

BICESTER SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1013339

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

AND

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

BICESTER SPIRITUALIST CHURCH
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

<u>Registered Name</u>	Bicester Spiritualist Church
<u>Registered Number</u>	1013339
<u>Principal Office</u>	The Clifton Centre Ashdene Road Bicester OX26 2BH
<u>Trustees</u>	Robert Gooch (Custodial Trustee) Anthony Plowman (Custodial Trustee) Lynn Beckett Rita Clifton Judith Plowman (General Secretary) Derek Taylor Sue Young (Treasurer) Simon Boshier (Resigned March 2024) Susan Boshier (Resigned December 2024)
<u>Bankers</u>	HSBC UK
<u>Independent Examiner</u>	Mrs H C Fanthome FCA, King Loose & Co St John's House, 5 South Parade, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7JL

BICESTER SPIRITUALIST CHURCH**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT****FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the period ended 31st December 2024. The accounts comply with the charity's constitution, the Charities Act 2011, and 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 – Charities SORP (FRS 102); and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Charity's Trusts

The Charity was registered on 4th August 1992 and is governed by model rules and constitution adopted 31st May 1992 and amended 24th October 2016.

Legal and Administrative Information

This information is given on page 1.

Objects

As set out in the Charity's governing documents, the Charity's objectives are:

- to advance the Christian religion in particular the Christian Spiritualist church

Organisation of Services, Activities and Achievements during the Period

Incoming funds are generated principally from rentals, together with monies from collections, private donations, and from fundraising events. As well as raising funds for the ongoing costs of running a parish, these events aim to build community within the parish and to raise awareness of the Charity in the wider community of Bicester.

The main activities for the public benefit in relation to the objectives of Bicester Spiritualist Church during the period were:

- the organisation and running of Bicester Spiritualist Church to enable those who wish to use it to assist the development of their Christian and spiritualist faith.
- the organising of regular religious services with a recognised medium and, where practical, allowing the public to join in and worship.
- the organising of healing sessions and facilitating healing workshops and training for the development of healing techniques.
- the provision of workshops for the development of Christian Spiritualism.

More specifically the Trustees concluded the improvements to the security system and general maintenance was carried out.

BICESTER SPIRITUALIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONT'D)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Future developments

There are currently no new major projects envisaged apart from building internal cupboards and the normal maintenance of the premises.

It is hoped that this continuing commitment to maintaining and enhancing the charity's resources, in a cost effective manner, will attract additional user groups to the premises.

Public Benefit

In reviewing the Charity's ongoing objectives and activities, the Trustees have considered the guidance set out in the Charity Commission's guidelines on public benefit, and are of the opinion that the objectives and activities are in total compliance therewith.

Trustees

The Trustees named on page 1 served during the period and up to the date of signing this report. There are no other Trustees.

Appointment and Training of Trustees

Trustees are appointed following selection based on their professional skills and/or representational qualities.

Induction and training of new Trustees is informal, mainly covered by word of mouth and attendance at meetings where policy decisions are taken, and matters of concern discussed. There is no specific training policy.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that free liquid reserves amounting to six month's operating costs is prudent and advisable to cover the various uncertainties and risks in the current economic climate. These requirements are under constant review by the Trustees, who consider that the position at the period end date is in line with policy.

Trustees Remuneration/Expenses

No expenses are paid to Trustees other than to reimburse authorised disbursements incurred.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the Charity faces or may face, and confirm that systems are in place to enable regular reports to be produced, so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen any such risks.

The principal risks faced by the charity are:

- sustainability of rental incomes
- ability to maintain rental properties to a high standard, at reasonable cost
- maintaining, or increasing, the number of Trustees.

The Trustees are aware of these risks and, together with their professional advisers, keep the issues under constant review.

BICESTER SPIRITUALIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (CONT'D)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- * select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- * observe the methods and principles of the applicable Charities SORP;
- * make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- * state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- * prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the applicable Charities SORP. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

This report has been approved by the Trustees and is signed on their behalf by:

Signed
 (Trustee)

Date

BICESTER SPIRITUALIST CHURCH**SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT****FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

Bicester Spiritualist Church (BSC) and The Clifton Centre continue to be a successful charity, whilst still working fully and continuously in their aspirations to uphold the Objectives as set out in the Constitution in advancing the Christian religion and in particular the Christian Spiritualist Church established on 29th June, 1989. We continue to support the community by helping those wishing to develop their spiritual interests, and assisting others to share their services with the community at large.

During 2024 we celebrated 35 years of the founding of Bicester Spiritual Church by Rita Clifton, the founder and a small group of supporters and likeminded people. In the past 35 years BSC has grown quite substantially from meeting in sitting rooms, hotel lounges and bars to the Pop In Centre in the town centre for a few years, whereby establishing itself as a well known and firmly established spiritualist church, before purchasing the Kings End Association premises in 2011. We also took the opportunity to rename the premises The Clifton Centre.

BSC and The Clifton Centre is a very special place which is used by many community groups: U3A, BLHS, Creative Dance, Bicester WI, Real Results, Oxfordshire MotorBike Club and Slimming World.

BSC use the premises every Sunday, Monday, most Saturdays and for the odd day event and evenings. During 2024 we celebrated our 35 years anniversary at our annual Carol Service with a live performer, Pete McCray, who sang and entertained the congregation for a couple of hours before and after the Carol Service. BSC also put on Clairvoyant evenings, with international and local mediums, 1-2-1 Coffee and Cake afternoons and of course every Sunday our Divine Service with mediums from England. BSC also run healing and development groups, Open Circles in accordance with our constitution.

