

**GRACE CHURCH UPTON**  
**CHARITY NUMBER 1201545**  
**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**GRACE CHURCH UPTON**  
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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**Trustees:**

Revd Jonathan Deja (Chair)  
Revd Nicholas Alexander  
John Scully  
Dr Neil Menon  
Dr Rachel Menon  
Dr Andrew Ward  
Joanne Alderman  
Joanna Green  
Madeleine Peston  
Matthew Kinton (Treasurer)  
Dr Owen Davies  
Revd Amanda Marriott

Governing Document: adopted 12/12/2022, approved 11/01/2023 and amended 24/03/2023

Charity Number: 1201545

Principal Office: 27 Barring Street, Upton, Northampton, NN5 4DD

Independent Examiner: Mrs Sarah A Smith MSc BSc FCCA FCIE MNAVP, Chartered Certified Accountant and Independent Examiner

Bankers: Metro Bank, One Southampton Row London WC1B 5HA Web: [metrobankonline.co.uk](http://metrobankonline.co.uk)

## **GRACE CHURCH UPTON**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The Charity's principal objects, as set out in its constitution, are

- “1. the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, and other charitable work for the public benefit, within (but not limited to) the parish of Duston and Upton in the Diocese of Peterborough;
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;
  - the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of 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, provided that the advancement of such purposes must be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the doctrinal distinctives and ethical statements, as may be adopted and amended by the CIO from time to time.”

The vision of the Charity is to share life in Christ, seeing the wonderful good news of Jesus' rescue, which transforms, unites and equips a community, prayerfully shared with all in the Upton area.

In planning the activities of the Charity, the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and are satisfied that the activities mentioned in this report have all been for the public benefit.

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Grace Church Upton was established as a new church in 2021.

The Charity, which is a church, was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 11/01/2023, with charity number 1201545. It is a CIO governed by a Constitution and Rules. The policy and operating decisions of the Charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Charity.

The church operates within the Diocese of Peterborough in the Church of England.

In accordance with the Rules trustees may be appointed by a majority of the existing trustees. There must be at least 3 charity trustees and a maximum of 12, including up to 2 External Trustees who can serve up to two terms of 3 years. Trustees must meet a minimum of 4 times a year and a quorum exists where 50% of current trustees are present, subject to a minimum quorum of 3 people.

## **GRACE CHURCH UPTON**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

#### **Achievements and Performance**

##### **Church of England**

Grace Church Upton continues to exist as an independent CIO. Although it is part of the Church of England's Diocese of Peterborough, and operates with the full support of the incumbent of the parish and of the bishop, it does not have a Bishop's Mission Order or other means to operate in a regularised fashion within the structures of the Church of England. The minister, Jonnie Deja, continues to be Associate Vicar at Moulton Parish Church and to receive a Church of England stipend. The vicarage and principal office, 27 Barring Street, is owned by the Diocese.

Grace Church noted with deep sadness the House of Bishops' drift towards denial of the historic orthodox Christian faith during 2023.

##### **People**

- We give thanks for each person who attends Grace Church Upton including several newcomers in 2023. We seek to welcome all to repentance and faith in Jesus, irrespective of age, physical ability, sexuality and background.
- We gained 12 church members during 2023.
- We lost 3 church members during 2023 (each of whom because they moved away from the area).
- 3 people were baptised in November 2023.
- We welcomed the arrival of Mark Jackson to be our Trainee Minister in August.
- Becky Davies, our Children's and Youth Worker, went on maternity leave in November.
- August saw Andrew Ward begin as our third elder.

##### **Sundays**

- We are grateful to those who serve on Sundays in so many ways: seen and unseen, formal and informal.
- Our sermons in 2023 included series on Luke 1-2, Genesis 12-25, John 14-17, Ecclesiastes and 1 Timothy.
- Over 2023 we averaged 62 adults and 25 children on Sundays.

## **GRACE CHURCH UPTON**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

- We tackled a variety of topics in our 'Joining the Dots' sessions before church on a Sunday morning: sex, marriage and gender; caring for one another; music; and church history.
- Our 'Joining the Dots Kids' children's group continued to grow during 2023, so that in September, we split it into older and younger age groups.

#### **Prayer and Discipleship**

- In August we had our third weekend away with Simon Gales speaking from the book of Jonah.
- We continued to consult and progress towards beginning Life Groups.
- Thanks to the work of Becky Davies, Matthew and Sarah Kinton and many others, we began to run a regular group for 11-16 year olds, Rooted, on a Friday evening.

