

# **HOPE CHURCH BEACONSFIELD**

(formerly Beaconsfield Baptist Church).

## **ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR** **ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Charity Registration Number: 1132584**

**HOPE CHURCH BEACONSFIELD ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020  
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS BEACONSFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH)**

**Charity registration number 1132584**

**Registered Address**

Hope Church Beaconsfield  
32 Baring Road  
Beaconsfield  
Buckinghamshire HP9 2NE

**Charity Trustees**

Tom Williams (Minister & leading Elder)  
Benjamin D. Saunders (Elder)  
Paul F Rundell (Elder & Church Secretary)  
Ian E Johnson (Church Treasurer)

**Property Holding Trustees**

The Baptist Union Corporation Limited  
Baptist House  
129 Broadway  
Didcot  
Oxfordshire OX11 6RT

**Bankers**

Barclays Bank Plc, Beaconsfield Branch, 7 Station Parade, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire HP9 2PH

**Independent Examiner**

Michael Homer AFA MIPA  
MCH Accountants Limited  
68 Charlton Road  
Andover  
SP10 3JN

## **Annual Report for 2020**

The Charity Trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

### **Charitable Purpose**

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. The Church may also within the principal purpose advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

The Church occupies premises which are held by The Baptist Union Corporation Limited as Holding Trustees on behalf of the Church in compatability with the Charitable Purpose.

The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Commission association of churches and the Evangelical Alliance.

### **Organisational Structure and Decision Making Processes**

Formal Church Members' Meetings take place at least three times a year which have responsibility for the overall policy of the Church. In accordance with the Approved Governing Document, the members appoint the Minister, the Elders, the Church Secretary and the Treasurer. All of these roles include appointment as Charity Trustees having responsibility 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 Purpose.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church Members' Meeting by the Charity Trustees for guidance or may be raised by members at the Church Members' Meeting for further consideration by the Charity Trustees. Although the Approved Governing Document permits decisions to be made at the Church Members' Meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Baptism by immersion upon personal profession of faith is expected of all persons prior to reception into membership of the Church. However, persons seeking membership who have not been baptised in this manner may, at the discretion of the Charity Trustees, be received into membership based on their own public profession of faith (subject to acceptance by the Church Members' Meeting).

### **Objectives and Activities**

In order to fulfil the Charitable Purpose set out above, the Church provides a number of activities both for its membership and for 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 year was significantly affected by the Covid 19 pandemic. The church was careful to comply with regulations and guidelines issued by the government and completed a full Covid 19 risk assessment which was updated from time to time as regulations and guidelines changed. Regular activities are described below as they happen in normal times but many could not take place in the normal way. Services continued to be held but transmitted via Youtube. When permitted, people were allowed to attend in accordance with regulations and guidelines. A children's programme was also created and transmitted via Youtube. Other activities, such as lifegroups, prayer meetings, social activities and other meetings (including formal church meetings) took place via Zoom. The pastoral team took extra care to try to ensure that people felt supported emotionally, spiritually and practically as necessary.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship, Bible teaching and prayer. The main Sunday service is at 10.00am where the focus is on worship and Bible teaching. A children's programme is provided at the same time as the morning service. Other services are arranged from time to time as appropriate. Groups meet for prayer normally on Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings and Sunday evenings. The Church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of these services or meetings.

During the week, lifegroups meet generally in members' houses with a view to pastoral support, encouraging one another in faith and in working out the practical implications of being a Christian and living in the general community. Several activity-based groups were also established in order to help deepen relationships. The nature of these new groups will vary from time to time but initially included groups for craft, community involvement, dancing and running. All regular Church attendees are encouraged to belong to one or more of these lifegroups or activity groups.

Other weekly activities normally include "Little Feet" on Monday mornings (a mother and toddler group), "Options" on Tuesday mornings (for women of all ages), "Get Real" on Monday evenings for teenagers and "Engage" on Friday afternoons (for primary school children). These meetings are all open to the general public. These activities were largely suspended during the Covid 19 pandemic.

Further activities/courses take place regularly or as needed such as "Christianity Explored" or "Alpha" (for those wishing to find out more about the Christian faith), "Digging for Gold" (in-depth Bible studies), "Discovery" (exploring what you are good at), "Freedom in Christ" (understanding who we are as Christians), men's and women's breakfasts/dinners, youth weekends, parenting courses, marriage courses and money management courses (linked with "Christians Against Poverty" debt management charity). Contacts are maintained with local schools in particular through taking assemblies and classes from time to time.

