

# OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1132009

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2009-10-06

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** Oadby Baptist Church  
Leicester Road  
Oadby  
Leicester  
LE2 5BD

**Phone** 01162710811

**Email** [office@oadbybaptist.church](mailto:office@oadbybaptist.church)

**Website** [www.oadbybaptist.church](http://www.oadbybaptist.church)

## Activities

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**Objects:** The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

**Activities:** We are a Baptist Church in Oadby, Leicestershire

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Leicestershire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£136,529	£136,710	-	-
2023-12-31	£136,440	£127,912	-	-
2022-12-31	£427,450	£105,059	-	-
2021-12-31	£131,379	£130,954	-	-
2020-12-31	£113,882	£99,138	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANDREW BROCKBANK		2025-03-26
Christine Swan		2021-09-22
Gillian Mason		2024-03-20
Karen Hanson		2025-03-26
Man Lan Adams		2026-03-25
Mark Jones		2011-07-20
Paula Jones		2021-09-22
Peter Dixon		2026-03-25

**OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132009

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# Accounts

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## **Oadby Baptist Church**

Statutory Information

### **Registered Address**

OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH  
LEICESTER ROAD  
OADBY  
LEICESTER  
LE2 5BD

**Charity Registration Number** 1132009

### **Trustees**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date appointed / resigned</u>
Rev Tom Cox	August 2017 /resigned August 2025
Mark Jones ACMA (Treasurer)	March 2011 /reappointed March 2024
Paul Neville (Secretary)	March 2019 /reappointed March 2024/resigned March 2025
Paula Jones	September 2021/reappointed 2025
Christine Swan (secretary)	September 2021/appointed 2025
Andrew Brockbank	March 2022
Christopher Smith	March 2023
Gillian Mason	March 2024
Karen Hanson	March 2025

### **Property Trustees**

East Midlands Baptist Trust Company  
EMBA Office  
West Bridgford  
Nottingham  
NG2 7NF

### **Bankers**

HSBC

### **Independent Examiner -**

Andrew Leeson

## Oadby Baptist Church Financial Statements at 31st December 2024

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>Page</b>
Trustees Report	3-6
Independent Examiners Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to the Accounts	10 -13

## **Trustee report**

### **Annual Report for 2024**

The trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2024.

### **Charitable Object**

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education, community service and such other general charitable purposes in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Church shall determine.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on Trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

### **Organisational Structure and Decision making processes**

Oadby Baptist Church welcomes anyone who wants to meet together to worship, pray, explore their faith, and encourage each other to live their lives in close relationship with God. Members of the church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution.

The Church Members' Meeting normally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church. In accordance with the Constitution, the Membership appoints up to six Trustees (plus Church Officers; Church Secretary, Admin Secretary and Treasurer), who together with the Minister (who is also appointed by the Membership), and collectively known as the Leadership Team, are responsible for the day to day running of the church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity. 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 Meeting by the Trustees for guidance, or may be raised by Members in Church Meetings 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.

### **Objectives and Activities**

In order to achieve the principal objective which is set out above, the church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community 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.

The Church's main activities are held face to face although in many cases the Church offers online options. The Church has invested in IT equipment to enable it provide high quality online services and events and engaged the services of a local IT company (Black Owl) to support this activity.

Central to the work and witness of the church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. The Church's Sunday morning worship services at 10.30am continue to be well attended with a diverse range of members from all sectors of the local community. The church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of its activities whether online or face to face.

The church runs a series of house groups for the growth of faith and discipleship in the homes of some members, and further details of these can be obtained from the church office on request, or at Sunday worship services.

Youth work is a core part of the church's work in the local community. In 2024 the Church relaunched its mid-week youth organisations replacing its Boys' and Girls' Brigades with new unisex groups for children and young people – Elevate (12+) and Adventurers (reception – yr 6). On Sundays there is also all-age

appropriate provision in the morning for babies, children and young people from age 0 to school year 13. Toddlers and their parents or carers are welcome to attend 'Bulrushes,' our weekly stay-and-play toddler group, which meets every Thursday morning during term-time. The Church also supports its teenagers to attend an annual young people's Christian festival – Limitless.

The Church's Tuesday Fellowship group provides an opportunity for the older members of the church and community to meet together.

The Church's 'A Place to Grow' grow group meets on a Wednesday morning in the Church's community garden for 'Coffee, Cake, Chat' as well as tending the plants in the raised beds and greenhouse. This group is providing an important link between the Church and the local community.

The church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted. All our adult volunteers undertake a disclosure (criminal records) check and are trained to provide a safe and caring environment for all children.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers of members or attendees, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship and encouragement. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure and whilst total Church Membership remains relative static at around 100, we are trying to create a wider number of connections in the local community which are not always measured in terms of membership.

The church's main Sunday morning services continue to be well attended by a broad mix of the local community in terms of age, socio-economic group and nationality. We also see a good number of attendees watching services virtually. Supporting local young people across the whole 0- to 18-year-old age range is a key part of the Church's youth organisations. The Church is very grateful to the support of its volunteer leaders in running these organisations.

The church aims to play a positive part in the life of the community of Oadby. This is achieved through the use of its premises for non-church-related activities such as a drama group and a table tennis group as well as by its Members serving the community in activities not formally linked to the church, for example working with local charities such as Street Pastors, Helping Hands, Age UK Leicestershire & Rutland and acting as school governors and local councillors.

The church is active in supporting local, national and overseas charities. The church's largest charitable donations are made to the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS) and the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund. In addition, each quarter a £400 donation is made to a charity chosen by the Mission and Social Action team. Our donations in 2024 included payments to MIND, ROCHA, Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) and Tek Ura - an Albanian Charity founded by British missionaries which aims to improve the lives of disadvantaged and marginalised Albanian people. In total over £15,000 was donated via the church accounts, with further funds being donated directly by individuals to charities.

### **Pollard Estate**

The Church was very grateful to receive the proceeds (over £300,000) from the estate of Mr. Norman Pollard in 2022. Mr Pollard and his late wife were married at OBC in February 1952 and although for the majority of their married life lived away from Leicester, the church remained in their lives resulting in them leaving their estate to the church following Mr. Pollard's passing in 2021.

The cash proceeds from the estate have been invested in Baptist Union deposit accounts whilst the Church membership discuss and consider various initiatives in which to invest the funds. The funds are not subject to any restrictions.

## **Financial Review**

The church continues to raise the majority of the funds it needs to carry on its activities from within its own Membership and congregation.

The principal costs of the Church are employment related costs. These costs relate to the stipend of its Minister, Revd. Tom Cox, the Church Administrator and the Children's and Family Worker.

The church expresses its part in the life of the wider Church by making donations to national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the church's own charitable purpose.

The church is heavily dependent on its Membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

The Church's regular giving income was similar to 2023. Rental income was significantly higher reflecting both increased bookings but also the timing of payments.

The Church's expenditure in 2024 was broadly in line with previous year. Increases in employment costs were offset with reductions in youth work costs as a result of the new group structures.

## **Investment policy**

The Trustees, having regard for the liquidity requirements of the Church and to the reserves policy, have kept all available funds (excluding the Pollard estate) in either a bank current account or an interest bearing deposit account with all funds accessible within a 7 day period. The Pollard estate funds are currently invested in a range of Baptist Union accounts (until projects to spend these funds are agreed) with maturity periods of between 7 and 365 days.

The Church uses the Baptist Union to invest any of its deposit account reserves with its day to day finances held in accounts with HSBC. HSBC being a major worldwide bank and considered a 'safe' organisation in which to hold its funds.

## **Reserves policy**

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy, and are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date (31 December 2024), together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

The reserves policy states that the charity aims to have sufficient unrestricted funds available to cover at least 3 months of normal operations. Any expenditure that would reduce the reserves below this level, even temporarily, is subject to agreement from the Trustees together with an agreed plan to address any deficit. Total bank balances at 31 December 2024 were £58,782 (Dec 23: £53,693) (excluding the Pollard estate).

## **Plans for the future**

During 2024 the Church continued to grow and enhance the activities it offers its members and the local community.

The Church plans to continue to employ a Minister, Children's and family worker and Office administrator. Following the Rev Tom Cox's move to Lymm Baptist Church in September 2025 the Church is currently seeking a new minister. The process for calling and appointing a new minister is expected to take at least 6 months.

The Church is a Silver Eco Church (ECO Church is an A Rocha UK project) and continues to look at all opportunities to reduce its impact on the environment either directly or through its members.

The Church has in 2024 continued to develop its ideas for the use of the Pollard estate funds and ensure that this bequest is used to maximise the benefit for both current and future generations of church members and the local community. It is expected that the Church will start to spend this fund during 2025.

In 2024 the Church completed its Living in Love and Faith Discernment Process as we reviewed our theology and church practice in terms of sexuality, gender, relationships and marriage.

In 2025 the Church expects to fit a new heating system within its Sanctuary. This will involve significant capital expenditure.

The Church is aware of the volatile economic outlook and the impacts this could have on its membership and local community.

### **Statement of risks**

The trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that systems have been designed and established to mitigate those risks.

### **Trustee's responsibilities for the financial statements**

Charity law requires the trustees of the charity to prepare statements of account for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities and to state whether or not the accounts have been prepared in accordance with that statement and applicable accounting standards;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and to enable them to ensure that any statements of account comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### **Signed on behalf of the trustees**

Mr Mark Jones (Treasurer)  
September 2025

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT**

### **TO THE TRUSTEES OF OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 8 to 13.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Andrew Leeson**

**Dated: .26 October 2025...**

## Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	2023 funds
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	96,729	4,500		101,229	106,480
Income from charitable activities	8,938	305		9,243	11,842
Investments & Rental income	26,057	—		26,057	18,118
<b>Total income</b>	<b>131,724</b>	<b>4,805</b>		<b>136,529</b>	<b>136,440</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	131,925	4,785		136,710	127,912
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>131,925</b>	<b>4,785</b>		<b>136,710</b>	<b>127,912</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	<b>-201</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-181</b>	<b>8,528</b>
Transfers	25,020	-20	-25,000	-	
Other gains - Manse revaluation	120,000	-	-	120,000	
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>2,052,459</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>	<b>2,068,930</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>2,197,278</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,197,278</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>

## Balance sheet as at 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
The Church building	1,504,564	1,504,564
Fixtures and fittings	4,791	5,989
Musical equipment	8,642	10,803
The Manse	300,000	180,000
<b>Total Fixed assets</b>	<b>1,817,998</b>	<b>1,701,357</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
HSBC community account	3,223	6,388
HSBC money manager account	23,209	24,893
BU deposit account	234,470	229,130
BU 3 mth notice acct	109,983	105,415
Tuesday Fellowship bank account	1,192	1,551
Cash in hand	105	30
Girls Brigade bank account	—	861
Accounts Receivable	8,551	9,301
<b>Total Current assets</b>	<b>380,735</b>	<b>377,573</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	1,456	1,470
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>1,470</b>
<b>Net Asset surplus(deficit)</b>	<b>2,197,278</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Excess / (deficit) to date	-181	8,528
Starting balances	2,077,459	2,068,930
Other gains/(losses)	120,000	—
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>2,197,278</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>
<b>Represented by funds</b>		
Unrestricted	2,197,278	2,052,459
Restricted		25,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,197,278</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>

## Analysis of income and expenditure

### Donations and legacies

The Church receives regular weekly/monthly donations from its members, some of which can be gift aided. Total income in 2024 was similar to 2023. Regular giving reduced slightly as a result of changes in church membership, although this was partially offset by higher cash collections on Sunday mornings. Sundry collections in 2023 included a number of one-off donations from previous members as well as £1,537 from Church's Together in Oadby (CTO).

