

Registered charity number: 1200065

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Chanter, Browne & Curry

Chartered Accountants
1 Plato Place
72-74 St Dionis Road
London SW6 4TU.

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST

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BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. 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 applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second edition - October 2019) - (Charity SORP (FRS 102) Revised).

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

Our aims and objectives

The aims and objects of the charity are as follows:-

- 1) To advance the Christian faith worldwide for the benefit of the public through producing and delivering Christian messages at churches, seminars, public celebration of religious festivals and any other Christian gathering and opportunities for networking (fellowship, discussion and working together) among established as well as emerging churches and church leaders.
- 2) To advance the education of the pupils at Bethlehem Bible College in Bethlehem, by assisting in the provision of facilities for education at the College provided either in person or online through provision of funds and grants to the College for such purposes.
- 3) For the public benefit to promote the education (including language and leadership training) of people worldwide in such ways as the charity trustees think fit, including by awarding to such person's scholarships, maintenance allowances or grants tenable at Bethlehem Bible College.
- 4) The prevention or relief of poverty in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories by providing humanitarian grants to Bethlehem Bible College who will then distribute the funds to those suffering from financial hardship towards the following:
 - a) Generally paying for items and services such as food, medicine, utility bills or medical treatment; and
 - b) For payment of tuition fees, cost of examinations or other expenses connected with vocational training of students who face financial difficulties and otherwise will not be able to complete their education at Bethlehem Bible College.

The objectives of the charity are set to reflect its community aims. Each year the trustees review the charity's objectives and activities to ensure they continue to reflect the aims of the charity. In carrying out this review the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and its supplementary public guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit.

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Achievements and performance

Activities undertaken during the period have included the following:

- 1) To advance the Christian faith worldwide.
 - a) Visits to church, colleges, and the community throughout the UK to share and discuss about our work.
 - b) Regular prayer meetings at our office.
 - c) The office space used for talks and to present information about the Bethlehem Bible College, Shepherd Society and the land in which they live.
 - d) Regular supporters can receive newsletters from Bethlehem Bible College and the Shepherd Society.
- 2) To advance the education of the pupils at Bethlehem Bible College.
 - a) Funds are raised in the UK for the support of the running of the Bethlehem Bible College and for the students attending.
 - b) A UK donor provides funds, to support a Master's student at the college.
- 3) To promote education of people worldwide, including maintenance allowances or grants at Bethlehem Bible College.
 - a) Contributions towards operational costs provided to the college facilitate the educational activities of the college.
 - b) One of the activities of the college is online courses. These include: Biblical Studies, and languages such as English and Arabic, which benefit people in various parts of the world.
- 4) The prevention or relief of poverty in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories.
 - a) The social outreach arm of the Bethlehem Bible College is the Shepherd Society who then distribute the funds to those suffering from financial hardship.
 - b) We raise funds for the Shepherd Society. The funds are used for emergency provision, such as food parcels, utility bills, medical costs (ie medicines and surgery costs) and job creation; as well as more durable solutions, such as micro-finance for projects for self-sustainability, and help with tuition fees and other expenses connected with vocational training of students who are facing financial difficulties whilst attending the Bethlehem Bible College.

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Financial review

The attached financial statements summarise the charity's transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Total income for year is £71,701 (2024: £64,757). Total expenditure is £53,586 (2024: £67,794). The net surplus is £18,115 (2024: £3,037 deficit). Totals funds at the year-end was £96,896 (2024: £78,781), made up of unrestricted funds of £38,366 (2024: £23,570) and restricted funds of £58,530 (2024: £55,211).

Principal funding sources

The charity's principal sources of funding are from gifts and donations.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately twelve months unrestricted expenditure. This provides sufficient funds to cover management, administration, and support costs.

Risk management

The trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining unrestricted reserves at current levels, combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the charity and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

Bethlehem Development Trust is an unincorporated public benefit entity and was established in England under a trust deed dated 28 May 2021, as amended by a resolution dated 1 August 2022. It became a registered charity on 15 August 2022.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trust deed of the charity requires that there must be at least 3 trustees. Apart from the first trustees every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution of the trustees passed at a special meeting (held before or after an ordinary meeting). The board of trustees is authorised to appoint new trustees to fill vacancies arising through resignation or death of an existing trustee. Trustees have the right to co-opt members to serve as trustees between special meetings.

Trustee induction

The trustees receive documents relating to the rules and obligations of trustees as set out by the Charity Commission and are supported appropriately.

Organisational structure

There is a chairperson and other trustees. These officers and the other trustees were appointed on 15 August 2022 and serve for 3 years at a time.

Going concern

Albeit, with the uncertainty of the region of Israel and Occupied Palestinian Territories, there is still much need for funds for the support of our work. There is no reason to believe that this need is not required for the foreseeable future.

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Reference and administrative information

Chair person	Tanas Alqassis
Trustees	Tanas Alqassis Jacob Sara Andrew Paget Mojisola Olu-Oyeyemi Anne Plested
Registered charity number	1200065
Registered office	Post Office House Hambridge Langport Somerset TA10 0AU
Independent Examiner	Chanter, Browne & Curry Chartered Accountants 1 Plato Place 72-74 St Dionis Road London SW6 4TU.
Accountants	Elizabeth Sanders Limited 25 Gordon Road Windsor Berkshire SL4 3RG.
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PLC 24-26 High Street Wells Somerset BA5 2SJ.

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the trustees on 3/11/ 2025 and is signed on their behalf.



