

RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1126606

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2008-11-06

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Rugby Baptist Church
Regent Place
Rugby
CV21 2PJ

Phone 01788570410

Email office@rugbybaptist.org.uk

Website www.rugbybaptist.org.uk

Activities

Objects: The principal purpose of the Church is 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.

Activities: 1) Worship and prayer 2) The teaching of the Christian Faith 3) The pastoral care of individuals, and 4) service to the local community and the wider world

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** GLOBAL
- Warwickshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£239,504	£188,011	-	-
2024-03-31	£200,276	£153,261	-	-
2023-03-31	£271,082	£246,968	-	-
2022-03-31	£153,785	£143,544	-	-
2021-03-31	£143,516	£144,471	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Emma Louise Tiller		2022-11-08
Emma Spraget		2020-11-10
GRAHAM RIDGWAY Secretary		2016-11-08
Jessica Jane Quirke		2022-11-08
Michael Daulman		2020-11-10
Prince Chibwana		2024-11-12
Rev David Fleming		2020-08-01
Richard Carey Cowperthwaite		2022-11-08
Rosemary Pugh		2022-11-08
Russ Miles		2024-11-12
Suzanne Upton		2023-11-14
Trudy McKnight		2024-09-01

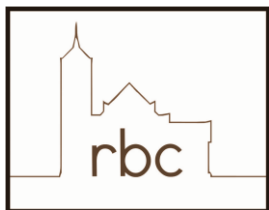
RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1126606

Accounts



Rugby Baptist Church 2024–2025 Annual Report and Accounts

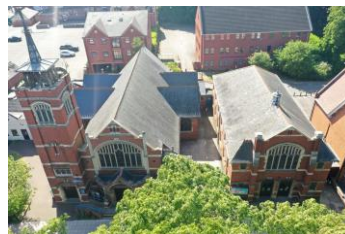


Rugby Baptist Church

Regent Place, Rugby CV21 2PJ

Annual Report

The Trustees of Rugby Baptist Church are pleased to present their report together with the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.



In accordance with Charity Law for churches with an income of over £10,000, we now present this annual report of our recent activities. This report will be forwarded, in due course, to the Charity Commission along with the independently examined accounts of our Church.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Rugby Baptist Church
Registered Charity	1126606
Address	Regent Place Rugby CV21 2PJ

Managing Trustees (Diaconate)

Senior Minister	Rev David Fleming
Student Minister	Mathew Sheffield

Deacons	Carey Cowperthwaite Michael Daulman Louise Morley Rosemary Pugh Jessica Quirke Graham Ridgway (Secretary) Emma Spragett Suzanne Upton Emma Tiller Milton Williams Russ Miles (treasurer) Prince Chibwama	 (to November 2024) (to November 2024) (from November 2024) (from November 2024)
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Finance Officer
Managing Trustee)

Simon Morley

(does not serve as a Deacon or as a

Structure, Governance and Management

Rugby Baptist Church (RBC) is a charitable unincorporated association governed by constitution. The constitution was adopted by resolution of a special church meeting on 17th November 2009, modified by resolution of a special church meeting on 9th September 2014 and 10th November 2015. The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Heart of England Baptist Association (HEBA). HEBA is the Trustee for the charity, holding the titles to the charity's properties other than those for the Manse which are held by the BU Corporation.

The Church Members' Meeting

In common with most Baptist churches, the Church is governed by its own members through the Church Meeting which is normally held bimonthly. Ministers and diaconate meet monthly to exercise executive oversight and prepare business for the Church Meeting. The latter has reserved authority in the appointment and removal of a Minister, the appointment and removal of Trustees, decisions related to church property, the administration of the membership list, and the closure of the Church¹. During 2024-25 there were 6 ordinary church members' meetings as well as the Annual Church Meeting. All were chaired by Rev David Fleming.

The method of appointment of Trustees is set out in the constitution. The Trustees (the diaconate) are the ministers of the church and the deacons—including Secretary and Treasurer—who are elected by the members at a church members' meeting.

The Diaconate

The diaconate (Board of Trustees) had 11 regular meetings over the course of the year 2024–25, all were chaired by Rev David Fleming.

At the November 2024 AGM Prince Chibwana was elected to the Diaconate and Russ Miles was elected treasurer. Lousie Morley and Milton Williams stood down. Over the course of the year the Diaconate has reported regularly to the Church Meeting, which usually meets bi-monthly, to discuss, share information and to make decisions together.

¹ Rugby Baptist Church (RBC) *Constitution* 9.2

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the church is 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.²

Activities in relation to our Purpose and for Public Benefit

The Trustees have given due regard to Charity Commission guidance on the public benefit of the Charity.

Over the course of the year the Diaconate has sought to manage its priorities, workload, and response to changing circumstances. Our principal activities as a church are:

1. Worship and prayer.
2. The nurturing of Christian discipleship and building fellowship within the church.
3. The teaching and sharing of the Christian faith within an all-age faith community.
4. The pastoral care of individuals, and
5. Service to the local community and the wider world.

The activities and events of the church have been to further these purposes.

In particular, during the year, some of the activities held have been...

Worship and prayer.

Worship services have been held on Sunday mornings and evenings, and we have joined with other local churches for worship regularly through the year, including every Sunday evening in January with other local churches and once a term with other local Baptist Churches.

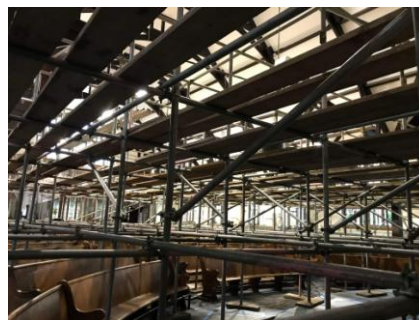
Our main morning worship services were streamed using YouTube, which allows those who cannot attend church physically to worship with us. Our online services regularly received over a hundred viewings.

A number of prayer meetings have taken place: weekly on a Wednesday evening, monthly on a Sunday morning before the communion service, daily online using Zoom and on other occasions as occasion has arisen. Prayer needs are also shared via an email prayer chain and a WhatsApp prayer group.

² RBC Constitution 2

A number of special services were held during the year, mainly marking the major seasons of the year, such as Christmas, Easter, Harvest etc.

Building work in the main church Sanctuary meant that services until September 2024 were held in the Upper hall rather than the main church building.



The nurturing of Christian discipleship and building fellowship within the church.

During the period of this report we held seven believers' baptisms.

In March 2025 we celebrated our church anniversary with a quiz night and a breakfast.

During 2024-25 our Home Bible Study groups have been given a fresh focus in the church, and many new people have joined study groups. During Lent and Advent daily devotions have been published to encourage individual study and prayer.

During the year we also held special teaching sessions on human sexuality and an Alpha course in April 2024 as an introduction to the Christian faith.

We have prepared people for Baptism. We held special newcomers' events to help those new to the church integrate into the life of the fellowship. We also held a number of holiday bible clubs for children: The Wonder Zone Holiday Club in August and a one-day holiday Club based on the story of Ruth.

We held various events intended to build up the Fellowship, including a church picnic, breakfasts, supper evenings, a quiz and so on.

Our new ladies' ministry, Bloom, held a number of successful events, growing a deeper fellowship and friendship between ladies in the church.



There is a strong element within our services of sharing and teaching the Christian faith, with preaching in the main service and age-appropriate groups for children and young people aged 0-18.

The pastoral care of individuals

We have also offered support to our members through distributing flowers weekly and offering other support, including meals and cards, to those in particular need.

During the year the pastoral care offered in the church was re-organised, with a team of pastoral volunteers making sure that care is given and offered to people in urgent need and more generally to the congregation. This is organised using our church management software, ChurchSuite.

Service to the local community and the wider world.

Our church coffee mornings changed in the period covered by this report, moving from a weekly Friday coffee morning to a monthly Saturday one, held in aid of various church organisation, local and national charities.

The church undertook “40 Acts of Kindness” to serve the local community during Lent 2024.

We have offered financial and prayer support to charitable organizations which benefit the whole local community, including Hope4 (Rugby) Ltd (working with homeless and badly housed people), Food Bank, Christians against Poverty (debt counselling), Gift of Years (care home chaplaincy) and Street Pastors (including hosting the Street Pastors Commissioning service). We have also supported national Charitable organizations including the Baptist Union of Great Britain, BMS World Mission, and Christian Aid.

Three of our young people entered into service for the community. Freya went to a project in Tanzania, Paige worked with Rock UK in Scotland and Callum qualified in Rugby as a Street Pastor

We took part in two local food and Drink festivals, in April and September and including providing a free bouncy castle for children and opening up the church building for visitors to come in and look around, guided by church members.



Our Boys' and Girls' Brigade had a successful year, including annual summer camps in Prestatyn (Boys' Brigade) and Paignton (Girls' Brigade). In November 2024 Freya received a national award for young Girls Brigade leaders of the future.

We also took part in “the Big Help-Out” by helping to clear land and garden at local Northlands Primary School.

Activities for public benefit



We have produced daily devotions for use in Lent and Advent which were distributed electronically.

We have continued our support of world mission, including BMS world mission. As part of this, in the new year our church continued supporting the BMS birthday Scheme. We also welcomed mission personnel to our church for services or midweek meetings.

On 8 June 2024 we held a Thai meal in aid of the church building project in Wang Daeng in Thailand.

We have sought to reach out and support the local community through a number of initiatives and events:

- A community Family Day was held on 14th July for our Brigades, our church family and locals, including entertainment and a circus skills workshop.
- the church took part in “The Big Help Out” community project, (which began to mark the coronation of King Charles III) undertaking ground works and gardening at the local Northlands School.
- During Advent we took nativity costumes and a portable stable out into the town centre for an initiative called “Get in the Picture,” inviting people to dress in nativity costumes and take selfies. As part of this our Christmas magazine and copies of the Christmas story were given away.
- At the end of November, we held a Christmas Fair which was well supported by the local community
- Also expressing the creativity of our congregation, we held a daily Advent Photo challenge with people submitting photos on a daily theme.
- On 20 April and 21 September we took part in Rugby Food and Drink Festivals, opening a café in our church and providing a free bouncy castle for children. We also opened our church up to the public to view.
- At Christmas we once again produced a high-quality Christmas magazine and distributed it in the local community. Also popular with the local community were our Carol services, a Christingle Service on Christmas eve and a performance by the Rock Choir on 14th December.
- Easter weekend was well supported at church, including an ecumenical Good Friday walk from Rugby Baptist Church to St Andrews church.
- Our church anniversary was celebrated with community quiz night and a breakfast.



” *Come and See*” (John 1:46)

Our church text from the Bible for 2025, illustrated with a pulpit fall created by one of our church members, Elaine Ridgway, has set the tone for the year – the mandate upon us to invite people to come and encounter Jesus for themselves). We have returned to this text a number of times over the years, reminding ourselves of our mission call.

2023-24 brought many challenges, not least the major work that was needed on the ceiling of our main sanctuary, but as a church we have grown numerically and needed to expand our work and increase our use of Churchsuite church management software to ensure we are effectively working together in God’s service.

Our Minister in training, Mat Sheffield, left the church to become the minister of Ashby de la Zouch Baptist church. Since we are committed to team ministry, we at Rugby Baptist began the process of looking for a new Associate Minister or Minister in Training, and were delighted to eventually call Trudy McKnight to become our Minister in Training while she studies at Regent Park College. She joined the church in September.

Membership

As of 31st March 2025 our church had 160 members, a drop from the previous years due to a number being removed due to transfer, inactivity or death. 7 people became church members during the period of this report, and 4 members died.

The number of those associated with the church (423) is considerably higher than our formal membership.

