

WEST PARK CHURCH – ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

Details of Charity

Name: The Stable Trust (“the Church”)

Charity Registration No: 251378

Principal office: West Park Church, Connaught Road, Wolverhampton

Names of Trustees: S Doyle, R Gough, P Bradley, A Male, J Wilkes, A Sargent, C Smith, I Leadbeater

Review of 2021

As in 2020, the Coronavirus pandemic has continued to impact upon the life and work of the church. Some restrictions were eased during the year, and congregational singing resumed from July, but it was decided that social distancing and certain other measures should remain in operation. The YPF was restarted at the end of the year. The core functions, namely two Sunday services and a mid-week meeting for Bible study and prayer, have continued without interruption. Numbers attending the Sunday services have slowly risen, but mid-week attendance by the end of the year was still considerably lower than immediately before the pandemic struck in 2020. This has been disappointing and discouraging: we pray the Lord will stir up more to join with us as we bring our petitions before the Throne of Grace. While it appears that confidence is growing, a number of members remain cautious due to health issues – their own, or of close relatives. It has become clear that a significant number have grown more frail or unwell during the last two years, and can no longer attend as they might wish.

Primarily through the ministry, but also through pastoral work, and mutual encouragement in spiritual things, there has continued to be growth in grace, and we thank God for this. It has also been good to know that members have continued to quietly help each other through what for many have been trying and difficult months. The baptisms of John Cooke and Joey Rahl were particular highlights during the year. John Ericson and Keith Chitty died in 2021.

We were delighted to welcome Tom, Hannah, Nathaniel and Elisia Millward into the church in June, Tom having been appointed Assistant Pastor for a period of two years.

Financial summary

By the end of the year, “regular” income had increased slightly above that of the previous year. We are grateful for the ongoing support of the Lord’s people. It is worth pointing out, though, that the employment of our assistant, Tom Millward, would have resulted in the use of reserves had a gift of £15,000 not been received. Significantly, the Building Fund has reduced by about £15,000 over the 12 months, primarily in order to pay for renewal of the central heating system. The fund is there for essential works such as this, but again this year no money could be made available from our regular income to keep it topped up. The receipt of a large sum from the sale of no 21 Park Road West is not the answer to our long term day to day financial needs. The question of how to use this money is yet to be addressed, but the first call on this (in terms of WPC needs) would probably be to invest some of it in the existing buildings to ensure they are well maintained and serviceable for years to come. It should not be used for salaries, utility bills, cleaning materials or any of our routine, day-to-day running costs.

Charity Matters

This report serves as the Annual Report of the Stable Trust (the charity behind the church). As such, mention must be made of a technical matter which came to the fore during the sale of the house. Upon examination of the trust deed by our legal advisers, it became apparent that the funds from the sale could be used only for the purchase of a building for public worship. This restriction needs to be removed and a process is in train whereby a “scheme” to alter the trust deed will be announced, considered by the trustees, and, if approved, submitted to the Charity Commission for them to consider. If they agree, it will remove the restriction and allow the trustees to apply the funds in furtherance of the Christian faith (ie not be restricted to buying another building for worship). Pending such an outcome, the funds are held in the bank and cannot be touched.

The legal advisers have helped us “tidy up” membership of the trust, and the whole process has underlined the potential benefits of moving towards a more modern form of trust deed. The objectives will not change, but the governance structure in which the trust becomes a “body” (a legal entity in its own right) will bring it into line with current practice among the churches. This is work which will go on behind the scenes, and will have no direct impact on anything taking place in the life and work of the church.

Conclusion

We thank God for His unfailing goodness. We have been blessed in so many ways during the year, not least in being able to configure the building so that two floors are used when required. In the early stages of the pandemic, public live broadcasts over YouTube were an aid for some, but we see no justification for prolonging this now that public health measures have advanced, coupled with our own efforts to provide reasonable assurance regarding the safety of meeting. (We are committed to making CD recordings freely available to any who cannot come out to services). We urge all who consider themselves to be part of this work to commit themselves to “gathering together” – and to do so regularly, in order to worship, to encourage, and to be encouraged.

