

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

Registered Charity no. 1141792

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year Ending 31 December 2023

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WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

Charitable Status	Wotton-under-Edge Baptist Church is a Registered Charity no. 1141792	
Church Address	Wotton-under-Edge Baptist Church The Rope Walk Wotton-under-Edge Gloucestershire GL12 7AA	
Managing Trustees	Thomas Wharin Andrew Lockton Martin Barker Arlene Greenwood Tony Jones Sarah-Louise Sudlow	Minister from 1 May 2010 to 26 October 2023 (employee) Secretary from 16 September 2021 Treasurer from 15 September 2016 Deacon from 16 September 2019 (employee to Dec 2023) Deacon from 21 September 2023 Deacon from 16 September 2019
Custodian Trustees	West of England Baptist Network Little Stoke Baptist Church Kingsway Little Stoke Bristol BS34 6JW	
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc Wotton-under-Edge Branch 23 Long Street Wotton-under-Edge Gloucestershire GL12 7DA	
Independent Examiner	Linda Hughes Burton Sweet Chartered Certified Accountants Well House The Chipping Wotton-under-Edge Gloucestershire	

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Summary of the purposes of the charity:

As stated in Wotton Baptist Church's Governing Document the 'principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.'

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.

During the reporting period the church has achieved its principal purpose by seeking to provide spiritual and practical help to individuals, within and connected to the church and to bless and benefit our local, national and international communities through our links. Many activities have been undertaken and these are set out in the "charitable activities" section below, and it is considered that they are all for the public benefit.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when planning our current and future activities and believe that they comply with this guidance.

Achievements and Performance

Throughout the reporting period the church has actively complied with statutory requirements such as data protection and safeguarding. Safeguarding checks are kept up to date. As part of the general debate about diversity in organisations the church seeks to engage with and encourage people from all backgrounds – one area of strength for the church is its engagement with families with children with special needs.

Congregational

The church has prospered through 2023 during a period of change. At our May church members' meeting, Tom Wharin, our minister for the last 14 years announced that he was considering a move on from Wotton Baptist Church in line with Baptist practice in this area. This was confirmed in due course and he ended his time at Wotton Baptist Church on 26th Oct 2023. The church became engaged in a period of review and recruitment of a new minister – a period which in the Baptist way of working could last around 1-2 years. In the meanwhile, church membership has remained stable, albeit with flux – new members joining and some people moving on.

The church remains committed to, and believes that this reflects an appetite for, an evangelical stance coupled to a modern style of worship and a habit of community activities. It also reflects a commitment within members and attendees to understand and apply the Christian faith in their lives, which in turn benefits the local community. The church had 97 members at the end of the year, down 4 from the beginning of the year. A headcount towards the end of the year across 3 Sundays documented that on a Sunday, 82 adults and 29 under 18's attended. An average of 12 attended by Zoom. Across all activities the church was in contact with a larger number of adults and under 18's demonstrating that the church reaches beyond its membership to support the local community. Since our minister left on 26 October 2023 a preaching group formed within the church have overseen speakers on a Sunday and have been drawn mostly from the preaching team itself but as we move forward will also engage visiting speakers.

During the early part of 2023 a church member had been proposed as a candidate for Baptist Ministerial Training. This process involves formal nomination by the church meeting, followed by assessment by the Regional Training Body with representation from the Regional Association and the Bristol Baptist Training College. In due course this candidate was approved for training and started that in September 2023. The candidate, Louisa Lockwood was considered for a position as a Pastoral Assistant at Wotton Baptist Church, and this was approved. Louisa started in this role in October 2023 for a term of one year. This allows us as a church to cover some of the activities that would normally be done by a minister.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

During the week, homegroups i.e. smaller local groups, have continued to operate. These are individualised to members' spiritual, emotional and practical needs and have been another way of encouraging individual and corporate spiritual growth.

