

# **ASHFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**

**With a Mission at Boughton Aluph**



Ashford Baptist Church

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**2021**



## Ashford Baptist Church

St John's Lane • Ashford • Kent • TN23 1PS

**Tel:** 01233 625542 • **Website:** [www.ashfordbaptist.org.uk](http://www.ashfordbaptist.org.uk) • **Email:** [office@ashfordbaptist.org.uk](mailto:office@ashfordbaptist.org.uk)

**Ministers:** Rev Lorna and Rev Rob Sylvester

### Legal and Administrative Information (as at 31 December 2019)

<b>Ministers</b>	Rev Lorna Sylvester and Rev Rob Sylvester (1.6.2015)
<b>Secretary</b>	Helen Wilson (Elected 01 01 20 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Finance Team – Lynn Oliver named on ChurchUpdate
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Vacant
<b>Administrator</b>	Vacant
<b>Deacons</b>	Alison O'Donnell (Re-elected 01 01 20 elected 1.1.17) Helen Wilson (elected 1.1.18) Keith Tam (Elected 01 01 20) Daniel Rai (Elected 01 01 21) John Sunuwar (Elected 01 01 21)

The Deacons and Ministers together comprise the Managing Trustees of the Church

<b>Registered Charity Number</b>	1130593	
<b>Principal Address</b>	Ashford Baptist Church Saint John’s Lane Ashford, Kent TN23 1PS	
<b>Governing Document</b>	Church Constitution adopted on 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2008	
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Eloise Fisher, ACCA Accounts Unlocked Limited Repton Manor Repton Avenue Ashford Kent TN23 3GP	
<b>Bankers</b>	HSBC Bank plc 39 High Street Ashford, Kent TN24 8TG	Lloyds Bank 81 High Street Ashford, Kent TN24 8SS



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Ministers: Rev Lorna and Rev Rob Sylvester

### Ministers' Report 2021

As New Year 2021 arrived, we had not met together in the church building for either Sunday worship or any other activities for over 9 months, since the start of the Covid lockdowns. Services continued to be broadcast from musicians and ministers' homes until Easter, when a change in government regulations allowed a team of musicians, technicians and ministers to move back to Station Road and livestream from there. To make this possible, cameras and other equipment had been installed and tested, and operators trained - the church owes all those involved a great debt of gratitude.

By May, restrictions lifted so that a congregation could also return to the building - a real blessing to all concerned. A range of measures were put in place to keep everyone as safe as possible, but these didn't prevent us worshipping the Lord together once again. Many people continued to stay away at this stage, either shielding by law or else just uncertain and preferring to watch online as the situation developed. Refreshments couldn't be served indoors, and so we moved outside to the memorial gardens, which proved to be a lovely setting. A couple of excellent fellowship/social events took place outdoors over the summer, providing a much-needed opportunity to spend time together and re-connect. The first was a watersports and barbeque event at the Seapoint Centre in Hythe; the second a barbeque at the home of Geoff and Helen Wilson.

In September, with the beginning of a new school year, we felt it was time to relaunch the Sunday School groups in person, which would encourage our families with children to return. The junior age group had continued to meet online throughout the pandemic, for which we are so grateful to those who served them faithfully. However, we soon discovered that many of the older teenagers did not come back to church, along with the fact that a number of their leaders had decided to set down their responsibilities (and in a few cases move away to other churches). This obviously left us stretched to provide as many groups as we would have liked, and also the groups themselves were smaller. But huge thanks to those leaders who did continue to teach and also to some who took up the challenge to get involved more fully than before.

Also during the autumn the Boys' Brigade began meeting in person once again. They too had continued online during the lockdowns, but getting back together presented much greater opportunities for activities and building relationships. Unfortunately, Girls' Brigade was unable to find enough leaders to staff the various age-groups, and so did not re-form. Instead, the girls joined with the boys on a Thursday evening, which seemed a good solution. General youthwork also geared up at this time, offering a variety of social activities to gather the teenagers once more, which was especially important as many were not around on a Sunday morning. Thanks again are due to all who helped organise these events.

During the summer and autumn, we noticed that a significant number of new people were visiting the church for Sunday services. Many of these were from overseas, moving to Ashford to take up jobs at the William Harvey Hospital. Often they brought young children with them. Some came once or twice before moving on elsewhere in search of a spiritual home, but a good number stayed with us, becoming regular attenders and beginning to serve in the limited number of ways available at the time (e.g. stewarding).

In October we celebrated the dedications of Abigail, Hannah and Ezra Green, along with Nina Onyedikatchi. As well as being a precious occasion in its own right, it reminded us of the important life-events that are so integral to a church fellowship and which we had all missed so much.