Our Annual returns to the Baptist Union show that at a main service in December 2024 the numbers attending were (comparative figures in 2023 in brackets)

- Overall: 156 (129)
- Under 11: 11 (11)
- 11-18: 17 (11)
- 19-30: 10 (6)
- 31-65: 71 (70)
- 65+: 47 (42)

Numbers engaging with the church online continue to be strong, with up to 100 views of our livestreamed/recorded services each week.

Wider church relations

We continued to build our relationship with the local Baptist cluster consisting of the Dunchurch, Wolston, Daventry and Rugby churches. This group has not only supported one another but also collectively supported out new BMS link missionaries, Wit and Helen Boondeekhun.

We continued to support Rugby Revive, a network which links the churches of Rugby and district.

Finances

A copy of our independently examined accounts accompanies this report.

In March 2025 we held a church gift day which raised £4206, which was split between the Community of the Cross of nails, based in Coventry, and the Christian Aid Middle East Appeal.

the Church continued to give generously to needy causes nationally, internationally and locally as the accompanying accounts reveal. The Church has a reserves policy which ensures that between three- and six-months' core expenditure is ring-fenced. £50,000 in reserves are lodged with the Baptist Union Corporation.

Fabric

Due to storm damage during roofing work, the interior of our main church sanctuary was filled with scaffolding from January 2024 in order to repair the church ceiling. This work continued until September 2024. During this period the church held its main service in the Upper church hall.

Future

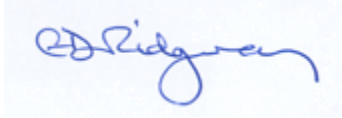
Every year brings its own opportunities and challenges. 2023-2024 brought many blessings, and good time. We also faced the challenge of significant fabric work and rising utility prices and inflation. We acknowledge the difficulty of the journey we have been on over the past few of years and yet we face the future with confidence that God will bring us out of the valley of trouble and through a doorway of hope.

We believe, then, that we have demonstrated again our commitment as Trustees to advance the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination and to advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.³

³ RBC Constitution 2

Signed

Date: 16 September 2025



Graham Ridgway
(Church Secretary)

Date: 16 September 2025



David Fleming
(Minister)

for and on behalf of the Church's Trustees' Board (the Diaconate) for presentation to the Annual Church Meeting on 9th September 2025.



Rugby Baptist Church

Reports & Accounts

Financial Year Ending 31/03/2025

Contents

Legal & Administrative Details
Independent Examiners Report
Receipts & Payments Statement
Asset & Liability Statement
Notes to the Accounts

Legal & Administrative Details

Charity Name: Rugby Baptist Church

Charity Number: 1126606

Charity Address: Regent Place, Rugby CV21 2PJ

Trustees:

Graham Ridgway

David Fleming

Trudy McKnight

Carey Cowperthwaite

Rosemary Pugh

Jessica Quirke

Emma Spraget

Mick Daulman

Prince Chibwana

Russ Miles

Suzanne Upton

Emma Tiller

Independent Examiner: Keith Moore

Independent Examiners Report

RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH
Church Accounts
Year ended 31 March 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Rugby Baptist Church.

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 as set out on various pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act")

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the Act

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect :

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required under section 130 of the 2011 Act

or

- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records or
- 3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of
- 4) accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement
- 5) that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent
- 6) examination

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in the report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Keith Moore

21st May 2025

Keith Moore
KLM ACCOUNTS
15 Shenstone Road
Great Barr
Birmingham B43 5LW

Receipts & Payments Statement

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Prior Year
Receipts				
Donations & Legacies				
Donations	105,333	6,404	111,737	97,396
Gift Aid	29,368	0	29,368	38,168
Grants	4,735	0	4,735	18,389
Legacies	0	0	0	2,000
Charitable Activities				
Event Income	5,068	0	5,068	4,213
Investments				
Bank Interest	4,722	0	4,722	2,970
Trading Activities				
Rental Income	36,095	257	36,352	34,848
Sales	0	0	0	0
Other				
Loans Received	0	0	0	-62,800
Other Income	54,183	0	54,183	991
Sale of Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0
Sale of Investments	0	0	0	0
Total receipts	239,504	6,661	246,165	136,176
Payments				
Charitable Activities				
Activities	8,258	1,092	9,351	2,882
Admin	7,503	0	7,503	6,568
Advertising	0	0	0	0
Bank Charges	0	0	0	0
Event Costs	798	0	798	2,766
Gifts Given	0	0	0	0
Grants	24,743	0	24,743	23,931
Other Expenditure	500	0	500	0
Premises	31,649	553	32,202	26,483
Staff Costs	102,569	0	102,569	90,630
Governance Costs				
Governance Costs	0	0	0	0
Other				
Fixed Asset Purchases	11,991	0	11,991	0
Loans Repaid	0	0	0	0
Money Invested	0	0	0	0
Total payments	188,011	1,645	189,656	153,261
Net Receipts / Payments (before transfers)	51,493	5,016	56,508	-17,085
Fund Transfers In	24,123	1,613	25,736	0
Fund Transfers Out	25,736	0	25,736	0
Net Movement of Cash Funds	49,879	6,629	56,508	-17,085

Total Cash Funds Brought Forward	142,239	6,237	148,476	165,561
Total Cash Funds Carried Forward	192,119	12,865	204,984	148,476
Represented By				
General (Unrestricted)	74,509	0	74,509	94,135
Reserve (Unrestricted)	53,659	0	53,659	50,000
Flowers (Designated)	17	0	17	63
Thursday Fellowship (Designated)	1,007	0	1,007	1,007
Regent Rooms (Designated)	52,900	0	52,900	0
Disabled access (Restricted)	0	5,021	5,021	5,573
Marriott Field reserved for the poor (Restricted)	0	1,310	1,310	663
John Lees Kitchen D (Designated)	10,027	0	10,027	0
John Lees Kitchen (Restricted)	0	4,535	4,535	0
Associate minister college fees (Restricted)	0	2,000	2,000	0
Project Rufus (Designated)	0	0	0	-2,966

Asset & Liability Statement

Cash Assets

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Prior Year
General (Unrestricted)	74,509	0	74,509	94,135
Reserve (Unrestricted)	53,659	0	53,659	50,000
Flowers (Designated)	17	0	17	63
Thursday Fellowship (Designated)	1,007	0	1,007	1,007
Regent Rooms (Designated)	52,900	0	52,900	0
Disabled access (Restricted)	0	5,021	5,021	5,573
Marriott Field reserved for the poor (Restricted)	0	1,310	1,310	663
John Lees Kitchen D (Designated)	10,027	0	10,027	0
John Lees Kitchen (Restricted)	0	4,535	4,535	0
Associate minister college fees (Restricted)	0	2,000	2,000	0
Project Rufus (Designated)	0	0	0	-2,966

Other Monetary Assets

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Prior Year
Gift Aid		0	0	0	0
Stock		0	0	0	0
Other		0	0	0	0

Investment Assets

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Prior Year
Property		0	0	0	0
Investment Accounts		0	0	0	0
Other		0	0	0	0

Fixed Assets

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Prior Year
Land & Buildings		0	0	0	0
Music & PA Equipment		0	0	0	0
Computers & IT		0	0	0	0
Furniture		0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicles		0	0	0	0

Liabilities

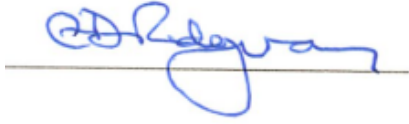
	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Prior Year
Loans Outstanding		0	0	0	0
Pension Payment Owed		0	0	0	0
HMRC Payments Owed		0	0	0	0
Independent Examination Fee Due		0	0	0	0
Other		0	0	0	0

Signature

These accounts have been approved by the trustees, and are signed on their behalf by:

Name Graham Ridgway

Signature



Date 25.09.2025

Notes to the Accounts

Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

Transactions to Related Parties

There were no transactions related parties during the accounting period.

Movement of Funds

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Fund Transfers	Closing Balance
Unrestricted					
General (Unrestricted)	94,135	182,085	175,975	-25,736	74,509
Reserve (Unrestricted)	50,000	3,659	0	0	53,659
Total	144,135	185,743	175,975	-25,736	128,168
Designated					
Flowers (Designated)	63	0	46	0	17
Thursday Fellowship (Designated)	1,007	0	0	0	1,007
Regent Rooms (Designated)	0	52,900	0	0	52,900
John Lees Kitchen D (Designated)	0	18	11,991	22,000	10,027
Project Rufus (Designated)	-2,966	843	0	2,123	0
Total	-1,896	53,761	12,037	24,123	63,951
Unrestricted Total	142,239	239,504	188,011	-1,613	192,119
Restricted					
Disabled access (Restricted)	5,573	0	553	0	5,021
Marriott Field reserved for the poor (Restricted)	663	257	92	483	1,310
John Lees Kitchen (Restricted)	0	3,404	0	1,131	4,535
Associate minister college fees (Restricted)	0	3,000	1,000	0	2,000
Total	6,237	6,661	1,645	1,613	12,865
Restricted Total	6,237	6,661	1,645	1,613	12,865
TOTAL	148,476	246,165	189,656	0	204,984

RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH
Church Accounts
Year ended 31 March 2025

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21st May 2025

Keith Moore
KLM ACCOUNTS
15 Shenstone Road
Great Barr
Birmingham B43 5LW

RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1126606

Accounts



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Rugby Baptist Church

Regent Place, Rugby CV21 2PJ

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Registered Charity	1126606
Address	Regent Place Rugby CV21 2PJ

Managing Trustees (Diaconate)

Senior Minister	Rev David Fleming	
Student Minister	Mathew Sheffield	
Deacons	Carey Cowperthwaite Michael Daulman Louise Morley Rosemary Pugh Jessica Quirke Graham Ridgway (Secretary) Emma Spraget Suzanne Upton Emma Tiller Milton Williams	 (re-elected 14th November 2023) (re-elected 14th November 2023) (re-elected 14th November 2023) (from 14th November 2023)
Finance Officer	Simon Morley	(does not serve as a Deacon or as a Managing Trustee)

Structure, Governance and Management

Rugby Baptist Church (RBC) is a charitable unincorporated association governed by constitution. The constitution was adopted by resolution of a special church meeting on 17th November 2009, modified by resolution of a special church meeting on 9th September 2014 and 10th November 2015. The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Heart of England Baptist Association (HEBA). HEBA is the Trustee for the charity, holding the titles to the charity's properties other than those for the Manse which are held by the BU Corporation.

The Church Members' Meeting

In common with most Baptist churches, the Church is governed by its own members through the Church Meeting which is normally held bimonthly. Ministers and diaconate meet monthly to exercise executive oversight and prepare business for the Church Meeting. The latter has reserved authority in the appointment and removal of a Minister, the appointment and removal of Trustees, decisions related to church property, the administration of the membership list, and the closure of the Church¹. During 2023-24 there were 6 ordinary church members' meetings as well as the Annual Church Meeting. All but one were chaired by Rev David Fleming.

The method of appointment of Trustees is set out in the constitution. The Trustees (the diaconate) are the ministers of the church and the deacons—including Secretary and Treasurer—who are elected by the members at a church members' meeting.

The Diaconate

The diaconate (Board of Trustees) had 11 regular meetings over the course of the year 2023–24, all but one were chaired by Rev David Fleming.

At the 14th November 2023 ACM Suzanne Upton was elected to the Diaconate. No deacons stood down.

Over the course of the year the Diaconate has reported regularly to the Church Meeting, which usually meets bi-monthly, to discuss, share information and to make decisions together.

