

SWANTON ABBOTT COMMUNITY CHAPEL

Annual report and accounts for the period

19th August 2021 to 28th February 2022

Reference and administrative details

Trustees

K. J. Everard (Chair)
S. Abraham
V.O. Carrington
K.C. Bonner

Registered address: The Street, Swanton Abbott, Norfolk NR10 5DU

Registered Charity number:1195565

**Independent Examiner: R C Huddlestone, R Huddlestone Accounting Services,
Valley farm Bungalow, Valley Farm Lane, Melton, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 1LL**

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, Leicester LE87 2BB

SWANTON ABBOTT COMMUNITY CHAPEL

Report of the trustees for the period ended 28th February 2022

The trustees present their report and accounts for the period ended 28th February 2022.

Structure, Governance and Management

Swanton Abbott Community Chapel is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation formed on the 19th August 2021. The chapel took on independence from the Wesleyan Reform Union at the start of 2021, and then obtained charitable status on 19 August 2021. The name was changed at the same time to Swanton Abbott Community Chapel. It remains an active member of Churches Together in North Walsham, an ecumenical group of churches, meeting regularly to encourage one another, exchange information, and build unity across the different denominations.

Aims and Objectives

Our primary objectives are to fulfil the role of a Christian church in the rural village of Swanton Abbott, promoting and advancing the Christian faith in the local area, and serving the community in which we are situated.

Background and Set Up

The leadership team of four (all unpaid volunteers) have committed to meeting once a quarter for planning meetings and prayer, and more frequently just for prayer.

Once the charity was formed in the August, the chapel registered for Gift Aid with HMRC, and has benefitted from gift aid reclaim.

The newly named chapel initially concentrated on establishing its presence and getting its name on the map in the first few months of becoming a charity. The chapel's google listing was improved and has increased the chances of someone finding us. A new Facebook page was built, and regular posting of services began, together with announcements of our community projects and other chapel events.

Also, a website was set up, and this provided a world-wide shop window of what the chapel activities and set up were.

Welcome cards were produced and information cards, so that anyone visiting can find out more and have an opportunity to connect with us.

The chapel is accessible to disabled people including a disabled toilet.

Financial Results and Reserves

For the period ended 28th February 2022 there was income of £46,480 which was significantly enhanced by a sum of £36,004 transferred into the new charity from the Wesleyan Reform Chapel that it had been. This created a substantial surplus of £31,174. Expenditure was £15,307 and the reserves are sufficient to cover expenditure in the short to medium term. Our reserves will also be used to fund building improvements to the Chapel and outreach to our local community.

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Throughout the accounting period covered, expenditure has been closely monitored and diligently managed. We have been blessed with some new regular donors, and this has enabled us, together with gift aid payments, to spend on items that set the chapel up for the future. We find ourselves in a healthy financial position going into the next financial year.

An extraordinary electricity bill was received in February, which was contested, and the result of that will appear in next year's accounts.

A grant was applied for in December, through Norfolk County Council, for loft insulation, which was duly granted, and assisted the chapel in providing loft insulation for the very first time. This is to conserve energy and prevent valuable heat loss through the roof of the chapel.

Mission/Outreach/Community work

The chapel already had a regular monthly Pause for Thought feature posted on the village closed Facebook group for all villagers. This group contains over 200 members to date. This post consists of a bible reference and a topical thought based on the verses, to inspire and stimulate thinking about the Christian faith with local villagers.

Welcome packs are made up, and have been delivered to as many new occupants moving into the village as possible, giving us an opportunity for the chapel to introduce itself, and let new people know what the chapel is all about. These have helped us to connect with many new people, and some have subsequently attended our events. This is an ongoing initiative.

The chapel also joined Find a Church.Com to add to its internet presence, and this has resulted in people finding the chapel for a Sunday service.

In September every year, the chapel supports the Norfolk Churches Trust annual bike ride. The chapel is opened for free refreshments and a much-needed toilet (!) to all taking part in the bike/ride/walk challenge, and to those passing by in the village. It is a wonderful and unique way to connect with lots of new people.

For our Harvest festival in October 2021, we celebrated the Harvest of The Sea. A local villager loaned us several items for our display. Our visiting speaker was from the Fisherman's Mission. In the weeks prior to the service, we launched a community project, and encouraged the village to bring tins of tuna to the chapel. For the Harvest service, we built a Tower of Tuna, and after the service, nearly 100 tins were taken to the local foodbank to help those in need.

The chapel supported the village wild flower seed planting initiative, and members of the chapel took the packets of seeds provided, and planted them in strategic places around the village.

We ran two Alpha courses at the chapel during the period being reported on. One was over the Autumn months, and one in the early part of 2021. 7 attended the first one, and 3 the second one. These proved to be superb opportunities for local

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people to ask questions about the Christian faith, and to enjoy friendship in a relaxed environment, with refreshments and short discussions following the Alpha videos. The course covers the basics of Christianity and solid friendships were made between all those attending. The group now meet regularly for further debate and discussion around the Christian faith.