Our Bible text for the year came from Luke chapter 10 verse 27: *'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself'.*



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Ministers: Rev Lorna and Rev Rob Sylvester

Having focused our thoughts on the household of God during the previous year, it was an obvious development now to look outwards at the needs of those around us – in our neighbourhoods and communities, as well as further afield. The pandemic had given rise to many opportunities to help, get to know or strengthen our existing relationships with others as a means of bringing God's love and blessing into their lives. At the same time there were bigger issues to consider, including racial justice and the increasing challenge of Climate Change. With the COP-26 conference coming to the UK in November, we offered teaching and practical ideas for the church community to think through and then respond to in whatever ways they could, in order to reduce their carbon footprint, make changes to more sustainable lifestyles, and advocate on behalf of those most affected by global warming. A small group was set up to research and promote this issue, and a special Climate Sunday service took place in July, with a follow up in November via the 24/7 Prayer movement as the international summit took place. In the autumn we preached through the book of Exodus under the heading 'Meeting God in the story of Moses', focussing on the many and varied experiences that he and the people of Israel had of the presence, power and glory of God from their liberation in Egypt to their arrival in the Promised Land. What could we learn and how could we grow in our own sense of encounter with God?

As Christmas approached we held our first 'café-style' service in the church. The sanctuary was re-arranged from rows of seats into about a dozen tables with chairs around them. Refreshments were served before proceedings began, which led to a relaxed and informal atmosphere. The theme was Christingle, with everyone making their own from the materials provided, as a reminder of the Christmas story. The ground floor of the church was full, and much positive feedback received.

### Fabric

Throughout 2021 the refurbishment project which had begun the previous autumn with the decorating of the sanctuary, continued apace with a small but dedicated professional team working throughout the building – all the other rooms and corridors were decorated; the loft above the sports hall was boarded out fully, fitted with lighting and an electric winch, and then filled with all manner of equipment that had been stored in the church balcony, stairwells etc. The two stairwells in the sanctuary needed replacing with fireproof materials; the church office was moved into the former minister's office; and a new and extended kitchen was installed, offering much more space as well as modern fittings and appliances. Finally, just before Christmas, the new front entrance doors and glass arch arrived. Taken together, a dramatic transformation to the building has taken place, putting us in the best possible position to meet the future opportunities for ministry and mission.

### Mission

Speaking of mission, a couple of possibilities to witness to the local community in Ashford emerged during the year. The first concerned retail chaplaincy to the staff, management and customers of the Designer Outlet (which had recently expanded its number of stores), as well as a very different challenge in the town centre whose fortunes had worsened in recent years with the loss of some major shops. Churches Together in Ashford (CTA) was in the process of exploring both these situations, to see if establishing a regular Christian presence was possible. The second opportunity concerned an empty shop unit on the Bockhanger estate, one of the most socially and economically deprived areas in the county. A lot of practical work was required to bring the building to a useable standard, and details of the lease proved complicated. With only a handful of church members expressing an interest in getting involved in the project, and the leaseholder wanting us to make a quick decision, we realised that it was not the right thing to pursue at this time.



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### Life Groups

Throughout 2021 our midweek Life Groups continued meeting – online and then as restrictions eased, in person. They have been a great support and encouragement in the face of the many challenges that Covid has brought, in addition to the general ups and downs of daily life that would have existed anyway. The chance to study Scripture, pray and share fellowship and support has been as important as ever. The ongoing commitment of all those leading and hosting our Life Groups has been invaluable and is much appreciated.

A brief report such as this can only touch upon the life and activities of a church like ABC, but it is important to highlight a few final things. Ray Davis stepped down as leader of Boughton Chapel after many years in the role, having organised services, administering the finances, maintained the building, and together with his wife Joan, given pastoral support to the congregation. Our heartfelt gratitude goes to them both. The Nepalese Fellowship has continued to meet during the year, online rather than in person, and has had its share of illnesses to contend with. But God has sustained them, and the group have continued to grow in faith and love. Church prayer meetings have taken place regularly in the year, providing much needed opportunities both to speak with and hear from our Lord on matters both great and small. Churches Together in Ashford held prayer & praise meetings on 3 occasions, which were really well attended by Christians across the town, and a great encouragement. An extended visit to the UK from the Frizelle family took place at the end of the year, and the Frizelles rejoiced in the birth of a new son Liam, and the Wilsons their daughter Sage. The Risk Assessment Team did a fabulous job in keeping us apprised of the complex and ever-changing situation regarding Covid rules and regulations, and provided vital guidance to the deacons on how we as a church should respond at each stage. Last but not least, a new Finance Team formed and took on the essential role of managing the day-to-day receipts and payments, monitoring contracts for utilities etc, providing reports to the deacons and church members, and completing the annual returns to the Charity Commission. One more big 'Thank you' to those involved.

