

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1150563

## Details

|                |                                                         |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Other names    | SBC                                                     |
| Status         | Registered                                              |
| Legal form     | Charitable company                                      |
| Company number | <a href="#">07605036</a>                                |
| Registered     | 2013-01-22                                              |
| Register       | <a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a> |

## Contact

|         |                                                                  |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Address | Stopsley Baptist Church<br>St. Thomas's Road<br>Luton<br>LU2 7XP |
| Phone   | 01582727352                                                      |
| Email   | <a href="mailto:office@stopsley.net">office@stopsley.net</a>     |
| Website | <a href="http://www.stopsley.net">www.stopsley.net</a>           |

## Activities

**Objects:** 3. THE CHURCH'S OBJECTS ARE SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTED TO, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT:- 3.1 TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS IN SUCH WAYS AND IN SUCH PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE ELDERS FROM TIME TO TIME MAY THINK FIT; AND 3.2 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 UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE ELDERS FROM TIME TO TIME MAY THINK FIT.

**Activities:** Activities include: prayer, worship, bible study, children's activities for those aged from babies to 11 years, youth activities for young people aged 11 to 19 years, mentoring support and developing social skills in young people including young carers and young parents, missions work both locally and overseas and activities for seniors.

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

| Period end | Income   | Expenditure | Assets     | Employees |
|------------|----------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| 2024-12-31 | £616,125 | £729,668    | £1,956,720 | 13        |
| 2023-12-31 | £569,405 | £642,739    | £2,070,263 | 12        |
| 2022-12-31 | £747,893 | £520,069    | £2,143,597 | 12        |
| 2021-12-31 | £502,597 | £506,732    | £1,892,473 | 12        |
| 2020-12-31 | £545,523 | £520,336    | £1,891,058 | 12        |

## Trustees

| Name                    | Role  | Appointed  |
|-------------------------|-------|------------|
| Neil Richard Mattocks   | Chair | 2019-03-10 |
| ALEXANDER CHARLES DAVIE |       | 2019-09-02 |
| CLIVE DESILVER ROBERTS  |       | 2017-02-12 |
| IAN PIRKS               |       | 2017-02-12 |
| Joanne Ruth White       |       | 2021-05-23 |
| Laura Mudd              |       | 2016-05-08 |
| Lucinda Yule            |       | 2021-05-23 |

**STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1150563

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07605036 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1150563**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024  
FOR  
STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024. 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Objectives and purposes**

Stopsley Baptist Church ('SBC') is committed to pursuing its objects of advancing the Christian faith in accordance with its Statement of Beliefs, of relieving sickness and financial hardship, and promoting and preserving good health by the provision of funds, goods or services within Luton, the United Kingdom and across the wider world. These ends are pursued by the provision of regular opportunities for Christian teaching, prayer, and worship in our Sunday services and in a range of other community groups and settings through the week and, because the church believes that the good news of Jesus Christ is not confined to those within the church alone, through sharing the message of hope found in the gospel through a range of community and outreach activities in Luton and in the mission activities of our local and overseas partners.

After a period of stability, 2024 saw some increase in the numbers in attendance both on Sundays and especially across our midweek activities. We continue to stream our Sunday services achieving a reach beyond our local geography and providing accessibility for those not able to physically attend.

Our vision at SBC remains expressed as an aspiration to be 'an extended family, growing and being transformed in Jesus Christ and sharing the good news wherever we go'. Our church is not a Sunday club or a "religious" group as such but a whole life community, looking upward to Jesus Christ and outward to our neighbourhoods and contacts. The mission of the church is to engender a life and a culture that seeks to influence and transform us as individuals and, through that, to transform our communities.

#### **Leadership and staffing**

June 2024 saw our Senior Minister move on, after 15 years in leadership at SBC, to take up a new role in a church in Exeter. As part of our process of adjustment to this the trustees took this opportunity to re-evaluate our vision, leadership structure, direction and our strengths and weaknesses, seeking to identify any changes that might be appropriate and to define the type of person we should look for to lead us forward into the future. This process involved extensive discussions amongst the trustees and key leaders along with extensive consultation with the church members, involving written survey, collective seminars and meetings over several months. A search team comprised of a mix of trustees and church members of different ages and cultural backgrounds was formed to evaluate the feedback from all this consultation and produce a profile of the church along with a specification for the person we are looking for to be our senior minister. This profile and specification was completed in October and we began advertising the position in November through our affiliation with the Baptist Union.

In parallel with the search team, a second team comprised of trustees and staff leaders was created to deal with the many practical impacts that result from losing a senior member of staff and this resulted in several of our key staff stepping up their working hours and/or job roles on an interim basis.

There is a shortage of ministry candidates in the UK, even more so of those with the gifting and experience to lead a church as large, diverse and active as SBC so we anticipate the process of identifying, calling and appointing a new Senior Minister could be a protracted one. Such a period is known in churches as an 'interregnum' and can often be a very rich and catalytic time, as it gives many opportunities for individuals to step up and use their gifts and to grow in their own leadership abilities. Such has been our experience at SBC thus far and a sense of positivity and excitement prevails.

In the interregnum, the church continues to be led by our team of 8 Elders who are the directors and trustees.

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# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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In 2024 we had several other staff changes, our Governance and Administration Director left us at the end of the year and our former Operations Manager stepped up into a new role of Operations & Governance Director. Our Finance Officer also retired and was replaced.

SBC continues to practice environmental concern. A legacy gift enabled us to invest in a large solar panel array on the church roof that has reduced our carbon footprint and delivered significant savings in energy costs over the year.

### **Significant activities**

#### Worship and Prayer

2024 saw us continuing to enjoy a vibrant rhythm of gathered worship and prayer week by week at our main building and we had the joy of baptising 3 people. On the announcement that our Senior Minister was moving on we immediately called the church to a month of prayer and fasting and this is something we have given emphasis to building on through the year.

We remain committed to functioning intergenerationally and inter-culturally and are intentional in utilising a wide range of different people, ages, backgrounds and cultures in the delivery of our services. We endeavour to adapt our teaching themes to be consistent across adults and children and thereby to adopt ways of being together that seek to engage, allow contribution, and learn from all ages. We are also cognizant of different personal learning styles and have used a range of media in teaching to facilitate communication and involvement for all.

We continually seek to improve our family area in the church auditorium which includes a sensory tent with a weighted blanket, noise-cancelling headphones and sensory toys, to help those who might need that space, and we have baskets of colouring pages, bible story books, stickers, crayons, more sensory toys and worksheets relevant to each week.

We continued to develop our monthly 'Feast' service, a shorter service where all generations stay together for the whole time to reinforce the idea of 'whole church'. We explore a bible story together and encourage the generations to interact together in encounters that point to Jesus.

Outside of Sunday services and prayer/worship meetings we continued to offer opportunities to engage in worship in different contexts throughout the week serving several distinct congregations, significant among these have been:

Our Seniors provision which happens monthly on Sunday afternoons plus monthly on Tuesdays with volunteers from the church providing transport to and from these activities for the majority of attendees. Our senior's leadership team and volunteers keep in regular contact with our seniors, ensuring their welfare and providing any necessary assistance.

