Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

Hope Church Network

Charity registration number: 1182733

Independent Examiners Ltd
The Grain Store
Hills Barns
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HOPE CHURCH NETWORK

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HOPE CHURCH NETWORK

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees	Rosemary Mackenzie Jonathan Piper Isabel Stirling Phillip Johnston Duncan Burchell Stuart Lowe Stephen Read Stephen Wilson
Charity Registration Number	1182733
Principal Office	Antrobus House 18 College Street Petersfield Hampshire GU31 4AD
Independent Examiner	G W Schulz FCMA Independent Examiners Ltd The Grain Store Hills Barns Appledram Lane South Chichester West Sussex PO20 7EG
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

HOPE CHURCH NETWORK

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Hope Church Network registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), number 1182733, on 1 April 2019. The constitution was subsequently amended on 10 November 2023 to adapt the leadership structure to reflect the growth of the churches.

Organisational structure

Hope Church Network contains within it two churches in East Hampshire, one in the village of Greatham and another in the town of Petersfield. The trustees of the CIO are drawn from the leadership of these churches. At least one elder and one deacon is appointed from each church as a trustee, along with a member trustee from each church. These trustees are also the Network Leadership Team, which exists to support the churches in their mission, to foster mutual sharing and strengthening, and to bring encouragement and input.

Risk management

Advised by a risk sub-group, the trustees formally assess, review and keep a register of the major operational and financial risks that the charity is exposed to. Every trustee meeting includes a review of one or more risks and mitigatory measures identified by the sub-group.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Constitution of Hope Church sets out our charitable objects for the public benefit in three areas:

1. to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Faith in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit;

2. to relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit; and

3. to advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit.

Objectives, strategies and activities

These objects are, in part, met through the work of our various Mission Partners, whom we see as our fellow workers in God's mission, and whom we are privileged to be able to support, particularly through prayer and finance. At home, it is our usual practice to meet our Objects in the following ways:

1. Advancing the Christian faith

A core element in our Sunday morning gatherings is teaching from the Bible, both for adults and children. Teaching and Bible study also take place in our various midweek small groups and youth groups. One of our principal purposes in all we do is to reach out with the good news of Jesus to those outside the church, through personal conversations and occasional public events.

2. Relieving sickness and financial hardship etc

We provide loving, practical help to those in need, and some financial support for individuals through our hardship fund. We support, both financially and through the practical help of members, our local food banks and a number of other local organisations which serve those in need.

3. Advancing education

Education is a key feature of our church meetings, small groups and youth work. Our members also practically support the work of Prison Fellowship. We support, both financially and through the practical help of members, a number of other local organisations, which serve the education of people of all ages and stages in life.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Achievements and performance

The meetings of our two churches on Sunday mornings have been times of energetic growth and deepening relationships. Our numbers of attendees have also grown over the course of several years. Our total membership at the year ending in March 2026 was 138, across the two churches (slightly reduced compared with March 2025, due to deaths in the community).

The breadth of our expression of the Christian faith and our love for one another reflect the unusual diversity of our history, drawn from different church communities to now worship together. In this, we continue to see the exciting possibility of diverse people drawn into unity with one another through hope in and devotion to Jesus Christ, against the wider context of a global culture that has been especially marked by polarisation through the course of the year.

To meet the teaching, pastoral and practical needs of the church, as of March 31, 2026, we were employing Jon Piper and Phillip Johnston as elders (both full time), Alison Godfrey as the Church Administrator and Becca Thomas as Petersfield's Pastoral Worker (both half time).

The gatherings hosted by our churches, from Sunday morning meetings to midweek small groups, facilitate the practice of the Christian faith as a body of people. This includes teaching from the Bible, both for adults and children.

Within the year, our pastoral approach to the changing needs of our churches continued to develop, including the employment of Becca Thomas. We saw Christian conversions, marriage, bereavement, poverty and mental health problems within the churches, as well as more complex issues that require a breadth of support, from celebration to more intense care. Elders and other members of the church continued to commit to meeting together with those in need, offering counsel, as well as practical help and caring in creative ways.

The needs encountered within and around the congregations continue to grow in complexity, especially as local authority services are reduced in scope. In response, our use of the hardship fund has increased. This fund has been used to support a wide variety of individuals and families both inside and outside the membership of our churches.