A major objective is to reach out to the community in social action to show God's generous heart through benefit to the public. To this end, free activities are organised during the year. Activities



undertaken include quizzes, musical evenings and organising a community fun day on the green outside the town hall. In conjunction principally with St Thomas' church in Holtspur, we operate a food bank pick-up point run in association with One Can Trust, a food bank based in High Wycombe. As the pandemic took hold, the demand for food parcels sharply increased and St Thomas' maintained a food larder at their church in conjunction with a local communities organisation (Better Connected Beaconsfield) and One Can Trust. Arrangements were made to deliver food parcels rather than clients picking them up themselves. The church continues to collect items for the food bank both from within the congregation and from local supermarkets. In 2016, a Job Club was started on Friday mornings in association with "Christians Against Poverty." This is designed to provide friendly practical support to help jobseekers step confidently into employment. A Job Club that was running in March 2020 was suspended when Covid 19 rules were established. Since then, individual people have been helped over the telephone/email but no courses have taken place.

The Church operates systems to ensure that people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted with regard to the governments's Disclosure and Barring Service.

The activities of the Church are advertised on the Church's website:  
[www.hopebeaconsfield.co.uk](http://www.hopebeaconsfield.co.uk)

The Church does not believe its ministry stops at Beaconsfield and support for other activities is given by providing grants to a range of charitable organisations, both in the UK and overseas, that are involved in furthering the Christian message and social action by providing practical help to those in need. There is participation by the Church in the national programme of filling and sending Christmas Boxes to children in deprived areas overseas.

The Charity Trustees have noted the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the activities outlined above clearly demonstrate that the Charity is providing a benefit to the public.

## **Achievements and Performance**

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, including financial numbers, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship, encouragement, spiritual growth and generally providing a positive, beneficial impact in the community. The Charity Trustees recognise that these are not easy to measure but believe that 2020 was a positive year in the life of the Church and that it is well placed to continue pursuing its Charitable Purpose in 2020 and beyond.

Church membership stands at 80. Normal attendance at services is in excess of this number with larger numbers from time to time on special occasions. There are a good number of children who attend church activities.

There are good attendances by members and the general public at most activities. The community events and activities are popular and some very positive feedback has been received from the council, the public and local newspapers.

## **Financial Review**

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 had income of £183,300 and expenditure of £193,427 resulting in a deficit of £10,127.

The year ended in a healthy financial position with £49,742 in free cash. A further £144,098 was on deposit with The Baptist Union Corporation Limited, the use of which funds was initially restricted to buildings projects but which the Baptist Union Trustees have indicated may now be used for more broadly based expenditure (refer note 2). The Church raises the funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation. No wider public appeal for funds was made during the year.

A senior Minister is employed full-time and an Assistant Pastor was employed part-time. These costs are set out in note 9. Some administrative support is provided by volunteers.

Grants were made to national and international organisations with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's Charitable Purpose. The main details of such grants are set out in note 7.

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 which nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the Church's Charitable Purpose.

The Charity Trustees have established a Reserves Policy and are satisfied that there are sufficient reserves at the balance sheet date, together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the Church to function effectively in the coming year.

The Charity Trustees have made an assessment of major risks facing the Church and are satisfied that there are measures in place to minimise these risks.

*Mdm*  
6/8/21



## **HOPE CHURCH BEACONSFIELD**

### **ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

#### **Independent Examiner's Report to Hope Church Beaconsfield**

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on the pages following.

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

As the church's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act and to follow the procedures specified in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 the 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 you as 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:

1. 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 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed



Date 06/08/2021

**Michael Homer AFA MIPA**  
**MCH Accountants Ltd**  
**68 Charlton Road**  
**Andover**  
**SP10 3JN**

**Hope Church Beaconsfield**  
**Statement of Financial activities**  
**for the year to 31 December 2020**

**General Receipts and Payment Account**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Capital Fund 2020 £	Total Funds	
				2020 £	2019 £
<b>Receipts</b>					
Voluntary Income	3	180,069	-	180,069	169,158
Investment Income	4	-	543	543	1,592
Other Incoming resources from Charitable Activities	5	2,688	-	2,688	21,446
Total incoming resources from Charitable Activities		182,757	543	183,300	192,196
Other Incoming resources - sale of property		-	-	-	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		182,757	543	183,300	192,196
<b>Payments</b>					
Cost of generating funds		-	-	-	-
Investment management costs		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	7	192,977	-	192,977	210,280
Governance costs	8	450	-	450	-
Other resources expended		-	-	-	-
<b>Total resources expended on Charitable Activities</b>		193,427	-	193,427	210,280
Other resources expended - property acquired		-	-	-	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>		193,427	-	193,427	210,280
<b>Net incoming resources</b>		(10,670)	543	(10,127)	(18,084)
<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>		20,412	183,555	203,967	222,051
<b>Gross transfers between funds</b>	9	40,000	(40,000)	-	-
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>		49,742	144,098	193,840	203,967



