Registered Charity no. 1191594

Wyche Free Church

Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31st December 2023

WYATT & CO
Chartered accountants
125 Main Street
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Leeds
LS25 1AF

Wyche Free Church

Year Ended 31st December 2023

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Wyche Free Church

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Legal and Administrative Information

Reference
The charity is called “Wyche Free Church”. The church is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Registered Charity Number	1191594
Registered Office	Jubilee Drive Upper Colwall Malvern WR13 6DQ
Trustees serving at the point of accounts signing	Margareth Brodie Tony Browne (Resigned November 2023) Christine Clarke Peter Goodbury Valerie Goodbury Roger Norris Brenda Norris
Primary Bankers	The Co-operative Bank Santander UK plc

Wyche Free Church

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Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees present their annual report for Wyche Free Church for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Objectives and activities

The objectives of Wyche Free Church are set out in the charity's constitution and include the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrines held by the church, the support of Christian mission in the United Kingdom and overseas, and outreach to the needs of the local community.

Regular public worship continued each Sunday throughout the year. Services included preaching, the public reading of Scripture, prayer and sung praise and were principally led by visiting preachers, with occasional assistance from members of the congregation. Preaching fees and travelling expenses were provided where appropriate. The church also continued its practice of holding a communion service on the first Sunday of each month.

Although Sunday worship remained the church's principal public activity, the weekly Tuesday prayer meeting also continued to be central to the life of the church. These meetings provided an opportunity to pray for the future vision and ministry of the church, including the continuing hope of appointing a pastor, as well as for those who were sick or experiencing particular needs.

The church continued to take a particular interest in Christian mission and humanitarian work in the United Kingdom and overseas. Prayer and financial support were provided for a number of organisations and individuals, including:

- **Caring for Life**, based in Leeds, supporting people in vulnerable and difficult circumstances;
- Christian mission and humanitarian work in **Nepal**;
- a teacher supporting missionary children in **Chad**;
- the **Good News Hospital** and associated Christian work in Madagascar;
- the **Slavic Gospel Association**, supporting churches and Christian ministry in Eastern Europe and Central Asia; and
- **Birmingham City Mission** and other Christian mission organisations.

The church made financial donations to mission organisations which shared its objectives of advancing the Christian faith and relieving humanitarian need. In addition to its regular mission giving, Harvest and Christmas donations were made during the year to Birmingham City Mission and the Slavic Gospel Association.

The church continued to maintain and operate its premises for worship and other charitable activities. Expenditure during the year included heating and lighting, insurance, administration and necessary maintenance of the church property.

The church also continued to benefit from the HMRC Gift Aid scheme and the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS).

Significant developments and future ministry

The sale of The Manse and Kingsdown flats had been completed in November 2022 following the necessary Charity Commission approval.

The purpose behind the sale was to place the church in a stronger long-term financial position and, in particular, to enable it eventually to support a part-time pastor from a combination of regular church giving and income generated from the funds released by the property sale.

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Trustees' Annual Report

The church believes that establishing stable pastoral ministry is important to its future sustainability and growth.

During 2023, with the transition to the Charitable Incorporated Organisation structure and the property sale substantially completed, the church entered a more stable period and was able to give greater attention to its priorities for worship, ministry and future pastoral leadership.

The trustees and members therefore continued to consider carefully how the substantial funds arising from the property sale should best be held and invested so that they could be applied for the charitable purposes of the church and support its future ministry.

Structure, governance and management

Wyche Free Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is governed by its constitution and church handbook, reflecting its affiliation with the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches.

During 2023 the church continued to have one elder. At the end of the year six trustees remained in office, all of whom were active members of the church. The positions of church secretary and treasurer continued to be undertaken by Peter Goodbury.

The trustees are responsible for the overall governance and management of the charity. Day-to-day financial administration was undertaken by the treasurer, with significant expenditure considered and agreed by the trustees.

The church maintained policies and procedures appropriate to its activities, including arrangements relating to safeguarding and risk management.

Volunteers

The church is dependent upon the voluntary contribution of its members and regular attendees. Volunteers assist with worship, administration, practical activities and the operation and maintenance of the church premises.

