

Crossroads Church, Ashington
Report and Unaudited Accounts
30 September 2023

Crossroads Church, Ashington
Report and accounts
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Crossroads Church, Ashington
Trustee's Annual Report For The Year Ended 30 September 2023

The Trustees present their Annual Report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023

Objectives and Activities

The principle objectives of the Charity are the advancement of the Christian Faith and the relief of persons who are in need, hardship or distress, or who are aged or sick.

The provision of instruction in the Christian Faith at any educational establishment, and to give practical support and service to the local communities in Ashington and surrounding areas.

To promote life skills and healthy living options. To work with children and young people and promote and organise any other charitable activity which the trustees may from time to time decide.

The Charity is committed to achieving results for the public benefit and due regard is always given to this objective in all its work it undertakes in the community.

Vision

Inspiring and supporting the local community.

Vision that guides us.

We will promote our Christian aims and ideas through our engagement with people in our community

Mission Statement

To encourage the development of the Christian Faith in Church Members. To serve the local community through practical help and support.

We will achieve this:

Through teaching and pastoral support that will encourage, strengthen individuals and groups that will empower them to make and give help and support to others.

We will work in partnership with other churches.

We will work in partnership with the local authority, charity groups and educational establishments.

Our Values/Beliefs

We are committed to the values of the Christian Faith, and we have a passion to share this with others.

We believe that its message can and does make a difference to a person's life.

Summary of Main Activities

The Church was constituted by a Declaration of Trust on 8 December 1982. A new Declaration of Trust dated 23 June 2005 supersedes this.

There are currently three Church Elders along with the Treasurer, Trustees, Pastoral Team and Administration Team who deal with the practical affairs of the Church with additional pastoral support from the Rev. Brian Howell.

The year from October 2022 to September 2023 has been a continued year of change for the church. Post Covid the church has settled back into regular Sunday meetings using the Salvation Army premises in Ashington each week. Numbers attending the church have been fairly consistent although not at pre covid levels. We went into this financial year having already made the decision that Crossroads Church coffee shop couldn't continue in its present form. We continued to open two days per week until December 2022 when the shop finally closed with the redundancy of our one remaining employee. Later in the same month we reopened the shop as a Warm Space to meet the continued need in the community for somewhere to go and have a warm drink and some food. This was staffed entirely by volunteers and has continued to operate twice a week over the past year. Some small set up grants and donations by people using the service has meant the facility can continue to meet the needs of our local community while now running on a financially sustainable basis.

Summary of Main Activities (continued)

Several Church members are actively involved with voluntary work within their local community. The Church supports and is involved with the local partnership of Churches Together in Ashington and Newbiggin.

The Church has had a settled period using the Salvation Army meeting hall during the period of reporting however after this year end due to the hall closure it has been necessary to move venues again.

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Plans for Future Development

The Church objectives continues to be met together for worship, prayer, teaching and support whilst encouraging others to join us. We are delighted with the way the Warm Space has gone, taking over from the coffee shop, meeting many needs in the community. This has been due in no small part to the efforts of a small but dedicated group of volunteers both from Crossroads Church and from others, headed up by Christine Rogers. We plan to continue with this in the foreseeable future.

Activities for the Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing aims and objectives and in the planning of future activities. The trustees are committed to ensuring that all its acts of worship services are available to all in the local community. No individual is excluded from playing an active part in the affairs of the Church because of race, ethnicity, gender or disability or sexuality or by geographic location unless there are restrictions on them following a DSB check for those who want to work within the children and youth department, this also applies to anyone who wants to become involved with visiting the elderly, sick or a person with a disability within the church fellowship or in the local community.

The venues that the Church rents for its Sunday services and for the mid-week meetings and for its other activities during the year are fully accessible. Its meetings are advertised on a regular basis and are promoted on the Church web site.

Achievements and Performance

The trustees would like to record their thanks to the church members for their continued generous support financially and otherwise .