Children and youth activities continue to be a major part of church life. There is a mixture of activity based meetings and more faith based activities. During the year the church ran a holiday club for primary school age children with youth age groups helping out alongside adult volunteers. Across the week an average of 112 children attended, which was an increase from last year and represents a return to pre-Covid numbers. Members of the kidzone group and youth groups also attended Spree (11 children up to 11; 21 youth aged between 11 and 18; <https://www.spreesw.org/>) – which is an event run by Urban Saints/SWYM (check) for youth groups across the South-West. The aim of our youth groups is to encourage growth in the Christian Faith and live lives according to Christian principles based on Jesus's instruction to 'love your neighbour as yourself.' As part of that, church young people are engaged via the Pulse Community Youth Group and groups volunteering at Wotton Community Sports Foundation. Across the week the church has contact with children and youth from church families and from outside the church with total numbers around 34 children and 47 youth.

During this year no major renovation projects were undertaken by the church although smaller works were completed in line with requirements as a listed building. The church is signed up to an Ecochurch accreditation system run by an organisation known as A Rocha (Charity No. 1089276). Work was completed to achieve Bronze level accreditation – awarded to the church in Jan 2023. This continues to influence the way our properties are maintained and managed as we aim to move towards the Silver level of accreditation.

Local

The church is an active member of Churches Together in Wotton (Charity no. 1113299) which carries out a variety of community activities in the town of Wotton-under-Edge and surrounding villages. During the year Churches Together distributed Bibles to all primary school leavers including some at a leavers service at WBC. WBC also participated in joint Easter celebrations, Remembrance Day commemorations and a Christmas card distribution.

Debt advice is delivered as a partner with another local Baptist Church in Thornbury who continue to supervise two continuing debt advisors.

There is provision of a toddler group (Little Fishes). This runs each Thursday morning in term time providing a range of toys and craft activities for toddlers as well as drinks and snacks for adults and children. We always sing nursery rhymes and read a Bible story together at the end of our session. It's an opportunity to serve and bless families in Wotton and to share God's love with them. This group is well attended by approximately 20 children and their carers, which provides a valuable service to the community.

The minister continued to provide regular input into local schools, contributing to school assemblies and class teaching up to his departure. Since then, input has continued through Open the Book, which is an arrangement by which church members, as part of a church's together initiative, read the Bible in schools. Our youth worker continues to oversee our youth activities and keep them at a high level. She continues to informally have good contacts with non-Church youth in the town through her established connections. The town awaits a decision by the Town Council to provide some more formal provision, after they cancelled provision in this area in 2022.

Various activities are run from the church premises but are not overseen by the church itself. The church charges a fee to cover its costs and these contributions go to the building fund. Regular bookings include Brownies, Slimming World, a karate class, a local tutor, a chamber music group and a ballroom dance couple. The local food bank also uses the premises free of charge. The hall is also regularly used for private birthday parties and fund-raising events, including the Tearfund Big Quiz which was held in October this year. The church space is occasionally used by choirs/other music groups.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH

Regional

The church supports a Bristol based charity (Charity No 1062391), One25, which provides support to streetworkers – providing a place of safety for these vulnerable women and mechanisms for rehabilitation back into mainstream society. The church receives updates from One25 and has provided financial support directly (check amount in 2023) and encourages members to give directly if they would like to do so.

Through the regional Baptist association (WEBNET: Charity No 1092443) and the national association (the Baptist Union of Great Britain: Charity No. 1181392) the church is engaged with national issues and encourages church members to engage with government consultation and with their local MPs where and when appropriate.

International

The church supports and engages with a number of international organisations. These include:

The Baptist Missionary Society (Charity No. 1174364). The church receives and circulates regular information from BMS Missionaries based in Bangladesh and Thailand. Those in Bangladesh are involved in training, teaching, supporting and pastoral care. They are currently working with nationals training them to work as missionaries within Bangladesh. Those in Thailand work with BMS partner Thailand Karen Baptist Convention (TBK). Helping to build up an IT ministry, as well as teaching English and teaching baking to youth and women within the TBK and the community. The church received a visit from the missionaries in Bangladesh and has been kept up to date with both missionaries via regular updates. In response the church supports these missionaries through prayer and giving.

Dagoretti (Charity No. 1104382). The Dagoretti Corner Street Children Programme charity provides rehabilitation, education and provision of food for ex-street children in Dagoretti, a deprived area of Nairobi in Kenya. Currently, eight young men aged between 20 and 25 live on land owned by the charity under the care of resident house parents, Mutunga and Florence. The church provides prayer and financial support (£550 in 2023), alongside contributing by members holding Trustees membership.

