



Findon Valley  
Free Church  
(Baptist)

Connecting People With God



2023

## ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS FINDON

### VALLEY FREE CHURCH (BAPTIST)

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Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN14 0DJ

Telephone: 01903 873790

Website: [www.fvfc.org.uk](http://www.fvfc.org.uk)

Office hours: Monday - Thursday 9am to 12 noon

# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| CHARITY NUMBER                        | 1052737  |
| START OF FINANCIAL YEAR               | 01st January 2023  |
| END OF FINANCIAL YEAR                 | 31st December 2023   |
| TRUSTEES SERVING DURING THE YEAR 2023 | Rev Alison L Moore - Minister<br>Rosamund J Tolley - Deacon, appointed on 21.11.2023<br>Christina J Hemsley - Deacon, appointed on 21.11.2023<br>Iain M Taylor - Deacon<br>Susan E Menday - Deacon<br>Peter L Hemsley - Deacon<br>Colin M Ingrey - Deacon<br>Heather Ingrey - Deacon<br>Michael G Knowles - Secretary<br>David S Tolley - Treasurer<br>Norman Michell - Deacon, resigned on 31.10.2023 |
| GOVERNING DOCUMENT                    | Standard Registration on the 08.02.1996 Church Rules as revised in 1969 and amended on the 25.11.2008.   |
| OBJECTIVES                            | THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION. THE CHURCH MAY ALSO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND CARRY OUT OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND/OR OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.   |
| REGISTERED ADDRESS                    | 1 – 11 Lime Tree Avenue<br>Worthing<br>West Sussex<br>BN14 0DJ   |
| BANKING                               | CAF Bank Ltd<br>West Malling<br>Kent<br>ME19 4JQ   |
| INDEPENDENT EXAMINER                  | Independent Examiners Ltd<br>Unit 2, The Broadbridge Business Centre<br>Delling Lane<br>Bosham<br>PO18 8NF   |

We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,  
His power and the wonders He has done, So that the next generation  
would know them, Even the children yet to be born.

Psalm 78:4-6

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# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

The Charity Trustees present their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Church's constitution, applicable law and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) and in accordance with charity law applicable in the UK.

We have also referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, Trustees will consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that they have set.

### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Church is constituted under the Fuller Trust and the deeds are held by the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

The Charity Trustees, who meet formally once a month, manage the Church. Members, at their meetings held five times a year, vote upon all significant decisions. Trustees consist of the Minister, the Church Officers (Secretary and Treasurer) and up to nine Deacons. The constitutional governing body of the Church is the Church members meeting, that appoints officers and deacons for up to three years. New Trustees are made aware of their responsibilities through publications provided by the Baptist Union.

The Church works together with the Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB), South Eastern Baptist Association (SEBA), and the Preschool Learning Alliance, all of whom provide advice and assistance as required.

Generally, funds are not canvassed for the work of the Church as it relies on the freewill offerings given by members, taking advantage of gift aid where the donor agrees. Appropriate charges are made for services provided to our 'trading' organisation (i.e. Preschool) and to the uniformed organisations and other groups that use our premises. Money is raised for other charities from time to time by holding envelope collections, concerts, coffee mornings, meals etc. Grants made to other charities are outlined in the accounts (note 4).

The salaried staff mentioned in Note 7, are supplemented on a regular basis by over 30 volunteers from the membership and congregation, in carrying out the work of the Church and its services to the community. Details about the role of volunteers and the nature of their contributions to the Church are shown through the reports of our organisations in the later pages of this report.

None of the Trustees or key management personnel receive any benefits for their services to the charity.

### REVIEW OF FINANCIAL POSITION

The Trustees are satisfied with the overall financial position of the Church. A budget is established with tight control and monitoring procedures in place over incoming and outgoing resources. This year, because of the financial crisis in the country we set our budget to reflect how the cost of living might affect peoples' giving. The budget therefore was set to give an excess of expenditure over income of £15,754 (on unrestricted General Funds only). Due to the generosity of our members and keeping a tighter grip on expenditure we ended the year with an excess of income over expenditure of £5,518 (on unrestricted General Funds only). We held a "Gift Day" appeal to raise money to replace our outdated sound system and screens and covered all our expenses.

Generally, our clubs and organisations receive subs and pay incidental expenses. Most of these organisations have rolled their accounts into the Church's General Fund.

Preschool funding comes mainly from WSCC (West Sussex County Council) in the form of grants paid throughout the year and contributions from parents.

No funds are in deficit and the Trustees, therefore, do not feel that the Church is exposed to any major financial risk. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue.

### RESERVES POLICY

A Reserve Fund of £70,000 is held against unexpected large maintenance bills or a sudden drop in income. The Trustees review these figures annually. In addition, £4,000 is held by our Preschool should they run into difficulties. The Trustees review these figures annually.

# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### RISK MANAGEMENT

Church monies are held in accounts with COIF and CAF Bank Ltd., as are the Preschool funds and all ancillary monies are held as treasury accounts in HSBC.

All major insurable risks are covered by a combined commercial insurance policy underwritten by Ansvar.

As members of the BUGB we have access to information and data covering government legislation and directives on charity matters (risk, employment, management, information technology and financial issues).

### ACTIVITIES

The Trustees have complied with their duty as laid down in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to Public Benefit Entity guidance as published by the Charity Commission.

According to our constitution the purpose of our Church is the advancement of the Christian faith. We endeavour to do this under the direction of our mission statement:

### CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

We aim, under God's guidance and through the empowering of the Holy Spirit,

- To glorify God in our worship, our service and in Christ-like living,
- To reach Findon Valley and beyond with the love of God in Jesus Christ
- To bring people to commitment in Jesus Christ and to membership in His family
- To bring Christian believers to maturity in Christ and to equip them for their ministry in the church and the world

It has been said that a church exists for the benefit of its non-members. We believe there is much truth in this. Through the outworking of our mission statement and in all we do, we strive to share the good news of the Gospel with our worship, our witness and our work within our locality.

The Church premises, when they are open, are fully utilised during the week as well as on Sundays. The Local Council (for elections), the Findon Valley Residents Association are among a number of outside groups that have used our premises. This also includes our extensive weekly programme. These are shared in more detail through the reports of our organisations in the later pages of this report.

Substantial progress and development have been made to our website. This vital tool for calendars, activities and witness is a key source of reference.

### TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act 2011 require the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the trust will continue in existence;
- Observe the methods and principles of the Charity SORP;
- State whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice) on Accounting by Charities and the accounting regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records. These should disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Church in such a way as to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees G. M. Knowles, Trustee.

Print name: GEORGE MICHAEL KNOWLES

Date: 24/9/2024



# SECRETARY'S REPORT 2023

In this year we remember with thankfulness the life of Eunice Bolton who went to be with her Lord. Derek her husband had passed away a while back and it's wonderful to think they are reunited at last. Many have fond memories of Eunice: Christine Fairs recalled interviewing Eunice for Church membership; Rosamund Tolley remembers her as a gracious lady who knew her Bible well and always had wise words to contribute and was part of the homegroup she was in.

It was again another busy year for the Church. We were especially blessed to see new people coming along and playing an active part in the fellowship. In February, we celebrated Allie's ordination led by Paul Kerley. We gave thanks to Allie for her willingness to serve in answering the call to become our Pastor, for her vision, many gifts and endless energy as she strives to reach the community of the Valley and minister to our fellowship.

We had various Social Activities during the year including Shuffleboard; a Harvest Supper evening being entertained by Harvest Home. The ladies met at Spring Gardens for a Coffee Morning and also ran a very successful Craft Evening led by Sue Menday.

