

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Report and Accounts

Year ended... 31 March 2024

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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) Derek Fieldhouse (from 14 January 2024) Lynda Holmes Martin Hull (until 2 July 2023) Peter Last Peter Parson Peter Sharp (until 31 July 2024) 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 2024

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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. 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/>. 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 'Hope 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). 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 2023-24 the Church, together with several others in the area, continued to support a new Church 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 saw 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 £99k. These comprise £87k Unrestricted (General £42k and Designated £45k) and £12k Restricted funds. General congregational income remained stable at £75k (a slight reduction in real terms). Property rental income fell by £12k. This was expected because the Manse is now provided to the Pastor as part of his remuneration instead of being let commercially. General Fund expenditure was in line with budget - payroll costs fell due to accommodation being provided to the Pastor and support costs increased due to the legal costs of becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Reserves were deliberately kept at a high level at the previous year end to meet necessary roof and guttering works. This project was successfully completed during the year, resulting in an in year deficit of £35k in the General Fund and year end general reserves falling back to £42k. This is still higher than the trustees' reserves policy, but more premises costs are anticipated in 2024-25. A restricted donation of £20k was received to renew/ update the Church heating system. During the year the boiler was replaced and the remaining balance of £3k will be used in 2024-25 to repair the Church heaters. The legacy fund of £17k (no restrictions) remains at year end, together with the Pre-school Restricted Fund of £8k which 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 87k. 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: 3/12/2024

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 2024 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: 12 December 2024

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted Funds	2024	2023
		General Funds £	Designated Funds £			
<i>Income receipts</i>						
Donations and grants		75,294	3,992	23,055	102,341	106,419
Legacies		-	-	-	-	17,172
Gift aid receipts		14,890	675	603	16,168	15,925
Income from charitable activities		1,141	613	-	1,754	399
Rental Income		-	61,949	-	61,949	73,859
Fee Income		-	-	-	-	-
Other		2,876	2,523	-	5,399	1,499
<i>Total receipts</i>		<u>94,201</u>	<u>69,752</u>	<u>23,658</u>	<u>187,611</u>	<u>215,273</u>
<i>Payments</i>						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	86,301	24,748	103,864	214,913	111,776
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	4,520	29,817	-	34,337	37,464
<i>Total payments</i>		<u>90,821</u>	<u>54,565</u>	<u>103,864</u>	<u>249,250</u>	<u>149,239</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		3,380	15,187	- 80,206	- 61,639	66,034
Transfers between funds	7	- 38,522	- 14,849	53,371	-	-
<i>Net movement in funds</i>		<u>- 35,142</u>	<u>338</u>	<u>- 26,835</u>	<u>- 61,639</u>	<u>66,034</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		76,813	45,192	39,046	161,051	95,017
<i>Cash funds at this year end</i>	A	<u>41,671</u>	<u>45,530</u>	<u>12,210</u>	<u>99,412</u>	<u>161,051</u>

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

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted funds	2024	2023
	Notes	General funds £	Designated funds £	£	£	£
A Cash funds	5,6					
Cash Float			-	-		51
Cash at bank with immediate access		41,671	45,530	12,211	99,412	161,000
		<u>41,671</u>	<u>45,530</u>	<u>12,211</u>	<u>99,412</u>	<u>161,051</u>
B Other monetary assets	5,6					
Gift aid due to charity		12,688	888	363	13,939	16,103
Other debtors		4,041	2,944	250	7,235	9,600
		<u>16,729</u>	<u>3,832</u>	<u>613</u>	<u>21,174</u>	<u>25,703</u>
C Liabilities						
Falling due within one year	5,6					
Loan		-	7,514	-	7,514	7,454
Fee for Independent Examination		1,290	-	-	1,290	1,300
Accrued expenses		926	94	1,229	2,249	2,233
		<u>2,216</u>	<u>7,608</u>	<u>1,229</u>	<u>11,053</u>	<u>10,987</u>
Falling due after one year:						
Loan			6,216	-	6,216	12,494
		<u>-</u>	<u>6,216</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,216</u>	<u>12,494</u>
Total		<u>2,216</u>	<u>13,824</u>	<u>1,229</u>	<u>17,269</u>	<u>23,481</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	3,564,419
30 Byron Avenue (2001)	Property Trust	151,000	574,349
121 Grove Hill (2001)	Property Trust	92,000	272,154
62-64 Grove Hill (2001)	Property Trust	280,000	980,812
		<u>1,101,000</u>	<u>5,554,044</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: 03/12/2024

