

**ST BERNARD'S CHARITY**

Trustees Report and Financial Statements

For the Year ending 31 December 2024

Independently Examined

CHARITY NO: 207727

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report for the year ended 31 December 2024

### **OBJECTS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHARITY**

The objects of the Charity are set out in clause 4 of the Charity Commission Scheme sealed on 15 December 1967 as amended on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2013 by the Charity Commission under the power given in the Charities Act 2011 and now reads as follows:-

The object of the charity shall be to relieve women who are in need of financial assistance through sickness, convalescence or old age of themselves, their spouses or dependents. The trustees, with the agreement of the Charity Commission, interpret sickness in its widest context to include both physical and mental health in all its forms.

The Chair, in consultation with the other trustees by email in respect of grant applications, carries out the day-to-day administration of the Trust. All bank transfers are authorised by two trustees. All aspects of the Trust are discussed at the three formal meetings of the Trustees held each year when management accounts and expenditure schedules are presented.

New Trustees are identified and appointed by the existing Trustees. The Chair of Trustees is responsible for the induction of any new Trustees, which involves awareness of a Trustee's responsibilities, the governing document, administrative procedures and the history and objects of the Charity. A new Trustee receives a copy of the previous year's annual report and accounts and a copy of the Charity Commission leaflet 'The Essential Trustee – What you need to know'.

### **TRUSTEES**

Mrs E Martyr

Mrs H V Hiscox (Secretary)

Mr J E Puttock (Chair)

Mr N Sarjudeen

### **REGISTERED ADDRESS**

Ground Floor Flat, 69 New Church Road, Hove, BN3 4BA

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Rents received for the year ended 31 December 2024 amounted to £36,820 (2023 £37,930). Current assets including properties total £1,177,996. Of this amount £11,565 is held at the Charity's banks and £10,432 is in a high interest 95-day account. The balance is the current value of the Trust's property.

47 grants (2023 88) were made during 2024 amounting to £17,633 (2023 £32,617). The lower level of grants during the year enabled the trustees to undertake significant maintenance and improvements to its properties. The cost of this over the year amounted to £25,727. Overall expenditure over the year exceeded income by £6,754 (2023 £5,924) This was financed from reserves.

The Trustees consider sufficient funds are being carried forward to cover emergencies and to undertake any maintenance and repairs to the Trust's three properties as and when required as well as being able to positively respond to grant applications.

### **SERIOUS INCIDENT**

On 7 March 2024 the charity was subject to a fraudulent attack on its funds by telephone which could have resulted in the loss of charitable funds. The incident was reported to the Charity Commission (Ref 692848), Action Fraud and NatWest Bank. All funds were recovered and there was no loss of charitable funds.

## PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission when reviewing the aims and objectives and in considering grant applications. The Trustees consider that our activities reflect our aims and objectives, and that they are designed to provide accessible services and activities that benefit the public in accordance with our charitable objectives.

## PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

### **Bankers:**

NatWest	Charities Aid Foundation Bank	Redwood Bank
Town Hall Branch	25 Kings Hill Avenue	The Nexus Building
103 Church Road	West Malling	Broadway
Hove	Kent	Letchworth Garden City
BN3 2BS	ME19 4TA	SG6 3TA

### **Solicitors:**

Mayo Wynne Baxter	Griffith Smith Farrington Webb
3 Bell Lane	47 Old Steine
Lewes	Brighton
East Sussex	BN1 1NW
BN7 1JU	

### **Independent Examiner:**

Mr J R Young  
7 The Crescent  
Southwick  
West Sussex  
BN42 4LB

## POLICY ON RESERVES AND INVESTMENT POLICY

It is the general policy of the Trustees to distribute the Trust's income on a regular basis in response to applications for funding in accordance with the Trust's objects and retain a balance to meet unexpected expenditure on the maintenance of the 3 properties owned by the Trust, or any emergency requests for financial help. As part of this policy the Trustees continue to invest £10,432 in a 95-day account with Redwood Bank. The charity seeks to maintain a minimum balance of £10,000 in this account.

