

Witham Baptist Church

Serving Christ and Our Community

Trustees Annual Report 2022~2023

Trustees

The Church currently has three Trustees: Rev'd. Michael R Child (Chairman); Mrs Ann M Coleman (Secretary); Philip J West (Treasurer).

The Trustees met once during the year.

Membership

As at end of March we had 5 members.

The Diaconate

The Church is served by a diaconate of two: Ann Coleman, Philip West.

Baptismal Service

There were no Believers' Baptisms during the year.

Giving

Members and Friends are still giving sacrificially and generously to the work of the Church. The Building Fund is continuing to grow.

The Church supports the ministry of Leslie and Elizabeth Message (Belgium), we were delighted that they join us for Sunday services and Wednesday prayer meetings via Zoom.

During the period April 2022 to March 2023 the Church gave a donation to the Baptist Missionary Society's Ukraine appeal, the Leprosy Mission and the Harvest Thanksgiving monetary offering was divided between the Witham Food Bank and the Mill Grove Centre, South Woodford. The Church also donated shoe boxes this year for the Samaritan's Purse "Operational Christmas Child" appeal. The Carols by Candlelight Service offering was given to Farleigh Hospice.

Services and Auxiliaries

We held weekly Sunday Services for Worship, Prayer and Preaching at the Royal British Legion Hall and also held mid week prayer meetings on a Wednesday via Zoom. A service of Reflection and Thanks Giving for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was held on Sunday 11th September.

Our Pastor continues as Honorary Chaplain to the Royal Air Forces Association and Royal Air Force Air Cadets (Air Training Corps).

Church Premises

The Trustees are still actively seeking a suitable site or premises for Sunday Services and to develop the Church's ministry.

Baptist Union of Great Britain

Witham Baptist Church is affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

Eastern Baptist Association

Witham Baptist Church is also affiliated to the Eastern Baptist Association.

Churches Together in Witham and District

We continue to be part of Churches Together in Witham and District.

Harvest

Harvest Thanksgiving was held on Sunday 25th September 2022 the monetary offering was divided between the Witham Food Bank and the Mill Grove Centre, South Woodford, a Christian charity working with children and deprived families in Woodford.

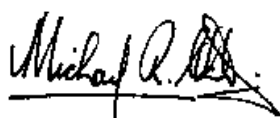
Special Services

The Church celebrated its 25th Anniversary on Sunday 4th December 2022.

We joined our friends at Maldon Baptist Church for a Carol Service on Sunday 18th December 2022.

The Annual Carols Service this year took place via Zoom on Sunday 18th December 2022 and the offering sent to the Farleigh Hospice.

We are thankful to God for His loving faithfulness to us throughout a difficult and challenging year and for providing for our needs and we trust Him for all that is to come as we seek further ways of serving our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael R Child', with a horizontal line underneath.

Revd Michael R Child
Pastor and Chairman of the Trustees

WITHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Accounts for the Year to 31 March 2023

Receipts and Payments Account (General Purposes Fund)

Income Receipts

	£	£	<u>2022</u>
Donations			18427
Weekly Offerings	18067		
L & E Message	2145		1525
Leprosy Mission	80		-
D & A Boyle	200		1850
Millgrove	95		65
BRE Ukraine	90		-
Farleigh Hospice	110		75
Preacher's Fees Gifted Back	80		-
Other	<u>-</u>		<u>115</u>

20867

Trading Activities

Subscriptions and Tuck Sales

-

-

Investment Income

Bank and Building Society Interest

4

-

20871

22057

Income Tax Rebate

4198

4418

Total Receipts

25069

26475

Direct Charitable Expenditure

Hire of Premises	1700		1013
Minister's Stipend and NI	17752		18087
Minister's Council Tax	2838		2725
Preacher's Expenses	<u>745</u>		<u>510</u>

23035

22335

Other Expenditure

Advertising		312	312
Churches Together in Witham		55	-
Baptist Union Subscription		24	24
Donations		65	65
Millgrove		95	65
L & E Message		2145	1525
Data Protection		40	40
D & A Boyle		200	1850
P C Help		53	-
Farleigh Hospice		110	75
CCL Licence		92	127
Insurance		401	396
The Leprosy Mission		80	-
Website Costs		-	-
Stationery		-	-
Transfer Building Fund		-	-
Sundry Expenses		262	<u>265</u>

4744

Total Payments

26969

27079

Net (Payments)/Receipts for the Year

(1900)

(604)

Cash and Bank balances at 31 March 2022

4474

5078

Cash and Bank balances at 31 March 2023

2574

4474

WITHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Accounts for the Year to 31 March 2023

Receipts and Payments Account (Building Fund)

Income Receipts	£	£	<u>2022</u>
Donations			
In Memory Of	50		250
Other	-		-
Sundry	-		-
Tax Reclaimed on Covenants and Gift Aid	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
		50	250
Trading Activities			
Buy a Brick		-	-
Knitting		30	21
Sundry Sales		-	-
Investment Income			
Bank and Building Society Interest		<u>604</u>	<u>914</u>
Total Receipts		684	1185
Other Expenditure			
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Payments		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Receipts for the Year		<u>684</u>	<u>1185</u>
Building Fund Balance at 31 March 2022		<u>144064</u>	<u>142879</u>
Building Fund Balance at 31 March 2023		<u>144748</u>	<u>144064</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Witham Baptist Church

We report on the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145 (5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - . to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - . to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

RONALD W CHIVERS & CO
ACCOUNTANTS

61 Manor Street
Braintree
Essex
CM7 3HP

10 October 2023