

Chair, Secretary and Treasurer's Annual Report 2019

In line with Charity Commission requirements, our Trustees have ensured that our activities have the widest possible public benefit, whether in the Christian or Youth Work operations. Assets and resources have been used to further the Objects of the Constitution and the specified Mission Statements adopted by Trustees in past years. Funds have been ethically sourced, and control of finances maintained. Legal rules have been complied with and relevant policies adopted or updated, each specifically approved by Trustees.

Open access for all our events and activities has been applied in line with our Equal Opportunities policy and our underlying Christian principles.

This is the first full year for our Chair. This has opened up a vacancy for Vice Chair which we hope to fill in 2020. Thanks go to Linda, Keith Taylor, our experienced Treasurer, Heather Turner, our secretary, John Gallagher, a key Fundraising Trustee and, of course, our Trustees and Youth Trustee Advisors. We welcomed Envoy Les Clarke, of the Salvation Army, joining our Trustees in August. Darren Byford has added to our co-opted ranks and is very active both on and off the Trustees Group. Joanne Davis, an experienced Youth Work Practitioner, joined us and will help in 2020 as an advisor. Thanks to Margaret Strong, a retired Safeguarding Expert, taking up the vital role of Safeguarding Officer. She has stepped down, replaced by Heather Turner who holds a similar role in the Aire and Calder Methodist Circuit.

The United Service was supported by all our churches. The 2019 United Service took place in January at Horbury Methodist Church, led by Reverend Kim Williams.

Last year's Forum was held at St John's Church, Horbury Bridge with over 70 people attending. Thanks to guest speaker, Reverend Terry Bayford, former Chaplain at Wakefield and Wealstun Prisons talking about his life.

On Good Friday, 30th March, we attended a "Story of Easter" at Netherton Methodist Church, led by Reverend Kim Williams. We distributed Easter eggs and HCT Leaflets in the Co-op on Easter Saturday to reach out to our community. We strongly believe being involved with our community is part of our work.

Christian Aid Week went very well raising £2951. Thanks to all the Churches for contributing and particularly to Carole Shaw, our Christian Aid Group Chair for all her hard work organising and supporting our Churches with various Christian Aid activities.

In May we held our free Whit Community Party at Horbury Academy including Kite Making and Flying, a bouncy castle, BBQ, Face Painting, Archery, cake and much more! It was a fantastic success and circa 250 people attended, up on 2018. We hope to build on this year's success with another Community Whit Party at the end of May 2020.

In September, we held our now annual community Quiz Night at St Johns Church, led by our quizmaster, Mark Hunter. The evening was very useful in bringing people together in a fun and challenging way and the venue was full to bursting.

Christmas carol singing took place in the Co-op, where we reach out to the community and hand out service times and chocolates for the children. This is always a joyous occasion at the end of our calendar of events. Services continued to be held at the residential homes in the area and are very well received by people who gain much from the communal singing, company and encouragement that they get.

Our grateful thanks go to Heather Turner for compiling and editing the monthly newsletter. We have again widened leaflet distribution community to keep informed of HCT news and church community events.

The Horbury Breakthrough Youth Project had a hugely successful year with 649 young people accessing the project in some way. Staff changes included Kate Watts leaving with Tom Exelby and Lauren Allen arriving. We have twenty-three volunteers, all actively involved on a regular basis, plus a further twenty-nine young representatives / officers / youth trustees.

Developments in mentoring support to students in Horbury Academy, a pilot project called 'Inspire Days'. (a two day program for year 6 primary school students, 'Legacy', relaunched in September with a new group of young people planning to run a homeless event giving out free soup, sandwiches, hot dogs and

aid of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance have been highlights. We delivered 'The Meaning of Christmas' lessons to year 7's and ran sponsored events for charities such as the RSPCA.

We run 20 weekly groups/activities and specialist support programmes such as 'Courage' for males and 'Bravery' for girls who need a boost in confidence and self-esteem.

John Walter (HCT Trustee and Business Manager) was Unsung Hero 2019, winning the Wakefield Public Vote. Two of our young people, Charlotte Russell and Libby Grayson won the Horbury and South Ossett Rotary Club Young Writers Competition.