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Usually ,interactive, positive services are held with modern songs and music, and those attending the service are encouraged to participate in the various meetings.

The Church continues to support various missionary or aid works at home or overseas, and during the current year it has contributed from its funds £4,094 to various organisations and cases of individual need (up from £4,699 the previous year). We will continue to look for opportunities to provide support in the future.

Financial Review

Surplus for the year £7,293.

Income from the church has fallen slightly over the last year. The costs of closing down the coffee shop in December had been provided for in the previous accounts and were as anticipated. The generous donations made at the Warm Space together with no longer having an employee to pay has meant that the year end has resulted in a small surplus and this shows it is financially viable to continue with the Warm Space.

Review of Financial Results and Reserves

The surplus/deficit for the year has been credited/debited to reserves as follows:-

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted funds	7,293	-4,197
Restricted funds	-	-
Total surplus/deficit	<u>7,293</u>	<u>-4,197</u>

As a result of this the total reserves at the 30th September 2023 which are to be carried forward are

General reserves	72,207	64,914
Fixed assets fund	55,000	55,000
Total reserves carried forward	<u>127,207</u>	<u>119,914</u>

Income and Expenditure

	Church 2023 £	Coffee Shop/ Warm Space 2023 £	Church 2022 £	Coffee Shop 2022 £
Gross Income (& grants)	18,800	14,319	19,559	7,232
Expenditure	12,207	22,646	10,655	24,320
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>6,593</u>	<u>-8,387</u>	<u>8,904</u>	<u>-17,088</u>

The Church transferred £12,563 from its funds to support the Coffee Shop during the year.

Summary of Results		2023	2022
		£	£
Church surplus		6,593	8,904
Coffee Shop deficit/surplus		(8,322)	(17,088)
Add:	Bank interest received	731	106
Other – Redundancy provision/stock revaluation		8,746	4,331
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		7,743	(3,747)
Less:	Governance costs	450	450
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	Net Surplus	7,293	(4,197)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
The Net Assets of the Charity as at 30 September 2022 were		127,207	119,914

Trustees Expenses

Expenses of £330 were refunded to D Todd for items purchased during the year.

Structure, Governance and Management

Crossroads Church was constituted by a Declaration of Trust on 8 December 1982. A new Declaration of Trust dated 23 June 2005 supersedes this.

Crossroads Church is a membership organisation and is managed by appointed Elders and with other appointed Church Officials and Trustees. Regular formal management meetings are held throughout the year. The Church has its own constitution for the governance of the spiritual and moral welfare of its religious activities. The Church holds an Annual General meeting and also other regular meetings. The members receive details of the business meetings through the publishing of the minutes.

Staffing

The Church employed a full-time manager and one part time catering assistants at its Coffee Shop. The part time member of staff resigned due to ill health just before the year end. As at the year end the manager was serving a twelve week redundancy period. They also retain the freelance services of the Rev B Howell for pastoral support and other ministry duties.

Report of a Serious Incident

The trustees confirm that they have not had to report any serious incident or issue to the Charity Commission in this financial year.

The Church members responsible for safeguarding issues are Mrs C. Rogers assisted by Mr D. Bruce

Policy for Monitoring and Review

The level of reserves and the financial affairs of the Charity are monitored on a regular basis. An annual review is also undertaken to ensure that the overall level of reserves continues to meet the needs of the Charity.

Risk Strategy

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed to is reviewed on a regular basis, and the Trustees are aware that with an ageing congregation, that new robust initiatives need to be put in place over the next few years to address this problem. The Trustees along with other Church officials are continuing to review its policies and procedures to ensure that they comply with current legislation. Over the last few years it has become clear that running the coffee shop in its existing form could not be sustained financially and therefore the decision was taken to close this. So far, as previously shown the Warm Space we have set up in its place has been a great success. We will continue to review the viability of this going forward.

