

# Sutton Baptist Church

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 December 2023

**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**CHARITY INFORMATION**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>Trustees</b>	Revd Mrs P Searle Mrs C Graham (Church Secretary) Miss S Botting, resigned 31 Dec 23 Mrs L Moore (Assistant Church Secretary) Mrs A M Costigan Mr K Paul Mr D Peasah
<b>Key Management Personnel</b>	The Trustees (as above)
<b>Governing Document</b>	Trust Deed dated 14 April 1873 and the Constitution dated 7 September 2008
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1130595
<b>Principal Address</b>	21 Cheam Road Sutton SM1 1SN
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Ajay Rajani FCIE Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB
<b>Principal bankers and deposit takers</b>	Lloyds Bank Baptist Union Corporation Limited London Baptist Property Board

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**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The Trustees present their annual report for the year ended 31 December 2023 and confirm that the accounts comply with the relevant statutory requirements, the Trust Deed dated 14 April 1873 and the Constitution dated 7 September 2008.

**Objects and activities**

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

When planning the Church's activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

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

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. The services take place on Sunday mornings at 10.30 am. A crèche is provided for a small number of younger children under the age of 4 who attend and a Sunday school for the older children from 4 years of age along with a youth discussion group for the 11+ age group.

To promote our ecumenical connection, there are occasional Sunday evening services which are provided in partnership with the Churches loosely covenanted in a Local Ecumenical Partnership. Known as 'Churches Uniting in Central Sutton' (CUCS) they consist of Sutton Baptist Church, St Nicholas Church (Anglican) and Trinity Church (Methodist/URC). The locations of these evening services are rotated. We host a number of united morning services during the year often with a particular focus eg Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Christian Aid, Palm Sunday, Remembrance, Advent Sunday. Some of the united evening services are choral musical events involving a United Choir and draw attendees from a wider audience in the local area.

The SBC website is maintained and has been a point of contact for members of the public [www.suttonbaptist.org.uk](http://www.suttonbaptist.org.uk)

The Church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of these services.

Other activities provided by the Church include house groups, Bible-study evenings, regular prayer meetings, a fortnightly 'Women In Touch' (WIT) group a monthly Men's connection group, Alpha and other social activities, to enable members to get to know and deepen their contact with one another.

Girls and Boys Brigades group's meet every Friday evening in term time, where the gospel is taught through fun and learning.

Sutton Baptist Church actively looks to support wider mission. This is achieved by focusing on global issues through our missional giving. Examples of this are fund raising for Tools with a Mission, Christian Aid, a local food bank, and supporting the Sutton Community Works Trust.

### **Objects and activities (continued)**

Members of the Church assist in the running of Larcombe Housing Association which provides accommodation for vulnerable adults. This includes a residential home for elderly people, most of whom suffer from Dementia (Wellesley Lodge), housing for people with a Learning Disability and affordable accommodation for those on a lower income. Christmas carols on a seasonal basis are provided for the residents of Wellesley Lodge by members of the congregation led by the Minister.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted in accordance with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) regulations.

The sanctuary and adjoining suite of rooms are hired out to various groups which include the One Stop Shop for victim support, Little Pioneers Childcare Nursery which is a part of the Midcounties Co-operative, and a Rock choir.

The Church buildings are also used by a Christian Pentecostal Church group; made up of predominantly African members, as their main place of worship.

### **Achievements and performance**

The Rev Pamela Searle was appointed in September 2019 and has continued to lead the church during 2023.

The membership remains steady, with a healthy increase in young families and children attending the church. We have had the encouragement of new members joining our church. We continue to observe that most of the new people tend to come from other cultures and hence the membership of Sutton Baptist Church increasingly reflects the cultural diversity of South London. This mix of people from different backgrounds and cultures is something we view very positively and celebrate.

2023 allowed us to operate fully post pandemic and we continue to offer a hybrid worship style to enable those of our congregation who may struggle to come to Church on a regular basis to join the service; likewise those who are away on holiday.