Messy Church has continued to be part of our worship, meeting half termly after school during the week. This offers a different style of opportunity to pursue a life of faith in Christ and drawing in, and serving, a community of people, predominantly comprising young families, not generally seen on Sunday morning. Once again, we ran 'Messy Easter' and 'Messy Christmas' services on Sunday mornings as a whole church initiative, which brought together our Sunday and Messy Church congregations.

Patchwork, on Mondays, provides a cross-generational drop-in session which draws in both the older generation and young parents with their children and has seen significant numbers attending week by week. It has become an important point of contact and relationship building for many. This time always incorporates a clear Christian message and a chance to respond through a prayer activity.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

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### Community Engagement

Our vision to be extended family extends to our local community and, under the leadership of our Evangelism and Community Engagement Pastor, 2024 has again seen us making tangible progress in moving forward in this vision.

During the year, the letting of our facilities for conferences, community and health and welfare activities, increased. We rent some office space to local charities and small businesses, providing additional income as well as an expression of our vision to be an available space for extended family and community.

Our Community Garden, now in its 7th year, continues to be a facility that is used daily and loved by many. It is overseen and maintained by members of the church and others from the wider community. As well as providing a safe space for local people and families to enjoy, it has been the focus of multiple community events, including 'Garden Church' and celebrations of Easter and Christmas, and has hosted activities organised by a range of different community groups.

Our vision to build on the success of the Community Garden and create a "Community Hub" took a major step forward in 2024 as, thanks to a generous legacy from a former church member, the assistance of a local building company and a team of local volunteers, we were able to extensively refurbish, re-decorate and re-equip our former church hall, along with its car park, to create 'The Living Room' - a large indoor space adjacent to, and complementing, the Community Garden. As well as spaces for individuals, groups and family activities, the facility will also incorporate a 'Men's Shed / Workshop' which is to be generously equipped with tools donated by the community. We have secured funds to employ a hub manager and the indoor facility will open to the public early in 2025.

We support a community outreach project called The Tent Project focused on dementia support, led by one of our members and delivered in partnership with St Thomas Church and others. A Singing Café run by the Tent Project sees up to 80 attendees every week.

We continue to run 'Foodworks', a ministry supplying food parcels to referrals received either personally or through a range of agencies and stocked by members of the church and through contributions from the community and local schools. We also work in partnership with Luton Foodbank, acting as their weekly distribution point for our immediate area.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

#### Significant activities

##### Children's and Family Ministry

Under the leadership of our Families and Youth Leader, Assistant and our Early Years Lead, our ministries for kids and young people continued to thrive and we continue to put thought and research into what we do and to try our new ideas.

Outside of Sunday services we run multiple mid-week sessions: 'Hullabaloo' for early years, 'Babybaloo' for new parents and under ones and 'Childminders', which is specifically for those in that profession and their charges. As well as a place for parents and young children to meet and find mutual support, we introduce bible stories, songs and prayer in all these sessions and seek to open opportunities to share more meaningfully at these times. Demand for these sessions remains high and they are regularly oversubscribed.

Our Junior Section of the Boys Brigade continues weekly and welcomes boys aged 7-11 from the community.

We continued to run 'Kids Socials' for children in primary school, a chance for them to connect with each other. Numbers attending have grown with more children coming from the community alongside our own congregation. We also regularly provide collective worship to local primary schools, sharing bible stories and the messages of Easter and Christmas.

We maintain a weekly email to families, with materials and resources to equip parents and carers to raise God-connected children, and our Families and Youth Leader meets with individuals and families who need extra support.

##### Youth Ministry

Under the leadership of our Families and Youth Leader we have consistently provided our young people with quality times for engagement with all aspects of the Christian faith:

Our regular events included:

Our Sunday morning teaching group for 11-14's 'Pulse' has grown in numbers.

A monthly Sunday morning session for '14+' with a focus on hearing from key leaders in the church about leadership in their contexts.

"Just Girls" - a discipleship group that meets termly for girls aged 11-18, led by a committed team of ladies working through how to stay connected to Jesus.

Our Boys Brigade's Company Section which meets weekly for 11-18 boys and has encouraged and enabled many of them to work towards and achieve Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Two youth groups run weekly: 'Impact' for 9-13's and 'Ignite' for ages 13-18, plus a monthly social session which draws both these age groups together and creates a community and connection and fun!

We also organised the following special events:

A youth weekend away in March called 'Connected' which focused on staying connected to Jesus through prayer, bonding together as a group and sharing life together.

We took 5 of our young people on a Youth Mission Trip to Albania at Easter in collaboration with YWAM Harpenden, through their Mission Adventures programme. This was a time of spiritual growth and stepping out of comfort zones to share the love of Jesus. Subsequently, the youth have set up a specific Youth Mission Team group which meets regularly to pray for the nations, encourage others in evangelism and organise future trips.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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In August, we took 20 of our older youth to the "Satellites" festival run by Youthscape, which was a time for them to grow in their experience of Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

Finally, in October, we ran an event called 'Choose to Lose', which was a fundraising initiative to help those in the persecuted church. The challenge involved losing your bed for a night and sleeping on the floor, along with being deprived of other material things such as shoes, Wi-Fi, food, water, phones and lights. This was reinforced by being taught what it is like to be a young person living in a country where it is illegal to be a Christian.

### GreenHouse Mentoring

GHM is a self-funded project of SBC with its own Manager, staff and governance board. It exists to meet, mentor and help referred young people in Luton. It continues to strengthen and add to its existing courses and review the best way to deliver material to the current generation. During 2024, 10 new volunteers were trained, many of whom are now part of the team.

During the year it provided the following services:

- Group Mentoring Courses: Building Self-Esteem, Dealing with Anger, Exploring Identity through Creative Process, Six Words, Hanging out Safely and Six Weeks of Summer, for ages 8-12
- A Wednesday Evening for ages 11-16
- A Saturday Drop-In.

Group Mentoring courses operate in a way that encourages conversation around a table and invites young people into a new story, where they create something with an art/craft theme and allows them space to open up and share their thoughts. We have also encouraged the building of positive friendships by giving social time within a safe space.

Our Saturday Drop-In provides a relaxed space where we can encourage young people to make friends and develop their social skills. The numbers of young people attending this have increased to an average of 25 and we have found that the friendships within this group include every age attending, which is a real joy to see. It has also helped the younger ones, who join us on Saturdays before their course begins in September, to feel settled and to make friends.

During the summer holidays we ran 'Holiday Drop In', which was open to all of our referred young people and included games and activities within a safe environment. Many do not go on holiday and so this gave some time away from home to enjoy. We also provided lunchtime meals, as we are very aware of those not getting free school meals during the holidays.

