



# Great Shelford Free Church

## Annual Report of the trustees for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

<b>Charity Name:</b>	Great Shelford Free Church (Baptist) also known as GSFC	
<b>Registration Number:</b>	1141345	
<b>Address:</b>	<b>Great Shelford Free Church (Baptist)</b> Ashen Green Great Shelford CB22 5EY	
<b>Property Trustees:</b>	The Baptist Union Corporation Baptist House 129 Broadway Didcot Oxfordshire OX11 8RT	
<b>Trustees: (Leadership Team)</b>	Mrs Diana Parr Mrs Liz Jenkin Mr Laurence Wood Mrs Jillian Hardwick Mr Stuart Watt Mr Colin Jefferson Mr Christopher Smith Mr Graham Briscoe Mrs Fiona Joel	Pastor Elder Elder (from 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2024) Secretary Church Treasurer Deacon Deacon Deacon Deacon
<b>Bankers:</b>	Barclays Bank plc CAF Bank	
<b>Independent Examiner:</b>	Mr John Stirrat FCCA, Hardcastle Burton (Newmarket) Limited, Chartered Certified Accountants	

## **Pastor's Letter**

Dear friends

As we prepare the reports for the Annual General Meeting it is a good opportunity to look back over all that has been happening in our church community, recognising where God has been at work amongst us, and where He is moving, as we consider if there are areas which need to be laid down and areas which need to begin or be extended.

Over the course of this last year, it has been encouraging to see several new folk join the congregation and begin to feel at home amongst us, and to welcome some of these into membership has been a real blessing. But as we thank God for this growth in numbers, we also consider ways in which we can all, as individuals and as a body of Christ, grow deeper in our relationship with Him. Our verse of the year for 2024 encouraged us to acknowledge God in every part of our lives, allowing Him to direct our paths; and a sermon series on the Holy Spirit enabled us to reflect on the ways in which He guides, leads and gifts us to do the tasks to which He has called us. These are all matters for which we can be thankful.

The year has been a busy one, with much happening, both in the activities mentioned in the reports but also in other events, such as the Alive Course, which we ran over five Sunday evenings immediately after Easter, at the very beginning of this period. It was encouraging to engage with those from all walks of life and different stages of faith journey, we continue to connect with those who attended and pray that we will see them grow in faith and make commitments to follow Jesus.

I am also thankful that we have continued to work collaboratively with other faith organisations: Romsey Mill, as we support the work of Cara Coffee shop, providing much needed space for people to connect and witness faith at work: and our friends at St. Mary's parish church as we have together organised and delivered Open Space, Remembrance services, Outdoor Christmas Carols and joint Praise and Prayer services. It is a positive witness to the community that we work with other churches and faith-based charities together in this village, and a matter for continued prayer as we look for ways to develop a more collaborative ministry going forward.

However, as always, in looking back and giving thanks, we also pause for a moment to look forward as we consider our hopes and dreams for the future. Our verse for 2025 is from 2 Timothy 1:6, 'Fan into flame the gift of God that is in you through the laying on of hands' and is a reminder to us that we must not become complacent but stir up and continue to recognise and grow all that God has put into each one of us to be used for his glory.

May God continue to bless us as we strive to be His witnesses in this place, in the way He leads us by His Spirit.

**Diana Parr**

Pastor

## **Church Secretary's Report**

I said last year that it was daunting starting with a blank piece trying to do justice to the work of the church and it is no easier this year.

We have spent quite a lot of the year looking for an Assistant Minister waiting on the Lord to provide the right person, and as I write this we are still waiting for God's perfect timing.

The church is grateful for Diana as she has carried the majority of the additional load and for the band of faithful volunteers who have supported her. As we go into a new financial year, we are expectant that the Lord will hear our prayer. We praise God that Laurence Wood was elected to the role of Elder in April and for the support he and Liz have provided to Diana.

Writing this list, I'm always aware it is a dangerous activity with the real and present danger that I forget something or somebody. Please forgive me if I have inadvertently missed your event. It certainly wasn't deliberate and hopefully across all the reports it will have been mentioned. The one thing we can be certain of is that God misses nothing, even if I do.