The trustees are grateful for the time, commitment and support freely given by those involved in the life and work of the church.

Financial review

Total receipts for the year were **£23,896** compared with £363,236 in 2022. The significant reduction compared with the previous year reflects the fact that 2022 included the one-off proceeds from the sale of The Manse and Kingsdown flats.

Receipts during 2023 comprised **£20,899 of donations and Gift Aid**, £202 of other receipts and refunds, and **£2,795 of investment income**.

Total payments during the year were **£14,332** compared with £26,160 in 2022. These principally related to missionary and charitable giving, the operation and maintenance of the church premises, and ministry, worship and administration.

The charity therefore recorded net receipts of **£9,564** for the year. Total cash funds increased from **£349,392 at 1 January 2023 to £358,956 at 31 December 2023**.

During the year the Mission Support Fund received **£3,311 of restricted donations**, which were applied to the relevant missionary and charitable purposes during the year. There were therefore no restricted funds remaining at 31 December 2023.

The church’s normal level of annual donations and Gift Aid remained sufficient to contribute substantially towards its ongoing running costs and mission support, while the substantial resources retained from the previous property sale provided additional financial security for its longer-term plans.

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Trustees' Annual Report

Reserves and future plans

The substantial level of funds held by the charity at the year end principally reflects the proceeds arising from the sale of the flats in the previous year rather than the church's normal annual level of income.

During the year the trustees and members continued to consider how these resources should best be held and invested. Their intention is that the funds should be applied in furtherance of the church's charitable purposes and, in particular, help provide the resources necessary to support future pastoral ministry and the wider work of the church.

The trustees continue to keep the charity's financial resources and future plans under review and consider that the charity has sufficient resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future.

This annual report was approved by the charity trustees on:

and signed on their behalf by: rogerpnorris24

Roger Peter Norris

Trustee

05/10/2026

Wyche Free Church

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Receipts and Payments

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	2023 Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
		£	£	£	£
Receipts					
Donations and legacies		17,588	3,311	**20,899**	19,300
Capital receipts		-	-	**-**	343,362
Other		202	-	**202**	490
Investment income		2,795	-	**2,795**	84
Total Receipts	**2**	20,585	3,311	**23,896**	363,236
Payments					
Payments on charitable activities	**3**	11,021	3,311	**14,332**	26,160
Total Payments		11,021	3,311	**14,332**	26,160
Net Receipts / (Payments)		9,564	-	**9,564**	337,076
Net Movement in Funds (Cash)					
Total funds (cash) brought forward	**9**	349,392	-	**349,392**	12,316
Transfers	**9**	-	-	**-**	-
Total Funds (Cash) Carried Forward	**9**	**358,956**	**-**	**358,956**	349,392
Represented by					
General (Unrestricted)		358,956	-	**358,956**	349,392
Designated funds		-	-	**-**	-
Restricted funds		-	-	**-**	-
		358,956	**-**	**358,956**	349,392

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Roger Peter Norris

05/10/2026

Wyche Free Church

Year Ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

As the accounts are prepared on a cash basis and thus there is no formal Balance Sheet or Statement of Financial Position. Instead a statement of assets and liabilities is outlined, giving an indication of the charity's assets at the year end.

	2023	2022
	£	£
Current Assets		
Gift aid debtor	1,182	3,514
Cash at bank and petty cash	358,956	349,392
	360,138	352,906

The 2021 accounts disclosed the church building at £683,845 and Kingsdown & The Manse at £270,649.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

Basis of Preparation
The financial statements have been prepared on a cash basis, recognising transactions when receipts and payments take place through the bank account or

Assessment of Going Concern
Preparation of the accounts is on a going concern basis. The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Fund Accounting
Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have set aside resources for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or the term of specific appeal, often known as a ‘special offering’ in the church.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

Incoming Resources
All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources and the money has been paid.

Resources Expended
Expenditure is recognised on a cash basis when payments have been made through the bank account or by petty cash.