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Regular giving	70,626		70,626	72,439
Sunday morning cash collection	8,203		8,203	6,262
Sundry collections	713		713	5,387
Gift aid recovered	16,136		16,136	17,320
Grants received	-	4,500	4,500	3,750
Weddings etc	-		-	595
Charitable donations	1051		1051	727
<b>Total</b>	<b>96,729</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>101,229</b>	<b>106,480</b>

### Income from charitable activities

Within the Church there are a number of different organisations which generate income through subscriptions, donations and activities. The majority of this income is related to our work with young people.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Youth camp income	2,634		2,634	3,733
Youth organisation income	3,905		3,905	4,806
Bulrushes income	750		750	1,376
Home mission income	75		75	70
Tuesday Fellowship	1,186		1,186	1,652
BMS Birthday	—	305	305	130
Performing Arts	388		388	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,938</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>9,243</b>	<b>11,842</b>

### Investment and Rental income

The church receives interest income on its HSBC and Baptist Union bank accounts. Interest income has remained broadly stable, although this is expected to reduce in 2025 as bank base rate continues to reduce and existing fixed rate investments mature. The Church rents out its Hall for use by individuals and groups. Rental income is increasing as a result of increased demand for premises in which to hold children's parties, local community events as well as use of the premises on a weekly basis by the Ratae Players organization.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Interest received	10,488		10,488	9,540
Letting Church Hall	15,569		15,569	8,578
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,057</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,057</b>	<b>18,118</b>

### **Maintenance and premises costs**

The maintenance and premises costs in 2024 increased compared to 2023 reflecting higher costs of cleaning and heating the church as well as increased expenditure on maintenance.

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b><u>Designated</u></b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>
Insurance	3,480		3,480	3,401
Cleaning	7,329		7,329	5,780
Heating, light and water	7,528		7,528	4,867
Maintenance - church	6,361		6,361	4,947
Maintenance - manse	2,951		2,951	85
Light, Heat, Rates - Manse	4,076		4,076	4,011
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,725</b>		<b>31,725</b>	<b>23,091</b>

### **Employment and administration costs**

The Church employed 3 individuals in 2024 – a full time minister, an office administrator, and a part-time Children and Families Worker (2023: 3). None of the Trustees other than the Minister, received any remuneration during the year. Administration costs include the cost of the Church's leased photocopier, church web site, subscriptions and licence fees as well as external IT support for the live streaming of Sunday morning services.

The pension payments reflect payments made by the Church to the Baptist Union Pension Fund.

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b><u>Designated</u></b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>
Minister stipend	27,173		27,173	26,006
Administration costs – salary	7,944		7,944	6,520
Pension Payments	7,720		7,720	7,234
Administration costs – photocopier, web site. licence fees	12,953		12,953	12,451
Training	1,137		1,137	1,064
Youth & Childrens & Family leader costs	9,277	4,500	13,777	11,896
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,204</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>70,704</b>	<b>65,171</b>

### **Charitable donations**

The Church makes a number of charitable donations each year. The two largest donations are made to BMS and the Baptist Home Mission fund. The church makes a quarterly donation of £400 to individual charities chosen by the Church members. Other Charitable donations includes a donation of £3,000 to Tek Ura an Albanian based charity.

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b><u>Designated</u></b>	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>
Other charitable donations	3,801		3,801	7,521
BMS	5,100		5,100	5,100
Home Mission	4,275		4,275	4,270
Quarterly Focus	1,600		1,600	1,200
BMS Birthday	0	285	285	150
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,776</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>15,061</b>	<b>18,241</b>

## Other activities

Youth work and camp costs reduced in 2024 as a result of the revised youth group structure in the church.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Tuesday Fellowship	1,545		1,545	1,145
Youth work and youth camp	10,702		10,702	16,397
Worship costs	1,532		1,532	2,133
Kitchen equip and maintenance	2,069		2,069	1,724
Other costs	14		14	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,862</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15,862</b>	<b>21,409</b>

## Debtors

As at 31 December 2024 the Church's largest debtor related to gift aid due from HMRC.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
HMRC Gift aid	8,551	7,718
Other pre-payments	-	1,583
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>8,551</b>	<b>9,301</b>

## Creditors

As at 31 December 2024 the Church was awaiting invoices and was expecting to make payments in respect of PAYE and employee pension contributions, the Church December cleaning costs as well as payments relating to the church photocopier and IT services. All creditors have been paid at the date of signing these accounts.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>1470</b>

## Fund movement by type

	<u>Opening</u>	<u>Incoming</u>	<u>Outgoing</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Gains/losses</u>	<u>Closing</u>
Restricted	25,000			-25,000		
<b>Sub-total for Youth worker/Childrens &amp; family worker</b>	<b>25,000</b>			<b>-25,000</b>		
<b>General - General fund</b>						
Unrestricted	2,052,459	136,529	136,710	25,000	120,000	2,197,278
<b>Sub-total for General</b>	<b>2,052,459</b>	<b>136,529</b>	<b>136,710</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>2,197,278</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>	<b>136,529</b>	<b>136,710</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>2,197,278</b>

The Church maintains a policy of keeping at least 3 months normal expenditure in reserve in an instant access or 7 day notice bank account. The Church no longer considers it necessary to maintain a separate reserve for the Youth/Childrens & Family worker role.

## Statement of assets and liabilities

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>The Manse (Market value)</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	300,000	180,000
<b>The Church building (book value)</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	1,504,564	1,504,564
<b>The Church fixtures and fittings</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted))		
Fixture and fittings	4,791	5,989
Musical equipment	8,642	10,803
Total fixture and fittings	13,434	16,793
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Depreciation charged to the Income & Expeniture account in the year	£3,358	-

The valuation of the Church Building and the Manse are subject to market fluctuations. The Church building has been valued for insurance purposes at a higher value but the Church believe the valuations included in the accounts are appropriate (albeit prudent).

In preparation for the planned sale of the existing Manse in 2025 the church had a formal valuation completed. The report indicated a potential sale value of £300,00. This compares to the previously recorded £180,000. The increase of £120,000 has been recorded as an 'Other gain' within reserves.

The majority of the Church's fixtures and fittings had at the end of 2023 all been fully depreciated. During 2024 the Church began to depreciate its new sound system and digital piano purchased in 2023. These items are being depreciated over 5 years.

### **Pension Scheme Liabilities**

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

The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011. Since 1 January 2012, benefits have been provided through a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan.

The Church has no outstanding pension liabilities.

**OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132009

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# Accounts

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## **Oadby Baptist Church**

Statutory Information

### **Registered Address**

OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH  
LEICESTER ROAD  
OADBY  
LEICESTER  
LE2 5BD

**Charity Registration Number** 1132009

### **Trustees**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date appointed / resigned</u>
Rev Tom Cox	August 2017
Mark Jones ACMA (Treasurer)	March 2011 / reappointed March 2024
Paul Neville (Secretary)	March 2019 / reappointed March 2024
Paula Jones	September 2021
Christine Swan	September 2021
Andrew Brockbank	March 2022
Christopher Smith	March 2023
Gillian Mason	March 2024

### **Property Trustees**

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

### **Bankers**

HSBC

### **Independent Examiner -**

Dena Khetani

## Oadby Baptist Church Financial Statements at 31st December 2023

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>Page</b>
Trustees Report	3-7
Independent Examiners Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Accounts	11-13

## **Trustee report**

### **Annual Report for 2023**

The trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2023.

### **Charitable Object**

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education, community service and such other general charitable purposes in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Church shall determine.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on Trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

### **Organisational Structure and Decision making processes**

Oadby Baptist Church welcomes anyone who wants to meet together to worship, pray, explore their faith, and encourage each other to live their lives in close relationship with God. Members of the church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution.

The Church Members' Meeting normally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church. In accordance with the Constitution, the Membership appoints up to six Trustees (plus Church Officers; Church Secretary, Admin Secretary and Treasurer), who together with the Minister (who is also appointed by the Membership), and collectively known as the Leadership Team, are responsible for the day to day running of the church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity. 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 Meeting by the Trustees for guidance, or may be raised by Members in Church Meetings 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.

### **Objectives and Activities**

In order to achieve the principal objective which is set out above, the church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community 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.

The Church's main activities are held face to face although in many cases the Church offers online options. The Church has invested in IT equipment to enable it provide high quality online services and events and engaged the services of a local IT company (Black Owl) to support this activity.

Central to the work and witness of the church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. The Church's Sunday morning worship services at 10.30am continue to be well attended with a diverse range of members from all sectors of the local community. The church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of its activities whether online or face to face.

The church runs a series of house groups for the growth of faith and discipleship in the homes of some members, and further details of these can be obtained from the church office on request, or at Sunday worship services.

Youth work is a core part of the church's work in the local community. The Church has for over 60 years, had successful Boys' and Girls' Brigade Companies. In 2024 the Church decided to restructure its mid-week youth organisations. This re-structure has resulted in the closure of the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade companies

and the launch of new unisex groups for children and young people. On Sundays there is also all-age appropriate provision in the morning for babies, children and young people from age 0 to school year 13. Toddlers and their parents or carers are welcome to attend 'Bulrushes,' our weekly stay-and-play toddler group, which meets every Thursday morning during term-time. The Church also supports its teenagers to attend an annual young people's Christian festival – Limitless.

The Church's Tuesday Fellowship group provides an opportunity for the older members of the church and community to meet together.

The Church's 'A Place to Grow' grow group meets on a Wednesday morning in the Church's community garden for 'Coffee, Cake, Chat' as well as tending the plants in the raised beds and greenhouse. This group is providing an important link between the Church and the local community.

The church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted. All our adult volunteers undertake a disclosure (criminal records) check and are trained to provide a safe and caring environment for all children.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers of members or attendees, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship and encouragement. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure and whilst total Church Membership remains relative static at around 100, we are trying to create a wider number of connections in the local community which are not always measured in terms of membership.

The church's main Sunday morning services continue to be well attended by a broad mix of the local community in terms of age, socio-economic group and nationality. We also see a good number of attendees watching services virtually. Supporting local young people across the whole 0- to 18-year-old age range is a key part of the Church's youth organisations. The Church is very grateful to the support of its volunteer leaders in running these organisations.

The church aims to play a positive part in the life of the community of Oadby. This is achieved through the use of its premises for non-church-related activities such as a line dancing class, a table tennis group as well as by its Members serving the community in activities not formally linked to the church, for example working with local charities such as Street Pastors, Helping Hands, Age UK Leicestershire & Rutland and acting as school governors and local councillors.