Open Doors (Charity No. 1125684). This is an international charity focussed on people who are persecuted for their religious beliefs. Open Doors campaigns on behalf of victims, provides practical care for them and their families and works with governments to promote religious tolerance. The church supports Open Doors through prayer and giving and members are encouraged to write letters to the appropriate authorities in specific situations.

Tearfund (Charity No. 265464). Tearfund is a large international development and relief organisation which the church actively engages with in a number of ways, including prayer and financial support. This year a Tearfund representative spoke at a Sunday Service. We also again joined the Tearfund event, 'The Big Quiz' this year which combining money raised on the night and personal donations to the Just giving page raised some £739.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Wotton-under-Edge Baptist Church is constituted under a Constitution adopted on 16 September 2010. Prior to this date it was constituted under a Trust Deed. The church is part of the Baptist Union of Great Britain network, registration number 9074. A Governing Document defines the way it operates.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The charity will look for new trustees as required. Such persons will need to be eligible to serve in accordance with the Articles of Association. During the reporting period one trustee stepped down (Tom Wharin) and one new trustee joined (Tony Jones). Trustees are proposed and seconded by church members and confirmed by a vote as described in the Governing Document.

Procedures for induction and training of new trustees

Prospective trustees are made aware of their obligations by being provided with Charity Commission literature and website links and through discussions with the chair of the Trustees, generally the church pastor.

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Organisational structure

The day-to-day administration of the Church is undertaken by a part-time administrative staff member. The person in this position moved on in December 2023 as a part of personal career development. A replacement was in post at the beginning of January 2024. The Trustees continue with overall responsibility for the way the church is run, subject to approval by the church membership, in line with Baptist practice. A new member was welcomed to this committee in late 2023 and as the minister moved on, we lost him from that group. The trustee meetings focus on the fiduciary responsibilities of the church – safeguarding, health and safety, financial oversight and issues linked to the buildings. We believe that this brings focus to these areas and the trustees meet alternate months to ensure regular oversight.

A second group operates and has oversight for particular areas in the Church life and are titled Ministry Team Leaders. They have responsibilities for activities such as worship, prayer, mission and children and youth work. This group was bolstered by one new member during 2023 and meet monthly together with the trustees to ensure delivery of the church's purpose as defined in the governing document.

In addition, we have appointed a search team who has the responsibility for overseeing identification, assessment and proposal of a new minister in due course to the Trustees and church meeting according to our governing document. There are six people on this team who have been selected for spiritual maturity, a spread of demographics and past experience of recruitment in secular and church life. We believe that this structure allows the church's purpose to be delivered robustly.

In total we had 3 paid members of staff as of end 2023 (normally 4):

Tom Wharin, our minister, stepped down in October 2023 and will be replaced as described above.

Karen Dover continues as our part-time Youth Worker, and runs a dynamic youth programme with great expertise. Karen has engaged with additional training this year at Mullers Association in Bristol doing a Scripture, Theology & Culture Course. She is helped by group of dedicated volunteers.

Louisa Lockwood is employed on a one year contract from Oct 2023 as a pastoral assistant. Louisa is a minister in training at Bristol Baptist College. Louisa's responsibilities at WBC are part-time and involve providing pastoral care to church members and supporting the church prayer ministry amongst generally helping smooth running of the homegroups and preaching monthly.

Arlene Greenwood continued to keep us all in order as our church Administrator in term-time. She has been the first point of contact for bookings to use the premises, and ably and efficiently produces adverts and flyers for events as needed, circulating emails as needed and maintaining adherence to GDPR requirements through 2023. Arlene stepped down on 4th December. She has been replaced as described above from January 2024.

Kelly Watkins is our part-time cleaner, who cheerfully and consistently keeps the premises clean every week.

Reserves Policy

The policy adopted is for reserves in the general fund to be kept at or above 3 months normal expenditure. At the end of 2023 the reserves stand at just over £36,000, the average 3 month expenditure in 2023 was just under £27,500.