“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:42)

We thank God that we can freely follow this pattern set forth in His word. His word is sufficient. We pray that He will continue to work in and through us during the year ahead.

The Stable Trust

Trustees Report and Financial Statements

Registered Charity Number 251378

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Report of the Trustee

Introduction

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. 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 2015).

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Registered Charity number

251378.

Principal address

West Park Church, Connaught Road, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV1 4PN.

Trustees

S Doyle (Chairman)
P Bradley
R Gough
A Male
I Leadbeater
A Sargent
C Smith
J Wilkes

Independent examiner

Ronald J Bourike AGIB (retired)

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees:

S Doyle

Trustee: 

Date: 19 August 2022



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

The Stable Trust

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2021

Charity no
(if any)

251378

Set out on pages

Receipts and Expenditure Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities
at 31/12/2021 pages 4 and 5

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021

As the charity's trustees, 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 which gives me
cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130
of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements
concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities
(Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

19th August 2022

Name:

Ronald James BOURIKE

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ACIB (retired)

Address:

6 Edington Road, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX28 5YU

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	2020
	2021	2021	2021	£
	£	£	£	
Receipts				
Covenant giving	47,237	-	47,237	47,704
Gifts	15,000	-	15,000	30,000
Inland Revenue	17,952	-	17,952	9,670
Missionary gifts	17,051	-	17,051	7,717
Cash offering	6,695	-	6,695	4,230
Gift – No 21 Park Road West	2,100	-	2,100	-
Loan repayment	400	-	400	-
Bank interest	7	-	7	68
Electricity sub-station rent	13	-	13	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	106,455	-	106,455	99,402
Sale of Assets				
No.21 Park Road West	-	295,000	295,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Receipts	106,455	295,000	401,455	99,402
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenditure				
Salaries and pensions	(41,156)	-	(41,156)	(30,936)
Missionary gifts	(26,201)	-	(26,201)	(17,967)
Electric, gas, water and Council tax	(7,295)	-	(7,295)	(10,332)
Building expenses	(22,984)	-	(22,984)	(5,220)
Insurance	(2,811)	-	(2,811)	(3,136)
Audio recording	(2,416)	-	(2,416)	(2,803)
Visiting preachers	(1,989)	-	(1,989)	(1,421)
Sundries	(1,805)	-	(1,805)	(2,077)
Outreach	(669)	-	(669)	(595)
Gifts	(157)	-	(157)	(25)
Legal costs	(8,592)	(2,862)	(11,454)	-
Interest free loan	(4,800)	-	(4,800)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Payments	(120,875)	(2,862)	(123,737)	(74,502)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Receipts / (Payments)	(14,420)	292,138	277,718	24,900
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash funds at the start of the year	72,551	-	72,551	47,651
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash funds at the year end	58,131	292,138	350,269	72,551
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities
as at 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash Funds		
Cash – current account	293,009	8
Cash – savings accounts	57,260	72,543
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets at the year end	350,269	72,551
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

S Doyle

Trustee Director: 

Date: 19 August 2022

Notes

(forming part of the financial statements)

1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Charity, 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 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2 Accounting policies

(a) Income and expenditure

(i) 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.

(ii) 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.

(iii) Taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

(b) Funds

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.

Notes (continued)

3 Trustees Remuneration

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

There were no Trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020.

4 Movement in Funds

	31 December 2020	Net Movement in Funds	31 December 2021
	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	72,551	14,420	58,131
Restricted Funds	-	292,138	292,138
Total	<u>72,551</u>	<u>277,718</u>	<u>350,269</u>

5 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2021.



Section A

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Signed:

Date:

19th August 2022

Name:

Ronald James BOURIKE

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ACIB (retired)

Address:

6 Edington Road, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX28 5YU