



Marshalswick Baptist Free Church

'A thriving church where people of all ages meet God'

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

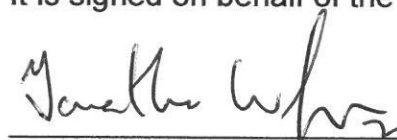
TRUSTEES AND LEADERSHIP TEAM (DIACONATE)

The names of the Trustees who served during 2021 are noted below, with the date of appointment and/or resignation if they have not acted for the whole year.

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Date of appointment	Date of resignation
Rev Graham Clarke	Minister		31 October 2021
Philip Whitlock	Deacon and Secretary		
Joanne Skelton	Deacon		
	Treasurer to 9 May		
Jennifer Drake	Deacon		
	Treasurer from 9 May		
Jane Frame	Deacon		
Jonathan Gill	Deacon		
Margaret Payne	Deacon		
Caroline Williams	Deacon		
William Allan	Deacon		

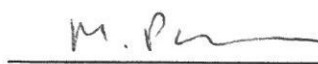
Following the retirement of our Minister, we have entered a period of Interregnum. Rev Simon Carver has agreed to act as our Moderator and support the Church as we seek a new Minister.

The Trustees declare that they have approved this report.
It is signed on behalf of the charity trustees.



Jonathan Gill

Deacon



Margaret Payne

Deacon

Date: 5 April 2022

LEGAL INFORMATION

Marshalswick Baptist Free Church (the Church) is a charitable unincorporated association.

The Church is a registered Charity. Charity Commission Number 1129235

Church Address: Marshalswick Baptist Free Church, Sherwood Avenue, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL4 9QL

Bankers

HSBC, St Albans Branch

Honorary Solicitor

Edmondsons, 11 Mill Lane, Welwyn, Herts AL6 9EY

Independent Examiner

Paxton Independent Examiners

Investment Account (Deposit)

Baptist Union Corporation, Baptist House, PO Box 44, Didcot OX11 8RT

Custodian Trustee

Baptist Union Corporation

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Marshalswick Baptist Free Church was established in 1967 by the coming together of an established nonconformist worshipping community in Marshalswick and the transfer of members from the Tabernacle Baptist Church in St Albans.

The Church is a charitable unincorporated association. It became a registered Charity in 2009 and is governed by a constitution agreed by the Charity Commission. The constitution was approved at a Special Church Meeting on 16 December 2008 and amended at a Special Church Meeting on 28 February 2016.

In line with its constitution, the Church operates under the authority of the Church Members Meeting which is open to all church members and operates with a quorum of 15% of church members. At the start of 2021 there were 78 members and at the end there were 73.

The Church Members Meeting appoints trustees to oversee the running of the Church. The Trustees are:

- the Minister as appointed from time to time from the list of accredited Ministers of the Baptist Union of Great Britain.
- up to 9 Deacons/Leaders who are appointed for a 3-year term by the Church Members Meeting. They may only serve two consecutive terms after which they must stand down for at least a year.
- The church officers, namely the Secretary and Treasurer are appointed annually by the Church Members Meeting from the appointed Trustees.

Except for the Minister, any individual must have been a member of the Church for six months prior to being eligible for appointment as a trustee.

The Trustees are required to meet at least 6 times a year but in practice they meet monthly (except for over the summer break).

New Trustees are inducted into their role through training and provision of relevant documents. All Trustees are encouraged to participate in events arranged by the Baptist Union and the Central Baptist Association and other bodies in order to develop their skills as Trustees.

There are usually 6 Church Members Meetings each year.

In accordance with clause 23 of the Church's constitution the Minister is entitled to be paid an agreed reasonable remuneration or stipend even though (s)he is one of the Trustees of the Charity. No other trustees received any payment for their work as trustees.

The Charity employs a part time cleaner and a part time Church Finance Administrator. All other functions and activities are fulfilled by volunteers.

The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Central Baptist Association being a signatory to the Baptist Union's Declaration of Principle.

The property of the charity is held in trust by the Baptist Union Corporation for the benefit of the charity.