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the church is 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.²

¹ Rugby Baptist Church (RBC) *Constitution* 9.2

² RBC *Constitution* 2



Activities in relation to our Purpose and for Public Benefit

The Trustees have given due regard to Charity Commission guidance on the public benefit of the Charity.

Over the course of the year the Diaconate has sought to manage its priorities, workload, and response to changing circumstances. Our principal activities as a church are:

1. Worship and prayer.
2. The nurturing of Christian discipleship and building fellowship within the church.
3. The teaching and sharing of the Christian faith within an all-age faith community.
4. The pastoral care of individuals, and
5. Service to the local community and the wider world.

The activities and events of the church have been to further these purposes.

In particular, during the year, some of the activities held have been...

Worship and prayer.

Worship services have been held on Sunday mornings and evenings, and we have joined with other local churches for worship regularly through the year, including every Sunday evening in January with other local churches.

Our main worship services were streamed using YouTube, which allows those who cannot attend church physically to worship with us. Our online services regularly received over a hundred viewings.

A number of prayer meetings have taken place: weekly on a Wednesday evening, monthly on a Sunday morning before the communion service, daily online using Zoom and on other occasions as occasion has arisen. Prayer needs are also shared via an email prayer chain and a WhatsApp prayer group.

During September 2023 we held a special Month of Prayer, with special resources, teaching and meetings.

A number of special services were held during the year, mainly marking the major seasons of the year, such as Christmas, Easter, Harvest etc. The Christmas services were affected by the emergency hospitalization of our Senior Minister, although our Minister in Training and others stepped in as needed.

From January 2024, scaffolding was erected in the main church building to allow repairs to the ceiling. However, ongoing dealings with insurance companies meant that the work did not start until after the period of this report. The Scaffolding meant that since January services were held across two halls, with a live link between the congregations. This has been very disruptive to our worship life in many ways, not least our ability to provide live worship.



The nurturing of Christian discipleship and building fellowship within the church.

During 2023-24 our Home Bible Study groups have been given a fresh focus in the church, and many new people have joined study groups. New weekday study groups have started, and we established a Walking house group for those who prefer a little more activity. This group prays and discusses a Bible passage while on a countryside walk. Daily reflections, prayers and Bible teaching were published during Lent and Advent.

During the year we also held special teaching sessions on Climate Change with David Gregory and Human Sexuality and marriage.

We have prepared people for Baptism, and run a Hope Explored course to help people investigate the Christian faith. Four of our young people were awarded Queens Badges – the highest award in Boys' Brigade which has a strong faith element. We have held special newcomers' events to help those new to the church integrate into the life of the fellowship. We also held a holiday bible club for children.

We held various events intended to build up the Fellowship, including a church picnic, breakfasts, supper evenings, a quiz and so on.

Our new ladies' ministry, Bloom, held a number of successful events, growing a deeper fellowship and friendship between ladies in the church.

There is a strong element within our services of sharing and teaching the Christian faith, with preaching in the main service and age-appropriate groups for children and young people aged 0-18.

The pastoral care of individuals

We have also offered support to our members through distributing flowers weekly and offering other such support, including meals and cards, to those in particular need. We have produced daily devotions for use in Lent and Advent which were distributed electronically and on paper.

Service to the local community and the wider world.

We have offered financial and prayer support to charitable organizations which benefit the whole local community, including Hope4 (Rugby) Ltd (working with homeless and badly housed people), Food Bank, Christians against Poverty (debt counselling), Gift of Years (care home chaplaincy) and Street Pastors (including hosting the Street Pastors Commissioning service). We have also supported national Charitable organizations including the Baptist Union of Great Britain, BMS World Mission, Christian Aid and Operation Agri.

A community Family Day was held on 16th July for our Brigades, our church family and locals, including entertainment and a circus skills workshop.

We took part in two local food and Drink festivals, including providing a free bouncy castle for children and opening up the church building for visitors to come in and look around, guided by church members.

We celebrated the coronation of Charles III on Sunday 7th May with a special service and a community lunch. We also took part in “the Big Help-Out” by helping to clear land and garden at local Northlands Primary School.

Activities for public benefit

We have produced daily devotions for use in Lent and Advent which were distributed electronically.

We have continued our support of world mission, including BMS world mission. As part of this, in the new year our church began supporting the BMS birthday Scheme. We also on two occasions welcomed mission personnel to our church for services or midweek meetings.

We have sought to reach out and support the local community through a number of initiatives and events:

- A community Family Day was held on 16th July for our Brigades, our church family and locals, including entertainment and a circus skills workshop.
- The Coronation of King Charles III on 6th May was marked with a special lunch and the church took part in “The Big Help Out” community project, undertaking ground works and gardening at the local Northlands School.
- During Advent we took nativity costumes and a portable stable out into the town centre for an initiative called “Get in the Picture,” inviting people to dress in nativity costumes and take selfies.

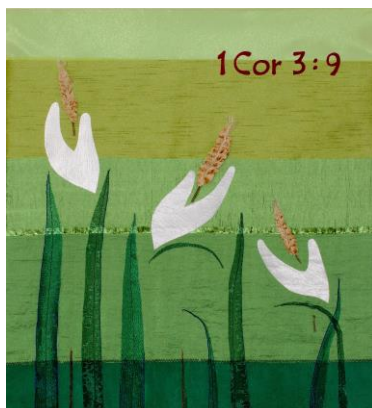


As part of this our Christmas magazine and copies of the Christmas story were given away. For several weeks we were able to offer this in the Santa's grotto in the main town shopping precinct.

- At the end of November, we held a Christmas Fair which was well supported by the local community
- Also expressing the creativity of our congregation, we held a daily Advent Photo challenge with people submitting photos on a daily theme.
- In April and October, we took part in Rugby Food and Drink Festivals, opening a café in our church and providing a free bouncy castle for children. We also opened our church up to the public to view.
- At Christmas we once again produced a high-quality Christmas magazine and distributed it in the local community. Also popular with the local community were our Carol services, a Christingle Service on Christmas eve and a performance of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" by Silhouette theatre Company.
- Easter weekend was well supported at church, including an ecumenical Good Friday walk from Rugby Baptist Church to St Andrews church.
- Our church anniversary was celebrated with community quiz night, a breakfast and a talk about Tools with A Mission, who send refurbished tools to small businesses and charities in Africa.



Achievements and Performance



“For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building (1 Cor 3:9)

Our church text from the Bible for 2024, illustrated with a pulpit fall created by one of our church members, Elaine Ridgway, has set the tone for the year – a fellowship of people working together in God’s mission and ministry. When the text was chosen we did not know that much of our physical building would be out of action in 2024, making all the more important for us to remember that we, the people, are God’s building.

2023-24 brought many challenges, not least the major work that was needed on the ceiling of our main sanctuary, but as a church we have grown numerically and needed to expand our work and increase our

use of Churchsuite church management software to ensure we are effectively working together in God's service.

Our Minister in training, Mat Sheffield, entered the final year of his placement with us, and began the process of looking for a church of his own, which led to him being called by Ashby de la Zouch Baptist church as their minister. Since we are committed to team ministry, we at Rugby Baptist began the process of looking for a new Associate Minister or Minister in Training.

Project Rufus

Work on the south facing roof of the church and the regent rooms were completed by the period of this report, and we are pleased to record that loans from church members which were received to enable the building work to take place were fully repaid at the beginning of the year.

Membership

As of 31st March 2023, our church community had 182 members (an increase of 14 on the previous year) and a further 53 adherents (who are under our pastoral care but not in membership).

Numbers engaging with the church online continue to be strong, with up to 100 views of our livestreamed/recorded services each week.

Wider church relations

We continued to build our relationship with the local Baptist cluster consisting of the Dunchurch, Wolston, Daventry and Rugby churches. This group has not only supported one another but also collectively supported out new BMS link missionaries, Wit and Helen Boondeekhun and Brian and Jackie Chilvers, who ended their service with BMS during the time covered by this report.

We continued to support Rugby Revive, a network which links the churches of Rugby and district.

Finances

A copy of our independently examined accounts accompanies this report.

We did not hold a gift day in 2024, but encouraged people to increase their general giving and to fill out a gift aid declaration. This bore significant results, both in terms of historic gift aid claims and future increases.

the Church continued to give generously to needy causes nationally, internationally and locally as the accompanying accounts reveal. The Church has a reserves policy which ensures that between three- and six-months' core expenditure is ring-fenced. £50,000 in reserves are lodged with the Baptist Union Corporation.

Fabric

As well as the aforementioned Project Rufus, the large premises of the church have needed considerable attention. During the year a dedicated property maintenance team of volunteers undertook many repairs and redecorated many areas of the premises.

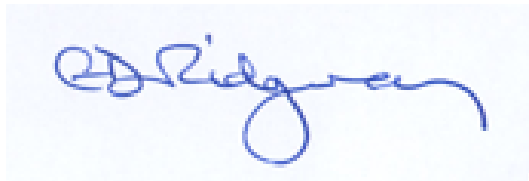
Bad weather during the relaying of the slates on the south facing roof of the church caused bad water ingress, and considerable damage to the ceiling underneath, as well as other damage. After much discussion with the builders' insurers, our insurers and the loss adjusters and surveyors of both parties, work began on scaffolding out the church and repairing the damage in January 2024. As this report concludes, the work is still ongoing.

Future

Every year brings its own opportunities and challenges. 2023-2024 brought many blessings, and good time. We also faced the challenge of significant fabric work and rising utility prices and inflation. We acknowledge the difficulty of the journey we have been on over the past few of years and yet we face the future with confidence that God will bring us out of the valley of trouble and through a doorway of hope.

We believe, then, that we have demonstrated again our commitment as Trustees to advance the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination and to advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.³

Signed



Date: 25 October 2024

Graham Ridgway
(Church Secretary)



Date: 25 October 2024

David Fleming
(Minister)

for and on behalf of the Church's Trustees' Board (the Diaconate) for presentation to the Annual Church Meeting on 10th September 2024.

³ RBC Constitution 2

RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH**Financial Statement for the year ended 31/03/2024****General receipts and payment account**

	Note	2022/23	
Receipts			
Weekly offering		£ 91,319.45	£
Donations & other income	2	£ 72,436.49	£
Income tax recovered on gifts		£ 14,193.00	£
Investment income	3	£ 241.65	£
Rents & contributions for use of premises		£ 30,091.44	£
Raised for other causes	4	£ 0.00	£
Home Mission grant		£ 0.00	£
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£ 208,282.03	£

Payments

Ministry	5	£ 83,237.86	£
Other staff		£ 0.00	£
Mission	6	£ 27,256.30	£
Upkeep of church premises	7	£ 116,749.58	£
Administration	8	£ 19,724.75	£
Amounts passed on to other causes		£ 0.00	£
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£ 246,968.49	£

Net receipts (payments) for the year		£ -38,686.46	£
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Transfers to/from General fund		£ 0.00	£
Loans from members		£ 62,800.00	£
Cash balance at previous year end		£ 90,917.75	£
Cash balance at current year end		£ 115,031.29	£

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES**Assets**

Bank and other cash balances:

Petty Cash		Not material	
Lloyds Bank Account	14	£ 115,031.29	£
BUC deposit account	14	£ 50,000.00	£
Other monetary assets:			
Debtors		£ 0.00	£
Loans made		£ 0.00	£
Gift aid claimed but not received		£ 0.00	£
Investment Assets	9	£ 0.00	£
Assets Held for Church's own use	10	£ 7,846,375.00	£
Total Assets		£ 8,011,406.29	£

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	11	£ 0.00	£
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Long Term Loans	12	£	62,800.00	£
Pension Scheme liability	13	£	0.00	£
Other liabilities		£	0.00	£
Total Liabilities		£	62,800.00	£

The accounts and statement of assets and liabilities set out on pages 1 to 5 re 31 March 2024 are as approved by the deacons.