In conclusion, 2021 was another extra-ordinary year in which so much that we had always considered 'normal' was disrupted, shaken up and reshaped. How things settle for us as individuals and a church fellowship will take time to work out, but one thing is certain: that the God who created, redeemed and established a covenant of love with his people has remained faithful throughout, and will be present to lead and guide us into the future. As Jesus commanded Peter on the shores of Lake Galilee after the earth-shattering events of Easter: 'Follow me!' (John 21:19).

Rob Sylvester  
23 March 2022



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### Church Secretary's Annual Report – 2021

***“Love the Lord your God with all your heart...soul...strength and ...mind”; and,  
“Love your neighbour as yourself” (Luke 10:27)***

Looking back over 2021 it was again a year of many ups and downs in church life. At the start of the year we continued in lockdown with church services continuing on Youtube each Sunday. We are thankful for the commitment and knowledge of our PA team for enabling this to happen.

Many meetings continued to be conducted over zoom for most of the year. During the summer we experienced a lifting of some restrictions.

We were pleased to be able to open our doors again at the end of May, with those wishing to attend booking a place on a Sunday, our ministers preaching again in person each Sunday, with services also continuing on Youtube. Initially refreshments were had in the Memorial Gardens (weather permitting) and then for a few weeks meeting at a coffee shop in town. The Risk Assessment Team continued to work hard to keep us safe during this transition period and for the remainder of the year we continued mask wearing and social distancing.

Since the opening up for church services, we were encouraged by new people attending on most Sundays during the year, especially nurses coming from abroad to work at the local hospital.

Gradually some activities resumed and the young people enjoyed meeting in people's homes and participating in outdoor events. In particular, a highlight was the canoeing event held down at Hythe on a hot Sunday afternoon in July, which was well attended by many young people and families. It was felt to be a very special time of fellowship for children, youth and parents to reconnect after such a long break away from shared activities with church. We give thanks to Louisa, and her team of parents and helpers for their continued input into our youth activities.

A bring and share lunch in August in a member's garden was an important time for the new people coming to church. During the autumn our Brigades returned to meeting in person.

The first major refurbishment of the kitchen (and extension into the old office), in 25 years was completed in time for our first Café Church in December. We give thanks to all those who were part of the Refurbishment Team. We pray this will last for another 25 years. During the year our BMS Link Missionary Annie Tanner stepped down and was replaced by Joy Ransome. The Wilsons involvement with IFES/UFM came to an end at the end of January 2021. The Frizelles continued to keep us updated on their lives and projects in Guatemala, covid permitting. They returned to Ashford on furlough at the end of



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November until the following January, allowing an opportunity for sharing and fellowship. Daniel and Regiane Clark continue in Peru, who also returned to the UK on furlough.

During September two families requested dedication of their children.

Work among our seniors continued with a harvest tea held at Boughton Chapel in October. Our meals on wheels ministry continued through the year, as and when needed.

Our Christmas carol service was held in person and on Youtube.

Looking back over the year we give thanks for God's blessings to us as a church. Last year we were reminded that we needed to look to see "what new thing" God was going to do in our midst. We acknowledge that our church community has changed. We have seen our numbers for Sunday School reduced to a handful, with fluctuating youth numbers on a Sunday. However, we give thanks for the toddlers and young children in our crèche and the ongoing commitment of our leaders. We give thanks for the new people who have continued to worship with us.

We continued to seek the way forward as a church praying for wisdom and guidance through the prolonged covid pandemic. Like Joshua leading the Israelites into the Promised Land, in Joshua 3 we read how God would lead the people guided by Joshua along "a path they had never been on before". Likewise as a church we are walking an unknown path but in the knowledge that God is with us each step of the way.

During 2021 we gave thanks for opportunities to see family and friends again after the lockdown, being able to enjoy more freedom. I pray that this will also give us freedom as a church to continue to see the new things that will spring up, after our time of covid and lockdown.

I would like to thank everyone who has given of their time inputting into the life of the church over the past year and for also continuing to support me during this time.

With every blessing

Helen Wilson  
Church Secretary      23 March 2022



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### **SAFEGUARDING REPORT for 2021**

Our thanks go to everyone who continued to maintain contact with our young people and our senior members throughout a second year of the pandemic. Care was taken throughout to ensure appropriate levels of DBS checked adults were present online with the children just as is needed in person. Nikki Wong, our Verifier, ensured that DBS checking continued efficiently regardless of the pandemic. Helen Wilson and members of the Senior Support Team sought to maintain contact with our vulnerable older members.

Safeguarding involves a range of activities aimed at promoting every person's fundamental right to be safe. These include:

- making and maintaining safe environments for all,
- having processes to follow should something go wrong, and
- providing support for everyone involved.

Safeguarding is a positive and proactive process that allows everyone to feel safe and maintains standards of best practice for the benefit of everyone in the church. (*Safeguarding training introduction page 3*)

So our thanks are also due this year to the Risk Assessment team for enabling us to comply with the first principle listed above during the years of the hazards of the Coronavirus.

