



ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year to 31st DECEMBER 2023



Charity Number 1126706

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HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

MINISTER, TRUSTEES AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered charity name	Horfield Baptist Church
Charity number	1126706
Registered address	160a Gloucester Road Bristol BS7 8NT
Trustees	Rev Sarah Phillpot (Pastor) Mrs Christine Brown Mrs Esther Newman
Property Trustees	The Baptist Union Corporation Limited Baptist House 129 Broadway Didcot Oxfordshire OX11 8RT
Independent Examiner	Anthony J Faccini Accountants Hatter House Abbotsford Close Woking Surrey GU22 7BJ
Bankers	Co-operative Bank PLC P.O. Box 250 Delf House Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT Governing document

The original governing document, a deed of trust, was drawn up in 1892 by founder members, the original having been lodged with the Baptist Union Corporation.

A new constitution was drawn up dated 14 October 2008 in line with Baptist Union guidelines and has been lodged with the Charity Commission. A slight amendment to this constitution was drawn up and approved in March 2020 and the Charity Commission notified. Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution which normally requires them to have been publicly baptised on the profession of faith in Jesus Christ or following other modes of baptism to renew their public profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

The members meeting normally takes place ten times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the Church. In accordance with the constitution, deacons were elected from among the membership of the Church and, for their time of service were considered trustees. Under the amended constitution, elders are now elected from among the membership of the Church (in place of deacons) and, for their time of service are considered trustees. Deacons or elders are responsible under God, with the Pastor, for the pastoral leadership of the Church. All members are encouraged and expected to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective.

The charity is controlled by its governing document and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Charity status

Horfield Baptist Church, 160a Gloucester Road, Bristol, BS7 8NT is a registered charity under the Charities Act 1993. The Church registered as a charity on 13 November 2008.

The Church owns one house, 29 Ramsey Road, Horfield, Bristol BS7 0JF, which is occupied as a manse by the pastor, the deeds being held by the West of England Baptist Association Incorporated.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

PURPOSE OF THE CHARITY

The principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education, community service and such other general charitable purposes in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Church shall determine.

In order to achieve the principal objective, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as living Lord.

Worship Services

Central to the work and witness of Horfield Baptist Church is the provision of weekly public services of worship on a Sunday morning at 10.30 am throughout the year which are open to all. There are also occasional services at other times which are advertised in the Church notices and on the Church website at www.horfieldbaptist.net. Age-appropriate activities for children and young people aged 0-11 are provided during Sunday morning services. We seek to be a friendly and welcoming organisation, and all are welcome to attend any of our services. We will not discriminate against anyone by virtue of age, race, gender, disability or lifestyle choice.

Home Groups

The Church runs a small number of home and study groups for the growth of faith and discipleship in the homes of some members and on Church premises. For information, please contact the Church office office@horfieldbaptist.net

Uniformed Organisations

Rainbows, Beavers, and Cubs all meet on the premises, Rainbows continued to meet at the new venue, Beavers and Cubs also returned to meet at the new premises in the Autumn term.

Ladies' Breakfast

Horfield Baptist Church runs a Ladies' breakfast 5 times a year. This is an opportunity for women from both inside and beyond the Church fellowship to meet together over a relaxed breakfast and to hear a short and encouraging talk with a Christian message. This activity met for a final time at the old premises and has begun to meet at the new premises.

Men's Breakfast

The Church also occasionally runs a breakfast meeting for men which provides an opportunity for men from the Church fellowship and those on the fringes to meet and chat over a cooked breakfast.

Crafty Friday

In the Autumn, a monthly social event for folks to bring their own craft to was set up with help from a small grant from MENCAP. This has been well attended and it is intended to increase the frequency of meetings in the new year.

Missions

Horfield Baptist Church regularly supports mission activities at home and abroad. We are in membership with the Baptist Union of Great Britain (BU) through our local association, the West of England Baptist Network (WEBNET) and devote an agreed sum each year to both Home Mission and the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS) amounting to approximately 10% of income. More is collected through special collections.

In addition, Horfield Baptist Church makes regular financial collections and prays for mission organisations both locally and nationally. Our existing mission partners are the Leprosy Mission, The Matthew Tree project, Operation Agri and SixtyOne.