Signed: (Deacon authorised to sign on behalf of all the deacons)

Date:

Notes to the accounts

1. Basis of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and in accordance with the Charities Act 1960 and the Charities Act 133 Charities Act 2011.

2. Donations & other income

Donations	£	47,702.84	£
Legacies	£	5,571.33	£
Memorial Gifts	£	0.00	£
Events	£	15,823.99	£
Other income	£	3,338.33	£
Total donations & other income	£	72,436.49	£

3. Investment income

Bank interest	£	241.65	£
Trust income	£	0.00	£
Other investment income	£	0.00	£
Total Investment Income	£	241.65	£

4. Raised for other causes

BMS Harvest	£	0.00	£
ROC	£	0.00	£
Other	£	0.00	£
Total Raised for Other causes	£	0.00	£

5. Ministry

Minister's stipend	£	36,884.90	£
Pension contribution	£	10,920.12	£
National insurance	£	7,392.04	£
Ministers Expenses	£	2,265.61	£
Other staff costs	£	24,303.99	£
Visiting Preachers	£	402.30	£
Other ministry	£	1,068.90	£
Total Ministry	£	83,237.86	£

Both ministers act as church trustees and receive remuneration and other benefits in connection with their services as minister.

6. Mission

Home Mission	£	10,500.00	£
BMS World Mission	£	8,488.08	£
RYFC	£	2,199.97	£
Other mission	£	6,068.25	£
Total Mission	£	27,256.30	£

7. Upkeep of church premises

Lighting and heating	£	7,964.48	£
Cleaning	£	521.40	£
Insurance	£	6,278.13	£
Repairs and maintenance	£	98,331.78	£
Other premises	£	3,653.79	£
Total Upkeep of church premises	£	116,749.58	£

8. Administration

Printing and stationery	£	730.69	£
Telephone and postage	£	973.22	£
Bank Charges	£	281.46	£
Events	£	3,021.17	£
Equipment	£	8,902.01	£
Subscriptions	£	3,954.84	£
Other administration	£	1,861.36	£
Total Administration	£	19,724.75	£

9. Investment assets

Stocks and Shares	£	0.00	£
Corporate bonds	£	0.00	£
Gilts	£	0.00	£
Investment property	£	0.00	£
Other investment assets	£	0.00	£
Total Investment Assets	£	0.00	£

10. Assets held of the church's own use

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets which are held by the church's custodian trustee [the Baptist Union Corporation]:
Church premises at Regent Place valued in the accounts at £8,041,734 based on a valuation of £8,041,734;
Church manse at Eastlands Road valued in the accounts at £280,942 based on a valuation of £280,942;
A nursery premises at Overslade valued in the accounts at £285,364 based on a valuation of £285,364;
Marriot Field. No meaningful value is available so it has not been included in the valuation of assets.
 And Liabilities.

The church also owns **fixtures, furniture, organ and equipment** with an inventory value of £10,000.

11. Current liabilities

Electricity billed but not yet paid	£	0.00	£
Cheques written but not yet cashed	£	0.00	£
Other	£	0.00	£
Total current liabilities	£	0.00	£

12. Long-term liabilities

Baptist Building Fund Loan	£	0.00	£
Baptist Union Loan Fund Loan	£	0.00	£
Loan from Church Members'	£	0.00	£
Other	£	0.00	£
Total Long-Term Liabilities	£	62,800.00	£

13. Pension scheme liability

The church is a participating employer within the Defined Benefit section of the scheme and has been making ongoing deficit payments to cover the costs of past service within the scheme under a recovery plan. The church understands that if it had left the scheme at year-end, it would have to have made a one-off payment estimated to be £0.00 to meet its obligations to the scheme. The church has no plan to leave the scheme and does not intend to make payments to the scheme in line with the recovery plan.

14. Cash

Restricted funds

Disability access fund

Total receipts	£	0.00	£
Total payments	£	0.00	£
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£	0.00	£
Cash balance at start of year	£	6,077.27	£
Cash balance at current year end	£	6,077.27	£

Matt Sheffield College Fund

Total receipts	£	0.00	£
Total payments	£	0.00	£
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£	0.00	£
Cash balance at start of year	£	1,831.85	£
Cash balance at current year end	£	1,831.85	£

Marriott Field fund for the poor of the Church

Total receipts	£	451.73	£
Total payments	£	240.00	£
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£	211.73	£
Cash balance at start of year	£	451.74	£
Cash balance at current year end	£	663.47	£

Designated funds

Project Rufus

Total receipts	£	120,964.67	£
Total payments	£	<u>90,107.96</u>	£
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£	30,856.71	£
Cash balance at start of year	£	<u>4,978.20</u>	£
Cash balance at current year end	£	35,834.91	£

Flowers

Total receipts	£	30.00	£
Total payments	£	<u>176.20</u>	£
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£	-146.20	£
Cash balance at start of year	£	<u>193.57</u>	£
Cash balance at current year end	£	47.37	£

Thursday Fellowship

Total receipts	£	54.00	£
Total payments	£	<u>0.00</u>	£
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£	54.00	£
Cash balance at start of year	£	<u>952.98</u>	£
Cash balance at current year end	£	1,006.98	£

Unrestricted funds

General

Total receipts	£	149,581.63	£
Total payments	£	<u>156,444.33</u>	£
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£	-6,862.70	£
Cash balance at start of year	£	<u>126,432.14</u>	£
Cash balance at current year end	£	119,569.44	£

2023/24

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Not material

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relating to the year ending

in accordance with Section

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includes £770 from Loveitts paid into new BU Div account

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BU investment interest paid to BU Inv accounts.

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n the Statement Of Assets

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The Baptist Pension scheme
 on behalf of its employees
 had left the scheme at the
 end of the year to meet its statutory
 obligations and expects to continue to

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-504.00
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-1,831.85
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144,904.78

Income		
Category \Category	Fund	Actual Income
Donations (A.1) Offertory	General	111,201.64
Donations (A.2) Gift Aid - Known	General	31560.53
Donations (A.4) Other	General	-14000
Donations (A.5) External Appeals	General	1005.4
Donations (B.1) Legacy	General	2000
Events (B.2) Funerals	General	1536.8
Events (B.7) Christmas	General	1658.81
Events (B.8) Family Day	General	133.5
Events (B.9) Holiday Clubs	General	51
Events (c.6) Coffee Morning	General	824.68
Events Food & Drink festival	General	182.82
Events Church anniversary quiz	General	264.56
Events Easter Breakfast	General	35
Other Inco (A.5) Bank Interest	General	950.27
Other Inco (A.6) Investments	General	2550.22
Other Inco (B.14) Other Income	General	1453.24
Overslade (A.8) Overslade Rental Income	General	16427.5
Regent Pla(A.7) Regent Place Lettings	General	18420.52
Donations (Rufus A.1) Donations	Project Rufus	3383.8
Donations (Rufus A1.2) Gift Aid	Project Rufus	6607.76
Events/ActFood and Drink Festival	Project Rufus	8
Events/ActTransferred from General Funds	Project Rufus	14000
Loans Project Rufus Loans	Project Rufus	0
Income Income 1/3 of total rent	Marriott Field res	0
Donations Flower Donations	Flowers	20
		200276.05

Expenditure		
Category \Category	Fund	Actual Expendit
Administra(7.01) Office Supplies	General	115.89
Administra(7.02) Photocopier	General	565.99
Administra(7.03) Office Equipment	General	114.27
Administra(7.04) Admin Licences	General	1874.71
Administra(7.05) Bank Fees	General	317.4
Administra(7.07) Website	General	866.49
Administra(7.08) Postage	General	146
Administra(7.09) Other	General	1163.7
Administra(7.10) Music Licences	General	1404.01
Employees(1.01) Minister Stipend	General	23052.59
Employees(1.02) Tax and Ni contributions for all staff	General	6257.55
Employees(1.03) Minister - Pension	General	7282.17
Employees(1.05) Church Pension deficit repayments	General	12
Employees(1.07) Minister Expenses	General	1332.72
Employees(1.11) Associate Minister Stipend	General	12190.29
Employees(1.13) Associate Minister - Pension	General	1783.44
Employees(1.16) Associate Minister - Benefit in kind	General	4926.39

Employees(1.17) Associate Minister Expenses	General	1760.99
Employees(1.21) Cleaner Salary	General	6904.47
Employees(1.31) Office Manager Salary	General	18048.06
Employees(1.33) Office Manager - Pension	General	735.48
Events (5.01) Funerals	General	460
Events (5.03) External Appeals	General	586
Events (5.05) Family Day	General	664.45
Events (5.11) Other Events	General	2101.3
Grants (3.01) Home Mission	General	7468
Grants (3.02) BMS	General	8699
Grants (3.03) Rugby Youth For Christ	General	2199.96
Grants (3.05) Training Grant	General	1164.2
Grants (3.10) Bilton House	General	1070
Grants (3.11) Hope 4	General	2140
Grants (3.12) Christians Against Poverty	General	1070
Grants (3.14) Other	General	120
Manse (2.02/3) Utilities (electricity and gas) BIK	General	2499.96
Manse (2.04) Water	General	247.28
Manse (2.05) Council Tax	General	2174.29
Manse (2.06) Insurance	General	460.89
Manse (2.07) Maintenance and Repair	General	276
Overslade (6.01) Insurance	General	626.08
Overslade (6.02) Maintenance	General	330
Regent Pla(4.01) Water	General	81.51
Regent Pla(4.02) Gas	General	3488.43
Regent Pla(4.03) Electricity	General	4188.87
Regent Pla(4.05) Insurance	General	5472.53
Regent Pla(4.06) Cleaning materials	General	754.87
Regent Pla(4.07) Kitchen Supplies - Food	General	547.82
Regent Pla(4.08) Kitchen Supplies - Small Equipment	General	46.95
Regent Pla(4.09) Organ and Piano Maintenance	General	258
Regent Pla(4.11) Sundry	General	251.4
Regent Pla(4.12) Flowers	General	31
Regent Pla(4.13) Repairs - Sanctuary and School Rooms	General	6322.94
Regent Pla(4.14) Repair - JLH inc Kitchen	General	2637.96
Regent Pla(4.16) Quotations and Surveys	General	294
Regent Pla(4.19) Audio Visual Equipment	General	646.95
Regent Pla(4.40) Phone	General	0
Staffing (1.41) Organist	General	385
Staffing (1.51) Visiting Preacher (s)	General	300.9
Lift Maintenance	Disabled access	504
Expenses Expenses	Flowers	4.39
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RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH
Church Accounts
Year ended 31 March 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Rugby Baptist Church.