We successfully took our "Hanging Out Safely" course into our local High School and, on the back of this success, are looking to add another course to the programme. We attended events for mental health and wellbeing at another local High School, where we had many positive conversations with the young people. We receive many referrals from both these schools and it is a privilege to be partnering in this way within the local community.

We are also partnering with various organisations across Luton to support one another in tackling some of the issues young people are facing. Our part in this is to bring awareness to young people in a way which helps to prevent them becoming involved in harmful situations.

### Global and Cross-Cultural Mission

The church continues to support work overseas in the Balkans, Cambodia, Pakistan, and the Middle East through prayer, pastoral care, personal and group connection, fundraising, pastoral visits/care and short-term trips. We have members who serve overseas full time or travel frequently as part of their ministry.

We support a project based in Luton which offers friendship, English language learning and basic skills support to different ethnic groups found in the town, notably amongst Pakistani Muslims. This involves a number of our church who regularly volunteer, serving in different ways and reaching out to the community.

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# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

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Organised trips in 2024 included a Youth mission trip to Albania, a small group who ministered and taught about autism awareness in Kosovo, a pastoral trip to Albania and a led retreat in Macedonia.

The SBC family raised over £50,000 in 2024 for our overseas mission partners to help fund individuals who are involved in education, serving the poor and equipping and developing leaders.

### Pastoral Care

The church continues to work hard to offer care to those who attend the church and to the wider community at all levels, including connecting people into extended families where much first line pastoral care and support occurs. We have a Pastoral Steering Group covering the breadth of our community and responding in cases of more significant need.

All this, along with the many other activities that SBC leads and facilitates, amply fulfils the criteria for public benefit laid down by the Charities Commission, as well as glorifying the God whom we follow in Jesus Christ.

### Membership

At the end of 2024, the church had 216 affirmed members plus a similar number of regular non-member attendees.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial position**

During the year under review, the objective was to maintain the reserves in the general fund in line with the agreed policy. There was a deficit for the year of £22,470 (2023 deficit £4,906) in the general fund. The designated fund reduced by £113,733 leaving a balance of £2,033. There was an increase in restricted funds of £22,660 (2023 decrease of £6,594). Total income for the year was £616,125 (2023 £569,405) and total expenditure £729,668 (2023 £642,739). More detailed information regarding income and expenditure can be found in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

### **Investment policy and objectives**

The trustees consider that the present policy of investing funds in higher rate bank accounts offers the least risk in the current economic climate. Any funds not required for current use are invested in the Baptists Together 3 Month Notice Account.

### **Reserves policy**

The trustees have considered the requirements for reserves based on the main risks to the funding. The restricted activities are mainly supported from contracts or fundraising and all of these activities could be reduced without significant risk. Reserves are therefore only required to cover unrestricted activities, namely general fund. Approximately 90% of general fund income comes from the regular weekly or monthly commitment from Members and the gift aid recovered on it. Consequently, it is considered that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets should ultimately be no less than 1.5 months of expenditure. As of 31 December 2024, the general fund reserves calculated on the above basis were £103,381 representing 3.1 months of future expenditure. Based on the budgeted expenditure for 2025, the reserve target will be £50,909.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

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### **FUTURE PLANS**

In 2025 we will be continuing our search for a new Senior Pastor. We will not be merely waiting but continuing to live and reach out in this period of change. We will continue to maintain, develop, adjust and evolve all areas of our existing activities, looking to members of the church to step forward where volunteer support is needed and offering a one-year internship programme for young adults.

We will continue to operate out of our objects and our vision statement that envisages our church as 'an extended family, growing and being transformed in Jesus Christ and sharing the good news wherever we go'. 2025 will have a particular focus on themes of hospitality, discipleship, and community engagement, the latter focused on the launch of the newly completed 'Living Room' provision at the GreenHouse Community Hub.

Early in the year we will be appointing of a part-time Community Hub Manager and start a 'Men's Shed/Workshop', creating an associated community specifically aimed at men. A similar community targeted at women will focus around knitting and needlework. Other initiatives are expected to take shape and follow, all aimed at combating loneliness and isolation, and developing relationship in, amongst and with the local community

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Governing document**

Stopsley Baptist Church was registered as a company limited by guarantee and having no share capital on 14 April 2011, company number 07605036, and registration as an independent charity was granted on 22 January 2013, charity number 1150563.

Until 20 September 2013, SBC operated as an unincorporated business and had excepted charity status via the Baptist Union of Great Britain, who is the custodian trustee for the church properties. With effect from 1 October 2013 all income and expenditure for SBC has been reflected through the company limited by guarantee.

#### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Elders are appointed by a formal ballot at a Church Members' Meeting and, once appointed, automatically become trustees. The minimum number of elders is three and there is no maximum number. An elder serves for an initial term of three years but may be reappointed for further terms. No restrictions apply to the Senior Pastor who is automatically an elder and trustee.

#### **Organisational structure**

The trustees are accountable for the overall management of SBC. This report contains a list of those who served in this capacity. The day-to-day provision of services is overseen by a staff team currently led by an interim pastor. This team is responsible for the operational management of the charity, the recruitment and supervision of volunteers and the development of skills and procedures in line with good practice. There are also approved policies for Volunteers, Investment, Risk Management, Conflict of Interest, Safeguarding Vulnerable Children and Adults, Complaints Handling and Paying Staff.

SBC is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Central Baptist Association.

#### **Induction and training of new trustees**

New trustees are expected to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. They are also required to read the Charity Commission publication "The Essential Trustee: What you need to know".

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

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### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Affiliations and relationships**

SBC is a member of Churches Together in Luton and has been involved in town-wide initiatives through the umbrella of the Transforming Luton organisation. We continue to enjoy good relationships with other churches across the town and in the immediate area. Several members of the church have also provided support to these other churches through preaching.

We continue to support, through individuals, and in some cases as a church, the work of a number of local charities and parachurch organisations. Formally, SBC has four Local Partners with whom we maintain a closer relationship of support and mutual benefit - these are Azalea, Youthscape (Luton), Noah and the Luton Community Chaplaincy.

Internationally, SBC is a Member of Radstock Ministries, which seeks to connect churches globally for collaboration in mission opportunities and church planting. Several of our staff and members attend conferences organised by Radstock and one of our members sits on the Radstock Board for Northern Europe.

#### **Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

In the short term, the risks of a shortfall in funding are minimised by the reserves held and the commitment of the members through donations and monthly standing orders. Internally, procedures are in place for the authorisation of expenditure and the receipt of monies. Computer records and bank statements are reconciled monthly. A register of potential financial risks is maintained.