The church is active in supporting local, national and overseas charities. The church's largest charitable donations are made to the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS) and the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund. In addition, each quarter a £400 donation is made to a charity chosen by the Mission and Social Action team. Our donations in 2023 included supporting the BMS emergency campaign following the earthquakes in Turkey and Tek Ura - an Albanian Charity founded by British missionaries which aims to improve the lives of disadvantaged and marginalised Albanian people. In total over £16,000 was donated via the church accounts, with further funds being donated directly by individuals to charities. The Church was also pleased to be able to invest in a defibrillator for use by the Community in 2023. The defibrillator which is accessible to all at the front of the church building was partly funded by a grant from London Hearts, a leading UK defibrillator charity.

### **Pollard Estate**

The Church was very grateful to receive the proceeds (over £300,000) from the estate of Mr. Norman Pollard in 2022. Mr Pollard and his late wife were married at OBC in February 1952 and although for the majority of their married life lived away from Leicester, the church remained in their lives resulting in them leaving their estate to the church following Mr. Pollard's passing in 2021.

The cash proceeds from the estate have been invested in Baptist Union deposit accounts whilst the Church membership discuss and consider various initiatives in which to invest the funds. The funds, whilst not subject to any restrictions, are identified separately in the Church's financial statements.

## **Financial Review**

The church continues to raise the majority of the funds it needs to carry on its activities from within its own Membership and congregation.

The principal costs of the Church are employment related costs. These costs relate to the stipend of its Minister, Revd. Tom Cox, the Church Administrator and the costs of the Children's and Family Worker. The Church's Youth Leader role remains vacant at the current time.

The church expresses its part in the life of the wider Church by making donations to national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the church's own charitable purpose. Charities who received donations in 2023 included Christians Against Poverty, BMS, Open Hands and CSW.

The church is heavily dependent on its Membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

The Church's regular giving income was similar to 2022 (excluding the Pollard bequest reported above and charitable donations). The Church benefited significantly from higher interest rates on bank accounts and increased rental income from the use of the Church premises. The introduction of new cardless donation terminals and collection boxes in the Church in 2022 together with increased bookings for the use of its Oasis Centre rooms has resulted in an increase in Sunday morning cash collections and room rental income in 2023.

The Church's expenditure in 2023 increased compared to 2022 with savings from the vacant youth leader role offset by higher pension contributions (in 2022 the financial statements benefitted from the latest valuation of the Baptist Union pension fund) and general operating costs.

## **Investment policy**

The Trustees, having regard for the liquidity requirements of the Church and to the reserves policy, have kept all available funds (excluding the Pollard estate) in either a bank current account or an interest bearing deposit account with all funds accessible within a 7 day period. The Pollard estate funds are currently invested in a range of Baptist Union accounts (until projects to spend these funds are agreed) with maturity periods of between 31 and 365 days.

The Church uses the Baptist Union to invest any of its deposit account reserves with its day to day finances held in accounts with HSBC. HSBC being a major worldwide bank and considered a 'safe' organisation in which to hold its funds.

## **Reserves policy**

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy, and are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date (31 December 2023), together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

The reserves policy states that the charity aims to have sufficient unrestricted funds available to cover at least 3 months of normal operations. Any expenditure that would reduce the reserves below this level, even temporarily, is subject to agreement from the Trustees together with an agreed plan to address any deficit. Total bank balances at 31 December 2023 were £53,693 (Dec 22: £71,201) (excluding the Pollard estate).

## **Plans for the future**

During 2023 the Church continued to grow and enhance the activities it offers its members and the local community.

The Church's Youth Leader contract came to an end of its 3-year term in August 2022. The Membership reviewed the job description and concluded that the role needed to change from a full time to a part time role reflecting the current needs of the local young people. The Church has yet to full this role but will continue to seek an individual to fill this role in 2024.

The Church plans to continue to employ its Minister, Children's and family worker and Office administrator, whilst seeking to fill its Youth Worker role. The Church is now a Silver Eco Church (ECO Church is an A Rocha UK project) and continues to look at all opportunities to reduce its impact on the environment either directly or through it members.

The Church has in 2023 continued to develop its ideas for the use of the Pollard estate funds and ensure that this bequest is used to maximise the benefit for both current and future generations of church members and the local community. It is expected that the Church will start to spend this fund during 2025.

2023 was also a significant year with regards to our Living in Love and Faith Discernment Process as we seek to review our theology and church practice in matter of sexuality, gender, relationships and marriage. It is expected that this process will be completed in late 2024.

The Church is aware of the volatile economic outlook and the impacts this could have on its membership and local community. The Church is ready to support its congregation as and when required and believes its finances are adequate to be able to manage through the current difficult time without any curtailment of activities.

### **Statement of risks**

The trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that systems have been designed and established to mitigate those risks.

### **Trustee's responsibilities for the financial statements**

Charity law requires the trustees of the charity to prepare statements of account for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities and to state whether or not the accounts have been prepared in accordance with that statement and applicable accounting standards;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and to enable them to ensure that any statements of account comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### **Signed on behalf of the trustees**

Revd. Tom Cox  
October 2024

Mr Mark Jones (Treasurer)

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT**

### **TO THE TRUSTEES OF OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 8 to 13.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Dena Khetani**

**Dated:.... 30/10/2024**

## Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	2022 funds
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	102,730	3,750		106,480	414,450
Income from charitable activities	11,712	130		11,842	8,790
Investments & Rental income	18,118	—		18,118	4,461
<b>Total income</b>	<b>132,560</b>	<b>3,880</b>		<b>136,440</b>	<b>427,701</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	124,032	3,880		127,912	105,059
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>124,032</b>	<b>3,880</b>		<b>127,912</b>	<b>105,059</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	<b>8,528</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,528</b>	<b>322,392</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>2,043,931</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>2,068,931</b>	<b>1,746,539</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>2,052,459</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>	<b>2,068,931</b>

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

### Balance sheet

Description		2023	2022
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
	The Church building	1,504,564	1,504,564
	Fixtures and fittings	16,793	—
	The Manse	180,000	180,000
	<b>Total Fixed assets</b>	<b>1,701,357</b>	<b>1,684,564</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Business as usual	HSBC community account	6,388	5,631
	HSBC money manager account	24,893	37,804
	BU deposit account	20,000	18,735
Pollard Estate Funds	BU deposit account	209,130	50,000
	BU 3 mth notice acct	105,415	101,106
	HSBC community account	-	154,452
	Other bank accounts (BB, GB, Tues fellowship)	2,412	9,030
	Cash in hand	30	100
	Accounts Receivable	9,301	8,491
	<b>Total Current assets</b>	<b>377,573</b>	<b>385,349</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
	Accounts Payable	1,470	982
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>982</b>
	<b>Net Asset surplus(deficit)</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>	<b>2,068,930</b>
<b>Reserves</b>			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	8,528	322,391
	Starting balances	2,068,930	1,746,539
	Other gains/(losses)	—	—
	<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>	<b>2,068,930</b>
	<b>Represented by funds</b>		
	Unrestricted	2,052,459	2,043,930
	Restricted	25,000	25,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>	<b>2,068,930</b>

## Analysis of income and expenditure

### Donations and legacies

The Church receives regular weekly/monthly donations from its members, some of which can be gift aided. Total income in 2023 was similar to 2022 (excluding the Bequest (see trustee report for more information). Regular giving reduced slightly as a result of changes in church membership, although this was offset by higher cash collections on Sunday mornings. Sundry collections included donations from previous members as well as £1,537 from Church's Together in Oadby (CTO). CTO funds at 31 December 2023 totaled £80.00.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Regular giving	72,439		72,439	80,054
Sunday morning cash collection	6,262		6,262	1,967
Sundry collections	5,387		5,387	937
Gift aid recovered	17,320		17,320	17,515
Bequest			-	305,558
Grants received	-	3,750	3,750	4,750
Weddings etc	595		595	-
Charitable donations	727		727	3,669
<b>Total</b>	<b>102,730</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>106,480</b>	<b>414,450</b>

### Income from charitable activities

Within the Church there are a number of different organisations which generate income through subscriptions, donations and activities. The majority of this income is related to our work with young people.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Youth camp income	3,733		3,733	1,776
Youth organisation income	4,806		4,806	5,489
Bulrushes income	1,376		1,376	614
Home mission income	70		70	50
Tuesday Fellowship	1,652		1,652	182
BMS Birthday	-	130	130	430
Performing Arts	75		75	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,712</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>11,842</b>	<b>8,541</b>

### Investment and Rental income

The church receives interest income on its HSBC and Baptist Union bank accounts. Interest income has increased reflecting the high UK Bank of England Base rate and the Pollard Estate funds (see Trustee Report). The Church lets out its Hall for use by individuals and groups. Rental income is increasing as a result of increased demand for premises in which to hold children's parties, local community events as well as use of the premises on a weekly basis by the Ratae Players organization.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Interest received	9,540		9,540	484
Letting Church Hall	8,578		8,578	3,978
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,118</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18,118</b>	<b>4,462</b>

### **Maintenance and premises costs**

The maintenance and premises costs in 2023 were broadly similar to 2022. As part of the Ministerial contract the Church pays all the utility and Council tax bills relating to the Manse. All the Church's office equipment is fully depreciated.

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b><u>Designated</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>
Insurance	3,401		3,401	3,091
Cleaning	5,780		5,780	5,223
Heating, light and water	4,867		4,867	4,564
Maintenance - church	4,947		4,947	3,420
Maintenance - manse	85		85	537
Light, Heat, Rates - Manse	4,011		4,011	3,191
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,091</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,091</b>	<b>20,026</b>

### **Employment and administration costs**

The Church employed 3 individuals in 2023 – a full time minister, an office administrator, and a part-time Children and Families Worker (2022 – 4 including a Youth leader). None of the Trustees other than the Minister, received any remuneration during the year. Administration costs include the cost of the Church's leased photocopier, church web site, subscriptions and licence fees as well as external IT support for the live streaming of Sunday morning services.

The pension payments reflect payments made by the Church to the Baptist Union Pension Fund. In 2022 the Church benefitted from the Baptist Union Pension fund deficit payments ending.

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b><u>Designated</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>
Minister stipend	26,006		26,006	23,512
Administration costs – salary	6,520		6,520	5,878
Pension Payments	7,234		7,234	-8,868
Administration costs – photocopier, web site, licence fees	12,451		12,451	11,983
Training	1,064		1,064	338
Youth & Childrens & Family leader costs	8,146	3,750	11,896	23,629
<b>Total</b>	<b>61,421</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>65,171</b>	<b>56,472</b>

### **Charitable donations**

The Church makes a number of charitable donations each year. The two largest donations are made to BMS and the Baptist Home Mission fund. The church makes a quarterly donation of £400 to individual charities chosen by the Church members. Other Charitable donations includes a donations of £6,000 to Tek Ura an Albanian based charity.