Risks assessments are conducted for church activities and the church has a Risk Register which is reviewed regularly.

The key risks factors facing the charity's finances are:

- a dramatic drop in the number of members and attendees making financial contributions – even during the pandemic when attendance “in person”, has been restricted, numbers connected with the church have remained high and voluntary giving has remained strong.
- major and unexpected repairs to the building – we have a cyclical maintenance programme with budget provision to cover this.
- loss of a major hall hire customer – demand for the use of our premises exceeds availability and the church is exploring ways of maximising the use of the premises following the modifications made under Project 50

We believe that the level of risk in these situations is low and that the church has sufficient financial strength and human resources to limit any damage that may occur.

The church has the following policies and procedures which are reviewed and affirmed at the AGM:

Health and Safety Policy

Child Protection Policy

Vulnerable Adults Policy

Compliance with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Principal Purposes of the Charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. In fulfilling this objective, the Church engages in a range of activities which will vary from time to time, with activities being initiated, expanded or closed, as appropriate.

In planning our activities, the trustees consider the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular the specific guidance for charities on the advancement of the Christian religion. The charity fulfils this obligation in a number of ways:

Provision of Worship Services every Sunday which are open to all. Extra services at Christmas and Easter are publicised locally and on our website.

Education in relation to matters of the Christian Faith is provided through 'Sunday Club' activities for children, Messy Church for parents and children and a network of Home-Based Study Groups for adults.

Provision of Pastoral Care. Assistance to the sick and vulnerable, who may not always be church members, is provided by the Minister and church members. Where physical visits have not been possible, support has been given by phone and doorstep deliveries. Bereavement support and the provision of funeral services are available on request and marriage preparation courses are available to those seeking to be married in the church.

Social and recreational activities are provided for the benefit of different sections of the community. The established groups include the Kanga and Roo Carer and Toddler Group, the Social and Recreation Club, Thursday Club for adults and the Men's Group. The weekly Community Link sessions provide IT help, art, knitting and 'brain games'. These sessions were set up initially to help address issues of loneliness and became a vibrant and social part of our interaction with the local community.

During the Coronavirus pandemic some activities were suspended when the country went into lockdown. When it was deemed safe and reasonable to do so 'in person' meetings and activities took place. At all times the requirements and restrictions set by the Government were followed.

Assistance in the relief of poverty. We support the wider work of the Baptist denomination through our membership of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Central Baptist Association through our financial contribution to the Home Mission Scheme. We also support BMS World Mission financially.

We collaborate with other local churches through Churches Together in Marshalswick and support other local national and international organisations through donations and prayer support where that support will further our charitable objectives. An overview of all financial donations made to other causes in 2021 is given in the notes to the financial statements. Some charities are supported through the donation of 'gifts in kind', such as donations to the food bank, baby clothes and blankets for Knit for Peace. Recycled tools are collected for Tools with a Mission.

Provision of premises. The church premises are used by different Community Groups on an economical hire basis. To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church premises.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

- SECRETARY'S REPORT AND REVIEW OF THE YEAR

2021 has proved to be another challenging year as the pandemic continued to make life difficult and we have needed to live with ongoing restrictions, especially how we have been able to gather together which is central to being church, but it has also been a year when we have so much for which to give thanks and celebrate.

We celebrated four baptisms during the year. It was great to hear the testimonies of how the Lord has worked in their lives and brought them to make a public declaration of their faith in and determination to follow Jesus.

We also give thanks that as we slowly emerged from lockdown several families who have come to live locally from Hong Kong have chosen to worship here. What a privilege to welcome them in the name of Jesus. They have brought a new 'buzz' to Sunday worship and Sunday Club. At the beginning of 2022 we undertook our annual census and the numbers worshipping on Sunday are now around 100, a significant increase on the last few years.

The church has also been blessed financially way beyond our expectations, so much so that we finished the year free of debt and in a strong position to meet the future as you will see from the Financial Review later in this report.

