

Grace Church Kidlington

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 July 2024

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

GRACE CHURCH KIDLINGTON
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	20 Harts Close Kidlington OX5 1AZ
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution dated 29 September 2021
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1196747
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Philip Butcher Katie Bartlett Michael Smith Judith Smith Iain Gray Luke Cornish (appointed 1 September 2023)
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Archie McDowall BA CA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB
BANKERS	Metro Bank Kingdom Bank
LEGAL ADVISOR	Edward Connor 10 The Point Market Harborough LE16 7QU

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GRACE CHURCH KIDLINGTON
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2024. It contains the following items:

- The annual report of the charity explaining the activities undertaken in the year, how the charity met its public benefit objectives and the way the church is managed.
- The annual financial report for the financial year ended 31st July 2024, the required statements and notes to the accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102.

A. Objectives and Aims

Grace Church Kidlington is a relatively new church having started meeting for Sunday worship in October 2017. We meet and work in Kidlington, a large village 6 miles north of Oxford. The church is a small community-based church which is focused on serving all ages. The church is a member of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches and has adopted the FIEC's Basis of Faith as the theological basis of its work. The activities of the church involve the promotion of our beliefs and reaching out to our community and beyond, providing care and sharing our faith. The trustees of Grace Church Kidlington confirm they have had regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and believe they have met the legal requirement of S17 of the Charities Act 2011.

Objectives

1. the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Kidlington and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
2. such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity trustees, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to: the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness; the advancement of education; and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need to such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Aims

We aim to be a church enabled by the Holy Spirit to live for God's glory by:

- Growing in understanding and enjoying God's grace to us in Jesus (UP)
- Sharing life together as a community shaped by God's grace to us in Jesus (IN)
- Proclaiming to Kidlington and beyond the Good News of God's grace to us in Jesus (OUT)

B: Activities that further the Charity's objectives

Sundays

On Sundays we have seen some new people join us for our worship services, which include singing, praying and preaching. Activities for children also take place alongside the service most weeks. The sermons are recorded and uploaded straightaway to our website for those unable to attend to listen to. Some of the attenders would say they are not yet Christians, but attend to learn more of the Christian faith.

Twice a month we also run interactive seminars for attenders to learn more about the Christian faith.

Weekdays

We have 2 homegroups that meet weekly in different homes in the village. They have the aim to provide community and care, alongside studying the Bible and praying together.

Raising Awareness and understanding our faith

At the centre of all we do as a church is the teaching of the Bible and encouragement of faith in Jesus. Some of the ways this has been done over the past year include:-

- Sunday services: services take place each Sunday, at 4:00pm.
- Each week a number of Community & Bible study groups meet, in local homes.
- Throughout the year courses run and individuals meet together to work through courses such as Christianity Explored to help explain our faith to those who are interested.
- A number of the members meet up one-to-one to learn more about the Christian faith together & to support each other through life by listening and prayer.
- At the invitation of a local school, our pastor and other members have been able to teach about the Christian faith in assemblies and RE lessons. Our pastor-in-training also helps run a Christian lunch club in the secondary school.
- This past year at their invitation, we have begun taking a monthly service at a local care home. This service ends with a social time, where church members offer friendship and chat to the residents.

Encouraging Mission and Outreach

Grace Church Kidlington remains committed to being outwardly focused, sharing our faith within the local community, more broadly in the UK and through supporting international mission. Outreach events are held throughout the year, in the local area, to which the congregation are encouraged to invite friends and family. This has included special events at Christmas & Easter, social evenings (quiz night), a monthly service in a local care home, an Easter trail for families at a local park, stalls at village events, such as the Christmas Light's Switch on event & the summer Gala at Exeter Park.

The appointment of a Pastor-in-Training, using a legacy received by the charity has enabled us to have more capacity for community engagement and benefit.

One new venture we have begun in 2024 is our International Café. Kidlington has many residents for whom English is not their first language. Our International Café meets weekly and offers a friendly and safe space for such residents to practice their English in a structured environment, as well as making friends and being able to receive help in navigating life in the UK.

We continue to support prayerfully & financially, two mission partners, working in the UK and internationally.

B: Activities that further the Charity's objectives (continued)

Communicating our Faith and purpose

Communicating our faith is a key part of our activities as a church. Most of our activities seek to provide opportunities for those in the local community and beyond to hear the gospel and build the faith of those who believe.

Volunteers

The volunteers within the church help in every aspect of the church's work. The majority of our members and many of the congregation partner together in our ministries and in practical ways. The trustees recognise that without this many of the church's activities could not take place.

C: Financial review

Analysis of Income

The income of the church is primarily donations from church members and those associated with the church plus gift aid. Total income was £60.8k.

Analysis of Expenditure

Total costs to the general fund were £89.4K. In the financial year to 31st July 2024 there was a deficit of £28.5k to the general fund.

Reserves

The trustees set an agreed budget each financial year. The treasurer has authority, with relevant consultation with the Trustees and Elders, to work within this budget. Any expenditure outside the budget must be brought before the trustees.

At the end of the 2023-24 financial year the general fund reserve fund stood at £114.6k.

The Trustees have started using the reserves to pay for a Pastor In Training over 4 years as agreed with church members. The Trustees' normal reserves policy will be to maintain 3 months of salary in cash reserves at all times, this being £20K. An emergency meeting would be called if reserves dropped below this level.

Budget 2024-2025

The budget for 2024-2025 was approved by Trustees at their meeting in August 2024.

Income to the general fund for 2024/25 is forecast to be £57k. Spending from the general fund for 2023/24 is forecast to be £96k. Spending will exceed income by £39k.