#### **Outreach**

- During 2023, we ran a summer holiday club, "Epic Explorers"; an October Bright Lights Party; and a Christmas 'walkthrough nativity' and carol service.
- We held the 'Hope Explored' and '321' evangelistic courses in the winter and autumn respectively
- We began a monthly 'Songs of Praise' outreach at Foxfield's residential home, which was warmly welcomed by staff and residents.
- For the first time, in early December we sang carols around Upton to raise awareness of our Christmas events.
- We continue to pray for an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit in our area and across our nation for revival.

#### **Partnership**

- We have partnered with local churches of various denominations to run a Men's and Women's Conference.
- We partner with local churches in the ReNew Peterborough network to pioneer, establish and secure healthy local Anglican churches.

#### **Financial Review**

Unrestricted income for the period was £57,746. Startup funds of £84,319 were also received, total unrestricted income was therefore £142,065. Total unrestricted expenditure for the period amounted to £68,574. There was therefore a surplus for the period of £73,491.

**GRACE CHURCH UPTON****REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The Trustees have designated 10% of unrestricted donated funds to be made available for grants for various projects that are aligned with the charitable objectives of the Charity, with a focus on local projects, national Christian ministry, and international missionary work. Therefore, £13,817 was set aside for future missions giving in 2024, see note 3 to the Accounts page 11 for the calculation.

Free reserves at the end of this financial period were therefore £59,674.

In addition, restricted funds were set up to support the costs of a Trainee Minister and the people of Ukraine. Total Income to the Restricted Fund was £27,143 and expenditure £15,485. Surplus £11,658. See note 2 to the Accounts, page 11

**Expenses to the Trustees**

One trustee incurred expenses which were reimbursed during the period, all relating to the day-to-day charitable activities of the Charity. There is one contract of employment with a related party, who is the spouse of a trustee. Details are given in the Notes to the Accounts, note 4 page 12. No other trustee received any other remuneration from the Charity during the period, as the minister receives a stipend from the Church Commissioners.

The trustees have followed a robust policy regarding conflicts of interest arising through this employment contract

**Reserves Policy**

The Trustees have established a policy that a sensible level of free reserves should be maintained to ensure the Charity can continue to operate if income is below budget or if unplanned contingencies arise. A “fixed” reserve of 6 months staff costs, rent and parish share should be used as a measure of the minimum required in this event. The trustees will investigate the possibilities of a higher rate interest account in order to set aside an amount of £30,000 under this policy. The amount of fixed reserve will be reviewed annually. Free reserves in excess of £30,000 are regarded as floating reserves, which can be designated for internal or outreach projects in the future.

At 31 December 2023 the free reserves totalled £59,674 and so represented 1.99 times the minimum.

**GRACE CHURCH UPTON****REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****Responsibilities of Trustees Under Charity Law**

The trustees are satisfied that this is entirely appropriate for a young church that is establishing priorities for its mission and means that the church is setting out with a sound financial base.

**Investment Policy**

Since the reserves of the Charity are currently in excess of the minimum required by the Charity's reserves policy, the Trustees have sought to invest some of the reserves in accordance with the Charity's objects. It is expected that the extra reserves will be used in the near future, so the Trustees was decided that the Charity should ensure the reserves are accessible within 3 months, and should carry little risk, so as to minimise possible losses that would hinder the outreach work the Charity hopes to do. The Trustees also decided that they would pursue opportunities that saw the Charity's reserves used for Christian purposes, in line with the Charity's objects and will make final decisions during the year to 31 December 2024.

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

Charity law requires the 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 income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and 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 that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and 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 CIO constitution. 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.


**GRACE CHURCH UPTON**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**Responsibilities of Trustees Under Charity Law**

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

**Approval**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Kinton', is positioned above the printed name.

Mr Matthew Kinton

Treasurer

Date: 23 October 2024.

**GRACE CHURCH UPTON  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**Independent Examiners Report to the Trustee of Grace Church Upton**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Grace Church Upton for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of Grace Church Upton 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 accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination of the accounts 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 of Grace Church Upton as required by s130 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.

