

## **TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH REVIEW OF 2020**

### **for Charity Commission**

### **REVIEW OF THE YEAR**

#### **REGULAR ACTIVITIES**

The regular activities of the Church continued until March 2020 when COVID 19 lockdown prevented us meeting in person.

During the early part of lockdown our minister prepared morning services which were made available on You Tube. In August 2020 we moved these services to the Zoom platform so that more people could participate and the services could be held live. In September and October 2020 we were again able to resume live services with limited numbers socially distanced and wearing masks in the church sanctuary and with many others continuing to join in by Zoom. Some also joined to listen on the telephone. Total numbers worshipping in this way were generally about 90 to 100 people.

During the second lockdown in November and throughout December 2020 attendance in the sanctuary was halted again and services were held exclusively on Zoom.

The following activities were also held on Zoom during the lockdown period.

- **Club Sunday and Sparkz** (Sunday activities for children and young people).
- **Men at TBC** – meeting by Zoom made it possible to have speakers who would not have been able to attend live meetings due to distance.
- **“Girls Together”** - a monthly meeting for ladies on a Monday evening.
- **Messy Church**, a monthly event for children and their parents and carers, providing opportunities for worship and creativity.
- **Home Groups**
- **Knit & Natter**
- A monthly **prayer meeting** and **prayer cells**.

Being a church means that meeting together with one another for worship and prayer and the study of God’s Word is important to us, as is the mandate to reach others with the good news of Jesus Christ. Pastoral care is also an important part of our life together, providing support for those facing particular problems and difficulties. With a considerable number of elderly people in our congregation, this is an important area of work. Our Home Groups are at the core of this work and several members are involved in home and hospital visits. These activities were limited by Covid but many contacts with those in need continued by phone calls and Zoom meetings.

Involvement of children and young people is also an important part of our activities and we run children and youth clubs and other events for children and young people from the locality. These are aimed at introducing people to the Christian faith in the context of fun and a variety of activities.

## EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES

These were limited due to COVID but to the extent possible with other churches we have continued to support, and have members involved in:-

**Taunton Street Pastors** which supports people on the streets of Taunton at weekends through the evenings into the early morning, helping to make the town safer;

**The Hospital Chaplaincy;**

**Open Door** which provides practical support for rough sleepers in Taunton;

A **Town Centre Chaplaincy** project whereby volunteer chaplains are allocated to participating stores, offices and other places of employment and other locations such as a homeless hostel to be available to provide a listening ear or encouragement, etc. to staff and others;

The **Taunton Foodbank** which provides emergency food for local people in crisis;

**Charis** which has successfully provided accommodation and support to Syrian refugee families and advice to others working with refugee families;

**Taunton Area Debt Advice**

## MINISTRY AND FAMILIES WORK

Revd Richard Matcham who had commenced his ministry on 28 September 2019 continued to serve as our minister through 2020 adapting his ministry to be mainly online during the year.

Our Families Worker, Lauren Jewhurst, also kept in contact with families by use of Zoom meetings and limited activities when possible.

Harvey Gollins continued as a trainee children's worker until August 2020, when he went to Moorlands College for further study.

During the early part of 2020 we discussed proposals for employing an outreach worker to work amongst those aged 14 to 30, an age range which is significantly under-represented within our church. These proposals were accepted by the Church meeting in September 2020 and we are presently seeking to make an appointment.

## LEADERSHIP

Our annual church meeting could not be held in March 2020 but took place in September 2020 with some members present and others attending by Zoom. We held the elections for deacons and officers electronically and elected Janet Blake and David Fletcher as new deacons.

## CHURCH WEEKEND

Our church weekend away was held in Paignton (31<sup>st</sup> January – 2<sup>nd</sup> February) and was attended by just over 100 people.

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

We welcome 3 new members in January 2020. 6 members died during the year. None of these was caused by Covid 19. Numbers attending and contributing to the life of the church fellowship were disrupted by Covid 19.

