

Woodford Baptist Church
Trustees Report and Accounts
For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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Year to 31st March 2024

Legal and administrative information

Trustees:

Jonathan Somerville (Senior Pastor)

Jo Waterfield (Secretary) appointed 25th June 2023

Helen Clark (Treasurer)

Philip Wooley

Jenny Escobar

Christiaan Kriel

Kelly McNeil

Rozier Van Blerk appointed 25th June 2023

Rachel Aston resigned 31st December 2023

Kofi Debrah resigned 11th May 2023

Church address:

32 George Lane
South Woodford
London
E18 1LW

Independent Examiner:

Sylvia Lambden
Calculus Accountants & Tax Advisers Limited
5 Priory Road
Loughton
Essex
IG10 1AF

Bookkeeper/ Accountant:

Ruth Savage

Bankers:

Barclays Bank Plc
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Property Custodian:

The London Baptist Property Board Ltd
Unit C2, 15 Dock Street
London E1 8JN

Solicitor:

Carter Lemon Camerons
10 Aldersgate Street
London
EC1A 4HJ

Year to 31st March 2024

Report of the Trustees For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees submit their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2005 in preparing this annual report and financial statements.

Woodford Baptist Church is a registered charity (No. 1141385), governed by a constitution although the Church is seeking to convert to a CIO.

Current Trustees, who were unchanged during the year, are set out on page 3. Trustees are elected from church members at church members' meetings, in accordance with the Church's constitution.

The Trustees are responsible for all church activities but work in co-operation with and delegate to a Leadership Team comprising Elders and Deacons, also elected at church members' meetings.

The Trustees keep under review the major operational, financial and other risks to which the Church is exposed. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the Church faces.

The principal purpose of Woodford Baptist Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church also engages in outreach to the wider community in South Woodford, and beyond.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aim and objectives

The Trustees are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at the Church, participate in its activities and for the Church to be involved in the local community in South Woodford.

When planning and carrying out our activities for the year, the Minister, Trustees and Leadership Team have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We seek to enable people to live out their faith through:

- Worship, prayer, Bible study and Christian discipleship
- Provision of pastoral care
- Missionary and outreach work

To facilitate our work, we maintained the fabric of the Woodford Baptist Church building and the manse (Arlington Road).

Staff

At the start of the year we had our Senior Pastor, a part-time Youth Pastor, a part-time Administrator and a part-time Caretaker. Since 12 February 2024 our Senior Pastor has been on long-term sick leave, and this has impacted all areas of Church life.

Year to 31st March 2024

Report of the Trustee (continued)

Volunteers

The Church encourages the involvement of volunteers and we thank the members who so faithfully offer their service. The Church does not receive significant donations in kind or other intangible income.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Collective worship and teaching

Gathering together for worship and teaching on Sundays and in midweek groups continued to be at the heart of our life together as a fellowship.

We had teaching series that focused on Checking the Foundations, Lessons from Bethany and continuation of One Thing (to explore what it means to be wholehearted in our devotion to Jesus). Alongside these themes, we celebrated the major Christian festivals, with a number of events advertised locally over Christmas, including the Nativity Service, Carol Service, and Christmas Eve and Day services.

All of our activities were supported by our Hospitality, Technical, Welcome and Worship Teams. We have continued to invest in the development of our musicians and singers, in order to facilitate our collective worship.

We were blessed by five baptisms this year.

Youth work

A good number of young people attended the various groups for youth.

Our Friday evening youth club, MIX, had attendance between 20-25 each week, most of whom have no other link to the Church. We ran several successful trips out, for example to Nando's and go-karting; plus a residential weekend away.

Encounter, which meets on Sunday mornings during the service, averaged 20-25 young people each week, with the group divided into Years 6-8 and Years 9-13.

We started a new monthly Bible Study for youth, Connect, which has between 4-8 regular attenders.

'Serving Sundays' gathered momentum with the young people finding areas of ministry they enjoy being a part of. We have been extremely encouraged by the commitment of the young people and hope they will continue to learn about different ways to offer their worship to God in serving others.

