

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 9th June 2023 **to:** 31st March 2024

Charity Name: Heaven On Severn

Charity Registration Number: 1203493

Objectives and Activities

SORP (FRS 102)

The objectives of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation are:

1. To advance the religion of Spiritualism for the public benefit in Bewdley and other parts of the UK or the world that the charity trustees 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 are connected with the work of the charity.
2. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.
3. The promotion for the public benefit of urban or rural regeneration in areas of social and economic deprivation (and in particular Bewdley) by the provision of recreational facilities for the public at large or those who by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances, have need of such facilities.

Heaven On Severn became a registered charity on 9th June 2023. During the financial reporting period up to 31st March 2024, the Trustees were able to work towards the first two of the charitable objectives.

During this time period they continued to hire a local community centre (which they were able to purchase on 29th August 2024) in order to provide a location for Spiritualist Church services. The congregation has continued to increase in numbers for both the Divine services and the Healing services. The Ministers of the church have worked with the community, for example, by providing funeral services at the local crematorium, undertaking services at other nearby Spiritualist Churches and sick visits to local hospitals. The church services provide a valuable means of connecting with, and providing social inclusion for, anyone who is at risk of becoming socially excluded, due to illness, infirmity, age etc.

In addition to the church services, several social events have been organised, to encourage those who do not have a religious belief to engage with others in their local community, for example at an afternoon tea, complementary therapy training event or workshop. Where Trustees are aware of those experiencing financial difficulties, attendance at these social or training events may be at a reduced cost or free of charge, to ensure that everyone who would benefit from attending, has the chance to do so.

The Trustees acknowledge the valuable contribution made by the team of healers who volunteer to provide their healing services, free of charge. Each healer has undergone a lengthy period of training and is fully insured with the appropriate National Healing body.

The Trustees have undertaken their duties with regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance (SORP FRS 102)

The charity has organised monthly Divine Church Services, advancing the religion of Spiritualism. Attendance at these services has increased. Free spiritual healing is available after each Divine Service. Healing contributes to the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of the congregation and is a key tenet of the religion. It is free of charge.

The charity has organised a monthly none/multi-denominational Healing Service that is open to any person who would like to promote their own health and wellbeing. It is free of charge. Attendance at the Healing Services has increased.

A monthly Spiritual Development circle is available to anyone who would like to develop their own awareness of Spiritual topics and Spiritual gifts. The circle is well attended and participants welcome the opportunity to meet with like minded students, in a safe and encouraging environment.

Two afternoon teas were organised, encouraging social inclusion amongst those at risk of social exclusion. They included those with physical disabilities, sensory impairments, very specialised dietary requirements, age related frailty, and cognitive impairment. The events were so popular, they will be repeated in the next financial year.

The Ministry team, all of whom are trained and ordained volunteers, have worked to comfort the bereaved, to offer support to those in need and to advance the religion of Spiritualism through their work in Spiritualist Churches across the UK. Many hundreds of people have benefited from the work they have done.

Complementary Therapy Training Events and the Healing and Wellbeing Workshop have allowed groups of students to progress their knowledge of healing, or to give a safe space for the development of personal wellbeing. Events and Workshops are always well attended and competitively priced to encourage engagement.

The trustees recognise that the achievements and performance information follows the guidance given by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Financial Review

The charity has been fundraising for many years, in order to achieve its goal to purchase a building from where it can provide a safe space for its own charitable activities, and that can be hired by other local community groups who need a suitable venue to run their own activities.

The position in the accounts reflects the fund raising that has taken place for 17 years and includes a legacy from a member of the congregation. Currently, the majority of the Charity income is from donations received via the Church collection plate, organised events and donations from individuals.

The funds will allow us to purchase the Wribbenhall Community Centre from the Community Housing Group, part of Wyre Forest District Council. The cost of the building is £70,000, and we are holding £7,000 to cover the solicitors' fees. We are aware that the building is in need of a substantial upgrade and will continue to fund raise to cover some of these future costs. Once the building is in our possession the Trustees will seek other sources of funding, for example, grants from the National Lottery. Following the purchase, there will be a modest income from renting out the premises to community groups.

The Trustees have decided that there should always be a financial reserve of £10,000 in the bank to cover any emergencies that may arise.

The charity is registered for Gift Aid and at the time the accounts have been prepared, we are awaiting conformation from HMRC of the total entitlement for this financial year.

The accounts have been prepared by Bridgepoint Accountants, 16 New Street, Stourport on Severn, Worcestershire, DY13 8UW.

Structure, Governance and Management

Heaven On Severn is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its charity trustees ('Foundation' Constitution).

Trustees are selected according to their skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. Heaven On Severn has three trustees, each of whom will serve for three years from the time of their appointment.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name: Heaven On Severn

Registered Charity Number: 1203493

Charity's principal address: 29, Belvedere Crescent, Bewdley, Worcestershire, DY12 1JX

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

1. Janet Higginbotham, Chairman, 9th June 2023 to present
2. Isabel Chapman, 9th June 2023 to present
3. David Duffy Herbert, 9th June 2023 to present day.

There are no Corporate trustees.

No trustees hold a title to property belonging to the charity

No funds are held as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature 

Full name JANET HIGGINBOTHAM

Position CHAIRMAN / TRUSTEE

Date 9/1/2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Heaven on Severn

1203493

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

09/06/2023

To

01/04/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Collections	1,096	-	-	1,096	-
Raffle	1,701	-	-	1,701	-
Sales	685	-	-	685	-
Donations	2,059	-	-	2,059	-
Events	2,785	-	-	2,785	-
Psychic News	77	-	-	77	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	8,404	-	-	8,404	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	8,404	-	-	8,404	-
A3 Payments					
Medium	440	-	-	440	-
Room Hire	628	-	-	628	-
Insurance	138	-	-	138	-
Sundries	36	-	-	36	-
Psychic News	63	-	-	63	-
Legal Fees	3,259	-	-	3,259	-
Small equipment	870	-	-	870	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	5,435	-	-	5,435	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,435	-	-	5,435	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,969.12	-	-	2,969	-
A5 Transfers between funds	- 77,575	77,575	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	102,500.45	-	-	102,500	-
Cash funds this year end	27,895	77,575	-	105,470	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank	27,895	77,575	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	27,895	77,575	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

[illegible]

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

[illegible]

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Accountancy	Unrestricted	200	
			-	
		-	-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

James H. Hume

Janet Higginbotham

09/01/2025