At our November Church Meeting we were very blessed to have Tina Hemsley and Rosamund Tolley elected as Deacons. We pray that the role of being a Deacon will be a blessing to them as they look to server the Church Fellowship in this role. Norman Michell stepped down as a Deacon as his second 3-year term came to an end. We thank Normal for his many years of service, and his continuing service in preaching and prayer ministry.

The year ended with our Christingle Service as well as the Church Nativity. The Christmas meal was well attended, our thanks to all the helpers who made it possible. The highlight of our Christmas activities was our Carol Service. The Church was packed with many coming in from the community. It was great to have some of our Messy Church and Open House families join us.

We give thanks for Allie's leadership, pastoral care and hard work over the year. We also acknowledge Rich in his support of her and the fellowship as well as his role as Church Administrator.

We are praising and thanking God for His faithfulness to the fellowship and are excited to see God's plans for us in 2024 and the good works that he has prepared for us to be partnered with.

Ephesians 2 4-10 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

# DETAILS OF SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

## MINISTER'S REPORT 2023

It has been another year of great change with a new king on the throne, the war in Ukraine continuing and at the end of the year the war in Gaza. The world continues to groan. The need for a saviour only deepens and the call on Christ's church to know Jesus and make Him known is more relevant than ever before, despite what the enemy would want us to believe.

Ephesians 3:18-19 reads "And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

This is why these verses felt so appropriate as our motto text for 2023, and they were at the heart of everything we did this year. Through our worship, our teaching series, our missional focus, and our outreach activities. Equipping everyone to grasp the depths of God's great love for them and His church.

As a church family we continue to be thankful for God's goodness to us and grow together in community as we missionally go about God's calling for us to make Jesus known here in Findon Valley.

We have been lucky enough to expand our Diaconate team and welcomed two new deacons. This has brought a great deal of strength and energy to the team and has allowed us to restructure and allocate specific roles and areas of responsibility to each deacon. Norman has come to the end of his term, and we are sad to see him step down, but are very grateful for his 6 years of faithful service.

We have had a number of new members, and the congregation is growing and continues to develop, along with our Sunday services.

We joined the Warm spaces initiative and start a game time once a week. Continued to partner with FVRA, held a street party for the King's coronation, supported them with their AGM, and the Art club.


Relations with the Doctors surgery had developed further, they now hold their staff meetings and training days here at the church and hold meetings for carers and young carers giving them the support they need.

Coffee shop continues to develop and were seeing new faces coming in each month.

Open House remains a staple of mid-week church life and the team there are doing wonderful things with the parents, carers and children that attend. And Messy church continues to thrive every month, a highlight for both groups was seeing a willingness within the families to explore church and some of our services more, we pray this continues.

## DETAILS OF SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

### MINISTER'S REPORT 2023 (CONTINUED)



This summer we launched our first FVFC Kids Messy Summer. A huge undertaking for our church volunteers, four days of messy church style fun for all the local families. It was a huge success and we had between 40 and 60 children every day plus parents. Together we went on an adventure to Troll Wood and found the bridge of discovery. A drama that was played out each day that allowed us to discover that Gods love for us is long and high and wide and deep. We had great fun each day, with storytelling singing, crafts, various activities and food.

In the autumn term we hosted a discipleship course, and we had 6 people attend, we had a great time together over the 7 sessions.

And we finished the year with our Christmas celebrations. A Nativity service, Christingle, another amazing Carol service with 200 in attendance and a lovely Family service on Christmas day.

There was so much to be grateful for, Gods church here at Findon Valley is not just surviving, it is alive and it is well.

Allie

FVFC



# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the trustees/members of on pages 10 to 18.  
Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist) on the accounts  
for the year ended 31st December 2023 set out

## RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011) 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 Commission (under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the organisation 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 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

1. In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention; which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, the trustees have not met the requirements to ensure that:

- proper accounting records are kept (in accordance with section 130 of the Act); and
- accounts are prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Zita Derbak MAAT AATQB  
Independent Examiners Ltd  
Unit 2,  
The Broadbridge Business Centre  
Delling Lane  
Bosham  
PO18 8NF

Sign: *Zita Derbak*

Date: 25 .09 .2024

# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

|  | Notes | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Designated<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Endowment<br>Funds<br>£ | TOTAL<br>2023<br>£ | TOTAL<br>2022<br>£ |
|--|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>  |       |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Income and Endowments from:  |       |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Donations and Legacies   | 2a    | 76,328                     | 20,181                   | 7,293                    | 0                       | 103,802            | 68,838             |
| Preschool & Organisations  | 2b    | 0                          | 8,023                    | 65,498                   | 0                       | 73,521             | 65,029             |
| Investments  | 2c    | 33,835                     | 0                        | 0                        | 0                       | 33,835             | 25,602             |
| Charitable Activities  | 2d    | 0                          | 624                      | 951                      | 0                       | 1,575              | 1,875              |
| Other Income   | 2e    | 159                        | 0                        | 0                        | 0                       | 159                | 176                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |       | <b>110,322</b>             | <b>28,828</b>            | <b>73,742</b>            | <b>0</b>                | <b>212,892</b>     | <b>161,519</b>     |
| <b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>  |       |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Expenditure on:  |       |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Preschool  | 3a    | 0                          | 0                        | 64,191                   | 0                       | 64,191             | 54,621             |
| Organisations  | 3b    | 0                          | 7,098                    | 40                       | 0                       | 7,138              | 608                |
| Charitable Activities  | 3c    | 104,804                    | 20,307                   | 11,765                   | 0                       | 136,876            | 127,234            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |       | <b>104,804</b>             | <b>27,405</b>            | <b>75,996</b>            | <b>0</b>                | <b>208,205</b>     | <b>182,463</b>     |
| <b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE<br/>INVESTMENT GAINS/(LOSSES)</b> |       | <b>5,518</b>               | <b>1,423</b>             | <b>-2,254</b>            | <b>0</b>                | <b>4,687</b>       | <b>-20,944</b>     |
| Net gains/(losses) on investments                                    |       | 0                          | 0                        | 0                        | 0                       | 0                  | 8,523              |
| Release of Liability on Defined<br>Benefit Pension Scheme            |       | 0                          | 0                        | 0                        | 0                       | 0                  | 17,301             |
| <b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>                                      |       | <b>5,518</b>               | <b>1,423</b>             | <b>-2,254</b>            | <b>0</b>                | <b>4,687</b>       | <b>4,880</b>       |
| Transfers of Funds In  |       | 0                          | 14,143                   | 5,300                    | 0                       | 19,443             | 1,045              |
| Transfers of Funds Out   |       | -16,628                    | 0                        | -2,815                   | 0                       | -19,443            | -1,045             |
| <b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>   |       | <b>-11,110</b>             | <b>15,566</b>            | <b>231</b>               | <b>0</b>                | <b>4,687</b>       | <b>4,880</b>       |
| <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:</b>                                      |       |                            |                          |                          |                         |                    |                    |
| Total Funds Brought Forward  |       | 106,046                    | 125,099                  | 24,884                   | 3,193,840               | 3,449,869          | 3,444,989          |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>                                   |       | <b>94,936</b>              | <b>140,665</b>           | <b>25,115</b>            | <b>3,193,840</b>        | <b>3,454,556</b>   | <b>3,449,869</b>   |