The period we are remembering in this report is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. Easter happened at the end of the last financial year and was reported on in last year's report.

We were present at the Feast weekend and ran the same event as last year, allowing people to spin a wheel to 'win' a prize based on the miracles of Jesus as it had proved very popular. This year there were fewer stalls, so we were able to speak to more people. No one went home empty handed; everyone took home the story of the miracle, a little more knowledge of Jesus and a prize.

The autumn proved a busy season. We welcomed new neighbours as a Ukrainian family; a mum and two children moved into the manse, under the South Cambs Homes for Ukraine scheme and received a resurfaced carpark which has significantly tidied up the exterior of the church.

We ran an Hallow's Eve event for the village children and had some really good conversations. We joined with St Mary's for Remembrance Sunday and saw an increase in the number of people attending possibly helped by the council closing the road. We were grateful to the Plough for providing the electricity and tables for the refreshments.

We have begun and continue to grow a deepening fellowship with the residents and staff at Barley Manor Care home in the village joining them for songs of praise and services.

As Christmas approached, we had a shoe box packing day for Operation Christmas Child in the church and a cake sale to pay for postage. Mission at home and abroad remains an important focus for the church.

We made Christingles as the Christmas lights were switched on and took part in the travelling nativity with St Mary'. We also held a time of reflection on Friday mornings during advent. Several members joined Great Chesterford Congregational Church for their carol service. We held a range of services during December praising God for the birth of His Son, our Saviour including the Christmas Eve carols by fairy lights which was well attended by church family members and villagers.

As the new calendar year started, we held a covenant service, a week of prayer and signed a new lease with Cara Coffee. We also joined with Christians around the world and took part in Gather 25, a wonderful evening of praise and worship.

We continue to pray for families to join us, grateful that God has started to answer that prayer as we welcomed a new family who have decided to worship with us regularly.

We look forward to seeing what God has in store for us in the year ahead.

## **Membership**

On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 the church had 80 members, two of whom do not currently worship with us. We are awaiting a request to transfer their membership to their new church.

We welcomed into membership Margaret Cletheroe and Frank and Helen Dixon during the year.

We are sad to report that Margaret Smith died in February but give thanks that she is now with the Lord.

### **Leadership Team**

The leadership team and elders met monthly and used the meetings for prayer and to discuss church business. The newly resurrected monthly admin meeting enabled the leadership team to delegate some of the practical business to a subset of leaders, whilst retaining oversight of all decisions.

Stuart Watt was re-elected Treasurer in October 2024 and Colin Jefferson was re-elected as Deacon in March 2025. We are grateful for their willingness to stand and all the work they do for the church fellowship and the community.

### **Short ministry reports now follow**

#### **Children and Young People's work**

##### **Kids' Club and Youth Group**

Kids' Club and Youth Group were properly re-established in January 2024, and this arrangement has continued whenever possible, despite the increased demand on adult leaders, who must work in pairs. Children start with their family in church and then leave to pursue a variety of activities in the hall or youth room.

Diana Parr and Clive, the much-loved orangutan puppet, continue to feature in some services, linking the church and children's programmes. Teaching material is always based upon biblical narrative, reflecting the church year when appropriate. We continue to ensure that the Café Church sessions specifically include our younger people and their families.

This time we have used the Jesus Storybook Bible, and most sessions comprise a game, a video, a teaching session, which includes reading the Bible story, a response (craft / discussion / more games) prayers and snacks. All the leaders will adapt the material to suit the group and have shown immense commitment in providing good sessions.

**Youth work** has been continued with a similar programme, although much of the material needs to be written each week. The very small group is vibrant, enjoying a mixture of games, videos, Bible reading, discussions, prayer time and excellent snacks. Our thanks are due to leaders who remain committed to these young people.

**Crèche** has had to be re-established too with the very welcome addition of a new child. Helpers have again been wonderful about stepping up – often at short notice. This has also made us sort out our welcome area for children in the sanctuary itself, which is the fulfilment of a commitment made at the church members' meeting in January.

