

Annual report and accounts for the period

1st March 2023 to 28th February 2024

Reference and administrative details

Trustees

K. J. Everard (Chair)

S. Abraham

V.O. Carrington (passed away January 2024)

K.C. Bonner (resigned May 2023, passed away July 2023)

D. Muspratt (appointed July 2023)

I. Vessey (appointed May 2023)

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

Registered Charity number:1195565

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

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, Leicester LE87 2BB

Report of the trustees for the period ended 28th February 2024

The trustees present their report and accounts for the period ended 28th February 2024.

Structure, Governance and Management

Swanton Abbott Community Chapel is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation formed on the 19th August 2021. The leadership team is made up of three unpaid volunteers, one of which is paid a small ministry allowance. The chapel remains an active member of Churches Together in North Walsham, an ecumenical group of churches, meeting regularly to encourage one another, and building unity across the different denominations. The chapel has also joined the Evangelical Alliance during the past financial year. The chapel is registered for Gift Aid with HMRC. We are grateful to all trustees and volunteers who give of their time voluntarily. The trustees continue to meet quarterly.

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 where we are.

Financial Results and Reserves

For the period ended 28th February 2024 there was income of £34156. Expenditure was £19779, and this created a surplus of £14377. This means our reserves are now increased to £55045.

Throughout this accounting period, expenditure has once again been closely monitored and well managed. We have been blessed to have more regular donors join us, plus we received a special one-off donation of £11280. We find ourselves in a very good financial position going forward into the next financial year.

Mission/Outreach/Community work

The chapel maintains a website and Facebook page with a growing number of followers (150 to date), and a good presence on Google and other websites where the public may be searching for a local church. We still post a monthly biblical Pause for Thought feature on the village Facebook group (with over 260 members to date), to inspire and stimulate thinking about the Christian faith with local people. The chapel also writes regular articles for the village newsletter so the activities of the chapel are advertised well.

Welcome packs are delivered to all new occupants moving into the village, giving us an opportunity for the chapel to introduce itself, helping us to connect with new people.

Mother's Day and Father's Day were both superb opportunities to invite the local community in, with services of thanksgiving and special gifts for those who came.

Easter was marked with a community coffee morning when we served hot cross buns, had children's craft activities, and chocolate eggs. We also hosted a lent lunch for Churches Together in North Walsham. On Maundy Thursday, we organised an evening dinner event with wine, and the chapel was full. The after-dinner speakers both tragically had lost a limb in an accident, and gave their story of how God had helped them through it. Easter Sunday, we had a celebration service, with chocolate eggs given away, and local villagers came. Outside the chapel there were Easter story booklets, colouring sheets and eggs for anyone in the village to help themselves to.

To mark the King's coronation, we gave away 30 God Save the King Coronation booklets at the village Coronation lunch, and several more to other villagers. These booklets told of the importance of faith to our King.

The chapel invites a variety of speakers on a Sunday and week by week, short themed series are followed, all of which are designed to be accessible to those with no church background but provides teaching for mature Christians also. For example, we have had external speakers from The Salvation Army, Fisherman's Mission, Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF). We enjoyed a Sunday series entitled Meals with Jesus during May and June – and this included our first bring and share lunch – an opportunity to get to know the church family better.

Another Alpha course ran through June and July. Our Alpha courses are an opportunity for local people to ask basic questions about the Christian faith. There are plans for another Alpha course to run in 2024.

The Village Revels fun day was held in June this year. The chapel took an active part, as chapel leaders Jane and Kevin Everard helped in the set up, and in the entertainment programme.

We ran a fundraising summer community coffee morning in aid of the Alzheimer's Society, which raised a good sum for the charity.

The chapel once again supported the Norfolk Churches Trust annual bike ride. We opened for free refreshments and a much-needed toilet (!) to all taking part in the bike/ride/walk challenge - a unique way to connect with lots of new people.

We celebrated harvest in September, and in the weeks running up to it, the chapel was the central collecting point for unwanted tools, computer equipment and sewing machines etc. Local Christian charity Tools With A Mission (TWAM) spoke at the event, and took several loads of tools with them – all for refurbishment and sending out to Africa at some point.

On the fifth Sunday of the month, our more informal, relaxed event/service is primarily aimed at those who have no church background. A couple of examples would be that we held a café style event with bacon rolls and pastries, while a local minister gave his story of a life lived through pictures, and many new people came to hear his story of faith. July was the month we held a Summer Praise event in the chapel, when the local community were given the chance to choose their favourite hymns, accompanied by the local Salvation Army band. Tea and cake were enjoyed

afterwards. Also, another event later in the year, saw the chapel full again as a local Gospel choir helped us in our worship, and sang a superb programme too, and tea and cake were served.

For Christmas, the chapel leader, Jane Everard, once again launched a pop up community choir – and 32 signed up including many new people from the village. The choir then sang at two chapel events, both of which were well attended, and led carol singing around the village. The choir included those who don't read music, and those who have never sung in a choir before.

The local Salvation Army band led our annual carol service once more. A collection was taken to help the Salvation Army work locally. Our illuminated crib scene outside the chapel raised awareness to the village of the true message of Christmas.

