

Registered charity number: 1195960

St Leonard's Community Church

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

St Leonard's Community Church

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St Leonard's Community Church

Annual report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Trustees

Rev Lucy Sablan	Appointed 31 August 2021
Rev Christopher Stebbing	Appointed 6 October 2022
Stephen Adams	Appointed 24 May 2022
Caroline Clifford	Appointed 24 May 2022
Rev Mike Rutter	Appointed 31 August 2021

Principal Address

St Paul & St Leonard's Vicarage
458B East Bank Road
Sheffield
S2 2AD

Objectives and activities

The Objects of The CIO are the advancement of the Christian faith, for the benefit of the public especially within the Arbourthorne and Norfolk park areas of Sheffield and in such parts of the united kingdom, or the world, as the trustees of the charity may from time to time think fit and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales and connected with the charitable work of the charity.

Background

St Leonard's Community Church was set up as a CIO on 29 September 2021, to support the work of the church and community space, based in a converted public house – 331 Arbourthorne Road, S2 2FH.

This history of this church, formally known as "The Beacon", is somewhat complicated:

The assets and liabilities of the former parish of Arbourthorne and Norfolk Park were held in the name of registered charity number 1145963, legally called "St Paul & St Leonard's church", but known as "The Beacon".

By virtue of a Pastoral Scheme, the parishes of 'Heeley' and of 'Arbourthorne and Norfolk Park' merged into a single parish on 1 August 2021. The new parish is known as the 'Parish of Heeley with Arbourthorne and Norfolk Park'. The parish was registered with the Charity Commission on 5 November 2021, charity number 1196414, with the legal name "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church Heeley with Arbourthorne and Norfolk Park".

A transfer in of assets and liabilities from "St Paul & St Leonard's church" to "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church Heeley with Arbourthorne and Norfolk Park" took place as at 1 August 2021.

This charity, was set up to receive the cash assets and any liabilities relating to St Leonard's Church once a Bishop's Mission Order has been granted. This in turn awaits the preparation of a new lease from the parish to St Leonard's Community Church. This was anticipated to be completed in 2022, but has taken longer than expected. Activity at the Community Church continues to be represented (and the finances included) in the accounts of "The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church Heeley with Arbourthorne and Norfolk Park" for 2022.

St Leonard's Community Church

Annual report - continued

For the year ended 31 December 2023

A transfer in of funds took place with effect from midnight on 1 January 2023.

Achievements and performance

Mission at St Leonard's Community Church is led by Revd Lucy Sablan who was licensed to the Bishop's Mission Order at its creation in 2022.

In 2023 3 new staff members joined operations. Children's and families worker, Administrative Assistant (shared with Christ Church Heeley) and a Curate who was ordained in June 2023.

More information on activities can be found here:

<https://www.saintleonards.co.uk/>

When planning our activities for the year, the trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit, and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Worship Services and Discipleship

Our Sunday attendance was consistent with 2022, but our worshipping community (those who regularly attend worship) grew from 31 to 52 in 2023. This is in part due to changing patterns of attendance and in part due to the addition of two new worship services in the week (j:10:10 and REFRESH).

- We begun a midweek service on Wednesday morning's which caters for those who attend our community café. This has provided a space for those who either can't make Sunday or for whom Sundays may not be a good fit.
- J:10:10, a new Monday evening service began in collaboration with the Salvation Army and Church Army. See the ecumenical section for more details.
- Wild Church (our outdoor family service) moved from being an additional service once a month through the summer, to being our family service at the main Sunday service. This transition has worked well- and prevented congregation split meaning numbers at each service are low. In colder months we move inside for a similar style family service.
- Our Sunday morning breakfast church was cancelled from Feb onwards due to low numbers and as our children's worker started at the beginning of 2023, we are now able to provide children's provision at our main Sunday service.

A new home group began off the back of a bible overview course and is continuing well. Another small group began as a 'Wellbeing group' and has gathered people both with an active faith and exploring around topics of wellbeing and faith.