Thankfully no referrals were needed during the past year. There was no contact with any of the statutory services.

No changes were made to the policy but we have yet to consider the challenge of whether we need a separate Code of Behaviour, or whether we consider this to be covered within the existing Safe to Grow procedures.

During my time of needing to shield it became more necessary to have a more accessible deputy Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS) to replace Mark Povey. I am very grateful to Louisa Ley for agreeing to be ready should the need arise. This is a role which we hope will not be needed but Louisa has the experience to cope if necessary because, as you know, if a disclosure is made action should be taken as swiftly as possible including the absence of the DPS..

Going forward let us all be part of safeguarding as we pray for our children and young people, our seniors and vulnerable adults and all the workers involved in their activities.

*Margaret Woolven*

DPS and Safeguarding Coordinator



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# Boys' Brigade Report 2021

Ashford Baptist Church

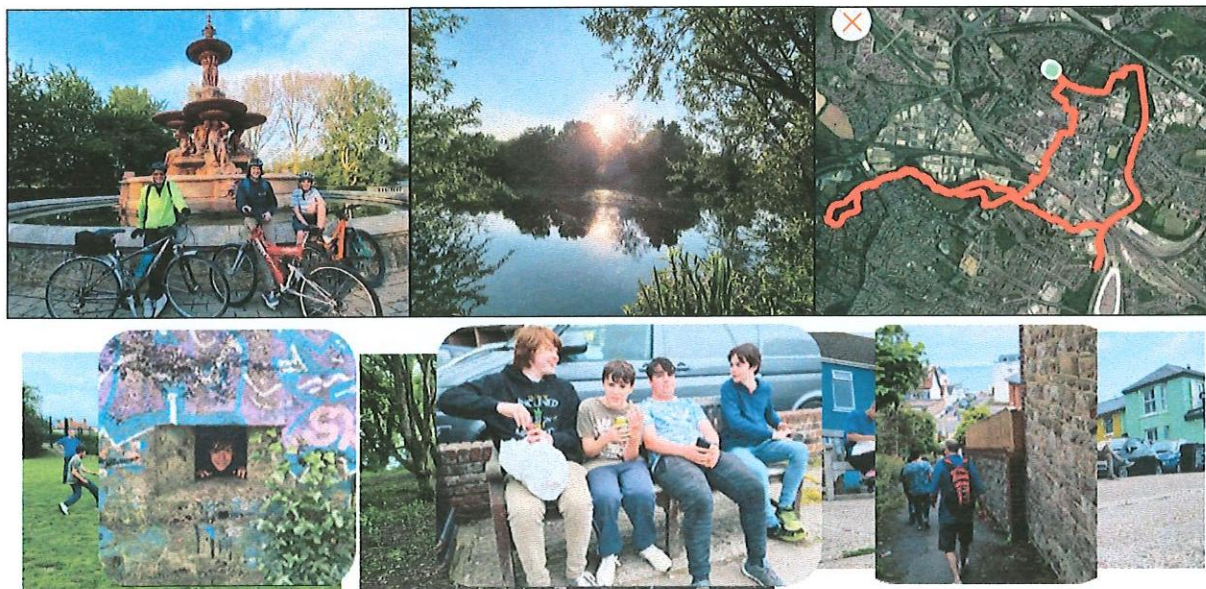
Simon White

During the very long lockdown Boys Brigade met every Thursday night online, we offered this service to all ages but only the company Boys (11 to 18) wished to join us.

The Boys Brigade organisation provided us with tons of online material which we used in full, quizzes, online activities, famous buildings made from biscuits, flags of the word, etc.



As the summer of 2021 approached we were able to meet up face to face taking part in a cycle ride around Ashford, a friendly but competitive game of football Leaders v Boys, yes the leaders won, we explored Sandgate, ending the evening with fish and chips on the sea front. We took the boys to Tonbridge water activity centre for an evening of kayaking and our final evening before the summer break was paddle boarding in the sea at Folkestone.





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Sadly during this time the Girls' Brigade weren't able to run anything online and lost contact with their Girls.

Speaking with Holly Cripps during the summer holidays it became clear that she no longer wished to lead the Girls' Brigade and has stood down from this role, at the same time all but two of the GB leaders also have decided not to return to this youth work and have stood down.

To enable the Girls' Brigade to continue to run, we at Brigades decided to join both organisations up, to run on the evening (Thursday) we would run as one group, doing the same classwork, activities and sports but keep our separate identifications. We put an advert out to Ashford Baptist Church weekly sheet looking for someone to lead the Girls' Brigade.

During this time we looked into the possibility of ending the Girls' Brigade and invited them to join us at BB with a title change of 1st Ashford Boys' Brigade and the Girls' Association.

Sadly no one has come forward to lead the girls so we are going to join the two groups together having one captain, with the support of the leaders.

This has been approved by the church and we are in the process of making this happen.

