trustees' annual report for year ended 31st December 2025

Lancing Tabernacle Evangelical Free Church
105 North Road, Lancing, BN15 9BB
registered charity number 1191569
governing document: Church Constitution 1st October 2020

purposes

Lancing Tabernacle Evangelical Free Church, known as Lancing Tabernacle Community Church, is committed to the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily, but not exclusively, within Lancing, West Sussex and the surrounding neighbourhood.

The church also has such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity trustees, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to: the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness; the advancement of education; and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life; provided that the advancement of such purposes must be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the Doctrinal Distinctives and Ethical Statements as may be adopted and amended by the CIO from time to time.

activities

To this end we have continued the following **regular church activities:**

- Sunday morning services have grown by around 20 newcomers this year putting us over 100 each week. We preached on 1 Samuel, Proverbs, 2 Timothy, Luke and Leviticus in line with our commitment to teach all parts of the Bible.
- Christmas and Easter services and events see around 100 guests coming through our doors.
- Church lunches have strengthened friendships and support within the Church.
- Our homegroups, daytime fellowship, and mums' group are well attended providing Bible teaching, prayer, and encouragement in the Christian faith.
- The visiting team meet monthly and visit and pray with the sick and lonely.
- Café in the Church meets twice a month as a free café for local people. This is attended by between 15 and 35.
- Church camp happened this year in Cold Harbour Meadow, Hailsham.

We've also continued our **regular outreach to children and families:**

- Up23 toddler group reaches mostly unchurched parents and carers and continues to serve 20-30 per week.
- Minis-Radar primary kids club is attended by both church and unchurched families. We've made this free this year to help with the cost of living.
- Bible Craft Club (started a year ago) continues at the Globe Primary School with 50 young people attending. The school speak of it as their most successful club and staff are positive about our involvement. We also help with assemblies and some curriculum lessons.

new / developed this year

We tried to develop links with Seaside Primary School but this hasn't yet taken off.

The two new homegroups started last year have continued to grow and we have been developing the new leaders.

We started a world prayer group at the request of a few members. This group helps us support more regularly the two mission partners the church has – "Living Hope Ministries" and "The School of Preachers."

We ran an Easter Outreach event for families with a detective theme exploring the resurrection of Jesus. Around 50 attended and one family has joined Sunday church since then.

A women's day was attended by around 50 in October.

We restarted a program for teenagers in April. Youth work had closed down 2 years before. It was noted that Lancing had little for youth to do. We relaunched our meeting and are finding that 10 young people regularly.

We appointed a full-time paid children's worker in March. We have been interviewing for 2 years so this was a very positive development. This role makes all the expansion in children and youth work viable into the future.

We appointed a new elder/trustee called Simon Withell.

We noted that we are now regularly sending out 6 preachers to support smaller churches in the West Sussex area.

We took on a volunteer intern in September who has been helping with our school and youth work. We pay for a weekly bible training day under the Sussex Gospel Partnership with a view to develop him for future church leadership.

appointment of new trustees

Existing trustees are responsible for appointment of new trustees.

governance

We finally signed off the transfer of our charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

Our 6 trustees have met with minuted meetings every 2 weeks (except August and December) and had our trustees AGM in March. We have taken the Commission's public benefit guidance into account when making any decision in which it is relevant to.

Approved by all trustees on 13th October 2026:

Jamie Atallah
Richard Brunton
Dave Hart
John Manea
Barnaby Monteiro (full time pastor)
Simon Withell

statement of General Fund financial activities for year ended 31st December 2025

Income			
Category Group	**Actual Income**	**Total Budget**	**Variance**
HMRC Gift Aid Recovered	19,592	18,850	742
Offerings & Gifts	101,047	91,500	9,547
Other Income	3,273	1,150	2,123
	123,912	**111,500**	**12,412**
Expenditure			
Category Group	**Actual Expenditure**	**Total Budget**	**Budget Spent**
Admin	11,195	13,270	2,075
Church: Capital Expenditure	7,200	5,000	-2,200
Church: Cleaning	5,093	5,500	407
Church: Commercial Waste Services	816	0	-816
Church: Events	1,429	1,000	-429
Church: Servicing & Repairs	2,815	4,900	2,085
Church: Sundries	1,352	1,600	248
Church: Tech, Lighting & Computers	297	1,310	1,013
Church: Utilities	7,134	7,550	416
Manse	2,952	5,050	2,098
Outreach	6,693	5,300	-1,393
Staffing	53,293	59,600	6,307
Youth & Children's Work	2,034	1,420	-614
	102,303	**111,500**	**9,197**