In addition to the whole-church teaching provided on Sunday mornings, our young people and children are taught through the provision of small groups. These groups and activities were designed to develop knowledge and appropriation of the Christian faith for the children and young people in our community.

Financial review

Principal funding sources

Principal source of funds was giving by members and attenders of Hope Church.

Policy on reserves

The policy of holding a Missions and Staffing Reserve was maintained during the year to cover 3 months' expenditure in these categories and the balance was adjusted to reflect that at the end of the year. This designated fund of £47,507 was held wholly in cash. No reserve/fund was in deficit at the year end, and all other Restricted and Designated funds (totalling £11,147) were held wholly in cash.

How expenditure supports key activities of the charity

A substantial proportion of our income was distributed to Mission Partners whom we judge to be advancing our aims in the UK and other parts of the world. At the end of the period, we were employing two full-time elders and one part-time pastoral worker to ensure time was available for the promotion of the church’s main activities in pursuit of its charitable purposes. We were also employing a part-time administrator (eighteen hours a week) to assist the Trustees in providing efficient administration. Other significant expenditure relates to the facilitation of our meetings and teaching activities.

The church offered assistance for those of any age, but particularly younger people, attending training courses to develop their knowledge and skills in areas consonant with the aims and Statement of Faith of the church.

During the year, the church vacated a leased building, and meetings are now held in school premises. The church also rents a shared office to provide an appropriate working space for the paid church workers and storage of materials and documents.

Investment policy and objectives

Monies required for daily operations were held with CAF Bank in a mix of current and short-term deposit accounts. This enables ease of access to funds and a cautious attitude to risk. In addition to our accounts with CAF Bank, we also had two term deposit accounts with Shawbrook Bank to maximise income on these monies, within the security of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

HOPE CHURCH NETWORK

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Statement of Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees 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.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 11 June 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Duncan Burchell

.....
Duncan Burchell
Trustee

HOPE CHURCH NETWORK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOPE CHURCH NETWORK

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Hope Church Network for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Hope Church Network 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 Hope Church Network'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

Since Hope Church Network's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Hope Church Network as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting 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.



.....
G W Schulz FCMA
Independent Examiners Ltd

11 June 2026

HOPE CHURCH NETWORK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	243,880	6,640	250,520	250,777
Charitable activities	3	2,529	-	2,529	2,674
Investment income	4	4,753	460	5,213	3,414
Other income	5	676	-	676	2,850
Total income		251,838	7,100	258,938	259,715
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	6	257,019	6,567	263,586	225,031
Total expenditure		257,019	6,567	263,586	225,031
Net (expenditure)/income		(5,181)	533	(4,648)	34,684
Net movement in funds		(5,181)	533	(4,648)	34,684
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		157,148	10,614	167,762	133,078
Total funds carried forward	14	151,967	11,147	163,114	167,762

The notes on pages 10 to 20 form an integral part of these financial statements.

HOPE CHURCH NETWORK

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Note	2026 £	2025 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	9	3,018	3,331
		3,018	3,331
Current assets			
Debtors	10	9,679	4,570
Cash at bank and in hand		159,570	172,836
		169,249	177,406
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(9,153)	(12,975)
Net current assets		160,096	164,431
Net assets		163,114	167,762
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		11,147	10,614
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		151,967	157,148
Total funds	14	163,114	167,762

The financial statements on pages 8 to 20 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 11 June 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Duncan Burchell

.....
Duncan Burchell
Trustee

The notes on pages 10 to 20 form an integral part of these financial statements.

HOPE CHURCH NETWORK

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1 Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis of preparation

Hope Church Network meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Gift aid

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA during the same period as the gift to which they relate.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

Expenditure
All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Taxation
The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets
Individual fixed assets costing £250 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	25% on cost

Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Liabilities
Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Fund structure
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into the respective employees' pension funds.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and legacies;				
Donations	205,910	6,190	212,100	207,384
Gift aid reclaimed	37,970	450	38,420	43,393
	243,880	6,640	250,520	250,777

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Church camp	1,938	-	1,938	2,177
Other events	591	-	591	497
	2,529	-	2,529	2,674

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Interest receivable and similar income;				
Interest receivable on bank deposits	4,753	460	5,213	3,414

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Rental income	676	-	676	2,850

