

**Dunston Family Church**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Trustees' Annual Report**  
**(Incorporating the Directors' Report)**  
**Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

We are delighted at the reputation that we have achieved, both locally and nationally, in the Teams Life Centre for providing significant charitable services, virtually free of charge. We are grateful to the members of Dunston Family Church for donating nearly £40,000 that has made this a reality.

We have been highly commended for ...

- our Advance Men's Group for recovering addicts
- our Guideposts sessions for those with learning difficulties and social challenges
- , our musical drop-in café for those with dementia, learning difficulties or Downes Syndrome
- our bi-weekly employability training sessions for the unemployed
- our 'Teams Bugs' times for parents and pre-schoolers in an area of real deprivation

In line with our ethos, we have created a community atmosphere within the Centre which is warm, welcoming and continuously praised by our clients and their leaders. Indeed, we have been called a flagship in the area by local Council officials and councillors for such social provision.

Because in part of our significant investment in staffing – a £21k a year Centre Manager, £6k per annum café worker and a £5k per annum apprentice – we ended the year with a deficit of £1,148. However, if we take into account the monies accumulated in our Contingency Fund, we actually ended the year with £7,742 clear.

The contracts for our café worker and apprentice have been completed, so we are effectively £11k to the good as we face the coming year. Our volunteers have dedicatedly undertaken to do all of the required café, set-up and cleaning duties that once we paid for. We have also applied for major funding from Gateshead MBC's Innovation Fund for £40k per annum for two years. We are hopeful that we will then be able to employ, on an enhanced salary, a Centre Manager, relevantly qualified and experienced, who can further develop the community potential of the Centre and increase its financial sustainability.

The Trustees have planned and designed an extensive community programme of activities, services and events that seeks to alleviate the well-documented areas of deprivation in the town and has accessed a wide range of funders sympathetic to our concerns. We have planned a re-launch of the Centre on a day when we shall consult again with local residents as to their ideas for growth, provide them with a range of taster sessions to attract them to our activities and seek to broaden the base of our volunteer base.

We are so grateful for our current dedicated and optimistic volunteer force and a Board of Trustees that is creative and enthusiastic in their commitment to undertake a programme that has the potential of bringing the community into positive dimensions of transformation.