

Trustees Report & Unaudited Financial Statements

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust
For the year ended 5 April 2023

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Legal and Administrative Information

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust For the year ended 5 April 2023

Charity Name:

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust

Registered Charity Number:

519464

Trustees:

Mr D Hutchins (Chair)

Mr K Wells

Mr S Harvey

Mr M Cane

Mr S Boyt

Treasurer:

Mr K Wells

Principle Address:

160 Sydney Road, Crewe, Cheshire, GBR, CW1 5NF

Independent Examiner:

Correy Brown
Oldfield Advisory LLP
Santis House
Curriers Close
Coventry
CV4 8AW

Accountant:

Oldfield Advisory LLP
Santis House
Curriers Close
Coventry
CV4 8AW

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank Plc
Crewe Branch
The Square
Crewe Cheshire
CW1 2HN

Report of the Trustees

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust

For the year ended 5 April 2023

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 5 April 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 11 and comply with the Trust Deed and applicable law.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Charity is an unincorporated trust constituted by a Deed of Trust dated 17 October 1987, most recently amended by Deed of Variation dated 09 January 2015. The trust was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 27 January 1988 under Charity Registration Number: 519464

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are set out on page 3. None of the Trustees, nor any person connected with them, received any remuneration or expenses from the Charity in the year ended 5 April 2023.

The Trust operates 4 Gospel halls and Trustees are chosen from among the regular congregation of the halls. New Trustees are nominated by the existing Trustees or by the congregation and must be appointed by unanimous resolution of the congregation. They are selected according to their skills and experience and are expected to use both in furthering the objects of the Charity. Checks are made to ensure the Trustees' eligibility to act and incoming Trustees are made aware of their responsibilities by the existing Trustees, who ensure that new Trustees read the Trust Deed and relevant Charity Commission guidance.

Wider Network

The Trustees maintain informal links with similar charities with a view to pooling experience considered useful in pursuing the objects of the Trust.

Risk Management

The Trustees have identified and reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and confirm that they have established systems to manage and mitigate those risks.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

The charitable purposes of the Charity are the advancement of the Christian religion for the public benefit, including by the carrying on of the service of God in accordance with the Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible as followed by those Christians forming part of the world-wide fellowship known as the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church (the "Brethren") and any other charitable purposes connected with Brethren. The core doctrine of the Brethren and proper practices in furtherance of certain aspects of doctrine are summarised in two schedules to the Trust Deed.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance to charities on public benefit.

Details of public benefit activities carried out by Sefton Gospel Hall Trust can be found in the separate appendix to this report.

Main activities and achievements

The Trust provides and maintains 4 Gospel halls where religious meetings are held by the local Brethren community. Details of the origins, teachings and way of life of the Brethren can be found on the website - www.plymouthbrethrenchristianchurch.org and in the schedules to the Trust Deed.

The trustees have also operated an Emergency Needs fund for the duration of the coronavirus pandemic and any resultant economic downturn. This is providing limited financial assistance by the way of grocery vouchers to households, who have experienced a recent and significant decrease in income due to the pandemic, such that it is likely to impact on the health and/or welfare of members of the household. The trust has appointed a Local Welfare Panel to manage the application process and to administer the vouchers to qualifying applicants.

Plans for future periods

Despite the increased cost of energy, the trustees feel that these increased costs are not significantly impacting on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern.

Meetings

Meetings held at the Gospel halls include the Lord's Supper (Communion), Gospel preachings, Bible readings and Bible addresses. There is a structured weekly schedule of meetings and, depending on the particular meeting, between 30 and 400 people normally attend these occasions.

The meetings are attended by the regular congregation and most are open to other properly disposed visitors. The notice board outside the Hall welcomes visitors and displays the times of Gospel preachings, along with a telephone number for those seeking further information or help. Gospel tracts, which are distributed by street preachers, also display this information.

Bibles and an extensive range of other Christian reading material are on display at the halls and visitors are free to help themselves.

Spreading the Gospel message and the life of a Christian

The Gospel halls are a base from which the regular congregation and others who attend the meetings are encouraged to spread the Christian Gospel, in word and deed.

