

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD 11TH APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024
FOR
JOIN THE DOTS

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD 11TH APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8 to 9
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	10

JOIN THE DOTS

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD 11TH APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period 11th April 2023 to 31st March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 11th April 2023.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

(England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1202665

Registered office

8 The Gilligans
Burgess Hill
East Sussex
RH158TD

Trustees

R Stephens
L Ryder
Rev L Hassall

JOIN THE DOTS

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD 11TH APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

Our Story

Join the Dots was set up in 2020, with a series of pilot training webinars with youth workers. Our CEO, Ruth, saw the need for Christian faith organisations to become equipped. After networking with other churches and Christian charities, she was invited to deliver training to a wider variety of groups who support people with a trauma background. After seeking trustees and developing systems, we became a charity in April 2023.

Why we exist

Join the Dots equips faith organisations and their teams to become trauma informed. Christian outreach and discipleship invariably involves supporting people with both seen and unseen trauma. The effects of this trauma may result in challenging behaviours, difficulties feeling secure, feeling safe, and ultimately struggles with growing in the Christian faith and engaging in community life. Christians are passionate about helping people to experience the fullness of life that Jesus brings and additional, specialist training can equip them to better support people in that process, ensuring that the most vulnerable do not miss out on the essential services of Christian organisations due to a lack of understanding of the impact of trauma.

Our vision is to enable local churches, youth ministries, schools' teams and charities, to be more accessible to those whose lives have been impacted by trauma. We want to see Christian ministries across the UK be aware, feel empowered to understand, and equipped to support those whose lives have been affected by trauma.

Activities and impact during the year 2023-24

Since the formation of Join the Dots as a registered Charity, we have been building new contacts, developing and delivering more training. Our impact is slowly growing, and we have been encouraged by the interest shown in our work. There are several pieces of work on the pipeline for 2024-25.

Training delivered

In person workshops

We delivered the workshop 'Self Care for Teams' with a team of church leaders, who in turn support over 100 people in their congregation and are very active in reaching out to their local community. In addition, we delivered this training with the leaders of a church led, schools team who support many children in their local schools. A four-part training 'An Introduction to understanding ACES in the context of faith settings' was facilitated with a church who are very active in supporting families in their local community. This was extremely well received.

Feedback received

"The training was extremely informative, giving a basic understanding of what trauma is, understanding attachment and providing practical strategies to support children and adults.

It gave us a far greater awareness of supporting children and adults with trauma experiences. It also really helped us in delivering our SEND provisions in our community family outreach. We came away with a clearer understanding of how trauma presents and with tools to provide a place that supports and journeys with people who have experienced it"

Webinars

Webinars are trainings that we produce for anyone with interest to attend and are bookable via popular booking platforms. Participants have varied from church leaders, youth leaders, to interested individuals wanting to have a better understanding for themselves.

We delivered four webinar trainings across the period, with around 50 attendees. Titles included Introduction to ACES for faith settings, Attachment, safety and Identity, Looking at sensory needs and a free taster webinar on what a trauma sensitive culture could look like.

Feedback received

"I found this training really helpful and have been left with lots of things to further consider when thinking about the setting at work in what things I may be able to put in place to make our sessions more trauma informed"

"The facilitator was very engaging and gave good open, clear conversations around trauma without complicating it."

Consultancy

In addition to our training, we also provide a consultancy service to faith organisations. During the period, we launched a piece of consultancy work around trauma informed practice for a large charity that equips churches who support vulnerable children.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE PERIOD 11TH APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

Other events

In addition to our training and webinars, we were also invited to raise awareness through guest appearances at two key events run by other charities. First, a Facebook Live meeting about childhood trauma and children's work, with a large group of people from a charity that supports Christian parents and children's workers. The second, was delivery of a short taster talk at an event attended by a large network of children's workers about the basics of trauma and supporting individuals in need.

Investing in our organisational development

2023/24 saw us gather much momentum in growing a wider team. Some of these are volunteers who are committing to assist at exhibitions in the coming year. We identified two potential highly skilled and qualified trainers with whom we are exploring ways to work together.

We have continued to create, and implement appropriate policies and procedures for good governance. These include finance procedures for expenditure and gift aid, alongside policies for safeguarding, volunteer engagement, conflict of interest, complaints and risk assessments. We have invested in freelance admin support to develop our systems and processes to ensure we have the right infrastructure for the growth that we envisage in the coming year.

Looking Ahead

We are working towards running one public webinar per month with an average of 20 attending each. To achieve this we need to invest more time in expanding our relational network as well as marketing through social media and regular newsletters to our mailing list.

Invitations have already come in to facilitate training with a church, schools work team and two conferences. We also plan to exhibit at four conferences in the coming months, the goal of which is to widen our network, increase trauma awareness, promote a trauma informed approach and connect with people who would like to receive our training or promote our offering.

We have an invitation to partner with another charity in creating written and video content for some self-care resources. Self-care is an important topic in addressing prevention of re-traumatisation and burnout so that those in Christian compassion ministry can be effective and have longevity. We see these resources as vital in equipping individuals who support those who have experienced adversity.