### Membership Statistics:

Membership as at 31st December 2019:	146
New members added	+ 3
Less number of deaths in 2020:	- 6
Less resignations/removals	- 6
Membership as at 31st December 2020:	137

**TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH**

**ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 DECEMBER 2020**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES  
OF TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH**

I report on the accounts of Taunton Baptist Church for the year ended 31 December 2020, which incorporate the Statement of Financial Activities, The Balance Sheet and accompanying Notes to the Accounts.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not requirement for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011. The charity's trustees have requested me to undertake an independent examination and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

It is my responsibility to; examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act; to follow procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioner under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and to state whether particular matter 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 Commissioner. That examination includes a review of the accounting records maintained by the Trustees and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning 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 comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act.have 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.

**Amherst & Shapland  
(Taunton and Wiveliscombe)  
Chartered Accountants  
141 Staplegrove Road  
Taunton  
Telephone: 01823 326555**

21 March 2021

**TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2020**

		<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	
	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2019 £</b>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
<i>Incoming resources from donors</i>	<b>2</b>	104,407	-	104,407	101,425
<i>Other voluntary incoming resources</i>	<b>3</b>	17,623	3,573	21,196	7,865
<i>Income from charitable and ancillary trading</i>	<b>4</b>	15,499	-	15,499	29,110
<i>Income from investments</i>	<b>5</b>	1,534	-	1,534	2,543
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<u>139,063</u>	<u>3,573</u>	<u>142,636</u>	<u>140,943</u>
<b>RESOURCES USED</b>					
<i>Grants</i>	<b>6</b>	18,317	2,648	20,965	24,312
<i>Activities relating directly to the work of the church</i>	<b>7</b>	102,667	-	102,667	76,600
<i>Church management and administration</i>	<b>8</b>	39,210	-	39,210	32,101
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES USED</b>		<u>160,194</u>	<u>2,648</u>	<u>162,842</u>	<u>133,013</u>
<b>NET (OUTGOING) / INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		(21,131)	925	(20,206)	7,930
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<u>(21,131)</u>	<u>925</u>	<u>(20,206)</u>	<u>7,930</u>
<b>BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD</b>		183,194	196,000	379,194	371,264
<b>BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>162,063</u>	<u>196,925</u>	<u>358,988</u>	<u>379,194</u>

**TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**As at 31 December 2020**

		2020		2019	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
<i>Tangible fixed assets</i>	9		207,021		203,488
<i>Investments - Redwood Bank</i>			87,009		85,916
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
<i>Debtors</i>		3,834		4,375	
<i>Cash at bank and in hand</i>	10	67,120		95,473	
		<u>70,954</u>		<u>99,848</u>	
<b>LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>					
		<u>5,996</u>		<u>10,058</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			64,958		89,790
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>358,988</u>		<u>379,194</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Unrestricted			162,063		183,194
Restricted:	11				
<i>Special collections</i>		925		-	
		<u>925</u>		<u>-</u>	
Endowment	12		196,000		196,000
			<u>358,988</u>		<u>379,194</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

**TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2020**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

(a) Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts.

No value is placed on moveable church furnishings which are regarded as inalienable from the church buildings.

Improvements to the church buildings are written off in the year expended, Equipment is capitalised at cost.

(b) Depreciation is calculated to write off assets on a straight line over 10 years from the date of purchase.

(c) Incoming Resources: All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

(d) Resources expended: Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

(e) Funds: Unrestricted funds represent funds of the Church that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to general purposes. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. Details are in note 11 to the accounts.