At Christmas, we held an improvised nativity service one Sunday in December. The nativity service involved local villagers dressing up as characters from the nativity story, and then an impromptu nativity play was acted out, with no rehearsal, which proved very popular and humorous at the same time. Our candlelit carol service on Christmas Eve also attracted several new people. Both services were well attended.

Outside the chapel building, the focal point at Christmas became our illuminated crib scene that raised awareness to the village of what the true message of Christmas was, and we gave away the Christmas story in booklet form.

Jane Everard, chapel leader, formed a pop-up community choir of 22 people, which rehearsed in the chapel throughout the months of November and December, and brought many new people into the building. This culminated in a Christmas concert which the chapel hosted just before Christmas in the village parish church of St Michaels, raising just over £600 for the Priscilla Bacon Hospice. As well as the community choir performing, a local professional soprano sang a programme of Christmas delights. Mulled wine and mince pies were served, and a wonderful evening was had by all. It was good to build connections with the parish church too through this event.

Throughout this last year, we have made the building available to both the Parish council and the Parish church, and this has been well received for their meetings – and is a good use of a community space. This is something we are looking to continue to do.

The chapel invites a variety of gifted speakers on a Sunday and week by week, short themed series are followed. Some series are worth a mention - all of which are designed to be accessible to those with no church background. We looked at a series of well-known bible heroes, and what we can learn from their lives. The Highway Code was another memorable series, and how we can relate this to the Christian life. Another series worth a mention was called God Is Closer Than You Think.

The chapel provides regular pastoral support to many individuals and families.

Chapel leader Jane Everard has links with All Nations Bible College in Hertfordshire, and through a Zoom meeting, was able to conduct a workshop for students on rural churches, which resulted in an invaluable exchange of ideas, and a team being formed to support the chapel going forward with children's work, as the chapel congregation grows.

Remembrance Sunday was particularly poignant as it included a live link up to the cenotaph in London, which was a first for the chapel. Some villagers did come to this service, as they wished to be part of the Remembrance Sunday reflections.

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On the fifth Sunday of the month, we hold a more informal, relaxed event/service, which are primarily to interest those with a no church background. Called Mellow Sundays and we vary the time of day that the event/service is held at. One was a Songs of Praise event at the end of August, serving tea and scones. Another was on Halloween, entitled From Darkness To Light, when a local Christian told his struggles of battling with the occult and satanism, and how God had met with him and changed his life. Both events were well attended and many villagers came.

Twice a month, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, we run Coffee on The Corner, when the chapel is transformed into a café style coffee morning for the community. Offering free refreshments and home-made cakes (baked by willing villagers), it becomes a place to enjoy company and catch up with those who live locally. Average attendance is between 20 and 30 people, and with nowhere else to enjoy a coffee in the village, this presents a delightful hub for everyone.

Throughout this financial period, we have worked hard on good quality publicity, with informative external notice boards, and extra posters stationed around the village for special events. Flyers have been posted through doors, and because of the central position of the chapel within the village, the chapel is now firmly “on the map” and has enjoyed a fruitful first season as a registered charity, thanks to good financial management, the kind generosity of regular donors, and gift aid payments. During the period of this report, the chapel lost two long standing members of the congregation, who passed away very suddenly, but other new people have started finding us, and are coming along on a Sunday, so we are encouraged that the future looks bright for Swanton Abbott Community Chapel, and its outreach to those in the village and surrounding community.

Approved by the trustees on 4th October 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Kevin John Everard
Chair of Trustees



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	19th August 2021		28th February 2022

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 & LEGACIES	6,702	-	-	6,702	-
GIFT AID TAX RECLAIMS	819	-	-	819	-
INTEREST INCOME	-	-	-	-	-
RENTAL INCOME	2,956	-	-	2,956	-
SWANTON ABBOTT WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH	36,004	-	-	36,004	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	46,480	-	-	46,480	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	46,480	-	-	46,480	-
A3 Payments					
MINISTRY & MISSION	1,864	-	-	1,864	-
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	3,073	-	-	3,073	-
UTILITIES	3,801	-	-	3,801	-
INSURANCE	511	-	-	511	-
ADMINISTRATION	1,399	-	-	1,399	-
GRANTS & DONATIONS	350	-	-	350	-
LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL FEES	4,309	-	-	4,309	-
	-	-	-	-	-
BANK INTEREST & CHARGES	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	15,307	-	-	15,307	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	15,307	-	-	15,307	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	31,174	-	-	31,174	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	31,174	-	-	31,174	-

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 CURRENT A/C	31,174	-	-
	BARCLAYS SAVINGS A/C	-	-	-
	PETTY CASH	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	31,174	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
B2 Other monetary assets				
B3 Investment assets				
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
B5 Liabilities				

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

Keith Bonner
Kevin Everard

KEITH BONNER
KEVIN EVERARD

10/05/2022
11/5/2022



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
SWANTON ABBOTT COMMUNITY CHAPEL

**On accounts for the year
ended**

28TH FEBRUARY 2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

1195565

Set out on pages

1 & 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 28th February 2022 .

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- 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.

Signed:

Date:

10/05/22

Name:

R C HUDDLESTONE

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

Address:

VALLEY FARM BUNGALOW, VALLEY FARM LANE

MELTON, WOODBRIDGE

IP12 1LL

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.**