



**Shiloh Christian Fellowship
Trustees Report
Year Ending
31st March 2024**

Shiloh Christian Fellowship, 101 Skipperstone Road, Bangor, BT20 4EU

Correspondence Address: 51 Lismore Avenue, Bangor, BT20 4XD

The Trustees submit their Annual Report & Financial Accounts for the year ending: 31st March 2024

Trustees of Shiloh Christian Fellowship at the date of this report are as follows:

- Mr Mark Gordon
- Mr James Anderson
- Mrs Linda Neill
- Mr William Morrison
- Mr Keith Mooney

Designated Officers

Pastor of Shiloh Christian Fellowship: Mr Mark Gordon

Deacons: Mr James Anderson, Mrs Linda Neill, Mr William Morrison

Authorised Signatory: Mr Cyril Glass

Independent Examiner:

Broad Street Advisory Limited, Chartered Accounts, Bangor

Bank

Danske Bank, Bloomfield Shopping Centre, South Circular Rd, Bangor BT19 7HB

Structure / Governance / Management of Shiloh Christian Fellowship

The structure, governance and management of Shiloh Christian Fellowship consists of the above-named Trustees, Deacons, Pastor and Designated Officer, who have overseen all financial affairs, progressive development and decision-making regarding the Fellowship in this reporting period.

Shiloh Christian Fellowship Mission Statement

Shiloh Christian Fellowship (hereinafter known as the Fellowship) shall be composed of sinners saved by the grace of God, who unite in Christian Fellowship to advocate the truth of God, to proclaim the riches of His sovereign mercy to the lost and perishing, and by sympathy and biblical counsel to help one another in the Christ-like and heavenward life.

We undertake by the Holy Spirit's help to seek to bear one another's burdens, provoke one another to love and good works, and in the exercise of a tender-hearted forgiving kindness, acknowledge each other as members of that mystical body the 'Church' of which our risen and exalted Saviour Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, is the Head.

Aims & Objectives

Shiloh Christian Fellowship

- Holds weekly religious services where individuals, members of the public come together to worship the Lord and hear God's word.
- We love and support one another by providing care and practical / spiritual support to our Fellowship members & to individual members of the public through our Fellowship activities, which include: - Sunday morning and evening services, and also mid-week Bible studies.
- We further aim to promote our common faith by regular outreach programmes of evangelism including: -
 - ◊ Street work
 - ◊ Tract distribution
 - ◊ Door to door evangelism
 - ◊ Other projects to reach the general public with the good news of Jesus Christ
 - ◊ Providing registered officiant services to conduct Weddings, Funerals & Thanksgiving services to those members of the public who invite / request us to do so.

Trustees

Trustees meet in their official capacity approximately 3-6 times per year to discuss the general affairs of the Fellowship. These meetings can be increased should circumstances require it.

Trustees also meet at various Fellowship services and can address any matters that may arise.

Trustees may also call General Meetings of Fellowship members to discuss the ongoing ministries, projects and associated Fellowship services.

In the most recent meeting for this reporting period (January 2024) the Trustees discussed the following agenda, which we include as a portion of the Trustees Report.

Membership: A new Membership course will need to take place in Summer 2024 to extend an invitation to those attending Shiloh to become committed members of the Fellowship.

This course is necessary because over the past 12 months Shiloh has witnessed an increase in the numbers of people regularly attending our services, (from an average of 35-40, increased to 55-60) some of whom have expressed an interest in becoming members of the Fellowship.

Steering Committee

The formation of a '**Steering Committee**' was considered and agreed.

This would allow a number of committed Fellowship members to take responsibility for the oversight and forward planning of current and future planned ministries, projects and outreach programmes.

It is envisaged the '**Steering Committee**' will be formally elected after the new membership course is complete.

Charities Commission NI

Trustees recognised the need to prepare their Annual Report and Financial Accounts etc for submission to the Charity Commission NI for this reporting period. The Trustees therefore approved Broad Street Advisory Limited, Chartered Accountants to prepare the financial statements.

Building Maintenance

It was agreed a number of building maintenance works were required both externally and internally. These were to begin immediately and would include roof reparation, painting and decorating, electrical upgrades with recognised safety certificates, general refurbishment, and other aesthetic changes to include new seating.

Sunday School

Since Covid 19 and the restrictions preventing weekly services, Shiloh's Sunday School for children and young people has never recovered or been fully operational again.

The old portacabin (former Sunday School) was removed from beside Shiloh for health and safety reasons and therefore space was limited to house a Sunday School in the main building.

The Trustees agreed to present plans for a new structure to house a new Sunday School.

Plans were drawn up by Insideout Architects and have been formally presented to planning for approval.

Sound Equipment

Shiloh's sound equipment has not had an upgrade since 2010 and with a wider audience being reached with the gospel of Jesus, via social media, including weekly Facebook Livestreams and YouTube, it was agreed to have this upgraded.

Ministry / Project Updates

◇ Weekly Services

In this reporting period we haven't yet achieved full operation of our service provision prior to Covid 19 and the government-imposed restrictions that affected our Fellowship's ability to fully function.

However, having said that, we continue to provide a Morning Service every Sunday morning and an Evening Service once a fortnight.

Our weekly Wednesday night Bible Studies continue x3 per month, and 1x per month a general Prayer Meeting occurs.

All of these services have seen an increase in numbers attending.

The Morning and Evening services are also livestreamed via social media and are available on YouTube.

These draw significant viewers from the immediate locality, nationally and internationally.

◇ Satellite Bible studies

Emanating from our services and attendee / membership, a number of satellite Bible Studies take place in various homes, supporting young Christians and others in their understanding of the Word of God.