Community Outreach

The Church organises regular outreach events to which members of the community are invited with the aim of strengthening community links and sharing the Good News of Jesus.

Newsletter

The Church produces a weekly newsletter which is distributed via email and by hand to all within our fellowship. This vital ministry has helped to keep members and attenders in touch and informed. It includes a weekly reflection, news about the fellowship, information on who to contact for a variety of ministries, and information on and encouragement to get involved with local, national and international mission.

Pastoral care and Pastoral Watchers

Our network of Pastoral Watchers has ensured that everyone receives a regular phone call with a resulting conversation, which may lead to some shopping or other errand being accomplished as a result. The Prayer List and Prayer Pyramid have been 'retired' in favour of a WhatsApp prayer group which involves many more people and has been utilised for those who are anxious as well as those who are sick, with the result that the fellowship, has continued to feel supported, loved and cared for.

In addition, the Church seeks to provide:

- Ministerial leading and teaching to enable the Church to fulfil its objects and activities. The pastor represents the Church to wider local and national secular institutions as required;
- Spiritual and moral education for children and young people from birth to adulthood through our pastor, volunteer children's and youth workers and Church members;
- The regular support of a number of other charitable organisations, including a local food bank (The Matthew Tree Project) and support for those completing a custodial sentence (SixtyOne).
- A safe environment on Church premises for both young people and vulnerable adults by the implementation of agreed protection policies, regularly reviewed and renewed, including complying with guidelines from the BU.
- The support of members and attenders at times of ill health or personal difficulties through pastoral care, visiting at home and hospital, and through prayer and listening.

The Church premises are in use every day of the week, offering a range of facilities and opportunities open to all members of the public for the benefit of people of different ages and backgrounds, both from within the Church membership and the wider community. The swap of

premises has meant adopting those who already used the premises at 160a, enabling contact with many other individuals and small businesses. Some of our existing hirers also came with us, including the Baby Hub which provides a vital service to new parents, and the Arts Trail, a community-based group of local artists.

The Church's income is primarily used in paying and accommodating a minister; in maintaining its premises, in cleaning and heating the premises to make them suitable for constant Church and community use; and in contributing to the wider Baptist community both at home and abroad through the Baptist Home Mission Fund and BMS World Mission. Most of the work of the Church is supported by members on a voluntary basis.

Trading Activities

The previous Church premises being large, were used by outside organisations in addition to our own, ranging from Baby Clinic, a toddler singing group, 'Keep Fit' classes and various groups associated with our outreach to young families. The new premises are used by multiple fitness groups, several choirs, and Slimming World. The buildings are popular amongst young families as a venue for birthday parties, and family celebrations.

The income is generated mostly by the letting of rooms and the voluntary giving of Church members.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted according to the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The Church has read the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit and is satisfied that the activities outlined above clearly demonstrate that the charity is providing a benefit to the public.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Achievements and Performances for 2023

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, including financial numbers, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship, encouragement, engagement with the community and deepening faith. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure. Following a year of challenge and change for Horfield Baptist Church, members and attenders have continued being actively involved in caring for one another and intentional about keeping in touch.

2023 has been a year of release, change and growth for Horfield Baptist Church. The year began with hope and expectation that the much-anticipated premises swap might still take place, so the first three months of the year saw the sorting, moving, labelling and disposal of the entire contents of the building at 279. Further visits were made to 160a to establish what might be needed and where it would go. Two sorting days were arranged to bring some of the larger items down from the upper rooms. A tabletop sale disposed of some items and brought in some cash. A charity was engaged to dispose of unwanted items, many of which were repurposed and redistributed to raise money for the aid of young people with Downs Syndrome. Cupboards were cleared, files sorted and shredded, hymn books were boxed. It was a huge effort and an amazing achievement considering the average age profile of the church.