St Leonard's Community Church

Annual report - continued

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Mission and Evangelism

This has continued to be a focus for our operations as we establish ourselves in the community and try to serve it well. As ever our main approach for evangelism is relational, and so while no specific evangelism programmes ran in 2023, it runs naturally alongside our mission and outreach work.

- Our community Café 'Connect café' became a registered warm space and we began a collaboration with local Coop supermarkets to giveaway their end of sell by products to our Café guests.
- 'Pub Nights' (socials in the church café) got rebranded as 'Pub Tea' nights and now feature a meal and kid's club. These have been increasingly well received by families, particularly single Mum's who struggle with childcare as well as those with lower incomes who often cant afford an evening out or meal out.
- We launched Saturday coffee mornings as a warm space.
- The building is used by many local groups and our connections are deepening with them.
- We have continued to support 'Friends of Arbourthorne pond' with their Healthy Holiday's Pond Club over the summer holidays. This busy holiday club is a great opportunity to help serve our local community and encourage engagement with nature, as well as an opportunity for us to get to know people in the wider community.

Youth, Children and Families Work

- We recruited a Centenary project worker who began in January 2023
- We began 'Roots', an afterschool club which is well attended by local children who previously were not connected with the church.
- Sunday kids club begun in January this year. Attendance is varied but the children always enjoy the sessions and share their learning with the congregation.
- Connections with Local schools have begun. We gave out Christmas hampers to Arbourthorne Primary, and held a love your area painting competition at both local primary schools before the summer holidays which linked to a summer painting day held at church.

Ecumenical

- In September 2023 we began a collaborative ecumenical project around addiction recovery. This is primarily based around J1010, a church service designed particularly for people who have a faith and struggle with addiction.

Future plans

- SEN toddler group looking to begin in September 2024
- Further work with schools to be prioritised in 2024
- Explore social enterprise as a missional revenue stream
- Youth Group to be started
- Recovery group to be hosted in church

St Leonard's Community Church

Annual report - continued

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Financial review

As noted above funds were transferred from Heeley to St Leonards with effect from midnight on the 31st December 2022.

It has been an encouraging year with giving from the congregation exceeding the initial budgeted figures. This along with the success in securing a number of grants to fund positions such as the Children and Families worker and the Admin Assistant has meant that the work and ministry of the church has been able to develop and expand more than expected at the start of the year.

As ever challenges have remained not least in keeping a check on the utility costs. Long term contracts with gas and electric companies have provided the church with some security in knowing the monthly outgoings. The fabric of the building has also raised some concerns and repairs and maintenance have been ongoing. A fuller inspection is due to be completed in 2024, to enable a repair and maintenance schedule to be compiled and costed.

The church committed to paying £1,000 to the Diocese as its share of the Common Fund and this was paid in full.

Free reserves (general fund cash reserves) as at 31 December 2023 were £18,104. The trustees consider this balance sufficient when considering cash flow needs and the 2024 budget. The trustees do not yet have a formal reserves policy or target but will determine these before the end of 2024.

The trustees declare that they have approved the annual report on 17/04/2024 and is signed on their behalf by:



Name: Lucy Sablan

Position: Senior Minister and Chair of trustees

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of St Leonard's Community Church ("the CIO")

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed: *S Lightfoot*
Sarah Lightfoot, FCA, DChA

