

Thatcham Baptist Church

The Ministers and Deacons of Thatcham Baptist Church present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021. These comply with current statutory requirements and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (Revised 2005).

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

Charitable Object

The Charity is currently governed by its Church Constitution and is registered with Charities Commission in accordance with the Charities Act 2006. The Church Constitution states that 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 and other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world. The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. on Trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

Objectives and Activities

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 at large. Individual reports on many of these activities are available separately. The overarching aim is to express the love and truth of Jesus Christ in both word and deed, and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as living Lord.

We have very attractive premises which include wheelchair-accessible entrance and toilet, and lift access to first and second floors. There is an induction loop system for the hearing-impaired and we ensure that the use of projected words and images is as clear as possible for those with a visual impairment, with large print song sheets also made available at services.

• Worship, Discipleship and Fellowship

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. In normal times, these services take place each Sunday morning and evening. Other events are advertised on the Church Notice Boards, on our website, via social media and through our Church Management tool, ChurchSuite. The Church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community, and anybody is free to attend its services.

The Church cares for its Members and others by sharing Christian friendship and fellowship in various ways. In 2021 eight Midweek Groups or short courses met regularly for the growth of faith and discipleship of Members and other attendees. There are also a number of prayer groups. Further details of all these groups can be obtained from the Trustees on request, or at the Sunday services.

The Church runs a varied children's and youth programme, which engages about 30 children under 11 and about 20 11-18s on a regular basis (excluding our toddler group – see below). The Church operates systems to ensure appropriate vetting of all people working with children and adults at risk.

The Church cares for those who are sick or in declining health by visiting them in hospital or at home, giving practical help, offering the ministry of prayer and, where appropriate, administering communion. Our prayer chains ensure that particular needs are prayed for promptly and responded to appropriately.

The Church offers its services to those who are facing life's major events such as births, marriages, and deaths. We have two Authorised Persons for the registration of marriages, and our Pastor is also registered for this purpose.

The Church seeks to offer Christian training to its Members where appropriate.

Our Pastor David Taylor and our Children & Schools Worker Penny Judge attend annual conferences for the purpose of their ongoing development. They meet regularly with the other local church leaders and workers in Thatcham, and (in David's case) Baptist Pastors in neighbouring towns, for the purpose of mutual support and co-ordinated action.

- **Community Work and Evangelism**

The Renew Wellbeing group continued throughout 2021, sometimes on Zoom and when possible, in person on our premises. In a year where the population's mental health was severely challenged this gentle ministry became even more relevant.

Due to the pandemic, all other regular church activities and many other occasional events remained cancelled for much of the year. However, our Tuesday Café, Fellas games afternoon and Toddler group all reopened successfully in the summer or autumn, and proved just as valuable to the local community as in the past. These groups provide excellent support to individuals and families, and as a Church we are grateful for their leaders' care, thought and prayer in the way they run these outward facing activities. Our Prayer Breakfast was also able to reopen before the end of the year, which is real blessing too.

In normal times the Church building is widely used by community and individual groups. This includes social and other events run by U3A (The Third Age Trust), autism society carers courses, family support mediation, music classes and groups for parents and children, Alcoholics Anonymous, and other local groups. Southern Counties Baptist Association make use of our premises for their committee meetings. These groups were able to meet in-person on our premises from September onwards.

The Church offers introductory courses for newcomers and those exploring the Christian faith on a regular basis. In 2021 we held one Alpha Course and one Bible Course on Zoom which enabled people from both within and outside our local area to participate. We also provided a Bereavement Course along with

partners from other local churches, due to many within the community feeling a sense of loss in these challenging times.

The Church pursues active relationships with all the other churches in Thatcham. In 2021 this took the form of regular Zoom meetings and joint seasonal projects.

The Church, in partnership with the other churches, supports the town's schools. We continued to do this in 2021 both when schools were open and when they were closed. Our Children & Schools Worker Penny Judge provided weekly assemblies to primary schools. Our Pastor David Taylor continued to co-lead the Christian group *Connect* at Kennet Secondary Academy, either in person or online. Due to the pandemic, we also supported Kennet Secondary Academy re-opening with their COVID testing for pupils. David and Penny continued to facilitate the termly breakfast for local headteachers and church leaders, and this re-opened in person in October.