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

|  | Note   | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Designated<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Endowment<br>Funds<br>£ | 31-Dec-23<br>Total<br>£ | 31-Dec-22<br>Total<br>£ |
|--|--------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                          |        |                            |                          |                          |                         |                         |                         |
| Land and Building                            | 10, 11 | 0                          | 0                        | 0                        | 3,193,840               | 3,193,840               | 3,193,840               |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                        |        |                            |                          |                          |                         |                         |                         |
| Debtors                                      | 12     | 0                          | 2,500                    | 0                        | 0                       | 2,500                   | 5,000                   |
| Current Account                              |        | 15,997                     | 17,929                   | 4,435                    | 0                       | 38,361                  | 28,321                  |
| Organisations' Bank                          |        | 0                          | 0                        | 22,982                   | 0                       | 22,982                  | 24,430                  |
| Deposit Account (CAF)                        |        | 59,990                     | 0                        | 0                        | 0                       | 59,990                  | 58,765                  |
| Deposit Fund (COIF)                          |        | 24,279                     | 119,721                  | 0                        | 0                       | 144,000                 | 144,000                 |
| Cash   |        | 80                         | 515                      | 0                        | 0                       | 595                     | 456                     |
| Organisations' Cash                          |        | 0                          | 0                        | 198                      | 0                       | 198                     | 156                     |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>                  |        | <b>100,346</b>             | <b>140,665</b>           | <b>27,615</b>            | <b>0</b>                | <b>268,626</b>          | <b>261,129</b>          |
| <b>Creditors:</b>                            |        |                            |                          |                          |                         |                         |                         |
| amounts falling due within one year          | 13     | -1,516                     | 0                        | -2,500                   | 0                       | -4,016                  | -5,100                  |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>                    |        | <b>98,830</b>              | <b>140,665</b>           | <b>25,115</b>            | <b>0</b>                | <b>264,610</b>          | <b>256,029</b>          |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS less current liabilities</b> |        | <b>98,830</b>              | <b>140,665</b>           | <b>25,115</b>            | <b>3,193,840</b>        | <b>3,458,450</b>        | <b>3,449,869</b>        |
| <b>Creditors:</b>                            |        |                            |                          |                          |                         |                         |                         |
| amounts falling due in more than one year    | 14     | -3,894                     | 0                        | 0                        | 0                       | -3,894                  | 0                       |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                            |        | <b>94,936</b>              | <b>140,665</b>           | <b>25,115</b>            | <b>3,193,840</b>        | <b>3,454,556</b>        | <b>3,449,869</b>        |
| <b>Funds of the Charity</b>                  |        |                            |                          |                          |                         |                         |                         |
| Unrestricted Funds.                          |        | 94,936                     | 0                        | 0                        | 0                       | 94,936                  | 106,044                 |
| Designated Funds                             |        | 0                          | 140,665                  | 0                        | 0                       | 140,665                 | 125,099                 |
| Restricted Funds                             |        | 0                          | 0                        | 25,115                   | 0                       | 25,115                  | 24,886                  |
| Endowment                                    |        | 0                          | 0                        | 0                        | 3,193,840               | 3,193,840               | 3,193,840               |
| <b>Total Funds</b>                           |        | <b>94,936</b>              | <b>140,665</b>           | <b>25,115</b>            | <b>3,193,840</b>        | <b>3,454,556</b>        | <b>3,449,869</b>        |

The financial statements on pages 7 and 8 were approved by the trustee, and authorised for issue on:

Date: 24/9/2024

Signed on behalf of all the Trustees: Geoffrey Michael Knowles

Print name: GEOFREY MICHAEL KNOWLES

# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### a. Basis of Preparation.

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

##### b. Depreciation of Freehold Properties.

The Trustees (Deacons) during 2004 had carried out a Professional review of the Freehold Property Values (see note 10) that included an annual percentage adjustment for the ensuing 5 years. No depreciation is charged, as this is considered immaterial in view of the estimated life and residual value of the asset. The current shown values equate to the insured value as at 15 January 2023.

##### c. Debtors, Creditors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received. The charity has Creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

##### d. Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment.

All additions to the fixtures, fittings and equipment are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year of purchase. The only exception to this is that the photocopier (see note 13) is held on a lease agreement in order to give a continuous maintained service.

##### e. Tax Refunds on Gift Aid.

Gift Aid refunds of tax were claimed in January, April, July and October Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) refunds were claimed in January, April, July and October.

##### f. Funds.

'Unrestricted Funds' represent monies available for the general purposes of the Church. 'Designated Funds' are set aside for purposes determined by the Trustees. 'Restricted Funds' are set aside for the purpose specified by the giver.

##### g. Incoming Resources.

Incoming resources are recognised in the accounts on an accrual's basis.

###### Recognition of Income

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the income;
- it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

###### Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.

###### Grants and Donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS 102 SORP).

###### Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.

###### Legacies

Legacies are included in the SoFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

###### Government Grants

The charity has not received any government grants in the reporting period.

###### Volunteer Help

The value of voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' annual report.

###### Income from interest, royalties and dividends

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

##### h. Resources Expended.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under appropriate natural category headings. Liability Recognition Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty. Governance and Support Costs Support costs represent the cost of central functions, for example governance costs, payroll administration, information technology. Governance costs are those support costs which relate to public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Redundancy cost The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period. Deferred income No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts. Creditors The charity measures creditors at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

##### i. Pensions.

Ministers whether ordained or in training are enrolled in the Ministerial Pension Scheme of the Baptist Union. The church pays contributions to the Baptist Pension Scheme. The scheme is a multi-employer scheme and it is not possible to identify the assets and liabilities of the scheme which are attributable to the church. The church was paying contributions towards the deficit in the scheme but since August this has been cleared (see Note 15). For other employees a NEST Pension is available.

##### j. Donations.

It is our policy to give donations to help the ministerial colleges of the Baptist denomination, the outreach organisations of our denomination for both home and overseas and to assist Christian organisations with their work in humanitarian and relief work.

# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 2. ANALYSIS OF INCOME

|                                | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Designated<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | TOTAL<br>2023<br>£ | TOTAL<br>2022<br>£ |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| a) Donations and Legacies      |                            |                          |                          |                    |                    |
| Donations and Gifts            | 1,006                      | 221                      | 7,293                    | 8,520              | 8,184              |
| Gift Aid Donations             | 41,362                     | 0                        | 0                        | 41,362             | 38,350             |
| Legacies                       | 2,000                      | 840                      | 0                        | 2,840              | 0                  |
| Gift Day                       | 0                          | 17,892                   | 0                        | 17,892             | 0                  |
| Cash Collections               | 13,250                     | 0                        | 0                        | 13,250             | 6,442              |
| Envelope                       | 6,565                      | 0                        | 0                        | 6,565              | 4,794              |
| Gift Aid Tax Refund            | 12,145                     | 1,228                    | 0                        | 13,373             | 11,067             |
|                                | <u>76,328</u>              | <u>20,181</u>            | <u>7,293</u>             | <u>103,802</u>     | <u>68,837</u>      |
| b) Preschool and Organisations |                            |                          |                          |                    |                    |
| Bookstall                      | 0                          | 214                      | 0                        | 214                | 242                |
| Step Inside Coffee Shop        | 0                          | 7,809                    | 0                        | 7,809              | 2,285              |
| Pre- School :                  |                            |                          |                          |                    |                    |
| Fees                           | 0                          | 0                        | 8,329                    | 8,329              | 12,435             |
| Vouchers (WSCC)                | 0                          | 0                        | 56,252                   | 56,252             | 50,005             |
| Bank Interest                  | 0                          | 0                        | 199                      | 199                | 61                 |
| Other                          | 0                          | 0                        | 718                      | 718                | 0                  |
|                                | <u>0</u>                   | <u>8,023</u>             | <u>65,498</u>            | <u>73,521</u>      | <u>65,028</u>      |
| c) Investments                 |                            |                          |                          |                    |                    |
| Premises Letting               | 26,352                     | 0                        | 0                        | 26,352             | 24,062             |
| Bank Interest Received         | 7,483                      | 0                        | 0                        | 7,483              | 1,539              |
|                                | <u>33,835</u>              | <u>0</u>                 | <u>0</u>                 | <u>33,835</u>      | <u>25,601</u>      |
| d) Charitable Activities       |                            |                          |                          |                    |                    |
| Ladies Breakfast               | 0                          | 266                      | 0                        | 266                | 151                |
| Open House                     | 0                          | 0                        | 951                      | 951                | 690                |
| Messy Church                   | 0                          | 128                      | 0                        | 128                | 778                |
| Men's Breakfast                | 0                          | 230                      | 0                        | 230                | 256                |
|                                | <u>0</u>                   | <u>624</u>               | <u>951</u>               | <u>1,575</u>       | <u>1,875</u>       |
| e) Other Income                |                            |                          |                          |                    |                    |
| Catering                       | 159                        | 0                        | 0                        | 159                | 176                |
|                                | <u>159</u>                 | <u>0</u>                 | <u>0</u>                 | <u>159</u>         | <u>176</u>         |