The Youth Leaders team continued to grow as new people joined the team, which has been a great blessing to the Church and the young people.

Women's Ministry

We restarted women's Ministry with a weekend away for 16 women from the church in February 2024.

Year to 31st March 2024

Report of the Trustees (continued)

Men's Ministry

The men's ministry continued hosting monthly men's breakfasts. This provided men in the Church with the opportunity to gather together, along with invited friends and guests, for fellowship (and food!).

Evangelism

We ran an Alpha Course which was well attended and led to a new Life Group being established.

Pastoral care and outreach

Over Easter, the Church delivered flowers to all the residents at Homesdale home for older people.

We gave out Mothering Sunday gifts to all the ladies in church; and on Father's Day gifts were given to all the men in Church.

In the summer, we held a Family and Friends Fun Day at a local residential community. In the morning there was a time of teaching and worship from Josh Kane, Regional Baptist Minister, followed by a BBQ, games and lots of fun.

Over the Christmas period, the Church delivered Advent Candles to all the immediate neighbours and Homesdale; and cooked a Christmas meal for about 60 people for the friends, neighbours and family Christmas lunch. The IDMC Gospel Choir returned during December and we held a Christmas Fair.

Life Groups continued to meet regularly, both in person and online, in the main expanding on the teaching in Sunday services.

The Pastoral Care Team continued to carry out various roles including phone calls, cooking meals, praying, sending text messages, dropping off and collecting people from hospital, sending cards, buying and giving gifts, hospital visits, helping with administrative tasks, sharing communion and doing home visits for those in the Church and its community.

Weekly Food Bank

We hosted a weekly satellite foodbank every Friday afternoon in the Church hall. This is run by volunteers from within the Church and Redbridge Foodbank (supported by The Trussell Trust); with expert services such as debt advice provided by external agencies. There is a donation point in the Church building, and local businesses such as the Co-op and Gail's Bakery donate fresh goods on a regular basis.

Prime Time

Prime Time is an outreach to the over-50s; a time of tea, coffee, cake and company. We met every Monday morning and had approximately 12 regular attendees; three who organised and 5-9 who have been with us on any one week. Most of those who attend are single people who appreciate the relaxed atmosphere and the lively conversation. Real relationships have been built up over the years. We always take an opportunity to celebrate birthdays and other special events, and sometimes our card and gifts have been the only ones received. Although Prime Time might be their only link to the Church, our Pastoral Team also offer fellowship and practical support.

Year to 31st March 2024

Report of the Trustees (continued)

Prayer

Our new Prayer Deacon has continued and grown our weekly prayer meeting and organised a weekend of prayer and fasting, in October 2023, which included evening worship and the church being open for prayer during the day.

Children

We appointed a new Deacon for Children's Ministry who has sought to expand the Ministry beyond Sunday mornings, and started a Baby Café.

Young Adults

The Young Adults groups continued to meet regularly. This group attracted a mix of Christians and non-Christians between 18-30.

Long Table Lunch

We hosted a shared, catered for lunch the first Sunday of most months to which all are invited, at which we enjoy a time of fellowship with approximately 60 people attending each time.

Missions

We continued to support four missions across the world, alongside a short-term placement at YWAM (Youth with a Mission)

Financial review

The church moved from accruals-based accounts to receipts and payments account for the year so the 2023 comparative figures shown on page 10 have been restated.

The Receipts and Payments Account (on page 8) shows receipts of £167,242 for the year compared to £178,440 in 2023. Expenditure totalled £159,033 for the year a reduction from £185,519 in 2023. Cash reserves of £151,367 were held at the year-end a small increase from £145,432 in 2023. The Trustees aim to hold cash reserves to cover unplanned expense such as major building repair or for the orderly winding down of activities.

The Trustees have regularly monitored the finances on a monthly basis and in addition have produced budget information for the coming year to ensure activities can be maintained.

Governance

We had 10 new members and after a review of the Membership Roll we contacted those with whom we had no current relationship and removed 15.

