www.shropshirehope.co.uk

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ANNUAL REPORT
1st JANUARY 2025 – 31st DECEMBER 2025

OVERVIEW

The Trustees of Shropshire Hope (SH) present this report summarising activities undertaken as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) during the period 1st January to 31st December 2025.

Minutes and Agreed Action Points from meetings of the Organising Team are available for inspection together with further information on finances, although a Statement of Income & Expenditure is provided in Appendix 1.

LEGAL STATUS

On 2nd November 2015 SH was entered into the Register of Charities – number 1164220 – following successful submission of a charitable application.

The principal purpose of the CIO is the advancement of the Christian faith throughout Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin. The CIO may also advance education and relieve poverty and sickness in such other parts of the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.

A copy of the Constitution is available on request or may be viewed or downloaded from the SH website.

The Trustees term of office will be reviewed in January 2025. The existing Trustees are listed below and their specific roles:

Name	Specific Roles
Pauline Dorothy Mack	Chair
Douglas Mark Savill	Worship
David Andrew Ackroyd	Rural
Dave Matthias	Shrewsbury Co-ordinator

The planning and facilitating of activities during this period was supplemented by additional members of an Organising Team, members of which currently include the Trustees plus:

- Jane Newey (Secretary):
- Sarah Kaul: Leader of The Lighthouse Church, Telford and Telford Christians Together

SH has been supported by a variety of external advisers representing Christian denominations involved in the county. These include both Anglican Bishops in Shropshire together with senior representatives from Baptist, Methodist, Roman Catholic and United Reformed churches. We value their wisdom, encouragement and support, both practical and financial, to accomplish our mission.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR

OBJECTIVES

The SH Organising Team set out the following objectives for 2025:

- 12 hours of worship to be held on the Wrekin in June 2025, inviting 12 churches from across the county from different streams. This meets our aim to develop Christian Prayer and Mission across Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin

- Support and practically assist wherever possible other prayer initiatives within the county including Thy Kingdom Come.
- Provide a spiritual leadership covering to the development of the Beautiful Gate prayer community at Halfway House on the Wrekin.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Prayer Initiatives

Shropshire Hope continued to support prayer across the county, encouraging and setting up prayer weeks. During Thy Kingdom Come in June 2025, a pilgrimage walk followed the River Severn from Highley to Leighton and then traversed clockwise around the Wrekin from Eaton Constantine to Little Wenlock.

In September 2025, we helped link Shropshire churches and towns with the 24-7 global week of prayer 1-7 September. From the north to the south and west to east: Christians across Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth, Telford, Whitchurch, Church Stretton and Weston Rhyn on the northern border took part.

Further to the successful bid to the Community Ownership Funding to purchase Halfway House on the Wrekin in 2024 for a Shropshire charity. This continues to seek to develop as a hub for county wide prayer initiatives.

Shropshire Hope Worship Day

Our annual event was held at Halfway House on the Wrekin on Saturday 7th June 2025. There were twelve hours of continuous led by churches from across the county. The event was attended by 205 individuals. There was a real sense of unity and anticipation. We are grateful to Tim Carter for his vision and logistics in bringing this special time together.

There were few costs as the venue was free and refreshments were purchased from the Kiosk. The cost of hosting a briefing and worship evening for worship and church leaders on 8th May 2025 of £34.35 was met by Shropshire Hope.

All the 2025 objectives were achieved.

SAFEGUARDING

In response to the heightened need to put in place strong safeguarding arrangements for events. we will only choose venues that already have effective arrangements in place so that Shropshire Hope activities can come under the hosting venue's insurance. In future, Shropshire Hope will work towards exploring coming under Telford Christians Together arrangements.

RISK MANAGEMENT

A summary of our Risk Management procedures and policies is provided in Appendix 2.

Copies of these documents plus the Privacy Statement & GDPR compliance are available if required on the Shropshire Hope website.

FUTURE PLANS

In order to develop our vision for 2026/7, the organising team gathered on 11 November 2025. The following were prioritised for 2026/7.

- Plan and organise a Prayer breakfast Worship event on Saturday 6 March 2027.
- Start to consider ways we can support Christian leaders in the spheres, such as business and NHS
- Reflect on the centrality of prayer to Christian community and how we could assist in enabling growth and greater participation in the prophetic and emerging houses of prayer and new worshipping communities in Shropshire and the borders
- Liaise with and support other prayer and/or mission initiatives within the county including Thy Kingdom Come.
- Continue to liaise with the county Denominational Leaders.
- Continue to update the website and encourage churches and other Christian ministries to use it as resource to publicise events.
- Publicise national HOPE Together initiatives and resources through the SH Mailing list, as well as local events.