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# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 3. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

| Notes                           | Unrestricted Funds<br>£ | Designated Funds<br>£ | Restricted Funds<br>£ | TOTAL<br>2023<br>£ | TOTAL<br>2022<br>£ |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| a) Preschool                    |                         |                       |                       |                    |                    |
| Salaries                        | 0                       | 0                     | 52,642                | 52,642             | 50,522             |
| Legal                           | 0                       | 0                     | 5,612                 | 5,612              | 0                  |
| Equipment                       | 0                       | 0                     | 0                     | 0                  | 335                |
| Supplies                        | 0                       | 0                     | 0                     | 0                  | 580                |
| Use of Premises                 | 0                       | 0                     | 2,000                 | 2,000              | 1,300              |
| Other                           | 0                       | 0                     | 3,937                 | 3,937              | 1,884              |
|                                 | 0                       | 0                     | 64,191                | 64,191             | 54,621             |
| b) Raising Funds- Organisations |                         |                       |                       |                    |                    |
| Bookstall                       | 0                       | 791                   | 0                     | 791                | 200                |
| Luncheon Club                   | 0                       | 0                     | 40                    | 40                 | 60                 |
| Step Inside Coffee Shop         | 0                       | 6,307                 | 0                     | 6,307              | 348                |
|                                 | 0                       | 7,098                 | 40                    | 7,138              | 608                |
| c) Charitable Activities        |                         |                       |                       |                    |                    |
| Gifts to Mission                | 4                       | 0                     | 10,639                | 10,639             | 7,104              |
| Direct Church Costs             | 5                       | 102,013               | 19,436                | 121,449            | 116,472            |
| Church Support Organisations    | 6                       | 0                     | 451                   | 1,126              | 1,114              |
| Independent Examiners Fees      |                         | 900                   | 0                     | 900                | 870                |
| Professional Fees               |                         | 1,811                 | 420                   | 2,231              | 1,594              |
| Bank Charges                    |                         | 80                    | 0                     | 80                 | 81                 |
|                                 | 104,804                 | 20,307                | 11,765                | 136,876            | 127,235            |

### 4.a) GIFTS TO MISSIONS

|                                | Overseas<br>£ | General<br>£ | UK<br>£ | 2023<br>Total<br>£ | 2022<br>Total<br>£ |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
| From Mission Funds             |               |              |         |                    |                    |
| BMS World Mission              | 2,678         | 0            | 0       | 2,678              | 2,614              |
| Operation Agri                 | 1,952         | 0            | 0       | 1,952              | 751                |
| Baptist Home Mission           | 0             | 0            | 1,322   | 1,322              | 1,126              |
| MAF                            | 2,023         | 0            | 0       | 2,023              | 1,216              |
| Release International          | 2,108         | 0            | 0       | 2,108              | 687                |
| Turning Tides (Missions Other) | 0             | 0            | 556     | 556                | 0                  |
| Total via Restricted Funds     | 8,761         | 0            | 1,878   | 10,637             | 6,394              |

### 4.b) Gifts from Missions

|                             | Overseas<br>£ | General<br>£ | UK<br>£ | 2023<br>Total<br>£ | 2022<br>Total<br>£ |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
| From General Fund           |               |              |         |                    |                    |
| Spurgeon's Childcare        | 0             | 0            | 0       | 0                  | 230                |
| Spurgeon's College          | 0             | 0            | 0       | 0                  | 250                |
| Retd.Bapt.Ministers Housing | 0             | 0            | 0       | 0                  | 230                |
| Total via General Funds     | 0             | 0            | 0       | 0                  | 710                |
| Total Giving to Missions    | 8,761         | 0            | 1,878   | 10,637             | 7,104              |

2023: This total represents 10.78% of total incoming resources budgeted (less Preschool & Gift Day)

2022: This total represents 8.6% of total incoming resources budgeted (less Preschool & Gift Day)

# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 5. DIRECT CHURCH COSTS

|                               | Unrestricted<br>Fund<br>£ | Designated<br>Fund<br>£ | Restricted<br>Fund<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Salaries                      | 45,029                    | 0                       | 0                       | 45,029             | 43,982             |
| Pension Deficit               | 0                         | 0                       | 0                       | 0                  | 324                |
| Manse Utilities               | 4,407                     | 0                       | 0                       | 4,407              | 4,600              |
| Manse Repair & Maintenance    | 967                       | 0                       | 0                       | 967                | 4,839              |
| Church Utilities              | 17,450                    | 0                       | 0                       | 17,450             | 11,281             |
| Church Repair & Maintenance   | 3,306                     | 284                     | 0                       | 3,590              | 12,625             |
| Cleaning                      | 633                       | 0                       | 0                       | 633                | 930                |
| Printing, Postage, Stationery | 2,459                     | 932                     | 0                       | 3,391              | 2,329              |
| Subscriptions                 | 3,677                     | 0                       | 0                       | 3,677              | 1,401              |
| Conf & Training Costs         | 772                       | 0                       | 0                       | 772                | 1,045              |
| Equipment                     | 5,986                     | 17,388                  | 0                       | 23,374             | 12,061             |
| Advertising & Publications    | 191                       | 291                     | 0                       | 482                | 797                |
| Telephone, Computer, Internet | 2,215                     | 52                      | 0                       | 2,267              | 2,925              |
| Admin Expenses                | 13,777                    | 0                       | 0                       | 13,777             | 15,226             |
| Catering, Gardening, Flowers  | 1,106                     | 398                     | 0                       | 1,504              | 2,105              |
| Miscellaneous Expenditure     | 38                        | 91                      | 0                       | 129                | 0                  |
|                               | <u>102,013</u>            | <u>19,436</u>           | <u>0</u>                | <u>121,449</u>     | <u>116,470</u>     |

### 6. CHURCH SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

|                  | Unrestricted<br>Fund<br>£ | Designated<br>Fund<br>£ | Restricted<br>Fund<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Open House       | 0                         | 0                       | 1,126                   | 1,126              | 728                |
| Messy Church     | 0                         | 73                      | 0                       | 73                 | 0                  |
| Ladies Breakfast | 0                         | 122                     | 0                       | 122                | 130                |
| Men's Breakfast  | 0                         | 256                     | 0                       | 256                | 256                |
|                  | <u>0</u>                  | <u>451</u>              | <u>1,126</u>            | <u>1,577</u>       | <u>1,114</u>       |

### 7. EMPLOYEES REMUNERATION

|  | 2023<br>£     | 2022<br>£     |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Gross Remuneration Paid To All Employees * | 91,926        | 82,955        |
| Total NIC Employer Payments                | 5,170         | 4,667         |
| NI Allowance                               | -5,000        | -4,667        |
| Employer Pension Contributions             | 4,959         | 6,601         |
| Pension Deficiency Payments to BU          | 8             | 2,192         |
|  | <u>97,055</u> | <u>91,748</u> |

\*This includes £5069 SMP to a member of the Preschool.