Towards the end of the year the Church made arrangements to reopen as the West Berks Foodbank distribution centre for Thatcham, with a view to returning in person early in 2022.

The Church has well-developed relationships with Christian organisations working in the UK and abroad. It partners with BMS World Mission and Christian Aid, both major NGOs across the developing world. One of our church members continued to serve with the Church Mission Society in Ecuador in 2021.

The Church continues its presence on social media to enable our community to know about events that may interest them. We livestreamed our Sunday services over Facebook, this was and still is, successful with many joining us from all over the World including South Africa and India. We have continued this medium as we have seen many newcomers join us in person having first seen us online. During 2021 this, along with the medium of Zoom, became essential to most of our operations.

Achievements and Performance

2021 continued to be an extraordinary year for our church, as for everyone else. The global pandemic confronted us with the biggest challenge we have ever faced to our operations, but also provided opportunities never seen before. We sought to rise to the challenges and grasp the opportunities trusting in God's Spirit to lead us.

Four people were baptised during the year. Three were received into church membership, and several non-members continued to join us at online members' meetings. Two people moved away and resigned their membership. One member passed away, and another resigned through lack of contact with the church. Thus, at 31 December 2021 the membership stood at 81. We also held a thanksgiving and dedication service for a baby, again limited in numbers due to Covid. We held two funerals on our premises and our Pastor conducted seven others. We also held two weddings and one wedding blessing ceremony.

Our Sunday morning teaching programme this year started with the second half of Philippians, continued with responses at the cross of Jesus, and moved on to 1 Thessalonians. In the autumn we celebrated the church coming back together in person by using some psalms of worship, and then ran a series on the character of God which took us up to Advent

Our Sunday evenings continued with a weekly time of prayer at 8pm on Zoom. This continued to be an invaluable meeting, especially as it enabled our missionary Sharon Wilcox to join us each week from Ecuador. During the autumn we also reopened our Sunday evening service in person at church, which is a small but valued occasion.

Our Sunday services continued online till 25 April when the COVID restrictions were lifted, and we were able to offer both in-person and online services. This was due to the enormous help provided by our technicians. Of course, we have no way of knowing the extent or quality of people's engagement beyond those who make themselves known. Our in-person numbers were initially limited to 25 due to social distancing requirements but grew quickly as the restrictions lifted and the fellowship confidence grew. It required additional work to make the building safe and covid secure each week. We saw a number of new attenders join us as we reopened, and many of these were attracted by our online presence. We continued our young people's work through the year, partly online and partly in person. This was across our Sunday groups JAM, 7Up and 10Up thanks to the great perseverance of the leaders and children involved. During the summer we held several services and children's group outside in the church garden. This not only enabled us to sing together but also enhanced our relationship with our neighbours as they passed by.

Across 2021, our deacons held many extra meetings and worked tirelessly to navigate our way through the pandemic according to the changing rules and regulations. Our premises were made Covid-secure, and our grounds were maintained to a high standard. Our Pastor David Taylor and our Children and Schools Worker Penny Judge remained home-based until July and then based themselves back on the church premises wherever possible and in line with UK Government guidance.

Easter services were held online in a reduced programme of events.

Our AGM took place in March. Due to COVID restrictions, the meeting had to be held over Zoom with a special postal vote with the approval of the Church Members, 3 deacons stood down and 3 new ones were voted in.

In June and July, with the help of Glendale Church and the United Reformed Church, we delivered the Christian HOPE magazine to every household in Thatcham. This included a cover sheet to advertise our forthcoming bereavement course.

In the summer our Pastor David Taylor worked with Thatcham Town Council on a Covid Recovery project. As Mayor's Chaplain, he organised the United Service of Remembrance and spoke at two other events this summer. We were also approached by the Women's Refuge in Thatcham for volunteer support and were able to recruit one person to serve there.

