

The Gospel Church, Marchwood
Annual report and financial statements
For the period 21 December 2023 to 31 December 2024

The Gospel Church, Marchwood

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	The Gospel Church, Marchwood	
Charity Number	1206327	HMRC Charities Ref. ZD35784 Account Number: 0143625731
Trustees	Timothy Drake Dr Alan Glaze Oliver Milton Colin Partridge Elizabeth Prest (Chair)	
		(Deceased 2 September 2024)
Secretary	Tim Drake	
Treasurer	Alan Glaze	
Registered Office & Principal Address	The Gospel Church Long Lane Marchwood Southampton SO40 4WR	
Independent examiner	Stephen Fordham	
Bankers	HSBC	

The Gospel Church, Marchwood

Contents

	Page
Trustees' Report	1 - 2
Independent Examiners Report	3
Receipts and Payments Account	4
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	5

The Gospel Church, Marchwood

Independent Examiners Report

To the trustees of The Gospel Church, Marchwood

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period from 21 December to 31 December 2024

Structure, governance and management

The church was constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charities Commission in England and Wales on 21 December 2023 under charity number 1206327. It is governed by a CIO - Association governing document.

The trustees are appointed or reappointed by the members at the Annual General Meeting. Trustees who are not members of the church may be appointed as trustees provided that they accept the Basis of Faith and Statement of Practices, however the number of non-member trustees must not exceed 1/3 of the total number of trustees.

The ministries of the Church are overseen by its Trustees, and are carried forward both by the congregation, regular attendees and by the extensive involvement of visiting speakers and other Christian groups. This pattern is seen in all areas of the life of the Church.

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the church as set out in the constitution are:

To advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the Basis of Faith and Statement of Practices appearing in schedules 1 & 2 in the UK and worldwide by:

1. the provision of Christian messages of an evangelistic and teaching nature, in particular but not exclusively, via the internet, lectures, producing and/or distributing literature on the Christian faith;
2. the provision of a place of worship in particular but not exclusively by the provision and maintenance of a building(s) used for the practice of the Christian faith, through the holding of meetings for prayer and/or worship, public celebration of religious festivals, conducting religious ceremonies;
3. the provision of missionary and outreach work in particular but not exclusively through the provision of spiritual and/or pastoral welfare and support, the provision of grants to Christian missionaries and/or organisations, the provision of cultural and community activities

The main activities of the church are as follows:

The Church is committed to reaching, teaching, discipling and training Christians to carry out Gospel ministry in Marchwood and further afield. The Church welcomes members and attendees from all backgrounds and actively seeks to invite members of both the Church and the local community to benefit from its ministries, offering spiritual and pastoral support to members of the congregation and the wider community

When planning and reviewing the objectives of the activities of the Church, due consideration has been given to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, the church sets out to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our church in their local communities.

The church holds services every Sunday morning with a crèche and activities for children available. During school term time we meet at the local Infant School and at our church building in the school holidays. Communion is normally held as part of the service on the fourth Sunday of the month, and on the second Sunday of the month in the evening. Prayer meetings are held twice weekly on Mondays & Thursdays via Zoom and in person on Sunday evenings once a month. We also hold regular bible study groups (house-groups) twice a week, with both groups coming together, during British summertime once a month, for a more focused talk from other Christian charities, both in the UK and abroad. The church also arranges church "Away days" and/or Weekend retreats where members of the congregation can study the bible in more detail whilst socialising with fellow Christians

ave also been afforded an opportunity to provide a monthly service to a local care home with a short bible message and Christian songs.

The Gospel Church, Marchwood

Independent Examiners Report

To the trustees of The Gospel Church, Marchwood

The church runs a number activities during the week from the church building:

Tots, Tales and Tunes meets weekly, during term time, and is for pre-school children, toddlers and babies, with their carers. The sessions are free and last about 1 hour. Each session includes time to play with toys, craft activities, refreshments and snacks, age-appropriate bible stories and fun songs, and opportunities to make new friends.