Members of the congregation participate in a programme of street preaching and Gospel Tracts are provided free of charge by the charity to such preachers to be handed out to interested members of the public.

In carrying out this work, the congregation considers itself to be living out its faith in practice, as particularly exemplified in the following extract from the schedule to the Trust Deed on living a Christian life:

- We seek and are encouraged to live exemplary lives in all our relationships with others in the wider community (including former Brethren), in accordance with the teachings of Holy Scripture (1 Tim 2:2).
- We regularly go out from our homes to preach on the streets, to distribute Christian literature and engage with the wider community (including former Brethren) in order to present eternal salvation, available to all men by faith in Jesus Christ. (2 Tim 4:2).
- We seek as members of the public to lead Christian lives as husbands and wives, parents, children, employers, employees and neighbours. (Col 3:22-25, Col 4:1).
- The preservation and protection of the family unit is fundamental and children are prized as a blessing from God. (Psalm 127:3-5). The elderly are valued members of the community, for whom both their family and the wider community are expected to care.
- Holy Scripture commands us to be good neighbours to others, and deal with all other people (including former Brethren) openly, honestly and fairly and consistent with these principles, we should give our time, talents and money to assist those in need in the wider community, in so far as reasonable given our abilities and our available resources. (Matt 7:12, Matt 22:39, Eph 4:28).

Funding

Funding is sought through gifts from the congregation and Gift Aid is claimed on eligible donations. Funding is sometimes received from other charitable trusts with complementary objectives.

Financial Review

In the year ended 5 April 2023 the Trust had a deficit of incoming resources over resources expended. This is mostly due to non-monetary items such as depreciation.

Total voluntary income received this year was £53,243 compared to £60,680 in the previous year.

Restricted Funds are being accumulated as the trust are planning on purchasing a site for a local hall in the foreseeable future, with there also being ongoing refurbishment works on the current halls planned.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs, based on its size and the level of its financial commitments. The Trust has no employees and its regular outgoings are minimal. Accordingly, the Trustees have decided to adopt a policy of maintaining no significant reserves. The trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily. Free reserves accumulated will be used at the discretion of the Trustees for the strategic development of Sefton Gospel Hall Trust. The Trustees aim to ensure that the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure by raising a funds appeal.

Free Reserves at the year end were £28,950 (2022: £30,925)

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust Deed require the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. All transactions have been reviewed and approved by two trustees.

On Behalf of the board:

.....

Mr K Wells (Trustee)

.....

Date

Report of the Independent Examiner

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust

For the year ended 5 April 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Sefton Gospel Hall Trust for the year ended 5 April 2023.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees 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.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 of explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

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



Correy Brown
Oldfield Advisory LLP
Santis House
Curriers Close
Coventry
CV4 8AW

20 September 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust

For the year ended 5 April 2023

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2023	TOTAL FUNDS 2022
Income and endowments:					
Donations and Legacies:					
Contributions from the Congregation	24,000	-	2,880	26,880	28,880
Gift Aid Donations	-	-	12,655	12,655	12,920
Income Tax refunds	-	-	3,036	3,036	3,230
Congregation Support	8,433	2,238	-	10,671	15,650
Investments					
Interest Received	6	-	-	6	-
Total Income and endowments:	32,439	2,238	18,571	53,249	60,680
Expenditure:					
Running Meeting Rooms (note 7)	56,519	-	58	56,577	58,927
Congregation Support (note 7)	12,307	225	-	12,532	16,200
Loss on sale of assets					
Profit/Loss on sale of assets	-	-	-	-	158
Total Loss on sale of assets	-	-	-	-	158
Total Expenditure:	68,826	225	58	69,109	75,285
Net Income/(Expenditure)	(36,387)	2,013	18,513	(15,860)	(14,605)
Net Movement In Funds	(36,387)	2,013	18,513	(15,860)	(14,605)
	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2023	TOTAL FUNDS 2022
Reconciliation of funds (note 9)					
Total Funds brought forward	913,042	-	105,866	1,018,908	1,033,513
Net movement in funds	(36,387)	2,013	18,513	(15,860)	(14,605)
Total Funds carried forward	876,656	2,013	124,379	1,003,048	1,018,908