At the end of October, we had a celebration tinged with some sadness as we gave thanks for Graham and Julia's 18 years of ministry here but also bid them farewell as Graham retired. A bittersweet occasion. Typical of them they didn't want any fuss, but we couldn't let them move on without showing our deep appreciation of the way in which Graham, supported by Julia, has pastored us over the years. This we were able to do at Graham's final service as our minister on 31st October.

Graham has been such an influence within the church that we looked forward to his retirement with some nervousness but once again God has been gracious as others have stepped up to take on additional responsibilities during this period of interregnum. We welcome Revd Simon Carver the minister of Dagnall Street Baptist Church St Albans as our Moderator to provide support and guidance as we move forward into the future and seek the Lord's guidance for the ministry of this church.

With lockdown restrictions considerably eased we were able to celebrate Christmas together with a Christmas concert and tea and well attended services on the Sunday before Christmas and on Christmas Day in a beautifully decorated church. Members of the congregation shared in these services making them a special family time as we welcomed Jesus, born among us.

Some areas of church life have yet to re-establish and if they do may well be in a different format to previously but that is not something we should fear as change will always be a part of life and can lead to new opportunities and a different way of doing things.

As we move forward, we do so with several fresh people joining the leadership team to act as deacons and trustees of the church. Upenyu Chioko, Chris Fong, Helen Little and Jane Tocher have been elected for a first term. Jenny Drake, Jane Frame and Margaret Payne have been re-elected for a second term. Along with Bill Allan and Jonathan Gill this completes the team going forward from the AGM. We now have a full team of nine which is encouraging as we move forward into a period of interregnum. Please hold the leadership in your prayers and give them your full support, along with Simon, as they seek to lead us into the future.

I'm sure you will want to express appreciation of Jo Skelton and Caroline Williams as they step down at the AGM.

October saw the publishing of the final edition of the church magazine 'Church Chat' at least for the time being. Church Chat has been replaced with a monthly 'What's On'. This simpler format will ensure everyone is advised of church activities.

The above is a snapshot of life at MBFC during the year, so much to celebrate and give thanks for. However, as in any year there have been times of sadness. Three members have died during the year. We give thanks for their lives among us and although sad at their passing we believe them to now be in God's nearer presence.

We have also reviewed the church membership roll and contacted several members with whom we have not had contact for some while. This review led to three members resigning their membership and a further four, who didn't respond to letters sent to them, being removed from the membership roll. Total membership at the turn of the year is 73, as against 78 at the beginning of 2021. As I emphasise each year the Marshalswick family is more numerous than the number of people on the membership roll.

Finally, as I step down as Secretary, I want to record my thanks for the support and encouragement you have given to me over the years. It has been a privilege to serve as part of the leadership and I'm sure you will continue to give that support to those coming after me.

We leave 2021 and move into 2022 with so much to be thankful for. God has richly blessed us beyond our expectations. We must not take this as an opportunity to sit back but rather an incentive to move forward together, actively looking for fresh opportunities to serve and reach out into the local community and beyond using the resources of people and buildings that God has blessed us with in new and innovative ways.

I will finish this report as I did last year. As we move forward from a difficult year, we can individually and as church go forward with confidence knowing from experience that whatever is to come God is faithful and we can Praise the Lord!

Philip Whitlock

Church Secretary

FINANCIAL REVIEW

We started 2021 in a strong financial position and we have ended it in an even better place. Our income has remained steady throughout the year and our spending has been well managed. In another year of lockdowns and uncertainty we have been truly blessed in ways that we couldn't have imagined.

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to carry on its activities and meet its objectives from within its own membership and congregation. Once again, generous giving by members of the church family has enabled the Church to continue to be generous in its giving for other causes – £13,224, in total. Each year we budget to give £5,000 for Home Mission and £5,000 for BMS World Mission from church funds. In addition, the church has supported a number of special appeals throughout the year – they are listed in the notes to the financial statements.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements. As you'll see in the notes to the accounts the Church has a number of funds which are attributed to various church groups and projects. For the purposes of this review, I'll comment on the General fund, Reserves and Project 50.