Risk Assessment

Regular risk assessments of the premises and regular activities are undertaken by the Trustees, through the leaders of those activities. Separate assessments are required for one-off activities. Any contract entered into is assessed for risk before the church is committed. Our Safeguarding Policy is in line with WEBA's current guidelines, and was overhauled and updated in 2017 by Rachel Carrick, our Safeguarding Officer, and has been reviewed and updated annually since. We continue to send a number of people on various levels of safeguarding training this year, using the revised WEBA training notes, and are keen to ensure everyone leading or involved in vulnerable groups is sufficiently well trained.

ORGANISATION

The Trustees who have served during the year are set out on page 1. Managing Trustees are elected by members of Wotton Baptist Church and serve for a period of 3 years after which time they may, if willing, be nominated again and stand for re-election. The Minister remains a Trustee until the end of his ministry with this church. Trustees meet at least monthly and members meetings are held bi-monthly. While we are grateful to have a larger leadership team, we would still welcome two further deacons to join the team.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which show a true and fair view of the state of the charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing the statement the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

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

Approved by the Trustees on 9th May 2024

and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Martin Barker, Treasurer

.....
Andrew Lockton, Secretary

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
		£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Voluntary Income	Note 2	104,189.20	7,549.00	111,738.20	104,867.72
Investment Income	Note 3	734.10	871.51	1,605.61	1,091.73
Other incoming resources	Note 4	0.00	8,405.73	8,405.73	10,673.58
Incoming Resources		104,923.30	16,826.24	121,749.54	116,633.03
Asset and Investment sales, etc.	Note 9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Incoming Resources		104,923.30	16,826.24	121,749.54	116,633.03
Resources Expended					
Charitable activities	Note 5	102,576.09	7,140.71	109,716.80	116,984.23
Governance costs	Note 1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other resources expended		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Resources Expended	Notes 6 to 8	102,576.09	7,140.71	109,716.80	116,984.23
Asset and Investment sales, etc	Note 9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Resources Expended		102,576.09	7,140.71	109,716.80	116,984.23
Net Movement in Funds					
Net Incoming Resources		2,347.21	9,685.53	12,032.74	-351.20
Transfer Between Funds		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Funds Brought Forward at 1 January		33,744.51	10,367.45	44,111.96	44,463.16
Total Funds Carried Forward at 31 December		36,091.72	20,052.98	56,144.70	44,111.96
Assets (not capitalised)					
Tangible Fixed Assets	Note 9	0.00	2,122,125.00	2,122,125.00	2,122,125.00
Bank and Cash	Note 10	36,091.72	20,052.98	56,144.70	44,111.96
Total Assets		36,091.72	2,142,177.98	2,178,269.70	2,166,236.96
Current Liabilities	Note 11	965.25	0.00	965.25	0.00
TOTAL NET CURRENT ASSETS		35,126.47	2,142,177.98	2,178,269.70	2,165,271.71

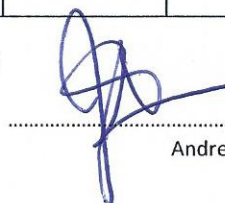
Approved by the Trustees on
and signed on their behalf by:

Martin Barker, Treasurer



9th May 2024

Andrew Lockton, Secretary



WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023

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1. ACCOUNTING POLICY

a) General

The financial statements have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with S. 133 Charities Act 2011.

b) Tangible Assets

Freehold buildings and land not depreciated
Church buildings are Grade II listed and valued at their insurance value
The manse is valued at cost

c) Voluntary Income

Voluntary income is donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of Financial Activities when received

d) Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the objects of Wotton Baptist Church without further specific purpose and are available as general funds.

e) Designated Funds

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Managing Trustees for particular purposes. In 2023 there were no Designated Funds.

f) Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are to be used for the specific purpose as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is identified to the fund.

g) Resources Expended

Expenditure is included on a cash basis and is allocated directly to expenditure headings

h) Governance costs

This represents direct expenditure on the governance of the church. Management is carried out without charge by volunteers supported by our employees which include a minister and part time administrator. The intangible cost is not included in the Statement of Financial Activities since there is no measurable cost to the volunteers for their services.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
				2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
2. VOLUNTARY INCOME					
Offering		82,320.00	5,054.00	87,374.00	84,653.25
Tax refund		18,382.00	910.00	19,292.00	20,007.31
Gift Days			0.00	0.00	0.00
One Off Gifts		3,487.20	1,585.00	5,072.20	207.16
VOLUNTARY INCOME TOTAL		104,189.20	7,549.00	111,738.20	104,867.72