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b><u>Designated</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>
Other charitable donations	7,521		7,521	4,115
BMS	5,100		5,100	5,100
Home Mission	4,270		4,270	4,250
Quarterly Focus	1,200		1,200	1,600
BMS Birthday	20	130	150	430
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,111</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>18,241</b>	<b>15,495</b>

## Other activities

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Tuesday Fellowship	1,145		1,145	100
Youth work and youth camp	16,397		16,397	10,791
Worship costs	2,133		2,133	1,049
Kitchen equip and maintenance	1,724		1,724	1,126
Other costs	10		10	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,409</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21,409</b>	<b>13,066</b>

## Debtors

As at 31 December 2023 the Church's largest debtor related to gift aid due from HMRC.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
HMRC Gift aid	7,718	8,491
Other pre-payments	1,583	-
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>9,301</b>	<b>8,491</b>

## Creditors

As at 31 December 2023 the Church was awaiting invoices and was expecting to make payments in respect of PAYE and employee pension contributions, the Church December cleaning costs as well as payments relating to the church photocopier and IT services. All creditors have been paid at the date of signing these accounts.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>982</b>

## **Fund movement by type**

	<u>Opening</u>	<u>Incoming</u>	<u>Outgoing</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Gains/losses</u>	<u>Journals</u>	<u>Closing</u>
<b>Youth/Childrens &amp; Family worker</b>							
Restricted	25,000	—	—	—	—	—	25,000
<b>General - General fund</b>							
Unrestricted	2,043,930	136,444	127,916	—	—	—	2,052,459
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>2,068,930</b>	<b>136,444</b>	<b>127,916</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,077,459</b>

The Church maintains a policy of keeping at least 3 months normal expenditure in reserve in an instant access or 7 day notice bank account. The Church employs its own Children & Families Worker and has a vacant Youth leader role. The Church has established a separate reserve to cover 2/3 of the 12 month cost of these roles.

## **Statement of assets and liabilities**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>The Manse (book value)</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	180,000	180,000
<b>The Church building (book value)</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	1,504,564	1,504,564
<b>The Church fixtures and fittings</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	16,793	0

The valuation of the Church Building and the Manse are subject to market fluctuations. The Church building has been valued for insurance purposes at a higher value but the Church believe the valuations included in the accounts are appropriate (albeit prudent). During 2024 the Church had a desk-top valuation of the Manse which indicated a current market value of over £325,000. The increased valuation would not impact the Church's operations or alter the financial position reported and has not been included in the balance sheet.

The Church's fixtures and fittings had at the end of 2022 all been fully depreciated. The Church believe this is a prudent position. During the year the Church upgraded its sound system at a cost of £10,803. The new equipment will be depreciated from 1 January 2024 over a 5 year period. The Church also invested in a new digital piano, as well as new collection and card reader equipment. These items cost a further £5,990 and will also be depreciated over a 5 year period starting 1 January 2024.

### **Pension Scheme Liabilities**

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

The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011. Since 1 January 2012, benefits have been provided through a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan.

**OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132009

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# Accounts

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## **Oadby Baptist Church**

Statutory Information

### **Registered Address**

OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH  
LEICESTER ROAD  
OADBY  
LEICESTER  
LE2 5BD

**Charity Registration Number** 1132009

### **Trustees**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date appointed / resigned</u>
Rev Tom Cox	August 2017
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Christine Swan	September 2021
Andrew Brockbank	March 2022
Everton Osbourne	March 2019/retired March 2022
William Device	September 2021/resigned February 2022

### **Property Trustees**

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

### **Bankers**

HSBC

### **Independent Examiner -**

Dipesh Patel ACA

## Oadby Baptist Church Financial Statements at 31st December 2022

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>Page</b>
Trustees Report	3-7
Independent Examiners Report	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Accounts	11 -14

## **Trustee report**

### **Annual Report for 2022**

The trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2022

### **Charitable Object**

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education, community service and such other general charitable purposes in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Church shall determine.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on Trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

### **Organisational Structure and Decision making processes**

Oadby Baptist Church welcomes anyone who wants to meet together to worship, pray, explore their faith, and encourage each other to live their lives in close relationship with God. Members of the church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution.

The Church Members' Meeting normally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church. In accordance with the Constitution, the Membership appoints up to six Trustees (plus Church Officers; Church Secretary, Admin Secretary and Treasurer), who together with the Minister (who is also appointed by the Membership), and collectively known as the Leadership Team, are responsible for the day to day running of the church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity. 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 Meeting by the Trustees for guidance, or may be raised by Members in Church Meetings 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.

### **Objectives and Activities**

In order to achieve the principal objective which is set out above, the church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community 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.

The Church's activities are now back to pre-pandemic levels with the majority now being held face to face although in many cases the Church continues to offer online options. Over the past two years the Church has invested in improved IT equipment to enable it provide high quality online services and events and engaged the services of a local IT company (Black Owl) to support this activity.

Central to the work and witness of the church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. The Church's Sunday morning worship services at 10.30am continue to be well attended with a diverse range of members from all sectors of the local community. The church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of its activities whether on line or face to face.

The church runs a series of house groups for the growth of faith and discipleship in the homes of some members, and further details of these can be obtained from the church office on request, or at Sunday worship services.

Youth work is a core part of the church's work in the local community. The church has successful Boys' and Girls' Brigade Companies. On Sundays there is also all-age appropriate provision in the morning for babies, children and young people from age 0 to school year 13. Toddlers and their parents or carers are welcome to attend 'Bulrushes,' our weekly stay-and-play toddler group, which meets every Thursday morning during term-time. The Church also runs a weekly house group for teenagers as well as supporting their attendance at an annual young people's Christian festival – Limitless. The young people also have the opportunity to attend a monthly Friday night youth club – 'the Meet-up' at which they have the opportunity to spend time with similar aged young people, play computer and board games, table tennis and pool as well as eat pizza.

Following the redevelopment of the Church's community garden in 2021 the Church established a new group called 'A Place to grow' which meets on a Wednesday morning in the garden for 'Coffee, Cake, Chat and tending the plants'. This group is again seeing growing numbers and providing an important link between the Church and the local community.

The Church's Tuesday Fellowship group provides an opportunity for the older members of the church and community to meet together. This group has seen an increase in members in 2022 since re-starting face to face meetings again in the second half of 2021.

The church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted. All our adult volunteers undertake a disclosure (criminal records) check and are trained to provide a safe and caring environment for all children.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers of members or attendees, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship and encouragement. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure and whilst total Church Membership remains relative static at around 100, we are trying to create a wider number of connections in the local community which are not always measured in terms of membership.

The church's main Sunday morning services have returned to pre-COVID numbers with a good number of attendees also continuing to join virtually. The church's youth organisations – Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade are continuing to grow and support the young people in the local community. The Church is very grateful to the support of its volunteer leaders in running these organisations.

The church aims to play a positive part in the life of the community of Oadby. This is achieved through the use of its premises for non-church-related activities such as a line dancing class, a table tennis group as well as by its Members serving the community in activities not formally linked to the church, for example working with local charities such as Street Pastors, Helping Hands, Age UK Leicestershire & Rutland and acting as school governors and local councilors.

The church is active in supporting local, national and overseas charities. The church's largest charitable donations are made to the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS) and the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund. In addition, each quarter a £400 donation is made to a charity chosen by the Mission and Social Action team. Our donations in 2022 included over £2,500 being donated to support the people of Ukraine, as well as supporting BMS (Baptist Missionary Society) harvest appeal raising funds to support projects in Nepal. In total over £14,000 was donated via the church accounts, with further funds being donated directly by individuals to charities.

### **Pollard Estate**

The Church was very grateful to receive the proceeds (over £300,000) from the estate of Mr. Norman Pollard. Mr Pollard and his late wife were married at OBC in February 1952 and although for the majority of their married life lived away from Leicester, the church remained in their lives resulting in them leaving their estate to the church following Mr. Pollard's passing in 2021.

The cash proceeds from the estate have been invested in Baptist Union deposit accounts whilst the Church membership discuss and consider various initiatives in which to invest the funds. The funds, whilst not subject to any restrictions, are identified separately in the Church's financial statements.

## **Financial Review**

The church continues to raise the majority of the funds it needs to carry on its activities from within its own Membership and congregation.

The principal costs of the Church are employment related costs. These costs relate to the stipend of its Minister, Revd. Tom Cox, the Church Administrator (this post was vacant for the majority of 2021) and the costs of the Children's and Family Worker from November 2021. The Church's Youth Leader role came to the end of its 3 year period in August 2022. The new part-time youth leader role is currently vacant.

The church expresses its part in the life of the wider Church by making donations to national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the church's own charitable purpose. Charities who received donations in 2022 included Leicester South foodbank, Christians Against Poverty, BMS, and Project Ruth.

The church is heavily dependent on its Membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

In 2022 the Church's reported income benefitted from the Pollard bequest reported above. Excluding this bequest income reduced by £9k reflecting lower grant income (2021 reported higher grant income as a result of the redevelopment of the Church garden) and lower donations from members.

The Church's expenditure reduced in 2022 primarily as a result of lower premises maintenance costs.

The Church's finances remained resilient during COVID 19 and have continued to show a healthy position during the current 'cost of living' crisis. The introduction of new cardless donation terminals and collection boxes in the Church together with increased bookings for the use of its Oasis Centre rooms is expected to result in an increase in Sunday morning cash collections and room rental income in 2023.

## **Investment policy**

The Trustees, having regard for the liquidity requirements of the Church and to the reserves policy, have kept all available funds (excluding the Pollard estate) in either a bank current account or an interest bearing deposit account with all funds accessible within a 7 day period.

As interest rates increase the Church will seek to maximize its returns in an ethical manner. The Church uses the Baptist Union to invest any of its deposit account reserves with its day to day finances held in accounts with HSBC. HSBC being a major worldwide bank and considered a 'safe' organization in which to hold its funds.

## **Reserves policy**

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy, and are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date (31 December 2022), together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

The reserves policy states that the charity aims to have sufficient unrestricted funds available to cover at least 3 months of normal operations. Any expenditure that would reduce the reserves below this level, even temporarily, is subject to agreement from the Trustees together with an agreed plan to address any deficit. Total bank balances at 31 December 2022 were £71,201 (Dec 21: £75,648) (excluding the Pollard estate)

## **Plans for the future**

During 2023 the Church is planning to continue to grow and enhance the activities it offers its members and the local community.

The Church's Youth Leader contract came to an end of its 3 year term in August 2022. The Membership reviewed the job description and concluded that the role needed to change from a full time to a part time role reflecting the current needs of the local young people. Despite significant recruitment activity the Church has yet to identify a suitable candidate to fill this role. The Church will continue to seek an individual to fill this role in 2023.

The Church will continue to employ its Minister, Children's and family worker and Office administrator. The Church is already a Bronze Eco Church (ECO Church is a Rocha UK project). In 2023 the Church will seek to continue to deliver its activities in an environmental considerate format as well as encouraging its membership to consider using environmentally friendly consumables within their every day life.

During 2023 the Church will continue to develop and implement its ideas for the use of the Pollard estate funds and ensure that this bequest is used to maximise the benefit for both current and future generations of church members and the local community.

The Church is aware of the volatile economic outlook and the impacts this could have on its membership and local community. The Church is ready to support its congregation as and when required and believes its finances are adequate to be able to manage through the current difficult time without any curtailment of activities.

## **Statement of risks**

The trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that systems have been designed and established to mitigate those risks.

