Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

CHURCH INFORMATION
Address: Scott Drive, Exmouth, EX8 3LF

Trustees: Steve Owen, Ian Margeson, Gurjit Malli, Gary Currie, Iain Randall, Jon Hughes, Steve Gardner.

Charity Number: 1195047

Bankers: TSB bank plc, PO Box 373, LS14 9CG

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
The trustees have pleasure in presenting their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025.

1 Objectives and Activities
The purposes of the church are:

1. The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Exmouth and the surrounding neighbourhood; and

2. Such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the members 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 church from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Church Handbook.

2 Public Benefit
The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance in the exercise of their powers and duties and consider that the activities undertaken in pursuance of the church's objectives fulfil the requirements of the Charity Commission's public benefit disclosure.

3 Structure, Governance and Management
The church is a registered charity. Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) number 1195047 registered on 8 July 2021 and governed by its Constitution dated 2 July 2021.

The trustees who served in the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 were:
Lee Emerson – 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 inclusive (Pastor & elder)
Jonathan Hughes – 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 inclusive (Assistant Pastor & elder)
Steve Owen – 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 inclusive (elder)
Ian Margeson – 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 inclusive (deacon)
Gurjit Malli – 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 inclusive (deacon)
Gary Currie – 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 inclusive (deacon)
Iain Randall – 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 inclusive (elder)

Overall governance of the church is in the hands of the elders & deacons (the Trustees), who met at least quarterly in person. Pastoral oversight is exercised by the elders, with the help of a Female Pastoral Worker, who met weekly. Major decisions are made by the members at Church Members'

Meetings held as required and normally not less than four times a year. The AGM was held on 24 April 2025.

4. Review of activities

4.1

Meetings for worship, prayer and the ministry of God's word were held at the church's premises in Scott Drive on every Sunday throughout 2025. For those who were unable to attend in person, services could be followed live on Zoom. Morning services were recorded and available on the church website. The Lord's Supper was celebrated twice a month.

Regular weekly services on a Sunday evening at the Church on the Green in Budleigh Salterton continued through the year, with numbers attending holding steady (normally around 15-20). At the end of the year, the Lord's Supper was introduced on the last Sunday of the month. Prayer meetings and home groups have also used the building regularly. The building was also made available for the *Budleigh Literary Festival* and the *Budleigh Music Festival*. A Committee appointed by the church leadership met during the course of the year to review our tenure of the Church on the Green, and a report was submitted to the leadership in November. This will become the basis for a discussion at the church meeting in January 2026, which will decide whether the church should continue its tenure of these premises or not.

In addition to services, the church met midweek, alternately either for corporate prayer in a single venue, or for Bible study & prayer in homes (there were five such groups meeting in both Exmouth & Budleigh Salterton). Other regular meetings included the *Ladies' & Men's Breakfasts*, the *Ladies' Bible Study* group and *Christianity Explored* courses have been run for newcomers to the faith.

Pastoral work is undertaken by a team under the leadership of the Female Pastoral Worker.

In January, we had our first baptism since 2018. Over the course of the year, 8 new members joined, bringing the total membership to 36. Besides this, there have also been a number of newcomers who attend services irregularly. The average morning attendance now stands at just under 55. A consultative church meeting was held in June to consider possible ways to accommodate this growth, as our current premises are increasingly stretched to the limit.

In May, the church held an awayday at Rora House on Dartmoor, where Ray Evans (FIEC Director) was the main speaker. The event was well attended, and we hope to repeat it next year. In October we hosted a Creation Conference, which was also well attended and attracted people from other churches in the area.

In June, Lee Emerson announced his decision to step down from the Pastorate at the AGM in 2026. The triggered a succession process, which culminated in November when the church voted overwhelmingly in favour of Jon Hughes & Iain Randall becoming co-Pastors when Lee retires.

In August the church held its third Holiday Bible Club, which went well. In the autumn term, we were given the opportunity to lead monthly assemblies at Withycombe Raleigh Primary School, which we hope will enable us to advertise the Holiday Club to a wider audience in future years.

Members of the church also led meetings at a local care home (Resthaven) and the church also provided preachers for other churches in the area.

In July the church decided to appoint a cleaner for 2 hours per week to take over from the voluntary rota, and in September Chloe Randall took on this role.

Three outside groups use the church premises: the WI meet in the building monthly; *Bosom Buddies* (a breastfeeding support group) meet weekly, as do the *Esteem Team*, a group which supports parents & carers of children with SEN.

The church grounds have continued to operate as a community garden, open to all local residents. Outside groups who used the premises also often made use of the garden, especially in the summer months.

4.4 Charitable giving

4.4.1 The church supports a number of missionaries, Christian workers, Christian organisations and charities both financially and in prayer.