The aim was not only to identify what would continue to be needed, but to ensure that as much as possible of what was not required could be made available to others, to bless other fellowships, to raise money for charities, and to raise a bit of cash to help to finance the move. Bibles, hymn books, large-print hymn books and braille hymn books were all given away to other churches. A new home at the Bristol Beacon was found for the concert grand piano. Other musical instruments were sold or given to schools. Candles, baby cups and plates went to Ukraine. Toys were donated to the Childrens Hospice shop, and chairs went to Uganda.

Hirers had been informed of our move, which was set for the end of March, although this was an act of faith as B&A, the church with whom we were to swap premises, still didn't have everything in place. Horfield Baptist Church on the other hand, through the amazing efforts of our consultants Mike Southcombe and Alastair Watson, and our buildings trustees the Baptist Union Corporation, was ready to move with all agreements in place and belongings packed, allowing for items needed for the running of church services, which continued until 5 days before the move, and hirers who continued to use the building until two weeks before the move date.

Conversations happened with our hirers. Several of the small businesses which ran classes and such like from our premises, hadn't survived lockdown, but we were keen to take with us as many as possible, especially those who benefitted our wider community such as the uniformed organisations and the Baby Hub. In addition, we had spoken with those who were hiring space at 160a. We wanted to make the transition as smooth as possible, but also needed to allow the new premises at 160a to be painted before we moved in. Our aim, and planning, was that the new premises would enable us to offer far better space for community use, but also a dedicated space for our own ministry and mission to the local community.

Our cleaner had resigned which made a lot of work for a very small number of volunteers, but Ken Goodway took on the task of keeping the building clean and tidy and did a magnificent and exhausting job.

An interim budget had been set at the beginning of the year, which was to be reviewed in three months. If there was no move on the horizon, then some hard decisions needed to be made.

We completed the preaching and teaching series Jesus Shaped People in January and February. This has been a wonderful course to focus us on the priorities of Jesus whilst we detach from the old building and has included home groups in which to share and encourage one another. At the beginning of March, we held a Celebration Service which was to be our last service ever in the Sanctuary of 279. It was well attended and included an opportunity to write a memory card. The cards will be made into a book.

We were able to participate in Bishopston Window Wanderland for a final time at 279 just before the move and took as the theme, Noah's Ark.

The move took place on the last day of March 2023, a Friday – the final legal agreement falling into place at 10am, by which time Horfield Baptist Church had already packed most of its belongings into a series of removal lorries in faith that the move would take place. By 5pm, all the belongings and equipment that was coming with us was in the right places in the new premises. The entire interior of the new building was to be painted as part of the agreement, but this had only just been started, so furniture for the Main Hall was placed in the middle of the room to enable the decorators to begin their task on the following Monday. Over the next six weeks, the Main Hall, Front Hall and Quiet Room were completed meaning that those using the building -

church and hirers - needed to move from space to space to carry out their activities. This was done with great patience and forbearance.

Two days after the move, the first service in the new premises took place – Palm Sunday service. This was marked by a procession from the old building to the new, a distance of about 200 metres, waving flags and singing hosannas. The previous day, sound, visuals and a hearing loop had been set up ensuring that everything went without a hitch. There was a real sense of joy, release, and the presence of the Holy Spirit, which continued through all the Easter Services and beyond.

After three weeks, services moved to the Main Hall where sound and visuals were again set up, so that the Front Hall could be decorated. This hall is to be our centre for community and mission work.

Once again, this year, Horfield Baptist Church partnered with The Noise to put on a community event on a Sunday afternoon, offering free refreshments and cake, and games to play. It was intended to hold this outside on a beautiful May Day, but on the day, it was dull and very wet, so it moved into the Main Hall. Nonetheless, people came, and it acted as an announcement to our community that we were now in new premises and were eager to meet with them, and as a commitment to community connection.

There had been several articles in Bishopston Matters, the Church Times and Baptists Together, and an interview with BBC Radio Bristol, about the premises swap.

Ladies Breakfast began again and has continued, attracting back most of those who attended before and some new folks as well.

Crafty Friday began once a month, in the Autumn term with the help of a small grant. This is an opportunity to partner with Mencap and their My Community initiative to help make the UK the best place for people with learning disabilities to live happy and healthy lives. It immediately attracted a number of women, some of whom are vulnerable, as well as an individual who has a learning disability. It meets in the Front Hall where refreshments and friendly conversation are offered. It is intended that Crafty Friday should meet twice a month in the new year.