We finally started back at the Brigades in Oct 2021, following all the protocols required of us by Ashford Baptist Church. It's an interesting time - for once we have plenty of leaders but a lack of children/young people. On a good night we have 15 young people and on a bad night that can go down to 9.

God Bless  
Simon White  
Boys' Brigade Captain  
28 February 2022



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# Boughton Chapel Annual Report

Dear all,

2021 was a year of mixed blessings. We have met once a month for prayer in the home of Rose and Richard.

We restarted the Lunch Club at Boughton in August, initially doing it twice in the month, to accommodate all those on the list. The people who attended seemed to have enjoyed the meal and chatting to each other in accordance with rules on social distancing due to covid. In October we went back to just once a month, currently we have 21 on the list and they all come regularly. We all feel blessed to be able to serve God in this way and to see people enjoying themselves again. We have short talk before the meal and pray for anybody who has asked for prayer.

Coffee morning is also up and running with the average of 11 coming. On one occasion we had a lot fun folding paper to make boats to be displayed at Cop 26. There is a lovely atmosphere, a real sense of growing friendships with each other. We also meet once a month at Rose and Richard's for a time of fellowship where we read the Bible, sing, pray, have a short talk using resources from Our Daily Bread, we take communion using the Baptist Union notes for small groups and learn about MAF and TEARFUND. This has been a great blessing to us, we have seen s to prayer and look forward to God's plans for us.

In September a group of 6 pilgrims walked from Rochester to Canterbury and stopped overnight at the chapel. Alan and myself provided breakfast in the morning which they seemed to really appreciate and we enjoyed doing it for them.

In December we joined with St Christopher's at Boughton for a carol service which was lovely. Once a month we join in with the village litter picking and are slowly getting to know more people there.

Looking forward to the future in 2022 and what that might hold.

Yours in God's service

Heidi Law



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### STATISTICS

**Total number of church members as at 31 December 2021:** 108

**Total number of baptisms in 2021:** 0

**Number of children/young people with whom the church has regular contact through organised church activities:**

Up to 11 years: Face to face Closed from March 2020 – December 2020. Zoom sessions only. Less than 10  
12-18 years: No face to face from March 2020 – December 2020. Zoom sessions only. 10 – 15.

**Dedications:** 2 Families and 4 Children.



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### Financial Report and Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

#### ABC's Aims and Organisation

Ashford Baptist Church has as its primary aim 'To propagate the gospel and teaching of Jesus Christ, and to express that teaching in practical action'.

The church operates in the Borough of Ashford, Kent, and is based at St. John's Lane/Station Road and in the mission church of Boughton Aluph. In 2021 it employed joint Ministers, Revds Lorna and Rob Sylvester. These were supported by 5 Deacons, including a Church Secretary. The Treasurer's work is undertaken by a Finance Team, which reports directly to the Diaconate.

#### Review of Financial Activities

The church is financially dependent on the voluntary support of its members. Gross voluntary income for the year (for all purposes), plus other receipts (including legacies) amounted to £145,937. This is a decrease of £27,908 over the previous year, due mainly to the continued effects of Covid-19 in terms of the closure of the building until May 2021 (and therefore the suspension of all in-person worship services and other activities), and the gradual return of the congregation in the months that followed.

Total expenditure for the year was £230,291, an increase over the previous year of £52,510. This consisted of decreased monthly costs due to the lack of activities on site for much of the year, offset by significant expenditure on the refurbishment of the building at Station Road during the period (£94,063). Regular donations were sent to BMS World Mission (£8,086) and Baptist Home Mission (£8,086), part of a total of £37,549 given to these and other causes. The net financial position of the church at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 therefore showed a deficit of £84,354. This compares to a deficit of £5,694 in the previous year, the difference being explained mainly by the additional costs of refurbishment. All the church's assets are employed directly in pursuing its charitable objectives.

#### Investment Powers and Bank/Fund Balances

The church constitution authorizes the trustees to make and hold investments using the general funds. At the end of the year there was a current account at HSBC with a balance of £4,992 and an instant savings account with £148,551. There was also a current account at Lloyds bank containing £32,421. In addition, the Baptist Union Corporation holds a fund in trust on behalf of the church following the sale of Brook chapel in 2018. This is only to be used for refurbishment and building work at Station Road. At the end of the year the balance was £136,088. Adding in balances held by groups with their own bank accounts of £11,438 (e.g. Boughton Chapel, BB and GB) total funds amounted to £333,490.

#### Payment to/in respect of Trustees

No expenses were paid to trustees during the year, but they were reimbursed for materials and postage.

#### Summary and Thanks

2021 witnessed the continued effect of Covid-19 on the world, with ongoing impacts being felt by church communities in many significant ways. Despite all the challenges, however, the finances of ABC held up well thanks to the ongoing generosity of its members and friends, as well as prudent budgeting and financial management. We were also able to utilize the time the church stood empty/underused to carry on with redecorating and refurbishing the whole premises to set it up for future ministry and mission.