Beans club meets weekly during term time and is designed for families with children and teenagers of school age and provides a range of activities alongside our spiritually themed evenings, ending with a free meal which normally includes beans.

Connect is a free café run from the church building offering a range of hot drinks and cakes on a weekly basis. It offers an opportunity for the community to gather to talk or complete a jigsaw

Just Eve group is for ladies in the area. The group meets bi-monthly for a range of activities. Its' aims are to involve women who currently attend the Gospel Church but also to encourage non-Christian friends and acquaintances to join in the social activities

Men's Breakfast meets bi monthly on a Saturday in the church building to enjoy a full English breakfast followed by a short Christian message. It aims are to involve men who currently attend the Gospel Church as well as local Christians from other churches but also to encourage non-Christian friends and acquaintances to attend.

Games café a social outreach playing a range of different board games meeting monthly on a Saturday night.

Achievements and performance

The Church converted to a CIO on 21 December 2023, the previous Church unincorporated trust (CUA) transferred £73,126.27 representing the bank balance on that date to the CIO. Note: on 8 November 2024 the Fellowship Property Trust transferred the Church building in Long Lane, Marchwood, SO404WR (Land registry title HP709095) to the CIO and resigned as the custodian trustee of the building.

Our Sunday morning services have a regular attendance. Without a Pastor we are aided in our services by speakers from the local area, along with people representing Christian organisations we donate too. Christmas time presented us with lots of opportunities for carol services: - an outdoor one on the church forecourt, jointly with the other churches in the village and carols by candlelight. The joint service was a collaborative village effort with St Johns hosting, with Gateway giving the Christian message and the Gospel Church organising the programme. Carols by Candlelight was held at the Gospel Church with over 50 people choosing to come and worship with us and stay on for refreshments afterwards. We hold a short service on Christmas Day which gives people an opportunity to remind themselves of the reason for Christmas

Our monthly services at Oaklands Rest Home restarted during this year. Oaklands is a residential and dementia care home. It has been encouraging to see the lounge packed full of residents with members of staff either staying or popping their head round the open door. The residents are keen to join in the singing, especially the action songs, prayers and quizzes. A Short Bible message is shared with them and it is clear that some of them really appreciate the Christian input.

The two house-groups, whilst separate entities, continue to grow, with regular attendance of 7 - 12 people. In the joint house-group we had 6 sessions enabling us to gain a greater understanding of what was happening in our local area, but also with link-ups to Lebanon and London, with Christian charities we support.

In March 21 people from the church attended a weekend retreat at the Greenhouse in Bournemouth. This gave everyone attending a chance to study, worship, and enjoy fellowship.

The Gospel Church, Marchwood
Independent Examiners Report
To the trustees of The Gospel Church, Marchwood

We continue to record our services and upload them onto YouTube, accessed via our church website and emailed links. We have been encouraged by the number of views we have with an average of 18, in the UK and abroad, with our Carols by Candlelight service as especially popular with 70 views online.

As part of our community outreach, we were fortunate to have over 20 families come and join us for our Easter treasure hunt, which resulted in lots of cake being eaten and many Easter eggs being given out. During the summer we went to Headlands outdoor centre to enjoy a BBQ along with canoeing and games. The families that came with us seemed to have an enjoyable time. At Christmas we invited people from the various activities to join us for a Festive Family Feast, which consisted a two-course meal along with a short Christian thought. This is the second year we have run this and attendance was down slightly on the previous year.

As part of supporting those who prepare and serve both food and refreshments the church laid on a Food Hygiene Level 2 course. This was attended by 14 people, who all passed the course.

Connect has a regular attendance of about 15 people which has grown in the later part of the year to over 20.

Tots, Tales and Tunes can fluctuate in attendance as children move on into schools. We are thrilled that some of the families have come along to other church events and to Sunday services.

Beans Club numbers and age range fluctuate but we do have a small core of people who regularly attend.

Just Eve has varying attendance depending on the activity but we were thrilled to have 29 ladies join us for the Christmas party.