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 for the period.

Average number of paid staff were:

|                             | 2023<br>TOTAL | 2022<br>TOTAL |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Minister                    | 1             | 1             |
| Preschool staff (part time) | 7             | 5             |
| Administrator (part time)   | 1             | 1             |
|                             | <u>9</u>      | <u>7</u>      |

Key Management Personnel: The Trustees and Minister are considered to be key management personnel. No trustees received remuneration. The amounts paid to key management personnel (including any accommodation allowance and employer pension contributions) were £43,094. Note: the Church policy is to provide the Minister with either an accommodation allowance or option to reside in a church property.

### 8) DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION SCHEME OR DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

The Church is a participating employer in the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is a separate legal entity administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011. Prior to this date the main benefit provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was a pension of one eightieth of final minimum pensionable income for each year of pensionable service together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. Since 1 January 2012, benefits have been provided through a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan.

A formal valuation of the DB Plan as at 31 December 2019 was carried out by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. At the valuation date the market value of the DB Plan assets was £298 million, whilst the level of assets needed to pay benefits was £316m, giving a deficit of £18m (equivalent to a past service level funding of 94%). The Church and the other participating employers in the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit. The next actuarial valuation of the DB Plan within the Scheme is due to take place not later than as at 31 December 2022.

Under the Scheme of Contributions, the church made a monthly payment (until July) in respect of the DB Scheme deficit, of £312.48, when the Pension and BUGB Trustees sent out a joint communication regarding agreement with the insurance company Just Group ("Just") to secure DB Plan members' pension benefits. Just are now providing financial backing for all pensions through the Scheme's DB Plan and following this transaction, the Scheme no longer has a shortfall. An updated Recovery plan was then signed in August 2022 under which recovery contributions from each participating employer in the DB Plan reduced to £1 per month from August. The Church has been advised that the estimated cost for the church to buy out their Pension Scheme liabilities at 20th June 2022 was £15,500.

# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 9. TRUSTEES (DEACONS) REMUNERATION & EXPENSES AND OTHER RELATED PARTIES

A Moore trustee and her spouse R Moore received remunerations for their Minister and Church Administrator role, see below. No transactions took place between other trustees and related parties in the financial year. (2022: Nil)

|  | 2023          | 2022          |
|--|---------------|---------------|
|  | £             | £             |
| Gross Salary of Minister A Moore             | 26,500        | 26,000        |
| Gross Salary of Church Administrator R Moore | 7,200         | 6,480         |
| Accommodation Allowance                      | 12,186        | 12,708        |
| Employer's NI Contribution for Minister      | 2,402         | 2,465         |
| NI Allowance                                 | -2,402        | -2,465        |
| Reimbursed Expenses                          | 0             | 0             |
| Employer's Pension Contribution for Minister | 4,408         | 2,192         |
|  | <u>50,294</u> | <u>47,380</u> |

### 10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

|                          |           | Freehold land & Buildings | Plant & Machinery | Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment | Total            |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
|                          |           | £                         | £                 | £                              | £                |
| Cost                     | 01-Jan-23 | 3,193,840                 | 0                 | 0                              | 3,193,840        |
| Additions                |           | 0                         | 0                 | 0                              | 0                |
| Revaluation              |           | 0                         | 0                 | 0                              | 0                |
| Cost at                  | 31-Dec-23 | <u>3,193,840</u>          | <u>0</u>          | <u>0</u>                       | <u>3,193,840</u> |
| Accumulated Depreciation | 01-Jan-23 | 0                         | 0                 | 0                              | 0                |
| Charge in the Year       |           | 0                         | 0                 | 0                              | 0                |
| Total Depreciation       | 31-Dec-23 | <u>0</u>                  | <u>0</u>          | <u>0</u>                       | <u>0</u>         |
| Net Book Value           | 31-Dec-23 | <u>3,193,840</u>          | <u>0</u>          | <u>0</u>                       | <u>3,193,840</u> |
| Net Book Value           | 31-Dec-22 | <u>3,193,840</u>          | <u>0</u>          | <u>0</u>                       | <u>3,193,840</u> |

Freehold Land and Buildings is shown in the accounts at £3,193,840 being the value for insurance purposes, considered the most appropriate basis. This is in line with the valuation carried out by Brandon Simms, Chartered Surveyors, on 26 January 2004 a copy of which was lodged with our insurers. Revaluation each year is by adding a small percentage as a method recommended by our insurers.

Land and Buildings are shown separately. Land is not depreciated. No depreciation is provided on buildings, as the current estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. An impairment review is carried out each year end and any loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

### 11. ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund consists of all the Freehold Land and Buildings, including the manse, held in trust for the Church by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, at the value shown as Fixed Assets.

### 12. DEBTORS

|                           | Unrestricted Fund | Designated Funds | Restricted Funds | Total 31-Dec-23 | Total 31-Dec-22 |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                           | £                 | £                | £                | £               | £               |
| Preschool (Internal Fund) | 0                 | 2,500            | 0                | 2,500           | 5,000           |
|                           | <u>0</u>          | <u>2,500</u>     | <u>0</u>         | <u>2,500</u>    | <u>5,000</u>    |

### 13. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|                             | Unrestricted Fund | Designated Funds | Restricted Funds | Total 31-Dec-23 | Total 31-Dec-22 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                             | £                 | £                | £                | £               | £               |
| Preschool (Internal Fund)   | 0                 | 0                | 2,500            | 2,500           | 5,000           |
| FVRA Arts & Crafts          | 25                | 0                | 0                | 25              | 25              |
| Rowland Singers             | 75                | 0                | 0                | 75              | 75              |
| Photocopier Lease Agreement | 1,416             | 0                | 0                | 1,416           | 0               |
|                             | <u>1,516</u>      | <u>0</u>         | <u>2,500</u>     | <u>4,016</u>    | <u>5,100</u>    |

### 14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR

|                             | Unrestricted Fund | Designated Funds | Restricted Funds | Total 31-Dec-23 | Total 31-Dec-22 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                             | £                 | £                | £                | £               | £               |
| Photocopier Lease agreement | 3,894             | 0                | 0                | 3,894           | 0               |
|                             | <u>3,894</u>      | <u>0</u>         | <u>0</u>         | <u>3,894</u>    | <u>0</u>        |

# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 15. RESTRICTED FUNDS

#### Current Year

|                                  | Balance at<br>31.12.22<br>£ | Transfers<br>£ | Receipts<br>£ | Payments<br>£  | Balance at<br>31.12.23<br>£ |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Open House Tuesday Luncheon Club | 383                         | 0              | 951           | -1,126         | 208                         |
| * Bookstall                      | 4,106                       | 0              | 0             | -40            | 4,066                       |
| *Step Inside Coffee Shop         | 796                         | -796           | 0             | 0              | 0                           |
| Kitchen Equipment Reserve        | 2,019                       | -2,019         | 0             | 0              | 0                           |
| Organ Refurbishment              | 233                         | 0              | 0             | 0              | 233                         |
| Preschool Loan                   | 600                         | 0              | 0             | 0              | 600                         |
| Preschool                        | -5,000                      | 2,500          | 0             | 0              | -2,500                      |
| Organisation                     | 20,097                      | 0              | 65,498        | -64,191        | 21,404                      |
| Missions                         | 1,650                       | 0              | 0             | 0              | 1,650                       |
|                                  | 0                           | 2,800          | 7,293         | -10,639        | -546                        |
|                                  | <u>24,884</u>               | <u>2,485</u>   | <u>73,742</u> | <u>-75,996</u> | <u>25,115</u>               |