**Hope Church Beaconsfield****Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2020**

	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Investments - Deposit with Baptist Union	144,098	183,555
Bank and cash	49,742	20,412
	<b>193,840</b>	<b>203,967</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Sundry Creditors	-	-
	<b>193,840</b>	<b>203,967</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
	<b>193,840</b>	<b>203,967</b>
<b>Representing Balances on the following accounts</b>		
<b>Charitable Funds</b>		
Unrestricted income funds	2 49,742	20,412
Capital Fund	2 144,098	183,555
	<b>193,840</b>	<b>203,967</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>		
	<b>193,840</b>	<b>203,967</b>
<b>Other assets held for the churches own use:</b>		
Church building and housing	6 1,863,939	1,845,836
	<b>1,863,939</b>	<b>1,845,836</b>
<b>Total non-monetary assets</b>		
	<b>1,863,939</b>	<b>1,845,836</b>

The notes on page 5-7 form an integral part of these accounts.

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on  
And signed on their behalf by

Approved

I.E. Johnson  
Treasurer

6/8/21

PF Rundell  
Trustee

6/8/21

**Hope Church Beaconsfield**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**1. Accounting policies**

(a) Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared in accordance with the Accounting regulations set out under the Charities Act 2011.

(b) Gifts and donations

Gifts, donations and tax rebates are accounted for when received.

(c) Legacies

Legacies are accounted for when received

(d) Grants payable

The Church makes grants to other organisations whose charitable objects complement its work. They are accounted for in the year in which they are paid.

(e) Governance costs

This represents direct expenditure on the governance of the church. Most of the management is carried out without charge by volunteers. Consequently there is little direct expenditure on governance.

**2. Reserves**

Funds in the unrestricted income fund can be applied against any expenditure.

The Capital Fund represents funds allocated by the trustees, to be used for strategic purposes or property transactions. All these funds are deposited with the Baptist Union. Funds can be accessed upon approval in a church meeting and with the consent of the Baptist Union Corporation trustees. The Fund was initially restricted to property related matters but given the church's ownership of a church building and a manse, the Baptist Union Trustees have indicated they would give consent to more broadly based expenditure.

**3. Voluntary Income**

	2020 £	2019 £
Offerings	147,010	138,346
Tax Refunds	33,059	30,812
<b>Total Voluntary Income</b>	<b>180,069</b>	<b>169,158</b>

**4. Investment Income**

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Capital Fund 2020 £	Total Funds	
			2020 £	2019 £
Bank Interest	-	-	-	-
Income from other investments	-	543	543	1,592
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>1,592</b>



## 5. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Church weekend	-	4,777
Other income	2,688	16,669
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,688</b>	<b>21,446</b>

This reflects income on events to further the objects of the church.

## 6. Property related transactions

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title of which is held by the church's custodian trustee (the Baptist Union Corporation Limited). The Church building is recorded at its insured value. The manse is recorded at cost.

	2020 £	2019 £
Church building	1,223,939	1,205,836
Manse (16 Holtspur Top Lane)	640,000	640,000
<b>Total non-monetary assets</b>	<b>1,863,939</b>	<b>1,845,836</b>

## 7. Charitable activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Ministry	7,092	50,969
Mission	43,015	23,866
Establishment	142,870	135,445
<b>Total</b>	<b>192,977</b>	<b>210,280</b>

2020 grants towards mission to other registered charities have included the following:

	£
CAP Christians Against Poverty)	4,280
Commission Apostolic Trust	6,900
Bucks Baptist Association	1,200
Wycliffe Bible Translators	7,500
WEC International	4,250
Food for the Hungry UK	12,550
Hope Asia	3,185
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,865</b>
Other mission expenditure	3,150
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>43,015</b>

## 8. Governance costs

	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Governance</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>-</b>

2020 fees towards independent examination of £450 were due in 2021 (2019 fees paid in 2020 were £450).

## 9. Gross Transfers between funds

£40,000 was transferred between the Capital Fund and Unrestricted Reserves during 2020.

#### 10. Staff costs and Trustee Expenses

	2020 £	2019 £
Salaries	63,421	87,821
Social security costs	3,014	6,018
Pension costs	914	2,440
<b>Total (included within establishment costs above)</b>	<b>67,349</b>	<b>96,279</b>
The average number of employees during the year was	2	2

The Trustees receive no remuneration or expenses for acting as trustees (2019 none).

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 during the year (2019 none).

As set out in the governing document of the church and approved by the Charity Commission, the church minister and Lead Elder, T. Williams is a trustee. His 2020 gross salary for acting as church minister is £44,441.76. The church made pension contributions of £715.08 on his behalf. The church minister lives in housing wholly owned by the church.