



*Together knowing Jesus
and making him known*

ACOMB BAPTIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES REPORT
2023-4

Charity Number 1131491

Acomb Baptist Church

Report of the Managing Trustees for the period 1st January 2023 to 5 April 2024

The Managing Trustees present their report and audited financial statements for the 15-month period ended 5th April 2024.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name:	Acomb Baptist Church
Charity registration number:	1131491
Registered operational address	Acomb Baptist Church, Ridgeway, York, YO26 5DW

Managing Trustees

Rev. Chris Ray	Chairman
Mr Andrew Frodsham	Treasurer (To December 2023)
Mrs Susan Hall	Secretary
Mr Robert North	Trustee

Independent Examiner

Mr Chris Fairburn

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

Lloyds Bank, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Acomb Baptist Church is a charity registered on 3rd September 2009 and is governed by the Constitution accepted by the Charities Commission on that date. On 25th November 2021 the Church approved minor amendments to the Constitution, notably to enable Church Members' Meetings to be held, and voting conducted, in person or by electronic means.

Appointment of Managing Trustees

The Church Members' Meeting appoints Charity Trustees to be responsible for the governance of the Church. Where there is a Minister that person is a Charity Trustee because of their role and responsibilities. The Church Members' Meeting also arranges for the appointment of a Church Secretary and Treasurer (or equivalents) who shall by the nature of their responsibilities be Charity Trustees.

The appointment of Charity Trustees is undertaken by processes that are public, clear and open so that all Church Members are enabled to consider prayerfully who should be appointed. The process ensures that notice is given of any forthcoming election so that Church Members may freely nominate prospective Charity Trustees whose names shall be submitted (after they have indicated a willingness to be appointed) for decision to the Church Members with the intention of ensuring that those appointed have a sufficient level of support.

Organisational Structure

Acomb Baptist Church has Trustees, known as the Church Leadership Team, which comprise: the Minister, Treasurer, Secretary and others appointed as Trustees. This group oversees all activities of the Church.

Governance

In the years following the Covid pandemic, the Charity struggled to meet its obligations in relation to filing of its annual accounts. In 2023, to address the delays, the Trustees appointed a financial co-ordinator, who identified poor record keeping and variations between bank reconciliations and accounts submitted for independent examination. Whilst finding no major impact on the Charity's operations, finances or external reputation, the Trustees acknowledged the failings in governance and made a Serious Incident Report to the Charities Commission.

The co-ordinator subsequently reconciled the position with bank statements for 2020-2022 and following the introduction of a proper double-entry accounting system, prepared new sets of accounts for re-examination. In his report, the independent examiner expressed his satisfaction at the introduction of new financial procedures at the Charity, along with strengthened record-keeping, reporting and accountability arrangements.

Having aligned its accounting period with the fiscal year, the Charity's accounts for 2023-24 were approved by the examiner without any qualifying remarks.

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the Baptist Union's Declaration of Principle. The Church may also carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world. The Trustees of Acomb Baptist Church are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our Church and become members of our Christian community.

When planning our activities for the year, the Trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular the specific guidance to charities on the advancement of religion. We aim to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our Church community through:

- Regular public worship, Communion of the Lord's Supper and prayer;
- Bible study, preaching and teaching, nurture and growth of Christian disciples;
- Education and training for Christian and community service;
- Baptism, as defined in the Baptist Union's Declaration of Principle;
- Evangelism and mission, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally;
- The teaching, encouragement, welcome and inclusion of young people;
- Giving and encouraging pastoral care;
- Supporting and encouraging charitable social action in the United Kingdom and abroad;
- Encouraging relationships with and supporting Baptists and other Christians.

Worship, Communion of the Lord's Supper and Prayer

Our services use a mixture of both old and contemporary music, encouraging people of all ages to engage in worship and prayer. Communion is usually celebrated on the third Sunday of the month as part of the morning service. The Church continues to offer the option of joining on Zoom for the benefit of those with health challenges and those who wish to join the service from further afield.

Worship and Prayer also take place in the context of the Home Groups which meet in homes in different locations across Acomb and York and on different days to make them accessible to as many people as possible. The weekly Zoom Prayer Meeting gives further opportunity for people to develop faith by engaging in prayer.

Preaching, Bible study, and Teaching

Preaching takes place within our Sunday services on themes determined by the Minister in conjunction with others. The Minister is the main preacher, supported by other members of the preaching team. On occasion external speakers are invited to preach and lead at our services giving opportunity for the congregation to hear a wider perspective.

