

Wear Valley Christian Centre

Annual General Meeting 14th February 2024

Reports

2024 A Church believing for Great Things

Agenda

- Welcome: Pastor Masai
- Minutes AGM 2023
- Matters Arising
- Submitted Questions
- Reports:
 - Administrator
 - Treasurer
 - Missions
 - Ladies Meeting
 - Men's Meeting
 - Kids Church
 - Evangelism
 - Pastor
- Close: Pastor Masai

Please Note:

The Charity Commission report, as per guidance, will only include the following:

- **Administrator's report**
- **Pastor's report, as Chairman**
- **Treasurer's report and the Independent Examiners Report**

ADMINISTRATOR

Bob Woods

2023 saw us fully open as a church with a full year's programme of events. We also kept in touch with a weekly newsletter, and for those unable to attend our main Sunday service, this was streamed live on youtube. The message of the service being available later for watching, and advertised on our Facebook group.

Partners

We welcomed Paula Constable into partnership resulting in:

1 st February	2023	2024
Active members	32	33
Emeritus (Those housebound)	4	4

Church Structure/Management

Following last year's discussion, steps were taken to develop an overall management of the fellowship through: Church Council, Leaders Group, and Eldership.

Church Council: 2023 Pastor Masai Kahindi, David Robson, Bob Woods with Karen Kahindi & Paul Johnson joining Dec 2023

During 2023 we met formally 11 times through the year. It has taken some time to seek out individuals who are suitable and happy to join the group, which included becoming a Trustee of the charity. We are thankful to Karen Kahindi and Paul Johnson taking on this role in December, and joined the meeting January 2024.

Leaders Group: Pastor Masai, David Robson, Bob Woods, and departmental leaders.

Planning to meet twice a year, we met in February and planned another in October. However this had to be deferred. A meeting is scheduled for February 2024 with another in October

Eldership Group: Pastor Masai Kahindi, David Robson, Bob Woods:

Will be meeting regularly throughout 2024

Land Holding Trustees

No change to the 4 Land Holding Trustees, one above the minimum requirement.

Governing Document

A minor change in 2023 was made to allow the Church Council to meet, if required, via video conferencing.

Internet

The website, YouTube, and Facebook accounts continue to be updated and provide useful contact resources.

In particular

- **YouTube:** Our Sunday service has been live streamed using this platform with an edited version held for later viewing.
- **Facebook:** Links to our recorded service have been posted. Also events have been advertised online
- **Website:** Has proved valuable with some new folk finding our website, making contact, and now attending.

Estates

- Fire alarms and extinguishers, and main boilers have again been tested and serviced.
- Once again thanks to Andrew Britton who continues to cover various minor works and ensures the alarm system is frequently tested. Also to Adrian Scott who looks after the central heating settings.
- Various maintenance was carried out in 2023 including Central heating service repairs, and guttering being cleared.
- Drains: These regularly require clearing, with thanks to Andrew Britton and David Robson. We are having the drains reviewed to see if there is anything that can be done to resolve this problem, other than re-routing.
- 2024 will see us replace the Keyboard, which will be a major financial item. Discussions have also commenced concerning the Kitchen and decorating. The projector is also an item that may require replacing.

Hire

Regular hire of the building continues on a Tuesday with Slimming World. group ceased.

Network

As reported to our Partners after much searching, meetings, and prayer 'Churches In the Community' (CIC) was considered a suitable network to join. CIC providing accountability and representation whilst the fellowship remained autonomous and independent. With the decision being fairly late in the year, completing submission documents, and providing various other evidential documents the process has taken a little longer than expected. We are now in the position of waiting for Pastor Masai to hold an application interview.

Missions

We have continued to support various overseas missions work both financially and prayerfully. These are detailed below by our Missions Secretary, David Potts.

In 2023 we also supported Christmas Child Shoebox appeal, run by Samaritans Purse, through donations totalling £200.

Locally

We have been involved with the community through:

- Hire of the building by Slimming World.
- Our harvest collection supported the foodbank at Woodhouse Close Community Church, financial gifts went to the 'Feeding Families' charity.
- Financial donations were received for Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal.
- Each Thursday morning the church has been open as a drop-in centre providing friendship, wi-fi, computer access, and refreshments. The need for computer provision is minimal.
- The Bible Times Exhibition was held with over 200 children attending
- King James Academy School brought all their year 7 pupils, in three groups, to the church to ask questions and explore our beliefs.
- We held an evening of Christmas Carol Singing at Runnymede Court; a sheltered housing complex

Bank Accounts

As previously discussed, to ensure our monies are protected (banks are only liable for £85000) we were looking to open a savings account to move some of the money from the sale of PCC, out of our HSBC account.