One study is conducted via WhatsApp on a fortnightly basis with a project team in Pakistan which is very well attended.

◇ Prayer Meetings

In addition to our monthly Wednesday evening Prayer Meeting, Shiloh also provides an opportunity every other Sunday morning for members to attend an early morning Prayer Meeting, prior to our main Morning Service.

◇ General Meeting Of Members

During this reporting period only one General Meeting of members was called, specifically to inform the membership and seek their approval for amendments to our constitution as recommended by the Charities Commission NI, and to discuss the development of a new Sunday School building.

◇ **Evangelistic Services**

Although our general services, which are open to the public are evangelistic in nature, we specifically hold 'Testimony Nights' when we invite members of our Fellowship or other guests to tell what Jesus has done for them. These services are very well attended by the general public.

Other Projects & Ministries

◇ **Spring Into Summer / Awesome Autumn Aid / Good News for Winter Blues**

This is a single project which changes its name based on the season of the year.

Run on a Thursday afternoon, the project is open to members / attendees of Shiloh and the wider community to come along and engage in the activities taking place, which can range from crafts, to quizzes, darts to storytelling. It is an opportunity for local people to come in for a cup of tea / coffee and a chat. This project receives a nominal annual budget for basic running costs / materials.

◇ **Community Purse**

The leadership team agreed 10% of the weekly income received from voluntary offerings / donations given to Shiloh would automatically go into our 'Community Purse.'

This is specifically used to help people from our congregation or the local community who may need assistance with costs toward oil, gas, electricity, food or other concerns.

◇ **Care Team**

Shiloh has a small number of members committed to providing home / hospital visits to members of the Fellowship who are unable to attend services or who are admitted to hospital.

◇ **Crisis Intervention Support**

Direct crisis intervention and support for individuals and families experiencing problems with drug / substance abuse is provided by a number of members who can offer counselling and / or sign-posting services to other professional agencies.

In this reporting period we have witnessed an increase in numbers seeking to access these services, particularly young men who have also found themselves in drug debt to paramilitary groups.

Through our community involvement / development work, we have formed excellent working relationships with agencies and services that help address these matters, including Bangor Alternatives and Base 2.

◇ **Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms / Thanksgivings**

Our registered officiant is our Pastor: Mark Gordon, who is responsible for conducting weddings and the completion of Marriage Schedule information for the General Registrar's Office.

He is also called upon to conduct numerous Funeral Services annually which can take place at Shiloh or in other funeral churches, funeral homes, private residences or Belfast Crematorium.

In addition to these 'Baptism Services' take place annually.

In this reporting period Shiloh held one general baptism service for 6 individuals.

Our 'Thanksgiving Services' correspond to what others call 'Christenings', only Shiloh does not support or endorse infant baptism.

◇ **Website Administration**

Shiloh's website (www.shilohchristianfellowship.co.uk) is regularly updated to inform our members and the wider community.

◇ **Pakistan / Myanmar / Moldova / Adopt a Child**

Individual members of Shiloh support various mission projects with small financial donations which includes our Pakistan Outreach Project providing food hampers to very poor families in 'Brickworks' across the Farooqabad region of Pakistan.

Shiloh also donates a small amount annually toward the POP team and their work.

The Myanmar Project is again funded by individual donations to help purchase food for those experiencing conflict in Myanmar.

Support for the Moldova Project is in the form of small gifts given by individual members toward the work being carried out by a former member of Shiloh in that region.

A very small number of members of Shiloh continue to 'Adopt a Child' in Guatemala through the charity of the same name.

Future Potential Projects

◇ **Men's Mental Health Group**

Shiloh is considering establishing a new **Men's Mental Health Group** to provide a safe space for men suffering from mental health issues (including addiction), where they can meet together to talk through their concerns, in an environment where they are not judged but feel strongly supported.

Part of this project may involve creating a polytunnel where clients / users can learn to grow plants and vegetables as part of a holistic approach to therapeutic recovery and transformation.

◇ **Preachers Class**

Because Shiloh is growing and to ensure the work / ministry can continue into the future, it has been proposed that a training / education program be set up to train those interested or who feel called to preach the gospel.

This project will encourage individuals to prepare and deliver sermons, both within the Church and also during street evangelism.

◇ **Residential / Nursing Homes**

Prior to Covid 19 and the government restrictions imposed, Shiloh would provide a number of short gospel services in various residential / nursing homes in Bangor and Holywood.

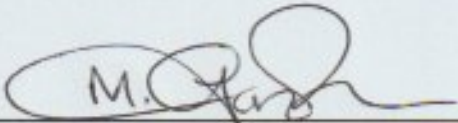
It is anticipated that this ministry can begin again within the next reporting period.

Conclusion

The Trustees of Shiloh Christian Fellowship believe we meet the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to our members and the wider general public through the advancement of religion: namely the proclamation of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ: salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, in Jesus Christ alone, to the glory of God alone, for all (or any) who will confess their sins, repent and trust in Jesus.

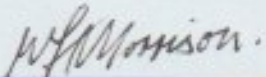
Although the gospel of Jesus can offend, there was no intentional harm caused by its proclamation, nor any intentional harm was caused by the pursuit of our charitable purposes, nor was there any private benefit.

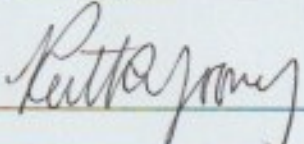
Signed & Dated

Mark Gordon:  20/8/2024

Mr James Anderson:  20/8/2024

Mrs Linda Neill:  20/8/2024

Mr William Morrison:  20/8/2024

Mr Keith Mooney:  24/8/2024