The sub-group charged with progressing the work to convert the Charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation continued working through the CIO model constitution from the Baptist Union. However, due to updates in Charity Law, a new guideline Constitution was issued in November 2023 and needed to be reviewed.

The post of Church Secretary was filled during this period. The Trustees continued to monitor and progress various areas of governance.

The Fabric Team worked throughout the year to maintain the properties and put together a programme of improvements.

Year to 31st March 2024

Report of the Trustees (continued)

Future plans

Our Youth Pastor announced in January 2024 that she would be stepping down from the role in July 2024. We are now recruiting for a full-time Children, Youth and Families Pastor. Existing teams continue to run these Ministries.

The Elders are planning new teaching series for Sunday morning including Moving into Maturity and Life Lessons from the Old Testament.

Our leadership team is in need of some expansion, and so we are seeking to identify those whom God is calling to take a more active part in church leadership (as Deacons, Elders and Trustees) will be a priority.

One priority will be to ensure that we have an accurate membership roll, and that we are adequately caring for all those who are part of our family.

Finally, we hope to build on training already undertaken by the Worship Team, so that this area of our life - that has been considered a strength for a long time - continues to be sustained and strengthened.

We give glory to God for all that He has provided during this year.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 25th November 2024 and is signed on their behalf by:



[Joanne E Waterfield \(Nov 25, 2024 16:42 GMT\)](#)

Joanne Waterfield

Trustee and secretary

25/11/24

Year to 31st March 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Woodford Baptist Church

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 10 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

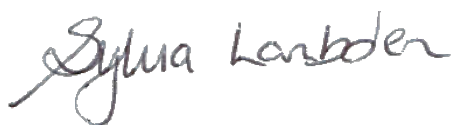
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's 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.



Sylvia Lambden FCCA

Calculus Accountants and Tax Advisers Limited
Accountants
5 Priory Road
Loughton
Essex IG10 1AF

Date: 25th November 2024

25/11/24



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Woodford Baptist Church

1141385

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	1/4/2023	To	31/3/2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Restated £
Receipts					
	111,418	12,153	-	123,571	144,166
Gift Aid	11,311	1,192	-	12,503	12,042
Rental income	20,901	-	-	20,901	16,728
Bank Interest	1,677	-	-	1,677	801
Events Income	2,238	1,540	-	3,778	820
Y&CM Income	297	1,871	-	2,168	1,319
Grants	-	1,158	-	1,158	-
Rental Deposits	1,200	-	-	1,200	-
Other Income	286	-	-	286	2,564
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	149,328	17,914	-	167,242	178,440
Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	149,328	17,914	-	167,242	178,440
Payments					
Salaries	73,348	-	-	73,348	65,179
Manse	8,191	-	-	8,191	7,417
Staff Expenses	1,235	-	-	1,235	1,227
Employer NI	2	-	-	2	42
Pension (Employer Contributions)	3,556	-	-	3,556	3,174
Maintenance	3,935	427	-	4,362	8,113
Caretaking	1,006	-	-	1,006	717
Utilities	11,724	-	-	11,724	8,316
Insurance	4,112	-	-	4,112	3,814
Technical	656	-	-	656	1,446
Equipment Maintenance	690	993	-	1,683	478
Y&CM Expenses	3,880	2,001	-	5,881	5,370
Students & Young People	-	-	-	-	332
Mission Giving	10,600	6,089	-	16,689	19,876
Pastoral Care	930	-	-	930	1,054
Visiting Speakers	502	-	-	502	600
Event Expenses	3,956	3,789	-	7,745	1,716
Food & Refreshments	807	-	-	807	938
Evangelism Expenses	525	-	-	525	367
Food Bank	14	596	-	610	19
Subscriptions	3,195	-	-	3,195	5,978
Training	942	-	-	942	362
Communications	582	100	-	682	637
Professional Fees	5,986	-	-	5,986	5,981
PPS	272	-	-	272	287
Photocopying	698	-	-	698	90
Telephone/Internet	2,530	-	-	2,530	1,497
Books, Leaflets & CDs	97	-	-	97	223
Interest & Charges	128	-	-	128	128
Rental Deposit Refunds	700	-	-	700	-
Loan Repayments	-	-	-	-	39,185
Other Expenses	239	-	-	239	956
Sub total	145,038	13,995	-	159,033	185,519
Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Equipment	2,274	-	-	2,274	2,426
Furniture & Fittings	-	-	-	-	358
Sub total	2,274	-	-	2,274	2,784
Total payments	147,312	13,995	-	161,307	188,303
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,016	3,919	-	5,935	- 9,863
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds 31 March 2023	118,739	26,693	-	145,432	155,295
Cash funds 31 March 2024	120,755	30,612	-	151,367	145,432