As we have now been able to function fully our income streams are beginning to show signs of recovery after Covid.

### **Financial review**

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation. However, a large percentage of the annual income is derived from the lease with Midcounties Cooperative Childcare Nursery and from hiring out of the halls for both long term and one-off lets.

Due to the size and age of the Church building and adjoining halls, ongoing fabric works and maintenance are regularly necessary and the Church continues to look for grants, support and advice from the Baptist Union and external sources. As part of the necessary maintenance of the buildings the Church has sought regular advice from an investigating architect and support from the Listed Building Advisory Committee.

The Church expresses 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. We have continued to support special charitable appeals eg TWAM, Christian Aid. All of the income from our evening services is given to charity.

### **Financial review (continued)**

The Church is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the Church 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.

SBC's lettings have continued to increase during 2023, for which we are thankful; we are thankful that we have a Church member volunteer who dedicates a great deal of time to our Halls and lettings.

The continuing generosity of many of the members who donate through standing orders through their banks have enabled a regular income to continue. The reserves held by the church, have enabled the church, under God's guidance to continue its work and witness.

During the year income increased by £28,000 to £148,000, and expenditure increased by £11,000 to £159,000. As a result the charity has reported a reduced deficit of £11,000 this year (2022: a deficit of £28,000) and the charity's net assets have fallen by £11,000 to £923,000.

Income from letting facilities increased by £14,000 and donation income (including related gift aid) increased by £13,000, which included some significant first time giving to a new Building fund. Expenditure increased for a variety of reasons but the single largest contributor was an increase of £14,000 in utilities (gas, electricity and water).

The charity's net assets of £923,000 are represented by tangible fixed assets (mainly property) with a carrying value of £790,000, fixed assets investments of £9,000 held by endowment funds, cash of £138,000 and other net current liabilities of £14,000. The charity's unrestricted net current assets (which is a measure of liquidity) were almost unchanged at £102,000.

### **Financial Reserves Policy**

The reserves policy calls for reserves to be held in the general funds (unrestricted funds) in the range of three to six months operating expenditure. Based on the total expenditure this would be a financial range of between £40,000 and £79,000. Unrestricted general reserves at 31 December 2023 stood at £59,000 and are therefore within the required range.

### **Investment Policy**

Money not needed in the immediate future is generally kept in accessible accounts, earning as competitive a rate of interest as is available at the current time with CAF Bank, the London Baptist Property Board, and Baptists Together. The charity holds a small amount of investments in stocks and shares in relation to the Endowment Funds. The charity has made no social investments during the year.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The Church is a Trust and is governed by a Constitution dated 7 September 2008 and a Trust Deed dated 14 April 1873.

Baptism by immersion upon personal profession of faith is the normal mode of entry into the membership of a Baptist Church. The Church however applies the following Baptismal qualification for Church Membership: Open membership so that persons seeking membership who have not been baptised in the manner described in the Union's Declaration of Principle may at the discretion of the Church Members' Meeting be accepted for full membership based on their own public profession of faith. People who have not been baptised as believers by immersion may therefore become members of the Church but shall be encouraged to give continued prayerful consideration to the matter of baptism.

The Church Members Meeting normally takes place bi-monthly and has responsibility for the overall policy of the Church. In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint Trustees who together with the Minister, Church Secretary and Treasurer (who are also appointed by the Members) are collectively known as the Diaconate and are responsible for the day to day running of the Church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity.

The church currently has 6 trustees including the Minister and Church Secretary; the Treasurer post is vacant and we continue to pray for this role to be filled. The church may appoint up to two Elders. Elders, who in liaison with the Minister, lead on pastoral matters may be co-opted to the Diaconate but shall not be regarded as Charity Trustees.

There are several committees which oversee the governance of the church, reporting to the Deacons /Trustees on a regular basis, including Finance and Building committees.