All volunteers working with children and young people are required to complete Level 1 online safeguarding training, accessed through Bedfordshire Children's Services, to provide a current DBS disclosure certificate and to attend our annual training evening 'Equip'. Our Safeguarding Board, under the chair of a Safeguarding Trustee, continues to meet quarterly and additionally whenever need arises.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

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### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

#### **Registered Company number**

07605036 (England and Wales)

#### **Registered Charity number**

1150563

#### **Registered office**

Stopsley Baptist Church  
St Thomas' Road  
Luton  
Bedfordshire  
LU2 7XP

#### **Trustees**

N Mattocks (Chair)  
S Moody (resigned 31/5/2024)  
J Hylton  
L Mudd  
I Pirks  
C Roberts  
A Davie  
J White  
L Yule

#### **Auditors**

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

#### **Solicitors**

Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP  
134 Edmund Street  
Birmingham B3 2ES

#### **Bankers**

Barclays Bank Plc  
28 George Street  
Luton LU1 2AE

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Stopsley Baptist Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- 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 charitable company 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 charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

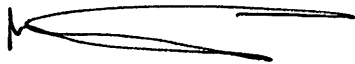
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### AUDITORS

The auditors, Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 2nd September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
N Mattocks (Chair) - Trustee

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Stopsley Baptist Church (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st December 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

### **Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

#### **Audit response to risks identified**

- the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance including the design of the remuneration policy;
- results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Company documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of noncompliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
  - the matters discussed among the audit engagement team, including tax regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in relation to revenue deferrals. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the Company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the UK Companies Act, UK Corporate Governance Code and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the Company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. These included compliance with Financial Conduct Authority regulation for the UK operating segment and compliance with local legislation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Donald M Brown FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

  
Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

Date: ..... 21/9/2025 .....

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

|                                    | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Designated<br>fund<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2024<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2023<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>  |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Donations and legacies             | 2     | 347,679                    | -                       | 6,350                    | 354,029                     | 371,632                     |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>       | 4     |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Mission Support                    |       | -                          | -                       | 44,944                   | 44,944                      | 50,472                      |
| GreenHouse Mentoring Organisations |       | -                          | -                       | 103,001                  | 103,001                     | 70,554                      |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre               |       | -                          | -                       | 1,250                    | 1,250                       | 1,123                       |
| GreenHouse Community Hub           |       | -                          | -                       | 13,572                   | 13,572                      | 12,477                      |
|                                    |       | -                          | -                       | 40,518                   | 40,518                      | -                           |
| Investment income                  | 3     | 58,811                     | -                       | -                        | 58,811                      | 63,147                      |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <u>406,490</u>             | <u>-</u>                | <u>209,635</u>           | <u>616,125</u>              | <u>569,405</u>              |
| <b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>              |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Raising funds                      | 5     | 5,376                      | -                       | -                        | 5,376                       | 4,791                       |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>       | 6     |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Mission Support                    |       | -                          | -                       | 53,992                   | 53,992                      | 71,152                      |
| GreenHouse Mentoring Organisations |       | -                          | -                       | 92,134                   | 92,134                      | 78,485                      |
| General                            |       | 423,584                    | 113,733                 | 1,122                    | 1,122                       | 1,232                       |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre               |       | -                          | -                       | -                        | 537,317                     | 472,892                     |
| GreenHouse Community Hub           |       | -                          | -                       | 15,706                   | 15,706                      | 14,187                      |
|                                    |       | -                          | -                       | 24,021                   | 24,021                      | -                           |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <u>428,960</u>             | <u>113,733</u>          | <u>186,975</u>           | <u>729,668</u>              | <u>642,739</u>              |
| <b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>    |       | (22,470)                   | (113,733)               | 22,660                   | (113,543)                   | (73,334)                    |
| <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>     |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Total funds brought forward        |       | 1,903,519                  | 115,766                 | 50,978                   | 2,070,263                   | 2,143,597                   |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b> |       | <u>1,881,049</u>           | <u>2,033</u>            | <u>73,638</u>            | <u>1,956,720</u>            | <u>2,070,263</u>            |

The notes form part of these financial statements

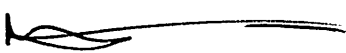
# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION 31ST DECEMBER 2024

|                                                  | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Designated<br>fund<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2024<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2023<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                              |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Tangible assets                                  | 11    | 1,777,668                  | -                       | -                        | 1,777,668                   | 1,777,668                   |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                            |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Debtors                                          | 12    | 17,446                     | -                       | 6,106                    | 23,552                      | 16,310                      |
| Cash at bank                                     |       | <u>114,356</u>             | <u>2,033</u>            | <u>98,639</u>            | <u>215,028</u>              | <u>343,733</u>              |
|                                                  |       | 131,802                    | 2,033                   | 104,745                  | 238,580                     | 360,043                     |
| <b>CREDITORS</b>                                 |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Amounts falling due within one year              | 13    | <u>(28,421)</u>            | <u>-</u>                | <u>(31,107)</u>          | <u>(59,528)</u>             | <u>(67,448)</u>             |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>                        |       | <u>103,381</u>             | <u>2,033</u>            | <u>73,638</u>            | <u>179,052</u>              | <u>292,595</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS<br/>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b> |       | <u>1,881,049</u>           | <u>2,033</u>            | <u>73,638</u>            | <u>1,956,720</u>            | <u>2,070,263</u>            |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                                |       | <u>1,881,049</u>           | <u>2,033</u>            | <u>73,638</u>            | <u>1,956,720</u>            | <u>2,070,263</u>            |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                                     | 14    |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Unrestricted funds:                              |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| General fund                                     |       |                            |                         |                          | 1,881,049                   | 1,903,519                   |
| Designated fund                                  |       |                            |                         |                          | <u>2,033</u>                | <u>115,766</u>              |
|                                                  |       |                            |                         |                          | <u>1,883,082</u>            | <u>2,019,285</u>            |
| Restricted funds                                 |       |                            |                         |                          | <u>73,638</u>               | <u>50,978</u>               |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                               |       |                            |                         |                          | <u>1,956,720</u>            | <u>2,070,263</u>            |

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 2nd September 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
N Mattocks (Chair) - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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|                                                                           | Notes | 2024<br>£        | 2023<br>£       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                               |       |                  |                 |
| Cash generated from operations                                            | 1     | <u>(135,021)</u> | <u>(72,359)</u> |
| Net cash used in operating activities                                     |       | <u>(135,021)</u> | <u>(72,359)</u> |
| <br><b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                           |       |                  |                 |
| Interest received                                                         |       | <u>6,316</u>     | <u>12,841</u>   |
| Net cash provided by investing activities                                 |       | <u>6,316</u>     | <u>12,841</u>   |
|                                                                           |       | <hr/>            | <hr/>           |
| <b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>        |       | (128,705)        | (59,518)        |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b> |       | <u>343,733</u>   | <u>403,251</u>  |
| <br><b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>   |       | <u>215,028</u>   | <u>343,733</u>  |

The notes form part of these financial statements

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# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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### 1. RECONCILIATION OF NET EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

|                                                                                         | 2024<br>£        | 2023<br>£       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities) | (113,543)        | (73,334)        |
| Adjustments for:                                                                        |                  |                 |
| Interest received                                                                       | (6,316)          | (12,841)        |
| (Increase)/decrease in debtors                                                          | (7,242)          | 6,454           |
| (Decrease)/increase in creditors                                                        | <u>(7,920)</u>   | <u>7,362</u>    |
| Net cash used in operations                                                             | <u>(135,021)</u> | <u>(72,359)</u> |

### 2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

|              | At 1.1.24<br>£ | Cash flow<br>£   | At 31.12.24<br>£ |
|--------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Net cash     |                |                  |                  |
| Cash at bank | <u>343,733</u> | <u>(128,705)</u> | <u>215,028</u>   |
|              | <u>343,733</u> | <u>(128,705)</u> | <u>215,028</u>   |
| Total        | <u>343,733</u> | <u>(128,705)</u> | <u>215,028</u>   |

The notes form part of these financial statements

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# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

#### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

#### **Charitable activities**

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both 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 and include the audit fees and costs linked to strategic management.