**All Saints' Eve** celebration took place again both inside and behind Cara coffee. Families were invited to sign up on the church website and those who came enjoyed a BBQ, and a wide variety of activities. This was another important opportunity to meet and serve members of the wider village community, several of whom simply saw what was happening and came to join in.

**Church Eco-Project** Another opportunity for our children and young people has been their help to clear and tidying the land behind Cara, raking grass and sowing wildflower seeds. The work will continue to expand, as Chris Smith and Chris Cooper lead and encourage us to reflect upon our commitment to care for God's wonderful world.

We thank God for all the opportunities to work with children in this area, but **we would be so grateful for others to join any of our teams**. Feedback from adults makes it clear that they value the warm welcome, the immediate acceptance and consistent support.

##### **Open Space**

Open Space is a relatively new venture run in collaboration with St. Marys' Church. It provides opportunity for families to meet in outdoor spaces to explore faith through a variety of activities and connect with one another and with God, in an informal time of worship. The sessions take place on Sunday afternoons, once per month, whatever the weather, alternating between the grounds of St. Mary's church and the church garden behind Cara Coffee. Since we began this initiative last year, we have had families from both churches and from the wider community join us for these sessions, although as we enter 2025 numbers have dropped off a little, but we continue to build on relationships forged with families, as we explore different aspects of our faith.

## **Little Steps**

Little Steps has an amazing team that has continued to serve the under 3s in the area, with their parents and carers. The number of registered families has declined slightly, as new government funding for nursery places and the continuing rise in housing costs, mean that many of our Tiny Toes parents return to work as soon as their baby reaches one year old, rather than coming along to Little Steps. You may have seen our new advertisements around the locality. We have continued our outdoor trails on Great Shelford recreation ground at least once per half term. It is good to get outside with our small people and gives us a great opportunity to connect with the wider community.

**Freecycle** has continued, with parents bringing clothes, toys or equipment that they no longer need, and giving them away through Little Steps or Tiny Toes. Items can then be taken by other parents, and any leftover are passed on to other charities – most now going to the Wisbech Children and Families Centre.

## **Tiny Toes**

Tiny Toes is a group for parents and carers with babies up to one year old. It continues to be well attended by new mums with their babies who welcome the opportunity to meet up and connect with other people in the same situation for mutual support and encouragement. The opportunity to support and pray for and with these new mums has been a real blessing. We have been pleased to see a number of these Mums and babies transfer into Little Steps during the course of the year.

## **Community Café**

Community Café continues to thrive as people meet on a Monday morning sitting around the tables in the sanctuary chatting to friends. The Café is really well attended, and we give thanks for the increasing attendance since January 2025. Most Mondays there is the opportunity for a conversation with someone new. Similar to last year, we have been delighted to see people we first met at Community Café make the transition to other church related events including joining us for worship on a Sunday morning and exploring their faith. During the morning, the thought for the day, provided by a small group of church members, is well received by all who attend.

Over the course of the year, we have had a couple of opportunities to share a simple meal together after the Community Café. These events were enjoyed by all who attended.

As in previous years, cakes are provided by church members and served by a dedicated band of volunteers. We would be delighted if others would like to bake and join the “cake rota”.

We would love to see our church family, of any age, using the café. You are most welcome just to come and join in spending time chatting to others. This is a real opportunity to serve our community.

## **Eco church**

In the 2023-4 report, I wrote about starting to focus more on the land behind Cara coffee. Following this genesis, work moved up a gear as we engaged a local horticulturalist - also an employee at Scotsdales - to design a plan to make the area more nature-friendly. This plan included a whole host of suitable plants, segregated into those for sun and shade. Following this, we asked the church congregation to consider donating the cost of a plant towards this. The result was over £400 raised. In the autumn we proceeded to purchase and plant a large number of plants, with the enthusiastic and willing help of volunteers, according to the plans provided. In the hope that these plants will survive winter, we look forward to enjoying the fruits of our labour as the spring and summer of 2025 arrive and the plants begin to flourish. A big thank you to all who have contributed, either financially or by hard graft towards this, also to Chris Cooper and Chris Parr for mowing the grass.