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the 31st March 2024

Categories

Details

Unrestricted funds
£

Restricted funds
£

Endowment funds
£

Cash funds

Barclays Current Account	30,332	30,612	-
Barclays Savings Account	2,963		
Virgin Money Account	60,271		
BU 7 Day Notice Account	5,270		
BU 3 Month Notice Account	21,547	-	-
Petty Cash	302		
Offerings received but not banked	70	-	-
Total cash funds	120,755	30,612	-

(OK)

Unrestricted funds
£

Restricted funds
£

Endowment funds
£

Other monetary assets

Gift Aid Mar 24	824	62	-
Rental Income 23/24	420	-	-
Interest Due	145	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	2,693	-	-
Accrued Income	-	450	-
	-	-	-

Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Church Building	General	-	4,969,606
Church Fixtures, Furniture & Equipment	General	-	166,114
Manse	General & Restricted	-	445,569
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Creditors	General		
Creditors	Restricted	90	
Accrued Expenses	General	1,556	
Missionary giving to pass on	Restricted	338	
Prepaid Income	General	1,190	

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

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

	Helen Clark	25/11/024



25/11/24

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by Helen Clark, Trustee and treasurer on 25th November 2024

Notes to the accounts

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of the accounts

The accounts are prepared on a 'Receipts & Payments' basis under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011, the statement of assets and liabilities included assets listed at insured values. The results of the Charity operations are described in the Trustees' Report and are continuing. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the [Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed.

1.2. Receipts and payments accounts

The church has moved from the accruals basis of accounting in 2023 to receipts and payments. The 2023 comparatives have been restated to reflect this.

3. Trustee and related parties

Jonathan Sommerville and Kelly McNeil are employed by the church receiving salaries and expenses from the Church. In addition to this Jason McNeill, married to Kelly, is employed by the church and receives a small salary. Remuneration received by trustees and related parties totalled as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Gross salaries	63,638	62,392
Pension costs	3,264	2,903
Provision of accommodation and related expenditure	<u>8,191</u>	<u>2,202</u>
	<u>£75,093</u>	<u>£67,497</u>

Other Trustees were only reimbursed for expenses they incurred on behalf of the church. Nathaniel Somerville received £2,753 in mission gifts from the Church, £2,253 was part of restricted offerings made to the church.

4. Church building and manse

The church building and manse are held by the London Baptist Property Board as custodians on behalf of the church. The church is shown at its insurance valuation in the statement of assets and liabilities.

5. Governance costs	2024 £	2023 £
Independent examination costs	<u>900</u>	<u>900</u>

6. Restricted funds

The following restricted funds are held:	2024 £	2023 £
Manse improvements	25,000	25,000
Manse Fund	-	33,498
Children's & family pastor fund	2,953	1,185
Other	<u>2,686</u>	<u>250</u>
Total	<u>£30,639</u>	<u>£59,933</u>

The manse loan was repaid during the year to 31st March 2023 by a one-off unexpected donation and the donors agreed any excess funds received on the Manse Fund could be transferred to the General fund.












WBC 24 tar acc final for signature

Final Audit Report

2024-11-25

Created:	2024-11-25
By:	James Lambden (james.lambden@hotmail.co.uk)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAm_BZ-uKx43LoVO2KT1UXhyulZ28dFndV

"WBC 24 tar acc final for signature" History

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