



Registered Charity Number - 1134242

Penzance Baptist Church

Trustees Annual Report, Auditor Examination and Accounts

For the year ended 31st December 2024

PENZANCE BAPTIST CHURCH

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT, ACCOUNTS and
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Penzance Baptist Church

Report of the Trustees for the year 01/01/2024 - 31/12/2024

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name	Penzance Baptist Church
Charity Registration Number	1134242
Charity's Principal Address	Clarence Street Penzance TR18 2NY Cornwall

Board of Trustees

<i>(Name)</i>	<i>(Office)</i>
James Belmour	Deacon
Edward Fletcher	Deacon (Appointed 29 April 2024)
Ralph Hammond	Deacon
John Rubens	Elder
Jonathan Stobbs	Minister

Independent Examiner

Rev. Michael Coles (BSc)
14 Pengarth Road
Falmouth
TR11 2TY
Cornwall

Bank

Lloyds Penzance
P.O. Box 8
Market House
Penzance
Cornwall
TR18 2TN

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document of the Penzance Baptist Church as a charity is the Constitution for Grace Baptist Church Charities approved on 1 January 2007, and then adopted as the charity was registered on 10 February 2010. Penzance Baptist Church as a charity is constituted as an association, and the way in which the trustees are selected and appointed is through the means of the church members' meeting.

Objectives and Activities

The principal object of the church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to Baptist principals in accordance with the church's Basis of Faith. The church also carries out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

In relation to these objects, our main activities are Sunday services (morning and evening), mid-week Bible studies and prayer meetings, evangelistic activities in the community, children's club, Parent and Toddler group, promotion of mission and matters of social concern, and various informal get-togethers to consider the Christian faith.

Achievements and Performance

Owing to the spiritual nature of the church's objectives it is difficult to quantify achievements.

We employ a Pastor who conducts the majority of both Sunday Services, as well as mid-week meetings. The weekly program of the church is busy with regular meetings and activities. The Pastor also takes services around the country at different churches and conferences throughout the year. He has also ministered overseas in Europe and West Africa. There is a leadership team which consists of Elders and Deacons. The Elders meet regularly to oversee the ongoing life of the church and apart from the Pastor, the other Elder takes a proportion of the Sunday Services and mid-week meetings. At various times other meetings in the life of the church are taken by church members. We also have links with associated churches around the country and invite speakers from those churches to take services on specific occasions.

Generally, the church has continued to see new people attending the services at various times from the local area. Throughout the summer months the church drew many visitors from around the country and the world.

For seasons such as Easter and Christmas we delivered invitations to the local community to come to the various services and activities. Following the delivery of Christmas cards and invitations to the surrounding streets we saw many visitors at all of the various activities. These included a 'Carols, Coffee, and Cake' afternoon in the lead up to Christmas. This saw a large number of people join us to sing carols and have some refreshments together. In addition to this we took the Carol singing into the community as a group from the church sung in the local Tesco. This involved giving people Christmas gift bags and invites to the services. We also had our usual Christmas Carol service which was very well attended and also made available via YouTube. Similar events were organized around the Easter period including a Good Friday

service followed by refreshments. It has been excellent to see people coming to the church for the very first time and some beginning to come regularly to services.

The church also had a number of special services in the year including a Thanksgiving service marking the 222nd anniversary of the church, and its presence in the community for that time.

We have also been very encouraged to see the way many have been accessing the online provision of the church for those unable to meet in person, specifically the live streams of the regular Sunday services. The broadcasts saw a wide engagement from people not just locally, but from across the country and the world.

We have continued to hold other regular meetings throughout the week including a variety of clubs and activities for toddlers and children. The Parent and Toddler group 'Toddlwinks', is recognised in the community as an excellent group. The group has a constant attendance of existing and new parents/guardians, and works a waiting list when interest surpasses the necessary ratios. There are also two youth clubs, KiC Junior and KiC+, which run weekly covering all school age groups up to Yr11 in secondary. The younger group in particular has become very popular and is often at capacity. Many families are in contact with the church as a result of this and this has seen other things organized due to demand including a summer beach outing.

PBC also has good relationships with a number of local schools. There have been a number of school visits to the church itself looking at the history and practice of the Baptist Church. Our Pastor has taken assemblies and lessons in local primary and secondary schools.

We have continued to run a number of provisions in the week which give the local community opportunity to engage with the church. These included 'Coffee and Cake' afternoons, a Men's Breakfast, Women's Meetings, as well as 'Lunch and Listen' which is a monthly meal for over 55s. The church is seen as a place where people can meet each other and gives access to warm spaces in these difficult times. Such events also give people the opportunity to learn more about the message of Christianity. We have continued to make resources available to any interested in the life of the church and Christianity. There is free literature available at every meeting and whenever the church is open, as well as free Bibles for those interested.

We have sought to keep the the church building in good repair. The main entrance doors to the church were replaced through kind gifts from church members and a grant from the Cornwall Historic Churches Trust.

In addition to this, the front façade of the building is in need of substantial repair work. This is a major project and massive undertaking for a small church like ourselves, not least financially. It has already demanded much attention but the repairs will hopefully preserve the building for the benefit of the local community for years to come. The building is Grade II* listed and therefore has particular local and national significance. Such is the work needed that national organisations such as 'Historic England' and local authorities have been consulted with a specialist firm appointed to undertake the work. This is now in process and we hope repairs will be completed during the course of 2025.