In November, the War Memorials which were specific to Horfield Baptist Church and not part of the fabric of the building, which had been brought with us, were re-erected, rededicated and registered with the War Memorials Register through the Imperial War Museum.

Also in November, we held a Housewarming celebration, inviting members old and new, those who had a connection with the church, as well as hirers. A meal was served in the Main Hall for around 90 people, all provided and served by volunteers. It was a marvellous opportunity to celebrate together.

The Prayer Course was run, day times and evenings, and was moderately well attended. This led to a renewed interest in and commitment to prayer, and a time of prayer was re-established before the Sunday Service. This has been a powerful time of focus and prayer and has attracted up to a third of those attending the service.

New attenders have been attracted by the open nature of the building and have settled to worship regularly with us. Some have also come along through the social and other events we have held. Only one has so far been welcomed into membership, but commitment levels are high and this is likely to change.

At the end of November we once again welcomed the Arts Trail to our new premises. This proved to be a huge success. Even more members of the public than usual attended and feedback about the new premises was very good. We offered refreshments again over the two days of the trail, which was much appreciated, and live music was played from the balcony.

Over Easter, our preaching theme on a Sunday was Following Jesus. In the Summer we looked at six different kinds of love that can be found in the Bible and, after the success of Jesus Shaped People as a preaching and teaching theme to help with the transition from one premises to the other, we used another programme from the same source, Spirit Filled Church in the Autumn term. This also came with home group material, but this was not engaged with in the same way that Jesus Shaped People had been.

Christmas service on the theme of Waiting, Watching, Wondering, Worshipping, included a Carols Service, our first in the new premises, Come and Sing Carols on Christmas Eve morning and a service of worship on Christmas Day. All services seemed to be well attended with several new folks coming along, some of whom have chosen to come again.

One member died during the year and her wake was held on church premises.

Many folks have done a fabulous job. The Elders, Chris and Esther should be mentioned as the stress and workload of the move has been significant, but they have continued to be supportive, helpful and focussed on Jesus.

Amanda, our Treasurer has done a marvellous job, especially around the move, ensuring that utilities and services continued without a break, a very impressive achievement.

Chris S has taken on new hirers and a more complex hire agreement as she deals with all things to do with the hiring out of the premises.

Adrian and John have taken on the management of the new premises and ensuring that everything works well.

Pam D and Peter have taken on the garden, with help from many other volunteers.

A huge "thank you" is due to all these and all the others who make our services happen on a Sunday such as the visuals team, the sound team, the coffee team and those who put away the chairs.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

2023 was a significant year for Horfield Baptist Church. The premises swap took place on 31st March 2023 and Church ceased to be responsible for the maintenance of the building at 278 Gloucester Road which has served the needs of the membership for over 125 years. The new building is in a much better state of repair and whilst it will still need to be maintained and kept in good condition, the church is not burdened with the financial demands of a large building.

A condition of the building swap was the receipt of additional funds, which, as they relate to the previous building are held in a Trust maintained by the Baptist Union Corporation Limited. Interest earned on the money held in the Trust is being paid to the Church for general purposes and whilst interest rates are high this will prove to be a useful source of other income.

As in previous years, the Church continues to raise funds which it needs to carry on its activities from voluntary contributions from within the membership, congregation and by rents received from hiring out its premises.

The Church's has inherited hirers of the new premises and has tried to accommodate existing hires where possible. Whilst every effort was made to try to minimise the impact on hires, inevitably, there was disruption during the move and from redecoration of rooms. It is therefore anticipated that income from hiring out the building will increase in 2024.

Exceptional costs were incurred during the building swap, such as the disposal of items seen as no longer useful and the removal and transport of furniture and equipment to the new premises. These costs were anticipated and covered. Items assessed as being surplus to needs were, where possible, gifted to charitable organisations for distribution.

The Church continues to express its part in the life of the wider church by giving grants to national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose.