In all this, we remain thankful for the gracious provision of God, not only in financial terms, but also through the many acts of selfless giving and service rendered by His people at Ashford Baptist Church for the glory of His name.

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No expenses were paid to trustees during the year, but they were reimbursed for materials and postage.

**Summary and Thanks**

2021 witnessed the continued effect of Covid-19 on the world, with ongoing impacts being felt by church communities in many significant ways. Despite all the challenges, however, the finances of ABC held up well thanks to the ongoing generosity of its members and friends, as well as prudent budgeting and financial management. We were also able to utilize the time the church stood empty/underused to carry on with redecorating and refurbishing the whole premises to set it up for future ministry and mission.

In all this, we remain thankful for the gracious provision of God, not only in financial terms, but also through the many acts of selfless giving and service rendered by His people at Ashford Baptist Church for the glory of His name.

## **Trustees Responsibilities**

Under the Charities Act 1993 the Trustees are required to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and the incoming resources and application of resources in the year. In preparing the statement the Trustees are required to:-

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
3. State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practices have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the statement of accounts.
4. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its operations.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity at that time and to enable the Trustees to ensure that any statement of account prepared by them complies with the regulations under Section 42(1) of the Charities Act 1992. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

### **Approval:**

This report was approved by the deacons on ..... and signed on their behalf.

Signed: ..... Signed: .....

Name: ..... Name: .....

Minister: ..... Treasurer: .....

Date: .....

## ASHFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

(Registered Charity No 1130593)

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 2 to 9.

#### 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:

- \* the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- \* the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- \* the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirement concerning the form and content of accounts as 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:   
4354711E689F498...

Name: Eloise Fisher ACCA

Address: Office 43, The Cobalt Building  
1600 Eureka Park  
Lower Pemberton  
Ashford  
Kent  
TN25 4BF

Date: 3rd October 2022

**ASHFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**

(Registered Charity No 1130593)

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total £	2020 £
<b><u>Incoming Resources</u></b>					
General fund donations		398	20,673	21,070	8,455
Special Donations		1,455	0	1,455	1,400
Covenants & Gift Aid		16,657	105,933	122,590	158,592
		<u>18,509</u>	<u>126,606</u>	<u>145,115</u>	<u>168,447</u>
Activity Income		381	0	381	1,833
Investment Income		428	13	442	897
Legacies, donations and fund raising		0	0	0	2,353
Other Income		0	0	0	315
Total Incoming resources from charitable activities		<u>19,318</u>	<u>126,619</u>	<u>145,937</u>	<u>173,845</u>
<b><u>Resources Expended</u></b>					
Direct charitable expenditure	2	19,894	198,237	218,131	161,790
Management and Administration	3	0	12,160	12,160	15,991
Total Resources expended		<u>19,894</u>	<u>210,397</u>	<u>230,291</u>	<u>177,781</u>
Net (outgoing)/Incoming Resources		-576	-83,778	-84,354	-3,936
Other recognised gains/losses		0	0	0	-1,758
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		<u>-576</u>	<u>-83,778</u>	<u>-84,354</u>	<u>-5,694</u>
<b><u>Reconciliation of Funds</u></b>					
Fund Balances brought forward as 1 January 2021		250,694	178,592	429,286	434,979
Transfers between funds	7	-94,590	94,590	0	0
Previous years adjustment		804	-804	0	0
<b>Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2021</b>		<u><u>£156,332</u></u>	<u><u>£188,600</u></u>	<u><u>£344,932</u></u>	<u><u>£429,286</u></u>

The notes on pages 4 to 9 form part of these Financial Statements

**ASHFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**

(Registered Charity No 1130593)

**BALANCE SHEET**

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021

	<b>Note</b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>		<b><u>2020</u></b>	
		£	£	£	£
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>					
Tangible Assets	4		4,441		4,939
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>					
Debtors	5	1,382		5,209	
Income Tax recoverable	5	5,618		6,057	
Cash at bank and in hand	12	333,490		416,430	
			340,490		427,696
<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>					
Creditors	6		0		3,348
			<u>£344,932</u>		<u>£429,286</u>
<b><u>REPRESENTED BY:</u></b>					
Restricted Funds			156,332		250,694
Unrestricted Funds			188,600		178,592
			<u>£344,932</u>		<u>£429,286</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Deacon \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The notes on pages 4 to 9 form part of these Financial Statements

**ASHFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**

(Registered Charity No 1130593)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

**1) ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared to give a true and fair view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS102) published on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) Issued on 16 July 2014 and Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and Charities Act 2011.

Ashford Baptist Church constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

**Fund Accounting**

General Funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted Funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

**Income**

Non-covenanted donations and other income are brought into income in the year during which they are received, with the exception of donations given for a specific purpose which are carried forward as deferred income and matched with the relevant expenditure.