During 2023 we opened a savings account with Kingdom Bank, this is also gaining interest.

TREASURER

Report written by Karen Kahindi & Bob Woods
Based on reports from Smith & Co Accountants, Spennymoor

		2022	2023	Change
Receipts				
Offerings		45,688	46,383	695
Hire		5,025	3,620	-1,405
Interest earned			391	391
Donations				0
Gift Aid		4,053	1,085	-2,968
Insurance claim		15,758		-15,758
		70,524	51,479	-19,045
Payments				
Employees		30,396	31,357	961
Employees expenses		248	248	0
Accountancy		1,452	1,452	0
Pension Admin costs		2,231	2,253	22
Bank charges		164	179	15
General and Administration		1,585	1,924	339
Housekeeping		600	400	-200
Premises		6,218	7,498	1,279
Raising funds		119		-119
Miscellaneous			220	220
Insurance		1,484	1,521	37
Ministry		657	1,650	993
Missionary support		5,250	6,226	976
Donations and Gifts			265	265
Website		71		-71
Hospitality and events		588	473	-115
		51,063	55,665	4,602
Surplus/Deficit(-) for year		19,461	-4,186	-23,647
WVCC- Reserves				
Balance b/fwd 1 January		53,320	72,781	
Add:-Suplus for the year		19,461	-4,186	
Total Funds at Bank-31 December		72,781	68,595	
Charity Funds				
Kingdom Bank			35,390	
HSBC PCC Sale Balance		132,080	47,080	
HSBC WVCC		72,781	118,204	
Quilter Cheviot (15th Jan 2023)		107,756	113,494	5,738
Total Charity Funds		312,617	314,168	1,551

Notes on the finance report

Overview

- Our running costs showed a deficit of £4186.
- Finances were closely monitored and discussed throughout the year.
- With the high level of reserves, no major actions were taken.
- With interest/investment increases the overall Charity Funds show a small surplus. However the investments in Quilter Cheviot are prone to market changes.
- 2024 will see extra expenditure on assets / building. Also we anticipate drawing down on the ring-fenced monies.

Ring fenced monies

We still have ring fenced money, included in the current account. We acknowledge that this has been unspent for a number of years. There are on-going discussions to address this in 2024

Encounter: £922

Computer Café: £1500.

Gift Aid

Extra Gift aid will be paid after the year end. So will be in line with previous years.

Hire

2023 saw a full year's loss of hire due to the Monday session of Slimming World being cancelled.

Bank Accounts

2023 saw the opening of a savings account in Kingdom Bank

There are still monies to be transferred across into this. We are limited to the amount we could transfer per transaction.

We are thankful for the faithful support given throughout 2023.

PASTOR Masai Kahindi

Wow! It is hard to believe another year has come and gone. But what a joy it is to sit and reflect on the many ways God has blessed the life and ministry of Wear Valley Christian Centre (WVCC). Together, we are on a journey of sharing God's love with all people just the way we are, and what a brilliant glorious, enlightening journey it is as we are challenged, to learn from one another, meet new friends along the way and catch a glimpse of the Divine One in our midst. I am ever grateful for the past six years of journeying with you as we encounter our living God in new and unexpected ways together here at WVCC.

Brethren, God has been good to us and we have every reason to thank him. 2023 was a year that we saw our children's work start to build up again after a long time of very low numbers of children coming to our church. It was also great to see people from our own church volunteering to help with that work after a long time of searching for a church youth worker in different places with no success. And today, through the dedication of our own people in the church who are doing exemplary job with our children, we have a good number of children in every Sunday service. We also celebrate the fact that in 2023 we had a number of new people who came into our town, some from other countries and joined us, and each of us can attest to the fact that they have added value into our congregation. This was the year that we were also privileged to take a mission team out to Kenya for the first time since I came to be a Pastor here at WVCC in 2017. And so, I would like to thank God for all those who over the last 12 months have served our congregation in a variety of ways.