## **Trustee's responsibilities for the financial statements**

Charity law requires the trustees of the charity to prepare statements of account for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities and to state whether or not the accounts have been prepared in accordance with that statement and applicable accounting standards
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and to enable them to ensure that any statements of account comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **Signed on behalf of the trustees**

Revd. Tom Cox  
October 2023

Mr Mark Jones (Treasurer)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT**

**TO THE TRUSTEES OF OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 8 to 14.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Dipesh Patel ACA**

**Dated:..... 28/10/2023**

## Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	409,699	4,750		414,449	120,759
Income from charitable activities	8,110	430		8,540	8,655
Investments & Rental income	4,461	—		4,461	1,963
<b>Total income</b>	<b>422,270</b>	<b>5,180</b>		<b>427,450</b>	<b>131,378</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	99,879	5,180		105,059	130,955
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>99,879</b>	<b>5,180</b>		<b>105,059</b>	<b>130,955</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	<b>322,392</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>322,392</b>	<b>423</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>1,721,539</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>1,746,539</b>	<b>1,746,116</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>2,043,931</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>2,068,931</b>	<b>1,746,539</b>

# Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2022

## Balance sheet

Description		31 December 2022	31 December 2021	
<b>Fixed assets</b>				
	The Church building	1,504,564	1,504,564	
	The Manse	180,000	180,000	
	<b>Total Fixed assets</b>	<b>1,684,564</b>	<b>1,684,564</b>	
<b>Current assets</b>				
Bank accounts	BAU	HSBC community account	5,631	3,797
		HSBC Money manager	37,805	41,448
		BU deposit account	18,735	19,399
	Pollard bequest	BU 3 mth notice acct	101,106	-
		BU deposit account	50,000	-
		HSBC community account	154,452	-
	Other bank accounts (BB,GB,Tues Fellowship)	9,030	11,005	
	Cash in hand	100		
	Accounts Receivable	8,491	6,400	
	<b>Total Current assets</b>	<b>385,349</b>	<b>82,048</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>				
	Pension deficit	—	18,619	
	Accounts Payable	982	1,454	
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>20,073</b>	
	<b>Net Asset surplus(deficit)</b>	<b>2,068,931</b>	<b>1,746,539</b>	
<b>Reserves</b>				
	Excess / (deficit) to	322,392	423	
	Starting balances	1,746,539	1,746,116	
	<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>2,068,931</b>	<b>1,746,539</b>	
	Unrestricted	2,043,931	1,721,539	
	Restricted	25,000	25,000	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,068,931</b>	<b>1,746,539</b>	

## Analysis of income and expenditure

### Donations and legacies

The Church receives regular weekly/monthly donations from its members, some of which can be gift aided. Total income was significantly higher in 2022 as a result of the Bequest (see trustee report for more information). Regular giving reduced slightly as a result of changes in church membership. The Church also received a number of grants during 2021 for the redevelopment of its garden (see main trustee report for more details). Charitable donations relate to money collected for charitable causes.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Regular giving	80,054		80,054	84,586
Sunday morning cash collection	1,967		1,967	1,584
Sundry collections	937		937	2,625
Gift aid recovered	17,515		17,515	18,049
Bequest	305,558		305,558	-
Grants received	-	4,750	4,750	12,500
Charitable donations	3,669		3,669	3,519
<b>Total</b>	<b>409,700</b>	<b>4,750</b>	<b>414,450</b>	<b>122,863</b>

### Income from charitable activities

Within the Church there are a number of different organisations which generate income through subscriptions, donations and activities. The majority of this income is related to our Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade organisations and is spent on activities for young people.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Youth camp income	1,776		1,776	153
Youth organisation income	5,489		5,489	4,866
Bulrushes income	614		614	182
Home mission income	50		50	80
Tuesday Fellowship	182		182	758
BMS Birthday		430	-	515
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,111</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>8,111</b>	<b>6,554</b>

### Investment and Rental income

The church receives interest income on its HSBC and Baptist Union bank accounts. Interest income has increased reflecting the higher UK Bank of England Base rate and the receipt of the Pollard Estate funds (see Trustee Report). The Church lets out its Hall for use by individuals and groups. Rental income is increasing as a result of increased demand for premises in which to hold children's parties and local community events.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Interest received	484		484	44
Letting Church Hall	3,978		3,978	1,918
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,461</b>		<b>4,461</b>	<b>1,962</b>

## **Maintenance and premises costs**

The cleaning cost reflects the full 12 month cost of using a professional cleaning company to clean the Church on weekly basis. As part of the Ministerial contract the Church pays all the utility and Council tax bills relating to the Manse. Maintenance costs in 2022 were significantly lower than in 2021 (2021 costs reflected the renovations to the garden, a new boiler for the Oasis centre and repairs to the Oasis centre roof.). All the Church's office equipment is fully depreciated.

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b><u>Designated</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>
Insurance	3,091		3,091	2,816
Cleaning	5,223		5,223	3,107
Heating, light and water	4,564		4,564	2,807
Maintenance - church	3,420		3,420	29,901
Maintenance - manse	537		537	2,652
Light, Heat, Rates - Manse	3,191		3,191	3,030
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,026</b>		<b>20,026</b>	<b>44,313</b>

## **Employment and administration costs**

The Church employed 4 individuals in 2022 – a full time minister, an office administrator (appointed November 2021), a Youth Leader (until July 2022) and from November 2021 a part-time Children and Families Worker. None of the Trustees, other than the Minister, received any remuneration during the year. Administration costs include the cost of the Church's leased photocopier, church web site, subscriptions and licence fees as well as external IT support for the live streaming of Sunday morning services.

The pension payments reflect movements in the calculation of the future deficit payments expected to be made by the Church to the Baptist Union Pension Fund. In 2022 the Pension fund confirmed that the deficit had been cleared.

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b><u>Designated</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>
Minister stipend	23,512		23,512	23,425
Administration costs – salary	5,878		5,878	1,038
Pension Payments	-8,868		-8,868	7,178
Administration costs – photocopier, web site, licence fees	11,983		11,983	13,378
Training	338		338	457
Youth & Childrens & Family leader costs	18,879	4,750	23,629	21,918
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,722</b>	<b>4,750</b>	<b>56,472</b>	<b>67,394</b>

## **Charitable donations**

The Church makes a number of charitable donations each year. The two largest donations are made to BMS and the Baptist Home Mission fund. The church makes a quarterly donation of £400 to individual charities

chosen by the Church members. Other Charitable donations include donations of over £2,400 to Project Ruth and BMS World Mission in respect of appeals related to the War in Ukraine.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Other charitable donations	4,115		4,115	2,850
BMS	5,100		5,100	5,100
Home Mission	4,250		4,250	4,280
Quarterly Focus	1,600		1,600	1,600
BMS Birthday		430	430	515
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,065</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>15,495</b>	<b>14,345</b>

### Other activities

In 2022 the Church's youth work had returned to pre-covid levels and hence the increase in expenditure.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Tuesday Fellowship	100	—	100	330
Youth work and youth camp	10,791	—	10,791	3,397
Worship costs	1,049	—	1,049	803
Kitchen equip and maintenance	1,126	—	1,126	361
Other costs		—	-	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,066</b>		<b>13,066</b>	<b>4,902</b>

### Debtors

As at 31 December 2022 the Church's debtor related to gift aid due from HMRC.

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
HMRC Gift aid	8,491	6,400
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>8,439</b>	<b>6,400</b>

### Creditors

As at 31 December 2022 the Church was awaiting invoices and was expecting to make payments in respect of PAYE and employee pension contributions and the Church December cleaning costs. All creditors have been paid at the date of signing these accounts.

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>1,454</b>

## Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
<b>Youth/Childrens &amp; family</b>						
Restricted	25,000					25,000
<b>General fund</b>						
General	1,721,539	427,451	105,059			2,043,931
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,746,539</b>	<b>427,451</b>	<b>105,059</b>			<b>2,068,931</b>

The Church maintains a policy of keeping at least 3 months normal expenditure in reserve in an instant access or 7 day notice bank account. The Church employs its own Youth leader and Children & Families Worker. The Church has established a separate reserve to cover 2/3 of the 12 month cost of these roles.

## Statement of assets and liabilities

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<b>The Manse</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	180,000	180,000
<b>The Church building</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	1,504,564	1,504,564

The valuation of the Church Building and the Manse are subject to market fluctuations. The Church building has been valued for insurance purposes at a higher value but the Church believe the valuations included in the accounts are appropriate (albeit prudent). During 2022 the Church had a desk-top valuation of the Manse which indicated a current market value of over £300,000. The increased valuation would not impact the Church's operations or alter the financial position reported and has not been included in the balance sheet.

The Church's fixtures and fittings have all been fully depreciated. The Church believe this is a prudent position.

## Pension Scheme Liabilities

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

The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011. Since 1 January 2012, benefits have been provided through a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan.

In 2022 the Pension Trustee confirmed that the previous deficit had been cleared.

**OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132009

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# Accounts

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## **Oadby Baptist Church**

Statutory Information

### **Registered Address**

OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH  
LEICESTER ROAD  
OADBY  
LEICESTER  
LE2 5BD

**Charity Registration Number** 1132009

### **Trustees**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date appointed / resigned</u>
Rev Tom Cox	August 2017
Mark Jones ACMA (Treasurer)	March 2011 / reappointed March 2022
Paul Neville (Secretary)	March 2019 / reappointed March 2022
Jill Chapman	March 2020
Paula Jones	September 2021
Christine Swan	September 2021
Andrew Brockbank	March 2022
Everton Osbourne	March 2019/resigned March 2022
Nesam Navin	March 2020/resigned December 2021
Kim Latif	March 2017/resigned March 2021
Theo Lambourne	Reappointed March 2018 /resigned September 2021
Jo Spain	March 2018/resigned September 2021
William Device	September 2021/resigned February 2022

### **Property Trustees**

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

### **Bankers**

HSBC

**Independent Examiner - David Thurlby**

# Oadby Baptist Church Financial Statements at 31st December 2021

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>Page</b>
Trustees Report	3-6
Independent Examiners Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to the Accounts	10 -14

## **Trustee report**

### **Annual Report for 2021**

The trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2021

#### **Charitable Object**

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#### **Organisational Structure and Decision making processes**

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Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church Meeting by the Trustees for guidance, or may be raised by Members in Church Meetings 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.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

In order to achieve the principal objective which is set out above, the church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community 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.

During 2020 the majority of the Church's activities took place using online platforms such as Teams and Zoom. Following the relaxation of lockdown and social distancing restrictions in July 2021 the majority of activities have now returned to a face to face basis. The Church throughout the lockdown and pandemic continued to operate effectively in preaching God's word as well as supporting its members, attendees and the local community. The Church acknowledges the assistance from its members in being able to run its activities online.

Central to the work and witness of the church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. During the first half of 2021 the majority of the Church's Sunday morning worship services at 10.30am took place online via Teams with a follow-on social coffee opportunity for members and friends to meet up. During the second half of the year we were pleased to be able to once again meet face to face and worship together.

The church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of its activities whether on line or face to face.

The church runs a series of house groups for the growth of faith and discipleship in the homes of some members, and further details of these can be obtained from the church office on request, or at Sunday worship services. These house groups continued through the lockdown using online platforms but have now resumed face to face meetings.