Governance Costs
Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of the trustees' meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Pensions
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Operating Leases
Rental charges payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the terms of the lease.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

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Year Ended 31st December 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

2 Analysis of Receipts

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2023 £**
Donations and Legacies			
Donations	11,569	3,311	**14,880**
Gift aid	6,019	-	**6,019**
	17,588	3,311	**20,899**
Capital receipts			
Building sale	-	-	**-**
	-	-	**-**
Other receipts / refunds			
Refunds	202	-	**202**
Rents from flats	-	-	**-**
	202	-	**202**
Investment Income			
Interest	2,795	-	**2,795**
	2,795	-	**2,795**
Total Income	**20,585**	**3,311**	**23,896**

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Notes to the Financial Statements

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2022 £**
Donations and Legacies			
Donations	15,231	2,778	**18,009**
Gift aid	1,291	-	**1,291**
	19,300	-	**19,300**
Capital receipts			
Building sale	343,362	-	**343,362**
	343,362	-	**343,362**
Other receipts / refunds			
Refunds	490	-	**490**
Rents from flats	-	-	**-**
	490	-	**490**
Investment Income			
Interest	84	-	**84**
	84	-	**84**
Total Income	**363,236**	**-**	**363,236**

During the year, the charity sold The Manse and the Kingsdown flats for a combined sale price of £350,000, before legal and other costs of sale. The receipts and payments accounts recognise the net cash proceeds actually received into the charity's bank account.

3 Payments on Charitable Activities by Fund Type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2023 £**
Missionary and charitable giving	130	3,311	**3,441**
Premises, property and running costs	6,983	-	**6,983**
Ministry, worship and administration	3,908	-	**3,908**
	11,021	3,311	**14,332**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2022 £**
Missionary and charitable giving	1,502	3,600	**5,102**
Premises, property and running costs	16,022	-	**16,022**
Ministry, worship and administration	5,036	-	**5,036**
	22,560	3,600	**26,160**

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Notes to the Financial Statements

4 Volunteers

The church benefits greatly from the voluntary contributions of time and money by its formal members and regular attendees. Please refer to the trustees' report for further detail about volunteer contributions in the organisation.

5 Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent examination and preparation of the financial statements	-	720

6 Staff Costs

No staff costs were incurred during the year. The charity had no employees and no wages, salaries, employer National Insurance or pension contributions were paid.

7 Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

No trustee received any remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity during the year.

During the year, one trustee (2022: one) was reimbursed out-of-pocket expenses totalling £179 (2022:£2,685). These costs related to day-to-day operational and running costs of the church incurred on behalf of the charity. No trustee expenses remained outstanding at the year end.

8 Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions which took place during the year (2022: £0)

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Notes to the Financial Statements

9 Analysis of Charitable Funds

	1 Jan 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	**31 Dec 2023**
	£	£	£	£	**£**
Unrestricted Funds					
General	349,392	20,585	(11,021)	-	**358,956**
	349,392	**20,585**	**(11,021)**	**-**	**358,956**
Total Unrestricted	**349,392**	**20,585**	**(11,021)**	**-**	**358,956**
Restricted Funds					
Mission Support Fund	-	3,311	(3,311)	-	-
Total Restricted	**-**	**3,311**	**(3,311)**	**-**	**-**
Total Funds	**349,392**	**23,896**	**(14,332)**	**-**	**358,956**

	1 Jan 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	**31 Dec 2022**
	£	£	£	£	**£**
Unrestricted Funds					
General	11,494	360,458	(22,560)	-	**349,392**
Total Unrestricted	**11,494**	**360,458**	**(22,560)**	**-**	**349,392**
Restricted Funds					
Mission Support Fund	822	2,778	(3,600)	-	-
Total Restricted	**822**	**2,778**	**(3,600)**	**-**	**-**
Total Funds	**12,316**	**363,236**	**(26,160)**	**-**	**349,392**

Fund description	
Mission Support Fund	Restricted donations received for specified mission organisations and overseas mission work, principally Caring for Life and Slavic Gospel Association. The funds are applied only for the particular mission purposes specified by donors.