Voluntary Income

The main source of income is the offerings from members and friends, made either weekly or monthly and in a variety of ways, i.e., using the envelope scheme, standing orders via the bank, or in cash. The offerings received are augmented by recovered income tax, derived from those people who have registered for Gift Aid with the added ability to claim from the "Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme" which added £8,402.90 in 2023.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

Reserves

The Church operates a reserves policy to enable the Church to function effectively and meet its obligations in the event of a decline in our income or a major cost. The aim is to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months of unrestricted charitable expenditure. The trustees consider that this level will ensure that there are enough funds available to cover day to day costs.

Having considered the relevant risks of changes in income and expenditure, the Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of reserves is approximately £12,000 and this amount has been placed in our Savings Account and has given us a little extra interest revenue. As at 31st December 2023 the Church held total reserves of £91,195 of which £4,380 were restricted and £6,795 designated.

Any reserved monies not immediately needed have been placed into savings accounts. These have been divided between Cambridge and Counties 95-day notice account Baptist Union Deposit Account, to gain some interest until we are ready to use these designated funds either on building repairs; to upgrade our Manse or for outreach. To comply with advice from the Charity Commission we have split our monies to ensure each account is within the guaranteed safety threshold.

Collections for other Charities

During 2023 the following amount was collected to give to other charities

Matthew Tree

£31.25

Leprosy Mission	£187.50
Operation Agri	£242.50
Sixty One	£212.50
TOTAL	£673.75
Plus	
BMS Birthday Scheme	£329.6
Home Mission	£1,500
BMS	£1,500

Pension Liability

A significant improvement in the pension provision was recorded during 2023, such that no further payments are required other than an administration payment of £1 per month. The current minister is not a member of the scheme. The details of the management of the liability arising from the scheme are recorded in the Annual Accounts

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

Specific gifts for other organisations are recorded as restricted funds and are appropriately controlled and passed on.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Tony Faccini of Anthony J Faccini was thanked for his assistance in the preparation & examination of these accounts.

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted	Designate	All Restricted	Endowment	Year to Dec. 2023	Year to Dec. 2022
		£	£	£	£		£
Incoming resources							
Voluntary income	2	50,404		6,163	-	56,567	53,778
Investment income	3	7,709	-	-		7,709	1,317
Incoming resources from charitable activities	4	20,031		-	-	20,031	28,451
Other incoming resources						-	
Total incoming resources		78,144		6,163	-	84,307	83,546
Resources expended							
Charitable activities	5	72,669	-	1,646	-	74,315	79,657
Governance costs	1(g)	600	-	-	-	600	605
Pension Liability Interest		-		-		-	329
New Church Building fees		47,455				47,455	22,525
Total resources expen	6	120,724	-	1,646	-	122,370	103,116
Net operating income/(expenditure) before transfers							
		(42,580)		4,517		(38,063)	(19,570)
Funds received from sale of property held in Trust		52,024		169,790		221,814	
Gross transfers between funds	15-17	(575)	-	575		-	-
Net income/(expenditure) for the year & endowment movements							
Purchase of 160a Gloucester Road	19				800,000	800,000	
Sale of 279 Gloucester Road					(5,499,141)	(5,499,141)	
Revaluation of depreciation, fixtures and fittings.					9,000	9,000	
Other recognised gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes (actuarial)	18					-	15,437
Net movement in Funds		8,869		174,882	(4,690,141)	(4,506,390)	(4,133)
Funds brought forward		80,539	6,795	4,380	5,849,141	5,940,855	5,944,988
Funds carried forward		89,408	6,795	179,262	1,159,000	1,434,465	5,940,855

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Tangible Fixed Assets	10		1,159,000		5,851,361
Current Assets					
Debtors	11	5,670		2,736	
Bank & cash	12	100,996		91,963	
Baptist Union Trust Account	19	169,790			
		<u>276,456</u>		<u>94,699</u>	
Current Liabilities					
Creditors : amounts falling due	13	<u>991</u>		<u>5,205</u>	
Net Current Assets			275,465		89,494
Deferred Liabilities (Pension)					
Creditors : amounts falling due	18		0		0
Net Assets			<u>1,434,465</u>		<u>5,940,855</u>
Charitable Funds					
Endowment	14		1,159,000		5,849,141
Restricted	15		9,472		4,380
Restricted Baptist Union Trust	19		169,790		
Designated	16		6,795		6,795
Unrestricted	17		89,408		80,539
			<u>1,434,465</u>		<u>5,940,855</u>

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form an integral part of these accounts

Explanatory Notes: Funds

Unrestricted are those funds that the church is not legally bound to use for any particular purpose

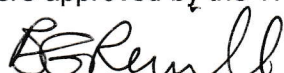
Designated is a type of unrestricted fund which has been set aside by the Trustees for a special purpose.