*Sarah Smith*

**Sarah A Smith (Mrs) MSc BSc FCCA FCIE**  
TSA (Oakham) Ltd  
Temple House  
8, Main Street  
Cold Overton  
LEICS LE15 7QA

23 October 2024

**GRACE CHURCH UPTON**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR 11 JANUARY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>Receipts and Payments Account</b>		<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Restricted Fund</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
		<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		<b>Note 3</b>	<b>Note 2</b>	
Income from donations and legacies				
Gifts from churches		1,434.00	10,000.00	11,434.00
Grants & fees		0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
One off donations		5,979.00	3,060.00	9,039.00
Planned Giving		36,795.00	20.00	36,815.00
Gift Aid tax received		0.00	0.00	0.00
Church Groups				
Weekend Away		8,771.39	0.00	8,771.39
Children and Youth: (JTD and Roots)		135.00	0.00	135.00
Outreach				
Summer Holiday Club		730.00	0.00	730.00
Investment Income				
Bank Interest		6.54	63.44	69.98
Other Income				
Start up Donations		84,318.78	10,000.00	94,318.78
Ukraine Support: transfer of funds		3,895.35	0.00	3,895.35
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>142,065.06</b>	<b>27,143.44</b>	<b>169,208.50</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Staff				
Parish share and expenses		15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
Employee and pension		21,991.55	9,332.56	31,324.11
Conferences and hospitality		1,338.10	0.00	1,338.10
Administration				
Insurance		366.86	0.00	366.86
Office and promotional materials		724.53	0.00	724.53
Church Groups				
Weekend Away		11,470.66	0.00	11,470.66
Sunday Service		1,688.43	0.00	1,688.43
Sunday Service : Rent		8,113.75	0.00	8,113.75
Children and Youth (JTD and Roots)		743.74	0.00	743.74
Event hire and refreshments		977.99	0.00	977.99
Outreach				
Summer Holiday Club		1,706.95	0.00	1,706.95
Ukraine - Support		0.00	6,152.22	6,152.22
Other events		946.78	0.00	946.78
Other				
Start Up Costs		3,505.09	0.00	3,505.09
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>68,574.43</b>	<b>15,484.78</b>	<b>84,059.21</b>
<b>Total Net receipts ( - expenditure)</b>		<b>73,490.63</b>	<b>11,658.66</b>	<b>85,149.29</b>

**GRACE CHURCH UPTON**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	General Fund	Restricted Fund	Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023
<u>Statement of Assets and Liabilities</u>	£	£	£
Metro Bank Instant Access Deposit Account			8,463.11
Metro Bank Community Account			76,686.18
<b>Total Assets</b>			<b><u>85,149.29</u></b>

**Represented by:**

**Accumulated Funds**

At	01 JANUARY 2023	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Net receipts ( - expenditure) in Year		73,490.63	11,658.66	85,149.29
At	31 DECEMBER 2023	<u>73,490.63</u>	<u>11,658.66</u>	<u>85,149.29</u>

<b>Liabilities:</b>	The trustees have contracted to pay the Independent Examiner as follow:	£
	Accounts preparation and Independent Examination	
	This will be paid in 2024	
		<u>790.00</u>

**Notes**

- 1 The charity trustees have elected to produce Receipts and Payments Accounts under the provisions for small charities rather than accruals accounts under the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities, (FRS102) effective 1 January 2019.
- 2 Restricted Funds were set up to receive donations for the Trainee Minister and to assist the people of Ukraine. A summary of fund movements and the balance at 31 December 2023 is given below.

	Income	Expenditure	31 Dec 2023
	£	£	£
Trainee Minister Fund	17,080.00	-9,332.56	7,747.44
Ukraine Fund	10,063.44	-6,152.22	3,911.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,143.44</b>	<b>-15,484.78</b>	<b><u>11,658.66</u></b>

- 3 The trustees have designated 10% of donated funds to be set aside for grant making to projects aligned with the charitable objects of the charity.

<b>Total Unrestricted Donations</b>		<b>10%</b>
Total income (unrestricted)	<u>142,065.06</u>	14,206.51
Less Ukraine transfer per page 10	-3,895.35	-389.54
Designated Funds at 31 Dec 2023	138,169.71	<u>13,816.97</u>
Other unrestricted funds being free reserves.		<u>59,673.66</u>
<b>TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>		<b><u>73,490.63</u></b>

Expenditure will commence in 2024

**GRACE CHURCH UPTON  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**4 Trustees and Related Parties Expenses**

The charity has reimbursed the following out of pocket expenses for trustees attending or facilitating charitable activities.

One trustee was refunded £723.12 in the period to 31 Dec 2023.

The categories of expense were hospitality and conference costs including travel and accommodation.

There are no other salaries or fees paid to trustees or any other related parties, with the exception of the Youth and Families Worker, Rebecca Davies whose spouse, Owen Davies is a trustee. The contract of employment and pension costs were £21,992 in the year to 31 December 2023.

signed on behalf of the trustees on 23 October 2024



**Mr Matthew Kinton**  
Treasurer