#### **Allocation and apportionment of costs**

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. time spent or estimated usage as set out in Notes 5 to 8.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

The custodian trustee for the church land and buildings is the Baptist Union of Great Britain Trust. The Trust holds the deeds for the following:

|                                       |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Church premises                       | 1,304,000                |
| Old Chapel refurbishment (GreenHouse) | 373,774                  |
| Land (next to GreenHouse)             | <u>99,894</u>            |
|                                       | <u><u>£1,777,668</u></u> |

The current church premises were built in 1994. The property is shown at historic cost within the financial statements. The Old Chapel Building was built in 1869 and was converted for use as a youth centre in 2002. There is no cost included for the original chapel but the refurbishment is included at cost. The land next to it was purchased in 2002 and is included at cost.

The trustees had the above professionally valued in July 2017, and the open market value of land and buildings exceeds their historic cost for the "current use" of the assets. No depreciation has been charged for buildings due to this valuation.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

---

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Equipment costing below £5,000 is not capitalised. Items costing over £5,000 purchased since 1 January 2009 are capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected life. Office equipment depreciation is 20% per year.

#### **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. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charitable company operated a defined contribution pension scheme. The obligations ceased when the minister left the scheme. Any contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The charitable company also makes payment into The Peoples Pension. Contributions payable to these are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

|                     | 2024           | 2023           |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                     | £              | £              |
| Gifts and donations | 22,530         | 29,079         |
| Offerings           | 272,423        | 285,159        |
| Gift aid            | <u>59,076</u>  | <u>57,394</u>  |
|                     | <u>354,029</u> | <u>371,632</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

### 3. INVESTMENT INCOME

|                          | 2024          | 2023          |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | £             | £             |
| Rents received           | 52,495        | 50,306        |
| Deposit account interest | <u>6,316</u>  | <u>12,841</u> |
|                          | <u>58,811</u> | <u>63,147</u> |

### 4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| Source                     | Activity - restricted          | 2024           | 2023           |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                            |                                | £              | £              |
| Mission Support            | Mission works                  | 44,944         | 50,472         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring       | Mentoring                      | 103,001        | 70,554         |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre       | Luton Social Action            | 13,572         | 12,477         |
| Boys Brigade and Badminton | Organisation events/activities | 1,250          | 1,123          |
| GreenHouse Community Hub   | Luton Social Action            | <u>40,518</u>  | <u>-</u>       |
|                            |                                | <u>203,285</u> | <u>135,472</u> |

### 5. RAISING FUNDS

#### Raising donations and legacies

|                        | 2024         | 2023         |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                        | £            | £            |
| Postage and stationery | -            | 105          |
| Sundries               | 753          | 553          |
| Support costs          | <u>4,623</u> | <u>4,133</u> |
|                        | <u>5,376</u> | <u>4,791</u> |

### 6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

|                          | Direct Costs   | Support costs (see note 7) | Totals         |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
|                          | £              | £                          | £              |
| Mission Support          | 53,992         | -                          | 53,992         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring     | 92,134         | -                          | 92,134         |
| Organisations            | 1,122          | -                          | 1,122          |
| General                  | 447,506        | 89,811                     | 537,317        |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre     | 15,706         | -                          | 15,706         |
| GreenHouse Community Hub | <u>24,021</u>  | <u>-</u>                   | <u>24,021</u>  |
|                          | <u>634,481</u> | <u>89,811</u>              | <u>724,292</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

### 7. SUPPORT COSTS

|                                | Finance<br>£  | Reprographics<br>& Stationery<br>£ | Site<br>maintenance<br>& utilities<br>£ | Auditors<br>Remuneration<br>£ | Totals<br>£   |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Raising donations and legacies | 2,558         | 2,065                              | -                                       | -                             | 4,623         |
| General                        | <u>14,074</u> | <u>8,770</u>                       | <u>64,567</u>                           | <u>2,400</u>                  | <u>89,811</u> |
|                                | <u>16,632</u> | <u>10,835</u>                      | <u>64,567</u>                           | <u>2,400</u>                  | <u>94,434</u> |

### 8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

|                        | 2024<br>£    | 2023<br>£    |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Auditors' remuneration | <u>2,400</u> | <u>2,700</u> |

### 9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

#### Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' remuneration, other benefits or expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2024, nor for the year to 31 December 2023.

### 10. STAFF COSTS

|                       | 2024<br>£      | 2023<br>£      |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Wages and salaries    | 354,168        | 323,052        |
| Social security costs | 19,505         | 21,777         |
| Other pension costs   | <u>9,608</u>   | <u>9,700</u>   |
|                       | <u>383,281</u> | <u>354,529</u> |

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

|                               | 2024      | 2023      |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Management and administration | 3         | 3         |
| Premises                      | 3         | 2         |
| Direct charitable activities  | <u>7</u>  | <u>7</u>  |
|                               | <u>13</u> | <u>12</u> |

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

### 11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

|                                               | Land and buildings<br>£ |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>COST</b>                                   |                         |
| At 1st January 2024 and<br>31st December 2024 | <u>1,777,668</u>        |
| <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>                         |                         |
| At 31st December 2024                         | <u>1,777,668</u>        |
| At 31st December 2023                         | <u>1,777,668</u>        |

### 12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|               | 2024<br>£     | 2023<br>£     |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Other debtors | <u>23,552</u> | <u>16,310</u> |

### 13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|                                 | 2024<br>£     | 2023<br>£     |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Social security and other taxes | 8,139         | 5,236         |
| Other creditors                 | <u>51,389</u> | <u>62,212</u> |
|                                 | <u>59,528</u> | <u>67,448</u> |