In September more people came back to church in person, and Councillor John Boyd, Mayor of Thatcham, joined us for our Pastor's tenth anniversary service. We started a new monthly Youth Night started for 11-18 year olds. This began with a games night and pizza.

Also in September, we amended our Constitution to allow online and hybrid meetings, this was reviewed and accepted at a Special Church Meeting.

In November the Church was once again able to be a collection point for Operation Christmas Child's Shoebox appeal.

The Advent and Christmas period was as busy as ever. Some of our new attenders from Hong Kong were invited to switch on the Christmas lights at the civic event in Thatcham. There were other events in local roads, work with schools, collaborating with the Council in their Christmas installation project and carol singing groups. We were delighted to hold our in-person Family Carol Service with children's choir, and two "Carols By Candlelight" evening services to meet the high volumes of people wanting to attend whilst ensuring we kept people safe due to the increasing numbers of Omicron cases.

Beyond the local church our Pastor continued to work with local schools, serve as Chair of Churches Together in Thatcham, Chair of West Berkshire Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education, write occasionally for the Newbury Weekly News Christian Viewpoint, and provide email replies to enquirers through Christian Vision. He also wrote a couple of articles for the Evangelical Alliance magazine *idea*.

Financial Review

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation. No wider public appeal was made for funds during the year. The most significant expense related to our Pastor who leads, and co-ordinates the church's activities including the Sunday Services, provide pastoral care for the congregation and other people, and equip and encourage the membership in their life, Christian witness and service. The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church by making grants to national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose. The Church is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the Church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the Church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the Church's objectives. The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

The Church owns the following properties:

The Church Building, Wheelers Green Way, Thatcham, Berkshire
16 Cochrane Close, Thatcham, Berkshire (the owned manse).

Both these properties are under the trusteeship of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and insured through The Baptist Insurance Company Plc.

During 2021 the Church made charitable donations of 19.3% of its general fund income to the following charities: Home Mission (£6,000), BMS (£3,600), CMS (£1,800), CAP (£2400), Local Schools (£5,000) with £3,300 to other charities.

THATCHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

STATUTORY INFORMATION

1. Principal Address

Wheelers Green Way
Thatcham
Berkshire
RG19 4YF

2. Registration

Thatcham Baptist Church is established as a charitable unincorporated association registered with the Charity Commission, No. 112869.

3. Custodian Trustee for Property Assets

Baptist Union Corporation
Baptist House
129 Broadway
Didcot
Oxfordshire
OX11 8RT

4. Organisational Structure

Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with our Church Constitution. The Members' Meeting generally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church. Due to Covid-19, we held a mix of online (Zoom) and in-person members' meetings.

All members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective. Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church Members' Meeting by the Trustees for guidance or may be raised by members in Church meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Though the Constitution requires certain decisions to be made at Church Members' Meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

In accordance with the Church Constitution, the Members appoint Ministers and Deacons. Ministers are appointed to office for an indefinite period. Deacons are elected by the church members by resolution at the Annual General Meeting to serve for periods of 3 years. The Ministers and Deacons are responsible for the day-to-day running of the Church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity.

Those who served during the year 2021 are as follows:

Minister: Rev. DJS Taylor (Pastor)

Deacons: Mr. I. Andrews (Treasurer) up to 25 March 2021
Mr. D. Carter (Treasurer) from 25 March 2021
Mr. A. Pollard (Secretary) up to 25 March 2021
Mrs. R. Andrews (Secretary) from 25 March 2021
Mr. M. Livingstone up to 25 March 2021
Mrs. J. Andrews
Mr. R. Appleby
Mrs. C. Collis
Ms. S. Deering-Punshon from 25 March 2021
Mr. R. Sneddon
Mr. J. Webb

The Ministers and Deacons are the managing trustees of the Church. The Baptist Union Corporation acts as custodian trustee in respect of the property assets of the Church. All major decisions are taken to a full meeting of church members, which are held at five times a year.

5. Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that since the church owns the church building and the house currently in use as a manse there is adequate reserve coverage and no formally agreed reserve policy is needed. The church does however endeavour to maintain a buffer of approximately six months of normal expenses in its bank accounts.