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name	Crossroads Church
Charity Number	513430
Principal Address	109 Front Street Newbiggin by the Sea Northumberland NE64 6AD
Board of Trustees	W G S Rogers D Todd M J Graham
Independent Examiner	Walsh & Co Chartered Accountants 103 Station Road Ashington Northumberland NE63 8RS
Bankers	Unity Trust Bank plc Nine Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HR

The Trustees conclude their Annual Report in recording their sincere thanks to the staff at the Coffee Shop, the volunteers at the Warm Space, the volunteers, the Church officials, the worship and musical teams and all other participants who have contributed to the church activities during the last financial year.

Approval

This report was approved by order of the Board of Trustees on _____ and signed on its behalf by _____

W G S Rogers
Trustee

M J Graham
Trustee

Crossroads Church, Ashington
STATEMENT OF THE TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its financial activities for that period. In preparing those Financial Statements the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed.
- State whether applicable statements of recommended practice have been followed.
- Prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with current legislation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

Crossroads Church, Ashington

**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CROSSROADS CHURCH,
ASHINGTON FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 30 September 2023, which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and

to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act, have not been met; or

To which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Walsh & Co Chartered Accountants
103 Station Road
Ashington
Northumberland
NE63 8RS

20 May 2024

Crossroads Church, Ashington
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 30 September 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Incoming Resources					
Income and Endowment From:-					
Donations and legacies		18,800	-	18,800	19,559
Charitable Activities		15,050	-	15,050	7,338
Investments		-	-	-	-
Other		-	-	-	-
Total	3	33,850	-	33,850	26,897
Resources Explained					
Expenditure on:					
Charitable Activities		34,853	-	34,853	34,975
Governance Cost		450	-	450	450
Redundancy Provision/Stock Revaluation		(8,746)	-	(8,746)	(4,331)
Total	4	26,557	-	26,557	31,094
Net Income/ (expenditure)		7,293	-	7,293	(4,197)
Reallocation of funds:					
Total Funds brought forward		119,914	-	119,914	124,111
Total Funds carried forward	10	127,207	-	127,207	119,914

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Crossroads Church, Ashington
Balance Sheet
as at 30 September 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	55,000	55,000
Investments		-	-
		<u>55,000</u>	<u>55,000</u>
Current assets			
Stocks		300	300
Cash at bank and in hand	8	<u>74,947</u>	<u>73,810</u>
		75,247	74,110
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	(3,040)	(9,196)
Net current assets		<u>72,207</u>	<u>64,914</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>127,207</u>	<u>119,914</u>
Net assets		<u>127,207</u>	<u>119,914</u>
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds		127,207	119,914
Total Funds	10	<u>127,207</u>	<u>119,914</u>

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

and were

W G S Rogers
Trustee

The notes on pages 11 to 15 for part of these financial statements.

Crossroads Church, Ashington
Notes to the unaudited financial statements
for the year ended 30 September 2023

1 Basis of Preparation

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and properties measured at fair value through the statement of financial activities. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis which assumes that the Charity will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Transition to FRS102

The entity transitioned from previous UK GAAP to FRS 102 as at 1 October 2015.

2 Accounting Policies

Income

The main source of income is from Church donations and Coffee shop sales with provision being made for any outstanding accounts at the end of the financial year. In the last year government and local government grants have supported the coffee shop finances during the covid pandemic.

Expenditure

This includes Expenses of the Charity with provision being made for any outstanding accounts at the end of the financial year.

Expenditure on items of equipment are written off in the Income and Expenditure Account in the year of purchase.

Depreciation

The Coffee Shop freehold and property improvements have not been depreciated as fair value has been applied.

Stocks

Stock items are valued at cost.

Fund Accounting

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.