Restricted are restricted in their use by the terms of an appeal, or by the donor.

Endowment is the permanent capital of the church. Their use is determined by the terms of the Trust Deed.

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 19th October 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Barbara Revill



Transitional Minister

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH MEMBERS

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 14 to 23.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXAMINER

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

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

Mark A Symonds FCCA
4 Nightingale Crescent
West Horsley
Surrey KT24 6PD

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared under Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS)102.

b Recognition of income

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

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

c Grants and Donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met.

d Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

e Legacies

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

f Grants payable

The church makes grants to other organisations whose charitable objects further or complement its work. They are accounted for when the decision to pay them has been made by the church.

g Governance and Support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, eg allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Most of the management is carried out without charge by volunteers. This intangible cost is not included in the Statement of Financial Activities since there is no measurable cost for the service of the volunteers.

h Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS- contd
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES Ctd.../

i Tangible Fixed Assets for Use by the Charity & Depreciation

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year. They are valued at cost. Freehold Property are stated by valuation, other fixed assets are stated at cost.

The depreciation rates and methods used are in line with BU Guidelines. Depreciation has not been charged on the Church or Manse premises, because in the opinion of the Trustees, the residual value of the asset is not less than the original cost price.

Depreciation on other fixed assets is calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset even over its expected useful life, at the following rates:- Fixture, fittings and equipment 20% on the reducing balance basis.

This is a policy in line with BU Guidelines and current practice. Please see note 10.

j Debtors

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

2. Voluntary Income	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Year to Dec 2023	Year to Dec 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Offerings	35,034	-	-	-	35,034	36,085
Gift Aid & VAT refunds	6,452	-	150	-	6,602	9,426
Donations etc	2,918	-	5,030	-	7,948	7,195
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	116
Legacies	6,000	-	-	-	6,000	-
Raised for other causes	-	-	983	-	983	956
	50,404	-	6,163	-	56,567	53,778

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Year to Dec 2023	Year to Dec 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
3. Investment Income						
Bank etc interest	7,709	-	-	-	7,709	1,317
Manse Rental	-	-	-	-	-	-
	7,709	-	-	-	7,709	1,317

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

Fund-raising Events - Building Fund	-	-	-	-	-	76
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other activity (Art Trail)	1,120	-	-	-	1,120	985
Rent receivable: Church rooms	18,911	-	-	-	18,911	27,390
	20,031	-	-	-	20,031	28,451

5. Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives

Ministry	32,684	-	-	-	32,684	34,604
Mission	10,517	-	983	-	11,500	6,292
Establishment	75,042	-	605	-	75,647	57,570
	118,243	-	1,588	-	119,831	98,466

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS- contd
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Charitable activities	Grant Funding	Support Costs	Year to Dec 2023	Year to Dec 2022	
6. Total resources expended						
Ministry	32,684	-	-	32,684	34,604	
Mission	12,203		4,579	16,782	9,794	
Establishment (Water Rates; Cleaning	76,019	-	-	76,019	57,031	
Depreciation/Revaluation	-	-	(6,780)	(6,780)	539	
Governance costs (Accountant)	-	-	600	600	605	
	120,906	-	(1,601)	119,305	102,573	
7. Grants payable	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Year to Dec 2023	Year to Dec 2022
BUGB Home Mission	1,500				1,500	1,500
BMS World Mission	1,500				1,500	1,500
Other grants (under £1000)			983		983	891
	3,000	-	983	-	3,983	3,891
8. Support costs						
Other administrative costs	(1,601)				(1,601)	4,107
	(1,601)				(1,601)	4,107