Tony Plowman and Robert Gooch (both Custodial Trustees) ensure that the value of the property is not diminished. They have continued to maintain the buildings and computer systems by keeping the costs to the minimum, carrying out the repairs themselves where legally permitted. During 2024 Tony and Robert installed the new large cupboard at the far end of the hall to store further pieces of furniture such as chairs and tables.

BSC are very grateful for all the help they are given to ensure that the BSC and The Clifton Centre jobs are covered, and that all the events are run efficiently and smoothly.

BSC hopes to continue its journey and promises to allow all visitors to enjoy the ambience of the Church and hall, and, going forward hopes to put on many more events in 2025. All suggestions are considered. Healing Group 2024 continues under the tutoring of Judith and Tony Plowman.

To all the trustees, our employee, volunteers, who all willingly set up the church, make the tea, chair, read and generally welcome all the congregation - thank you, and thanks also must go to our congregation, associates and the CCSI. In particular, we thank President Danny Pinto and Vice President Adrian Denney who are always available if we have any problems or require advice. Everyone has contributed to the on-going success of Bicester Spiritualist Church and The Clifton Centre through attendance, discussions, organising, planning and being able to participate and provide support when able to do so. It is appropriate that your personal and collective efforts are acknowledged, and we hope to continue with our full services and community usage, and perhaps add even more users to the Centre in 2025. Thank you.

Minister Judith A Plowman
General Secretary Bicester Spiritualist Church
January 2025

BICESTER SPIRITUALIST CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1013339

I report on the accounts of the charity, for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of the 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 period 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;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- 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 Commissioners. 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:

- (1) which gives me 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 to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

King Loose & Co
 St John's House
 5 South Parade
 Summertown
 Oxford OX2 7JL

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 H C FANTHOME FCA
 Dated.....

BICESTER SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (CHARITY NO. 1013339)

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<u>RECEIPTS</u>				
Collection		2,257.68		3,782.24
Raffle		2,127.15		416.00
Tickets		4,098.00		5,211.15
Refreshments & donations		450.64		487.96
Open circle		1,267.03		495.00
Psychic PR & library		40.00		150.00
Xmas Draw		-		-
Rent		34,874.85		31,708.05
Book/DVD sales		76.60		177.27
Interest Received		1,240.88		909.84
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		46,432.83		43,337.51
<u>PAYMENTS</u>				
Roof repairs				
Building repairs & maintenance	3,513.75		6,770.06	
Heat/light/water	18,497.13		13,511.58	
Affiliation fee	-		70.00	
Insurance (inc PLI)	1,611.58		1,425.94	
Accountant	312.00		300.00	
Other (flowers, milk, stationery etc)	1,803.52		1,398.25	
Other expenses	765.65		275.85	
Medium expenses	3,904.00		4,661.00	
Wages	3,020.29		2,860.44	
Small Equipment & chairs purchased	381.95		1,026.18	
Bank Charges	106.54		91.82	
Donations	-		235.01	
Defibrillator Grant Returned	400.00		-	
	<hr/>	(34,316.41)	<hr/>	(32,626.13)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)		<u>12,116.42</u>		<u>10,711.38</u>

BICESTER SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (CHARITY NO. 1013339)

	<u>Notes</u>		<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>
		£	£	£	£
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>					
Tangible Fixed Assets	2		247,153.10		247,153.10
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>					
<u>Cash and Bank</u>					
Community Account		22,663.13		29,238.99	
Business Saver Account		50,046.89		31,306.01	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
		72,710.02		60,545.00	
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>					
Creditors		<hr/> 65.80		<hr/> 17.20	
Net Current Assets			72,644.22		60,527.80
			<hr/>		<hr/>
NET ASSETS			<u>319,797.32</u>		<u>307,680.90</u>
<u>FUNDS</u>					
Unrestricted Funds B/Fwd			307,680.90		296,969.52
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period			12,116.42		10,711.38
			<hr/>		<hr/>
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS C/FWD			<u>319,797.32</u>		<u>307,680.90</u>

Approved by the Trustees

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Dated

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BICESTER SPIRITUALIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

1. **Accounting Policies**

(a) **Basis of preparation**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

(b) **Tangible Assets and Depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets held for the charity's own use are stated at cost.

2. **Tangible Fixed Assets**

	<u>Building</u>		<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cost	£	£	£	£
Brought forward 01.01.24	246,768	385		247,153
Additions	-	-		-
Disposals	-	-		-
Carried forward 31.12.24	<u>246,768</u>	<u>385</u>		<u>247,153</u>
Depreciation				
Brought forward 01.01.24	-	-		-
Charge for the period	-	-		-
Depreciation on disposals	-	-		-
Carried forward 31.12.24	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
Net Book Value at 31.12.24	<u>246,768</u>	<u>385</u>		<u>247,153</u>
Net Book Value at 31.12.23	<u>246,768</u>	<u>385</u>		<u>247,153</u>

All tangible fixed assets are used directly for charitable purposes.

3. **Trustees Remuneration/Expenses**

None of the Trustees receive a salary from the charity. No expenses are paid to Trustees other than to reimburse occasional, low-value authorised disbursements incurred.