Further developments in increasing our infrastructure will be taking place as well. This includes onboarding some additional volunteers who will support us at exhibitions and potential additional trainers.

Where we would like to be

We love working with Christian workers who are in the trenches, reaching out to young people, adults and families, many of whom have broken, challenging lives. Our training provides a solid foundation and practical tools so that they can impact more lives for God's kingdom and confidently support those who have experienced adversity.

Small charities like ours make a significant contribution to the UK as a whole because we equip those on the ground to make a greater impact.

Overall, in the next 12 months we would like to:

1. Deliver 15 training events - a mix of online webinars, and in person training requested by organisations and faith groups.
2. Develop our marketing plans and understanding to broaden our reach and raise awareness of our work.
3. Grow our finances to be able to resource the charity with administration, finance and marketing support.

To do this we need the following resources

Finances to cover the following costs

a) People

- * Our principle trainer (part time)
- * Administrator (part time)
- * Fundraising support (ad hoc)
- * Associate trainers who will initially be taken on as free-lance contractors (as the demand for training increases).

b) Physical resources:

- * Basic stationary
- * Printer for occasional use
- * Banners and advertising materials for displays at conferences etc.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 11TH APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

Action to be taken/systems to put in place:

- a) Standardise the course material to ensure quality control and ease of use.
- b) Get course material accredited for CPD purposes.
- c) A social media schedule
- d) Creation of operating procedures such as budget control, investment and borrowing, HR, risk management.
- e) Recruit two further trustees
- f) Creation of trustee welcome pack
- g) Creation of volunteer welcome pack and guidelines

With these resources, we believe that we can make a significant impact in faith based organisations who in turn will offer better support to people in need. We also believe that when churches and charities have greater trauma awareness and operate from a trauma informed approach, there will be a reduction in abuses of power and trauma at the hands of Christian leaders.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 11 Dec 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Ruth Stephens
.....
Ruth Stephens (Wed, 11th Dec 2024 14:44:40 GMT)
R Stephens - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
JOIN THE DOTS**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Join the dots ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the period 11th April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

David Hassall



Date:

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD 11TH APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024**

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes			
Donations and legacies		12,625	-	12,625
Other trading activities	2	3,778	-	3,778
Other income		358	-	358
Total		16,761	-	16,761
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities				
Main		3,435	-	3,435
Other		1,723	-	1,723
Total		5,158	-	5,158
NET INCOME		11,603	-	11,603
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		11,603	-	11,603

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BALANCE SHEET 31ST MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	4	1,944	-	1,944
Prepayments and accrued income		1,751	-	1,751
Cash at bank		8,882	-	8,882
		<u>12,577</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,577</u>
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(974)	-	(974)
		<u>11,603</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,603</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS				
		<u>11,603</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,603</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES				
		<u>11,603</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,603</u>
NET ASSETS				
		<u>11,603</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,603</u>
FUNDS	6			
Unrestricted funds				<u>11,603</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>11,603</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 31st March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 31st March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on and were signed on its behalf by:

Ruth Stephens

Ruth Stephens Trustee
14:44:40 GMT 11th Dec 2024

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD 11TH APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	£
Consultancy Income	150
Training income	3,628
	<u>3,778</u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 31st March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 31st March 2024.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 11TH APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

4. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Trade debtors	£ 1,944
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5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

Trade creditors	£ 974
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6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds		
Unrestricted	11,603	11,603
TOTAL FUNDS	11,603	11,603

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted	16,761	(5,158)	11,603
TOTAL FUNDS	16,761	(5,158)	11,603

7. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 31st March 2024.

JOIN THE DOTS

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD 11TH APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	
Donations and legacies	
Gifts	1
Donations	12,542
Gift aid	82
	<hr/>
	12,625
Other trading activities	
Consultancy Income	150
Training income	3,628
	<hr/>
	3,778
Other income	
Expense Recharges	358
	<hr/>
Total incoming resources	16,761
EXPENDITURE	
Charitable activities	
Advertising	904
Sundries	147
Training cost	57
	<hr/>
	1,108
Other	
Computer costs	514
Consultancy	375
Direct cost	834
	<hr/>
	1,723
Support costs	
Management	
Other Professional Costs	50
Finance	
Insurance	945
Governance costs	
Accountancy and legal fees	1,332
	<hr/>
Total resources expended	5,158
	<hr/>
Net income	11,603
	<hr/> <hr/>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements



Issuer DH Business Support Ltd

Document generated Wed, 11th Dec 2024 14:06:06 GMT

Document fingerprint ac8a1e662d1ef9595b14759e1709477a

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Wed, 11th Dec 2024 14:43:11 GMT	Ruth Stephens opened the document email. (88.202.247.100)
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Wed, 11th Dec 2024 14:10:54 GMT	Sent the envelope to Ruth Stephens (admin@jointhedots.solutions) for signing (148.252.129.159)
Wed, 11th Dec 2024 14:06:06 GMT	Document generated with fingerprint ac8a1e662d1ef9595b14759e1709477a (148.252.129.159)
Wed, 11th Dec 2024 14:06:06 GMT	Envelope generated by Rich Page-Jones (148.252.129.159)