CONCLUSIONS

The Trustees of Shropshire Hope would like to thank all those who have helped achieve our aim of *"…bringing HOPE to the people of Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin"* during this year. We especially thank the Non-Trustee members of the Organising Team for their contribution and support as well as the Denominational Leaders of the county.

We are grateful to God for His faithfulness and blessing on our activities and look forward to being involved in the further expansion of His Kingdom in the future.

We believe we have undertaken all our legal and statutory responsibilities.

On behalf of the Trustees: 27 October 2026

P D Mack

Rev Pauline Mack
Chair of Trustees

Jane Newey

Jane Newey
Secretary

Appendix 1

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Accounting Period: 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

Income			
	£	£	£
Worship event on the Wrekin		nil	
TOTAL INCOME			**nil**
Expenditure			
Food costs & refreshments for briefing event	34.35		
Printing & Publicity			
Website domain renewal and support	102.45		
Banking costs & admin			
Bank Charges	nil		
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			**136.80**
DEFICIT for year			**£136.80**

Balance Sheet

Current Assets:	**2025**	**2024**
Cash at Bank	£339.28	£476.08
Current Liabilities:		
Creditors	£0.00	£0.00
Net Assets Unrestricted Funds	**£339.28**	**£476.08**

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2025. The Trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

a. ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

b. preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf on 26 October 2026

P D Mack

Pauline Mack
Chair of Trustees

26 October 2026

Jane Newey

Jane Newey
Secretary

Appendix 2

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees believe that all necessary steps have been taken to mitigate risks that could be foreseen, in particular:

Child & Vulnerable Adult Protection

All of the Trustees and members of the Organising Team have undertaken Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) checks and are able to work with children, young people and vulnerable adults. However it would be highly unlikely for anyone acting on behalf of the CIO – Trustees, Organising Team members or volunteers, to be in situations where direct supervision of vulnerable persons would occur.

Privacy Statement and GDPR Compliance

We work closely with the national charity, HOPE Together. As such we follow the national guidelines laid out by them with regard to their Privacy Statement and GDPR compliance. The national HOPE Together Privacy Policy can be found at: www.hopetogether.org.uk/User/PrivacyPolicy.aspx

This is reviewed and updated on a regular basis by them.

Financial Reserves Policy

At this time the Trustees have determined that there is no need to maintain a specific financial reserve. It is our normal policy that all activities undertaken should be self-funded although this may change in the future. We have a number of supporters who would be prepared to underwrite specific activities if required.

Investment Policy

The Trustees have determined that in view of the above there is no requirement to have an Investment Policy for the following reasons:

- All activities are self-funded and would not take place unless sufficient funds were in hand or underwritten in advance
- We do not employ any members of staff so no salaries are at risk
- We do not rent or own property so we have no capital or other associated expenditure

Conflict of Interest Policy

In accordance with the Constitution of the CIO, all Trustees must declare any interest, financial or otherwise, in connection with a purchase, sale or the leasing of property and/or the purchase or leasing of any goods or services that the CIO is considering. Trustees must also declare any interest of an associated person with whom they are connected.

This does not preclude a Trustee or associated person from being paid for the provision of goods or services, but they must abstain from all discussions regarding such transactions which must be recorded in the CIO's Minute Book.

Payments are not made to any Trustee as a result of them acting as a Trustee of the CIO.

Managing Volunteers Policy

The CIO has three primary volunteer roles:

- **Ambassador**: represents the vision of Shropshire Hope to external organisations such as the media; local authorities and other public bodies, charities, businesses and organisations
- **Advocate**: promotes Shropshire Hope in their local church, mobilising support for our activities and encouraging church leaders to engage with the CIO in developing local mission initiatives
- **Associate**: individuals with skills in finance and fundraising; database management; literature design; presenting (e.g. using PowerPoint etc.); PA & AV; video making; website design or are available to help with setting up venues; providing transportation and generally helping with other logistical items

Where appropriate suitable instruction and guidance will be provided to ensure the persons concerned act in the best interests of the CIO.

Complaints Policy

Any complaints received in respect of the CIO will be referred initially to the Organising Team; we will endeavour to resolve the matter within appropriate timescales.

- Verbal complaints made in person or received via telephone conversation will normally be acknowledged by an Organising Team member who in conjunction with the Chair of Trustees will respond accordingly. The complainant may be asked to provide a written summary of the issues involved if further investigation is deemed necessary
- Written complaints will normally be reviewed by the Chair of Trustees and where appropriate referred to the Organising Team for review and resolution

Should resolution not be possible, we will invite the complainant to refer the matter to a member of our Council of Reference for review.

In all cases our desire will be to resolve any issues justly and fairly and as speedily as possible.