There are weekly opportunities for Bible Study within the Home Groups, drawing on published materials and our own teaching booklets specifically geared to the needs of our members and attendees. The groups are well attended and appreciated. Depending on the needs and preferences of members, groups now meet in person or continue to meet via Zoom.

We are committed to training for all roles within Church life and the Leaders of these groups meet to share ideas and experience and for training three times a year to help them with this task.

Nurture and Growth of Christian Disciples, Education and Training for Christian and Community Service

All aspects of Church life aim to help people grow as Christian Disciples, by developing understanding of what it means to be a disciple and promoting opportunities to put faith into action by service to the Church and to the local Community.

Evangelism and Mission, Regionally, Nationally and Internationally

Helping those in need is an expression of our faith and an outworking of the call to 'love our neighbour as ourselves.' Over 20 per cent of our donations was given away to organisations and individuals working at home and overseas in promoting Christianity; teaching and training in third world situations and relieving suffering in areas of need. Money was set aside in the 2023 budget specifically for disaster relief.

We give to the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund which helps to support Ministers in Churches which are unable to support their own Minister.

Acomb Baptist Church benefitted from participation in the Yorkshire Baptist Association's Learning Hub, run jointly with the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity. The aim of the two-year programme was to equip and enable Church members to practise their faith and values in their homes and workplaces.

Evangelism and Mission Locally

Church mid-week activities engage with a range of local people across all ages and situations, and give opportunities to build relationships, provide practical support and share our faith. Coffee Bar ran weekly through the year, and ABC Club for parents/carers and Toddlers weekly during term time. The first Sunday of the month was regularly designated a 'Sabbath Together' event, where church family and guests were invited to stay for a meal and enjoy social time together through the afternoon.

The Teaching, Encouragement, Welcome and Inclusion of Young People

In all things we aim to provide a safe and welcoming environment for children in which they are helped to develop and understand Christian beliefs, including in both the Sunday services and the mid-week clubs.

Our part-time Children's worker has been developing ministry among the 8-12 age group. All involved with youth and children's work undergo an enhanced DBS check and receive training in Safeguarding and Child Protection Issues. We provide a range of good quality, safe equipment and toys for all of our work.

Children are made welcome in our services, learning to worship alongside the adults. Our Children and Young People leave part way through the service for their own groups, with age-related activities to help them understand Christian teaching. The younger group has Bible stories and the opportunity to play and engage with each other in a Christian context.

Reps caters for young people in the age range 11-18 who explore what it means to be a Christian, to worship and to put their faith into practice in a modern world.

Giving and Encouraging Pastoral Care

Pastoral care for members of the Church is provided through the Home Groups, where Christians form close friendships and support each other. This is reinforced through the Pastoral team which provides help and support, often for those who are elderly or frail and where the demand is too great for a Home Group. The Minister also provides pastoral support for those who are bereaved and conducts funeral services allowing family and friends to express their grief and give thanks for the life of a loved one.

Supporting and Encouraging Charitable Social Action in the United Kingdom and Abroad

Acomb Baptist Church supports individuals, groups and societies which are engaged in charitable social action. Examples of these include:

- BMS World Mission and other agencies engaged in Mission or relief work in many areas of the world;
- York Youth Trust (YoYo), which promotes and supports Christian activities in local schools.
- Family Matters York, which promotes family values and provides a range of parenting courses and marriage courses. Members of the Church regularly lead parenting courses, mostly in York schools and other Churches.

Encouraging Relationships with and Supporting Baptists and Other Christians

The Church is involved by membership, and directly or indirectly by the Minister's support, of the various agencies of the Baptist Union, such as the Yorkshire Baptist Association (YBA). The annual assembly of the Baptist Union is usually attended by the Minister.

Church leaders of the various denominations in Acomb and in the City of York maintain regular contact to pray and collaborate on joint ventures.

Susan Hall, Secretary
January 2025

Approved by the Trustees on 31st January 2025.

