

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023**

**FOR**

**BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH  
NARBERTH**

**Registered Charity Number 1146039**





**BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH  
NARBERTH**

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**BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH NARBERTH**  
**Charity Number 1146039**

**Reference and Administrative Information**

<b>Charity Name</b>	Bethesda Baptist Church Narberth
<b>Registered Charity Number</b>	1146039

<b>Charity's Principal Address:</b>
The church building is situated in High Street, Narberth, Pembrokeshire SA67 7AS.
All correspondence relating to this report however, should be sent to the church treasurer at:
The Green, Redstone Road, Narberth, Pembrokeshire SA67 7ES.

<b>Managing Trustees</b>
Rev. Chris P Rees - Minister & Chairman of the Trustees.
Mr Robert Lewis-Jones
Mrs Olga D Adams -Joint treasurer
Mr. Timothy Vlismas- Deacon
Mrs. M G June John- Joint treasurer
Mr Alan Bowditch – Deacon – Appointed September 2023
Mr John Okenwa – Deacon – Appointed September 2023

<b>Holding / Property Trustees</b>	
Christopher Paul Rees	Aaron Jonathan Davies Whitfield
Robert Wynne Thomas	Eifion Cynddylan Perkins
Ian Philip Middlemist	Paul Michael David
Andrew Paul Millership	Martin Williams
Timothy Vlismas	John Alwyn Lesley Lewis

<b>Principal Bankers</b>
Barclays Bank plc. 32 High Street, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA61 2DA

<b>Independent Examiner</b>
D D Harries
Dolwerdd
Bethesda
Narberth



**BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH NARBERTH**

**Charity Number 1146039**

**Trustee Report**

**Year ended 31st December 2023**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities : Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019)

**Objectives and Activities**

The Charity objects are:

- To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Faith in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Trustees from time to time think fit;
- To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the UK or the world as the Trustees from time to time think fit;
- To advance education in such ways and in such parts of the UK or the world as the Trustees from time to time think fit;

**Activities, Performance and Achievements**

Bethesda Baptist Church continues to be active both in its regular church activities and in the provision of service and support to the community at large.

In addition to the regular church activities, through the facilities offered by the building extension, we are able to offer the following:

- Men's meeting once per month on a Saturday,
- Warm space
- Tuesday evening meal for those lonely in community
- Community visitation to the house bound
- Community Hymn singing in the homes and elderly accommodation centres.

Community activities have continued with the senior citizen coffee morning, the listening post, craft groups, and the dance group for the elderly. Several other Societies make use of the premises for their regular meetings.

Community engagement has been developed further with hosting the Narberth School Christmas Service and holding the singing festival in February.

New technology has made it more inclusive for those attending with hearing and sight and disabled issues.



**BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH NARBERTH**  
**Charity Number 1146039**

**Public Benefit**

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit.

**Financial Review**

Unrestricted funds recorded a deficit in the year of £4,326 (2021 – Surplus - £7,806). Sustaining income at levels sufficient to meet our expenditure continues to be a challenge. Members and friends continue to be very supportive and together with potential income generation from the church extension, the trustees are satisfied with the financial prospects. The balance sheet demonstrates a strong position.

Free reserves are reserves available to the charity that are readily convertible into cash and may be used for non-restricted purposes. As at the year end, our free reserves amounted to £83,362 (2022 - £89,361). This equates to approximately 1.0 times our annual charitable expenditure.

The trustees are satisfied that these accounts should be prepared on the Going Concern basis.

**Risk Management**

Risk management has been reviewed in terms of child protection policies, risk assessments of events and trips, the undertaking of Criminal Record Bureau checks and health and safety issues. The trustees feel that they have taken all reasonable steps to protect beneficiaries, staff, volunteers and the organisation itself.

Financial risks have been reviewed and procedures put in place accordingly. A reserves policy has been established in line with the identified risks.