6. Risk Management

The Ministers and Deacons have assessed the major non-financial risks facing the church and have satisfied themselves that there are policies in place to mitigate these risks wherever possible. Alongside the formal Constitution, the Church has specific policies in place covering Health and Safety, Equality Diversity & Inclusion, Disability Discrimination, and Children and Young People; these being reviewed and adopted yearly at the Annual General Meeting.

7. Statement of Charity Trustee Responsibilities

Charity law requires the Charity Trustees, in our case the Ministers and Deacons, to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Church and of its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Ministers and Deacons are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.

- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the activities of the Church will continue.

The Ministers and Deacons are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

8. Grant Making Policy

There are a number of different processes by which the church gives money to other organisations and individuals. Special offerings held during the year are for certain projects as agreed by a Church Meeting. Donations are also made to other causes as funds are available or as designated by donors.

9. Connected Charities

The Baptist Union Corporation continues to act as custodian trustee for the Church and all of its properties are held in the name of the Corporation on behalf of the members. The Church remains affiliated to Southern Counties Baptist Association, the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Evangelical Alliance.

10. Adviser

Independent Examiner: Rachel Belshaw

Church Bank: HSBC, Newbury

Approved by the Ministers and Deacons on 10 March 2022, and signed on their behalf by:



*Mrs Rachel Andrews
Church Secretary
Thatcham Baptist Church*



Thatcham Baptist Church (Charity No. 1128697)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from **01/01/2021** To **31/12/2021**

Legal Information

Report to the trustees and members of Thatcham Baptist Church (Charity Registration No. 1128697) on the accounts for the year end 2021

Church Address

Thatcham Baptist Church, Wheelers Green Way, Thatcham, Berkshire, RG19 4YF

Trustees

Andrews, Ian (to March 2021)
 Andrews, Jean
 Andrews, Rachel (from March 2021)
 Appleby, Robin
 Carter, David (from March 2021)
 Collis, Carol
 Deering-Punshon, Susan (from March 2021)
 Livingstone, Michael (to March 2021)
 Pollard, Adam (to March 2021)
 Sneddon, Robert
 Taylor, David
 Webb, John

Bankers

HSBC, 6 Northbrook St, Newbury RG14 1DT

Independent Examiners

Rachel Belshaw, Hill Top Accounting Ltd, Hill Cottage, Church Lane, Upton Nernet, Reading, RG7 4HQ

Section A Receipts and payments

		Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted Funds	Total funds	Last year
A1 Receipts						
Voluntary Income	2	£ 110,843.53	£ 500.00	£ -	£ 111,343.53	£ 114,017.40
Fundraising	3	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Investment Income	4	£ 2.46	£ -	£ -	£ 2.46	£ 22.40
Income from Church Activities	5	£ 3,206.79	£ 25.00	£ -	£ 3,231.79	£ 5,278.77
Other Income	6	£ 230.00	£ -	£ -	£ 230.00	£ 227.70
Sub total (Gross income for AR)		£ 114,282.78	£ 525.00	£ -	£ 114,807.78	£ 119,546.27
A2 Asset and investment sales						
		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Sub total		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Total receipts		£ 114,282.78	£ 525.00	£ -	£ 114,807.78	£ 119,546.27
A3 Payments						
Cost of Employment	7	£ 55,637.20	£ -	£ -	£ 55,637.20	£ 51,923.00
Expenses	8	£ 1,118.73	£ -	£ -	£ 1,118.73	£ 760.33
Premises	9	£ 15,788.21	£ -	£ -	£ 15,788.21	£ 14,316.46
Subscriptions	10	£ 2,509.59	£ -	£ -	£ 2,509.59	£ 1,997.18
Stationery & Consumables	11	£ 2,163.90	£ -	£ -	£ 2,163.90	£ 2,142.23
Utilities	12	£ 1,728.30	£ -	£ -	£ 1,728.30	£ 4,968.64
Communications	13	£ 1,834.31	£ -	£ -	£ 1,834.31	£ 1,854.81
Local Mission	14	£ 2,837.12	£ 1,311.37	£ -	£ 4,148.49	£ 2,527.73
Missional Giving	15	£ 22,100.00	£ -	£ -	£ 22,100.00	£ 18,458.50
Equipment	16	£ 1,048.07	£ -	£ -	£ 1,048.07	£ 1,174.46
Youth	17	£ 784.94	£ -	£ -	£ 784.94	£ 931.64
Sub total		£ 107,550.37	£ 1,311.37	£ -	£ 108,861.74	£ 101,054.98
A4 Asset and investment purchases						
		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Sub total		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Total payments		£ 107,550.37	£ 1,311.37	£ -	£ 108,861.74	£ 101,054.98
Net of receipts/(payments)		£ 6,732.41	£ (786.37)	£ -	£ 5,946.04	£ 18,491.29
A5 Transfers between funds	18	£ (25.00)	£ 25.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
A6 Cash funds last year end		£ 55,901.26	£ 3,822.90	£ -	£ 59,724.16	£ 41,232.87
Cash funds this year end		£ 62,608.67	£ 3,061.53	£ -	£ 65,670.20	£ 59,724.16