### **Structure, governance and management (continued)**

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 Church Members in Church meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Though the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

The key management personnel of the charity as listed on page 2 are in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. All non-ministerial Trustees give their time freely and are only reimbursed for expenses. The stipend of the Ministers is reviewed from time to time based on increased responsibilities and commitments, changes to the hours worked, changes to the cost of living and other relevant factors.

### **Risk Management**

Risks related to the Church's activities are carefully considered and action is taken to minimise the potential loss or injury. The Trustees consider the principal risks and maintain a Risk Register to ensure that procedures are in place to guard against foreseeable events which could prejudice the functioning of the charity. The charity complies with the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adult's policy of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and has a Fire Safety policy in place.

### **Trustees' responsibilities**

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

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES**

*Rev P Searle*

Rev P Searle (Sep 26, 2024 19:46 GMT+1)

Revd. Pamela Searle  
**Trustee**

Date: Sep 26, 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**('the Charity')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 on pages 8 to 17 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 10 and 11.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

**Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of 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.

*Ajay Rajani*  
Ajay Rajani (Oct 3, 2024 09:09 GMT+1)  
Ajay Rajani FCIE  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
London  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Oct 3, 2024



**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>						
Donations	3	49,161	50	-	49,211	36,348
Other trading activities: letting of facilities		95,872	-	-	95,872	81,867
Investments		2,041	1,107	-	3,148	2,029
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>147,074</b>	<b>1,157</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>148,231</b>	<b>120,244</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>						
Charitable activities	4	158,501	50	-	158,551	147,530
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>158,501</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>158,551</b>	<b>147,530</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(194)</b>	<b>(194)</b>	<b>(600)</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(11,427)</b>	<b>1,107</b>	<b>(194)</b>	<b>(10,514)</b>	<b>(27,886)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	2,640	(2,640)	-	-	-
		(8,787)	(1,533)	(194)	(10,514)	(27,886)
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	11	-	-	-	-	14,341
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(8,787)</b>	<b>(1,533)</b>	<b>(194)</b>	<b>(10,514)</b>	<b>(13,545)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward		901,213	22,572	9,613	933,398	946,943
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>892,426</b>	<b>21,039</b>	<b>9,419</b>	<b>922,884</b>	<b>933,398</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 10 to 17 form part of these accounts.

**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
Tangible assets	6	790,028	-	-	790,028	798,567
Investments	7	-	-	9,419	9,419	9,613
		<u>790,028</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,419</u>	<u>799,447</u>	<u>808,180</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Debtors	8	14,714	-	-	14,714	40,512
Cash at bank and in hand	9	116,537	21,039	-	137,576	111,647
		131,251	21,039	-	152,290	152,159
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	(28,853)	-	-	(28,853)	(26,941)
<b>Net current assets / (liabilities)</b>		<u>102,398</u>	<u>21,039</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>123,437</u>	<u>125,218</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>892,426</u>	<u>21,039</u>	<u>9,419</u>	<u>922,884</u>	<u>933,398</u>
<b>Defined benefit scheme liability</b>	11	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>892,426</u>	<u>21,039</u>	<u>9,419</u>	<u>922,884</u>	<u>933,398</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>	12					
Unrestricted Funds						
General funds		58,740	-	-	58,740	62,997
Designated funds		833,686	-	-	833,686	838,216
		<u>892,426</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>892,426</u>	<u>901,213</u>
Endowment Funds		-	-	9,419	9,419	9,613
Restricted Funds		-	21,039	-	21,039	22,572
		<u>892,426</u>	<u>21,039</u>	<u>9,419</u>	<u>922,884</u>	<u>933,398</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:

Rev P Searle  
Rev P Searle (Sep 26, 2024 19:46 GMT+1)

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Revd. Pamela Searle - Trustee

Sep 26, 2024  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Charity number: 1130595

The notes on pages 10 to 17 form part of these accounts.

