

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Report and Accounts

Year ended... 31 March 2023

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	123 Grove Hill South Woodford LONDON E18 2HY
GOVERNING DOCUMENTS	Church constitution adopted 28 September 2006 as amended 6 July 2008. The church is affiliated to the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches.
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	235525 - Grove Hill Evangelical Church
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Timothy Crispin Andrew Emohare Avon Edward (from 18 June 2023) Adam Herbert (until 27 September 2022) Lynda Holmes Martin Hull (until 2 July 2023) Peter Last (from 31 July 2022) Peter Parson Peter Sharp Matthew Weston (from 1 July 2023)
NAMES OF ADVISERS	CAF Bank Ltd Edward Connor Solicitors
HOLDING TRUSTEE	Fellowship Property Trust
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jaimee Young Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Objects of the charity

The charity, which is a church, is governed by a constitution. The charity's principal objects, as set out in its governing document, are:

1. The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the basis of faith primarily but not exclusively within South Woodford and the surrounding neighbourhood, and
2. Such other charitable purposes as shall in the opinion of the members of the church in general meeting, further the work of the church.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Trust.

New trustees are appointed following a ballot of Church members.

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

The church exists as a body of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ who are committed to each other in Christian fellowship. We seek to encourage each other in the faith as it is laid out in the Bible and to share the truth about Christ with those around us.

The Church has held services of worship every Sunday, including preaching and Bible studies. On-line streaming has continued to maximise accessibility: The Sunday services are broadcast live via the Church's 'YouTube' channel, accessible to all via the Church website <https://www.ghec.co.uk/> and other activities via 'Zoom'. The Church has been pleased to welcome newcomers on a regular basis. The congregation reflects the multi-cultural make-up of the neighbourhood.

Throughout the year age related activities for children have continued to be provided. Children's activities span the whole age range: from the ever popular 'Ready Steady Go' sessions for babies, toddlers and their parents/ carers to 'Revolution' working with older teenagers. In between there are the Sunday youth groups, week night clubs and ad-hoc school holiday activities. All these activities are available to Church families and the wider community.

The Church joins with other local Churches to provide outreach events. Grove Hill was pleased to host a Holiday Club. The short course 'Christianity Explored' is offered to those interested in finding out more about Christianity.

Key activities are publicised by leafleting local homes, word of mouth and via the website. The website provides a valuable insight into the work of the Church (www.ghec.co.uk), where Sunday services can be viewed via 'YouTube'. The church is pleased to support missionary work both in the UK and abroad and sets aside 25% of its regular income for this purpose. During 2022-23 the Church, together with several others in the area, continued to support the setting up of a Church Plant in the Barkingside and Clayhall area (All Nations).

In planning the activities the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

The leadership team continue to seek to fulfil their responsibilities. The trustees remain very grateful to all involved in the fellowship for the different ways in which they assist the church in fulfilling its calling. 2023-24 sees a change in the Church leadership with the Pastor, Martin Hull, retiring after more than 20 years' service. Trustees would like to formally acknowledge Martin's faithful contribution to the Church and are pleased to welcome Matthew Weston as their new Pastor from July 2023.

Financial review

The trustees prepare the accounts on a Receipts and Payments basis. It is deemed a more appropriate basis having regard to the charity's turnover. This means that the accounts are based on a reconciliation to the bank account and no adjustment has been made for income due; in particular the Gift Aid refund from HMRC is not recognised until the following year.

Overall reserves stand at £161k. These comprise £122k Unrestricted (General £77k and Designated £45k) and £39k Restricted funds. General congregational income increased by about £4k over the previous year; Property rental income remained stable at about £74k. Expenditure was lower than the previous year due to a delay in undertaking some property repairs. The General Fund is showing an in-year surplus of £32.5k after transfers - this was a planned increase to contribute to the cost of major repairs to the Church building in 2023. A restricted donation was also received to be used for the planned repairs, thus increasing the restricted Property Trust Fund at year end to £30k. The Designated Fund balance at year end has increased due to receipt of a £17k legacy (no restrictions). The Pre-school Restricted Fund of £8k is being held pending a decision on its use.

Reserves policy

The trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £25,000 (which equates to about 3 months of routine unrestricted expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £122k. This includes £28k designated for the Missionary Fund for the following year; the excess funds are held for the purpose of anticipated essential maintenance works as discussed above.

Risk statement

The charity is exposed to various risks - be they operational, financial or reputational. The trustees review the charity's activities regularly to identify significant risks and, where possible, they take appropriate measures to mitigate those risks.