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Designated funds to nearest £	Restricted Funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	19 HSBC Account	£ 37,102.84	£ 3,061.53	£ -	£ 40,164.37
	BMM Account	£ 24,860.80	£ -	£ -	£ 24,860.80
	TBC Toddlers	£ 227.92	£ -	£ -	£ 227.92
	Zone	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
	Fellas	£ 77.05	£ -	£ -	£ 77.05
	Coffee Morning	£ 253.16	£ -	£ -	£ 253.16
	Renew	£ 30.40	£ -	£ -	£ 30.40
	Petty Cash	£ 56.50	£ -	£ -	£ 56.50
	Total cash funds	£ 62,608.67	£ 3,061.53	£ -	£ 65,670.20

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		£ -	£ -	£ -

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			£ -	£ -

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	20 Church Premises (insured value) + Contents (insured value)			£ 1,984,748
	Manse (16 Cochrane Close) (Insured Value)			£ 390,304

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	21 Pension Scheme Liability	General	£ 19,886.04	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>DJCarter</i>	David Carter	10/03/2022
<i>RAndrews</i>	Rachel Andrews	10/03/2022

Notes to the accounts

Basis of Accounts

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

1. Funds

The church operates 3 funds;

An unrestricted General fund which represents the main income and expenditure of the church

2 Designated Funds:

- (a) A Pastoral fund for supporting financial needs within the fellowship where appropriate.
- (b) An events fund which is used for the big events where the use of the church accounts is a convenient place to coordinate an overall funding. Spring Harvest is normally the largest example of a big event, but other events such as the Big Church day would fit. Typically we use this fund where the attendees are funding their own place at the event.

RECEIPTS	General (Unrestricted)		Events (Designated)		Pastoral (Designated)	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Voluntary Income	£ 110,843.53	£ 111,752.40	£ -	£ -	£ 500.00	£ 2,265.00
Fundraising	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Investment Income	£ 2.46	£ 22.40	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Income from Church Activities	£ 3,206.79	£ 6,148.77	£ 25.00	£ (870.00)	£ -	£ -
Other Income	£ 230.00	£ 227.70	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Total Incoming resources	£ 114,282.78	£ 118,151.27	£ 25.00	£ (870.00)	£ 500.00	£ 2,265.00
PAYMENTS	General (Unrestricted)		Events (Designated)		Pastoral (Designated)	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Salaries	£ 55,637.20	£ 51,923.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Expenses	£ 1,118.73	£ 760.33	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Premises	£ 15,788.21	£ 14,316.46	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Subscriptions	£ 2,509.59	£ 1,997.18	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Stationery & Postage	£ 2,163.90	£ 2,142.23	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Utilities	£ 1,728.30	£ 4,968.64	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Communications	£ 1,834.31	£ 1,854.81	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Mission	£ 2,837.12	£ 1,990.63	£ -	£ (905.00)	£ 1,311.37	£ 1,442.10
Giving	£ 22,100.00	£ 18,458.50	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Equipment	£ 1,048.07	£ 1,174.46	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Youth	£ 784.94	£ 931.64	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Total Expenditure	£ 107,550.37	£ 100,517.88	£ -	£ (905.00)	£ 1,311.37	£ 1,442.10
Surplus (deficit) for the year	£ 6,732.41	£ 17,633.39	£ 25.00	£ 35.00	£ (811.37)	£ 822.90
Transfer between Funds	£ (25.00)	£ (2,621.45)	£ (25.00)	£ (378.55)	£ 50.00	£ 3,000.00
Balance Brought forward	£ 55,901.26	£ 40,889.32	£ -	£ 343.55	£ 3,822.90	£ -
Balance Carried Forward	£ 62,608.67	£ 55,901.26	£ -	£ -	£ 3,061.53	£ 3,822.90