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 as set out on various pages.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act")

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the Act

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect :

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required under section 130 of the 2011 Act
- or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records or
- 3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of
- 4) accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement
- 5) that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent
- 6) examination

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in the report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Keith Moore

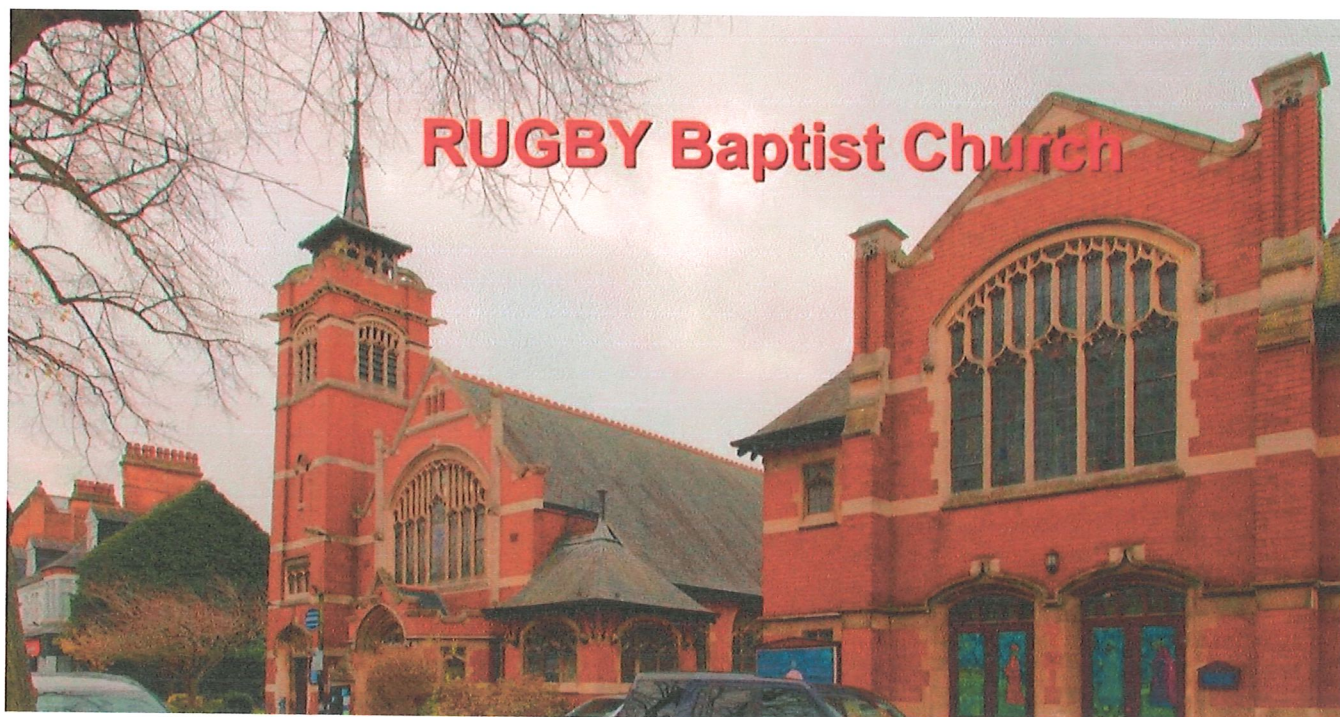
10th December 2024

Keith Moore
KLM ACCOUNTS
15 Shenstone Road
Great Barr
Birmingham B43 5LW

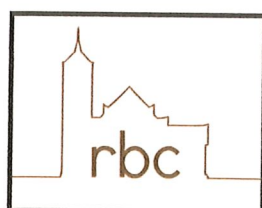
RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1126606

Accounts



2022–23 Annual Report and Accounts



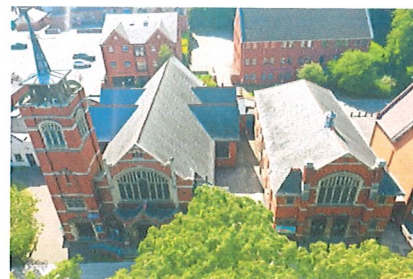
Rugby Baptist Church

Regent Place
Rugby CV21 2PJ

Annual Report

The Trustees of Rugby Baptist Church are pleased to present their report together with the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.

In accordance with Charity Law for churches with an income of over £10,000, we now present this annual report of our recent activities. This report will be forwarded, in due course, to the Charity Commission along with the independently examined accounts of our Church.



Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Rugby Baptist Church
Registered Charity	1126606
Address	Regent Place Rugby CV21 2PJ

Managing Trustees (Diaconate)

Senior Minister	Rev David Fleming
Student Minister	Mathew Sheffield

Deacons	Carey Cowperthwaite	from 13 November 2022
	Michael Daulman	
	David Higham	until 13 November 2022
	Louise Morley	
	Rosemary Pugh	from 13 November 2022
	Jessica Quirke	from 13 November 2022
	Graham Ridgway (Secretary)	
	Richard Smith (Treasurer)	until 13 November 2022
	Emma Spraget	
	Emma Tiller	from 13 November 2022
	Milton Williams	

On 13 November 2022 Simon Morley was appointed church Finance Officer. He does not serve as a deacon or as a managing trustee.

Structure, Governance and Management

Rugby Baptist Church (RBC) is a charitable unincorporated association governed by constitution. The constitution was adopted by resolution of a special church meeting on 17th November 2009, modified by resolution of a special church meeting on 9th September 2014 and 10th November 2015. The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Heart of England Baptist Association (HEBA). HEBA is the Trustee for the charity, holding the titles to the charity's properties other than those for the Manse which are held by the BU Corporation.

The Church Members' Meeting

In common with most Baptist churches, the Church is governed by its own members through the Church Meeting which is normally held bimonthly. Ministers and diaconate meet monthly to exercise executive oversight and prepare business for the Church Meeting. The latter has reserved authority in the appointment and removal of a Minister, the appointment and removal of Trustees, decisions related to church property, the administration of the membership list, and the closure of the Church¹. During 2022-23 there were 5 ordinary church members' meetings as well as the Annual Church Meeting. All but one were chaired by Rev David Fleming

The method of appointment of Trustees is set out in the constitution. The Trustees (the diaconate) are the ministers of the church and the deacons—including Secretary and Treasurer—who are elected by the members at a church members' meeting.

The Diaconate

The diaconate (Board of Trustees) had 10 regular meetings over the course of the year 2022–23, all chaired by Rev David Fleming.

At the 13th November 2022 ACM Richard Smith stepped down as Deacon and Church Treasurer and David Higham stepped down as Deacon. Carey Cowperthwaite, Rosemary Pugh, Jessica Quirke and Emma Tiller were appointed to the diaconate. Louise Morley was re-elected for a two year term.

Over the course of the year the Diaconate has reported regularly to the Church Meeting, which usually meets bi-monthly, to discuss, share information and to make decisions together.

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the church is 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.²

¹ Rugby Baptist Church (RBC) *Constitution* 9.2

² RBC *Constitution* 2

May Peace Prevail On Earth

世界人類が平和でありやすうに

Activities in relation to the purpose

Over the course of the year the Diaconate has sought to manage its priorities, workload, and response to changing circumstances. Our principal activities as a church are:

1. Worship and prayer.
2. The nurturing of Christian discipleship and building fellowship within the church.
3. The teaching and sharing of the Christian faith within an all-age faith community.
4. The pastoral care of individuals, and
5. Service to the local community and the wider world.

The activities and events of the church have been to further these purposes.

2022-2023 saw the final transition of the church out of Lockdown restrictions. In May 2022 our services returned fully to their pre-Lockdown pattern, and in July 2022 our church members meeting was held for the first time since Lockdown in person rather than on Zoom.

Activities for public benefit

The Trustees have given due regard to Charity Commission guidance on the public benefit of the Charity.

During the period of this report we saw significant numbers of new worshippers joining our church, and in response to this held two events to welcome newcomers in integrate them into the life of the church – a BBQ on 8 May 2022 and a lunch on 5 March 2023.

To support worshippers unable to attend church in person due to illness or other reasons, we have continued to maintain regular contact through zoom meetings (including a daily prayer time and other hybrid meetings) and by live streaming and uploading online our main Sunday services. We have also offered support to our members through distributing flowers weekly and offering other such support, including meals and cards, to those in particular need. We have produced daily devotions for use in Lent and Advent which were distributed electronically.

We have offered financial and prayer support to charitable organizations which benefit the whole local community, including Hope4 (Rugby) Ltd (working with homeless and badly housed people), Food Bank, Christians against Poverty (debt counselling), Gift of Years (care home chaplaincy) and Street Pastors.

We have continued our support of world mission, including BMS world mission. As part of this, in the new year our church began supporting the BMS birthday Scheme. We also on two occasions welcomed mission personnel to our church for services or midweek meetings.

We have sought to reach out and support the local community through a number of initiatives and events:

- A community Family Day was held on 10th October for our Brigades, our church family and locals, including entertainment and a circus skills workshop. On that day two of our senior Boy's Brigade members were awarded their Queen's Badge, the highest award BB members can earn.
- On 5 June we held a street party for the queen's Platinum Jubilee (which because of weather had to be held indoors. Entertainment was provided by local band Scratch, Sniff and Itch and by children's entertainer John Hardwick. The event was extremely well attended and well received.
- On the death of the queen on 8th September 2022, we opened the church for prayer and reflection and opened a book of condolence. Several members of the public came in to pray and send messages of condolence.
- During Advent we took nativity costumes and a portable stable out into the town centre for an initiative called "Get in the Picture," inviting people to dress in nativity costumes and take selfies. As part of this our Christmas magazine and copies of the Christmas story were given away. For several weeks we were able to offer this in the Santa's grotto in the main town shopping precinct.



- Also expressing the creativity of our congregation, we held a daily Advent Photo challenge with people submitting photos on a daily theme.

- At Christmas we once again produced a high-quality Christmas magazine and distributed it in the local community.



Achievements and Performance

"carry the light-giving message into the night" ... (Philippians 2:15)

Our church text from the Bible for 2023, illustrated with a pulpit fall created by one of our church members, spoke of our sense of purpose and mission, and also our conviction that we have an affirming and positive message to share as a church. It was chosen for us by our deacons and has proved very appropriate for this year.

2022-23 brought many challenges, not least the major work that was needed on our premises, but as a church we have grown numerically and needed to expand our work, including a new focus on prayer ministry, a new Ladies ministry called Bloom which put on several events through the year, and a new midweek Home group to meet increased demand. This increased workload has been greatly helped by maintaining a ministry team in the church, including our student minister, Mat Sheffield.

As part of our commitment to sharing a positive message with our community, on 12 March we installed a Peace Pole in the church garden, with the message “May peace prevail on Earth” written in the most common languages spoken in Rugby plus Ukrainian (to reflect the ongoing war there.) This is part of an international network of over 200,000 peace poles in 200 countries. Our particular Peace Pole is illustrated on page 3 of this report.

Our use of church suite to improve communications and efficiency of church has continued, mainly thanks to our church administrator, Gill Harrison. Thanks to Gill and one of our deacons, Emma Tiller, we have continued to develop our use of Churchsuite church management software.



Project Rufus

In October work began on the renewal of the South facing roofs of the church and halls, this being the first phase of work recommended in the 2021 survey. The work was undertaken by Swingers and sons, at an eventual cost of ca£130K. The work was funded by a combination of grants, gifts and loans from church members, fundraising efforts and use of available church funds.

The work took several weeks to complete, and fundraising for it was a major focus of the year.



Fundraising was organised by a dedicated team supported by the Diaconate.



Among the events undertaken to raise funds were Easter and Christmas Fayres, concerts by the local Rock Choir and by flautist Simeon Wood, a quiz night, a “sponsor a slate” scheme and supper evenings. Added to this has been the generosity of many church members who have continually given generously to the Project Rufus appeal.

Membership

As of April 2022, our church community had 169 members and a further 128 adherents (who are under our pastoral care but not in membership). This shows a modest increase in membership (despite a number of deaths over the year) but a significant increase in adherents.

Numbers engaging with the church online continue to be strong, with up to 100 views of our livestreamed/recorded services each week.

Wider church relations

We continued to build our relationship with the local Baptist cluster consisting of the Dunchurch, Wolston, Daventry and Rugby churches. This group has not only supported one another but also collectively supported out new BMS link missionaries, Wit and Hele Boondeekhun and Brian and Jackie Chilvers.

We continued to support Rugby Revive, a network which links the churches of Rugby and district.

Finances

A copy of our independently examined accounts accompanies this report.