Responsibilities of trustees

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

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

Matthew Weston
Date: 7 January 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Grove Hill Evangelical Church ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 on pages 6 to 10 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity 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 charity'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 2011 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 accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jaimee Young

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 11 January 2024

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted Funds	2023	2022
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
<i>Income receipts</i>						
Donations and grants		75,588	3,421	27,410	106,419	82,274
Legacies		-	17,172	-	17,172	-
Gift aid receipts		13,931	805	1,189	15,925	14,857
Income from charitable activities		399	-	-	399	490
Rental Income		-	73,859	-	73,859	74,432
Fee Income		-	-	-	-	-
Other		1,499	-	-	1,499	15
<i>Total receipts</i>		<u>91,416</u>	<u>95,258</u>	<u>28,599</u>	<u>215,273</u>	<u>172,068</u>
<i>Payments</i>						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	82,411	22,954	6,410	111,776	134,258
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	5,650	24,346	7,468	37,464	39,596
<i>Total payments</i>		<u>88,061</u>	<u>47,300</u>	<u>13,878</u>	<u>149,239</u>	<u>173,855</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		3,355	47,957	14,722	66,034	- 1,787
Transfers between funds	7	29,140	- 29,140	-	-	-
<i>Net movement in funds</i>		<u>32,495</u>	<u>18,817</u>	<u>14,722</u>	<u>66,034</u>	<u>- 1,787</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		44,318	26,375	24,325	95,017	96,804
<i>Cash funds at this year end</i>	A	<u>76,813</u>	<u>45,192</u>	<u>39,046</u>	<u>161,051</u>	<u>95,017</u>

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these accounts.

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted funds	2023	2022
		General funds	Designated funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
A Cash funds	5,6					
Cash Float			51	51	-	
Cash at bank with immediate access		76,813	45,141	39,046	161,000	95,017
		<u>76,813</u>	<u>45,192</u>	<u>39,046</u>	<u>161,051</u>	<u>95,017</u>
B Other monetary assets	5,6					
Gift aid due to charity		14,826	675	603	16,103	15,907
Other debtors		4,312	5,038	250	9,600	6,901
		<u>19,138</u>	<u>5,713</u>	<u>853</u>	<u>25,703</u>	<u>22,808</u>
C Liabilities						
Falling due within one year	5,6					
Loan		-	7,454	-	7,454	7,454
Fee for Independent Examination		1,300	-	-	1,300	1,200
Accrued expenses		1,382	792	59	2,233	7,729
		<u>2,682</u>	<u>8,246</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>10,987</u>	<u>16,383</u>
Falling due after one year:						
Loan			12,494	-	12,494	18,767
		<u>-</u>	<u>12,494</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,494</u>	<u>18,767</u>
Total		<u>2,682</u>	<u>20,740</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>23,481</u>	<u>35,150</u>

The above loan is repayable in monthly instalments and is repayable in full by April 2026. All other liabilities fall due for settlement within one year.

D Assets retained for charity's own use

	Fund to which asset belongs	Book Value £	Insurance value £
The value of the freehold assets owned are:			
Church equipment	General		162,310
Church Building (NBV 2016)	Property Trust	578,000	3,300,388
30 Byron Avenue (2001)	Property Trust	151,000	569,791
121 Grove Hill (2001)	Property Trust	92,000	269,994
62-64 Grove Hill (2001)	Property Trust	280,000	973,028
		<u>1,101,000</u>	<u>5,275,511</u>

The trustees have used insurance values as an approximation for current values

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

MATTHEW WESTON

Date: 7 January 2024

The notes on pages 7 to 10 form part of these accounts.

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

Acting as agent

On occasion the charity receives money on behalf of other charities, which it banks and then pays out to these charities. This income is received as agent for these other charities and the income, and the related payments, are excluded from the Receipts and Payments account.

During the year, the charity received money on behalf of All Nations Church. This income was received as agent; the receipt totalling £10,000, and the subsequent payment, are excluded from the Receipts and Payments account.

2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted	Total	Total
	General	Designated	Funds	2023	2022
	funds	funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Employment costs (see note 4)	43,541	-	5,000	48,541	50,059
Youth and children's work	307	615	-	923	1,083
Outreach activities	976	-	-	976	1,570
Courses and Conferences	215	-	-	215	85
Maintenance, repairs & equipment	11,299	8,406	-	19,705	49,360
Loan Repayments	-	7,454	-	7,454	7,454
Utilities	8,880	1,507	-	10,387	4,973
Insurance	4,551	3,317	-	7,868	7,971
Independent examination	1,170	-	-	1,170	1,140
Office and support costs	7,503	1,656	1,410	10,569	8,749
Visiting Speakers	2,970	-	-	2,970	1,025
Other costs	1,000	-	-	1,000	790
	<u>82,411</u>	<u>22,954</u>	<u>6,410</u>	<u>111,776</u>	<u>134,258</u>

