	1,113	18,644	2,730
Total Funds Carried Forward		21,759	1,015	22,774	18,644
General (Unrestricted)		6,531	0	6,531	7,111
Restricted Funds (Restricted)		-	1,015	1,015	1,113
Fixed Assets (Designated)		-	-	-	-
Church Planting Fund (Designated)		8,682	-	8,682	6,278
General Tithe (Designated)		6,546	-	6,546	4,142
Totals		21,759	1,015	22,774	18,644

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13. Cash Account Balances

Account Name	2024 £	2023 £
STB Lloyds Current Account	20,518	16,686
Stripe	1,097	106
Total	21,615	16,792

Stripe is the payment processor used to for card and online donations. Ordinarily the donations are received and transferred into the STB Lloyds bank account each month so the month end balance will normally be zero. The Stripe payments occur on the 1st working day of the following month. The Stripe payment for December 2024 was paid on 2 January 2025.