**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**1 Statutory Information**

The charity is a Trust governed by a Constitution dated 7 September 2008 and a Trust Deed dated 14 April 1873. It is affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland and to the London Baptist Association. The Trust is registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page.

**2 Accounting Policies**

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at fair value.

These 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) ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income including investment income is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part, income is generally recognised when it is received. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations includes recoverable gift aid, which is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from other trading activities represents income receivable from activities undertaken to generate funds for the charity. It comprises income from letting church property; it is recognised as income when lettings take place; income received in advance for future letting periods is deferred.

Investment income represents income generated by the charity's assets and includes income from bank interest and from dividends from investments.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

Expenditure on raising funds comprises costs incurred in respect of the letting of church property.

d) 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. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects. Endowment funds are donations that are retained as capital in accordance with the donor's wishes. The nature of the restriction determines whether the endowments represent permanent endowments or expendable endowments.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £1,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Freehold land	Is not depreciated (because it is not consumed by use)
Freehold buildings	Over 40 years after taking account of the building's residual value
Organ	Over 10 years
Equipment	Over 4 or 5 years

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

f) Investments

Fixed asset investments are held to generate income and / or for their investment potential. Investments, which are all quoted investments with a readily ascertainable value, are valued at their market value at the balance sheet date. All gains and losses on investment assets are included in the Statement of Financial Activities under the heading 'Net gains / (losses) on investments'.

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension scheme for its employee. Obligations for contributions to this scheme are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of this scheme are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

Prior to 2012 the pension provision was made through a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan. As it is not possible for the charity to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the Plan as a defined benefit plan, it has accounted for the Plan as a defined contribution plan. When the Plan is in deficit, the charity recognises a liability for its obligation to contribute towards to any deficit funding arrangement. Where the effect of discounting is material, the obligation for future deficit funding contributions is included at net present value.

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for any obligation to contribute to a pension deficit funding arrangement (see above), creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive).

j) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

**3 Donations**

	2023 £	2022 £
Donations of cash and similar	40,771	29,829
Income tax recoverable	8,440	6,519
	<u>49,211</u>	<u>36,348</u>

**4 Charitable expenditure**

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Ministry:</b>		
Staff costs	28,530	27,842
Manse repairs and maintenance, insurance and utilities	12,516	15,620
Ministry expenses	2,256	2,689
	<u>43,302</u>	<u>46,151</u>
<b>Establishment:</b>		
Utilities	52,866	39,309
Repairs and maintenance	16,430	14,843
Cleaning	7,386	9,724
Professional fees	3,103	6,659
Insurance	8,184	7,186
Depreciation	10,287	12,018
	<u>98,256</u>	<u>89,739</u>
<b>Support and administration</b>		
Governance costs: Independent examiner's fee	1,140	1,050
Administrative costs	15,263	4,653
Provision for irrecoverable lettings debtors	-	4,009
	<u>16,403</u>	<u>9,712</u>
<b>Grants payable (note 4a)</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>1,928</b>
<b>Total charitable expenditure</b>	<u><b>158,551</b></u>	<u><b>147,530</b></u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for just examining the accounts was £1,140 (2022: £1,050) was payable to the examiner for both preparing and examining the accounts).

**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**4a Grants payable**

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2023 £
Grants for UK and overseas mission	-	-	-
Grants to assist those in poverty or in crisis	590	-	590
	<u>590</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>590</u>

The comparatives for the previous year are as follows:

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2022 £
Grants for UK and overseas mission	1,035	80	1,115
Grants to assist those in poverty or in crisis	813	-	813
	<u>1,848</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>1,928</u>

**5 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration**

	2023 £	2022 £
Gross wages and salaries	26,500	24,683
Pension costs	2,030	3,159
Manse repairs and maintenance, insurance and utilities	12,516	15,620
	<u>41,046</u>	<u>43,462</u>

The only employee during the year was the minister, Rev P Searle who is also a trustee. Rev P Searle benefitted from the salary and pension contributions referred to in the above table for serving as minister, not for serving as a trustee; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document. No employee earned more than £60,000 in the year.