**2 INCOMING RESOURCES FROM DONORS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS	
			2020 £	2019 £
Offerings	79,726	-	79,726	76,230
Tax recoverable	15,136	-	15,136	16,455
Sundry grants and donations	9,545	-	9,545	8,740
	<u>104,407</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>104,407</u>	<u>101,425</u>

**TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2020**

**3 OTHER VOLUNTARY INCOMING RESOURCES**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	
			<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2019 £</b>
Donations	-	3,573	3,573	2,289
Linked groups	1,334	-	1,334	5,576
Legacies	16,289	-	16,289	-
	<u>17,623</u>	<u>3,573</u>	<u>21,196</u>	<u>7,865</u>

**4 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE AND ANCILLARY TRADING**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	
			<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2019 £</b>
Rents	15,499	-	15,499	29,110
	<u>15,499</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,499</u>	<u>29,110</u>

**5 INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	
			<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2019 £</b>
Interest	<u>1,534</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,534</u>	<u>2,543</u>

**6 GRANTS - CHARITABLE GIVING**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	
			<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2019 £</b>
Baptist Missionary Society	6,471	-	6,471	8,231
Home Mission	6,246	-	6,246	9,273
B M S Christmas Appeal	-	1,538	1,538	884
B M S Birthday Scheme		1,110	1,110	1,013
B M S other	1,000	-	1,000	392
Other	4,600	-	4,600	4,519
	<u>18,317</u>	<u>2,648</u>	<u>20,965</u>	<u>24,312</u>



**TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2020**

**7 ACTIVITIES DIRECTLY RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE CHURCH**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	
			<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2019 £</b>
Ministry Team	36,882	-	36,882	13,118
Church building maintenance	36,641	-	36,641	19,006
Pulpit supplies	1,905	-	1,905	10,249
Insurance	6,502	-	6,502	6,025
Lighting and heating	3,972	-	3,972	5,117
Rates and water	744	-	744	1,182
Weekend	1,060	-	1,060	1,590
Children and Youth work	11,083	-	11,083	11,505
Music and books	-	-	-	959
Training - SWYM	1,600	-	1,600	3,175
Outreach	200	-	200	700
Depreciation	1,431	-	1,431	936
Linked groups	647	-	647	3,038
	<u>102,667</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>102,667</u>	<u>76,600</u>

**8 CHURCH MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	
			<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2019 £</b>
Administrator and caretaker	24,520	-	24,520	24,626
Stationery and office expenses	7,404	-	7,404	5,204
Miscellaneous	350	-	350	1,990
Other property maintenance	6,756	-	6,756	65
Accountancy	180	-	180	216
	<u>39,210</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,210</u>	<u>32,101</u>

**TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2020**

**9 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	
			<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2019 £</b>
<b>Land - purchased</b>	-	4,000	4,000	4,000
Manse at valuation	-	196,000	196,000	196,000
	-	200,000	200,000	200,000
<b>Equipment and furnishings</b>				
Book value at 1 January 2020	3,488	-	3,488	2,886
Additions	4,964	-	4,964	1,538
	8,452	-	8,452	4,424
Depreciation	1,431	-	1,431	936
	7,021	-	7,021	3,488
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,021</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>207,021</b>	<b>203,488</b>

Items of furniture and equipment held since before 1996 are not included in the above.

The church buildings and contents were insured for the following amounts for the year to December 2018:

	<b>£</b>
Buildings	5,078,052
Contents	181,359
Manse	278,148

**10 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

	<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2019 £</b>
Lloyds	1	-
CafCash	2,142	5,743
Baptists Together	51,741	71,358
CafGold account	725	5,916
Linked Groups cash	338	312
Baptists Together 7 day account	12,173	12,124
Cash in Hand	-	20
	<b>67,120</b>	<b>95,473</b>

**TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2020**

**11 RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Special Collections Fund</b>		
Balance b/fwd	-	-
Donations	3,573	2,289
Interest	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,573	2,289
Giving	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,648	2,289
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	925	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

**12 ENDOWMENT FUNDS**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Manse</b>		
Valuation b/fwd	196,000	196,000
Revaluation in the year	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	196,000	196,000
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The Manse buildings are treated as Endowments because although the income generated from them can be used for general purposes the capital has to remain intact.