	Year to Dec 2023	Year to Dec 2022
9. Staff costs and Trustee expenses		
Salaries & Stipends	34,459	39,998
Social security costs	-	-
Pension costs	4,136	5,188
	<u>38,595</u>	<u>45,186</u>

The average number of employees during the period was 2 (Yr. 2022: 2)

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60000 during the period Nil (2022: Nil)

No sums were reimbursed to the Trustees for their work as Trustees Nil (2022: Nil)

The church pays pension contributions into the Pension Deficit plan plus Pension to its current Minister to the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund

10. Tangible Fixed Assets	Freehold Property	Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	Total
Cost or Valuation	£	£	£
As at 1st January 2023	5,881,567	32,426	5,913,993
Additions/Disposals	800,000	(22,426)	777,574
Disposals	(5,531,567)		(5,531,567)
As at 31st December 2023	<u>1,150,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>1,160,000</u>
Depreciation			
At 1st January 2023	-	30,206	30,206
Charge for the year	-	1,000	1,000
On Disposals	-	(30,206)	(30,206)
As at 31st December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Net Book Value at 31 December 2023	<u>1,150,000</u>	<u>9,000</u>	<u>1,159,000</u>
at 31 December 2022	<u>5,881,567</u>	<u>2,220</u>	<u>5,883,787</u>

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS cd
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10. Tangible Fixed Assets Ctd.../

Freehold Property	Date	Valuation £	Insured Value £
Church buildings at Gloucester Road	2023	800,000	4,653,000
Manse, 29 Ramsey Road, Horfield BS7 0JF	2019	350,000	290,457
		<u>1,150,000</u>	<u>4,943,457</u>

11. Debtors

	Year to Dec 2023	Year to Dec 2022
Tax recoverable	960	907
Prepayments and other debtors	4,710	1,875
	<u>5,670</u>	<u>2,782</u>

12. Bank and cash balances

Co-operative Community Plus Account	10,701	12,547
Baptist Union Deposit Account	19,000	23,404
Cambridge & Counties 95 day Notice Account	71,078	55,798
Bank Float	17	14
Cash in Pastoral and Maintenance Floats	200	200
	<u>100,996</u>	<u>91,963</u>

13. Creditors : amounts falling due within one year

	Dec. 2023	Dec. 2022
Accruals	<u>991</u>	<u>5,205</u>

14. Endowment Funds	01/01/2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Surplus on Revaluation n	Transfer	31/12/2023
Endowment fund	5,849,141	809,000	(5,499,141)			1,159,000
	<u>5,849,141</u>	<u>809,000</u>	<u>(5,499,141)</u>	-	-	<u>1,159,000</u>

15. Restricted Funds	01/01/2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and Losses	Transfer s	31/12/2023
Future Building Projects	-	-	-			-
Mission and Outreach Fund	-	5,030	(276)			4,754
William Short Legacy Fund	456	-	-			456
Specific appeals Fund	-	492	(492)			-
Leprosy Mission	-	187	(187)			-
Children, Youth & Families	41	-	(20)		575	596
Coffee & Crafts	-	150	(47)			103
Flower & Fellowship Fund	375	-	(8)			367
Projector Fund	2,995	-	(103)			2,892
BMS Birthday Scheme	455	304	(455)			304
	<u>4,322</u>	<u>6,163</u>	<u>(1,588)</u>	-	575	<u>9,472</u>

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS- ctd
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

15. Restricted Funds Ctd.../

Restricted Income Funds Definition

Future Building Projects has been created to save for major alterations/repairs on our 100+ year old grade II listed buildings

Mission and Outreach Fund Created from a gift provided after moving to new premises

William Short legacy reflects funds which, under the terms of the will, are for the purpose of benefiting the poor of the church and local community.

Specific Appeals Fund. A Restricted fund for the receipt of donations for specific purposes as identified by the donor at the time of giving.

Youth Work Grants Fund has been used for youth work at the church. In August/September 2023 the church received a donation from the Canells which was split between general funds and Youth Work. In November the church decided it would be more appropriate to title the fund **Children, Youth and Families Work.**

Coffee & Crafts Fund to pay for craft materials and refreshments.