In addition the charity incurred expenditure totalling £12,516 (2022: £15,620) in respect of the customary provision of accommodation to Rev P Searle, who is a trustee, so that they could better perform their duties.

During the year the charity received donations totalling £13,790 (2022: £11,723) from related parties (which includes trustees, key management and anyone closely connected to them). Except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity, or incurred when undertaking clergy duties, no expenses were paid to (or for) the trustees.

**6 Tangible fixed assets**

	Freehold land & buildings £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Organ £	Equipment £	Total 2023 £
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2023	795,134	28,801	30,690	75,777	930,402
Additions	-	-	-	1,749	1,749
At 31 December 2023	<u>795,134</u>	<u>28,801</u>	<u>30,690</u>	<u>77,526</u>	<u>932,151</u>
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2023	10,000	22,597	30,690	68,548	131,835
Charge for the year	2,500	4,268	-	3,520	10,288
At 31 December 2023	<u>12,500</u>	<u>26,864</u>	<u>30,690</u>	<u>72,068</u>	<u>142,123</u>
<b>Net book value</b>					
At 31 December 2023	<u>782,634</u>	<u>1,936</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,458</u>	<u>790,028</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>785,134</u>	<u>6,204</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,229</u>	<u>798,567</u>

Freehold land and buildings comprises the Manse, which is under the custodian trusteeship of the London Baptist Property Board ('LBPB') and the Church is the beneficial owner. The Manse is shown at its acquisition cost plus cost of improvements.

No value is shown for the Church Building (insurance rebuild value of approximately £9.5m) and Church site which are under the custodian trusteeship of the LBPB and the Church is the beneficial owner. The original cost of the asset and subsequent improvements to date is not known. The Trustees have considered obtaining a current valuation for the property and have concluded that this cost is not justified by the usefulness of the information to the users of the accounts and to the charity for its own stewardship purposes. For these reasons this freehold property is shown at nil value in the accounts.

**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**7 Fixed asset investments**

	Parkins	Larcombe	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Market value brought forward	575	9,038	9,613	10,213
Change in value of investments	19	(212)	(194)	(600)
Market value carried forward	<u>594</u>	<u>8,826</u>	<u>9,419</u>	<u>9,613</u>
Information about the quoted investments owned by the charity:				
M & G Charibond units	531	-	531	531
M & G Charifund units	-	615	615	615
	<u>531</u>	<u>615</u>	<u>1,146</u>	<u>1,146</u>

The London Baptist Property Board is the custodian trustee for these investments; the Church is the beneficial owner.

**8 Debtors**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Letting debtors and related accrued income	13,047	28,657
Gift aid receivable	973	11,400
Prepayments and other debtors	694	455
	<u>14,714</u>	<u>40,512</u>

**9 Cash at Bank and in Hand**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Lloyds:current account	55,211	12,667
Lloyds:deposit account	7,907	3
CAF Cash	-	720
LBPB General Funds	62	19,095
LBPB Endowment Funds - Parkin	1,528	1,450
LBPB Endowment Funds - Larcombe	13,636	12,608
LBPB Manse Funds	21,236	28,570
Baptists Together 7 day notice	37,621	36,534
Undeposited funds	375	-
	<u>137,576</u>	<u>111,647</u>

**10 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	13,029	14,220
Other creditors	326	27
Accruals	4,571	2,644
Deferred income	10,927	10,050
	<u>28,853</u>	<u>26,941</u>

Deferred income comprises lettings income of £10,927 (2022: £10,050) received in advance of the letting period, all of which has been recognised as income in the following year.

**11 Pension commitments**

**The Baptist Union Pension Scheme**

The charity 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.

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

The Scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. Because it is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers, the scheme is accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme.