General fund and Reserves

Our main sources of income are freewill offerings and donations, Gift Aid and hall hire. Our main costs are salaries and running and maintaining the church properties. i.e., church and manse. Due to restrictions imposed by the pandemic, our hall hire has been reduced. But lockdown also meant that some of our running costs were less than usual. With our minister's retirement at the end of October we've not paid a full year of his stipend or pension costs. During the year we received an outstanding Gift Aid claim for the previous year as well as payment due for the current year.

Income to General Fund was £103,645 and outgoings were £72,246. So at the end of the year, we had a surplus of £31,649 in our General Fund.

We started the year with £58,351 in our Reserves Fund knowing that we would face expenses for refurbishing the manse following Graham's retirement. We don't know what those costs will be yet, but we expect them to be significant. When the surplus from 2021 is transferred to Reserves, this will give a total of exactly £90,000.

(I have set out our Reserves Policy below.) This means that when we have some costs for the manse refurbishment, we'll be able to allocate funds to a Manse Refurbishment Fund.

Project 50

Project 50 is a restricted fund which we set up to fund improvements and accessibility to the church building which were agreed by church members in 2016. We paid for most of the work carried out in Phase 1 of Project 50 towards the end of

2020 and we started 2021 with a balance of £67,274. This included the monies from a loan we received from Central Baptist association in June 2020 which was repayable over 10 years. By the end of 2020 we had repaid one instalment of the loan. In 2021 we received a further £22,170 in donations, Gift Aid and fundraising. And we were blessed with the most amazing gift of £45,000 from Trinity Baptist Church in Chesham to pay off our outstanding loan. In total we received £67,170 for Project 50.

During 2021 we paid out £78,827 for Project 50. £47,500 of this was repayment of the loan. The balance of £31,327 was mainly for the remaining work invoiced. As a result of Trinity's gift, we ended the year with £55,572 in our Project 50 fund. Some of this will be needed to settle outstanding bills when Phase 1 of the project is signed off. But it will leave a significant sum of money as we start to think and pray about Phase 2.

Jenny Drake

Treasurer

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review the level of reserves which are held and take account of the risks to income and of unplanned expenditure. The Trustees recognise that reserves will fluctuate due to the timing of income and expenditure.

The Trustees have assessed the risks and feel it is prudent to hold around 5 months' worth of running costs to cover contingencies such as loss of hall hire or unexpected repairs to the building.

So the target we have set for unrestricted reserves is to hold an average of £35,000 during the year and at the year end.

The reserves of the charity are mainly held in the Baptist Union Corporation 7-Day Notice deposit account. This account provides attractive rates of interest and funding for loans to Baptist causes.

MARSHALSWICK BAPTIST FREE CHURCH**CHARITY NUMBER: 1129235****FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2021 TO 31 DECEMBER 2021****RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	Note	£	£	£	£
A1 Receipts					
Voluntary income	(b)	76,351	23,250	99,601	112,381
Raised for other causes	(c)	3,484	0	3,484	2,609
Investment income	(d)	182	0	182	420
Hall hire		22,656	0	22,656	18,255
Loans	(n)	0	0	0	50,000
Grants		0	0	0	9,135
Other income	(e)	1,903	45,303	47,206	1,739
		104,576	68,553	173,129	194,539
A2 Assets & investments sales		0	0	0	0
Total receipts		104,576	68,553	173,129	194,539
A3 Payments					
Ministry costs	(f)	28,117	0	28,117	33,980
Donations to other causes	(g)	13,224	0	13,224	15,834
Church activities costs	(h)	6,791	520	7,311	7,187
Maintenance of church properties	(i)	20,215	185	20,400	22,533
Governance & administration costs	(j)	4,312	0	4,312	249
Loan repayments	(n)	0	47,750	47,750	2,750
		72,659	48,455	121,114	82,533
A4 Assets & investments purchases		0	30,556	30,556	174,552
Total payments		72,659	79,011	151,670	257,085
Excess of receipts over payments		31,917	-10,458	21,459	-62,546
A5 Transfers between funds		0	0	0	0
A6 Cash funds last year	(k)	62,284	70,827	133,111	195,657
Cash funds this year end	(k)	94,201	60,369	154,570	133,111