3. INVESTMENT INCOME					
Charity Commissioners dividend			871.51	871.51	868.15
Interest		734.10	0.00	734.10	223.58
INVESTMENT INCOME TOTAL		734.10	871.51	1,605.61	1,091.73

4. OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES					
Hall use (for Bldng Proj Fund)		0.00	7,987.00	7,987.00	4,474.00
Sundry Receipts		0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
Refunds		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Little Fishes		0.00	0.00	0.00	438.02
Kidzone		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Youth trips various		0.00		0.00	0.00
Viney hill (Youth Trip) after refunds		0.00		0.00	287.00
Collections for causes			418.73	418.73	5,271.56
Pulse		0.00	0.00	0.00	53.00
Total		0.00	8,405.73	8,405.73	10,673.58
INCOMING RESOURCES TOTAL		104,923.30	16,826.24	121,749.54	116,633.03

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
			2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
5. COSTS OF ACTIVITIES IN FURTHERANCE OF THE CHURCH'S CHARITABLE AIMS				
MINISTRY				
MINISTER				
Stipend	27,060.49	314.70	27,375.19	29,749.64
National Insurance Emp Contr	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pension WBC Contr	5,611.25	0.00	5,611.25	6,290.95
BU Pension Shortfall Contr	12.00	0.00	12.00	2,192.36
Total	32,683.74	314.70	32,998.44	38,232.95
EXPENSES				
Car	571.05	0.00	571.05	379.73
Telephone	60.00	0.00	60.00	66.00
Conferences	440.00	0.00	440.00	647.98
Sundries	228.84	0.00	228.84	216.18
Total	1,299.89	0.00	1,299.89	1,309.89
MANSE EXPENSES				
Repairs	2,443.67	0.00	2,443.67	365.39
Gas Service Contract	360.60	0.00	360.60	354.84
Insurance	303.85	0.00	303.85	346.61
Water Charge	737.16	0.00	737.16	677.40
Council Tax	2,218.20	0.00	2,218.20	2,030.67
Sundries	88.87	0.00	88.87	19.99
Total	6,152.35	0.00	6,152.35	3,794.90
Pastoral Assistant/Trainee				
Remuneration	4,309.68	0.00	4,309.68	0.00
Pension WBC Contr (see note 14)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Expenses - Car	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	4,309.68	0.00	4,309.68	0.00
YOUTH WORKER				
Remuneration	6,349.72	0.00	6,349.72	5,823.96
Pension WBC Contr	615.23	0.00	615.23	582.36
Expenses - Car	794.25	0.00	794.25	434.25
Total	7,759.20	0.00	7,759.20	6,840.57
CLEANER (part time)				
Remuneration	3,942.35	0.00	3,942.35	3,600.16
Total	3,942.35	0.00	3,942.35	3,600.16
ADMINISTRATOR (part time)				
Remuneration	4,129.72	0.00	4,129.72	4,247.60
Total	4,129.72	0.00	4,129.72	4,247.60
MINISTRY TOTAL	60,276.93	314.70	60,591.63	58,026.07

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023

Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
		Total	Total
£	£	£	£

MISSION

General Mission	1,943.41	0.00	1,943.41	120.42
Kidzone	252.00	0.00	252.00	252.00
Little Fishes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ben Rayfield Inc Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Youth Work 14 yrs up	1,620.55	0.00	1,620.55	639.46
Pulse	285.05	0.00	285.05	139.28
Holiday Club	1,325.34	0.00	1,325.34	712.69
Youth trip Viney Hill	7.28	0.00	7.28	243.00
Spree (Youth Trip)	1,020.27	0.00	1,020.27	1,680.87
WDAC	512.04	90.00	602.04	2,304.63
Community Support Fund	695.00	0.00	695.00	50.00
Charitable Grants	13,457.60	3,800.69	17,258.29	20,573.55
MISSION TOTAL	21,118.54	3,890.69	25,009.23	26,715.90