Seven Hills Accountants Limited
57 Burton Street
Sheffield
S6 2HH

Date: 18 April 2024

St Leonard's Community Church
Receipts and payments account
For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2023 Total £
Receipts from:						
Voluntary Giving						
Planned giving		12,754	-	-	-	12,754
Collections at services		173	-	-	-	173
Other giving		286	-	-	-	286
Grants		1,150	-	6,408	-	7,558
Fundraising activities		213	-	-	-	213
Church activities						
Event income		578	-	-	-	578
Rent from Hall		16,135	-	-	-	16,135
Other income						
Arbourthourne Pond		-	-	2,602	-	2,602
Salary contributions		1,753	-	-	-	1,753
Other income		1,256	-	-	-	1,256
Investment income		8	-	-	-	8
Transfer in from Christ Church Heeley	6	11,150	-	5,185	-	16,335
Total receipts		45,456	-	14,195	-	59,651
Payments from:						
Church activities						
Common fund		1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Clergy and staff expenses		446	-	-	-	446
Salaries, wages and honoraria		3,551	-	5,658	-	9,209
Mission and evangelism costs						
Café costs		1,043	-	-	-	1,043
Other mission and evangelism costs		4,051	-	750	-	4,801
Church running expenses						
Upkeep of services		437	-	-	-	437
Building maintenance costs		3,800	-	-	-	3,800
Building utilities		8,311	-	-	-	8,311
Insurance		867	-	-	-	867
Garden costs		2,025	-	133	-	2,158
Accountancy and Independent examination fees		210	-	-	-	210
Other running expenses		1,611	-	-	-	1,611
Arbourthourne Pond costs		-	-	531	-	531
		27,352	-	7,072	-	34,424
Net receipts/(payments)		18,104	-	7,123	-	25,227
Transfers		-	3,760	(3,760)	-	-
Net movement in funds		18,104	3,760	3,363	-	25,227
Total cash funds carried forward		18,104	3,760	3,363	-	25,227

St Leonard's Community Church
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2023 £
Cash funds						
Bank current accounts		18,104	3,760	3,363	-	25,227
Total cash funds		18,104	3,760	3,363	-	25,227
Investment and property assets						
CCLA investment fund - income shares	4	-	-	-	18,921	18,921
Total investment and property assets		-	-	-	18,921	18,921

St Leonard's Church is a converted pub that is licenced to carry out religious activities, rather than being consecrated property, therefore it is appropriate to recognise ownership and valuation.

Assets retained for church use

The PCC own a variety of furniture and equipment for use in church activities. No valuation is put on these items.

Debtors

Gift aid recoverable

Liabilities

Building utilities	1,231	-	-	-	1,231
Accountancy and Independent examination fees	540	-	-	-	540
Total liabilities	1,771	-	-	-	1,771

Approved by the trustees on 17/04/2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Name: Lucy Sablan

Position: Senior Minister and Chair of trustees

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared in line with the Charity Commission guidance on Receipts and payment accounts and the Church Accounting Regulation 2016.

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

Funds

General funds are donations and other income receivable or generated for the objects of the organisation without further specified purpose.

Designated funds are set aside at the discretion of the PCC.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor.

Endowment funds arise from specific gifts left to the church and are held as investments. The investment income generated from these investments can be used towards the same purposes that the investments are held for.

2 Designated funds

	Note	Cash funds brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Cash funds carried forward £
CPW		-	-	-	3,760	3,760
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,760</u>	<u>3,760</u>

CPW

Monies set aside towards a Centenary Project worker.

3 Restricted funds

	Note	Cash funds brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Cash funds carried forward £
Ward pot		-	1,425	(133)	-	1,292
Other restricted funds	6	-	3,760	-	(3,760)	-
Friends of Arbourthorne Pond		-	2,602	(531)	-	2,071
Admin worker grant		-	5,658	(5,658)	-	-
Shutter painting		-	500	(500)	-	-
ROOTS		-	250	(250)	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>14,195</u>	<u>(7,072)</u>	<u>(3,760)</u>	<u>3,363</u>

Ward pot

Monies given for various items including the community garden, christmas tree, kitchen equipment and the food bank.

Other restricted funds

These Restricted funds were transferred from Christ Church Heeley, and had originally been transferred in from St Paul & St Leonard's Parish church - the entity before the parish merger was complete. These comprise of Music and arts, children's work, Dennis Macdonald Memorial, Training fund and Poverty fund. The source of these funds and the actual restricted use has been lost and so the trustees have decided to put these funds towards a Centenary Project worker in a designated fund.

Friends of Arbourthorne Pond

The Church is acting as agent for this community group who do not have their own bank account - the vicar Lucy Sablan sits on their board. The funds are spent as set out by the group.

Admin worker grant

A grant to cover a part time admin post shared with Christ Church Heeley.