## **Home Groups**

The church currently has 8 house groups which meet weekly for Bible study and prayer, across different days of the week and times of the day & evening. One group came to a natural end during the year while another one divided into separate evening and daytime groups. It was good to welcome a number of people into groups for the first time and there are now around 67 people who attend regularly with several others linked and supported outside of meetings. Many of the groups are now at capacity so it is an ongoing challenge to encourage new facilitators and member movement to enable a new group.

The groups have different styles, but all look to dig deeper into the theme from the Sunday sermon with the help of questions written by the preacher. Prayer is also an important element along with a strong desire to support each other. Socials add another enjoyable way of building relationships and these often involve food.

Joint house group events were well attended in March and provided the opportunity to meet others. The 3 events had different emphases but included activities such craft, boardgames, sharing and prayer.

Please speak to the house group coordinator, Fiona Joel, or Diana if you wish to find out more.

**Prayer Ministry**

The prayer ministry continues with a small but dedicated group meeting via Zoom on a Sunday evening led by Bismark Donkor. Splitting into smaller groups has allowed for meaningful sharing and reflections and discerning on prayer points. We have continued to hold in-person prayer meetings in the church at 6.30pm on the days we have café church.

Our prayer of intercession is led by members of the church on the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month. They lead our prayers for our church, the wider community, our country, the world and prayer needs for people affected by war, conflicts, natural disasters and national issues affecting our daily lives. On the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, we have a mission focus where prayers are dedicated to that mission during our church service. If you would like to join the rota for our prayer of intercession, please contact Bismark.

The prayer chain continues to be very active, and we have been greatly blessed by answers to our prayers. The prayer chain shares both internal prayer requests, from and about the church family, and external prayer requests. If you would like to be involved in the prayer chain, please speak to Bismark or Maria Begley who will share the email address and WhatsApp numbers.

If you would like prayer from the prayer team in person after church or at other times, please contact Bismark Donkor, Maria Begley, Anne Beresford or Penny Pearl who would be delighted to pray with you.

**Mission**

This year we added Shelford School as our fifth permanent charity alongside BMS, GenR8, EBA Home Mission and SSYI (Shelford and Stapleford Youth Initiative). Four additional charities (listed below) were voted by members having been proposed by a member with a particular heart for that mission. Each mission rep had a month to share their mission partner with the church through the Link, the church website, a focus noticeboard in church, at least one Sunday morning focus slot, either via video or in person and the opportunity for one official church fundraising event a year, organised by the rep in discussion with the leadership team.

The missions we support, and the representatives are set out below:

- |                    |                  |                  |                    |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| • BMS              | • Lesley Cornell | • Centre of Hope | Graham Briscoe     |
| • GenR8            | • Penny Kite     | • Open Doors     | Richard Renouf     |
| • EBA Home Mission | • Diana Parr     | • Hands of Mercy | Louise Everard     |
| • SSYI             | • Jean Chambers  | • Concrete Rose  | Margaret Cletheroe |
| • Shelford School  | • Liz Jenkin     |                  |                    |

The church also continued to support Operation Christmas Child. Jane Furlow led this work

**Safeguarding**

The safeguarding team has continued as last year, with Liz Jenkin as Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Penny Kite and Barbara Law as deputy DSLs. Our annual report to the church membership outlined the ‘tweaks’ made to our policy, which had a review and update last year, e.g. clarifying livestreaming protocols. All who work with Under 18s have been given an updated Code of Conduct, and the BU Safer Recruitment materials were used when advertising for our current vacancy. Sessions on basic safeguarding were delivered by Liz to the children and

young people, and also to the adults at Community Café. There continues to be an overlap with pastoral care, and we have worked closely with the pastor and eldership on this. As ever, thanks to Margaret Cletheroe, our administrator, for facilitating record keeping, DBS checks etc. All who work with under 18s and Adults at Risk are trained to Level 2, and leaders and deputy DSLs are trained to Level 3.