Crossroads Church, Ashington
NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 September 2023

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	2,023	2,022
	£	£
3 ANALYSIS OF INCOME		
Donations from church services	15,450	15,744
Gift aid reclaimed	3,350	3,815
Coffee shop sales /Warm Space donations	13,319	6,339
Bank interest	731	106
Other/grant support	<u>1,000</u>	<u>893</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>33,850</u>	<u>26,897</u>
4 ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE		
The analysis of the total resources expended is:		
Church Running Costs		
Ministry Cost	2,633	1,490
Charity Giving	4,094	4,699
Premises Rent and Equipment	4,155	3,119
Administration	<u>1,325</u>	<u>1,347</u>
	<u>12,207</u>	<u>10,655</u>
Coffee Shop		
Wages	12,647	18,981
Purchases	4,359	428
Premises Running Cost	3,729	3,403
Administration	1,911	1,508
Amendment to redundancy provision	- 8,746	- 4,331
Stock write down	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>13,900</u>	<u>19,989</u>
Total Resources expended on charitable activities	<u>26,107</u>	<u>30,644</u>
The analysis of the Governance cost is:		
Independent Examiner's Remuneration	<u>450</u>	<u>450</u>
Total unrestricted resources expended	<u>26,557</u>	<u>31,094</u>

Crossroads Church, Ashington
NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 September 2023
This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold Property £	2023 £	2022 £
Cost or Valuation			
As at 1 October 2022	55,000	55,000	55,000
Disposals			
As at 30 September 2023	<u>55,000</u>	<u>55,000</u>	<u>55,000</u>
Depreciation			
As at 1 October 2022	-	-	-
Charge for the year	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
As at 30 September 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Book Value at 30 September 2023	<u>55,000</u>	<u>55,000</u>	<u>55,000</u>

The charity owns the freehold property of the Church Coffee Shop at 4 Myrtle Street, Ashington. The gross cost was £51,900; a grant of £25,000 was received from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust leaving a net cost of £26,900. Some improvements have been carried out to the premises and the net cost to Church funds after grants received was £11,817. The net investment in property is therefore £38,717. The property was assessed in April 2018 by an independent professional valuer. The fair value of the property is estimated to be £55,000 and an appropriate adjustment has been made in the accounts. No depreciation charge is necessary.

Crossroads Church, Ashington
NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 September 2023
This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	2023	2022
	£	£
7 Debtors		
Coffee Shop Accounts	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

8 CASH AT BANK

The bank balances at 30 September 2023 were as follows:

Church deposit account	36362	35631
Church main account	28686	35106
Coffee Shop Account	9799	2973
Cash in hand	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	<u>74947</u>	<u>73810</u>

Crossroads Church, Ashington
NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 September 2023
This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

9 CREDITORS

Sundry Coffee Shop/ Warm Space accounts	2590	0
Sundry Church accounts	450	450
Redundancy Liability	0	8746
	<u>3040</u>	<u>9196</u>

10 CHARITY FUNDS

Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total £
Fund Balances at 30 September 2023 are represented by:-				
Tangible Fixed Assets	55000	0	0	55000
Net Current Assets	<u>72207</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>72207</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>127207</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>127207</u>

11 CHARITABLE RATES RELIEF

The Charity has received the statutory 80% rates relief in respect of its freehold property at 4 Myrtle Street, Ashington.

12 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

There were no capital commitments as at 30 September 2023

13 PENSIONS

A workplace pension scheme with auto enrolment for eligible staff until the closure of the coffee shop and the redundancy of the last employee.

14 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no material transactions with related parties during the year.

Crossroads Church, Ashington
NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 September 2023
This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

15 CHARITABLE GIVING

The gifts made by the Church during the year were £4,094 (2022 £4,699).
They were made to the following:

	£
Samaritan's Purse	600
Compassion	28
Open Doors	600
Premier Radio	600
Salvation army	400
External gifts	1000
In House Gifts	866
TOTAL	4094

16 UNLIMITED CONTROLLING PARTY

In the opinion of the trustees, although they have the legal responsibility for the safeguarding of the assets of the Charity, the ultimate control of the Charity is with the membership of the Church.