

Annual report and accounts for the period

1st March 2024 to 28th February 2025

Reference and administrative details

Trustees

K. J. Everard (Chair)
S. Abraham
D. Muspratt
J. Trott (appointed 12.11.24)
I. Vessey

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

Report of the trustees for the period ended 28th February 2025

The trustees present their report and accounts for the period ended 28th February 2025.

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 locally. The chapel is also a member of the Evangelical Alliance. The chapel is registered for Gift Aid with HMRC. We are always 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 2025 there was income of £33749. Expenditure was £38088, and this created an excess of expenditure over income of £4339, which was taken from reserves. This is explained by substantial maintenance to the building which included a new floor and carpet, and a new heating system (partly paid for by a grant).

Despite the extra expenditure, we find ourselves in a healthy financial position going forward into next year.

Mission/Outreach/Community work

The chapel website and Facebook page are organically growing and improving. Our presence on Google and other websites where the public may be searching for a local church have helped new people join our congregation. We still post a monthly biblical Pause for Thought feature on the village Facebook group which provides a few simple thoughts on a topic. The chapel also writes an article in the village newsletter The Abbott, and in the local parish Kings Beck news, giving details of the chapel activities.

Welcome packs are delivered to all new occupants moving into the village, which helps us connect with new people, and these are always well received.

Mother's Day and Father's Day services continue to be good opportunities to invite the local community in, with special gifts for those who come. These occasions are linked to biblical truths.

Easter was marked with a Easter crafts, kids and coffee morning when we served hot cross buns, had children's craft activities, gave out chocolate eggs. Easter Sunday, we had a wonderful celebration service. We gave away chocolate eggs to the village, with Easter story booklets and colouring sheets for everyone!

We continue to have a variety of speakers at the chapel. We have themed weeks and short series. We endeavour to ensure our services are accessible to those with no church background but provide bible teaching for Christians also. We had external speakers from Compassion UK, Fisherman's Mission, and Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF). Some examples of our themes have been Marvellous Mums and Daring Dads found in the bible, and what we can learn from their lives. We also journey through books in the bible eg the book of Acts, a series that is continuing into the next year.

We hosted a bring and share lunch and a harvest supper evening, with a quiz – both were well attended and brought people together.

Another Alpha course ran through the summer months. Our Alpha courses are an opportunity for local people to ask basic questions about the Christian faith.

In June, we were pleased to baptise three ladies by full immersion – the first ever baptism in the history of the chapel. A pool was hired in, and they gave testimony to how God has changed their lives.

The Village Revels fun day was held in June this year. The chapel took an active part, as chapel leaders helped in the set up, and compered the event.

The chapel 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.

For harvest in September, we supported the North Norfolk Food bank harvest appeal, by being a collecting point in the village for anyone who wanted to donate food items and monetary donations, and several bags of food were dropped off at the food bank. There is now an ongoing basket at the back of the church for anyone wishing to donate throughout the year.

The chapel decided to take on the sponsorship of a child through Compassion UK, and now support Marvin in Uganda, corresponding with him regularly.

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 captivating testimonies from the Christian Motorcyclists Association, who brought 5 of their members with bikes on display at the village hall. September saw the visit of a Christian children's entertainer John Hardwick, and he delighted all the children who came with his juggling, Cheeky Charlie the monkey, and his stories and cool songs. There was a Christian theme to his programme.

For Christmas, the chapel leader, Jane Everard, once again launched a pop up community choir and many new people joined from the village and the surrounding area - a great way to bring people together and into the chapel.

A local four piece band (formed for the occasion) led our annual candlelit carol service. The community choir brought the message of Christmas in song. The choir also sang at The Goat Public House, in the next village, and they led carol singing around the village of Swanton Abbott. After the carol singing, the chapel was open for a social evening of community carols, mulled wine and festive treats.

Our illuminated crib scene outside the chapel raised awareness to the village of the true message of Christmas.

Our Christmas community charitable project involved collecting individual chocolate bars for the Mathew Project in Norwich, who support people overcoming issues with drugs, alcohol and mental health. These were wrapped with bookmarks and a bible message of hope at Christmas, and were presented to those finishing their recent recovery support programme. The village got involved with this too, dropping off chocolate bars throughout November.