## **Worship**

We have held two Friday Evening Praise sessions, one to celebrate Pentecost and another at the beginning of Advent. These have been a mixture of sung worship and creative prayer, e.g. fabric painting symbols of the Holy Spirit and beating 'swords' into 'ploughshares' to decorate our Christmas tree. We have been joined by a few others from neighbouring villages and also visited Barnwell church to join in an evening of worship there. Our team has welcomed two new singers, and we are grateful as ever for those who serve on the tech desk, especially as they have enabled us to access and use our library of recorded videos as needed. We access many of our resources through Engage Worship, the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity (LICC) and suggestions from Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI). These help us keep our worship focused upwards, inwards and outwards through the whole week.

**The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report.**

**Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:**

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Date 28/09/2025

Date 28/09/2025

## **Financial review**

### **Financial policies**

The Church has established systems and controls for receipts and expenditure, in accordance with the Constitution and Charity Law.

These procedures have been approved by Trustees and Members for the protection of the Church's finances and assets and also for the protection of individual members of the Leadership Team. The guidelines and budget stipulate who has authority when purchasing goods or services and then different leaders who have authority for payments from the bank accounts.

Annual budgets are prepared, discussed and approved by the Trustee leadership team before being presented, discussed and approved by Church members.

The Church Treasurer who is appointed in accordance with the Church Constitution presents an income and expenditure statement with explanation of significant movement to budget for review by the leadership team at least 6 times a year and four times a year to the Church Members. This assists in forecasts and treasury management.

The annual church accounts are prepared and examined by external, qualified accountants.

### **Reserves Policy**

The General Fund Reserves require to be set at 50% of budgeted expenditure to give 6 months provision. We are currently above that but with an ageing congregation income is likely to reduce, also the repair, maintenance and improvement of the Church's properties have been increasing each year £42,557 24/25, (23/24 £15,783).

### **Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue on that basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.



## **Risk Management**

The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which GSFC faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen any risks of which at present none have been identified. No money is paid or received from abroad.

## **Pensions Policy**

The Church pays pension contributions for its Minister, and staff members to the Baptist Ministers Pension Trust Limited, defined contribution scheme.

This amount is included within the staff and admin expense in Note 6 to the account.

## **Principal Funding Sources**

GSFC derives its funding from voluntary gifts, free-will offerings, community activities and legacies which are received from its members and others who worship at the Church. Tax refunds are also reclaimed on any offerings given under the Gift Aid scheme. As we await the recruitment of an assistant minister the manse has provided temporary rental income.

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.

Expenditure is incurred to enable the church's programme of services, fellowship, and community activities to be undertaken.

As part of our outreach we target 12.5% of the General Fund's offerings to other charitable organisations as nominated and voted on by the Church Membership. In this year we have been able to increase this charitable giving to 13.5%. The rest of the General Fund expenditure is in respect of the Minister's stipend, salary costs of other employees, the maintenance and running costs of the Church, the Manse and general administrative requirements.

## **Unrestricted Funds**

The Church has a General Fund, which is an unrestricted fund. This Fund is used to finance the regular activities of the Church, and its principal income is from the gift-aided free-will offerings given to the Church by its members and other regular worshippers who attend the services and activities. It is used to transfer to designated funds as the need arises.

## **Designated Funds (as defined by the Charities Act):-**

### **Social Action Fund**

To be used for grants and loans to members and others in special financial need.

### **Building & Fabric Fund**

Is used for the refurbishment/repair of Church buildings.

### **Special Projects Fund**

Can only be used for any purpose approved by the Church membership.

### **Special Projects (Mission) Fund**

Can only be used for any mission-associated purpose approved by the Church membership.

### **Church Tithe Fund**

Is used to support the work of those involved in Christian service/aid work locally, nationally and internationally. The monies in this fund are provided for annually to be paid the following year. Allocation is agreed by the Church Meeting in the year of payment. The Church Tithe is currently set at 12.5% of 'free will offerings'.

### **Training Fund**

To be used for costs of those preparing for Christian work either in the UK or overseas.

### **Development Fund**

For the potential improvement and development of the manse and other Church buildings.

## **Restricted Funds**

- **'Other'** Funds donated for a variety of 'restricted' purposes.