Legacies are credited to the income and expenditure account in the year in which they are received.

**Expenditure**

Specific items of expenditure that relate to either direct charitable expenditure or other expenditure are attributed to the appropriate category.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of the asset over its estimated useful economic life.

Assets are depreciated at the following rates :

Motor Vehicles	at	20 % on Cost
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	at	15 % on Written Down Value
Computer Equipment	at	33.3 % on Cost

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its useful life. Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £750.

## ASHFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

(Registered Charity No 1130593)

## DETAILED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021

2) <u>DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE</u>	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total £	2020 £
Stipends (gross) & Pensions	0	44,584	44,584	45,897
Ministry Assistant (half-time)	0	0	0	6,233
Intern	0	0	0	840
Travel	0	657	657	534
Mission Giving - HM & BMS	1,172	15,000	16,172	15,940
Mission Giving - Other	16,167	5,211	21,378	24,963
Mission Activities	0	0	0	133
Youth & Children's Work	120	679	799	601
Music & PA	0	826	826	3,622
Catering & Hospitality	440	268	708	1,149
Other Ministry	0	1,230	1,230	1,213
Cleaning	250	4,236	4,486	7,943
Heating & Lighting	726	5,764	6,490	5,475
Repairs & Maintenance	321	7,600	7,921	9,062
Insurances	318	3,246	3,564	3,457
Water	5	2,218	2,223	1,102
Manse Costs (council tax, water etc)	0	4,450	4,450	4,836
Pension Deficiency Contributions	0	3,695	3,695	2,724
Conferences/Study Weeks	0	972	972	522
Training (incl Safeguarding)	0	60	60	272
Subscriptions	370	945	1,314	2,454
Visiting Speakers	0	50	50	385
Independent Examiner	0	0	0	500
Sundry	5	0	5	0
Church Refurbishment	0	94,063	94,063	18,213
Depreciation	0	2,483	2,483	3,721
	<u>19,894</u>	<u>198,237</u>	<u>218,131</u>	<u>161,790</u>
3) <u>MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHARITY</u>	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total £	2020 £
Administrator (half-time)	0	0	0	6,132
Office	0	6,174	6,174	5,189
IT & Licensing	0	2,108	2,108	1,755
Advertising & Publicity	0	270	270	294
Resources & Publications	0	607	607	702
Minibus Costs	0	3,001	3,001	1,919
	<u>0</u>	<u>12,160</u>	<u>12,160</u>	<u>15,991</u>
Total of 2) and 3) above	19,894	210,397	230,291	177,781

**ASHFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**

(Registered Charity No 1130593)

**DETAILED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021

**4) FIXED ASSETS**

	<u>Motor Vehicles</u>	<u>FF&amp;E</u>	<u>Computer Equipment</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b><u>COST</u></b>				
At 1st January 2021	18,991	48,182	0	67,173
Reallocation of assets	0	-5,024	5,024	0
Additions	0	0	1,986	1,986
As at 31st December 2021	18,991	43,158	7,010	69,159
<b><u>DEPRECIATION</u></b>				
At 1st January 2021	18,991	43,244	0	62,235
Reallocation of assets	0	-2,531	2,531	0
Charge for the period	0	367	2,116	2,483
As at 31st December 2021	18,991	41,080	4,647	64,718
<b><u>NET BOOK VALUE</u></b>				
As at 31st December 2021	0	2,078	2,363	4,441
As at 31st December 2020	0	4,939	0	4,939

The Trustees own the following freehold properties: premises at Station Road/St John's Lane, Ashford; the Manse at 23 Magazine Road, Ashford; and leasehold land and buildings at Boughton Aluph Chapel. The original value of the buildings and the costs of improvements to them until 2021 have not been included in the Balance Sheet because, in the opinion of the Trustees, the cost of professionally valuing these assets to include a value in the accounts outweighs the benefits to the users of the accounts. They are insured for £4,404,480 (2020: £4,276,689) which is an estimate of their replacement cost.

<b>5) <u>DEBTORS</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2020</u></b>
Prepayments	1,182	3,585
Other Debtors	200	1,624
Income Tax Recoverable	5,618	6,057
	<u>7,000</u>	<u>11,266</u>
<b>6) <u>CREDITORS</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2020</u></b>
Creditors	0	3,348
	<u>0</u>	<u>3,348</u>

## ASHFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

(Registered Charity No 1130593)