ESTABLISHMENT**RUNNING COSTS**

Subs. BU, EA, CTIW & CCL	1,667.09	0.00	1,667.09	2,020.93
Publications	120.23	0.00	120.23	532.92
Heat and Light	4,663.21	0.00	4,663.21	4,580.19
Insurance	1,948.52	0.00	1,948.52	2,107.29
General repairs and maintenance	1,212.29	556.81	1,769.10	2,802.30
Media System	3,368.45	0.00	3,368.45	1,105.35
RUNNING COSTS TOTAL	12,979.79	556.81	13,536.60	13,148.98

SUNDRIES

Supply Preachers	0.00	0.00	0.00	524.68
Miscellaneous	535.00	0.00	535.00	504.99
Conferences and Training	1,064.40	0.00	1,064.40	443.50
Catering and Cleaning Materials	1,250.96	0.00	1,250.96	1,067.95
Hall Use Refund		0.00	0.00	25.00
Bank Charges	91.70	0.00	91.70	168.96
SUNDRIES TOTAL	2,942.06	0.00	2,942.06	2,735.08

ADMINISTRATION

Stationery, Postage, Copyright	107.56	0.00	107.56	182.08
Church Telephone	515.53	0.00	515.53	490.14
Photocopier	723.60	0.00	723.60	886.42
ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	1,346.69	0.00	1,346.69	1,558.64

BUILDING REFURBISHMENT

Payments to contractor	3,912.08	2,378.51	6,290.59	14,799.56
BUILDING REFURBISHMENT TOTAL	3,912.08	2,378.51	6,290.59	14,799.56

ESTABLISHMENT TOTAL	21,180.62	2,935.32	24,115.94	32,242.26
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OUTGOING RESOURCES TOTAL	102,576.09	7,140.71	109,716.80	116,984.23
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WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023

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6. TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Charitable	Grant	Total	Total
	Activities	Funding	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Ministry	60,591.63	0.00	60,591.63	58,026.07
Mission	7,750.94	17,258.29	25,009.23	26,715.90
Establishment	24,115.94		24,115.94	32,242.26
Total	92,458.51	17,258.29	109,716.80	116,984.23

Note: Grant Funding includes grants from both Unrestricted and Restricted funds. Note 7 gives details of grants

7. GRANTS PAID

Grants, gifts and payments were made to the following organisations and individuals in the furtherance of the Church's objectives

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
			Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
BMS World Mission	4,600.00	0.00	4,600.00	4,500.00
BUGB Home Mission	5,500.00	0.00	5,500.00	5,500.00
Dagoretti Corner Street Ch	550.00	0.00	550.00	600.00
Burmese Child	370.00	0.00	370.00	354.00
Honduran Child	237.60	0.00	237.60	237.60
BMS New Churches	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
Paul and Sarah Brown (BMS World Mission)	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Lynch (BMS World Mission)	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Open Doors	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Leaving Gift (Not Gift Aided)	0.00	1,557.03	1,557.03	0.00
New Wine (2020)	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Other Donations	0.00	62.00	62.00	0.00
Tearfund	0.00	210.00	210.00	0.00
One25	500.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Pastoral Fund	0.00	1,610.66	1,610.66	1,302.00
Total	13,457.60	3,439.69	16,897.29	15,193.60

8. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Stipends and Remuneration	41,796.98	43,421.36
NI Costs	0.00	0.00
Pension Costs	6,226.48	6,873.31
Other Costs	2,094.14	1,744.14
Total	50,117.60	52,038.81

The average number of employees during the year was 1 full time and 3 part time equivalent in total to less than 2 full time staff.

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 during the year

No sums were reimbursed to the Trustees for their work as Trustees

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
Church Premises			1,857,125.00	1,857,125.00	1,857,125.00
Manse			265,000.00	265,000.00	265,000.00
Total		0.00	2,122,125.00	2,122,125.00	2,122,125.00

Notes

There were no investment purchases or sales in 2023.

Manse is valued at purchase price.

Church Premises are valued at insurance value. This value was increased in 2017 to include the link.