# **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**

**On the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Great Shelford Free Church**

I report on the financial statements of the Church for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Receipts and Payment Account, the balance sheet and the Notes to the Accounts.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the Church's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

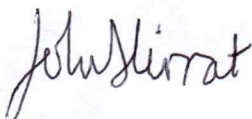
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiners' statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I 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.



**John Stirrat FCCA**  
**Hardcastle Burton (Newmarket) Limited**  
**Chartered Certified Accountants**  
**3B Rosemary House**  
**Landwades Business Park**  
**Kennet**  
**Newmarket**  
**Suffolk CB8 7PN**

**Date: 7 October 2025**

## Receipts and Payment Account

**For the period from 01 April 2024 to 31 March 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024/25	Total Funds 2023/24
<b>Incoming Resources</b>						
Voluntary Income	2	106,351.43	250.00	0.00	106,601.43	104,461.80
Investment Income	3	32,076.96	0.00	0.00	32,076.96	31,630.32
Charitable Activities	4	2,620.02	0.00	0.00	2,620.02	2,898.98
Other Incoming Resources	5	29,855.90	62.50	0.00	29,918.40	29,389.96
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>170,904.31</b>	<b>312.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>171,216.81</b>	<b>168,381.06</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>						
Charitable activities	6	106,239.27	56,289.04	0.00	162,528.31	121,389.68
Governance costs	7	1,446.00			1,446.00	1,300.00
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<b>107,685.27</b>	<b>56,289.04</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>163,974.31</b>	<b>122,689.68</b>
<b>Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources</b>		<b>63,219.04</b>	<b>-55,976.54</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,242.50</b>	<b>45,691.38</b>
<b>Transfers</b>						
Net transfers between funds	8	-32,100.00	32,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Net incoming/outgoing before other gains/losses</b>		<b>31,119.04</b>	<b>-23,876.54</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,242.50</b>	<b>45,691.38</b>
<b>Net movement in Funds</b>		<b>31,119.04</b>	<b>-23,876.54</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,242.50</b>	<b>45,691.38</b>
<b>Totals brought forward</b>		<b>62,584.52</b>	<b>515,721.13</b>	<b>303.80</b>	<b>578,609.45</b>	<b>532,918.07</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>93,703.56</b>	<b>491,844.59</b>	<b>303.80</b>	<b>585,851.95</b>	<b>578,609.45</b>

## Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024/25	Total Funds 2023/24
<b>Fixed Assets</b>						
Intangible Assets					0	
Freehold Property	12		450,340.68		450,340.68	450,340.68
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>450,340.68</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>450,340.68</b>	<b>450,340.68</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Debtors (Recoverable Gift Aid)		6,362.00			6,362.00	6,366.64
Cash at bank and in hand		98,324.10	41,503.91	303.80	140,131.81	128,264.20
<b>Current Assets</b>		<b>104,686.10</b>	<b>41,503.91</b>	<b>303.80</b>	<b>146,493.81</b>	<b>134,630.84</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>						
Creditors:		8,005.04			8,005.04	6,182.07
Deferred Income		2,977.50			2,977.50	180.00
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		<b>10,982.54</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>10,982.54</b>	<b>6,362.07</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>93,703.56</b>	<b>41,503.91</b>	<b>303.80</b>	<b>135,511.27</b>	<b>128,268.77</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	9	<b>93,703.56</b>	<b>491,844.59</b>	<b>303.80</b>	<b>585,851.95</b>	<b>578,609.45</b>
<b>Represented by</b>						
Unrestricted General Fund		93,703.56			93,703.56	62,584.52
<b>Designated Funds</b>	10				0.00	0.00
Designated - Social Action			3,045.13		3,045.13	3,332.63
Designated - Training for ministry			1,753.80		1,753.80	2,000.94
Designated - Building and Fabric			458,308.22		458,308.22	469,710.32
Designated - Church Tithe			19,298.53		19,298.53	17,298.53
Designated - Development			9,438.91		9,438.91	23,378.71
Restricted - Other	11			303.80	303.80	303.80
<b>Funds of the church</b>		<b>93,703.56</b>	<b>491,844.59</b>	<b>303.80</b>	<b>585,851.95</b>	<b>578,609.45</b>

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Financial Statements

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Signed *J Hardwick*

Full name  
Secretary *JILLIAN HARDWICK*

Signed *Stuart Watt*

Full name  
Treasurer *STUART WATT*

## NOTES TO ACCOUNTS - Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

### 1. Accounting policies

#### *a. Basis of Preparation*

The accounts of the church, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 (FRS 102), Financial Reporting Standard 102 and Accounting Regulations set out under the Charities Act 2011. They are prepared in sterling (£).