.....
Tanas Alqassis
Chair Person

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the above charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and the related notes on pages 9 to 11.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the trust's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 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 which give me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the financial statements did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the financial statements did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 financial statements to be reached.



.....
P.G. Browne FCA CTA

Chanter, Browne & Curry
Chartered Accountants
1 Plato Place
72-74 St Dionis Road
London SW6 4TU.

Date: 5 November 2025

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total £	2024 Total £
INCOME	1.3				
Gifts and donations	2	20,943	50,399	71,342	64,757
Interest received		359	-	359	-
Total income		<u>21,302</u>	<u>50,399</u>	<u>71,701</u>	<u>64,757</u>
EXPENDITURE	1.4				
Charitable activities	3	6,506	47,080	53,586	67,794
Total expenditure		<u>6,506</u>	<u>47,080</u>	<u>53,586</u>	<u>67,794</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		14,796	3,319	18,115	(3,037)
Total funds brought forward		23,570	55,211	78,781	81,818
Total funds carried forward	6	<u><u>38,366</u></u>	<u><u>58,530</u></u>	<u><u>96,896</u></u>	<u><u>78,781</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the period. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 11 form an integral part of these financial statements.

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
Current assets			
Debtors	4	2,351	1,066
Cash at bank		98,712	80,315
		<u>101,063</u>	<u>81,381</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	4,167	2,600
Net assets		<u>96,896</u>	<u>78,781</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted income funds	6, 7	58,530	55,211
Unrestricted income funds	6	38,366	23,570
		<u>96,896</u>	<u>78,781</u>

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf:-



.....
Tanas Alqassis
Chair Person

Date: 3/11/ 2025.

The notes on pages 9 to 11 form an integral part of these financial statements.

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The charity is an unincorporated public benefit entity established in England under a trust deed dated 28 May 2021, as amended by a resolution dated 1 August 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (second edition - October 2019) - (Charity SORP (FRS 102) Revised), The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated.

1.2 Going concern

Albeit, with the uncertainty of the region of Israel and Occupied Palestinian Territories, there is still much need for funds for the support of our work. There is no reason to believe that this need is not required for the foreseeable future.

1.3 Income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:-

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Gifts and donations are recorded as income in the accounting period in which they are received, except where the donor specifies that they should be used for a specific period.

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered.

2 Income from gifts and donations

	Unrestricted funds	2025 Restricted funds	Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£
Gifts and donations received	19,498	50,399	69,897	63,663
Gift Aid receivable	1,445	-	1,445	1,094
	<u>20,943</u>	<u>50,399</u>	<u>71,342</u>	<u>64,757</u>

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

3 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total £	2024 Total £
Activities undertaken directly and support costs				
Printing and stationery	95	-	95	408
Postage and couriers	312	-	312	313
Consulting costs	-	6,000	6,000	7,500
Rent and rates	2,248	-	2,248	2,470
Travel	383	-	383	1,018
Bank charges	-	30	30	45
Donations paid	-	41,050	41,050	44,996
Scholarships	-	-	-	6,450
Conferences	800	-	800	2,342
Telephone and internet	80	-	80	80
General expenses	113	-	113	-
	<u>4,031</u>	<u>47,080</u>	<u>51,111</u>	<u>65,622</u>
Governance costs				
Accountancy fees	1,275	-	1,275	935
Independent examiner's fee	1,200	-	1,200	1,140
Legal expenses	-	-	-	-
Board expenses	-	-	-	97
	<u>2,475</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,475</u>	<u>2,172</u>
	<u>6,506</u>	<u>47,080</u>	<u>53,586</u>	<u>67,794</u>

No staff were employed by the charity during the two years ended 31 March 2025.

None of the trustees (nor any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the two years ended 31 March 2025.

During the year ended 31 March 2025, consulting fees totalling £6,000 and rent and rates totalling £2,248 were paid to a trustee, Anne Plested. Bethlehem Bible College covered the costs of the consulting fees for Anne Plested.

4 Debtors

	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total £	2024 Total £
Gift Aid receivable	2,351	-	2,351	1,066
	<u>2,351</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,351</u>	<u>1,066</u>

5 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total £	2024 Total £
Accruals	4,167	-	4,167	2,600
	<u>4,167</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,167</u>	<u>2,600</u>

BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT TRUST
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6 Statement of income funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
At 1 April 2024	23,570	55,211	78,781
Incoming resources	<u>21,302</u>	<u>50,399</u>	<u>71,701</u>
	44,872	105,610	150,482
Resources expended	(6,506)	(47,080)	(53,586)
At 31 March 2025	<u>38,366</u>	<u>58,530</u>	<u>96,896</u>

7 Restricted funds

Restricted funds comprise the following:

- 1) Fund to support the running of the Bethlehem Bible College and for the students attending.
- 2) Fund for the Shepherds Society which is the social outreach arm of the Bethlehem Bible College. The fund is used for food parcels, utility bills, medical costs (i.e. medicines and surgery costs) and help with tuition fees and other expenses connected with vocational training of students who are facing financial difficulties whilst attending the Bethlehem Bible College.
- 3) Fund to support a master's student at the Bethlehem Bible College.
- 4) Funds have been raised for a Gaza Appeal, which will be administered by the Shepherds Society for Gaza.
- 5) Funds have been raised for a Job Creation Appeal, which will be administered by the Shepherds Society. The fund aims to support the Christian community, recent graduates, unemployed individuals impacted by the war, and to stimulate the local economy in the Bethlehem area.