10. BANK AND CASH BALANCES

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2023 Total	2022
Current account at Lloyds Bank		11,050.99	18,011.62	29,062.61	18,663.02
Deposit account at Lloyds Bank		0.00	2,041.36	2,041.36	1,155.94
Baptist Loan Fund		23,819.67	0	23,819.67	23,819.67
Cash in hand		1,221.06	0.00	1,221.06	473.33
Cheques not presented		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		36,091.72	20,052.98	56,144.70	44,111.96

11. CURRENT LIABILITIES

Uncollected Pension Contributions		965.25		965.25	
Total		965.25	0.00	965.25	0.00

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023

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12. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance at	Movement in Resources		Transfer from Gen Fund	Balance at
	1st Jan				31st Dec
	2023	Incoming	Outgoing	Incoming	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Building Projects Fund (BPF)					
Building Fund/BPF		3,364.00	2,378.51	0.00	
Building Fund /BPF (Tax Refund)		410.00	0.00		
Hall use		7,987.00	0.00		
One Off Gifts / Grants		0.00	0.00		
Total Building Projects Fund	8,268.16	11,761.00	2,378.51	0.00	17,650.65
Pastoral Fund					
Pastoral Fund		1,600.00	1,610.66		
Pastoral Fund (Tax Refund)		500.00	0.00		
Total Pastoral Fund	1,897.15	2,100.00	1,610.66	0.00	2,386.49
Other Restricted funds					
Ukraine	-148.45	130.00	62.00		-80.45
BMS (Birthday Scheme)	35.00	0.00	0.00		35.00
Tearfund Appeal	207.59	0.00	210.00		-2.41
One25 Collection	0.00	288.73	361.00		-72.27
Leaving Gift (Not Gift Aided)	0.00	1,585.00	1,557.03		27.97
Open Doors	10.00		0.00		10.00
Wotton Debt Advice Centre	0.00	90.00	90.00		0.00
WDAC (Tax Refund)	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00
Miss G C Excell Charity for Minister	0.00	314.70	314.70		0.00
William Perrin Charities for Maintenance	0.00	556.81	556.81		0.00
Ben Rayfield inc Grant	98.00	0.00	0.00		98.00
Youth Worker (inc Tax Refund)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Other Restricted Funds	202.14	2,965.24	3,151.54	0.00	15.84
Total Restricted Funds	10,367.45	16,826.24	7,140.71	0.00	20,052.98

Footnotes:

- (i) The Building Projects Fund (formerly Building Fund) is allocated receipts from the use of the Church Premises. The Name and purpose of this Fund was redefined at the June 2022 members meeting to clarify it as restricted to funding major projects on the premises.
- (ii) The Pastoral Fund is used to support those in financial need in the fellowship or known to the church. It is administered confidentially by the Trustees.
- (iii) Other Restricted funds are funds to which voluntary contributions for a given specific purpose are made on occasions.
- (iv) Miss GC Excell Charity is a fund invested with CCLA Investment Management Ltd to contribute to the cost of a minister of this church.
- (v) William Perrin Charities are funds invested with CCLA Investment Management Ltd to contribute to the maintenance costs of the premises.

14. PENSIONS

In his previous Church the Minister contributed to a private pension. This arrangement has continued since he moved to Wotton Baptist Church. The pension premiums are split 1/3 from the Minister and 2/3 from the Church. The Church contributes to a pension for the Youth Worker. The Church does not contribute to a pension for the cleaner or administrator.

The Pastoral Assistant has been enrolled in the Baptist Pension Scheme (ministers section). Contributions are made by both employee and church. Due to delay in setting up a direct debit these payments have not started in 2023 but will be backdated. As these accounts are prepared on a cash basis the payments will appear in 2024 accounts and will include employee deductions already made in monthly pay in 2023. This is shown as a current liability in these accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT
TO THE MANAGING TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BAPTIST CHURCH
ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023
SET OUT ON PAGES 7 TO 14

Respective responsibilities of
trustees and examiners

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. In accordance with S.144 of Charities Act 2011 an audit is not required for this year but an Independent examination is.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (in accordance with the Act);
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

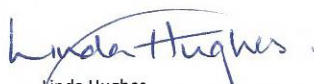
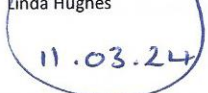
Examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's
statement

In connection with my examination no matter has come to my attention

- (1) which gives reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with the 2011 Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave 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.

Signed


Linda Hughes


Date