#### *b. Donations*

Donations are accounted for gross when received.

#### *c. Legacies*

Legacies are accounted for when their receipt is certain and can be properly quantified.

#### *d. Investment Income*

Investment Income is included in the accounts in the year in which it is receivable.

#### *e. Fund Raising and publicity costs*

The Church does not make formal appeals for funds, therefore there is no expenditure.

#### *f. Grants Payable*

The Church does not make grants but gifts donations to other organisations whose charitable objects complement its work. They are accounted for in the year in which they are paid.

#### *g. Payments to Trustees (Note 6)*

Remuneration is paid to the Pastor who is also a Trustee for her role within the church. It is not the Church's policy to disclose the amounts paid to an individual in this statement, but it is less than £60,000.

Expenses of £491.62 (2024 £794.90) were reimbursed to the Trustees during the year. These all relate to costs incurred by the Trustees in the course of their duties as members of the Leadership Team and for the Church activities.

#### *h. Governance Costs*

This represents the Independent Examiner's fee for the year. The salary and associated costs of the Administrator is reflected in **note 6**.

In general, most of the management is carried out without charge by volunteers and the Trustees of the church. This intangible cost is not included in the Statement of Financial Activities, since there is no measurable cost to these people for their service.

#### *i. Fixed Assets*

Freehold Property is included in the balance sheet at cost. The trustees do not consider it beneficial to the users of these accounts to obtain valuation

that would incur significant costs. The insurance value is reported in the note to the accounts.  
Items of equipment are written off when acquired.

**j. Depreciation**

Depreciation has not been charged on the Church or Manse premises because, in the opinion of the Trustees, the residual value of the asset is not less than the original cost price. Any equipment or computer purchases are immediately charged in full in the year of expenditure.

**k. Investment Assets**

If applicable, quoted investments would be stated at market value.

**2 Voluntary Income**

				2024/25	2023/24
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
Gift Aid Offering	95,259.10	250.00		95,509.10	95,768.00
Other offering	8,046.99			8,046.99	7,330.64
Donations	3,045.34			3,045.34	1,363.16
	<b>106,351.43</b>	<b>250.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>106,601.43</b>	<b>104,461.80</b>

**3 Investment Income**

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
Rent	28,069.56			28,069.56	28,662.00
Interest	4,007.40			4,007.40	2,968.32
	<b>32,076.96</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>32,076.96</b>	<b>31,630.32</b>

**Charitable Activities**

**4 Income**

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
Community café	935.83			935.83	1,000.17
Junior Church	1,684.19			1,684.19	1,718.81
Youth				0.00	0.00
Church Weekend				0.00	0.00
Leaders Conference				0.00	0.00
Other		0.00		0.00	180.00
	<b>2,620.02</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,620.02</b>	<b>2,898.98</b>

**5 Other incoming resources**

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
Gift Aid recovered	23679.78	62.50		23,742.28	24,912.01
Legacies	5,545.57			5,545.57	5,000.00
Other contributions	630.55			630.55	197.95
	<b>29,855.90</b>	<b>62.50</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>29,918.40</b>	<b>29,389.96</b>