Youth work is a core part of the church's work in the local community. The church has successful Boys' and Girls' Brigade Companies. On Sundays there is also all-age appropriate provision in the morning for children and young people from reception to school year 13. Toddlers and their parents or carers are welcome to attend 'Bulrushes,' our weekly stay-and-play toddler group, which meets every Thursday morning during term-time. Our Youth Leader also ran a weekly house group for teenagers.

Following the redevelopment of the Church's community garden it has established a new group called 'A Place to grow' which meets on a Wednesday morning in the garden for 'Coffee, Cake, Chat and tendering the plants'.

The Church's Tuesday Fellowship group which provides an opportunity for the older members of the church and community to meet together met during the lockdown via Zoom but has now restarted face to face meetings and has seen an increase in numbers.

The church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted. All our adult volunteers undertake a disclosure (criminal records) check and are trained to provide a safe and caring environment for all children.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers of members or attendees, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship and encouragement. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure and whilst total Church Membership remains relative static at around 100, we are trying to create a wider number of connections in the local community which are not always measured in terms of membership.

The church's main Sunday morning services have returned to pre-COVID numbers with a good number of attendees also joining virtually. The church's youth organisations – Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade – have supported their members during the difficult lock-down periods and since restarting face to face activities in the second half of the year have continued to record good attendance levels..

The church aims to play a positive part in the life of the community of Oadby. This is achieved through the use of its premises for non-church-related activities such as a line dancing class as well as by its Members serving the community in activities not formally linked to the church, for example working with local charities such as Street Pastors, Helping Hands and acting as school governors and local councilors.

The church is active in supporting local, national and overseas charities. The church's largest charitable donations are made to the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS) and the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund. In addition, each quarter a £400 donation is made to a charity chosen by the Mission and Social Action team. Our donations in 2021 included over £2,100 being donated to the Afghan Welcome and Baby Basics initiative supporting Afghanistan refugees and babies arriving in the UK. In total £14,345 was donated via the church accounts, with further funds being donated directly by individuals to charities.

## **Financial Review**

The church continues to raise the majority of the funds it needs to carry on its activities from within its own Membership and congregation.

The principal costs of the Church are employment related costs. These costs relate to the stipend of its Minister, Revd. Tom Cox, its Youth Leader's salary, the Church Administrator (this post was vacant between July 2020 and November 2021) and the costs of the newly appointed Children's and Family Worker from November 2021.

The church expresses its part in the life of the wider Church by making donations to national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the church's own charitable purpose. Charities who received donations in 2021 included Open Hands, BMS, Ella's House and Christians Against Poverty.

The church is heavily dependent on its Membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

In 2021 the Church's income increased compare to 2020. The increase reflects the receipt of donations and pledges in respect of the Church's Children & Family Worker role which started in November 2021 as well as grants of over £11,000 in respect of funding the renovations and investment in the Community garden. The grants were received from the East Midlands Baptist Association, Helen Jean Cope Trust, Oadby Village Hall Trust, Florence Turner Trust, Garfield Weston Trust and Oadby Education Foundation.

The Church's expenditure increased primarily as a result of its continued investment and maintenance of its premises. During 2021 the Church installed a new boiler in its Oasis centre, completed repairs to the Oasis Centre roof, transformed its Community garden as well as installing a number of new windows in the Church manse.

Whilst COVID 19 has had a short term impact on the Church's finances it has not had a material long term affect with room bookings in particular increasing significantly in the first few months of 2022.

### **Investment policy**

The Trustees, having regard for the liquidity requirements of the Church and to the reserves policy, have kept all available funds in either a bank current account or an interest bearing deposit account with instant access to all funds at any time.

### **Reserves policy**

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy, and are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date (31 December 2021), together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

The reserves policy states that the charity aims to have sufficient unrestricted funds available to cover at least 3 months of operations. Any expenditure that would reduce the reserves below this level, even temporarily, is subject to agreement from the Trustees together with an agreed plan to address any deficit. Total bank balances at 31 December 2021 were £64,644 (Dec 20: £71,849).

## **Plans for the future**

During 2022 the Church is planning for face to face activities to once again be the 'norm' although it will continue to offer online Sunday morning services as these have become part of the normal way in which many Churches now deliver their message to its wider congregation and community.

The Church's new employees both of whom started in November 2021 – Office Administrator and Children and Family Worker - will in 2022 be augmenting the Church's offering in terms of the efficiency and effectiveness of its activities and the range of activities and support provided to children and families.

The Church's Youth Leader contract comes to the end of its 3 year term in August 2022 and ahead of this deadline the Membership will be considering whether to continue with a full time 40 hour a week role or whether the role should be reduced to reflect changes in the Community, with school activities previously undertaken by the Youth leader not having been restarted by local schools post COVID 19.

The Church is aware of the increasingly volatile economic outlook and the impacts this could have on its membership and local community. The Church is ready to support its congregation as and when required and believes its finances are adequate to be able to manage through the difficult time ahead without any significant curtailment of activities.

## **Statement of risks**

The trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that systems have been designed and established to mitigate those risks.

## **Trustee's responsibilities for the financial statements**

Charity law requires the trustees of the charity to prepare statements of account for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities and to state whether or not the accounts have been prepared in accordance with that statement and applicable accounting standards
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and to enable them to ensure that any statements of account comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **Signed on behalf of the trustees**

Revd. Tom Cox  
October 2022

Mr Mark Jones (Treasurer)

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT**

### **TO THE TRUSTEES OF OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 8 to 14.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**David Thurlby, ACIB**

**Dated:.... 22/10/2022**

## Statement of Financial Activities for year ended 31 December 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	2020 Prior year total funds
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>				
Donations and legacies	120,762	—	120,762	106,276
Income from charitable activities	8,654	—	8,654	6,410
Investments	1,963	—	1,963	1,196
<b>Total income</b>	<b>131,379</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>131,379</b>	<b>113,882</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Raising funds	12,333	—	12,333	18,186
Expenditure on charitable activities	109,338	—	109,338	61,977
Charitable donations			0	11,982
			0	
Other expenditure	9,283	—	9,283	6,993
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>130,954</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>130,954</b>	<b>99,138</b>
			0	
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>14,744</b>
<b>Transfers</b>				
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	—	—
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	—	—	—
<b>Other recognised gains / losses</b>				
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>14,744</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>1,721,114</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>1,746,114</b>	<b>1,731,374</b>
<b>S Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>1,722,539</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>1,747,539</b>	<b>1,746,114</b>

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2021

	Description	2021	2020
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
	The Church building	1,504,564	1,504,564
	The Manse	180,000	180,000
	<b>Total Fixed assets</b>	<b>1,684,564</b>	<b>1,684,564</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
	HSBC community account	3,797	8,408
	HSBC money manager account	41,448	44,083
	BU deposit account	19,399	19,358
	Boys Brigade bank account	5,939	5,447
	Tuesday Fellowship bank account	962.68	468
	Girls Brigade bank account	4,103	3,247
	Accounts Receivable	6,400	4,698
	<b>Total Current assets</b>	<b>82,048</b>	<b>85,709</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
	pension deficit	18,619	22,709
	Accounts Payable	1,454	1,450
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>20,073</b>	<b>24,159</b>
	<b>Net Asset surplus(deficit)</b>	<b>1,746,539</b>	<b>1,746,114</b>
<b>Reserves</b>			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	425	14,740
	Starting balances	1,746,114	1,731,374
	<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>1,747,539</b>	<b>1,746,114</b>
	<b>Represented by funds</b>		
	Unrestricted	1,722,539	1,721,114
	Restricted	25,000	25,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,747,539</b>	<b>1,746,114</b>

## Analysis of income and expenditure

### Donations and legacies

The Church receives regular weekly/monthly donations from its members, some of which can be gift aided. The Church also received a number of grants during 2021 for the redevelopment of its garden (see main trustee report for more details). Charitable donations relate to money collected for charitable causes. Sundry collections includes bequests and donations made to the Church. During COVID (2020 and 2021) Sunday morning cash collections varied significantly with the timing of donations.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Regular giving	84,586		84,586	78,863
Sunday morning cash collection	1,584		1,584	4,333
Sundry collections	2,625		2,625	3,446
Gift aid recovered	18,049		18,049	16,747
Grants received		12,500	12,500	1,250
Charitable donations	3,519		3,519	1,633
<b>Total</b>	<b>110,363</b>	<b>12,500</b>	<b>122,863</b>	<b>106,272</b>

### Income from charitable activities

Within the Church there are a number of different organisations which generate income through subscriptions, donations and activities. The majority of this income is related to our Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade organisations and is spent on activities for young people. During the latter part of 2021 the Church's Youth Organisation's activities started to return to pre-COVID 19 levels.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Youth camp income	153		153	983
Youth organisation income	4,866		4,866	4,636
Bulrushes income	182		182	291
Home mission income	80		80	100
Tues Fellowship	758		758	—
BMS Birthday	—	515	515	400
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,039</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>6,554</b>	<b>6,410</b>

### Investment and Rental income

The church receives interest income on its HSBC and Baptist Union bank accounts. The Church lets out its Hall for use by individuals and groups. Rental income began to increase again in 2021 as COVID restrictions began to be lifted.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Interest received	44		44	95
Letting Church Hall	1,918		1,918	1,101
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,962</b>		<b>1,962</b>	<b>1,196</b>

## **Maintenance and premises costs**

The cleaning cost reflects the costs of using a professional cleaning company to clean the Church on weekly basis. As part of the Ministerial contract the Church pays all the utility and Council tax bills relating to the Manse. Maintenance costs in 2021 were significantly higher than in 2020 reflecting the renovations to the garden, a new boiler for the Oasis centre and repairs to the Oasis centre roof. The Manse maintenance costs in 2021 reflect the cost of new windows. All the Church's office equipment is now fully depreciated.

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b><u>Designated</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2020</u></b>
Insurance	2,816		2,816	2,793
Cleaning	3,107		3,107	2,151
Heating, light and water	2,807		2,807	5,170
Maintenance - church	18,401	11,500	29,901	3,009
Maintenance - manse	2,652		2,652	2,500
Light, Heat, Rates - Manse	3,030		3,030	2,563
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,813</b>	<b>11,500</b>	<b>44,313</b>	<b>18,186</b>

## **Employment and administration costs**

The Church employed 4 individuals – a full time minister, an office administrator (appointed November 2021, previous incumbent retired May 2020), a Youth Leader and from November 2021 a part-time Childrens and Family Worker. None of the Trustees, other than the Minister received any remuneration during the year. Administration costs include the cost of the Church's leased photocopier, church web site, subscriptions and licence fee as well as external IT support for the live streaming Sunday morning services.

The pension payments reflect movements in the calculation of the future deficit payments expected to be made by the Church to the Baptist Union Pension Fund. In 2022 the Pension fund confirmed that the deficit had been cleared and the accounts for 2022 will reflect this improved position.