The men's breakfast regularly attracts between 15 – 19 men and ends with a short spiritual thought for the day.

The Games Café numbers remain low, but we have faith to believe it will grow and believe that this group does provide vital encouragement for those who do come.

Financial review

The unrestricted reserves as at 31 December 2024 were £85,183.56. represented by the amounts held at Bank. The designated reserves were £15,000 for emergency building repairs and £20,000 for future financing of officer salaries.

Reserves policy:

The church policy is to hold in general reserves amounts sufficient to cover the day to day expenditure up to a maximum of one year's annual expenditure excluding sums paid for the salaries of officers, any amounts in excess of this are held in the following designated funds:- £15,000 in a designated fund for emergency building repairs, with the amounts in excess of the total of the emergency building repairs reserve and the general reserves held in a designated fund to assist with the future financing of officer salaries.

Going Concern

In the opinion of the trustees, the Charity is a going concern as it is able to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

Approved by the trustees on 24th March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Name

Timothy Drake

Elizabeth Prest

Signed



Position

Secretary

Chair

The Gospel Church, Marchwood
Independent Examiner's Report
To the Trustees of The Gospel Church, Marchwood

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts (which include the Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities) of The Gospel Church, Marchwood (the CIO) for the Period ended 31 December 2024.

This report is made solely to the charity Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 31 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the statement I have made.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust'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 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 the Trust as required by section 130 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.

Signed:



Name: Stephen Fordham

No 0474172/contact ID 1-LGQ5: Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Address: 55, Calshot Close, Southampton SO45 1BP

Date:

24th March 2025

The Gospel Church, Marchwood
Receipts and Payments Account
For the period from 21 December 2023 to 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Receipts		
Donation from the Gospel Church, Marchwood CUA	73,126.27	73,126.27
Offerings	5,656.29	5,656.29
Gift Aid	25,430.00	25,430.00
Gift Aid Tax Refund	6,534.77	6,534.77
Other income	783.40	783.40
Church Weekend	3,536.00	3,536.00
Interest	1,290.88	1,290.88
	116,357.61	116,357.61
Payments		
Pulpit	2,470.00	2,470.00
Insurance	1,323.13	1,323.13
Utilities	2,808.48	2,808.48
BT	430.52	430.52
Ladies	158.92	158.92
Youth	150.12	150.12
Literature	297.84	297.84
Donations	9,228.39	9,228.39
Subscriptions	2,053.32	2,053.32
School Hire	5,135.55	5,135.55
Church Building	1,447.51	1,447.51
Disposables	40.30	40.30
Refreshments	835.22	835.22
Equipment	362.57	362.57
Bank Charges	107.20	107.20
Training	200.00	200.00
Sundries	47.48	47.48
Church Weekend	3,788.95	3,788.95
Messy Church	288.55	288.55
	31,174.05	31,174.05

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2024 £
Net receipts / (payments)	85,183.56	-	85,183.56
Transfers between funds	(35,000.00)	35,000.00	-
Cash funds at 21 st December 2023	-	-	-
Cash funds at 31st December 2024	50,183.56	35,000.00	85,183.56

The Gospel Church, Marchwood
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
For the period ended 31 December 2024



		Unrestricted Funds £	Designated funds £	Total 2024 £
Cash Funds	Cash Balances	133.25	-	133.25
	HSBC Community Account	12,993.98	-	12,993.98
	HSBC Business Money Manager	37,056.33	35,000	72,056.33
	Total cash funds	38,036	35,000	85,183.56
Other monetary assets	Gift aid	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Total other monetary assets	Nil	Nil	Nil
Liabilities		Nil	Nil	Nil
	Total liabilities	Nil	Nil	Nil

**Assets retained
for the charity's
own use**

		Fund	£
Buildings	Long lane, Marchwood	Unrestricted	175,000.00
Other Assets		Unrestricted	10,295.00

All assets are valued at initial purchase cost

Approved by the trustees on 24th March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Name	Timothy Drake	Elizabeth Prest
Signed		
Position	Secretary	Chair