1). A big thank you first of all to the WVCC leadership group: Bob, & David. These brothers have worked faithfully, often behind the scenes, to facilitate much of the ministry that happens in our congregation. You are a blessing to us brothers and may God's grace and peace continue to be upon you. I would also like to thank our trustees.

2). I am very thankful to our administrator who is also part of our church leadership group for making sure everything is running smoothly in our church and making sure we remain connected through the newsletter.

3). I want to appreciate our missionary secretary for his exemplary work in keeping us updated with what is going on with all our missionaries that we support, and with what is going on in the mission field in general around the world, in spite of his demanding work. David has always been committed to making sure the church is updated on missions 100%.

4). I want to thank our treasurer who makes sure the church finances are looked after.

5). I want to express my sincere gratitude to the very special people that maintain things here in our church and do the cleaning and housekeeping. If anything breaks, or is not working, they are the first ones to notice. They may tend to work alone, but their dedication is absolutely vital to this church. Thank you for making our church what it is.

6). This church cannot be what it is today, without you our partners. Your attendance is vital to the encouragement of your fellow members just as it is vital to the life of your faith that you receive input from God's word regularly. More people present, means more people served. More people present means more opportunities to reach out to our community. More people present means more support of God's work. More people present means more encouragement for one another! And so, you are a vital part of all that. And as a pastor, I feel really blessed to have each one of you in this church.

7). Thank you to the ushers, worship leaders, musicians, those who operate the sound desk, the laptop operators and audio people. Those who help with communion, and everybody else that makes our Sunday morning corporate worship so enjoyable. Thank you too, to Adrian for monitoring our heating and keeping the building warm, to those who give lifts, so others can attend the meetings and those who open their homes for our missionaries and visitors. By God's grace you are helping us all to keep the faith and run our race with joy.

8). I want to thank all of you who are involved in the evangelism team. The team is growing strong and very enthusiastic. And I know as they continue to make prayer their priority, it will be their key to unlock so many people's hearts, because our God only reveals His hearts desires and strategies to His people through prayer.

9). I want to thank you who are leading our Bible studies. It has been refreshing to see all of you exercising your God given gifts and talents as you took us through some of the Books of the Bible making them alive to us.

10). I want to thank those of you who are leading the ladies and the men's meetings, providing the forum for us to come together as ladies and as men, enabling us to know each other more, grow together and be inspired in the things of God.

11). I want to express my sincere gratitude to all those who are involved with the early morning prayer meeting on Saturday. Also those involved with what started as "The warm space," which has now transitioned to "Open Door." To those who plan and organise all the special meals/buffets whenever we have family meetings on Sunday evenings, we love and appreciate you all and I pray God's blessings on you, for all you do for His glory.

Into the future, my prayer is that our Lord will continue to grow us in our love for him and for each other and that he will draw others to himself through us. If the last six years has taught us anything, it is that we can make our plans for the future, but only God knows what will come to pass. As such, may we recommit ourselves to trusting and obeying our risen King Jesus whatever the future holds, knowing that whatever we do for him lasts for all eternity. God bless you brothers and sisters. It truly is a joy to be able to live this life of faith with you all.

Brethren this new year we are promised great things in our theme verse from John 14:12. But let us also in 2024, take to heart the words of Hebrews 10:24-25: "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Wear Valley Christian Centre

This report is on the accounts for Wear Valley Christian Centre (charity number 1052523) for the year ended 31st December 2023. The accounts are set out on the accompanying document.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, which have been completed on a *Receipts and Payments* basis, as allowed by The Charities Act 2011. The gross income of the charity does not exceed the figure at which, under The Act, a full audit would be required. In this case it is only an independent examination which is required.

Accordingly, my examination has included a review of the accounting records of the charity, and a comparison of those records with the evidence presented - (receipts and invoices: all of which were made available to me) – but does not make a determination that they present a "true and fair view", as to do so would, in law, require a full audit.

I have acted as treasurer for the Civil Service Sports & Social Club at my workplace, and for my local church for a period of four years up to 2017 and, within the meaning of The Act, am a competent person to conduct this independent examination.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Having examined the accounts, and evidence available, I am satisfied that there is no reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the accounts have been prepared other than in accord with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011

Nor, in my opinion, is there any matter within the accounts to which attention would need to be drawn.

Personal Details of the Independent Examiner

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Date: 14th June 2024