#### Previous Year

|                           | Balance at<br>31.12.21<br>£ | Transfers<br>£ | Receipts<br>£ | Payments<br>£  | Balance at<br>31.12.22<br>£ |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Open House                | 507                         | 0              | 605           | -728           | 383                         |
| Tuesday Luncheon Club     | 4,166                       | 0              | 0             | -60            | 4,106                       |
| Bookstall                 | 708                         | 45             | 242           | -200           | 796                         |
| Step Inside Coffee Shop   | 82                          | 0              | 2,285         | -349           | 2,019                       |
| Preschool Loan            | -5,000                      | 0              | 0             | 0              | -5,000                      |
| Kitchen Equipment Reserve | 275                         | 0              | 0             | -41            | 233                         |
| Organ Refurbishment       | 600                         | 0              | 0             | 0              | 600                         |
| Preschool                 | 12,217                      | 0              | 62,501        | -54,621        | 20,097                      |
| Organisations             | 1,650                       | 0              | 0             | 0              | 1,650                       |
| Missions                  | 0                           | 750            | 5,644         | -6,394         | 0                           |
|                           | <u>15,205</u>               | <u>795</u>     | <u>71,277</u> | <u>-62,393</u> | <u>24,884</u>               |

### 16. DESIGNATED FUNDS

#### Current Year

|                              | Balance at<br>31.12.22<br>£ | Transfers<br>£ | Receipts<br>£ | Payments<br>£  | Balance at<br>31.12.23<br>£ |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Men's Breakfast              | 441                         | 0              | 230           | -256           | 415                         |
| Ladies Breakfast             | 145                         | 0              | 266           | -122           | 289                         |
| * Bookstall                  | 0                           | 796            | 214           | -791           | 219                         |
| *Step Inside Coffee Shop     | 0                           | 2,019          | 7,809         | -6,307         | 3,521                       |
| General Reserve(Contingency) | 60,172                      | 9,828          | 0             | 0              | 70,000                      |
| Building Fund                | 7,486                       | 1,500          | 0             | -284           | 8,702                       |
| Messy Church                 | 486                         | 0              | 1,058         | -720           | 824                         |
| Sunday School                | 225                         | 0              | 0             | -87            | 138                         |
| Outreach                     | 56,144                      | 0              | 285           | -1,256         | 55,173                      |
| Gift Day                     | 0                           | 0              | 18,966        | -17,582        | 1,384                       |
|                              | <u>125,099</u>              | <u>14,143</u>  | <u>28,828</u> | <u>-27,405</u> | <u>140,665</u>              |

#### Previous Year

|                  | Balance at<br>31.12.21<br>£ | Transfers<br>£ | Receipts<br>£ | Payments<br>£  | Balance at<br>31.12.22<br>£ |
|------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Men's Breakfast  | 441                         | 0              | 256           | -256           | 441                         |
| Ladies Breakfast | 152                         | 0              | 151           | -158           | 145                         |
| General Reserve  | 60,172                      | 0              | 0             | 0              | 60,172                      |
| Building Fund    | 16,747                      | 0              | 1,722         | -10,983        | 7,486                       |
| Outreach         | 64,818                      | 0              | 250           | -8,923         | 56,144                      |
| Fabric & Renewal | 837                         | 0              | 0             | -837           | 0                           |
| Messy Church     | 0                           | 250            | 1,028         | -791           | 486                         |
| Sunday School    | 0                           | 0              | 407           | -182           | 225                         |
|                  | <u>143,166</u>              | <u>250</u>     | <u>3,813</u>  | <u>-22,130</u> | <u>125,099</u>              |

\*In 2023, because of the way excess of income over expenditure was being used, the need to hold Bookstall and Step Inside Coffee Shop in Restricted Funds was queried by us and following advice from Trust Advice, it was deemed they no longer required to be classified under Restricted and was moved to Designated at the start of the financial year 2023.

# Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 17. RISK ASSESSMENT

The trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

### 18. RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of financial commitments held. The trustees aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily.

### 19. PUBLIC BENEFIT

The charity acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the charity has achieved this are provided in the Trustees report. The trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities the charity should undertake.







## Open House (Parent and Toddler Group Ministry) Annual Report 2023

We have had another exciting year with many new families joining us each week. We meet every Tuesday morning during term time. The parents and children have been very appreciative of all that we do and have really engaged with the services during the year. As usual, we have held two services in church each term with Pre-school joining us for them. In our February half term service I told them about the Lost Sheep with the children helping by acting out the story. On Shrove Tuesday we had Pancakes and briefly explained the reason behind them. At Easter the children learnt the memory verse from John 3:16 and went home with a book of the Easter Story and Easter Eggs. In the May Half term service we did the story of the Wise and Foolish Builders, and at our 31st Birthday Service in the summer I told them the story of The Good Samaritan with the theme of being kind to one



another. The autumn term began with a successful Blythswood Shoe box launch, and at the half term service when they returned the Shoeboxes, I told the story of the Ten Lepers with the theme of saying 'thank you' to God. We also welcomed 'Rent your Event Sussex' at the end of October owned by one of our mums when the children enjoyed Soft Play. The autumn term got busier and busier with an average of 32 children plus parents



per week. We were encouraged once again that 25 plus children from Open House and Sunday School were involved in the church Nativity at the beginning of December. It was wonderful to see the church filled with young families. We finished the year with the Christmas Service and Party. Craft and singing are a big part of our morning, and the children also love to use the outside play area throughout the year, weather permitting.

Some other exciting highlights include when Pre-school brought in Duck Eggs which the children saw hatch over a couple of weeks and become little Ducklings which they could hold! We also enjoyed celebrating the Coronation of King Charles with Balloons, Bunting, Crowns and Coronation Cakes!

My grateful thanks go to my dedicated Team; Linda Connelly, Sue Munday and Christine Worsfold...and also to David Fairs who has come alongside to help with Refreshments each week.

Please continue to pray for these families as we seek to minister to them and share God's love with them each week.

Christine Fairs

## **Preschool Report 2023**

Findon Valley Preschool Report for end of year 2023.

Katie Slater has taken over the permanent role as deputy working full time. Carrie Haylor joined the team and soon left to go on maternity leave. Carrie has since returned part time. We feel that our team is secure and strong with highly qualified and knowledgeable staff.

The pre-school has had a lot of ups and downs in the past year and with a number of pre-schools closing in the local area it was a tough time for us all. However, our numbers are good and we currently have 16 children registered with 3 more due to start in the coming months. The funding is also increasing in April which will give working parents more opportunity to access childcare which should keep us in a good financial position.

Iain Taylor (Moderator) and Allie Moore (Minister) have joined the committee alongside Becky and Katie.

Becky Harding

### **Messy Church 2023**

Messy Church has continued to go from strength to strength again this year.

We have been blessed with another grant from Green Hills, the continued support of Coffee shop and the church members.



The sessions have become well established and we have a great core team of helpers that are invaluable. The numbers continue to climb and each month we have new families attending. Each session has on average 60 children plus adults but can at times reach 80.

At the start of the year, we were using the large lounge to tell the story in but because of the rise in numbers, we are now using the whole of the sanctuary for food, games and storytelling and all the back room for craft. This allows us much more space to move around.

It has been exciting to see those attending regularly building relationships with the helpers and even feeling confident enough to ask faith-based questions of their own. We have even had the privilege to pray with some of the parents and we are praying this continues to develop.

In the summer we were able to run our first FVFC Kids, Messy Summer. 4 days of messy church, 9.30 -12 each day. We were blown away by the response, each day we had over 50 children. One family said it was the highlight of their summer, they couldn't believe the church would do something so nice for the community for free! Another said next year they would be arranging any family holidays around the event because the children enjoyed it so much.

