

**ASHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**TRUSTEES REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS**  
**(RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS BASIS)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**ASHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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**ASHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH  
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

<b>Trustees</b>	Rev Andrew Perryman  Elders: Catherine Bates Geoffrey Coop - appointed 26.11.24 Malcolm Dale - appointed 26.11.24 Leslie Waelend - retired 26.11.24  Deacons: Ian Hynd - Treasurer Pearl Blencowe - Church Secretary Diane Shinn - retired 26.11.24 David Waterman Trevor Stickland Janet Riddy Christine Douglas Lorant Padar Matthew Kisler Christine Wraight Gregory Rogers Anthony Ellis - appointed 26.11.24
<b>Governing Document</b>	Constitution dated 18 July 2019 Amended 31st March 2022
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1132840
<b>Correspondence Address</b>	3 Lower Ashley Road Ashley New Milton Hampshire BH25 5AA
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Hope Jones Chartered Accountants Dunlop House 23a Spencer Road New Milton Hampshire BH25 6BZ
<b>Bankers</b>	CAF Bank Limited, West Malling, Kent Lloyds Bank PLC, New Milton, Hampshire



Lower Ashley Road, Ashley, New Milton, Hants, BH25 5AA

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year.

### **Purpose**

The church is a charity and its principal purpose is the advancement of the Christian Faith.

### **Mission**

To Know Christ – To Make Christ Known

### **Vision**

Our Community Discovering Church

### **Government**

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who regularly meet to monitor the activities of the charity.

### **Review of Activities**

Our activities continue to reflect our mission statement: "To Know Christ –To Make Christ Known"

We have been able to meet together for worship throughout 2024. Our main service is at 10.30, is well attended and we have held one baptismal service this year. A Silver Service is held periodically on a Sunday afternoon with a more traditional service. This is a short time of worship with a message and is followed by tea and cake, and is well attended, reaching those we do not regularly see on a Sunday morning. An occasional Furnace Service is held on a Sunday evening which allows more time for sung worship and the opportunity to hear from each other about what God is doing in our lives.

We continue to live stream the morning service each week.

The twice weekly prayer meetings continue to be held on Zoom. The Deacons meet monthly and we continue to hold hybrid Church Meetings which allow those with young children, or who are unable to come out to attend the meetings.

A Church Camp, which was well attended, was held over the Summer Bank Holiday Weekend at Headlands near Ringwood. On the Sunday around 60 people from the church who weren't camping attended the morning service and stayed to eat their picnics sitting around the lake, some even stayed for the afternoon activities. It was great to all meet together to worship in the beautiful surroundings. For those that couldn't get to the camp a more traditional service was held at Ashley.

At Christmas we joined with local churches for a Nativity Trail, this was due to be held on the on the local recreation ground but due to inclement weather was moved to New Life Church, around 40 children and their families attended. We also sang Carols outside a local supermarket accompanied by The Salvation Army Band.

We held our Annual Carols by Candlelight, a Family Activity afternoon and Nativity Service on the Saturday before Christmas and Christmas Morning Worship, all three services were well attended.

### **Connect Groups**

Our Connect groups meet regularly and an annual review was held at the end of July this year. This meant that some people changed groups and a couple of extra groups have been formed. The focus of the groups is connecting with one another for spiritual growth.

## **Youth and Children's Work**

Leader – Kate Perryman, Youth, Children's and Schools Worker

The Ark, a parent and toddler group goes from strength to strength and we regularly get between 35 and 40 families through the door.

Sunday groups have been going well. All groups run weekly and opportunities are given to our older young people to take a more active role in our services and give them the opportunity to use their gifts.

Core Group, for the young people providing them with Bible based teaching to continue their Christian Journey continue to meet on a Monday Evening. This has been positive with up to 12 young people attending each week.

Focus, this extra group has been formed to accommodate a large group moving up from Rooted, as they are younger it was thought that it would upset the balance of Core Group. Both Core Group and Focus have a social time together during the evening so that they get to know each other. There are currently up to 15 young people attending Focus.

Rooted, for youngsters in school years 3-6, has good attendance and is aimed at bringing on these younger people into a deeper understanding of the Christian faith.