On our 2023 Gift Day the congregation responded generously to an appeal for our Rufus project, and £5,544.50 was raised.

the Church continued to give generously to needy causes nationally, internationally and locally as the accompanying accounts reveal. The Church has a reserves policy which ensures that between three and six months' core expenditure is ring-fenced. £50,000 in reserves are lodged with the Baptist Union Corporation.

Fabric

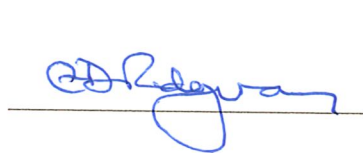
As well as the aforementioned Project Rufus, the large premises of the church have needed considerable attention. During the year the Blue Room and adjacent corridor were redecorated, and maintenance work undertaken by a dedicated team of volunteers.

Future

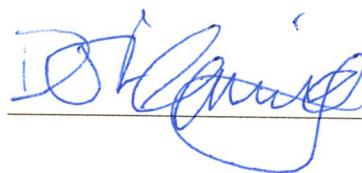
Every year brings its own opportunities and challenges. 2022-2023 brought many blessings, and good time. We also faced the challenge of significant fabric work and rising utility prices and inflation. We acknowledge the difficulty of the journey we have been on over the past few of years and yet we face the future with confidence that God will bring us out of the valley of trouble and through a doorway of hope.

We believe, then, that we have demonstrated again our commitment as Trustees to advance the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination and to advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.³

Signed



Graham Ridgway
(church Secretary)



David Fleming
(Minister)

Date 11/12/23

for and on behalf of the Church's Trustees' Board (the Diaconate) for presentation to the Annual Church Meeting on 12th September 2023.

³ RBC Constitution 2

RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH**Financial Statement for the year ended 31/03/2023**

General receipts and payment account

	Note	2022/23	2021/22 Restated
Receipts			
Weekly offering		£ 91,319.45	£ 87,295.52
Donations & other income	2	£ 72,436.49	£ 23,041.35
Income tax recovered on gifts		£ 14,193.00	£ 19,839.50
Investment income	3	£ 241.65	£ 1,197.91
Rents & contributions for use of premises		£ 30,091.44	£ 21358.96
Raised for other causes	4	£ 0.00	£ 2,705.20
Home Mission grant		£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Loans from Members		£ 62,800.00	£ 0.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£ 271,082.03	£ 155,438.44
Payments			
Ministry	5	£ 83,237.86	£ 77,978.60
Other staff		£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Mission	6	£ 27,256.30	£ 26,211.08
Upkeep of church premises	7	£ 116,749.58	£ 30,401.07
Administration	8	£ 19,724.75	£ 8,547.07
Repayment of loans from members		£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Amounts passed on to other causes		£ 0.00	£ 406.40
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£ 246,968.49	£ 143,544.22
Net receipts (payments) for the year		£ 24,113.54	£ 11,894.22
Transfers to/from General fund		£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Cash balance at previous year end		£ 90,917.75	£ 79,023.53
Cash balance at current year end		£ 115,031.29	£ 90,917.75

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES

Assets

Bank and other cash balances:

Petty Cash		Not material	Not material
Lloyds Bank Account	14	£ 115,031.29	£ 89,095.75
BUC deposit account	14	£ 50,000.00	£ 50,000.00
Other monetary assets:			
Debtors		£ 0.00	£ 1,822.00
Loans made		£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Gift aid claimed but not received		£ 0.00	£ 6,479.50
Investment Assets	9	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Assets Held for Church's own use	10	£ 7,846,375.00	£ 7,821,380.00
Total Assets		£ 8,011,406.29	£ 7,968,777.25

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	11	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Long Term Loans	12	£ 62,800.00	£ 0.00
Pension Scheme liability	13	£ 0.00	£ 22,700.00
Other liabilities		£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Total Liabilities		£ 62,800.00	£ 22,700.00

The accounts and statement of assets and liabilities set out on pages 1 to 5 relating to the year ending 31 March 2023 are as approved by the deacons.

Signed: (Deacon authorised to sign on behalf of all the deacons)

Date:

Notes to the accounts

1. Basis of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and in accordance with Section 133 Charities Act 2011.

2. Donations & other income

Donations	£ 47,702.84	£ 3,000.00
Legacies	£ 5,571.33	£ 14,000.00
Memorial Gifts	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Events	£ 15,823.99	£ 4,827.21
Other income	£ 3,338.33	£ 1,383.32
Total donations & other income	£ 72,436.49	£ 23,210.53

3. Investment income

Bank interest	£ 241.65	£ 8.15
Trust income	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Other investment income	£ 0.00	£ 1,189.76
Total Investment Income	£ 241.65	£ 1,197.91

4. Raised for other causes

BMS Harvest	£	0.00	£	0.00
ROC	£	0.00	£	0.00
Other	£	0.00	£	2,705.20
Total Raised for Other causes	£	0.00	£	2,705.20

5. Ministry

Minister's stipend	£	36,884.90	£	30,711.80
Pension contribution	£	10,920.12	£	12,441.27
National insurance	£	7,392.04	£	7,930.88
Ministers Expenses	£	2,265.61	£	1,328.57
Other staff costs	£	24,303.99	£	24,676.08
Visiting Preachers	£	402.30	£	365.00
Other ministry	£	1,068.90	£	525.00
Total Ministry	£	83,237.86	£	77,978.60

Both ministers act as church trustees and receive remuneration and other benefits in respect of their services as minister.

6. Mission

Home Mission	£	10,500.00	£	10,500.00
BMS World Mission	£	8,488.08	£	8,488.08
RYFC	£	2,199.97	£	1,992.00
Other mission	£	6,068.25	£	5,231.00
Total Mission	£	27,256.30	£	26,211.08

7. Upkeep of church premises

Lighting and heating	£	7,964.48	£	8,501.19
Cleaning	£	521.40	£	400.39
Insurance	£	6,278.13	£	5,645.03
Repairs and maintenance	£	98,331.78	£	11,892.48
Other premises	£	3,653.79	£	3,961.98
Total Upkeep of church premises	£	116,749.58	£	30,401.07

8. Administration

Printing and stationery	£	730.69	£	631.36
Telephone and postage	£	973.22	£	598.78
Bank Charges	£	281.46	£	242.54
Events	£	3,021.17	£	1,939.44
Equipment	£	8,902.01	£	0.00
Subscriptions	£	3,954.84	£	2,423.27
Other administration	£	1,861.36	£	2,711.68
Total Administration	£	19,724.75	£	8,547.07

9. Investment assets

Stocks and Shares	£	0.00	£	0.00
Corporate bonds	£	0.00	£	0.00
Gilts	£	0.00	£	0.00
Investment property	£	0.00	£	0.00
Other investment assets	£	0.00	£	0.00
Total Investment Assets	£	0.00	£	0.00

10. Assets held of the church's own use

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee [the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd]:

Church premises at Regent Place valued in the accounts at £6,508,994 based on insured value.

Church manse at Eastlands Road valued in the accounts at £280,942 based on insured value.

A nursery premises at Overslade valued in the accounts at £263,598 based on insured value.

Marriot Field. No meaningful value is available so it has not been included In the Statement Of Assets And Liabilities.

The church also owns **fixtures, furniture, organ and equipment** with an insured value of £792,841

11. Current liabilities

Electricity billed but not yet paid	£	0.00	£	0.00
Cheques written but not yet cashed	£	0.00	£	0.00
Other	£	0.00	£	0.00
Total current liabilities	£	0.00	£	0.00

12. Long-term liabilities

Baptist Building Fund Loan	£	0.00	£	0.00
Baptist Union Loan Fund Loan	£	0.00	£	0.00
Loan from Church Members'	£	62,800.00	£	0.00
Other	£	0.00	£	0.00
Total Long-Term Liabilities	£	62,800.00	£	0.00

13. Pension scheme liability

The church is a participating employer within the Defined Benefit section of the Baptist Pension scheme and has been making ongoing deficit payments to cover the costs of past service of its employees within the scheme under a recovery plan. The church understands that if it had left the scheme at the year-end, it would have to have made a one-off payment estimated to be £0 to meet its statutory obligations to the scheme. The church has no plan to leave the scheme and expects to continue to make payments to the scheme in line with the recovery plan.

14. Cash

Restricted funds

Disability access fund

Total receipts	£	0.00	£	0.00
Total payments	£	0.00	£	63.03
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£	0.00	£	-63.03
Cash balance at start of year	£	6,077.27	£	6,140.30

Cash balance at current year end	£ 6,077.27	£ 6,077.27
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Matt Sheffield College Fund

Total receipts	£ 0.00	£ 3,000.00
Total payments	£ 0.00	£ 1,168.15
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£ 0.00	£ 1,831.85
Cash balance at start of year	£ 1,831.85	£ 0.00
Cash balance at current year end	£ 1,831.85	£ 1,831.85

Marriott Field fund for the poor of the Church

Total receipts	£ 451.73	£ 0.00
Total payments	£ 240.00	£ 0.00
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£ 211.73	£ 0.00
Cash balance at start of year	£ 451.74	£ 451.74
Cash balance at current year end	£ 663.47	£ 451.74

Designated funds

Project Rufus

Total receipts	£ 120,964.67	£ 2,353.20
Total payments	£ 90,107.96	£ 3,110.00
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£ 30,856.71	£ -756.80
Cash balance at start of year	£ 4,978.20	£ 5,735.00
Cash balance at current year end	£ 35,834.91	£ 4,978.20

Flowers

Total receipts	£ 30.00	£ 140.00
Total payments	£ 176.20	£ 0.00
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£ -146.20	£ 140.00
Cash balance at start of year	£ 193.57	£ 53.57
Cash balance at current year end	£ 47.37	£ 193.57

Thursday Fellowship

Total receipts	£ 54.00	£ 1,002.98
Total payments	£ 0.00	£ 50.00
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£ 54.00	£ 952.98
Cash balance at start of year	£ 952.98	£ 0.00
Cash balance at current year end	£ 1,006.98	£ 952.98

Unrestricted funds

Total receipts	£ 149,581.63	£ 148,690.26
Total payments	£ 156,444.33	£ 138,746.64
Net receipts / (payments) for the year	£ -6,862.70	£ 9,943.62
Cash balance at start of year	£ 126,432.14	£ 116,488.52
Cash balance at current year end	£ 119,569.44	£ 126,432.14

RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH
Church Accounts
Year ended 31 March 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Rugby Baptist Church.

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 as set out on various pages.

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or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records or
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Keith Moore
5th December 2023
Keith Moore
KLM ACCOUNTS
15 Shenstone Road
Great Barr
Birmingham B43 5LW

RUGBY BAPTIST CHURCH

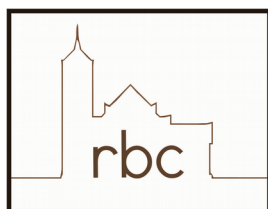
England & Wales - Charity number 1126606

Accounts



Rugby Baptist Church

2020–21 Annual Report and Accounts



Rugby Baptist Church

Regent Place
Rugby CV21 2PJ

Annual Report

The Trustees of Rugby Baptist Church are pleased to present their report together with the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year from 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021.

In accordance with Charity Law for churches with an income of over £10,000, we now present this annual report of our recent activities. This report will be forwarded, in due course, to the Charity Commission along with the independently examined accounts of our Church.



Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Rugby Baptist Church
Registered Charity	1126606
Address	Regent Place Rugby CV21 2PJ

Managing Trustees (Diaconate)

Senior Minister	Rev David Fleming	<i>from 1st August 2020</i>
Associate Minister	Revd Dr Peter den Haan	<i>until October 2020</i>
Deacons	Ian Coleman	<i>Until 10th November 2020</i>
	Carey Cowperthwaite	
	Michael Daulman	<i>From 10th November 2020</i>
	David Higham	
	Louise Morley	
	Brenda Pulham	
	Graham Ridgway	<i>appointed secretary, 10th November 2020</i>
	Chris Speake (Treasurer)	
	Emma Spraget	<i>from 10th November 2020</i>
	Emma Tiller (Secretary)	<i>until 10th November 2020</i>

Suzanne Upton
Milton Williams

Structure, Governance and Management

Rugby Baptist Church (RBC) is a charitable unincorporated association governed by constitution. The constitution was adopted by resolution of a special church meeting on 17th November 2009, modified by resolution of a special church meeting on 9th September 2014 and 10th November 2015. The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Heart of England Baptist Association (HEBA). HEBA is the Trustee for the charity, holding the titles to the charity's properties other than those for the Manse which are held by the BU Corporation.

The Church Members' Meeting

In common with most Baptist churches, the Church is governed by its own members through the Church Meeting which is normally held bimonthly. Ministers and diaconate meet monthly to exercise executive oversight and prepare business for the Church Meeting. The latter has reserved authority in the appointment and removal of a Minister, the appointment and removal of Trustees, decisions related to church property, the administration of the membership list, and the closure of the Church¹. During 2020-21 there were 5 ordinary church members' meetings as well as the Annual Church Meeting, all held over Zoom due to Lockdown restrictions.

The method of appointment of Trustees is set out in the constitution. The Trustees (the diaconate) are the ministers of the church and the deacons—including Secretary and Treasurer—who are elected by the members at a church members' meeting.

The Diaconate

The diaconate (Board of Trustees) had 10 regular meetings over the course of the year 2019–20. Reverend Roger Woodward, a retired Baptist Minister, chaired diaconate and church meetings, and acted as a point of reference during the pastoral vacancy until the commencement of the appointment of our new senior minister, Rev David Fleming, in August. Thereafter he chaired meetings.

¹ Rugby Baptist Church *Constitution* 9.2

At the November 2019 ACM Michael Daulman and Emma Spraget were appointed as new Deacon/Trustees; and Emma Tiller stepped down as both as a deacon/trustee and as Church Secretary. Over the course of the year the Diaconate has reported regularly to the Church Meeting, which usually meets bi-monthly, to discuss, share information and to make decisions together.

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the church is 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.²

Activities in relation to the purpose

Over the course of the year the Diaconate has sought to manage its priorities, workload, and response to changing circumstances through a basic Kanban-style system. Our principal activities as a church are:

1. Worship and prayer.
2. The teaching and sharing of the Christian faith within an all-age faith community.
3. The pastoral care of individuals, and
4. Service to the local community and the wider world.

Among the particular targets we set ourselves this year have been:

- To offer relevant and compelling themes for Sunday services and house groups.
- To develop and offer opportunities to use the gifts of the church membership in leading worship and ministry.
- To continue the renewal and development of our church's prayer life.
- To maintain and develop the ministry and mission of the church during Lockdown, and to help transition safely out of Lockdown.
- To welcome our new Senior minister and help him integrate into the life of the church.
- To make the diaconate more effective by establishing small groups to help and support the work of the diaconate.

Activities for public benefit

The Trustees have given due regard to Charity Commission guidance on the public benefit of the Charity. 2020-2021 was an unusual year for us due to Covid Lockdown, meaning that many of our normal activities had to be suspended and many of our planned activities for public benefit could not take place. However, our revised plans included the following

- To support people during Lockdown through regular contact, zoom and other online gathering, distributing flowers weekly and offering other such support, including meals and cards, as was safe and permitted by government guidelines.

- To give volunteer, financial, and prayer support to charitable organizations which benefit the whole local community, including Hope4 (Rugby) Ltd (working with homeless and badly housed people), Food Bank, Christians against Poverty (debt counselling), Gift of Years (care home chaplaincy) and Street Pastors.



- Continued to champion the Redeeming Our Communities conversation, which we hope will result in a consultation in 2021.

- Over Easter 2020 a number of people in the congregation created Easter Gardens and placed Lent Crosses in their front gardens for passers by to see during early Lockdown. These were shared on facebook and many from the public commented positively on the initiative.

- Over Christmas the church windows were decorated with "stained glass" panels made of tissue and card to form a single large image. Over 60 people of all ages took part as a witness and a sign that the church was still active. Many people enjoyed the display as they went down Regent Street.
- During Lockdown we also held online events, including a quiz night and a bake-along on Maundy Thursday.



Achievements and Performance

" With God's power working in us God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine"...(Ephesians 3:20)



Our church text from the Bible for 2021, illustrated with a pulpit fall created by one of our church members, reminds us of our dependence on God for all we seek to achieve. It was chosen for us by our deacons and has proved very appropriate for this year.

This has been a year of unparalleled challenges, and we have fought hard to maintain our church life under the restrictions of Lockdown. Our regular meetings were either suspended or moved online for most of the year, and many of the key activities supported by the church, such as the Winter Night Shelter for the homeless, did not take place this year.

Our new Senior Minister took up post in August 2020, and has adjusted well to ministry at Rugby Baptist Church, despite personal challenges following his wife's death in 2000 from Covid19.

We have adjusted and improved our Audio Visual provision to allow services to be live streamed and saved as recordings online.

We have improved the functioning of the Diaconate by setting up several small groups in areas such as Local Mission, Fellowship and Pastoral life. These small groups have drawn membership from the wider church as well as the diaconate. Some of the groups have started well and strongly, others have struggled to get going, which is to be expected considering the restrictions of Lockdown.

We have made far greater use of Churchsuite to improve communications and efficiency of church. Churchsuite also improved our track and trace recording when regulations allowed face-to-face meeting.

Coronavirus response

The coronavirus pandemic has significantly curtailed our usual church activities, and of particular frustration was the period at the turn of the year when moving in and out of Lockdown made planning difficult. Our response to continue "the advancement of the Christian faith" has been as follows:

- Maintained an active group of Pastoral carers and kept in touch with most of the members on our pastoral list.

- Used the Meal Ministry team to support practically those with particular by providing hot cooked meals.
- Facilitated prayer, encouragement, and interaction using a private Facebook group, a whatsapp group and daily and weekly prayer meetings.
- Created pre-recorded services when in lockdown and met in person as allowed with involvement of a wide range of the church family. Recorded and livestreamed services were made available every Sunday through the website, Facebook, and Youtube, and some of our children's groups have also met online weekly
- Sent the weekly newsletter, electronically or by post, to the entire church family.
- Got as many church activities online as possible using Zoom, including office and deacons' meetings, a Sunday meeting, the prayer meeting, and house groups.
- Encouraged the different ministries to reach out to the fringe either electronically or by phone or post.
- Compliance with Lockdown restrictions and the safe easing of those restrictions have absorbed a lot of time and energy this year. Trustees have been careful to begin face to face meetings only as advised by the Government and the Baptist Union of Great Britain, and as considered prudent by our own Health and Safety advisors. We are confident that we have moved as safely as possible, and taken every step to prevent the spread of the virus in our buildings and through our activities.

Membership

As of October 2020 our church community had 163 members and a further 113 adherents (who are under our pastoral care but not in membership). Our programme and activities for Toddlers did not continue during lockdown, but many of our activities for children and young people moved online, and contact was maintained with around a third to a half of our children and teenagers. Although most of our midweek meetings and our Sunday services were either suspended during Lockdown or moved online, we have tried to keep in touch as much as possible with members. We had the pleasure of welcoming one person into membership through affirmation of faith and two more through transfer from another Baptist church. Despite lockdown, new members and adherents have continued to join us, and our online services have had a "reach" far beyond what was achieved when we were only meeting physically. Up to 200 people have viewed our services either as recordings or livestreams. This helps us to continue to look to the future positively and with hope, despite the challenges that the coronavirus no doubt will continue to pose over the coming year.

Teams

Part of the Trustees' responsibilities is ensuring that teams are in place to run and deliver our Church's wide-ranging programme of events and activities. This year we have arranged two Level 2 safeguarding training evenings for 38 of our volunteers, four volunteers have attended children's worker training at Moorlands College. A property matters training day that a number of members of our property team were to attend has been postponed due to the coronavirus, as has a mental health first aid course.

Pastoral Care is overseen by a dedicated team of around 11 people who work alongside the Ministers in offering pastoral care to an extended church community of around 300. A team of around 16 leaders delivers a well-supported and varied small groups programme and meet together several times a year to plan this. Other examples of such teams who help to make our service to both church and community possible, include an encouraging range of musicians, those who attend our Children's and Youth Forum every two months with oversight over a wide and varied children's and youth programme here; those who operate our church's various coffee and food rotas, a meal ministry, and a dedicated property, gardening and cleaning team. In common with Christian Churches the world over so much good work and service is only possible because of the time, dedication and energy of many such teams of committed people each year.

Cluster

During Lockdown, through regular Zoom meetings, we have also maintained a good working relationship within the local Baptist cluster consisting of the Dunchurch, Wolston, Daventry and Rugby churches. This group has not only supported one another but also collectively supported out BMS link missionaries.

Community

In many ways our community involvement was most affected by the Lockdown. Our Girls' and Boys' Brigade Companies kept meeting online throughout Lockdown, and kept contact with most of their members.

Our partnership with other churches in the town through the REVIVE network has continued.

Due to Lockdown our usual support for the Winter Shelter for rough sleepers here in town was not offered, as the project did not take place. We have also continued to provide prayerful support for a range of interchurch charitable activities as mentioned above—Hope4, Food Bank, Christians Against Poverty, Gift of Years, Street Pastors, and more.

Finances

A copy of our independently examined accounts accompanies this report.

On the 2021 Gift Day the congregation responded generously to an appeal for funds to raise funds for repairs to our church fabric.

During 2021 concerns were raised about the condition of the slate roof of our church, with a number of tiles slipping. Investigations into the condition of the roof were authorised with a view to repairing or re-tiling the roof.

Despite Lockdown, the Church continued to give generously to needy causes nationally, internationally and locally as the accompanying accounts reveal, and we are looking to increase our level of giving in the next financial year. The Church has a reserves policy which ensures that between three and six months' core expenditure is ring-fenced. £50,000 in reserved are lodged with the Baptist Union Corporation.

Coronavirus response

In response to the continued coronavirus pandemic, on behalf of the Trustees, the Treasurer has kept a careful eye on the church finances. Giving for the year will be reduced and rental income significantly so, but reserves are more than sufficient to absorb the impact in the short to medium term.

Our cleaner, Cathy Barker, was been put on furlough for part of the year using the Government's scheme to cover 80% of her contracted salary, with the Church making up the rest. All other staff are worked from home for part of the year. As we began to emerge from Lockdown we made adjustments to the cleaning of the church premises to allow for increased Coronavirus protection.

Future

2021-2022 will bring the challenge of emerging from Lockdown, reviving some of our activities after a long period of relative inactivity, and changing and renewing others. We look forward to the appointment of a new Associate Minister to replace Peter den Haan,

As 2021–22 unfolds, we are looking forward to a new season in our church life as our nation continues to emerge from Lockdown. We face the "New Normal" realising that some of our activities will have been negatively impacted by almost two years of Lockdown and

will need rebuilding, but also that needs in our community have been brought into sharp focus over the past months, and we will have new challenges to rise to. As one example of that, in September we are planning two special services to help the grieving of those whose friends and loved ones died during the Lockdown and who were, perhaps, not able to attend the Funeral services at the time. We are also committed to supporting the and participating in the *Redeeming our Communities* (ROC) conversation.