Financial Review

Reserves

The Church has adopted a policy of seeking to hold reserves equivalent to three months regular expenditure, presently a reserve of £14,085. The current total reserve at 31st December 2024 is £6,487.

Risk Management

The trustees have identified the major risks to which the charity is exposed. These have been reviewed and the trustees are satisfied that adequate systems of control have been established to mitigate these risks.

Annual Return Figures

Income for 2024 - **£70,186**

Expenditure for 2024- **£75,298**

Other Optional Information

Public Benefit

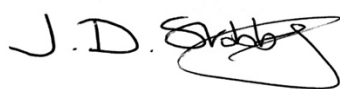
The trustees have considered the guidance produced by the Charity Commission on the provision of public benefit and they confirm that public benefit has been provided by:

- Promoting the whole mission of the church through the activities for individuals, parents and toddlers, and the elderly.
- Providing regular public worship that is open to all
- Conducting pastoral work including visiting the sick and the bereaved
- Teaching Christianity through sermons, courses, and small groups
- Providing a youth club with a Christian Ethos
- Distributing evangelistic materials
- Taking part in community events

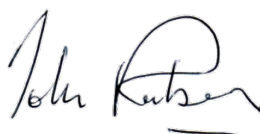
Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature (s)



Rev. Jonathan Stobbs
Position: Chair



Mr. John Rubens
Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of Penzance Baptist Church

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The trustees of the charity are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.

Michael C Coles B Sc
14 Pengarth Road
Falmouth
TR11 2TY
(Fully trained HMIT)

M. C. Coles
10/7/25

PENZANCE BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. Fixed Assets

The Freehold property known as Penzance Baptist Church premises at Clarence Street, together with associated fixtures and fittings are the subject of a separate independent trust held for the exclusive use of the Church. The Church assumes responsibility for all maintenance and running costs.

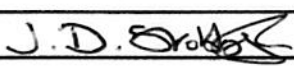
The Freehold property known as 13 Castle Road, Penzance is the subject of a separate independent trust held for the exclusive use of the Church.

2. Employees

The church had one employee (2024: 1 employee) whose remuneration and expenses were not in excess of £60,000. No remuneration or trustee expenses were paid to any other trustee during the year nor to any person connected to them.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Income Funds	Endowment Funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	0	0	0	0	0
Tangible assets	0	0	0	0	0
Investments	0	0	0	0	0
Total fixed assets	0	0	0	0	0
Current assets					
Stocks	0	0	0	0	0
Debtors	4,168	0	0	4,168	4,422
Investments	0	0	0	0	0
Cash at bank and in hand	6,487	0	0	6,487	11,345
Total current assets	10,656	0	0	10,656	15,767
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	0	0	0	0	0
Net current assets/(liabilities)	10,656	0	0	10,656	15,767
Total assets less current liabilities	10,656	0	0	10,656	15,767
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	0	0	0	0	0
Provisions for liabilities	0	0	0	0	0
Total net assets or liabilities	10,656	0	0	10,656	15,767
Funds of the Charity					
Endowment funds	0	0	0	0	0
Restricted income funds	0	0	0	0	0
Unrestricted funds	10,656	0	0	10,656	15,767
Revaluation reserve	0	0	0	0	0
Total funds	10,656	0	0	10,656	15,767

Signed by one or two trustees
on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy
	JONATHAN STOREY	28/01/2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	60,335	0	0	60,335	63,740
Charitable activities	0	0	0	0	1,431
Other trading activities	0	0	0	0	0
Investments	9,851	0	0	9,851	9,033
Separate material item of income	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total	70,186	0	0	70,186	74,204
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	0	0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	75,298	0	0	75,298	66,680
Separate material item of expense	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total	75,298	0	0	75,298	66,680
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)	-5,111	0	0	-5,111	7,523
Net gains/(losses) on investments	0	0	0	0	0
Net income/(expenditure)	-5,111	0	0	-5,111	7,523
Extraordinary items	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds	-5,111	0	0	-5,111	7,523
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total funds brought forward	15,767	0	0	15,767	
Total funds carried forward	10,656	0	0	10,656	

Charity no. 1134242

Penzance Baptist Church

Printed: 14/01/2025

Year to 31/12/2024

<u>Fund name</u>	<u>Fund balances brought forward</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Gains and losses</u>	<u>Fund balances carried forward</u>
General fund	8,927	63,397	-71,801	6,550	0	7,074
Building Fund	4,003	6,289	-346	-6,550	0	3,396
Ministry Development	2,837	0	-1,016	0	0	1,821
Missionary Fund	0	400	-1,150	0	0	-750
Uganda Support	0	100	-985	0	0	-885
Totals	15,767	70,186	-75,298	0	0	10,656

	Total funds £	Prior year funds £
Cash flows from operating activities:		
<i>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</i>	-14,709	-2,392
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	9,851	9,033
<i>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</i>	9,851	9,033
Cash flows from financing activities:		
<i>Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities</i>	0	0
<i>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</i>	-4,858	6,641
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	11,345	4,704
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	6,487	11,345

Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	-5,111	7,523
Adjustments for:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	-9,851	-9,033
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	253	-882
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	-14,709	-2,392