Note: The Charity has no Endowment Funds

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

B1 Cash funds

Details	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Current account HSBC		14,564	15,369
Deposit account BUC		79,182	45,000
Equals Prepaid card		10	
Cash		445	
Total		94,201	60,369

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
		0	0

B3 Investment assets

Details	Note	Fund to which asset belongs £	Current value £
1000 Traidcraft Shares	(l)	0	0

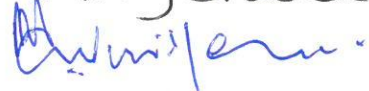
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Note	Fund to which asset belongs £	Current value £
Church, Sherwood Avenue	(m)	General	2,445,526
Manse, 4 Sherwood Avenue	(m)	General	329,703
Fixtures and fittings - church	(m)	General	147,677
Organ	(m)	General	437,120

B5 Liabilities

Details	Note	Fund to which liability belongs £	Current value £
Baptist Pension Scheme liability		General	17,932
Central Baptist Association loan	(n)	Project 50	0

The accounts and statement of assets and liabilities relating to the year ending 31 December 2021 were approved by the trustees (deacons) on 17 February 2022 and are signed on behalf of all trustees.

Signed: 


J M Drake (Treasurer)

P A Whitlock (Secretary)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

a. Basis of accounts

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

b. Voluntary income

	2021	2020
Offerings and Donations	73,024	104,491
Tax recovered – Gift Aid	26,577	7,890
Total Voluntary Income	99,601	112,381

c. Raised for Other causes

	2021	2020
BMS World Mission – member donations	900	779
BMS World Mission – Birthday Scheme	420	850
Special Appeals	2164	980
Total Raised for Other causes	3,484	2609

d. Investment income

	2021	2020
Deposit interest	182	420
Total Investment Income	182	420

The church has placed funds in a 7-day notice deposit account with the Baptist Union Corporation.

e. Other income

	2021	2020
Electricity sold	1,903	0
Donation from Trinity Baptist Church	45,000	0
Other income	303	1,739
Total Other Income	47,206	1,739

In November 2021 we received a donation from Trinity Baptist Church to repay the balance of the loan we took out in May 2020 in order to proceed with building work in Phase 1 of Project 50

f. Ministry costs

	2021	2020
Minister's stipend	20,417	26,129
Pension contribution	6,550	6,202
Visiting preacher fees and expenses	135	180
Other ministry costs	1,015	1,469
Total Ministry costs	28,117	33,980

The Minister acts as one of the church's trustees and receives remuneration and other benefits in respect of their services as Minister, including the provision of manse accommodation owned by the church. Our Minister, Rev Graham Clarke retired at the end of October 2021.

g. Donations to other causes

	2021	2020
Home Mission – church donation to CBA	5,000	5,500
BMS World Mission – church donation	5,000	5,500
BMS World Mission – member donations	640	583
BMS World Mission – Birthday Scheme	420	1,278
BMS World Mission – Special appeals	747	578
Christian Aid – Special appeal	575	740
Embrace the Middle East – Special appeals	842	930
Operation Agri – Special appeals	0	225
Project 2:67	0	500
Total Donations to other causes	13,224	15,834

h. Church activities costs

	2021	2020
Licences and subscriptions	2,966	2,638
Printing and stationery	1,435	1,332
Church groups, clubs, outreach and pastoral care	2,910	3,217
Total Church activities costs	7,311	7,187

i. Maintenance of church properties

	2021	2020
Utilities	6,121	8,194
Church Broadband	365	413
Council Tax Manse	2,819	2,662
Insurance	3,833	3,629
Cleaning – wages and materials	3,904	5,758
Repairs and maintenance	2,963	1,877
Defibrillator	395	
Total Maintenance of church properties	20,400	22,533