The families have also been much more willing to attend social and church service events, many of the mums came to our Christmas crafts evening and most came to the Christmas Carol service.

We continue to sow seeds of faith into their lives praying that in time we will see many of these families coming to faith, in the meantime we watch and wait.

Allie Moore

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FVFC

## **FVFC Kids 2023 - Messy Summer - Troll Wood**

This summer we launched our first summer kids club. This was run over 4 days in the August school holidays, 9-12pm.

We had between 45-60 children plus parents attend each day which was amazing for our first event. The weeks theme was called Troll wood, and we had many adventures, hunting for troll and treasure.

Each session consisted of – Team games, drama, snacks, craft, sports games, slippy slide, bouncy castle, and graffiti art. And one afternoon we also had a cardboard city activity.

The event was a huge success not least because of the dedication of the volunteers that helped each day.

A few quotes from some of the families –

Boy aged 9 - The church must be really rich to do all this.

Helper - No not at all. Do you see all the people in purple tops? They have all donated money and others from the church so they can give this as a gift to you and your family.

The boy - Wow that's so kind. Why would they do that?

Helper - Because God asked them to and they want you to know how much God loves you.

Mum of three - Thank you so much for this week it has been the best week of our holidays, we have loved coming every day. We only booked for one day but after that we just had to come back each day because the children had so much fun.

Mum of Two – Thank you to all your wonderful staff and helpers at FVFC.

I just wanted to say the biggest thankyou to each and every one of you for all your hard work and commitment to putting together such a wonderful week for our children to enjoy. Allie, Tish and all the team have clearly spent so much time preparing and it really was amazing. Both of my children came home every day so excited about what they had done and what was going to be happening the next day. It really has been the best start to the summer holidays. With cost of living, days out and holidays etc being so expensive, which makes the summer holiday entertainment even more tricky than usual, being able to come to this has given us endless fun and activities for the children so we really are so very grateful! The team is excited to develop this outreach project and to see it return bigger and better next year, with God's blessing.



Allie Moore

### **Annual report for Live Wires (Sunday School) 2023**

In 2023 we continued to see fluctuating numbers in Live Wires. However, towards the end of the year we had a new family with 3 children, and some others became more regular. Tish Holder and Sue Munday teach, and they are helped by Rosamund Tolley and Mandy Austin and by two Mums, Angie and Abby when extra help is needed. I am very grateful for the willing help each week.



We try to vary the teaching style and activities to keep the children's interest. During the year we have had some thoughtful conversations. For the King's Coronation, each child made a card, and the children were excited to get a reply. At Easter we enjoyed an Easter egg hunt and at Christmas the children took part in the Nativity play. The children have also made banners through the year to be displayed in church.

Sue keeps in touch with families who come from time to time, by remembering birthdays and giving a gift at Christmas.

Please pray for our families bringing up children in challenging times. Please pray for the teachers and helpers...it isn't always easy.

Sue Munday

### **Annual report for Switch (Youth Church) 2023**

We often have just one or two come along on a Sunday Morning which isn't always ideal but we have been blessed with having good times of discussion and sharing. Some of our lessons have been in line with Allie's teaching in the Church but we've adapted our studies far more this year to fit with our young people's needs.

At the start of the year, we looked at "Living for Jesus in School". It is hard being a Christian wherever you are, but perhaps one of the hardest places is in school.



We also had several weeks asking the questions...

Is Jesus even real?

Is Jesus still relevant?

Is Jesus gods' reflection?

Is Jesus our rescuer?

Please continue to pray for our young people, this age group have many pressures on them.

We'd also appreciate your prayers as leaders that we'll be able to share with them our faith in a practical way.

Caroline Knowles



## 1st Findon Valley Scout Group 2023



The annual Group Census in January 2023 showed we have 82 invested members across all Sections plus 11 Leaders and Section Assistants – an increase on the previous year. 50% of the Group being in the Scout Troop. Since that time, there has been a large decline in members, particularly in the younger sections.

Also, at the end of the year, the Cub Leader, Ryan Watson stood down after 10 years. The Cub Pack will continue to be run by a team of Leaders from the Group. All Sections have enjoyed a busy and active year – Beavers have worked for badges,

hiked, learnt sign language, beach art, bonfire, fireworks and making s'mores. Also visits to Out of Bounds for bowling and Adventure Nets with the Cubs.

Cubs also gained several badges during the year including Chef, Swimmers and Local Knowledge.

They enjoyed hikes, wide games, firelighting and cooking drop scones over open fires. Also a highlight of the year was Ready, Steady, Cook when they prepared a 3 course meal for guests.

At the end of the year, both Beavers and Cubs took part in the Christingle service – singing carols and a first for the Beavers, when they signed the first verse of Away in a Manger.

Scouts have also enjoyed a busy year – starting the year with a very muddy winter camp – Fire and Ice – in Hertfordshire where there was a variety of activities. In the summer - water activities at Southwater and on the Wey and Arun Canal using both the paddle boards and pulling boat. Several enjoyed their annual trip to Lord Amory, the Scout Association ship moored on the Thames, for a weekend of water activities.

The highlight of the year, was the Group Camp held at Ferny Crofts in the New Forest to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Scouting in Findon Valley – when all Sections joined together for the weekend.

Janet Chapman - Group Scout Leader

### **Coffee Shop 2023**



The past year has been a busy time at Coffee Shop.

We regularly serve between 30 and 40 customers each week, with lots of chatting and laughter filling the morning. There is always someone available to pray with anyone feeling in need of prayer or encouragement.

In December the Vale School Choir entertained us with Christmas carols and songs. Their singing was joyous and enthusiastic, and everyone enjoyed the morning. On our last morning before Christmas Don Woods kindly provided one of his famous and delicious Christmas cakes which everyone enjoyed, and Barbara and John kindly entertained us with Christmas carols and songs.

We are especially pleased that several new people have visited Coffee Shop for the first time and returned regularly, and links with other Church activities have been forged.

We are very pleased we have been able to donate £3,000 to the church's charities this year.

Once again, I would like to extend my grateful thanks to all the volunteers, including Allie and Rich, who so cheerfully give up their time to help and to those who generously provide the cakes. We all feel it is a joy and privilege to serve our Lord and the Church through this ministry.

Rosamund Tolley

### **Ladies' Breakfast Ministry 2023**

The Ladies Breakfast meetings continue to flourish.

We usually have on average between 35-40 ladies attending but December's meeting was less as there was a conflict with a lunch at All Saints Church plus bad weather. Therefore, numbers were low.

The price remains at £5.00 which we consider is good value.

We provide a buffet breakfast which is self-service and eat as much as you would like and we arranged a combined men's/ladies breakfast on the 23rd September which was buffet and a cooked breakfast. This was well supported.

Some of the ladies attending the breakfast are Church members and some of them are our customers from the Church Coffee Shop, but we are seeing new faces at each event.

We have a speaker at most meetings. This year we had: -

20 Questions General Knowledge Quiz

Judy Frampton

Paul Young (Off the Fence, Brighton Charity)

Barbara and John (Members of our music Group, Harvest Home)

We give to the speakers a donation in the sum of £25-£40 for the charity of their choice. Financially we remain in credit and have a healthy balance.

Carole Walsh

### **Men's Breakfast Ministry 2023**

In 2023 we were very pleased to be able to restart the Men's Breakfast. Numbers continue to be around 15 to 20 guys attending the breakfasts.

We started the year with a breakfast at the Downlands Carvery, and enjoyed a lovely breakfast without having to help do the washing up!

In July we welcomed Steve Jennings to talk about life after being a Jehovah's Witness. We also resumed cooking the breakfasts using our well-equipped kitchen.

