Trustee Annual Report
Trinity Church Milnthorpe
Charity no. 1193424

This report relates to **financial year: 1st February 2025 to 31st January 2026**

The **principal address** of the charity is 31 Beetham Road, MILNTHORPE, LA7 7QN

The following individuals were the **charity trustees on the date the report was approved**

Peter James Bramhall
Adam Mark Taylor
Kevin John Gregory

The following individuals served as **charity trustees during the year**:

Peter James Bramhall
Adam Mark Taylor
Kevin John Gregory

Trinity Church Milnthorpe was entered into the **register of charities** on 5th February 2021

The Charity is governed by a Constitution as a **Charitable Incorporated Organisation**.

The **Charitable purposes** of Trinity Church Milnthorpe are:

- the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, primarily, but not exclusively, within Milnthorpe and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity trustees, put into practise 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 Church from time to time.

In 2025/6 all the Trinity Church activities Milnthorpe (TCM) were directly funded by TCM other than a grant of £5000 from Fellside Trust towards the employment of a Family, Youth and Children worker.

To **further the Charitable Purposes for the public benefit**, TCM carried out the following in 2025/6:

- Provided church services over this period to everyone who wanted to come along. This was a source of spiritual and physical support to members of the church as well as to those in the wider community seeking comfort and support in the difficult times of the

cost-of-living crisis, and other aspects of life. These church services were recorded for the benefit of those who are unable to attend.

- Continued to enable members of the church to volunteer and serve others in the church and community in various ways.
- Encouraged church family involvement in community initiatives.
- Provided church services in two local residential homes for the elderly. This was a source of spiritual and physical support to residents and staff.
- Continued to meet in smaller weekly groups for Bible study, prayer and support. These groups are open to anyone and have been one of the ways pastoral care has been provided.
- Continued to run the Trinity Youth Group to serve secondary school aged children both in our Sunday church service and in Sunday evening groups during term time.
- Continued to run Trinity Kids groups on Sunday mornings for primary and preschool age children to share the Gospel and encourage the children.
- Began running a term-time Wednesday evening children's club at the local primary school for school years 3-6. This commenced in October 2025, and it's purpose is to share the Gospel and encourage those children who come along. We have been encouraged by the numbers of children attending and their engagement with TCM.
- A number of other events were put on by Trinity Church.

  In the time immediately leading up to, and including, Easter the church family

  - Once again ran the Easter Trail for Families—this time offering both a shorter and a longer route. Many families took part, hearing the Easter story as they went along. The community response was very positive, with people expressing their appreciation online. One person wrote:

    'Huge thank you to the Trinity Church Milnthorpe who arranged 2 Easter trails around Milnthorpe today. Whatever your religious view are I don't think anyone would disagree how lovely it was to see such a good turn out with plenty of children and families having such a nice time. Any event take effort and the generosity of volunteers. Well done 👍*'*

    Another commented:
    'We had a fantastic time, all the kids loved the 2 trail and already can't wait for next year. Thanks so much to everyone involved in organising!! And such a lovely little book at the end.'

  - On Easter day, when we celebrate the fact that our Lord Jesus rose from the dead, held an All Age celebration at Dallam School with a number of people from outside the usual church family joining us. Afterwards – continuing the celebration – we had an Easter Egg Hunt for the children. This allowed us to share the gospel with people outside of the usual church family, and to engage with people in the community.

In preparation for Christmas :

- a Wreath Making event was held at Dallam School, and over 40 attended. Many of those who came along were from outside the church, and a short gospel message was part of the evening.
- a Christmas café and craft event for the community was held again following the success of last year. Several non-church families attended, making crafts and listening to an engaging telling of the Christmas story.
- Over 20 of the TCM congregation sang carols in the early evening of 21st December to share the Good News of Jesus Incarnation and what it means for everyone. After singing in the Square at Milnthorpe we continued singing and sharing around the streets of the town
- a number of the community outside of TCM came along to the Carol Service, singing songs about Christ's incarnation and hearing a clear Gospel message.

The **main achievements** of Trinity Church in the year were:

- New people attending the Sunday morning meetings and getting involved in mid-week events. This covered all age groups, different backgrounds and varying needs. This was accompanied by a willingness to serve within the church and community
- Continued strong attendance at the youth meetings. This reflects a need being met in the community, and an opportunity to share about the Christian faith.
- Being able to share the Gospel in two of Milnthorpe's residential homes for older members of the community. We have been able to visit Hartland House and Croftside Residential Care Home once a month for a half-hour time together praising God in well known hymns, praying and being reminded of Gospel truths. We have been greatly encouraged by the commitment, enthusiasm and appreciation of the residents and staff.
- Launching the mid-week 'Trinity Kids Club' with a dedicated team from TCM, and seeing a significant number of children from outside TCM coming along each week.

We continue to be encouraged generally by the involvement by the community this year, with more (and new) people from outside the church coming along to events and services. We feel this reflects a growing trust, acceptance and openness towards TCM, and appreciation of the support we are able to offer.

In July 2025 we employed a Families, youth and Children's minister. We have already seen the benefits being better resourced to reach out to the younger demographic in the community, as well as equipping the church. It is already being an encouragement to families in discipling their children, the children and youth teams as they serve, and the children and youth of the church.