Apart from the 3 properties owned by the Trust and the cash reserves there are no other capital assets.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have considered the risks to which the Trust might be exposed. All 3 properties are fully insured and all the tenants are expected to remain the same in 2025. Income from the properties is expected to slightly increase in 2025 and regular maintenance will continue to take place. The trust has no other contractual commitments beyond the tenancy agreements.

## PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Trustees plan to continue to make grants of financial support where appropriate in accordance with the Trust's objects.

The report was approved by the Trustees on 2 April 2025

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by J Puttock John Puttock - Trustee and Chair

## ST BERNARD'S CHARITY

### Receipts and Payments Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2024


Charity Number 207727

Incoming Resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	Last Year 2023
	Funds	Funds	Total Funds	
	£	£	£	£
Rents	36,820	0	<b>36,820</b>	37,930
Interest	626	0	<b>626</b>	341
Donations	600	0	<b>600</b>	0
Legacy	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
<b>Total Incoming resources</b>	<b>38,046</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38,046</b>	<b>38,271</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>				
Property Maintenance	25,727	0	<b>25,727</b>	10,237
Property Insurance	1,380	0	<b>1,380</b>	1,281
Sundry Expenditure	0	0	<b>0</b>	0
Bank Charges	60	0	<b>60</b>	60
Donations and Grants	17,633	0	<b>17,633</b>	32,617
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>44,800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>44,800</b>	<b>44,195</b>
<b>Net incoming resources before other recognised gains or losses</b>	<b>-6,754</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-6,754</b>	<b>-5,924</b>
<b>Gains/Losses on Revaluation of Fixed assets - see note 1</b>	<b>83,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>83,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>76,246</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>76,246</b>	<b>-5,924</b>
Total Funds brought forward	1,695,750		<b>1,695,750</b>	1,701,674
Total funds this year end	1,771,996	0	<b>1,771,996</b>	1,695,750

**Balance Sheet and Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period  
Ended 31st December 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year 2023
	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
7 Nevill Avenue, Hove	698,000	0	698,000	669,000
17 Fallowfield Crescent, Hove	542,000	0	542,000	516,000
145 Montgomery Street, Hove	510,000	0	510,000	482,000
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Cash at Banks	11,565	0	11,565	18,750
Investments	10,432	0	10,432	10,000
<b>Less Creditors</b>				
Amount falling due in 1 year	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Assets less current liabilities</b>	<u>1,771,997</u>		<u>1,771,997</u>	<u>1,695,750</u>
<b>Represented by</b>				
General Fund	1,695,750	0	1,695,750	1,701,674
Revaluation of property	83,000		83,000	0
Net incoming resources/losses	<u>-6,754</u>	0	<u>-6,754</u>	<u>-5,924</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>1,771,996</u>		<u>1,771,996</u>	<u>1,695,750</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 2/4/2025 and signed on its behalf by:

  
Trustee

Name J. PUTTOCK

**Notes to the accounts**

**Note 1 Revaluation of Fixed Assets**

In accordance with current requirements the trustees have undertaken a revaluation of its property investments. Based on the known market trends and information available on properties in the locality the trustees have undertaken a revaluation this year as below.

	Freehold Property	2024	2023
	£	£	£
At January	1,667,000	1,667,000	1,667,000
Disposals	0	0	0
Revaluation	0	83,000	0
	<u>1,667,000</u>	<u>1,750,000</u>	<u>1,667,000</u>
<b>Freehold property:</b>			
17 Fallowfield Crescent	516,000	542,000	516,000
145 Montgomery Street	482,000	510,000	482,000
7 Nevill Avenue	669,000	698,000	669,000
	<u>1,667,000</u>	<u>1,750,000</u>	<u>1,667,000</u>

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of St Bernard's Charity

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I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on page 3 and 4 of the Receipts and Payments Accounts.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011, ("the 2011 Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility:

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My report is made solely to you as Trustees pursuant to the 2011 Act. My examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the Trustees those matters I am required to state in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Trustees for my examination, for my report, or for the statement I have made.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

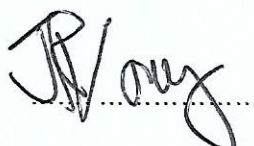
My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with sections 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice; Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

JOHN YOUNG (FCCA)  
Chartered Certified Accountant  
7 The Crescent  
Southwick  
Sussex  
BN42 4LB



Date 31/3/25