2020-2021 was an unprecedented and difficult year, and nothing in the experience of Rugby Baptist Church prepared us for the challenges we faced. We believe, then, that we have demonstrated again our commitment as Trustees to advance the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination and to advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.³

Signed

_____ Date _____

Graham Ridgway
(church Secretary)

David Fleming
(Minister)

for and on behalf of the Church's Trustees' Board (the Diaconate) for
presentation to the Annual Church Meeting on 12th January 2021.

Template for Receipt and Payment Accounts

This document provides a template for churches who are preparing accruals accounts. It should be read in conjunction with the guidance in [Leaflet F02: Guidelines on Church Accounts with Income under £250,000](#)

Rugby Baptist Church

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 March 2021

GENERAL RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT

	Not e	2019/20	2020/21
Receipts			
Weekly offerings		100392.03	87599.22
Donations and other income	2	13820.58	14442.28
Income tax recovered on gifts		19683.25	16372.25
Investment income	3	57.74	472.07
Rents and contributions for use of premises		29575.5	13847.96
Raised for other causes	4	2373.12	10782.31
Home Mission grant		0	0
Total Receipts		165902.22	143516.09
Payments			
Ministry & Staff	5	55128.5	69246.26
Mission & Grants	6	16972.26	25245.08
Upkeep of church premises	7	46929.8	35656.15
Administration & Events	8	8872.1	9401.52
Amounts passed on to other causes		4700.11	4922.05
Total Payments		132602.77	144471.06
Net receipts / (payments) for the year		33299.45	-954.97
Transfers (to) / from general fund		0	0
Cash balance at previous year end		96509.87	79809.32
Cash balance at current year end		79809.32	78848.53

Disabled Access Fund account

	Not e	2019/20	2020/21
Receipts			
Donations and other income		0	0
Income tax recovered on gifts		0	0
Bank Interest		0	0
Total Receipts			
Payments			
Payments		1998	0
Total Payments		1998	0
Net receipts / (payments) for the year		-1998	0
Transfers (to) / from fabric fund		0	0
Cash balance at previous year end		8138.3	6140.3
Cash balance at current year end		6140.3	6140.3

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31st March 2020

		2019/20	2020/21
	Not e		
Assets			
Bank and other cash balances			
Petty Cash		Not material	Not Material
Lloyds Bank Account		79809.32	78848.53
BUC deposit account		50000	50005.82
Other monetary assets:			
Debtors		0	
Loans made		0	
Gift aid claimed but not received		6331.25	7021.00
Investment Assets	9	0	
Assets Held for Church's own use	10	0	
Total Assets		136140.57	135875.35
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities	11	0	0
Long Term Loans	12	0	0
Pension Scheme liability	13	35492.00	30473.82
Other liabilities	14	0	0
Total Liabilities		35492.00	30473.82

The accounts and statement of assets and liabilities set out on pages [1 & 2] relating to the year ending 31 March 2020 are as approved by the deacons.

Signed: (Treasurer or other Deacon authorised to sign on behalf of all the deacons)

[Date]

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of accounts

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and in accordance with Section 133 Charities Act 2011.

2. Donations and other income

	2019/20	2020/21
Donations	2000.00	0
Legacies	300.00	9000.00
Memorial gifts	0	3656.60
Events	2623.91	1362.50
Other income	8896.67	423.18
Total Donations and Other Income	13820.58	14442.28

3. Investment income

	2019/20	2020/21
Bank interest	57.74	20.34
Trust income	0	451.73
Other investment income	0	0
Total Investment Income	57.74	472.07

4. Raised for Other causes

	2019/20	2020/21
BMS Harvest	766.36	0
BMS World Mission	712.71	0
Homeless Shelter	894.05	0
Total Raised for Other causes	2373.12	0

5. Ministry & Staff

	2019/20	2020/21
Minister's stipend	18419.6	22272.06
Pension contribution	5504.61	9918.32
National insurance	6211.2	6207.14
Expenses	2003.12	1775.81
Other staff costs	14455.91	25108.24
Visiting Preachers	2390.06	320.00
Other ministry	6144	3644.69
Total Ministry	55128.5	69246.26

The Minister acts as one of the church's trustees and receives remuneration and other benefits in respect of his/her services as Minister, including the provision of manse accommodation [owned by the church/rented by the church/rented by the church from the Minister (and his/her spouse)/part owned by the church and rented in part from the Minister (and his/her spouse)] [delete as applicable. The wording will need to be adapted if there is more than one minister trustee]

6. Mission & Grants

	2019/20	2020/21
Home Mission	4500	10332.34
BMS World Mission	4500	8710.74
RYFC	2107.82	1992.00
Other mission	5834.44	4210.00
Total Mission	16972.26	25245.08

7. Upkeep of church premises

	2019/20	2020/21
Lighting and heating	8973.45	6886.16
Cleaning	951.9	381.50
Insurance	5427.62	5296.47
Repairs and maintenance	29624.91	19058.53
Other premises	1951.92	4033.49
Total Upkeep of church premises	46929.8	35656.15

8. Administration & Events

	2019/20	2020/21
Printing and stationery	1354.34	1921.4
Events	1228	3450.31
Equipment	0	0
Subscriptions	2533.06	2583.10
Other administration	3756.29	1446.71
Total Administration	8872.1	9401.52

9. Investment Assets

	2019/20	2020/21
Stocks and Shares	0	0
Corporate bonds	0	0
Gilts	0	0
Investment property	0	0
Other investment assets [detail if material]	0	0
Total Investment Assets	0	0

[Note: Any such assets should be detailed as necessary, be stated at approximate values (cost, market or insured) and an indication given as to the fund to which they relate]

10. Assets Held for the Church's own use

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee [the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd]:

- ☐ Church premises at Regent Place valued in the accounts at £6662002 based on insured value.
- ☐ Church manse at Eastlands Road valued in the accounts at £216065 based on insured value.
- ☐ A Nursery premises at Overslade valued in the accounts at £204416 based on insured value
- ☐ Marriot Field. No meaningful value is available so it has not been included In the Statement Of Assets And Liabilities
- ☐ The church also owns fixtures, furniture, organ and equipment with an insured value of £738897

[It is acceptable to not include a value for an asset where no meaningful value is available (e.g. a burial ground), however such assets should be described in the text of this note where material]

11. Current Liabilities

	2019/20	2020/21
Electricity billed but not yet paid		
Cheques written but not cashed		
Other current liabilities [detail if material]		
Total Current Liabilities	Non Material	Non Material

[Sundry creditors should be detailed where material, together with an indication of the fund to which they relate]

12. Long-Term Liabilities

	2019/20	2020/21
Baptist Building Fund Loan	0	0
Baptist Union Loan Fund Loan	0	0
Loans from Church Members'	0	0
Other [detail if material]	0	0
Total Long-Term Liabilities	0	0

13. Pension Scheme Liabilities

The Church is a participating employer 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 2016 by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. At the valuation date the market value of the DB Plan assets was £219 million, whilst the level of assets needed to pay benefits was £312m, giving a deficit of £93m (equivalent to a past service funding level of 70%). 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 2019.

Under the Schedule of Contributions, the church makes a monthly payment in respect of the DB scheme deficit, currently £376.22, which will increase in line with increases in Minimum Pensionable Income. The Schedule of Contributions foresees these contributions continuing until December 2028. The pension scheme liability shown in the Statement of Assets and liabilities is calculated as the current rate per month multiplied by the number of months remaining in the current Schedule of Contributions, which amounted to £30473.82 as at 31st March 2021.

The Church has been advised that the estimated cost for the church to buyout their Pension Scheme liabilities at £41500 as 20th March 2020.

14. Other Liabilities [if applicable]

[Any other material liabilities should be disclosed with an explanation of their circumstances and the fund to which they relate]

None to declare

EXPLANATORY NOTES RELATING TO THE SPECIMEN FORM OF ACCOUNTS:

- a It is emphasised that the format is simply a suggestion (based on best charity accounting practice) and it may be adapted to meet the church's circumstances. If some of the accounts, headings or notes are inapplicable they should be deleted and the numbers of notes amended accordingly. Equally if the church has other significant categories of expenditure, they should be added into the appropriate section to aid the readers understanding of the accounts
- b It should also be understood that the Statement of Assets and Liabilities is not meant to balance. It is merely meant to be a summary of the church's material assets and liabilities.
- c Amounts may be shown in pounds and pence or in 'rounded' pounds.
- d The amounts shown in note 5 in respect of the minister's stipend etc may, if desired, be aggregated under the sub-headings 'Minister's stipend and expenses' and 'Manse upkeep'.
- e The 'Fabric Fund' is an example of a 'designated' account and is used by many churches as a means of equalising repairs and maintenance costs over the years. Mission or Outreach accounts are further examples of 'designated' accounts.
- f The 'New Church Building Fund' is an example of a 'capital' (restricted) fund which is available only for a defined capital purpose.
- g It is good practice to indicate the value of the various assets held by the church. In the absence of recent valuations any property assets could be shown at their insured value. If the insured value is significantly different to the likely market value, (either above it because of planning restrictions reducing the value, or below it because of development opportunities increasing the value) some indication of this should be given. The value of church fittings, furniture and equipment could also be included (en bloc) at their insured value. Stocks and shares should be shown at market value, whilst a church-owned vehicle might be included at cost or its estimated market value. Values, however, are not essential.
- h If any amounts are due to the church at the year-end (e.g. loans made by the church or any tax recovery claim made but not yet received) these should be included under the heading of 'Debtors' in note 8.
- Payments made in advance (e.g. telephone rental, council tax, water charges etc) should not be apportioned.
- i To ensure that all expenditure relating to a year is included in the accounts for that year, some church treasurers treat certain payments (e.g. PAYE and national insurance etc) made early in the next financial period as though the cheques had been drawn on the last day of the old financial period.
- This would avoid having to treat them as outstanding creditors, but if this practice is not followed any such creditors will need to be disclosed under the heading of 'Current Liabilities' (note 10(a)). Liabilities which are accruing but have not yet been invoiced (e.g. gas, electricity telephone, etc.) should not be included.
- Where a church has any outstanding loan obligations these will need to be disclosed under the heading 'Long-term loans' (Note 10(b)). The loans should be detailed in the note together with an indication of the date (s) when due (or the period over which repayable) and, if applicable, the property upon which they are charged.

Where the church has been a member of the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund and it has agreed payments to be made under a repayment plan, it should include the total of the outstanding repayments at the balance sheet date (monthly contributions multiplied by the remaining months in the contribution plan). Where the Church has been provided with the cost of buying out the pension scheme's liabilities, it is recommended that this is also disclosed in the notes to the accounts or the trustee report. This figure, described as "Estimated Employer Debt" is available for most ongoing employers in the Baptist Pension Scheme on the Employer Hub (hub.lcp.uk.com) under the Employer Documents section.

This is one of a series of Guidelines that are offered as a resource for Baptist ministers and churches. They have been prepared by the Baptist Union of Great Britain and are, of necessity, intended only to give very general advice in relation to the topics covered. These guidelines should not be relied upon as a substitute for obtaining specific and more detailed advice in relation to a particular matter.

The staff at the Baptist Union of Great Britain at Baptist House will be very pleased to answer your queries and help in any way possible.

Contact Address and Registered Office:

Baptist Union of Great Britain, Baptist House, PO Box 44, 129 Broadway, Didcot, OX11 8RT

Telephone 01235 517700 email financeoffice@baptist.org.uk website www.baptist.org.uk

BUGB operates as a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) with registered Charity Number: 1181392

Date of Issue: 15 January 2020



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Rugby Baptist Church

**On accounts for the year
ended**

March 2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

1126606

Set out on pages

2-5

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2021

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Malcolm Harding

Date:

5th September 2021

Name:

Malcolm Harding

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Not Applicable

Address:

30 Grasmere Close

Rugby

CV21 1LW