Throughout 2024, we became the village collecting point for the recycling of empty printer cartridges and mobile phones. We also had two table top sales – raising a grand sum of £100 which we presented to the village hall committee.

We continue to make the building available to others in the community as appropriate.

The chapel looks to provide pastoral and financial support to individuals and families in need within the locality, as and when they come to our attention.

Twice a month, we run Coffee on The Corner, a café style community coffee morning. With free refreshments and home-made cakes, it becomes a place for those who could do with some company or who like to socialise, to meet others and make new friends. It serves as a cosy warm place for people to come to throughout the winter months. We offer a book swap facility, with quizzes on the tables, and a folder of useful contact information, health and medical leaflets and organisations offering advice and help.

Throughout this year, 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 7 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by

Kevin John Everard
Chair of Trustees

SWANTON ABBOTT COMMUNITY CHAPEL
FOR THE YEAR 28TH FEBRUARY 2025

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO. 1195585

MONTHS 12

INCOME and EXPENDITURE Account

INCOME	2024/25 £	2023/24 £	ANNUAL BUDGET 2024/25 £	YTD BUDGET 2024/25 £	YTD BUDGET VARIANCE
GIFT AID DONATIONS	9364	7765	8500	8500	864
GENERAL OFFERINGS	3588	3046	3300	3300	288
DONATIONS	1177	11700	200	200	977
FUNERAL & WEDDING INCOME	40	200	200	200	-160
COFFEE ON THE CORNER INCOME	394	217	300	300	94
INTEREST INCOME	1817	179	1300	1300	517
GIFT AID TAX RECLAIM	3716	3153	3500	3500	216
MICELLANEOUS INCOME	5289	25	5150	5150	139
RENTAL INCOME NELSON WAY FLAT & GARAGE	8365	7870	8000	8000	365
TOTAL INCOME	33749	34156	30480	30480	3269

EXPENDITURE

MINISTRY ALLOWANCES & EXPENSES	5200	2400	4800	4800	400
MISSION & OUTREACH	2088	2171	2500	2500	-412
VISITING SPEAKERS FEES	1761	470	2000	2000	-239
CHURCH - PROPERTY MAINTENANCE	19455	1114	13300	13300	6155
CHURCH - UTILITIES	1056	2275	3100	3100	-2044
CHURCH - TELEPHONE	399	505	600	600	-201
CHURCH - EQUIPMENT	1277	5684	5000	5000	-3723
INSURANCE	538	479	538	538	0
STATIONERY AND ADMINISTRATION	935	562	650	650	285
TRAINING	38	163	250	250	-212
CHARITABLE DONATIONS	1511	1088	3500	3500	-1989
HOSPITALITY FOOD TEA & COFFEE	804	533	1000	1000	-196
LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL FEES	0	293	500	500	-500
BANK CHARGES	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	0	0	200	200	-200
RENTAL EXPENSES NELSON WAY FLAT & GARAGE	3025	2042	2000	2000	1025
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	38088	19779	39938	39938	-1850
SURPLUS OF INCOME (EXPENDITURE)	-4339	14377	-9488	-9488	5149

SWANTON ABBOTT COMMUNITY CHAPEL
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 28TH FEBRUARY 2025

ASSETS
BARCLAYS BANK ACCOUNT NO. 93156001
BARCLAYS BANK SAVINGS ACCOUNT NO. 60684449
KINGDOM BANK ACCOUNT NO. 2001-01039-X
PETTY CASH

7765	7618
7073	47427
36987	0
50706	55045

TOTAL ASSETS

LIABILITIES

GENERAL FUND AS AT 1st MARCH 2024
PLUS SURPLUS OF INCOME (EXPENDITURE)
GENERAL FUND AS AT 28TH FEBRUARY 2025

55045	55045
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RESTRICTED FUNDS

0	0
50706	55045

TOTAL LIABILITIES

I have examined the Accounts of Swanton Abbott Community Chapel for the year ending 28th February 2025 and found them to be in agreement with the financial records.



Signed

R. Huddleston Date 22/04/2028
Accounting Services



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

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 2025

Charity no (if any)	1195565
1 & 2	

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 28th February 2025.

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: 22/04/25

Name:

R C HUDDLESTONE

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

Address:

VALLEY FARM BUNGALOW, VALLEY FARM LANE
MELTON, WOODBRIDGE
IP12 1LL

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.