In November 2025 we moved our Safeguarding support from Thirtyone:eight to the Church Safeguarding Service (thecss.co.uk). The Church Safeguarding Service is dedicated to supporting churches and Christian charities, offering a biblically grounded ethos and high-quality, practical training. We believe their approach will further strengthen our safeguarding culture and benefit our whole church community.

The trustees have read the Commission's Public Benefit requirement statutory guidance and have had regard to this when running the charity.

A **review of the charity's financial position** at the end of the year:
During 2025/6 TCM incurred a small financial deficit of £2,695 following on from a £14,905 surplus in 2024/5 and £8,182 surplus in 2023/4.

At the end of the financial year TCM held £38,390 in the charity's Bank Accounts and petty cash (down from £41,085 the previous year). This represents over 5 months of average operating costs and is above the trustees' initial target of 4 months. The appointment of the Family, Youth, Children Minister in July 2025/6 and the consequent increased cost base was the main reason for the reduction from 2024/5 when the operating cost coverage was just under 8 times.

The trustees will take any necessary steps during future periods to maintain reserves at or near the target coverage.

The general principle of investment for Trinity Church Milnthorpe remains one of financial conservatism to avoid capital risk. This approach recognises that financial returns on capital will be low but balanced by certainty.

During 2025/6 financial year interest bearing accounts were held at Kingdom Bank and Barclays Bank to hold funds not required for immediate use. The deposits are both covered by FCS guarantees.

In the financial year 1st February 2025 to 31st January 2026 the Charity had a total of unrestricted income and restricted income marginally up in 2025/6 (£78,578) compared to 2024/5 (78,295).

The above reflected:

a. unrestricted income in 2025/6 of £73,578, down by 6% compared to 2024/5 (£78,295).
b. restricted income of £5,000 in 2025/6 relating to the Family, Youth and Children worker appointment. There was no restricted income in 2024/5.

The most significant changes in unrestricted income were:

- the non-repeat of a 2024/5 £3,000 gift from an unrelated charity
- a reduction in regular giving by TCM families partly offset by increased offerings and new families joining the church (£52,435 cf £54,347 in 2024/5).
- an increase in one-off TCM congregation gifts (£4,300 cf £2,500)
- an expected reduction in Gift Aid recovery because the previous year included the reclaim of a substantial amount from a 2023/4 donation. (£12,470 cf £14,798)
- a reduction in other income £625 because we didn't hold a Ceilidh in 2025/6, but did in 2024/5.

Operating costs on unrestricted activities were substantially higher at £76,273 compared to £63,390 for 2024/5. The most significant changes were:

- in Employment costs with the FYC appointment (£50,520 cf £42,985)
- replacement of equipment at the end of it's life (£3,280 cf £118 in 2024/5)
- increased training costs primarily because of the FYC worker (£1,626 cf £506 in 2024/5)

- costs incurred on an unsuccessful attempt to purchase a disused Methodist Building in Milnthorpe

Operating costs on restricted activities were £5,000 relating to Employment costs for the FYC appointment.

There were a small number of short-term liabilities totalling £1,748 at the end of January 2025 - most of these were paid in February 2024.

No trustee received payment or benefits from the charity for being a trustee.

The charity does not raise funds from the public.

This charity does not have any trading subsidiaries.

The principal risk and uncertainty which the charity faces are that it relies heavily on donations to continue its operations. Adequate reserves at the end of January 2026 (just over 5 months expenditure) should provide a buffer against any short-term issues.

Signature



1/3/2026

Peter James Bramhall Date

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trinity Church Milnthorpe	CN :1193424

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	1st February 2025	To	31st January 2026

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	60,176	5,000	-	65,176	61,959
Tickets for events	380			380	1,015
Gift Aid	12,470	-	-	12,470	14,798
Interest	553	-	-	553	523
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	73,578	5,000	-	78,578	78,295
Total receipts	73,578	5,000	-	78,578	78,295
A3 Payments					
Employment Costs	50,220	5,000	-	55,220	42,985
Running Costs	9,981			9,981	5,149
Building hire costs	7,283			7,283	5,731
Event Costs	1,688			1,688	2,189
Mission Giving	7,102			7,102	7,136
Donations	-			-	200
		-	-	-	-
Sub total	76,273	5,000	-	81,273	63,390
Total payments	76,273	5,000	-	81,273	63,390
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,695	-	-	- 2,695	14,905
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	41,085	-	-	41,085	26,180
Cash funds this year end	38,390	-	-	38,390	41,085

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Barclays Community	2,223	-	-
	Barclays Premium	25,557		
	Kingdom Bank	10,569		
	Cash	42	-	-
			-	-
	Total cash funds	38,390	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	HMRC	Barclays Comm	832	
	Dallam	Barclays Comm	480	
	Milnthorpe Primary School	Barclays Comm	286	
	KJ Gregory for CSS	Barclays Comm	150	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
KJ Gregory	KJ Gregory	26-2-26
P Bramhall	P Bramhall	28/2/26

STABLES THOMPSON & BRISCOE
www.stb-accountants.co.uk

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

TRINITY CHURCH MILNTHORPE

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st January 2026 which are set out on the attached CC16a.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

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 the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

H Holmes FCA
ICAEW
Stables Thompson & Briscoe
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
Lowther House
Lowther Street
Kendal
LA9 4DX

Date: 25 March 2026