The Minister is eligible to join the Scheme.

**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**11 Pension commitments continued**

Actuarial valuation as at 31 December 2019

A formal valuation of the DB Plan as at 31 December 2019 was carried out 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 charity and the other participating employers in the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit.

The key financial assumptions underlying the valuation were as follows:

Type of financial assumption	% pa
RPI price inflation assumption	3.20
CPI price inflation assumption	2.70
Minimum Pensionable Income Increase Adjustment (above CPI)	0.50
Pre-retirement assumed investment returns (gilt yield plus 1.75% pa)	2.95
Post retirement assumed investment returns (including benefits matched by the insurance policy) (gilt yield plus 0.5% pa)	1.70
Minimum Pensionable Income increases (CPI plus 0.5%)	3.20
Deferred pension increases	
- Pre April 2009	3.20
- Post April 2009	2.50
Pension increases (based on CPI with an annual floor of 0% and annual cap of 5%)	2.70

Mortality is assumed in accordance with 80% of the S3NA standard mortality table. Future improvements projected from 2013 in line with the "CMI 2019" projection with a long-term rate of improvement of 1.75% p.a. for males and 1.5% p.a. for females with the core smoothing parameter and with additional initial mortality improvement factor A=0.5%.

The next actuarial valuation of the DB Plan within the Scheme will commence in 2023 to reflect the position as at 31 December 2022.

Recovery plan

In addition to the contributions to the DC Plan set out above, where a valuation of the DB Plan reveals a deficit the Trustee and the Council agree to a rate of deficiency contributions from churches and other employers involved in the DB Plan. Following the 2019 valuation a Recovery Plan was signed in September 2020 under which deficiency contributions are payable until June 2026. These contributions were broadly based on each employer's membership at 31 December 2014 and increase annually in line with increases to Minimum Pensionable Income as defined in the Rules.

On 30th June 2022 the Baptist Pension Scheme signed an agreement with the insurance company Just Group ("Just") to secure DB Plan members' pension benefits. Just are now providing financial backing for all pensions provided through the Scheme's DB Plan and following this transaction, the Scheme no longer has a shortfall. An updated Recovery plan was then signed in August 2022 under which recovery contributions from each participating employer in the DB Plan reduced to £1 per month from August 2022.

Actuaries, BPS Ltd, BUGB Trustees, and The Pensions Regulator have agreed that on the basis of a revised Statement of Contributions, which was produced in December 2023, it can be confirmed that the DB Pension Scheme is no longer in deficit.

Movement in Balance Sheet liability

	2023 £	2022 £
In respect of the DB Plan:		
Balance sheet liability at start of the year	-	17,300
Minus deficiency contributions paid	-	(2,959)
Remaining change to balance sheet liability* (recognised in SoFA)	-	(14,341)
Balance sheet liability at the end of the year	-	-

\* Comprises any change in the agreed deficit recovery plan and change in assumptions between year-ends.

**12 Funds**

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2023 £	Incoming resources 2023 £	Outgoing resources 2023 £	Transfers in the year 2023 £	Gains and losses 2023 £	Actuarial gains 2023 £	Closing balance 2023 £
<b>Designated Funds</b>							
Tangible Assets	798,567	-	(10,288)	1,749 a	-	-	790,028
Wider Missions	9,274	-	(745)	-	-	-	8,529
Manse Reserve	20,376	-	(5,344)	-	-	-	15,032
Rewiring Fund	10,000	-	-	-	-	-	10,000
Building Fund	-	7,957	-	2,140 b	-	-	10,097
	838,217	7,957	(16,377)	3,889	-	-	833,686
<b>General Fund (including pension provision)</b>	62,997	139,117	(142,124)	(1,249) c	-	-	58,740
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<u>901,213</u>	<u>147,074</u>	<u>(158,501)</u>	<u>2,640</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>892,426</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>							
Parkins Bursary	1,297	79	-	-	-	-	1,376
Benevolent Fund	4,347	-	-	-	-	-	4,347
Larcombe Trust	12,609	1,028	-	-	-	-	13,637
Boys' Brigade	1,679	-	-	-	-	-	1,679
Special Offerings	2,640	50	(50)	(2,640) b, c	-	-	-
	<u>22,572</u>	<u>1,157</u>	<u>(50)</u>	<u>(2,640)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,039</u>