## DETAILED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021

7) MOVEMENTS ON RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balances at 31/12/2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers between funds	Balances at 31/12/2021
RF1 L.Wilson	0	6,275	6,275	0	0
RF2 P.Frizelle	0	3,657	3,657	0	0
RF3 Lite Bite	1,121	0	0	0	1,121
RF4 Coffee Morning	3,462	0	0	0	3,462
RF5 Luncheon Club	4,231	0	218	0	4,013
RF6 Fellowship Fund	1,991	2,747	3,940	0	798
RF7 Other Mission Giving	0	1,455	1,455	0	0
RF8 Building Fund	240	20	0	-260	0
RF10 Boughton Chapel	6,723	4,675	3,860	0	7,538
RF11 Boys Brigade	832	57	490	236	635
RF12 Girls Brigade	1,296	5	0	236	1,536
RF13 Youth Camp	1,141	0	0	0	1,141
RF14 Brook Fund	229,613	428	0	-93,953	136,088
** Craft Club	27	0	0	-27	0
** Toddlers	471	0	0	-471	0
** Youth Club	350	0	0	-350	0
	<b>£251,498</b>	<b>£19,318</b>	<b>£19,894</b>	<b>-£94,590</b>	<b>£156,332</b>
** dormant accounts					

	Balances at 31/12/2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers between funds	Balances at 31/12/2020
RF1 L.Wilson	0	5,344	5,344	0	0
RF2 P.Frizelle	0	3,532	3,532	0	0
RF3 Lite Bite	1,093	260	232	0	1,121
RF4 Coffee Morning	3,343	119	0	0	3,462
RF5 Luncheon Club	4,099	357	225	0	4,231
RF6 Fellowship Fund	727	8,975	7,711	0	1,991
RF7 Other Mission Giving	0	900	900	0	0
RF8 Building Fund	0	240	0	0	240
RF10 Boughton Chapel	4,049	6,927	4,253	0	6,723
RF11 Boys Brigade	1,032	235	435	0	832
RF12 Girls Brigade	1,866	512	1,082	0	1,296
RF13 Youth Camp	1,141	0	0	0	1,141
RF14 Brook Fund	228,857	756	0	0	229,613
** Craft Club	27	0	0	0	27
** Toddlers	471	0	0	0	471
** Youth Club	350	0	0	0	350
	<b>£247,055</b>	<b>£28,157</b>	<b>£23,714</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£251,498</b>
** dormant accounts					

**ASHFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**

(Registered Charity No 1130593)

## DETAILED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021

**8) REMUNERATION**

The average number of employees during the year was 2 (2020: 3)

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Salaries	44,584	59,102
Social Security Costs	0	0
	<u>44,584</u>	<u>59,102</u>

Members of the Diaconate are not employees and received no remuneration during the year.  
Some church members received payments for repair work carried out at the Church and the Manse,  
for lay preaching and the reimbursement of expenditure incurred in relation to the activities of the Church.

The Church is heavily reliant upon volunteers who give their time, which cannot be valued.

**9) FUTURE COMMITMENTS**

There were no contractual commitments at 31st December 2021 (2020: Nil).

**10) REPAIRS, RENEWALS AND EQUIPMENT**

	£
Church refurbishment - Station Road	94,063
Damp proofing kitchen and removing plinth	3,035
Roof repairs and gutter clearing	885
Fire safety	797
Renewing emergency lighting	776
Building safety platform above basement	642
Boughton Chapel	378
General church maintenance	<u>1,408</u>
	<u>101,984</u>

**11) SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS**

Donations and subscriptions > £100	£
P Frizelle	7,568
L Wilson	7,075
Pastoral Support	3,940
Nepalese Church covid support	1,285
South Ashford Baptist Church	1,100
Subscriptions	945
BB Fees	370
Orphans in Africa	240
BMS World Mission Harvest Appeal	170
Donations < £100	0
	<u>22,692</u>
Contributions to BMS and Home Mission	
BMS	8,086
Home Mission	8,086
	<u>16,172</u>
Total Subscriptions and Donations	<u>38,864</u>

**ASHFORD BAPTIST CHURCH**

(Registered Charity No 1130593)

**DETAILED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021****12 ) CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

	<u><b>2021</b></u>
Lloyds	32,421
HSBC Current	4,992
HSBC Savings	148,551
Boughton	7,462
GB	635
BB	1,536
Youth Camp	1,141
Unbanked offerings and activity income	591
ABC Petty Cash	<u>72</u>
	197,402
 Brook	 136,088
 Total	 333,490

## Trustees Responsibilities

Under the Charities Act 1993 the Trustees are required to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and the incoming resources and application of resources in the year. In preparing the statement the Trustees are required to:-

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
3. State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practices have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the statement of accounts.
4. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its operations.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity at that time and to enable the Trustees to ensure that any statement of account prepared by them complies with the regulations under Section 42(1) of the Charities Act 1992. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

### Approval:

This report was approved by the deacons on 30 March 2022 and signed on their behalf.

Signed: R. A. Syll

Signed: Helen M. Wilson

Name: REVD ROB SYLVESTER

Name: HELEN M WILSON

Minister: .....

Secretary: .....

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2022