2. Voluntary Income

	General		Pastoral	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Agencies	£ 21,479.90	£ 23,594.98	£ -	£ -
Envelopes	£ 986.18	£ 1,786.00	£ -	£ -
Loose Offering	£ 509.01	£ 1,936.91	£ -	£ -
One off	£ 9,416.45	£ 5,003.95	£ -	£ 1,265.00
Standing Orders	£ 60,584.00	£ 65,508.20	£ 500.00	£ 1,000.00
Tax Reclaim	£ 17,867.99	£ 13,922.36	£ -	£ -
	£ 110,843.53	£ 111,752.40	£ 500.00	£ 2,265.00

3. Fundraising

	General	
	2021	2020
Events	£ -	£ -
	£ -	£ -

4. Investment Income

	General	
	2021	2020
Interest	£ 2.46	£ 22.40
	£ 2.46	£ 22.40

5. Income from Church Activities

	General		Events	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
Coffee Morning	£ 904.56	£ 1,984.05	£ -	£ -
Events	£ -	£ 545.00	£ 25.00	£ (870.00)
Fellas	£ 411.50	£ 413.40	£ -	£ -
Renew	£ 65.29	£ -	£ -	£ -
Lettings	£ 1,609.00	£ 2,852.50	£ -	£ -
TBC Toddlers	£ 216.44	£ 274.01	£ -	£ -
Zone	£ -	£ 79.81	£ -	£ -
	£ 3,206.79	£ 6,148.77	£ 25.00	£ (870.00)

6. Other Income

	General	
	2021	2020
Other Income	£ 230.00	£ 227.70
	£ 230.00	£ 227.70

7. Cost of Employment

The church had 3 employees: A stipendary minister, a children and schools worker, and a cleaner. This section does not include the cost for the cleaner, these are accounted for within the costs for the premises.

The church uses two pension providers; the Baptist Pension Fund for Ministers, and NEST for non-stipendary employees. The pension figures shown here are the employer pension contributions and broken out separately the mandatory payments to the Baptist Pension Fund to help reduce the deficit within their funds. In 2020 this was included in the overall figure. The stipend and salary figures appear to show a greater than expected increase over 2020 figures due to an unintentional underpayment in previous years which was corrected in February 2021. Thus the 2020 figures were lower than what they should have been as well making the difference look greater.

Employer NIC contributions are zero as they fall below the allowance threshold, whereas in 2020 with one additional employee they were just above that figure.

	General	
	2021	2020
National Insurance	£ -	£ 911.70
Pension	£ 4,108.35	£ 10,840.85
Pension Deficit	£ 4,419.12	£ -
Stipend & Salary	£ 47,109.73	£ 40,170.45
	£ 55,637.20	£ 51,923.00

8. Expenses

	General	
	2021	2020
Accommodation	£ 530.00	£ (215.00)
Books	£ 28.68	£ 38.32
Hospitality	£ 12.15	£ 29.31
Mileage	£ 286.65	£ 362.70
Other	£ 225.25	£ -
Study	£ 36.00	£ 545.00
	£ 1,118.73	£ 760.33

9. Premises

	General	
	2021	2020
Church Maintenance	£ 3,546.95	£ 2,655.70
Cleaning	£ 3,045.67	£ 2,761.76
Council Tax	£ 2,414.64	£ 2,350.63
Fixtures & Fittings	£ 988.32	£ 134.99
Insurance	£ 2,983.15	£ 2,929.35
Manse Maintenance	£ 2,809.48	£ 3,484.03
	£ 15,788.21	£ 14,316.46