	<b><u>Unrestricted</u></b>	<b><u>Designated</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2020</u></b>
Minister stipend	23,425		23,425	22,838
Administration costs – salary	1,038		1,038	2,637
Pension Payments	7,178		7,178	5,984
Administration costs – photocopier, web site, licence fees	13,378		13,378	9,655
Training	457		457	296
Youth leader costs	20,918	1,000	21,918	20,567
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,394</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>67,394</b>	<b>61,977</b>

## **Charitable donations**

The Church makes a number of charitable donations each year. The two largest donations are made to BMS and the Baptist Home Mission fund. The church makes a quarterly donation of £400 to individual charities chosen by the Church members. Other Charitable donations includes donations of over £2,100 to Afghan

Welcome and Baby Basics initiative supporting Afghanistan refugees and babies arriving in the UK raised as part of the Church Harvest celebrations.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Other charitable donations	2,850	0	2,850	627
BMS	5,100		5,100	5,100
Home Mission	4,280		4,280	4,300
Quarterly Focus	1,600		1,600	1,600
BMS Birthday		515	515	355
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,830</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>14,345</b>	<b>11,982</b>

### Other activities

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Tuesday Fellowship	330	—	330	0
Youth work and youth camp	3,397	—	3,397	5,922
Worship costs	803	—	803	697
Kitchen equip and maintenance	361	—	361	149
Other costs	11	—	11	225
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,902</b>		<b>4,902</b>	<b>6,993</b>

### Debtors

At 31 December 2021 the Church had debtors relating to gift aid due from HMRC .

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
HMRC Gift aid	6,400	4,068
Other		630
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>6,400</b>	<b>4,698</b>

### Creditors

At 31 December 2021 the Church was awaiting invoices and was expecting to make payments in respect of PAYE and employee pension contributions, the Church December cleaning costs and Christmas charitable donation collections. All creditors have been paid at the date of signing these accounts.

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>1,454</b>	<b>1,450</b>

## Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
<b>Youth worker</b>						
Restricted	25,000					25,000
<b>General fund</b>						
General	1,721,114	131,379	130,954			1,721,539
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,746,114</b>	<b>131,379</b>	<b>130,954</b>			<b>1,746,539</b>

The Church maintains a policy of keeping at least 3 months expenditure in reserve in an instant access bank account. As from 1 September 2019 the Church has employed directly its own youth leader and in 2021 also appointed a part-time Children's & Family Worker. The Church has established a separate reserve to cover over 2/3 of the 12 month cost of these roles.

## Statement of assets and liabilities

	2021	2020
<b>The Manse</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	180,000	180,000
<b>The Church building</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	1,504,564	1,504,564

The valuation of the Church Building and the Manse are subject to market fluctuations. The Church building has been valued for insurance purposes at a higher value but the Church believe the valuations included in the accounts are appropriate (albeit prudent).

The Church's fixture and fittings have all been fully depreciated. The Church believe this is a prudent position.

## Pension Scheme Liabilities

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

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

A formal valuation of the DB Plan as at 31 December 2019 was conducted by a professionally qualified Actuary. At the valuation date the deficit in the scheme had reduced to £18m. The Church and the other participating employers in the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit.

Under the Schedule of Contributions, the church makes a monthly payment in respect of the DB scheme deficit, currently £325.04 which will increase in line with increases in Minimum Pensionable Income. The Schedule of Contributions foresees these contributions continuing until June 2026. The pension scheme

liability shown in the Statement of Assets and liabilities is calculated as the current rate per month multiplied by the number of months remaining in the current Schedule of Contributions (with an allowance for inflation), which amounted to £18,619 (Dec 20: 22,709).

The Church has been advised that the estimated cost for the church to buyout their Pension Scheme liabilities at 31 December 2021 was £47,400 (2020: £72,900).

During 2021 total payments made by the Church to the Baptist pension fund totaled £7,178 (2020: £5,984).

**OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132009

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# Accounts

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## **Oadby Baptist Church**

Statutory Information

### **Registered Address**

OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH  
LEICESTER ROAD  
OADBY  
LEICESTER  
LE2 5BD

**Charity Registration Number** 1132009

### **Trustees**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date appointed / resigned</u>
Rev Tom Cox	August 2017
Mark Jones ACMA (Treasurer)	March 2011 / reappointed March 2021
Paul Neville (Secretary)	March 2019 / reappointed March 2021
Christine Swan	September 2021
William Device	September 2021
Paula Jones	September 2021
Everton Osbourne	March 2019
Jill Chapman	March 2020
Nesam Navin	March 2020
Kim Latif	March 2017/resigned March 2021
Theo Lambourne	Reappointed March 2018 /resigned September 2021
Jo Spain	March 2018/resigned September 2021
Martin Jones	March 2013 / resigned March 2020
Phil Adams	March 2017/resigned March 2020

### **Property Trustees**

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

### **Bankers**

HSBC

**Independent Examiner** - Dipesh Patel ACA

## Oadby Baptist Church Financial Statements at 31st December 2020

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>Page</b>
Trustees Report	3-6
Independent Examiners Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to the Accounts	10 -14

## **Trustee report**

### **Annual Report for 2020**

The trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2020

### **Charitable Object**

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education, community service and such other general charitable purposes in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Church shall determine.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on Trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

### **Organisational Structure and Decision making processes**

Oadby Baptist Church welcomes anyone who wants to meet together to worship, pray, explore their faith, and encourage each other to live their lives in close relationship with God. Members of the church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution.

The Church Members' Meeting normally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church. In accordance with the Constitution, the Membership appoints up to six Trustees (plus Church Officers; Church Secretary, Admin Secretary and Treasurer), who together with the Minister (who is also appointed by the Membership), and collectively known as the Leadership Team, are responsible for the day to day running of the church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity. All Members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective. During 2020 and 2021 whilst COVID 19 restrictions have been in place the Church's Members Meetings have taken place online with all motions ratified in person at the first face to face meeting in September 2021.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church Meeting by the Trustees for guidance, or may be raised by Members in Church Meetings 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.

### **Objectives and Activities**

In order to achieve the principal objective which is set out above, the church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community 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.

During 2020 the majority of the Church's activities took place using online platforms such as Teams and Zoom. Following the relaxation of lockdown and social distancing restrictions in July 2021 the majority of activities are now returning to a face to face basis. The Church has throughout the lockdown and pandemic continued to operate effectively in preaching God's word as well as supporting its members, attendees and the local community. The Church acknowledges the assistance from its members in being able to run its activities online.

Central to the work and witness of the church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. During 2020 the majority of the Church's Sunday morning worship services at 10.30am took place online via Teams with a follow-on social coffee opportunity for members and friends to meet up. The Church's children's and youth activities also took place online during the year and this was key to being able to support our younger people during this difficult period.

The Church ensured its website [www.oadbybaptist.church](http://www.oadbybaptist.church) contained full details of all online events as well as range of resources for children and young people at different times of the year. The church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of its activities whether on line or face to face.

The church runs a series of house groups for the growth of faith and discipleship in the homes of some members, and further details of these can be obtained from the church office on request, or at Sunday worship services. These house groups continued through the lockdown using online platforms.

Youth work is a core part of the church's work in the local community. The church has successful Boys' and Girls' Brigade Companies. On Sundays there is also all-age appropriate provision in the morning for children and young people from reception to school year 13. Toddlers and their parents or carers are welcome to attend 'Bulrushes,' our weekly stay-and-play toddler group, which meets every Thursday morning during term-time. Our Youth Leader runs a weekly house group for teenagers as well as supporting a range of activities in local schools. Our Youth Leader also, subject to COVID19 restrictions, usually arranges for our young people to have the opportunity to attend a Christian youth camp in the summer.

The church's Fairtrade café, 'The Sanctuary,' closed during the lockdown and is reopening as a weekly Coffee, Cake and Chat Session in October 2021.

The Church's Tuesday Fellowship group which provides an opportunity for the older members of the church and community to meet together met during the lockdown via Zoom but has now restarted face to face meetings and has seen an increase in numbers.

The church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted. All our adult volunteers undertake a disclosure (criminal records) check and are trained to provide a safe and caring environment for all children.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers of members or attendees, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship and encouragement. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure and whilst total Church Membership remains relative static at around 100, we are trying to create a wider number of connections in the local community which are not always measured in terms of membership.

The church's main Sunday morning online services have been well attended during the lockdown with in person attendance now starting to gain momentum from September 2021. The church's youth organisations – Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade – have continued to operate, meeting online during the lockdown period. The Boys' Brigade has been particularly successful in increasing its membership during the lockdown period. The church's Youth Leader has continued to run a weekly youth house group for young people. The group undertake a variety of activities including bible studies.

The church aims to play a positive part in the life of the community of Oadby. This is achieved through the use of its premises for non-church-related activities such as a line dancing class, Slimming World meetings as well as by its Members serving the community in activities not formally linked to the church, for example working with local charities such as Street Pastors, Helping Hands and acting as school governors and local councilors.

The church is active in supporting local, national and overseas charities. The church's largest charitable donations are made to the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS) and the Baptist Union Home Mission Fund. In addition, each quarter a £400 donation is made to a charity chosen by the Mission and Social Action team. A total of £11,982 was donated via the church accounts, with further funds being donated directly by individuals to charities.

## **Financial Review**

The church continues to raise the majority of the funds it needs to carry on its activities from within its own Membership and congregation.

The principal costs of the Church are employment related costs. These costs relate to the stipend of its Minister, Revd. Tom Cox, its Youth Leader's salary (from August 2019) and the costs of the church administrator role (retired June 2020).

The church expresses its part in the life of the wider Church by making donations to national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the church's own charitable purpose. Charities who received donations in 2020 included Home for Good, Operation Agri, Helping Hands and Kennedy House.

The maintenance of the church building and the manse are two areas which frequently result in major items of expenditure. Church maintenance expenditure in 2020 was focused on the replacement of the central heating boiler in the Oasis Centre. In addition the Church had a Quinquennial inspection completed which is expected to result in additional maintenance projects being required in 2021. The Manse also required work during 2021 with repairs required to its flat roof section following a winter storm. Plans were also started in 2020 for a redevelopment of the church garden with a major revamp completed in the summer of 2021.

The church is heavily dependent on its Membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

In 2020 the Church's revenue reduced as a result of not being able to have Sunday morning cash collections, as well as reductions in rental income from room bookings. Some of this reduction has been offset by members and attendees increasing their giving via standing orders. The Church has also incurred additional costs in producing its online services and other online resources which have been produced using support from a local IT company – Black Owl. The reduction in revenue and increase in costs has been partially offset by lower running costs such as gas and electricity due to the church premises being unavailable for use. Whilst COVID 19 has had a short term impact on the Church's revenues it is not expected to have a material long term impact.

### **Investment policy**

The Trustees, having regard for the liquidity requirements of the Church and to the reserves policy, have kept all available funds in either a bank current account or an interest bearing deposit account with instant access to all funds at any time.

### **Reserves policy**

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy, and are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date (31 December 2020), together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

The reserves policy states that the charity aims to have sufficient unrestricted funds available to cover at least 3 months of operations. Any expenditure that would reduce the reserves below this level, even temporarily, is subject to agreement from the Trustees together with an agreed plan to address any deficit. Total bank balances at 31 December 2020 were £71,849 (Dec 19: £62,005).