## 6 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
<b>Staff and Admin</b>					
Staff Cost	55074.27			55074.27	48,065.41
Employers costs	5,251.48			5251.48	3,987.46
Pension deficit	7.00			7.00	12.00
	60,332.75			60332.75	52,064.87
Staff expenses	23.27	105.14		128.41	184.48
Conferences	1,502.40			1502.40	0.00
<b>Ministry</b>					
Community	2,347.20			2347.20	2,131.35
Youth and Children	323.59			323.59	292.06
Prayer Ministry	154.25			154.25	439.10
Sanctuary Resources	2,006.98			2006.98	1,150.47
Pulpit & moderator expenses	268.30			268.30	218.35
Outreach	1,737.33	0.00		1737.33	1,932.54
Training Resources	430.16	142.00		572.16	734.80
<b>Mission</b>					
BU Home Mission		4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00
BMS World Mission		4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00
SSYI		1,300.00		1,300.00	1,200.00
Friends International		1,300.00		1,300.00	1,200.00
Shelford School Governors		1,300.00		1,300.00	0.00
Hands of Mercy		1,300.00		1,300.00	1,200.00
GenR8		1,300.00		1,300.00	1,200.00
Centre of Hope		1,300.00		1,300.00	1,200.00
Aquaid		1,300.00		1,300.00	1,200.00
Christmas Hampers		600.00		600.00	600.00
<b>Administration</b>				0	
Utilities & Ins	12,168.01			12168.01	12,305.76
Church Cleaning	5,779.12			5779.12	5,847.17
Telephone/Internet	3,890.53			3890.53	2,612.31
Stationery & Postage	150.69			150.69	187.41
Subscriptions & Donations	1,635.97			1635.97	1,648.33
Rental Agents Fees&Ins	3,948.00			3948.00	3,891.49
Repairs and Renewals	4,215.22	38,341.90		42557.12	15,782.56
Bank Charges	211.14			211.14	190.10
Payroll, DBS , other fees	3,418.35			3,418.35	1,806.42
Computer Software				0	0.00
Equipment lease	1,330.96			1330.96	1,330.96
Other	365.05			365.05	839.15
	<b>106,239.27</b>	<b>56,289.04</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>162,528.31</b>	<b>121,389.68</b>
<b>Utilities &amp; Ins Breakdown</b>					
Heating/Lighting	6,675.93				8,007.70
Water Charges	863.58				575.97
Insurance	4,628.50				3,722.19
Council Tax	0.00				0.00
Total	<u>12,168.01</u>				<u>12,305.76</u>



<b>7 Governance costs</b>	<b>24/25</b>	<b>23/24</b>
Independent Examination	1,450.00	1,300.00

## 8 Gross transfers between funds

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total 24/25
General fund	-32100.00			-32100.00	-15174.53
Social Action				0.00	
Designated Development				0.00	0
Building and Fabric		13000.00		13000.00	0
Church Tithe		19100.00		19100.00	15,174.53
	-32100.00	32100.00	0.00	0.00	0

## 9 Analysis of net Assets

		Fixed Asset	Investment	Current Asset	Total
Restricted Funds	(Note 11)			303.80	303.80
Designated Funds	(Note 10)	450,340.68		41,503.91	491844.59
Unrestricted Funds				93,703.56	93703.56
		450340.68	0	135,511.27	585,851.95

## 10 Designated Funds

	Opening 2024/25	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Total
Social Action	3,332.63	312.50	600.00	0	3,045.13
Training for ministry	2,000.94	0	247.14	0	1753.80
Building and Fabric	469,710.32	0.00	24402.10	13,000.00	458308.22
Church Tithe	17,298.53	0	17,100.00	19,100.00	19298.53
Designated Development	23,378.71	0	13,939.80	0.00	9,438.91
	515721.13	312.50	56289.04	32,100.00	491844.59

### Designated Funds held in:

	Fixed Asset	Investment	Current Asset	Total
Social Action			3045.13	3045.13
Training for ministry			1753.80	1753.80
Building and Fabric	450,340.68		7967.54	458308.22
Church Tithe			19298.53	19298.53
Designated Development			9,438.91	9438.91
	450340.68	0	41503.91	491844.59

## 11 Restricted Funds

	2024/25	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Current Asset
Prayer Garden	19.47	0	0	19.47
Sound Desk	284.33			284.33
	303.80	0.00	0.00	303.80

## 12 Freehold Property

	Historic cost	Insurance Valuation'25	Insurance Valuation 24
Church and Hall	267773	2701409	2635075
Manse		531866	501760
29 High Street	91000	239128	232163
6 Grain Close	91115	279788	264464
Total	450341		