Kate has been going into the infant school regularly as part of the Open the Book team which meet fortnightly. She continues to meet fortnightly with a group of children in a mentoring capacity. They talk about life, concerns etc while playing a game/doing a craft and it has been really positive. This year she has also begun to go into the Junior School to mentor some children.

This year Kate has run two events for the local Junior School. "Easter Cracked" which saw year 5 children and their staff explore the events of the Easter Story and "Christmas Unwrapped" investigated the real meaning of Christmas with year 4 and their staff. Both events were well received by the school and the plan is to repeat them in 2025.

At the end of the summer term a holiday club was held in the church and garden. Over the week 80 children attended. The Saturday culminated in a BBQ for all the families, this was well attended and we were blessed with fine weather. The Holiday Club concluded with a service on the Sunday when the whole congregation could join in the fun and activities of the week.

Following this event Kate took some of the young people to Satellites, a Christian Youth Event held at the Bath and West Showground over 5 days.

## **Accessible Groups**

The Ten10 group meet regularly in the Sports Hall and provides games and refreshments for those with learning difficulties. Accessible services take place four times a year, and continue to be well supported and are run in conjunction with other churches in the area. The Discipleship group continues to provide bible study and prayer for those looking to deepen their Christian Faith; this meets once a month.

## **Care and Support**

Christian love and care throughout the week continues to be demonstrated regularly through the connect groups, pastoral friends and pastoral support. The Pastoral Care Team seek to care for those who are more vulnerable or going through a difficult time through coordinating phone calls, visits or notes. Flowers are distributed weekly by a team to those who may be struggling, celebrating, or making a difficult anniversary. Prayer Ministry is offered at the end of each Sunday morning service for any who would appreciate it. Coffee Morning meets each week, and a short Carol Service was organised for those attending the coffee morning.

## **Community Café & Food Larder**

Community Café now meets on a Wednesday afternoon and Tuesday morning. It provides a warm space, tea, coffee and light refreshments for anyone in the community. This has been used by the mums and carers when they collect their children from school as well as other members of the

community. Grant funding was received and distributed as supermarket vouchers to families in need to support with the rising costs of living, fuel bills and the costs of meals during school holidays.

On Tuesday morning the Food Larder now uses the sports hall and car park with both fresh and dried food provided by Fareshare. This is open to any local residents who require additional food but whose budget currently does not allow it. This also runs during the School Holidays. Running the community café alongside Food Larder has been well received by those who attend as it offers a warm place to wait and a sense of community. The cafe is run and manned by volunteers from the church and all refreshments are provided free of charge.

### **Ministry**

The Church continues to reach beyond the surrounding area of Ashley by assisting, on a regular basis, other smaller Churches in the area. We continue to support financially Baptist Home Mission and the Baptist Missionary Society, Operation Mobilisation (OM), Hope Now, Wycliffe Bible Translators and Latin Link. Further afield, Ashley Baptist Church has maintained strong links with Churches in Bulgaria.

### **Clubs**

We continued to offer activities during the week for church folk and for members of the community. These include a Sewing Group, Badminton and Basketball.

### **Other Community Activities**

Our Church car park continues to be available during the week for the parents of a local school during term time and some other local businesses, relieving congestion on the local roads. We provide parking for a Community First Minibus which allows local groups and charities to access transport for their activities.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

We report to the Trustees on our examination of the accounts of the Ashley Baptist Church Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2024 on pages 7 to 11.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity Trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

We report in respect of our examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out our examination we have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no material matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination giving us cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1) Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2) The accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Hope Jones  
Chartered Accountants  
Dunlop House  
23a Spencer Road  
New Milton  
Hampshire  
BH25 6BZ

# ASHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>Receipts</b>					
Donations	152,017			152,017	149,161
Gift aid tax	32,436	2,989		35,425	32,775
Legacies	0			0	250
Special Gifts	0			0	30
Youth activities	2,876			2,876	1,997
Other church activities	5,467	6,629		12,096	12,099
Rental income	3,265		15,028	18,293	1,063
Investment income	3,071			3,071	2,192
Other income	3,560	9,218		12,778	5,374
Total Receipts	202,692	18,836	15,028	236,556	204,941
<b>Payments</b>					
Ministry costs	47,521	21		47,542	42,327
Mission costs	221	577		798	2,043
Establishment costs	49,363	6,066	168	55,597	76,618
Grants paid	21,256	8,897		30,153	27,662
Office expenses	59,164	559	1,545	61,268	45,471
Accountancy	2,280			2,280	2,160
Church equipment	845	1,718		2,563	143
Total Payments	180,650	17,838	1,713	200,201	196,424
Net Receipts/(Payments) before transfers	22,042	998	13,315	36,355	8,517
Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds	22,042	998	13,315	36,355	8,517
Balances 1 January 2024	75,442	7,107	38	82,587	74,070
Balances 31 December 2024	97,484	8,105	13,353	118,942	82,587

The notes on pages 9 to 10 form part of these accounts.



## ASHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

### STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>1. Fixed Assets</b>		
The insurance re-instatement values of the assets owned by the church were:		
Church Building - endowment fund	3,404,298	3,298,738
Church Contents	284,255	281,162
High Ridge Crescent property - endowment fund	621,241	600,000
Willowdene Close property - endowment fund	359,380	350,000
	<u>4,669,174</u>	<u>4,529,900</u>

The church buildings at 3 Lower Ashley Road, Ashley, New Milton, Hampshire, BH25 5AA and the manses at High Ridge Crescent and Willowdene Close are held by the Baptist Union on behalf of the Baptist Church congregation at Ashley and are within an endowment fund.

#### 2. Debtors

Tax recoverable - unrestricted fund	2,696	2,817
Tax recoverable - restricted funds	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
Total tax recoverable under HMRC gift aid scheme	2,696	2,819
Prepayments	<u>1,397</u>	<u>347</u>
	<u>4,093</u>	<u>3,166</u>

#### 3. Bank Balances

Bank operating accounts	12,251	2,942
Bank deposits	120,779	79,645
Petty cash	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	133,030	82,587
Of which relating to restricted funds	<u>8,105</u>	<u>7,107</u>

#### 4. Liabilities

Share of Baptist pension scheme deficit. See note 4	0	20,100
HMRC PAYE	0	0
Other creditors	150	59
Accruals	3,274	4,201
	<u>3,424</u>	<u>24,360</u>

**ASHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

P Blencowe  
Secretary

The notes on pages 10 to 11 form part of these accounts

# ASHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

### 1. Funds

The restricted funds represent amounts received for specific purposes.  
Movements in the year across all cash funds were as follows:

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Youth minister	0				0
Evangelism	2,668		2,205		463
Plovdiv	39	6,404	6,443		0
Birthday Scheme	0	310	310		0
Grants	2,000		2,000		0
Building fund	0	10,728	5,566		5,162
Pastoral and benevolent fund	2,400	1,394	1,314		2,480
	<u>7,107</u>	<u>18,836</u>	<u>17,838</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,105</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Designated Funds</b>					
Specials	38	15,028	1,713		13,353
NISA	0				0
Manse maintenance	0				0
	<u>38</u>	<u>15,028</u>	<u>1,713</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>13,353</u>
<b>General Funds</b>	<u>75,442</u>	<u>202,692</u>	<u>180,650</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>97,484</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>82,587</u>	<u>236,556</u>	<u>200,201</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>118,942</u>

### 2. Agency Funds

The church holds £14,089 that has been excluded from income within the Receipts and Payments account, and from the bank balance on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, as these are agency funds held on behalf of the Bailey Trust. This has arisen as a bequest to be administered by the Bailey Trust during the lifetime of the remaining legatee before reverting to the church.

**ASHLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**3. Related Parties**

Ministry costs include the stipends paid to the minister and assistant minister as permitted by the governing document. Travel and training costs paid to ministers who were Trustees is included in ministry costs. Heating allowance paid to ministers who were Trustees is included in establishment costs as were moving expenses.

Donations from Trustees and related parties amounted to £35,440.

**4. Pension Scheme**

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"). The Scheme is a separate legal entity which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited).

Benefits in respect of service prior to 1 January 2012 are provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan within the Scheme. The main benefits for pre-2012 service were a defined benefit 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. 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.

The Baptist Pension Scheme have provided an estimate of the debt of the church at the year end on the assumption that the church ceased to make contributions towards the liability arising. This amount is shown in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.