In September we arranged a combined men's/ladies breakfast with a cooked breakfast and buffet style continental. This was well supported and we had an excellent talk by Paul Young from Off the Fence, Brighton Homelessness Charity.

We ended the year with a return to the Downlands Carvery.

Michael Knowles

### **Home Groups 2023**

For most of the year we have had two daytime and two evening groups meeting in member's homes during the second and fourth weeks of each month.

Following Ministerial notes provided we have discussed and explored further the sermon subjects of the preceding Sunday. Members have generally found these gatherings helpful, instructive, and enjoyed the greater spirit of fellowship and friendship.

We do the best we can in meeting the challenges of integrating folks into the best appropriate groups as well as keeping leaders informed and encouraged.

Iain Taylor

### **Pastoral 2023**

This past year seems to have flown by. 22 people are visited monthly and a number of phone calls are made. The visits and phone calls offer company, support, encouragement and a listening ear. Lifts are also given to people to get to coffee shop, services and medical appointments when possible. There is a small team involved in this service to the Church Family. Their help is much appreciated. If you feel that you would like a visit or a call, please contact me.

John Menday

## **Missions 2023**

During 2023 the church supported 5 missions; BMS World Mission, Baptists Home Mission, Operation Agri, Missionary Aviation Fellowship Release International.

This wide spread of our outreach activity ensures that as a church we are committed to looking further afield than our own patch. Missions are needing to adapt a more holistic approach to their work and to the support they give in the face of the ever increasing national and religious extremism that all too often results in violent persecution that seems to go on without check.

In addition, freewill collections at Harvest and Christmas were made on behalf of Turning Tides – a charity working primarily amongst the homeless in Worthing and beyond.

Iain Taylor

## **BMS Birthday Scheme 2023**

The Birthday Scheme is a great way to get involved in supporting BMS World Mission's health and medical ministries around the world.

This ministry continues to be a positive way of giving annually as we celebrate our birthdays. The BMS are grateful for those who are part of the scheme.

By making a donation on your birthday you can support the work of World Mission in a real and practical way.

Anyone can join on their birthday. Members receive a BMS birthday card from their Birthday Scheme Secretary, along with a gift envelope which they use to make a donation. This is then placed in the weekly offering; all the donations are forwarded to BMS.

If you would like to join the scheme or to know more, please contact myself.

Caroline Knowles

## Library 2023

### Bookstall Account.

The Bible Notes ministry has continued this year and our thanks go to Chapel Gifts for continuing to provide the various notes and giving us helpful advice as required.

This year has seen the withdrawal of Every Day with Jesus from Church Bookshops and some, especially older members have not always found it easy to access these online. The Scripture Union Daily Bread notes have provided a helpful alternative for some.

Are you thinking about how to structure a regular quiet study time for yourself?

Please do speak with me, and I will be more than happy to advise regarding suitable Bible Reading Notes / provide sample materials or other books as required or which websites to access online Although separate now, please don't forget to make visits to the Church Library, where is a wide variety of Christian material, with many very good "reads". Please do make regular use of this facility.

Mary Knight

### Library.

During the earlier part of last year, we did see a slight increase in usage and donations of books, however this has decreased as the year has gone on.

As we are now enjoying tea and coffee in the sanctuary after church, it has been great to see more people staying behind after the service to enjoy one another's company, however it does mean that the library is no longer visible or very accessible.

This means that we have been looking at whether to keep the library up and running as it has in the past or whether to look at other options. If we were able to access a bookcase on wheels (like the ones in the public libraries or in schools), we would then be able to wheel this in on Sunday mornings and other events such as coffee shop. So far, we have not been able to find a second hand one and they are very expensive to buy new. If anyone knows where one might be available, please do let me know.

In the meantime, the books are still available in the main hall cupboard and there is also a library catalogue online.

We would really like to hear from anyone who still uses the library to discuss how we move forward. Please do have a chat with me on Sunday mornings or give me a call.

Christina Cattermole





## **Blythwood Care – Shoe Box Appeal 2023**

Thank you all for your continued support for the Blythwood Care Shoe Box Appeal over the past year. It has been so encouraging to know that so many of you knitted scarves, hats, gloves, and blankets, collected items for the Boxes, made monetary donations and most importantly prayed for this work.

FVFC was once again the Collection Point for the Shoe Boxes and we are very grateful to Allie and the Deacons for allowing us to use the church

premises for this project. The two Collection Days at the end of October were very happy days meeting folk from other churches and sharing stories of how their churches are supporting the Appeal.

The final total that we collected at FVFC from this area was as follows: 606 Boxes, 26+ Blankets and over £900 in donations. We exceeded last year's total!! In all, 12,369 shoeboxes went to Ukraine from S England. 84,655 boxes in total sent to Eastern Europe.

We hope and pray that we can exceed this year's total too, so keep knitting and collecting items for the 2024 Appeal and look out for those bargains once again! Please contact me if you would like to know more about Blythwood Care and The Shoe Box Appeal. Thank you!

Christine Fairs and Val Wilkins



FVFC

## Summary of Safeguarding Policy Statement

Safeguarding Children and Young People at Findon Valley Free Church (Baptist)

The vision of Findon Valley Free Church ("the church") is: Love God, Love each other, Make disciples.

In fulfilling this vision, the church

- has a programme of activities with children and young people
- welcomes children and young people into the life of our community
- makes our premises available to organisations working with children and young people

The church recognises its responsibilities for the safeguarding of all children and young people under the age of 18 (regardless of gender, ethnicity or ability) as set out in The Children Act 1989 and 2004, Safe from Harm (HM Government 1994) and Working Together to Safeguard Children (HM Government 2013).

As members of this church, we commit ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safeguarding of all children and young people associated with the church and will pray for them regularly.

In pursuit of this we commit ourselves to the following policies and to the development of procedures to ensure their implementation.

**Prevention and reporting of abuse and responding to concern**

It is the duty of each church member and each member of the wider church family to prevent the physical, sexual and emotional abuse of children and young people and the duty of all to respond to concerns about the well-being of children and young people and to report any child abuse disclosed, discovered or suspected. The church will fully co-operate with any statutory investigation into any suspected abuse linked with the church.

**Safe recruitment, support and supervision of workers**

The church will exercise proper care in the selection and appointment of those working with children and young people, whether paid or voluntary. All workers will be provided with appropriate training, support and supervision to promote the safeguarding of children.

**Safe behaviour: a code of behaviour for workers**

The church will adopt a code of behaviour for all who are appointed to work with children and young people so that all children and young people are shown the respect that is due to them. Safe practice

**and safe premises**

The church is committed to providing a safe environment for activities with children and young people and will adopt ways of working with children and young people that promote their safety and well-being.

**A safe community**

The church is committed to the prevention of bullying of children and young people. The church will seek to ensure that the behaviour of any who may pose a risk to children and young people in the community of the church is managed appropriately.

**Responsible people**

The church has appointed Michael Knowles as the Safeguarding Trustee to oversee and monitor implementation of the policy and procedures on behalf of the church's charity trustees. The church has

appointed Caroline Knowles as the Designated Person for Safeguarding, and Celia Catchpole as deputy, to:

- advise the church on any matters related to the safeguarding of children and young people
- take the appropriate action when abuse is disclosed, discovered or suspected.

**Policy and procedures**

A copy of the policy statement will be displayed permanently on the noticeboard in the foyer and on the notice board outside the church office.

Each worker with children and young people whether paid or voluntary will be given a full copy of the policy and procedures and will be required to follow them.

A full copy of the policy and procedures will be made available on request to any member of the church, the parents or carers of any child or young person from the church or any other person associated with the church.

The policy and procedures will be monitored and reviewed at least annually.

The policy statement will be read annually at the AGM of the church together with a report on the outcome of the annual review of the Policies and Procedures.