Financially, 2019 was another successful year in financial terms, Total Bank and Cash Balances increased by £3,298 from £52,211 to £55,509; with total receipts £96,931 (2018 £101,976) and total payments £93,633 (2018 £87,389). The Community Fund (Big Lottery) grant of £60,865 represented 63% (2018 58%) of the total receipts in 2019. The Trustees are actively looking for other sources of income to reduce the dependency on the existing Community Fund Grant which is due to end in July 2021.

Other external Donations and Grants of £16,093 including Aire Calder Methodist Circuit £2,000, Community Foundation £2,198, Horbury Common Lands Trust £3,000, Leeds Methodist District Advance Fund £5,000 and St Leonards Hospital Trust £3,100 were a further 17% of the total receipts.

Special thanks to John Gallagher and John Walter for all their hard work in submitting the various claim forms, not forgetting all the external organisations that have supported us both in 2019 and previous years.

Numerous Fund-raising activities and Events throughout the year, including Awards night, Forum, Great North Run, Horbury Show, Quiz night, Street collections, Whit event and the Youth lunch, generated £7,943 representing 8% of the total receipts.

Regular Donations from loyal individuals together with our own Churches generated £6,504, representing 7% of the total receipts. A huge thank you to all the individuals, who have supported Horbury Churches Together during 2019 and also in previous years.

Activity contributions by our young people towards the cost of activities including The Duke of Edinburgh award, archery and various holiday activities, generated £5,236, representing 5% of the total receipts.

Payments in 2019 totalled £93,633. Salaries, Pensions & National Insurance of £64,337 represented 69% of payments, Youth work of £14,883 represented 16% of payments, Rent, Utilities and other Office costs of £9,925 represented 11% of payments and other costs of £3,177 represented 3% the payments.

The Horbury Breakthrough Youth Project benefits from Trustees and individuals giving their time freely and our own Churches who provide free or reduced rent for meetings and youth activities at Church premises. Great thanks also to the Trustees, Ministers, Officers, Business Committee members, our Youth Work Staff, Volunteers, Parents and, very importantly, members of our Churches who support all we do.

Our partners this year included

Horbury Academy	Princes Trust	National Coalmining Museum
Local Businesses	Ossett Academy	Horbury and Ossett Rotary Club
Huddersfield University	Early Help Hub	Wakefield MDC Youth Services
Wakefield Council	Cross Project	Wakefield Young Lives Consortium
The Junction (St Mary's)	The Well Project	Duke of Edinburgh Crofton team
Aire and Calder Circuit	Netherton Youth Crew	Leeds Community Foundation
Leeds Trinity University		

Thanks to all these groups for on-going support.

Elected Trustees for 2019 were:

Linda Cunningham – Chair – 26, Coxley Crescent, Netherton, Wakefield. WF4 4LR

Keith Taylor- Treasurer -11, Gagewell Lane, Horbury, Wakefield, WF4 6BQ

Heather Turner – Secretary – 36, Mount Crescent, Wakefield. WF2 8QQ

John Walter- 76 Foxholes Lane, Altofts, Wakefield, WF6 2PE

John Gallagher- 54 Woodthorpe Lane, Wakefield, WF2 6JJ

Reverend Karen Campbell- St Marys Vicarage, Milfield Road, Horbury, WF4 5EP

Reverend Kim Williams- 1 Troon Way, Thornes Wakefield WF2 8LR

Reverend John Geary- The Vicarage, 6, Coxley Dell, Horbury Bridge, Wakefield, WF4 5LF

Father Christopher Johnson- St Peters Vicarage, Northgate, Horbury, WF4 6AS

Envoy Les Clarke – 7, Falcon Way, Dinnington, Sheffield. S25 2NX

Prepared on behalf of the Trustees by:

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Horbury Churches Together

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2019, which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7) (b) of the 1993 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

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 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 statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

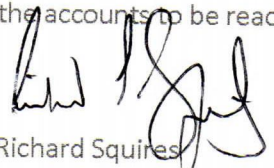
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act

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.


Richard Squires
External Examiner