Acomb Baptist Church

15 Month Financial Statement Period Ending 5 April 2024

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	2024	2022
	funds	funds	funds	funds	total funds	total funds
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income	167,160	0	1,981	—	169,141	82,745
Activities for generating funds	2,078	0	0	—	2,078	1,181
Total income	169,238	0	1,981	—	171,219	83,296
Charitable Activities	112,082	0	2,828	—	114,909	90,624
Net income / (expenditure) before transfer						
	57,156	0	-847	—	56,309	-6,698
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	265	-265	0	—	—	—
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	0	—	—	—	—
Gains / losses on investments/assets	0	0	0	—	0	194,787
Net movement in funds	55,462	0	847	—	56,309	183,106
Total funds brought forward	2,788,127	265	6233	—	2,795,225	2,612,119
Total funds carried forward	2,846,148	0	5,386	—	2,851,534	2,795,225
Represented by						
Unrestricted	2,846,148	0	0	0	2,846,148	2,788,127
Designated	0	0	0	—	0	265
Restricted	0	0	5,386	—	5,386	6,233

Balance sheet

	pe 2024	ye 2022
Fixed Assets: Tangible	2674331	2689729
Current assets		
Debtors	4,283	29,165
Cash at bank and in hand	136819	81,988
	141102	111,153
Creditors	4810	5,657
Net current assets less current liabilities	136291	105,496
Total assets less current liabilities	2810622	2,795,225
Total net assets less liabilities	2810622	2,795,225
Represented by		
Unrestricted General fund	2805236	2,788,127
Designated	0	265

Restricted

5386 6,233

Funds of the church**2810622 2,795,225****Detailed accounts****General Receipts & Payment Account**

	Note	2022	15 m to 5/4/24
Receipts			
Donations and other income	2	79658.67	104637.9
Gift Aid	a		62521.94
Interest		41.59	82.78
Contributions for use of premises	3	1140	1995
Raised for other causes	4	3085.88	1981.1
Total Receipts		83926.14	171218.7
Payments			
Ministry	5	47375.21	62092.73
Mission	6	22756.9	22800
Upkeep of Church premises	7	12986.05	20082.54
Administration	8	7505.91	9934.2
Total Payments		90624.07	114909.5
Net Receipts/(payments) for the year		-6697.93	56309.25

Restricted Funds**b****J K (Chad)**

Balance b/f	500	500
Income	0	
payments	0	500
Balance c/f	500	0

Operation Agri

Balance b/f	1180	1700
Income	830	
payments	310	
Balance c/f	1700	1610

Spurgeons Childcare

Balance b/f	846.5	782.75
Income	184.85	15
payments	163.95	
Balance c/f	867.4	797.75

Children's Society

Balance b/f	397.5	428.8
Income	144.85	15
payments	123.9	

Balance c/f	418.45	443.8
J H (Kenya)		
Balance b/f	260	-100
Income	120	30
payments	480	
Balance c/f	-100	-70
Home Mission T		
Balance b/f	1200	1100
Income	1100	
payments	1200	200
Balance c/f	1100	1300
Mme D		
Balance b/f	44	10
Income	33.2	3.2
payments		
Balance c/f	77.2	13.2
BMS Birthday		
Balance b/f	321.07	134.07
Income	67.5	30
payments		
Balance c/f	388.57	164.07
Water Aid		
Balance b/f	300.89	981.37
Income	490.48	
payments		
Balance c/f	791.37	981.37
Christian Aid		
Balance b/f	20	20
Income	0	
payments	0	
Balance c/f	20	20
York Food Bank		
Balance b/f	254	-25
Income	65	
payments		
Balance c/f	319	-25
Harvest Parcel Postage		
Balance b/f	375.99	375.99
Income	0	
payments	0	
Balance c/f	375.99	375.99
Smart TV		
Balance b/f	200	200
Income	0	

payments	0	
Balance c/f	200	200

TOTAL Restricted funds

Balance b/f	5475.04	6233.07
Income	3035.88	1981.1
payments	2277.85	2827.9
Balance c/f	6233.07	5386.27

ABC restricted	575.99	575.99
Creditors	5657.08	4810.28
Total	6233.07	5386.27

Designated Funds

Mission Account

Balance c/f	265	0
(moved to general a/c 2023)		

Statement of Assets and Liabilities @ye

Fixed Assets

Note 9

Church Premises	2271655	2271655
Church Fixtures & Fittings	123182	107784
Manse	294892	294892
Fixed assets total	2689729	2674331

Bank & other balances

CAF A/c	19361.53	131797.9
LLoyds	58084.9	4878.9
Cash in hand and in safe	4542	141.73
Total	81988.43	136818.5

Gift Aid receivable	Note a	29165	4283
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Total Assets	2800882.43	2815433
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Liabilities (Creditors)	5657.08	4810.28
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Net Assets/(liabilities)	2795225.35	2810622
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Notes