C: Financial review (continued)

Investment Policy

No long term investments are held by the church.

Risks and Uncertainties

The church, and its trustees, are potentially at risk from a number of sources. These risks are managed so as not to expose them to undue risk and trustees are kept informed so that they are able to deal with any situations that may arise. Risks are assessed and mitigated against on an ongoing basis.

The future

The trustees remain committed to using the resources and income of the charity to advance the aims of the church.

D: Structure, governance & management

Grace Church Kidlington is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered in December 2021. The church is governed by a Constitution and Handbook. The church is a member of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) and the South Central Gospel Partnership.

Church membership

Church membership is open to baptised Christians who adhere to the statement of faith and ethical statement, and who are willing to be in active partnership with the church in the work of the gospel. At the year-end church membership stood at 25, of which 2 are junior members. The church members meet regularly to conduct business meetings.

Organisational structure

The church membership elects, from its number, individuals to serve as church officers, who form the trustee body. These officers are Elders, a Safeguarding Officer and a Treasurer. The Elders serve for a term of 5 years and may then be re-appointed. An Elder can serve for a maximum of 10 years before, where possible, taking a break of at least one year. The Safeguarding Officer & Treasurer each serve for a term of 3 years and may be re-elected for up to two further terms before, where possible, taking a break of at least one year.

The Elders are responsible for doctrinal integrity, policy and strategy. The Safeguarding Officer and Treasurer are responsible for practical matters.

The trustees meet at least four times each year and have overall responsibility for the operation of the church. The trustees draw up policies and procedures within which they operate and make decisions. The charity currently has two paid staff members, the pastor Philip Butcher and pastor-in-training Luke Cornish, who serve as elder and trustees. Philip Butcher is the chair of trustees.

Responsibilities of trustees

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Philip J. Butcher
[Philip J. Butcher \(Jan 2, 2025 10:12 GMT\)](#)

PHILIP BUTCHER (CHAIR OF TRUSTEES)

Date: Jan 2, 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
GRACE CHURCH KIDLINGTON

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Grace Church Kidlington ('the charity') for the year ended 31 July 2024 on pages 8 to 10 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 2011 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 accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. 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.

Archie McDowall
Archie McDowall (Jan 20, 2025 11:44 GMT)

Archie McDowall BA CA
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Jan 20, 2025

GRACE CHURCH KIDLINGTON
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

		Unrestricted Funds			
		General Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
Notes		£	£	£	£
Income receipts					
		47,774	-	47,774	48,024
		9,676	-	9,676	9,084
		-	-	-	75,000
		3,393	-	3,393	251
		60,842	-	60,842	132,359
Payments					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	83,691	-	83,691	49,467
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	5,700	-	5,700	7,200
		89,391	-	89,391	56,667
Total payments					
		89,391	-	89,391	56,667
Net of receipts / (payments) before		(28,549)	-	(28,549)	75,692
Transfers between funds	5	-	-	-	-
		(28,549)	-	(28,549)	75,692
Net movement in funds					
Cash funds as at last year end		143,136	-	143,136	67,445
Cash funds at this year end	A	114,588	-	114,588	143,136

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

GRACE CHURCH KIDLINGTON
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	<u>Inrestricted Fund:</u>			
	General	Restricted		
	funds	funds		
Notes	£	£	2024	2023
			£	£
A Cash funds				
Cash at bank with immediate access	29,588	-	29,588	58,034
Notice deposits	85,000	-	85,000	85,103
	<u>114,588</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>114,588</u>	<u>143,136</u>
B Other monetary assets				
Gift aid due to charity	759	-	759	730
Prepayments	820	-	820	720
Other debtors	1,879	-	1,879	1,566
	<u>3,458</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,458</u>	<u>3,015</u>
C Liabilities				
Falling due within one year				
Taxes due	1,041	-	1,041	656
Other creditors	149	-	149	-
Fee for Independent Examination	864	-	864	840
	<u>2,054</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,054</u>	<u>1,496</u>

D Guarantees and secured debts

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Philip J. Butcher
Philip J. Butcher (Jan 2, 2025 10:12 GMT)

PHILIP BUTCHER (CHAIR OF TRUSTEES)

Date: Jan 2, 2025

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

GRACE CHURCH KIDLINGTON

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	Unrestricted Funds			
	General funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Employment costs (see note 4)	71,578	-	71,578	38,249
Ministry expenses	3,421	-	3,421	2,420
Small equipment	-	-	-	998
Rent	4,050	-	4,050	3,975
Insurance	219	-	219	219
Professional fees	1,483	-	1,483	1,075
Independent examination	840	-	840	810
Gifts and hospitality	122	-	122	-
Travel	385	-	385	171
Office costs	1,594	-	1,594	1,551
	<u>83,691</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,691</u>	<u>49,467</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Grants for mission in the UK and overseas:

Pioneers UK Ministries	1,800	-	1,800	1,800
Wycliffe Bible Translators	2,400	-	2,400	3,600
Sports Friends	1,500	-	1,500	1,800
	<u>5,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,700</u>	<u>7,200</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

During the year Philip Butcher served as a church leader and was paid a total of £38,775 (2023: £35,913) and received pension contributions of £3,435 (2023: £3,205) for serving in that capacity, not for serving as a trustee. These payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

Luke Cornish served a church leader and was paid a total of £28,783 (2023: £0) and received pension contributions of £2,433 (2023: £0) for serving in that capacity, not for serving as a trustee. These payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

5 Movement of funds

	Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	143,136	60,842	(89,391)	-	114,588
Total funds	<u>143,136</u>	<u>60,842</u>	<u>(89,391)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>114,588</u>