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

|                           | At 1.1.24<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.24<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,903,519        | (22,470)                         | 1,881,049           |
| Designated fund           | <u>115,766</u>   | <u>(113,733)</u>                 | <u>2,033</u>        |
|                           | 2,019,285        | (136,203)                        | 1,883,082           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 19,784           | 10,867                           | 30,651              |
| Global Sunday             | 20,118           | (2,698)                          | 17,420              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 186              | 98                               | 284                 |
| Badminton Club            | 38               | 30                               | 68                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 10,852           | (2,134)                          | 8,718               |
| GreenHouse Community Hub  | <u>-</u>         | <u>16,497</u>                    | <u>16,497</u>       |
|                           | <u>50,978</u>    | <u>22,660</u>                    | <u>73,638</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>2,070,263</u> | <u>(113,543)</u>                 | <u>1,956,720</u>    |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 406,490                    | (428,960)                  | (22,470)                  |
| Designated fund           | <u>-</u>                   | <u>(113,733)</u>           | <u>(113,733)</u>          |
|                           | 406,490                    | (542,693)                  | (136,203)                 |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 6,350                      | (6,350)                    | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 103,001                    | (92,134)                   | 10,867                    |
| Global Sunday             | 44,944                     | (47,642)                   | (2,698)                   |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 555                        | (457)                      | 98                        |
| Badminton Club            | 695                        | (665)                      | 30                        |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 13,572                     | (15,706)                   | (2,134)                   |
| GreenHouse Community Hub  | <u>40,518</u>              | <u>(24,021)</u>            | <u>16,497</u>             |
|                           | <u>209,635</u>             | <u>(186,975)</u>           | <u>22,660</u>             |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>616,125</u>             | <u>(729,668)</u>           | <u>(113,543)</u>          |

### Comparatives for movement in funds

|                           | At 1.1.23<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.23<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,908,425        | (4,906)                          | 1,903,519           |
| Designated fund           | <u>177,600</u>   | <u>(61,834)</u>                  | <u>115,766</u>      |
|                           | 2,086,025        | (66,740)                         | 2,019,285           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 27,715           | (7,931)                          | 19,784              |
| Global Sunday             | 16,962           | 3,156                            | 20,118              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 284              | (98)                             | 186                 |
| Badminton Club            | 49               | (11)                             | 38                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | <u>12,562</u>    | <u>(1,710)</u>                   | <u>10,852</u>       |
|                           | <u>57,572</u>    | <u>(6,594)</u>                   | <u>50,978</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>2,143,597</u> | <u>(73,334)</u>                  | <u>2,070,263</u>    |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 410,943                    | (415,849)                  | (4,906)                   |
| Designated fund           | -                          | (61,834)                   | (61,834)                  |
|                           | 410,943                    | (477,683)                  | (66,740)                  |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 23,836                     | (23,836)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 70,554                     | (78,485)                   | (7,931)                   |
| Global Sunday             | 50,472                     | (47,316)                   | 3,156                     |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 600                        | (698)                      | (98)                      |
| Badminton Club            | 523                        | (534)                      | (11)                      |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 12,477                     | (14,187)                   | (1,710)                   |
|                           | 158,462                    | (165,056)                  | (6,594)                   |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>569,405</u>             | <u>(642,739)</u>           | <u>(73,334)</u>           |

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

|                           | At 1.1.23<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.24<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,908,425        | (27,376)                         | 1,881,049           |
| Designated fund           | 177,600          | (175,567)                        | 2,033               |
|                           | 2,086,025        | (202,943)                        | 1,883,082           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 27,715           | 2,936                            | 30,651              |
| Global Sunday             | 16,962           | 458                              | 17,420              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 284              | -                                | 284                 |
| Badminton Club            | 49               | 19                               | 68                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 12,562           | (3,844)                          | 8,718               |
| GreenHouse Community Hub  | -                | 16,497                           | 16,497              |
|                           | 57,572           | 16,066                           | 73,638              |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>2,143,597</u> | <u>(186,877)</u>                 | <u>1,956,720</u>    |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 817,433                    | (844,809)                  | (27,376)                  |
| Designated fund           | <u>-</u>                   | <u>(175,567)</u>           | <u>(175,567)</u>          |
|                           | 817,433                    | (1,020,376)                | (202,943)                 |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 30,186                     | (30,186)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 173,555                    | (170,619)                  | 2,936                     |
| Global Sunday             | 95,416                     | (94,958)                   | 458                       |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 1,155                      | (1,155)                    | -                         |
| Badminton Club            | 1,218                      | (1,199)                    | 19                        |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 26,049                     | (29,893)                   | (3,844)                   |
| GreenHouse Community Hub  | <u>40,518</u>              | <u>(24,021)</u>            | <u>16,497</u>             |
|                           | <u>368,097</u>             | <u>(352,031)</u>           | <u>16,066</u>             |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,185,530</u>           | <u>(1,372,407)</u>         | <u>(186,877)</u>          |

### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

During part of the year, the Church was a participating employer the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is a separate legal entity administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers Pension Fund, started in 1925. At the beginning of the financial year, the scheme comprised of a defined benefits scheme which was closed to future accrual on 31 December 2011 and a defined contribution plan which was opened in January 2012. The assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

For the current financial year, the pension provision for members of the Scheme is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Broadstone Corporate Benefits Ltd. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members if they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Aviva Limited. Furthermore, members of the Basic Section pay reduced contributions of 5% of Pensionable Income, and their employers also pay a total of 5%.

In October 2024, the insurance company Just Group completed a buy out of the liabilities of the closed defined benefit scheme. From that date any remaining liability of the participating scheme members to defined benefit scheme ceased and the £1 per month deficit contributions payable by the participating employers which were agreed in the recovery plan approved in August 2022 also ceased from that date. Administration of the closed defined benefit scheme transferred from the pension trustees to Just Group from that date. Any liability with the pension scheme ceased when the minister left the church and scheme.

#### Movement in Balance Sheet liability

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. There is no current liability to be disclosed, and no further liability is expected..

The profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contributions payable. The total pension cost for the Church paid to the Baptist Pension Scheme is £3,219 (2023 £4,531).

Contributions were also made to The Peoples Pension of £6,389 (2023 £5,168).

### 16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There are no related party transactions.

### 17. PURPOSE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

GreenHouse Mentoring:

This is a project which helps young people in Luton achieve their potential by matching them with screened and trained volunteer mentors. Funding is received mainly from other grants and individual donations.

Oasis Drop-in Centre

The Centre, located in the LU3 area of Luton, provides a place of safety, friendship and learning for those in Luton with English as a second language and/or second culture, along with their friends and family.

Global Sunday:

Annual event where the focus is on raising funds specifically to provide support grants to SBC mission families located world-wide.

Mission Support:

Monies received specifically for the funding of short-term mission trips and the direct support of mission families and outreach both in the UK and overseas.

Boys Brigade & Badminton:

The Boys Brigade and Badminton Club organisations operate their own finances and are included in the church audit. Copies of their accounts can be obtained from the respective treasurers.

GreenHouse Community Hub

The GreenHouse Community Hub was set up to create a space for the Church to reach out to the community of Stopsley and the surrounding area.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

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### 18. DESIGNATED FUND

Designated funds are unrestricted funds available for the general purposes of the organisation, but which have currently been earmarked for a particular purpose by the trustees.