**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**12 Funds continued**

<i>Endowment Funds</i>						
Parkins Bursary	576	-	-	-	18	594
Larcombe Trust	9,037	-	-	-	(212)	8,825
	<u>9,613</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(194)</u>	<u>9,419</u>
Aggregate of funds	<u>933,398</u>	<u>148,231</u>	<u>(158,551)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(194)</u>	<u>922,884</u>

During the year the charity made the following transfers between funds:-

- A transfer of £1,749 from the general fund to the designated tangible assets fund in respect of fixed assets purchased during the year.
- A transfer of £2,140 made, with the agreement of the original donors, from the restricted special offerings fund to the designated buildings fund in respect of a collection taken several years ago for a purpose that no longer exists.
- A transfer of £500 from the restricted special offerings fund to the general fund in respect of a payment to TWAM in a previous year from the general fund.

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Endowment funds	Restricted funds	2023
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	790,028	-	-	790,028
Fixed asset investments	-	-	9,419	-	9,419
Debtors	14,621	93	-	-	14,714
Cash at bank and in hand	72,973	43,564	-	21,039	137,576
Creditors falling due within one year	(28,853)	-	-	-	(28,853)
	<u>58,740</u>	<u>833,686</u>	<u>9,419</u>	<u>21,039</u>	<u>922,884</u>

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2022 £	Incoming resources 2022 £	Outgoing resources 2022 £	Transfers in the year 2022 £	Gains and losses 2022 £	Actuarial gains 2022 £	Closing balance 2022 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>							
Tangible Assets	809,190	-	(12,019)	1,396	-	-	798,567
Wider Missions	10,493	-	(1,219)	-	-	-	9,274
Manse Reserve	26,365	-	(5,989)	-	-	-	20,376
Rewiring Fund	10,000	-	-	-	-	-	10,000
Future Expenditure Reserve	8,126	374	(8,500)	-	-	-	-
	<u>864,173</u>	<u>374</u>	<u>(27,727)</u>	<u>1,396</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>838,216</u>
<i>General Fund (including pension provision)</i>	49,943	118,802	(118,693)	(1,396)	-	14,341	62,997
<i>Total Unrestricted Funds</i>	<u>914,116</u>	<u>119,176</u>	<u>(146,420)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,341</u>	<u>901,213</u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>							
Parkins Bursary	1,266	31	-	-	-	-	1,297
Benevolent Fund	4,625	-	(278)	-	-	-	4,347
Larcombe Trust	11,937	672	-	-	-	-	12,609
Boys' Brigade	1,679	-	-	-	-	-	1,679
Special Offerings	3,107	365	(832)	-	-	-	2,640
	<u>22,614</u>	<u>1,068</u>	<u>(1,110)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,572</u>
<i>Endowment Funds</i>							
Parkins Bursary	643	-	-	-	(67)	-	576
Larcombe Trust	9,570	-	-	-	(533)	-	9,037
	<u>10,213</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(600)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,613</u>
<i>Aggregate of funds</i>	<u>946,943</u>	<u>120,244</u>	<u>(147,530)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(600)</u>	<u>14,341</u>	<u>933,398</u>

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Endowment funds	Restricted funds	2022
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	798,567	-	-	798,567
Fixed asset investments	-	-	9,613	-	9,613
Debtors	40,327	-	-	185	40,512
Cash at bank and in hand	49,611	39,649	-	22,387	111,647
Creditors falling due within one year	(26,941)	-	-	-	(26,941)
	<u>62,997</u>	<u>838,216</u>	<u>9,613</u>	<u>22,572</u>	<u>933,398</u>