Gen Fund Opening Balance	0
Income	123,911
Expenditure	102,304
Surplus (Income - Expenditure)	21,608
Fund Transfer to Roof Fund	-5,000
Closing Balance	**16,608**

statement of all church financial activities year ended 31st December 2025

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Receipts			
Donations & Legacies			
Donations	154,325	20	154,345
Gift Aid	19,592		19,592
Charitable Activities			
Event Income	1,549		1,549
Investments			
Bank Interest	2,170		2,170
Sales	105		105
Other Income	0	-128	-128
Total receipts	**177,740**	**-107**	**177,633**
Payments			
Charitable Activities			
Activities	13,201		13,201
Admin	12,060		12,060
Advertising	305		305
Card Processing Fees	147		147
Event Costs	142		142
Gifts Given	7,556	140	7,696
Other Expenditure	2,502		2,502
Premises	17,993		17,993
Staff Costs	53,274		53,274
Governance Costs	140		140
Fixed Asset Purchases	7,200		7,200
Total payments	114,521	141	114,661
Net Receipts / Payments (before transfers)	63,219	-248	62,971
Fund Transfers In	169,195	880	170,075
Fund Transfers Out	170,075		170,075
Net Movement of Cash Funds	62,339	632	62,971
Total Cash Funds Brought Forward	142,516		142,516
Total Cash Funds Carried Forward	**204,855**	**632**	**205,487**
Represented By			
General Fund	16,608		16,608
General Reserve Fund	53,381		53,381
Projects Fund	2,905		2,905
CIO Legal Costs	12,169		12,169
Roof Fund	64,155		64,155
Family Fund	3,051		3,051
Youth Work Fund	311		311
UP23 Toddler Group	189		189
Church Camp	253		253
Capital Expenditure	1,833		1,833
Z FoodBank	0	1	1
Z Space at the Table	0	631	631
Ruther Fisher - Legacy	50,000		50,000
	204,855	**632**	**205,487**

notes to the accounts

Roof Fund
The balance of the Roof Fund is £64,155. This was increased by £5k from last year's surplus fund.

Family Fund
Opening balance for 2025 = £2,292
Gifts received = £2,915
Payments out = £2,156
Balance carried forward = £3,051

Major Projects Fund
Opening balance for 2025 = £6,205
Top up and donations = £150
Expenditure for year = £3,449

Major Projects breakdown:
New tables for hall = £913, acoustic tiles for hall = £786, Parry Room redecoration = £1,750. Balance carried forward = £2,906

summary
It has been encouraging to see that 2025 has been consistent and that giving finished above the set budget total.

There is a general fund surplus of £16,608 at the end of 2025.

There is a balance of £12k in CIO costs reserve fund. This has all been completed now and final costs have been made during the year, giving us a surplus which can be transferred to cover other costs.

At present the charity operates a zero-reserve policy because all income is budgeted for immediate project delivery. While operating without free reserves carries inherent financial risks regarding unexpected costs or shortfalls, the risks are mitigated by closely monitoring quarterly cashflow. The trustees review quarterly to ensure our accounts remain sustainable.

Approved by all trustees on 13th October 2026:

Jamie Atallah
Richard Brunton
Dave Hart
John Manea
Barnaby Monteiro (full time pastor)
Simon Withell

CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Lancing Tabernacle Evangelical Free Church		
On accounts for the year ended	2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1191569
Set out on pages			

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD/MM/YYYY.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:	E. Lynn	**Date:**	02/03/2026
Name:	Erica Lynn		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):			
Address:	74 Beachcroft Place Lancing BN15 8JN		

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Nothing to disclose