During the 2022 year an unrestricted legacy of £192,303 was received and it was agreed that £14,703 should be retained in the General Fund and £177,600 be designated for the following:

|                                | As at 01<br>January 2023<br>£ | Year to 2023<br>£ | As at 31<br>December 2023<br>£ |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Local Mission Partners         | 19,200                        | (14,900)          | 4,300                          |
| GreenHouse Special Projects    | 96,000                        | (20,338)          | 75,662                         |
| Building Improvements          | 14,400                        | (14,400)          | 0                              |
| Environmental Special Projects | <u>48,000</u>                 | <u>(12,196)</u>   | <u>35,804</u>                  |
|                                | <u>177,600</u>                | <u>(61,834)</u>   | <u>115,766</u>                 |

|                                | As at 01<br>January 2024 | Year to 2024     | As at 31<br>December 2024 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Local Mission Partners         | 4,300                    | (2,267)          | 2,033                     |
| GreenHouse Special Projects    | 75,662                   | (75,662)         | 0                         |
| Building Improvements          | 0                        | 0                | 0                         |
| Environmental Special Projects | <u>35,804</u>            | <u>(35,804)</u>  | <u>0</u>                  |
|                                | <u>115,766</u>           | <u>(113,733)</u> | <u>-2,033</u>             |

### 19. GENERAL FUND

The general fund of £1,881,049 includes the property shown at £1,777,668, resulting in a net reserve of £103,381.

**Stopsley Baptist Church**

**Appendix to the financial statements  
for the year to 31 December 2024**

**Additional Information relating to the  
GreenHouse Mentoring Project and  
Oasis Drop-in Centre**

**Stopsley Baptist Church**

**Appendix to the financial statements for the year to 31 December 2024**

**Additional Information relating to the GreenHouse Mentoring Project**

|                                 |                                                                        | <b>2024</b>       | <b>2023</b>       |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                 |                                                                        | <b>Restricted</b> | <b>Restricted</b> |
|                                 |                                                                        | <b>Funds</b>      | <b>Funds</b>      |
|                                 |                                                                        | <b>£</b>          | <b>£</b>          |
| <b>INCOME</b>                   |                                                                        |                   |                   |
| <b>Gifts and Donations:</b>     | <b>Givenet/Stewardship</b>                                             | 5,032             | 5,623             |
|                                 | <b>Somerles Rotary Club</b>                                            | 1,000             | 0                 |
|                                 | <b>Sponsored Events</b>                                                | 1,647             | 1,260             |
|                                 | <b>Easy Fundraising</b>                                                | 87                | 81                |
|                                 | <b>Amazon Smile</b>                                                    | 0                 | 119               |
|                                 | <b>Others</b>                                                          | 2,098             | 880               |
| <b>Tax Refunds</b>              |                                                                        | 1,054             | 925               |
| <b>Grants:</b>                  | <b>Co-op Collecting Boxes</b>                                          | 155               | 621               |
|                                 | <b>Children In Need</b>                                                | 25,482            | 27,245            |
|                                 | <b>Henry Smith Charity</b>                                             | 24,600            | 23,800            |
|                                 | <b>Beds &amp; Luton Community Foundation (Luton Rising-Youth Fund)</b> | 26,346            | 10,000            |
|                                 | <b>Wixamtree</b>                                                       | 7,000             | 0                 |
|                                 | <b>Gardfield Weston</b>                                                | 8,500             | 0                 |
| <b>Total Incoming Resources</b> |                                                                        | <b>103,001</b>    | <b>70,554</b>     |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>              |                                                                        |                   |                   |
|                                 | <b>Payroll Costs</b>                                                   | 78,446            | 69,465            |
|                                 | <b>Employee Insurance</b>                                              | 334               | 0                 |
|                                 | <b>DBS Costs</b>                                                       | 157               | 295               |
|                                 | <b>Staff &amp; Mentor Training</b>                                     | 595               | 14                |
|                                 | <b>Sponsorship Expenses</b>                                            | 563               | 0                 |
|                                 | <b>Communications</b>                                                  | 866               | 897               |
|                                 | <b>Stationery &amp; Postage</b>                                        | 24                | 152               |
|                                 | <b>Small Equipment</b>                                                 | 0                 | 362               |
|                                 | <b>Resource Materials</b>                                              | 2,907             | 1,335             |
|                                 | <b>Catering</b>                                                        | 5,665             | 4,806             |
|                                 | <b>Holiday Club Catering and Resources</b>                             | 1,187             |                   |
|                                 | <b>Subscriptions</b>                                                   | 211               | 133               |
|                                 | <b>Software</b>                                                        | 1,179             | 1,026             |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>        |                                                                        | <b>92,134</b>     | <b>78,485</b>     |
| <b>Net Movement In Funds</b>    |                                                                        | 10,867            | (7,931)           |
| <b>Funds brought forward</b>    |                                                                        | 19,784            | 27,715            |
| <b>Funds carried forward</b>    |                                                                        | <b>30,651</b>     | <b>19,784</b>     |

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements. However, we confirm that this shows a fair reflection of the transactions that relate to the GreenHouse Mentoring Project and confirm that this income and expenditure is contained in the audited statutory financial statements.

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

*Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd*  
02/09/2025

**Stopsley Baptist Church**

**Appendix to the financial statements for the year to 31 December 2024**

**Additional Information relating to the Oasis Drop-in Centre**

|                                 |                                   | <b>2024<br/>Restricted<br/>Funds<br/>£</b> | <b>2023<br/>Restricted<br/>Funds<br/>£</b> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>                   |                                   |                                            |                                            |
| <b>Gifts and Donations:</b>     |                                   |                                            |                                            |
|                                 | Churches                          | 5,125                                      | 5,150                                      |
|                                 | Church Urban Near Neighbours      | 2,782                                      | 0                                          |
|                                 | Standing Orders                   | 1,455                                      | 680                                        |
|                                 | Individuals                       | 666                                        | 4,415                                      |
|                                 | Amazon Smile and Easy Fundraising | 0                                          | 17                                         |
| <b>Fees &amp; Subscriptions</b> |                                   | 1,576                                      | 1,890                                      |
| <b>Tax Refunds</b>              |                                   | 331                                        | 325                                        |
| <b>Other Income</b>             |                                   | 1,637                                      | 0                                          |
| <b>Total Incoming Resources</b> |                                   | <b>13,572</b>                              | <b>12,477</b>                              |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>              |                                   |                                            |                                            |
|                                 | Postage and Stationery            | 385                                        | 56                                         |
|                                 | Resource Materials                | 660                                        | 38                                         |
|                                 | Catering                          | 669                                        | 308                                        |
|                                 | Office Equipment                  | 43                                         | 84                                         |
|                                 | Special Events                    | 993                                        | 705                                        |
|                                 | Communications                    | 733                                        | 566                                        |
|                                 | DBS Costs                         | 36                                         | 24                                         |
|                                 | Site Equipment & Repairs          | 15                                         | 0                                          |
|                                 | Insurance                         | 45                                         | 50                                         |
|                                 | Rent of Premises                  | 12,000                                     | 12,000                                     |
|                                 | Sundries                          | 127                                        | 356                                        |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>        |                                   | <b>15,706</b>                              | <b>14,187</b>                              |
| <b>Net Movement in Funds</b>    |                                   | <b>(2,134)</b>                             | <b>(1,710)</b>                             |
| <b>Funds brought forward</b>    |                                   | <b>10,852</b>                              | <b>12,562</b>                              |
| <b>Funds carried forward</b>    |                                   | <b>8,718</b>                               | <b>10,852</b>                              |

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements. However, we confirm that this shows a fair reflection of the transactions that relate to the Oasis Drop-in Centre and confirm that this income and expenditure is contained in the audited statutory financial statements.