## **Plans for the future**

The Church has in 2021 restarted its activities on a face to face to basis with all the necessary risk assessments developed and being implemented. In all our activities we are ensuring that government guidelines and best practice are followed and we are generally taking a cautious approach to any large gatherings of people with for example, less chairs set out in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings allowing more space for individuals as they gain confidence in meeting socially face to face again. Should meeting restrictions be reintroduced the Church will once again return to using online platforms to deliver its services and enable other activities to continue to take place. Whilst restrictions have been relaxed and face to face meetings and services will become the norm, the Church will also continue to provide services online. Online services are now seen as a normal part of the way in which Churches deliver its message to its congregation and community.

The Church's administrator retired in June 2020 after 18 years in the role. The role of administrator has changed over time and the church expects to create a revised job description, which will encompass a more 'outward facing/welcoming' role in the future with an appointment expected by the end of 2021.

With the restart of a full programme of children's work the Church is planning to recruit a Children and Family Worker to complement the work undertaken by its Youth Leader. A Children & Family Leader is expected to be appointed by the end of 2021, although the exact scope of this role in terms of it being a part-time or full time job will be dependent on the applicants.

## **Statement of risks**

The trustees confirm that they have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and that systems have been designed and established to mitigate those risks.

## **Trustee's responsibilities for the financial statements**

Charity law requires the trustees of the charity to prepare statements of account for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities and to state whether or not the accounts have been prepared in accordance with that statement and applicable accounting standards
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and to enable them to ensure that any statements of account comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **Signed on behalf of the trustees**

Revd. Tom Cox  
October 2021

Mr Mark Jones (Treasurer)

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT**

### **TO THE TRUSTEES OF OADBY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 8 to 14.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Dipesh Patel ACA**

**Dated:....12/10/2021**

## Statement of Financial Activities For The Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2020 Total funds	2019 Total funds
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Regular giving, Donations and legacies	105,026	1,250		<b>106,276</b>	103,601
Income from charitable activities	6,010	400		<b>6,410</b>	10,650
Investment and rental income	1,196			<b>1,196</b>	6,369
<b>Total income</b>	<b>112,232</b>	<b>1,650</b>	—	<b>113,882</b>	120,621
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Maintenance & premises costs (inc. depreciation)	18,186	0		<b>18,186</b>	29,794
Employment and administration costs	60,727	1,250		<b>61,977</b>	54,553
Charitable donations	11,295	687		<b>11,982</b>	14,214
Other activities	6,993	0		<b>6,993</b>	18,484
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>97,201</b>	<b>1,937</b>	—	<b>99,138</b>	117,045
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	<b>15,031</b>	<b>-287</b>	—	<b>14,744</b>	3,577
<b>Transfers</b>					
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	—	—	—
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Other recognised gains / losses</b>					
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>15,031</b>	<b>-287</b>	—	<b>14,744</b>	3,577
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>1,706,087</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>1,731,374</b>	1,727,797
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>1,721,118</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>1,746,118</b>	1,731,374

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December

	Description	2020	2019
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
	The Church building	1,504,564	1,504,564
	The Manse	180,000	180,000
	<b>Total Fixed assets</b>	<b>1,684,564</b>	<b>1,684,564</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
	HSBC community account	8,408	3,225
	HSBC money manager account	44,083	39,487
	BU deposit account	19,358	19,293
	Boys Brigade bank account	5,447	5,183
	Tuesday Fellowship bank account	468	468
	Girls Brigade bank account	3,247	2,232
	Accounts Receivable	4,698	4,746
	<b>Total Current assets</b>	<b>85,709</b>	<b>74,634</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
	pension deficit	22,709	26,707
	Accounts Payable	1,450	1,117
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>24,159</b>	<b>27,824</b>
	<b>Net Asset surplus(deficit)</b>	<b>1,746,114</b>	<b>1,731,374</b>
<b>Reserves</b>			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	14,740	3,577
	Starting balances	1,731,374	1,727,797
	<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>1,746,114</b>	<b>1,731,374</b>
	<b>Represented by funds</b>		
	Unrestricted	1,721,114	1,706,087
	Designated	0	287
	Restricted	25,000	25,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,746,114</b>	<b>1,731,374</b>

## Analysis of income and expenditure

### Donations and legacies

The Church receives regular weekly/monthly donations from its members, some of which can be gift aided. The Church also received a grant during the year from Oadby Education Trust which helped support the Church's youth work activity. Charitable donations relate to money collected for charitable causes. Sundry collections includes bequests and donations made to the Church. As a result of COVID 19 restrictions Sunday morning services did not take place in person for most of 2020 resulting in the reduction in Sunday morning cash collections. This reduction in 2020 was more than offset by attendees increasing their giving via electronic payments.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Regular giving	78,863		78,863	65,780
Sunday morning cash collection	4,333		4,333	13,211
Sundry collections	3,446		3,446	2,088
Gift aid recovered	16,747		16,747	18,279
Grants received		1,250	1,250	2,150
Charitable donations	1,633		1,633	2,092
<b>Total</b>	<b>105,022</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>106,272</b>	<b>103,601</b>

### Income from charitable activities

Within the Church there are a number of different organisations which generate income through subscriptions, donations and activities. The majority of this income is related to our Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade organisations and is spent on activities for young people. All organizations and groups were impacted by COVID 19 operating restrictions resulting in lower income.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Youth camp income	983		983	626
Youth organisation income	4,636		4,636	6,958
Bulrushes income	291		291	954
The Sanctuary Café			-	310
Home mission income	100		100	100
Tues Fellowship	—		—	890
BMS Birthday	-	400	400	810
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,010</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>6,410</b>	<b>10,650</b>

### Investment and Rental income

The church receives interest income on its HSBC and Baptist Union bank accounts. The Church lets out its Hall for use by individuals and groups. COVID 19 restrictions meant that most of these bookings were cancelled for 2020 resulting in lower rental income.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Interest received	95		95	235
Letting Church Hall	1,101		1,101	6,134
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,196</b>		<b>1,196</b>	<b>6,369</b>

### Maintenance and premises costs

The cleaning cost reflects the costs of using a professional cleaning company to clean the Church on weekly basis. As part of the Ministerial contract the Church pays all the utility and Council tax bills relating to the Manse. Maintenance costs in 2020 were significantly lower as the 2019 costs included the replacement of all the church guttering. The Manse maintenance costs in 2020 reflected repairs to the roof following storm damage. All the Church's office equipment is now fully depreciated. Cleaning costs reduced as the church building was closed for most of the year due to Covid 19. The Church continued to maintain its utility bill payments in 2020 in line with supplier's charges, ensuring that the individual accounts were neither significantly in debit or credit.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Insurance	2,793		2,793	2,731
Cleaning	2,151		2,151	4,258
Heating, light and water	5,170		5,170	5,263
Maintenance - church	3,009		3,009	11,154
Maintenance - manse	2,500		2,500	3,764
Light & Heat - Manse	897		897	851
Rates – Manse	1,666		1,666	1,773
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,186</b>		<b>18,186</b>	<b>29,794</b>

### Employment and administration costs

The Church employed 3 individuals – a full time minister, an office administrator (retired June 20) and from September 2019 a Youth Leader (in prior periods the Church's youth leader was employed by the Reality Youth Charity). None of the Trustees, other than the Minister received any remuneration during the year. Administration costs include the cost of the Church's leased photocopier, church web site, subscriptions and licence fees. These costs increased in 2020 as result of increased external support costs being incurred in live streaming the Sunday morning services.

The pension payments reflect movements in the calculation of the future deficit payments expected to be made by the Church to the Baptist Union Pension Fund.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Minister salary	22,838		22,838	22,787
Administration costs – salary	2,637		2,637	5,707
Pension Payments	5,984		5,984	-1,160
Administration costs – photocopier, web site, licence fees	9,655		9,655	6,891
Training	296		296	796
Youth leader costs	19,317	1,250	20,567	19,532
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,727</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>61,977</b>	<b>54,553</b>

## Charitable donations

The Church makes a number of charitable donations each year. The two largest donations are made to BMS and the Baptist Home Mission fund. The church makes a quarterly donation of £400 to individual charities chosen by the Church members. Other charitable donations reduced due to Covid 19 restricting the Church's activities in 2020.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Other charitable donations	295	332	627	3,304
BMS	5,100		5,100	4,200
Home Mission	4,300		4,300	4,300
Quarterly Focus	1,600		1,600	1,600
BMS Birthday	0	355	355	810
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,295</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>11,982</b>	<b>14,214</b>

## Other activities

Costs significantly reduced as a result of Covid 19 operating restrictions.

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Tuesday Fellowship	—	—	-	798
Youth work and youth camp	5,922	—	5,922	12,329
The Sanctuary Cafe	—	—	-	1,069
Worship costs	697	—	697	2,124
Kitchen equip and maintenance	149	—	149	2,033
Other costs	225	—	225	131
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,993</b>		<b>6,993</b>	<b>18,484</b>

## Debtors

At 31 December 2020 the Church had debtors relating to gift aid due from HMRC and other payments related to future youth events.

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
HMRC Gift aid	4,068	4,244
Other	630	502
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>4,698</b>	<b>4,746</b>

## Creditors

At 31 December 2020 the Church was awaiting invoices and was expecting to make payments in respect of PAYE and employee pension contributions. All creditors have been paid at the date of signing these accounts.

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
<b>Accounts payable</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,117</b>

## Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
<b>Designated</b>						
Designated	0	1,650	1,650			0
<b>Kennedy House</b>						
Designated	287		287			0
<b>Youth worker</b>						
Restricted	25,000					25,000
<b>General fund</b>						
General	1,706,087	112,228	97,201			1,721,114
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,731,374</b>	<b>113,878</b>	<b>99,138</b>			<b>1,746,114</b>

The Church maintains a policy of keeping at least 3 months expenditure in reserve in an instant access bank account. As from 1 September 2019 the Church has employed directly its own youth leader and has established a separate reserve which will maintain a balance of £25,000 to cover the salary and expenses of the Youth Leader for at least 12 months.

Kennedy House is a local charitable cause which a number of Church members support.

## Statement of assets and liabilities

	2020	2019
<b>The Manse</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	180,000	180,000
<b>The Church building</b>		
General fund (Unrestricted)	1,504,564	1,504,564

The valuation of the Church Building and the Manse are subject to market fluctuations. The Church building has been valued for insurance purposes at a higher value but the Church believe the valuations included in the accounts are appropriate (albeit prudent).

The Church's fixture and fittings have all been fully depreciated. The Church believe this is a prudent position.

## Pension Scheme Liabilities

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

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

A formal valuation of the DB Plan as at 31 December 2019 was conducted by a professionally qualified Actuary. At the valuation date the deficit in the scheme had reduced to £18m. The Church and the other participating employers in the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit.

Under the Schedule of Contributions, the church makes a monthly payment in respect of the DB scheme deficit, currently £325.04 which will increase in line with increases in Minimum Pensionable Income. The Schedule of Contributions foresees these contributions continuing until June 2026. The pension scheme liability shown in the Statement of Assets and liabilities is calculated as the current rate per month multiplied by the number of months remaining in the current Schedule of Contributions (with an allowance for inflation), which amounted to £22,709 at 31 December 2020.

The Church has been advised that the estimated cost for the church to buyout their Pension Scheme liabilities at 31 December 2020 was £72,900 (2019: £74,100).

During 2020 total payments made by the Church to the Baptist pension fund totaled £5,984 (2019: £9,633).