St Leonard's Community Church
Notes to the financial statements - continued
For the year ended 31 December 2023

4 Endowment funds

	Cash funds brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Cash funds carried forward £
Endowment fund	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Endowment fund

As part of the parish merger, the endowment fund investments were transferred in from St Paul & St Leonard's church, and Christ Church Heeley with the same conditions as the original endowment. The value as at 31 December 2022, when the funds were transferred, was £17,281.

This endowment fund is held as CCLA income shares. The investment valuation at the year end was £18,921.

During the year the associated investment dividends of £517 were paid directly into the Sheffield Diocese Board of Finance bank account and allocated to the common fund to support clergy stipends in the year.

5 Related party transactions

Trustees and their close relatives donated £3,060 in addition to any amounts given within the collection, during the year.

Trustees received no remuneration for their role as trustees during the year. Clergy and staff expenses primarily comprise costs to allow the clergy and staff to fulfil their roles, for example telephone recharges and mileage contributions, as well as vicarage water costs. £149 costs were paid to clergy who were also trustees in the year.

S Adams is a trustee of the below charities - these connections exist so that the activities within the extended parish can be managed.

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christ Church Heeley with Arbourthorne and Norfolk Park (Christ Church Heeley) (registered charity 1196414)

The church building (331 Arbourthorne Road) is being leased to the community church for their use as a worship and community centre, for a peppercorn rent.

A shared admin worker was appointed, with costs being split 1/3 Heeley, 2/3 St Leonard's - payments were made between the 2 to share the costs, and £1,500 of the Diocese grant received by Heeley was paid over to St Leonard's.

See also note 6 below re the transfer of funds with effect from 1 January 2023.

St Paul & St Leonard's Church (registered charity 1145963) S Adams

There were no transactions during the year. The charity is dormant and needs to be closed with the Charity Commission.

6 Transfer in of funds from Christ Church Heeley

Background

A pastoral measure was approved to merge the parish of Heeley with Arbourthorne and Norfolk Park with effect from 1 August 2021.

The property owned by St Paul & St Leonard's Church (registered charity 1145963) was transferred to Christ Church Heeley, with the Sheffield Diocesan Board of Finance being custodian trustees. This church building (331 Arbourthorne Road) is being leased to the community church for their use as a worship and community centre, for a peppercorn rent.

All other investments, assets (cash and other) and liabilities of St Paul & St Leonard's Church (registered charity 1145963) were also transferred to Christ Church Heeley. St Paul & St Leonard's Church (registered charity 1145963) will be closed once the administration of the transfer of assets is complete.

This entity, St Leonard's Community Church (registered charity 1195960), was set up to become a Bishops Mission Order and take over the running of this church.

It was the intention of Christ Church Heeley to transfer out this balance to St Leonard's Community Church when the Bishop's Mission Order had been granted. The Bishop's Mission order was granted in September 2022 however there was a delay in setting up new bank accounts, so the financial activities of St Leonard's remained within these accounts during 2022. The transfer of assets and liabilities to the Community Church took place at midnight on 31/12/22.

St Leonard's Community Church
Notes to the financial statements - continued
For the year ended 31 December 2023

6 Transfer in of funds from Christ Church Heeley - continued

Transfer of assets and liabilities in on 01/01/2023

		Value as at 01/01/23	
		£	£
Current account balances split by fund			
General fund		11,150	
Restricted funds - ward pot		1,425	
Restricted funds - as transferred in			
Music and arts/ Eden Project	151		
Children's Work	892		
Dennis Macdonald Memorial	333		
Training Fund	1,703		
Poverty Fund (prior Joseph Fund)	681		
Restricted funds		3,760	
Total current account balances transferred - see Receipts and payments account			16,335
CCLA investment - CBF deposit funds		17,281	
Contribution to 2022 accounts and independent examination fee		(210)	
Other assets and liabilities transferred			17,071
Transfer in of assets and liabilities from Christ Church Heeley (registered charity 1196414)			<u><u>33,406</u></u>