Donations etc

Note 2

Church collections	79658.67	104637.9
	79658.67	0 104637.9

Contributions for use of premises

Note 3

Choirs make a donation for hall hire

Specific giving

Note 4

Operation Agri	830	0	335
Spurgeon's Childcare	184.85	0	137.85
Children's Society	144.85	0	137.85
J H (kenya)	120	0	150
BMS Birthday	67.5	0	102
Water Aid	490.48	0	190
York Food Bank	65	0	0
Mme D	33.2		128.4
Martin House			35
RAF			5
Home mission	1100		800
	3035.88	0	2021.1

Ministry	Note 5		
Minister's stipend	21126		28685.93
Minister's pension contribution	7165.08		9771.09
Phone	226.8		196.8
Minister's expenses	278.41		1717.11
Youth worker's salary	10500.33		11881
YW pension contribution			0
PAYE	8028.59		9840.8
YW expenses	50		
	47375.21	0	62092.73

The Minister is also a Trustee, and receives remuneration and other benefits in respect of his services as a Minister
This includes the provision of Manse accommodation owned by the church

Mission	Note 6		
Appeals			
Children's Society (Christmas)	123.95		112.5
Operation Agri (BMS: Harvest)	310		425
Spurgeon's Child care (Christmas)	163.95		207.5
DEC Afghanistan	500		0
DEC Coronavirus	500		0
DEC Pakistan Floods	550		0
DEC Ukraine	530		0
DEC Earthquake	0		500
BMS World Mission	5500		6050
BMS Link Missionary (Chad)	823		1025
Home Mission Fund	6600		6650
Key partnership YOYO	2185		2400
Key partnership Family Matters	2185		2400
African sisters	0		195
Kenya (Jim Harries)	1303		1000
Starfish Malawi	823		1000
Martin House	0		35
Tear Fund	330		400
Wycliffe	330		400
Total Mission	22756.9		22800

Upkeep Church premises	Note 7
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Gas & Electricity	3107.76	5833.87
Insurance	2207.95	2387.03
Water	181.9	570.72
Gas servicing	100	120
Alarm	242.4	237.6
Lift servicing	444	228
Mtce & Repairs	1285.88	3230.74
Other	1677.81	1682.66
New Chairs	0	2448

Upkeep Manse

Council Tax	1847.45	2131.12
Insurance	293.54	666.08
Water	424.36	397.72
Mtce & Repairs	1173	149
	<hr/> 12986.05	<hr/> 20082.54

Administration

Note 8

Account fees	81	75
BU GB	303.8	413.13
CCLI	776.17	835.28
Other	65.8	0
Learning Hub	70	0
Evangelical Alliance subs	100	100
Tech equipment	2147.17	0
Printing, stationery etc	979.4	1233.66
Catering	515.72	507.12
Cleaning	108.28	2964.78
Communications (phone/internet/website)	703.68	1357.31
Events (Holiday club/fun days etc)	679.18	1525.12
Miscellaneous	895.18	922.8
Adj	80.53	0
	<hr/> 7505.91	<hr/> 9934.2

Note 9

No revaluation of the church premises/manse is made.

Fixtures and fittings have been written down by 8%

Additional Notes for accounts to 5/4/24

Note a

Gift Aid debt now realistically estimated.

Gift Aid was calculated for year, then divided to get approximation for 3 months/quarter year as a future claim.

Previously we used a "given" figure as best estimate, until we made a claim (part of which was deemed out of time)

We received more than expected, hence the increase in funds in period

Note b

Restricted fund balances paid out after balance sheet date, once approved.

Adjustment to accounting date made to reflect gift aid cycle

Giving was normally done in autumn, so no extra amounts were paid out in 3 months to 5/4/2024

Balances on restricted funds were paid out in 2024 once ascertained

Note c

Cleaning costs now includes payments to the cleaner under payroll



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
Acomb Baptist Church

On accounts for the year
ended

5 April 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1131491

Set out on pages

1-10

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

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 (other than that disclosed below *) 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; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Chris Fairburn

Date:

31/01/2025

Name:

Chris Fairburn

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

AAT

Address:

23 Marston Avenue

Acomb	
York	YO26 5DG

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

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

Following the examination of the Acomb Baptist Church accounts, I have found that there has been a lot of work been carried out since the 2022 accounts,

From the work I carried out in 2024 when first looking at the accounts, the small errors have been rectified, and I can see that all entries have been processed correctly.