**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**12 Funds continued**

**Designated funds**

**Tangible assets fund:** represents net book value of tangible fixed assets held by Sutton Baptist Church.

**Wider Missions fund:** funds set aside by trustees for Sutton Baptist Church missional giving / activities.

**Manse reserve:** represents funds set aside for repairs and maintenance of the manse.

**Rewiring fund:** represents funds set aside for rewiring of the church building.

**Building fund:** represents funds set aside for future building works for the church.

**Restricted funds**

**Parkins bursary fund:** represents restricted funds held for use in accordance with the purposes of the related endowment (see below).

**Benevolent fund:** is a legacy fund to be spent on children's work and music.

**Larcombe Trust fund:** represents restricted funds held for use in accordance with the purposes of the related endowment (see below).

**Boys Brigade:** monies collected for Boys Brigade use.

**Special Offerings:** monies raised by the church for specific offerings.

**Endowment funds**

**Parkins bursary fund:** the capital has been invested so that investment returns (which are treated as restricted income) can be used to provide presentations to assist students in their studies.

**Larcombe Trust fund:** the capital has been investment so that investment returns (which are treated as restricted income) can be used to provide grants for any cause, person or college connected with the Baptist Ministry.

**13 Operating lease income**

The charity has granted an operating lease for the use of some of its premises to a nursery operator. The minimum rent receivable in respect of this lease until the next lease break date is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Income falling due:		
Within one year	43,709	40,000
Between one and five years	<u>16,391</u>	<u>55,000</u>
	<u><u>60,100</u></u>	<u><u>95,000</u></u>

**SUTTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds					Unrestricted funds				
		General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total
		2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>											
Donations	3	42,064	7,097	50	-	49,211	35,983	-	365	-	36,348
Other trading activities: letting of facilities		95,872	-	-	-	95,872	81,867	-	-	-	81,867
Investments		1,181	860	1,107	-	3,148	952	374	703	-	2,029
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>139,117</b>	<b>7,957</b>	<b>1,157</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>148,231</b>	<b>118,802</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>120,244</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>											
Charitable activities	4	142,125	16,376	50	-	158,551	118,693	27,727	1,110	-	147,530
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>142,125</b>	<b>16,376</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>158,551</b>	<b>118,693</b>	<b>27,727</b>	<b>1,110</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>147,530</b>
<b>Net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(194)</b>	<b>(194)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(600)</b>	<b>(600)</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(3,008)</b>	<b>(8,419)</b>	<b>1,107</b>	<b>(194)</b>	<b>(10,514)</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>(27,353)</b>	<b>(42)</b>	<b>(600)</b>	<b>(27,886)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	<b>(1,249)</b>	<b>3,889</b>	<b>(2,640)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,396)</b>	<b>1,396</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
		<b>(4,257)</b>	<b>(4,530)</b>	<b>(1,533)</b>	<b>(194)</b>	<b>(10,514)</b>	<b>(1,287)</b>	<b>(25,957)</b>	<b>(42)</b>	<b>(600)</b>	<b>(27,886)</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>											
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	11	-	-	-	-	-	14,341	-	-	-	14,341
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(4,257)</b>	<b>(4,530)</b>	<b>(1,533)</b>	<b>(194)</b>	<b>(10,514)</b>	<b>13,054</b>	<b>(25,957)</b>	<b>(42)</b>	<b>(600)</b>	<b>(13,545)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>											
Total funds brought forward		62,997	838,216	22,572	9,613	933,398	49,943	864,173	22,614	10,213	946,943
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>58,740</b>	<b>833,686</b>	<b>21,039</b>	<b>9,419</b>	<b>922,884</b>	<b>62,997</b>	<b>838,216</b>	<b>22,572</b>	<b>9,613</b>	<b>933,398</b>