10. Subscriptions

Subscription cost increase is mainly due to the use of ChurchSuite

	General	
	2021	2020
Subscriptions	£ 2,509.59	£ 1,997.18
	£ 2,509.59	£ 1,997.18

11. Consumables

	General	
	2021	2020
Consumables	£ 852.56	£ 1,015.63
Photocopier	£ 1,311.34	£ 1,126.60
	£ 2,163.90	£ 2,142.23

12. Utilities

Due to overpayment in previous years a significant surplus had developed in payment for electricity which we were able to get refunded during 2021 as well as a reduction in the monthly standing order.

The current electricity tariff is fixed until 31/3/2022.

The gas contract price is fixed until 26/8/2023

	General	
	2021	2020
Electricity	£ (124.19)	£ 2,733.00
Gas	£ 1,424.49	£ 1,967.64
Water (Manse)	£ 428.00	£ 268.00
	£ 1,728.30	£ 4,968.64

13. Communications

	General	
	2021	2020
Advertising	£ -	£ 220.75
Broadband/Fixed	£ 1,566.17	£ 1,529.06
Fixed Phone (not used)	£ -	£ -
Internet	£ 163.14	£ -
Mobile Phone	£ 105.00	£ 105.00
	£ 1,834.31	£ 1,854.81

14. Mission

	General		Events		Pastoral	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Events	£ 404.46	£ 920.47	£ -	£ (905.00)	£ -	£ -
Coffee Morning	£ 246.38	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Renew	£ 62.39	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Fellas	£ 350.68	£ 198.34	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Flowers	£ 72.45	£ 22.50	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Home groups	£ 19.95	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Ladies Circle	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Lettings	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Music Material	£ 65.00	£ 69.99	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Pastoral Care	£ 810.07	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,311.37	£ 1,442.10
Pulpit Supply	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Preaching / Teaching	£ 805.74	£ 779.33	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
	£ 2,837.12	£ 1,990.63	£ -	£ (905.00)	£ 1,311.37	£ 1,442.10

15. Missional Giving

The church attempts to donate at least 10% of its general fund income every year to other charities. There are 3 main, pre-agreed charities that we support

- Baptist Union Home Mission - which helps fund Baptist Churches within the UK that are struggling financially and the regional ministry team. We aim to give at least of 5% of our general fund income.
- The Baptist Missionary Society - which supports overseas mission. We provide £3,600 per year plus any specific appeals. There were no specific appeals during this year.
- The Church Mission Society (CMS) - We donate £1,800 per annum which goes to support the work in Ecuador.

In 2020 the Christmas appeal was split between additional giving to CMS to help those families in Ecuador who were worst affected by Coronavirus, and the West Berkshire Homeless charity. It was not possible to process the payments for the latter before the end of December 2020 so payment of this was made in January 2021.

The 2021 Christmas appeal was split between Tearfund and West Berks Foodbank - all moneys raised for this by the end of 2021 plus an amount equivalent to that which will be reclaimed via the Gift Aid and GASDS schemes was paid out before the end of the year.

Additionally £5000 was paid out to 3 local schools to support those affected by COVID. A further sum (included in the pastoral giving) was made to another school in the area in the form of supermarket vouchers for them to distribute to needy families.

The total missional giving this year amounted to over 19% of our total general fund income, with just over 5% going to Home Mission.

	General			
	2021	2020		
BMS	£ 3,600.00	£ 3,600.00		
CAP	£ 2,400.00	£ -		
CMS	£ 1,800.00	£ 5,383.50		
Home Mission	£ 6,000.00	£ 6,000.00	5.3%	of General Fund income
Other	£ 8,300.00	£ 3,475.00		
	£ 22,100.00	£ 18,458.50	19.3%	of General Fund income

16. Equipment

The church invested in upgrading the multimedia desk to enable us to offer services to the community (and internationally) through streaming of the live services. Additionally a new computer was purchased for the office.