The notes on page 11 - 20 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust As at 5 April 2023

	2023	2022
Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets (note 4)	849,719	882,117
Total Fixed Assets	849,719	882,117
Current assets		
Prepayments and accrued income	6,906	4,239
Cash at bank and in hand	149,603	133,497
Total Current assets	156,508	137,736
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Accruals and deferred income	3,180	945
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	3,180	945
Net current assets/(liabilities)	153,329	136,791
Total assets less current liabilities	1,003,048	1,018,908
Net Assets	1,003,048	1,018,908
Funds (note 8)		
Restricted Funds	124,379	105,866
Unrestricted funds	878,668	913,042
Total Funds	1,003,048	1,018,908

The unaudited financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees of Sefton Gospel Hall Trust onand were signed on its behalf by:

.....

Mr K Wells (Trustee)

The notes on pages 11 - 20 form part of these financial statements.

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust

For the year ended 5 April 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, and incorporating update bulletins 1 and 2, and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The functional currency of the charity is sterling (£).

The Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

1.2 Income

Donations are recognised in the year in which there is entitlement and probability of receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future year. Gift aid is added to the value of the donation to which it relates.

Donated services are recognised as income and expenditure in the financial statements when organisations or individuals offer their services and support pro bono. The value of these donated services to Sefton Gospel Hall Trust is considered to be equal to market value which would be paid were the service formally procured. This includes services paid for by other trusts.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

1.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis. Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Charitable activities comprise those costs directly attributable to the fulfilment of the charitable objects.

1.4 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and costs related to statutory requirements. Governance and support costs are allocated to charitable activities on the basis of capacity used.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets (costing more than £100) are stated at cost less depreciation. Freehold land is not depreciated. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold buildings	3% straight line
Property improvements	20% reducing balance
Tools & Equipment	20% reducing balance
Fixtures and Fittings	20% reducing balance

1.6 Taxation

The Trust is a registered charity and is not liable to United Kingdom income or corporation tax on charitable activities, provided income falls within the charitable exemptions and is spent on charitable purposes.

1.7 Funds

The general unrestricted fund is free for the Trustees to use for any purposes in furtherance of the trust's charitable objects.

Restricted funds arise from donations to the trust, which are made for a specific purpose. Restricted funds can only be used for the purpose for which funds were given.

1.8 Preparation of consolidated financial statements

The Charity does not have a trading subsidiary.

1.9 Going Concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.10 Significant estimates and judgements

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits from an employment with the charity. Expenses totalling £174 were reimbursed to Mr S Harvey, a trustee during the financial year (2022: £nil)

3. WAGES AND SALARIES

There are no employees (2022: none)

4. Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost	Freehold Property - Sydney Road	Freehold Property - Stock Lane	Freehold Property - Wheelock	Freehold Property - Chorlton	Property Development - Sydney Road
At 6 April 2022	443,726	264,290	257,560	204,286	9,100
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 5 April 2023	443,726	264,290	257,560	204,286	9,100
Depreciation					
At 6 April 2022	210,859	60,752	52,798	13,406	980
Current Year Depreciation	11,093	6,607	6,439	4,357	228
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 5 April 2023	221,952	67,360	59,237	17,763	1,207
Net Book Value					
At 5 April 2023	221,773	196,930	198,323	186,523	7,893
At 5 April 2022	232,866	203,537	204,762	190,880	8,120

Cost	Property Development - Chorlton	Fixtures and Fittings	Tools and Equipment	Totals
At 6 April 2022	45,743	38,048	1,599	1,264,350
Additions	-	5,376	-	5,376
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 5 April 2023	45,743	43,424	1,599	1,269,726
Depreciation				
At 6 April 2022	13,422	29,549	466	382,233
Current Year Depreciation	6,464	2,360	226	37,774
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	-
At 5 April 2023	19,886	31,909	693	420,007
Net Book Value				
At 5 April 2023	25,857	11,515	906	849,719
At 5 April 2022	32,321	8,498	1,132	882,117

Land registry titles of the above property held are CH313986, CH600344, CH599785, CH588330, and CH696037.

5. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

During the financial year, aggregated donations of £6,565 (2022: £6,460) were received. The trust made reimbursements to trustees and related parties totalling £179 for expenses incurred on behalf of the trust. No material reimbursements were made in the prior year.

6. VOLUNTEERS

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust relies entirely on volunteers to carry out the management, administration and general maintenance work. The Trust has no paid staff or paid Trustees.

Resources Expended

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust For the year ended 5 April 2023

7. Resources Expended

	MEETING ROOMS	OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	TOTAL COSTS 2023	TOTAL COSTS 2022
Direct Costs				
Premises costs - repairs and maintenance	2,602	-	2,602	2,496
Premises costs - heat, light and power	8,619	-	8,619	10,499
Telephone	2,576	-	2,576	715
Legal and professional	2,370	-	2,370	4,407
Bank charges	262	-	262	23
Congregation Support	12,307	225	12,532	16,200
Depreciation	37,774	-	37,774	37,956
Insurance	1,329	-	1,329	1,239
Governance	1,046	-	1,046	1,594
Total Direct Costs	68,884	225	69,109	75,127

Governance costs include £180 (prior year: £180) in respect of independent examiners fees.

Analysis of Net Assets - Current year

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust

For the year ended 5 April 2023

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

8.1 Current Year

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2023
Funds				
Tangible Fixed Assets	765,972	-	83,747	849,719
Current Assets	19,100	2,013	135,396	156,508
Current Liabilities	91,584	-	(94,764)	(3,180)
Total Funds	876,656	2,013	124,379	1,003,048

Analysis of Net Assets - Prior Year

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust

For the year ended 5 April 2023

8.2 Prior Year

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2022
Funds				
Tangible Fixed Assets	803,746	-	78,371	882,117
Current Assets	15,478	-	122,258	137,736
Current Liabilities	93,819	-	(94,764)	(945)
Total Funds	913,042	-	105,866	1,018,908

Movement in Funds - Current Year

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust

For the year ended 5 April 2023

9. Movement in Funds

9.1 Movement in funds - current year

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2023
Movement in Funds				
Total funds brought forward	913,042	-	105,866	1,018,908
Incoming resources	32,439	2,238	18,571	53,249
Resources expended	(68,826)	(225)	(58)	(69,109)
Total funds carried forward	876,656	2,013	124,379	1,003,048

Movement in Funds - Prior Year

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust

For the year ended 5 April 2023

9. Movement in Funds

9.2 Movement in funds - Prior year

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2022
Movement in Funds				
Total funds brought forward	946,128	550	86,836	1,033,513
Incoming resources	26,000	15,650	19,030	60,680
Resources expended	(59,085)	(16,200)	-	(75,285)
Total funds carried forward	913,042	-	105,866	1,018,908

Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

Sefton Gospel Hall Trust

For the year ended 5 April 2023

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2022
Income and endowments:				
Donations and Legacies:				
Contributions from the Congregation	26,000	-	2,880	28,880
Gift Aid Donations	-	-	12,920	12,920
Income Tax refunds	-	-	3,230	3,230
Congregation Support	-	15,650	-	15,650
Investments				
Interest Received	-	-	-	-
Total Income and endowments:	26,000	15,650	19,030	60,680
Expenditure:				
Running Meeting Rooms (note 7)	58,927	-	-	58,927
Congregation Support (note 7)	-	16,200	-	16,200
Loss on sale of assets				
Profit/Loss on sale of assets	158	-	-	158
Total Loss on sale of assets	158	-	-	158
Total Expenditure:	59,085	16,200	-	75,285
Net Income/(Expenditure)	(33,085)	(550)	19,030	(14,605)
Net Movement In Funds	(33,085)	(550)	19,030	(14,605)
	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2022
Reconciliation of funds (note 9)				
Total Funds brought forward	946,128	550	86,836	1,033,513
Net movement in funds	(33,085)	(550)	19,030	(14,605)
Total Funds carried forward	913,042	-	105,866	1,018,908