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Policy/Oversight group		1,799	-	1,799	804
Mission partners		28,827	3,575	32,402	26,163
Service and outreach		6,915	320	7,235	4,174
Church meetings		21,313	152	21,465	17,492
Church family		13,988	2,520	16,508	20,676
Children and youth		2,340	-	2,340	2,571
Office and administration		20,741	-	20,741	6,920
Church building		4,495	-	4,495	19,506
Professional services		18,325	-	18,325	3,716
Independent examination		1,020	-	1,020	960
Depreciation		1,841	-	1,841	1,537
Staff costs	8	135,415	-	135,415	120,512
		257,019	6,567	263,586	225,031

During the year the charity exited the lease of its church building. In February 2025 the charity started renting shared office space for the use of its employees and a full year cost is included in the 2026 expenditure.

7 Trustees remuneration and expenses

Two Trustees received remuneration amounting to £99,011 (2025 - Two Trustees £92,175) and benefits in kind in the form of pension contributions amounting to £4,793 (2025 - Two Trustees £4,763) during the year as employees of the charity.

The only other payments made to the Trustees, or any person connected with them, consisted of reimbursements of expenditure incurred on behalf of the charity in furthering the charity's objects.

8 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	123,916	108,820
Social security costs	5,460	6,251
Pension costs	6,039	5,441
	135,415	120,512

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2026 No	2025 No
Activities in furtherance of charity's objects	2.2	2.0
Management and administration	0.5	0.5
	2.7	2.5

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2025	24,169	24,169
Additions	1,528	1,528
At 31 March 2026	25,697	25,697
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2025	20,838	20,838
Charge for the year	1,841	1,841
At 31 March 2026	22,679	22,679
Net book value		
At 31 March 2026	3,018	3,018
At 31 March 2025	3,331	3,331

10 Debtors

	2026 £	2025 £
Trade debtors	-	254
Prepayments	6,303	800
Accrued income	3,376	3,516
	9,679	4,570

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026 £	2025 £
Trade creditors	3,759	9,230
Other taxation and social security	3,605	2,596
Accruals	1,019	1,149
Deferred income	770	-
	9,153	12,975

12 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2026 £	2025 £
Land and buildings		
Within one year	12,240	13,036

13 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £6,039 (2025 - £5,441).

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2025 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2026 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General Funds	111,784	251,838	(257,019)	(2,143)	104,460
Designated					
Reserves for Missions and Staffing	45,364	-	-	2,143	47,507
Total unrestricted funds	157,148	251,838	(257,019)	-	151,967
Restricted funds					
Specific gifts fund	170	2,375	(2,545)	-	-
Christmas fund	-	140	(140)	-	-
The Ryan fund	7,902	349	-	-	8,251
Mission fund	-	3,930	(3,730)	-	200
Young family fund	2,542	111	-	-	2,653
Greatham Easter lunch fund	-	195	(152)	-	43
	10,614	7,100	(6,567)	-	11,147
Total funds	167,762	258,938	(263,586)	-	163,114

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General Funds	75,420	246,875	(208,906)	(1,605)	111,784
Designated					
Hardship fund	385	-	(385)	-	-
Reserves for Missions and Staffing	43,759	-	-	1,605	45,364
	44,144	-	(385)	1,605	45,364
Total unrestricted funds	119,564	246,875	(209,291)	-	157,148
Restricted funds					
Specific gifts fund	-	10,932	(10,762)	-	170
Christmas fund	-	130	(130)	-	-
The Ryan fund	8,011	91	(200)	-	7,902
Hardship fund	-	1,670	(1,670)	-	-
Young family fund	2,525	17	-	-	2,542
Visa fund	2,978	-	(2,978)	-	-
	13,514	12,840	(15,740)	-	10,614
Total funds	133,078	259,715	(225,031)	-	167,762

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 March 2026
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	3,018	-	-	3,018
Current assets	110,595	47,507	11,147	169,249
Current liabilities	(9,153)	-	-	(9,153)
Total net assets	104,460	47,507	11,147	163,114

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds at 31 March 2025
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	3,331	-	-	3,331
Current assets	121,428	45,364	10,614	177,406
Current liabilities	(12,975)	-	-	(12,975)
Total net assets	111,784	45,364	10,614	167,762