	General	
	2021	2020
Audio Visual	£ 339.07	£ 1,094.47
IT	£ 709.00	£ 79.99
	£ 1,048.07	£ 1,174.46

17. Youth

	General	
	2021	2020
7/10 Up	£ 192.00	£ 192.00
Crew	£ -	£ -
JAM	£ 320.89	£ 506.37
TBC Toddlers	£ 209.80	£ 188.88
Zone	£ 62.25	£ 44.39
	£ 784.94	£ 931.64

18. Fund Transfers

The church made two transfers between funds this year:

- One person gave £25 towards Spring Harvest online, but this was covered by the General fund so this donation was transferred there at the end of the year.
- £50 was transferred from the Coffee morning income (part of General Fund) to the pastoral fund.

19. Bank & Cash Balances

Thatcham Baptist Church holds two main bank accounts held with HSBC, and a single petty cash account. The HSBC accounts are a standard Charity current account and a higher interest, fast access savings account (BMM). The remaining accounts are owned and operated by the various groups within the church, for the purposes of the overall accounts these are all treated as petty cash accounts.

The main current account contains all the money for the pastoral care fund

	2021	2020	
	£	£	
HSBC Account	£ 40,164.37	£ 33,140.70	of which £3,061.53 is Designated Pastoral Funds
BMM Account	£ 24,860.80	£ 24,858.34	
TBC Toddlers	£ 227.92	£ 671.28	
Zone	£ -	£ 606.35	
Fellas	£ 77.05	£ 152.51	
Renew	£ 30.40	£ -	
Coffee Morning	£ 253.16	£ 294.98	
Petty Cash	£ 56.50	£ -	
	£ 65,670.20	£ 59,724.16	

20. Assets retained for the charity'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 customer trustee the Baptist Union Corporation Limited:

- (a) Church Premises at Wheelers Green Way, Thatcham, RG19 4YF which has a current insurance value of £1,984,748
- (b) The Church Manse at 16 Cochrane Close, Thatcham, RG19 4QX which has a current insurance value of £390,304

The value stated is the insured value for rebuilding the premises according to the Baptist Insurance Company.

21. Pension Scheme liability

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

Under the Schedule of Contributions, the church makes a monthly payment in respect of the DB scheme deficit, currently £368.26, which will increase in line with increases in Minimum Pensionable Income. The Schedule of Contributions foresees these contributions continuing until June 2026. 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 £19,886.04 as at 31 December 2021.

The Church has been advised that the estimated cost for the church to buyout their Pension Scheme liabilities at 20 December 2021 was £55,600. (Was £84,700 at 18/12/2020)

Independent Examiner's report to the accounts

Report to the trustees of Thatcham Baptist Church (Charity Registration No. 1128697) on the accounts for the year end 2021, set out on pages 1 to 6.

**Respective
Responsibilities of
trustees and examiners**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021.

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

**Independent Examiners
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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed

Rachel Belshaw

Date

14/03/2022

Name
Address

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

MA ACA CTA

Hill Top Accounting Ltd

15 March 2022

The Trustees
Thatcham Baptist Church
Wheelers Green Way
Thatcham
RG19 4YF

Dear Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION – ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

As you will be aware, I was appointed to undertake the independent examination of the charity's receipts and payments accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021.

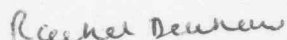
I have completed my work and my report attached to the accounts did not identify any material defects regarding the accounts.

However, I should like to bring your attention to the following points:

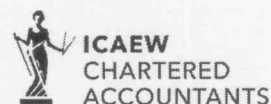
1. I note that the charity does not have a formal reserves policy. While it is not a legal requirement to have a reserves policy it is strongly recommended by the charity commission. Detailed guidance is available on their website about how to set the policy.
2. I would recommend that the financial policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and formalised as necessary. There is a helpful checklist on the charity commission website which can be used to identify any areas which may need further work. It can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/internal-financial-controls-for-charities-cc8.

Thank you for trusting me with your independent examination and I look forward to working with you again next year.

Yours sincerely



Rachel Belshaw



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