Flower Fund. A Restricted fund for the purpose of providing flowers as identified by the benefactor(s).

Fellowship Fund. A Restricted fund set up by our members to help those in urgent need of financial assistance, decided by the Pastor, officers and deacons.

Projector Fund created and restricted in 2018. Funds received for the Pastors services in connection with Weddings and Funerals will be used to pay for audio and visual projection.

BMS Birthday Fund. A Restricted fund for the purposes of the BMS Birthday Scheme. The scheme provides support of world mission through giving, to celebrate a birthday.

16. Designated Funds	01/01/2023	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	31/12/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Manse Fund	6,795	-	-		6,795
	-	-			-
	<u>6,795</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,795</u>

17. Analysis of net assets by fund	Fixed asset	Current Assets	Deferred Liabilities	Total
	£	£	£	£
Endowment Funds	1,159,000			1,159,000
Restricted Funds		9,472	-	9,472
Baptist Union Trust		169,790		169,790
Designated Funds	-	6,795		6,795
Unrestricted Funds		89,408	-	89,408
	<u>1,159,000</u>	<u>275,465</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,434,465</u>

18. Pensions and Pension Scheme Liabilities

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

For any month, each participating employer in the Scheme pays contributions as set out in the Schedule of Contributions in force at that time.

Where a church is an employer in a multi-employer defined benefit scheme such as The Baptist Pension Scheme and where they have agreed a deficit contribution funding plan, this liability is to be recognised on the balance sheet. The value of the liability should be the total all the future contributions to be made, discounted to present value using a discount rate equal to the yield on investment grade corporate bonds

From January 2012, pension provision is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Scheme. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Legal and General Life Assurance Society Limited. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members in the event that they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Unum Limited. Members of the Basic Section pay reduced contributions of 5% of Pensionable Income, and their employers also pay a total of 5%.

At the end of June 2022 the Baptist Pension Scheme signed an agreement with the insurance company Just Group ('Just') to secure members' pension benefits under the Defined Benefit ('DB') Plan. As a result, the Scheme no longer has a shortfall. A revised statement of contributions was approved with deficit contributions from each participating employer in the DB Plan reducing to just £1 per month from August 2022. These ceased in November 2024, in line with moving to Just Group. See www.baptist.org.uk/pensions for more details. Updated text to reflect this change has been included in the template for receipt and payment accounts which can also be found on our website. We have assumed in the template that churches will decide it is not necessary to recognise a liability in relation to the £1 per month payments up to late 2024. This is for each individual church to consider in practice. If a church decides to include figures it would need to carry out appropriate calculations. Similarly, we have assumed that churches will have recognised a nil liability for accounting dates on or after August 2022, when the revised schedule of contributions with the £1 per month deficit contributions was introduced.

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS- ctd
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

19. Property Sale and Purchase

In March 2023 the Horfield Baptist Church exchanged the building 279 Gloucester Road for 160a Gloucester Road. The properties had different values and in recognition of this difference, a cash sum was placed into a Baptist Union Trust. The Baptist Union Trust fund will earn interest which will be released to HBC on a quarterly basis.

To reduce the impact on the operating funds of HBC, costs relating to fees incurred in the arrangement of the buildings exchange were deducted from the sale proceeds.

	2023 £
Cash received and placed in the Baptist Union Trust	221,814
Fees incurred in 2023	-40,787
Fees paid in 2022 claimed from trust fund in 2023	-14,964
Returned fees in 2023	3,727
	<u>169,790</u>

Cash held in Baptist Union Trust 169,790

Interest earned on money held in BU Trust in 2023

June	1323	
September	1336	
December	1086	
	<u>3745</u>	3,745

Closing Balance of BU Trust 2023 173,535

Other costs incurred

Moving Costs	4,696
Repayment of Grant received from West of England Baptist Associati	5,689
Architects and other fees	40,787
Less fees returned	-3,727
	<u><u>47,445</u></u>

HORFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE CHURCH MEMBERS

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 14 to 23.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXAMINER

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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

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

---- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act;
---- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply
with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or

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

Mark A Symonds FCCA
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