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others					
(All payments were made to UK based individuals/organisations)					
Grants for:					
For work in the UK	5,650	2,663	1,763	10,076	15,226
Overseas mission	-	21,683	5,230	26,913	24,121
Relief of poverty	-	-	475	475	250
	<u>5,650</u>	<u>24,346</u>	<u>7,468</u>	<u>37,464</u>	<u>39,596</u>

The grants to institutions amounting to more than £1,000 were:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Grace Baptist Mission	8,485	9,403
Pastor Training International	5,220	5,787
Eurasian Ministries Mission College	3,264	3,616
International Mission to Jewish People (formerly Christian Witness to Israel)	3,264	3,616
Azores (via Impact Giving)	5,230	-
Lebanon Baptist Trust (via Impact Giving)	-	1,500
UCCF Relay (via Stewardship Services)	-	2,420
Christian Education Project	2,538	2,400
All Nations Church - Clayhall and Barkingside	4,875	7,213

4 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity had 1 full time employee.

Ministerial costs, as permitted by the governing document, are employment costs in respect of the Pastor, Martin Hull, was paid £46,089 (2022 £41,997) in his capacity of minister of the church and not as a trustee and includes a restricted gift of £5,000 and an anniversary offering of £0 (2022 £2,108).

One of the trustees, Lynda Holmes, is a tenant of one of the Church owned properties. Her tenure is assessed using the rental policy applied to all tenants; her interest is declared at trustee meetings and she does not partake in decisions relating to the properties where she has a pecuniary interest.

One of the trustees, Adam Herbert, a trustee until September 2022, is a tenant of one of the Church owned properties. His tenure is assessed using the rental policy applied to all tenants; his interest is declared at trustee meetings and he did not partake in decisions relating to the properties where he has a pecuniary interest.

One of the trustees, Tim Crispin (Crisp Finish), on occasions undertakes urgent maintenance work at the Church and properties. During 2022-23 this totalled £1,516 (2022 £5,296).

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5 Breakdown of Designated funds - Assets and Liabilities

	Property Rental Fund	Ready Steady Go	Legacies	Missionary Support Fund	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash float	-	51	-	-	51
Cash at bank with immediate access	-	97	17,172	27,872	45,141
A Cash funds	-	148	17,172	27,872	45,192
Gift aid due to charity	-	-	-	675	675
Other debtors/ prepayments	2,515	-	-	2,523	5,038
B Other monetary assets	2,515	-	-	3,198	5,713
Loans	19,948	-	-	-	19,948
Accrued expenses/ deferred income	792	-	-	-	792
C Liabilities	20,740	-	-	-	20,740

6 Breakdown of Restricted funds - Assets and Liabilities

	All Nations Church Plant	Specific appeals/ donations incl. Hardship	Property Trust Funds	Pre-school	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank with immediate access	- 275	981	30,375	7,965	39,046
A Cash funds	- 275	981	30,375	7,965	39,046
Gift aid due to charity	325	278	-	-	603
Other debtors/ prepayments	-	250	-	-	250
B Other monetary assets	325	528	-	-	853
Accrued expenses	50	9	-	-	59
C Liabilities	50	9	-	-	59

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7 Movement of funds

	Balance at 31 March 2022 £	Receipts £		Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
General funds	44,318	91,416	-	88,061	29,140	76,813
Designated funds						
Property Rental Fund	-	73,859	-	22,339	- 51,520	0
Ready Steady Go	157	606	-	615	-	148
Legacies	-	17,172	-	-	-	17,172
Missionary Support Fund	26,218	3,620	-	24,346	22,380	27,872
	<u>26,375</u>	<u>95,257</u>	-	<u>47,300</u>	<u>- 29,140</u>	<u>45,192</u>
Restricted funds						
Property Trust Fund	11,785	20,000	-	1,410	-	30,375
All Nations Church Plant ¹	- 413	1,763	-	1,625	-	- 275
Pre-school	7,965				-	7,965
Covid Relief Fund ²	275	-		-	- 275	-
Hardship Fund ²	-	1,000	-	275	275	1,000
Specific appeals/ donations: TEAR Fund, Azores etc. ¹	4,713	15,836	-	20,568	-	- 19
	<u>24,325</u>	<u>38,599</u>	-	<u>23,878</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,046</u>
Total funds	<u>95,017</u>	<u>225,273</u>	-	<u>159,239</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>161,051</u>

¹ The deficit balance at the year end relates to gift aid to be claimed - see note 6 above

² Trustees renamed the 'Covid Relief Fund' as a 'Hardship Fund' and transferred the balance. At the outset donors to the 'Hardship Fund' agreed that any unused funds could be used for other purposes.