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 2024

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.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted	Total	Total
	General	Designated	Funds	2024	2023
	funds	funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Employment costs (see note 4)	39,298	-	3,418	42,716	48,541
Youth and children's work	223	589	-	812	923
Outreach activities	1,806	-	-	1,806	976
Courses and conferences	395	-	-	395	215
Maintenance, repairs & equipment	15,339	7,619	16,700	39,658	19,705
Roof and guttering replacement project	-	-	76,807	76,807	-
Loan repayments	-	7,493	-	7,493	7,454
Utilities	8,353	3,128	-	11,481	10,387
Insurance	4,742	3,988	459	9,189	7,868
Independent examination	1,260	-	-	1,260	1,170
Office and support costs	12,691	1,931	6,480	21,102	10,569
Visiting Speakers	1,105	-	-	1,105	2,970
Other costs	1,089	-	-	1,089	1,000
	<u>86,301</u>	<u>24,748</u>	<u>103,864</u>	<u>214,913</u>	<u>111,776</u>

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	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	4,520	3,360	-	7,880	10,076
Overseas mission	-	26,457	-	26,457	26,913
Relief of poverty	-	-	-	-	475
	<u>4,520</u>	<u>29,817</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,337</u>	<u>37,464</u>

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Grace Baptist Mission	10,424	8,485
Equipping Pastors Worldwide (formerly Pastor Training International)	6,415	5,220
Eurasian Ministries Mission College	-	3,264
Amor (Europe)	8,015	
International Mission to Jewish People (formerly Christian Witness to Israel)	-	3,264
Azores (via Impact Giving)	-	5,230
Christian Education Project	2,400	2,538
All Nations Church - Clayhall and Barkingside	2,120	4,875

4 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity had 1 full time employee. Martin Hull was the Pastor until 2 July 2023; Matthew Weston took over the role on 1 July 2023.

Ministerial costs, as permitted by the governing document, are employment costs in respect of the Pastor, Martin Hull, was paid £14,116 (2023 £46,089) until 2 July 2023 in his capacity of minister of the church and not as a trustee and includes a leaving gift of £3,418 (2023 £0) and a restricted gift of £0 (2023 £5,000). Matthew Weston was paid £22,500 for the period from 1 July 2023 in his capacity of minister of the church and not as a trustee. He lives in the Manse rent free and the Church meets the cost of the council tax for the property.

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, Tim Crispin (Crisp Finish), on occasions undertakes urgent maintenance work at the Church and properties. During 2023-24 this totalled £144 (2023 £1,516).

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Breakdown of Designated funds - Assets and Liabilities

	Property Rental Fund £	Ready Steady Go £	Legacies £	Missionary Support Fund £	Total £
Cash float	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank with immediate access	-	172	17,172	28,186	45,530
A Cash funds	-	172	17,172	28,186	45,530
Gift aid due to charity	-	-	-	888	888
Other debtors/ prepayments	2,894	50	-	-	2,944
B Other monetary assets	2,894	50	-	888	3,832
Loans	13,730	-	-	-	13,730
Accrued expenses/ deferred income	-	94	-	-	94
C Liabilities	13,730	94	-	-	13,824

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	50	896	3,300	7,965	12,211
A Cash funds	50	896	3,300	7,965	12,211
Gift aid due to charity	-	363	-	-	363
Other debtors/ prepayments	-	250	-	-	250
B Other monetary assets	-	613	-	-	613
Accrued expenses	50	9	1,170	-	1,229
C Liabilities	50	9	1,170	-	1,229

GROVE HILL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Movement of funds

	Balance at 31 March 2023 £	Receipts £		Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
General funds	76,813	94,201	-	90,821	- 38,522	41,671
Designated funds						
Property Rental Fund	0	61,949	-	24,159	- 37,790	0
Ready Steady Go	148	738	-	714	-	172
Legacies	17,172	-	-	-	-	17,172
Missionary Support Fund	27,872	4,542	-	27,169	22,941	28,186
	<u>45,192</u>	<u>67,229</u>	-	<u>52,042</u>	<u>- 14,849</u>	<u>45,530</u>
Restricted funds						
Property Trust Fund	30,375	20,000	-	100,446	53,371	3,300
All Nations Church Plant	- 275	325	-	-	-	50
Pre-school	7,965				-	7,965
Hardship Fund	1,000	250	-	-	-	1,250
Specific appeals/ donations: TEAR Fund, Azores etc. ¹	- 19	3,083	-	3,418	-	- 354
	<u>39,046</u>	<u>23,658</u>	-	<u>103,864</u>	<u>53,371</u>	<u>12,211</u>
Total funds	<u>161,050</u>	<u>185,088</u>	-	<u>246,727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,412</u>

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