Our Christmas community charitable project involved being the central collecting point for the women and children's clothes. These were for the Leeway project in Norwich, a local charity who supports victims of domestic violence and abuse. A huge amount of clothing was donated, and two table top sales raised over £60.

Throughout 2023, we became the village collecting point for the recycling of empty printer cartridges and mobile phones – raising a small sum which purchased wildflower seeds and bulbs for the garden of Abbottswood Lodge residential home in our village.

We continue to make the building available to others in the community particularly during the season when the local village hall was undergoing refurbishment.

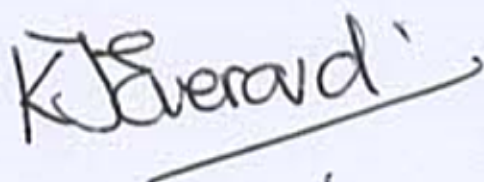
The chapel provides pastoral and financial support to individuals and families in need within the locality.

Twice a month, we run Coffee on The Corner, when the chapel is set up as a café style community coffee morning. With free refreshments and home-made cakes, it becomes a super setting for those who could do with some company or who like to socialise, to meet others and make new friends. It served as a cosy place for people to come to throughout the winter months. Nowhere else in Swanton Abbott serves coffee so we like to provide a facility for all those locally.

Throughout this financial period, our congregation has grown on a Sunday, and we are very encouraged by the work God is doing in our midst.

Approved by the trustees on 22 April 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Kevin John Everard
Chair of Trustees



**SWANTON ABBOTT COMMUNITY CHAPEL
FOR THE YEAR 29TH FEBRUARY 2024**

MONTHS 12

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO. 1195565

INCOME and EXPENDITURE Account	2023/24	2022/23	ANNUAL BUDGET 2023/24	YTD BUDGET 2023/24	YTD BUDGET VARIANCE
INCOME	£	£	£	£	
GIFT AID DONATIONS	7765	7185	10000	10000	-2235
GENERAL OFFERINGS	3046	2274	2500	2500	546
DONATIONS	11700	110	170	170	11530
FUNERAL & WEDDING INCOME	200	0	0	0	200
COFFEE ON THE CORNER INCOME	217	415	300	300	-83
INTEREST INCOME	179	0	300	300	-121
GIFT AID TAX RECLAIM	3153	2232	3300	3300	-147
MICELLANEOUS INCOME	25	1220	0	0	25
RENTAL INCOME NELSON WAY FLAT & GARAGE	7870	7386	7420	7420	450
TOTAL INCOME	34156	20822	23990	23990	10166
EXPENDITURE					
MINISTRY ALLOWANCES & EXPENSES	2400	2498	4114	4114	-1714
MISSION & OUTREACH	2171	1261	3721	3721	-1551
VISITING SPEAKERS FEES	470	500	450	450	20
CHURCH - PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	1114	908	1200	1200	-86
CHURCH - UTILITIES	2275	938	2200	2200	75
CHURCH - TELEPHONE	505	526	600	600	-95
CHURCH - EQUIPMENT	5684	1964	8800	8800	-3116
INSURANCE	479	0	479	479	0
STATIONERY AND ADMINISTRATION	562	356	963	963	-401
TRAINING	163	0	200	200	-37
CHARITABLE DONATIONS	1088	745	2800	2800	-1712
HOSPITALITY FOOD TEA & COFFEE	533	206	913	913	-381
LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL FEES	293	70	100	100	193
BANK CHARGES	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	0	144	200	200	-200
RENTAL EXPENSES NELSON WAY FLAT & GARAGE	2042	1210	2000	2000	42
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	19779	11328	28741	28741	-8962
SURPLUS OF INCOME (EXPENDITURE)	14377	9494	-4751	-4751	19128
SWANTON ABBOTT COMMUNITY CHAPEL BALANCE SHEET AS AT 29TH FEBRUARY 2024					
ASSETS					
BARCLAYS BANK ACCOUNT NO. 20937754	0	35967			
BARCLAYS BANK ACCOUNT NO. 93156001	7618	4700			
BARCLAYS BANK SAVINGS ACCOUNT NO. 60684449	47427				
PETTY CASH		0			
TOTAL ASSETS	55045	40668			
LIABILITIES					
GENERAL FUND AS AT 1st MARCH 2023	40668	40668			
PLUS SURPLUS OF INCOME (EXPENDITURE)	14377				
GENERAL FUND AS AT 29TH FEBRUARY 2024	55045	40668			
RESTRICTED FUNDS		0			
TOTAL LIABILITIES	55045	40668			

I have examined the Accounts of Swanton Abbott Community Chapel for the year ending 29th February 2024 and found them to be in agreement with the financial records.

Signed



R. Huddleston Date
Accounting Services

27/04/2024

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
SWANTON ABBOTT COMMUNITY CHAPEL

**On accounts for the year
ended**

29TH FEBRUARY 2024

**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 29th February 2024.

**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.

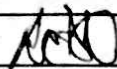
**Independent
examiner's statement**

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:

27/04/24

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.