In the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025, these included the following, who were financially supported from church funds:

Crosslinks (Bernie & Rachael Muluuta)
FIEC (The Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches)
PGP (The Peninsula Gospel Partnership)
SAT-7 (Creating Christian television & digital media programmes for the Middle East & North Africa)
MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship)
GNfE (Good News for Everyone – formerly The Gideons)
Open Doors (Serving the persecuted church)
EPW (Equipping Pastors Worldwide)
CI (the Christian Institute)
SGA (Slavic Gospel Association)
UCCF (Universities' & Colleges' Christian Fellowship)
Torch Trust (for the blind)

5 Financial Review

Total receipts on unrestricted funds amounted to £78,124, which is an increase of nearly £22,000 on the previous year. The great majority of this came from the personal giving of members of the congregation. We are deeply grateful to God for this commitment and generosity at a time of financial hardship in the country as a whole.

Overall, there was a surplus of £2,494. Staff costs increased significantly with the addition of a Female Pastoral Worker (part-time) from September 2024 but as anticipated in last year's report the increase in staff costs has been met wholly from income from donations. We are also very grateful to HMRC for the funds received via the Gift Aid scheme.

The church operates a policy whereby approximately 10% of donations are transferred to a Mission Fund for distribution to mission agencies. This amounted to a total of £6,032 during this period.

Receipts & payments accounts

1. Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.
2. Grants & donations (including Gift Aid tax rebate): Sundry £74,483.
3. Trustees' remuneration: one Trustee received remuneration of £29,296 during the year to 31 December 2025, however this was not in respect of their duties as a Trustee.
4. Tangible Fixed Assets: in March 2025 the cost of re-building was estimated at £594,101. Contents were estimated at £40,880 (at Scott Drive) and £14,095 at the Church on the Green. Thus, total fixed assets = £594,101 + £40,880 + £14,095 = £649,076
5. Guarantees & debts. The charity has not provided any guarantees, nor does it have any debts subject to a charge on its assets, during the period to 31 December 2025.

SCOTT DRIVE CHURCH CIO
RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNTS
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

	General Fund	Missionary Fund (Designated)	Housing Fund (Designated)	Children & Youth Fund (Designated)	Pastoral Support Fund (Designated)	Hospitality (Designated)	TOTAL	2024
RECEIPTS								
Offerings, Donations, Gifts	£30,846	£1,933		-	-		£32,779	£19,994
Covenant Gift Aid	£29,311	£3,257					£32,568	£29,080
Stewardship	£1,250						£1,250	-
Hire of Hall	£3,157						£3,157	£1,688
Gift Aid Tax Refund	£7,097	£789					£7,886	£5,574
Interest Income	£484						£484	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**£72,145**	**£5,979**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**£78,124**	**£56,336**
PAYMENTS								
Accountancy Fees	£791						£791	£750
Building Repairs & Maintenance	£10,177						£10,177	£33,994
Staff Costs	£44,600				£6		£44,606	£33,263
Other Expenses	£1,431	£6,032		£973		£274	£8,710	£7,423
Utilities	£4,920						£4,920	£4,731
Insurance	£2,300						£2,300	£2,123
Pastoral Support					£1,697		£1,697	£2,532
Publicity	£808						£808	£413
Conference Fees	£1,621						£1,621	£1,753
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**£66,648**	**£6,032**	**-**	**£973**	**£1,703**	**£274**	**£75,630**	**£86,982**
Excess Income over Expenditure	£5,497	(£53)	-	(£973)	(£1,703)	(£274)	£2,494	(£30,646)
Transfer of Funds: 10% Offerings & Gift Aid								
Balances as at 31/12/2024	**£28,072**	**£1,707**	**-**	**(£789)**	**£5,153**	**(£265)**	**£33,878**	**£64,524**
Balances as at 31/12/2025	**£33,569**	**£1,654**	**-**	**(£1,762)**	**£3,450**	**(£539)**	**£36,372**	**£33,878**

SCOTT DRIVE CHURCH CIO
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES
At 31 December 2025

	31/12/2025	31/12/2024
Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets	£649,076	£577,674
Current Assets		
Bank accounts	£36,887	£34,454
Current Liabilities		
Accruals	(£515)	(£576)
Total Current Assets	£36,372	£33,878
Net Assets	£685,448	£611,552

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed _____
Iain Randall, Trustee

Date 28/9/26

SCOTT DRIVE CHURCH CIO
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
For The Year Ended 31 December 2025

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

Sundry	£73,233
	£73,233

3. Trustees' remuneration

One Trustee received remuneration of £29,296 during the year to 31 December 2025, however this was not in respect of their duties as a Trustee.

4. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Land & Property	Furniture, fittings & equipment	Total
Cost or valuation			
At 31 December 2024	£528,747	£48,927	£577,674
Additions	-	£6,048	£6,048
Revaluation	£65,354	-	£65,354
At 31 December 2025	£594,101	£54,975	£649,076
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2025	£594,101	£54,975	£649,076
At 31 December 2024	£528,747	£48,927	£577,674

5. Guarantees & debts

The charity has not provided any guarantees, nor does it have any debts subject to a charge on its assets, during the year to 31 December 2025.

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	Charity Name Scott Drive Church CIO		
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1195047
Set out on pages	3 to 5 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2025.

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 Trust'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

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable 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.

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

Signed:		**Date:**	28/09/2026
Name:	David Simms		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FCCA		

Address:	58 Moormead
	Budleigh Salterton
	Devon, EX9 6PU

Section B	**Disclosure**
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.	