The above costs relate to the church premises in Sherwood Avenue and the manse at 4 Sherwood Avenue. In 2020 the work commenced on building work in Phase 1 of Project 50 to improve the access to and facilities in the Church Sanctuary. This work continued into 2021 and final snagging and sign-off of the work and payment of retention monies is anticipated in early 2022.

j. Governance and administration costs

	2021	2020
Professional fees – Independent Examiner	200	200
Payroll fees	343	49
Church Finance Administrator salary & equipment	3757	0
Equals Prepaid card fees	12	0
Total Administration	4,312	249

The church appointed a Church Finance Administrator from 1 June 2021.

The church has appointed West of England Baptist Payroll Company Limited for payroll services.

The church has Equals Prepaid Mastercards for the Treasurer and the Church Finance Administrators. Cards are topped up when needed to make a payment which can't be made by bank transfer.

k. Movement of funds

The church has the following funds. Surplus in the General Fund is moved to the Reserve Fund at the end of the year. Restricted Funds are funds which must be used for a specific purpose.

Fund name	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	0	103,645	-72,246	250	31,649
Church ECO Garden	0	125	-40	0	85
Community Link	1,210	807	-203	-250	1,564
Frog	1,250	0	-80	0	1,170
Kanga & Roo	713	0	-90	0	623
Lighthouse	71	0	0	0	71
Recreation Club	688	0	0	0	688
Reserve Fund	58,352	0	0	0	58,352
Total Unrestricted	62,284	104,577	-72,659	0	94,202
Restricted funds					
Audio Visual	500	0	0	0	500
Organ Fund	1,610	0	0	0	1,610
Piano Fund	145	0	-140	0	5
Project 50 2017	67,274	67,170	-78,872	0	55,572
Thursday Club	297	192	0	0	489
Youth Work	1,000	1,192	0	0	2,192
Total Restricted	70,826	68,554	-79,012	0	60,368
TOTAL FUNDS	133,111	173,129	-151,671		154,570

Note these are rounded figures

l. Investment Assets

The church was bequeathed Traidcraft shares a number of years ago. Trading in these shares has been suspended since 2018 and they have no value.

m. Assets Held for the Church's own use

The church is the beneficial owner of the assets listed (subject to the relevant trusts) the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd: The values shown are insurance values as at the renewal of the policies with Baptist Insurance on 24 June 2021.

n. Long Term Liabilities

In May 2021 the church applied for a loan of £50,000 from the Central Baptist Association in order to proceed with building work in Phase 1 of Project 50. The loan would be repayable in 20 instalments of £2,500 over a 10-year period. It was expected the church would wish to make a 'thank offering' payment after the loan was repaid. The church decided to include an element of 'thank offering' with each instalment repaid over the term of the loan. Instalments of £2,750 each were paid in December 2020 and June 2021. In November 2021 the church received a gift of £45,000 from Trinity Baptist Church in Chesham to repay the loan. The loan has been repaid. The church will agree the amount of final 'thank offering' payment in early 2022.

Pension Scheme Liabilities

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

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

A formal valuation of the DB Plan as at 31 December 2019 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 £332.08, 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 £17,932 at 31 December 2021.

Following the retirement of our Minister on 31 October 2021, the church no longer has an active employee in the Pension Scheme and as a result a cessation event has occurred and an employer debt has become due. However, instead of settling the debt, the church applied for and been granted a 'Period of Grace', initially for 12 months from 1 November 2021, during which time it continues to make its monthly deficit contributions. This will be reviewed when a new Minister is appointed or the Period of Grace ends, whichever happens first.

The Church has been advised that the estimated cost for the church to buyout their Pension Scheme liabilities as at 31 October 2021 was £23,600.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

Marshalswick Baptist Free Church

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1129235

Set out on pages

1 to 2

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

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 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:

- a the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- b the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- c 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:

Darren Warren

Date:

15/02/2022

Name:

Darren Warren – Paxton Independent Examiners

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

FMAAT

Address:

61a High Street South

Rushden

Northants, NN10 0RA

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.