**Structure, Governance and Management**

Bethesda Baptist Church has existed in Narberth for over 200 years. It is an independent Baptist church is an unincorporated organisation, governed by an updated Constitution which was adopted by the church members on 12th September 2011. It was granted charity status by the Charity Commission on 2nd February 2012, but functioned as an unregistered charity prior to this date. A separate document entitled Church Covenants Guidelines and Roles covering more detail of the covenants of faith and membership subscribed to by members of the church was issued in February 2013.

There is one paid worker, the minister/pastor of the church who is responsible for preaching and teaching the truths of God's Word, leading the worship of God and other pastoral duties. The managing trustees are responsible for the management of the charity. They choose from amongst themselves a secretary and a treasurer. The latter is responsible for keeping all financial records and accounts and reporting them to the other trustees.



**BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH NARBERTH**  
**Charity Number 1146039**

The managing trustees form the finance committee and are consulted on all aspects of accounting, policies and procedures and are involved in the decision-making regarding the day-to-day running of the church.

**Appointment of Management Trustees**

Management trustees are appointed as set out in the Constitution and Guidelines and Roles documents. The minimum number of management trustees is three individuals with a maximum number determined by the Minister depending upon the needs of the church at the time. All management trustees must be members of the church and must subscribe and adhere to the Statement of Faith, in belief and lifestyle.

As part of their induction all Managing Trustees are CRB checked as appropriate to their work within the church and are shown the relevant documentation regarding the running of the charity.

**Statement of Committee of Management Responsibilities**

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

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and the regulations made under the Charities Act. The trustees 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.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 14 October 24 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev Christopher P Rees – Trustee



## Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Bethesda Baptist Church Narberth

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 6 to 13

### 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").

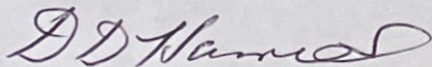
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.



David Dylan Harries  
Dolwerdd  
Bethesda  
Narberth

Date 22 October 2024



BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH, NARBERTH  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds £	Year ended 31/12/22 £
Incoming resources (Note 2)				
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	49,824	-	49,824	72,746
Charitable activities	6,007		6,007	5,627
Investments	677		677	289
Other			-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,508</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>56,508</b>	<b>78,662</b>
Resources expended (Note 3)				
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	83,595	-	83,595	91,655
<b>Total</b>	<b>83,595</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>83,595</b>	<b>91,655</b>
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)	(27,087)	-	(27,087)	(12,993)
Investment Gains / Losses	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	(27,087)	-	(27,087)	(12,993)
Transfers between funds (Note 10)	-		-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(27,087)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(27,087)</b>	<b>(12,993)</b>
Reconciliation of funds(note 9):				
Total funds brought forward	698,095	-	698,095	711,088
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>671,008</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>671,008</b>	<b>698,095</b>



BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH, NARBERTH - (Charity Number 1146039)  
BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total this year £	As at 31/12/22 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets (Note 7)	587,646	-	587,646	608,734
Total fixed assets	587,646	-	587,646	608,734
Current assets				
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 8)	83,362	-	83,362	89,361
Total current assets	83,362	-	83,362	89,361
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	83,362	-	83,362	89,361
Total assets less current liabilities	671,008	-	671,008	698,095
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year				
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	671,008	-	671,008	698,095
Funds of the Charity (Note 9)				
Restricted income funds	-	-	-	-
Unrestricted funds	671,008	-	671,008	698,095
Total funds	671,008	-	671,008	698,095

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and were signed on their behalf by:

CP REES

Dated 14 October 2024



BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH, NARBERTH  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', and the Charities Act 2011.

**Incoming Resources**

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The following specific policies have been applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activity when receivable

Donated Services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included in these accounts.

Investment income is included when receivable

**Resources Expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Charitable expenditure comprises the costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both the costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

**Tangible Fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided as follows:

Freehold Property	4% on Cost starting in the year of completion of the relevant asset
Equipment	25% Reducing Balance basis

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from Corporation Tax on its Charitable activities

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.



BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH, NARBERTH  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

2 ANALYSIS OF INCOME

	Unrestrict- ed funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds	Year Ended 31/12/22
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	41,412		41,412	47,401
Charitable activities	6,007		6,007	5,627
Gift Aid	6,987		6,987	7,912
General grants provided by government/other charities	-		-	17,433
Other	1,425		1,425	-
Sub Total	55,831	-	55,831	78,373
Interest income	677		677	289
	-	-	-	-
Sub Total	677	-	677	289
TOTAL	56,508	-	56,508	78,662

	2023 £	2022 £
GRANTS		
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	-	17,433
Other	-	-
	-	17,433



**BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH, NARBERTH**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

**3 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE**

	<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>
	Unrestricted	Restricted	
	£	£	£
Staff Costs	26,553		26,553
Premises Costs	5,342		8,082
Utilities	5,059		5,533
Other Charitable Expenditure	12,127		8,638
Support Costs	578		810
Donations	2,245		5,500
Building Repairs	1,484		5,862
Other Costs	0		2,477
Depreciation	30,207		28,536
	<b>83,595</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>83,595</b>
			<b>91,655</b>

Support costs comprise :

	<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>
	£	£	£
Administrative and accounting	578		570
Independent examination fee	0		240
	<b>578</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>810</b>

**4 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits and expenses for 2023 and 2022 other than the amounts payable to Rev C.P. Rees under contract of employment for his services as Minister of Religion for Bethesda Baptist Church Narberth.

**5 STAFF COSTS**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Salaries and wages	22,200	22,200
Social security costs		228
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	2,291	2,324
Other employee benefits	2,062	1,465
<b>Total staff costs</b>	<b>26,554</b>	<b>26,217</b>



BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH, NARBERTH  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

6 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total Funds £
<b>Incoming resources</b>			
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	60,940	17,433	78,373
Charitable activities	-	-	-
Investments	289		289
Other			-
<b>Total</b>	<b>61,229</b>	<b>17,433</b>	<b>78,662</b>
 Resources expended (Note 6)			
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	65,555	26,100	91,655
<b>Total</b>	<b>65,555</b>	<b>26,100</b>	<b>91,655</b>
 Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)	(4,326)	(8,667)	(12,993)
Investment Gains / Losses	-	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>(4,326)</b>	<b>(8,667)</b>	<b>(12,993)</b>
 Transfers between funds	627,222	(627,222)	-
 Net movement in funds	622,896	(635,889)	(12,993)
 <b>Reconciliation of funds(note 10):</b>			
Total funds brought forward	75,199	635,889	711,088
 Total funds carried forward	698,095	-	698,095



BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH, NARBERTH  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

7 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment £	Freehold property £	Total £
<b>COST</b>			
At 1st January 2023	10,630	652,504	663,134
Additions	9,119	0	9,119
At 31st December 2023	<u>19,749</u>	<u>652,504</u>	<u>672,253</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1st January 2023	3,322	51,078	54,400
This year	4,107	26,100	30,207
At 31st December 2023	<u>7,429</u>	<u>77,178</u>	<u>84,607</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31st December 2023	<u>12,320</u>	<u>575,326</u>	<u>587,646</u>
At 31st December 2022	<u>7,308</u>	<u>601,426</u>	<u>608,734</u>

8 ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)	83,362	89,361

9 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 01.01.23 £	Net Movement £	At 31.12.23 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General church Fund	698,095	-27,087	671,008
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Building Fund	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>698,095</u>	<u>-27,087</u>	<u>671,008</u>



BETHESDA BAPTIST CHURCH, NARBERTH  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

10 COMPARATIVES FOR MOVEMENT OF FUNDS  
Year ended 31st December 2022

	At 01.01.22	Net Movement	At 31.12.22
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General church Fund	75,199	622,896	698,095
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Building Fund	635,889	-635,889	0
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>711,088</u>	<u>-12,993</u>	<u>698,095</u>