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

*Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd*  
02/09/2025

**STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1150563

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07605036 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1150563**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023  
FOR  
STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

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# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Objectives and purposes**

Stopsley Baptist Church ("SBC") is committed to its objectives of advancing the Christian faith, relieving sickness and financial hardship, and promoting and preserving good health, both in the UK and the wider world, through the provision of funds, goods, services, counselling and support. Fundamentally, these ends are pursued by the provision of regular opportunities for Christian teaching, prayer, and worship in our Sunday services and in our missional discipleship communities, Beacons. The church believes that the good news of Jesus Christ is not for those within the church alone and is, therefore, committed to sharing the message of hope found in the gospel. This is pursued through a range of outreach activities in Luton and in the mission activities of our overseas partners. 2023 saw us as a church community fully re-established in person after negotiating the challenges of Covid 19. Our numbers have returned to pre-pandemic levels after seeing some move in and new people join our community. We continue to stream services and a weekly prayer and reflection time that reach beyond our local geography and make our content accessible, where it would not otherwise be so.

2023 has again seen us seeking to formulate and step into plans for engaging with our local community. The Community Garden continues to be a facility that is used and loved by many. It is overseen by one of our Beacons but others from the wider community are involved in maintaining it. We celebrated a moving time of prayer there at dusk on Maundy Thursday, joining with friends from St Thomas church and leaving candles for passers-by to see as the night darkened; it has also been the scene of an Easter Egg Hunt and a series of Barbecues for All run during the summer months and open to the wider community. The space has been a cherished meeting place used amongst others by a local drop-in for Adults with Learning Difficulties and by local brownies.

Plans for a refurbishment of the GreenHouse site as a Community Hub, complementing the garden, are developing. Following the local consultation made in autumn 2022 and further engagement within the church fellowship, these plans have taken firm shape, and we are hopeful that works will begin in 2024 and the facility, now referred to as The Living Room will be opened in summer 2024. This will provide an additional capacity for reaching out to and serving those in need in partnership with others from the local community. To that end we have engaged a part time project manager, whose work and energy has seen the project moved forwards apace.

The Church continues to seek to prioritise areas of social concern as well, especially through an eco-group, a racial justice concern and an engagement with the Persecuted Church. The eco group have led us through services, reflecting on aspects of climate change and environmental concern, and we have been successful in being awarded a silver award from the charity A Rocha as an Eco Church. A legacy has made it possible for us to explore the installation of solar panels on the church roof that will reduce our carbon footprint and create significant savings in energy costs into the future. At the time of writing, we are awaiting local planning approval for these works to begin.

This alone, without the many other activities that SBC leads and makes possible, amply fulfils the criteria for public benefit laid down by the Charities Commission, as well as glorifying the God whom we follow in Jesus Christ. The vision at SBC is expressed as an aspiration to be 'an extended family, growing and being transformed in Jesus Christ and sharing the good news wherever we go'. Our church is not a Sunday club or a religious group as such but a whole life community, looking to Jesus Christ and out to our neighbourhoods and contacts. The mission of the church is to engender a life, a culture that seeks to influence and transform us as individuals and our communities.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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This is pursued through our Sunday gatherings, both online and in person, and through the life of our Beacon Groups, missional families that seek to share life and faith and be places of encouragement in taking the good news into the whole of our lives. It would be true to say that Stopsley Baptist Church in all its rich variety makes a significant impact in offering a wide range of opportunity to enhance the well-being of the wider local community alongside our deep commitment to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

### **Significant activities**

#### **Worship and Prayer**

2023 saw us continuing to enjoy a vibrant rhythm of gathered worship week by week at our main building. This includes a commitment to functioning intergenerationally, adapting teaching to be consistent between adults and children and adopting ways of being together that seek to engage and learn from all ages. We have increased the amount of participation in services, which are now routinely delivered through a variety of changing people week by week. We have a reading, a time of prayer and storytelling, either in person or through video interviews. We seek to be interactive and have used text messaging and flipcharts to allow for greater communication and involvement. We often offer some form of symbolic response time that allows people of all ages to take on aspects of the life of faith that are being offered and taught. We have seen a wider variety of people speaking and are looking to release more voices in the future.

We also offer opportunities to engage in worship in different contexts and media throughout the week and beyond Sunday morning. Garden Church, meeting monthly, draws in families and offers a way to engage in faith through the outdoors and nature - it makes excellent use of our Community Garden facility. Messy Church has also continued to be part of our worship, meeting half termly and giving another community of people, not seen generally on Sunday morning, a different style of opportunity to pursue a life of faith in Christ. Patchwork on Mondays, a drop-in session aimed at both the older generation and young parents, continues to see growing numbers week by week and has become an important point of contact for many. This time always incorporates a clear Christian message and a chance to respond through a prayer activity.

Alongside this, we have continued to offer materials for children on Sunday morning. This is supported during the week by broadcasts through our SBC Kids Facebook page, youth sessions and Beacon meetings, as well as regular mailings, not only to keep people informed but to offer resources for developing faith-inspired life at home and wherever we go.

Our online presence has also continued through the now established 'Rise and Shine' morning prayer and reflection time, which generates an average of 80 views per week and is reaching people beyond our established congregation. In special seasons - Easter and Advent - we have included a guest in these times and made the offering more of a conversation.

We have hosted a second 'Difference' looking at learning to understand people with different beliefs and managing fruitful relationships in a pluralistic and often divided society. We also hosted an Alpha course introducing a number of people to the basics of Christian faith. We also introduced a Preaching Course training a number of people from several different local churches

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

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### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

#### Significant activities

##### Children's and Family Ministry

In 2023 our Sunday morning ministry for kids and young people continued to flourish. We looked at a series that followed the sermons called 'The Long Road to the Cross' and then moved onto talking about 'Acting Spirit-Fully', which also mirrored the teaching upstairs. In the autumn term, we went through a FaithinKids curriculum to help us understand our identity in God and discover who He says we are.

We developed our monthly all-age services to explore a bible story together and encourage encounters across the generations that point to Jesus.

We continually redesign our family area upstairs to include a sensory tent, with a weighted blanket, noise-cancelling headphones and sensory toys, to help those who might need that space available. We also continued updating baskets full of colouring pages, little bible story books, stickers, crayons, more sensory toys and worksheets relevant to each week.

Our weekly email to families continued including support materials and resources to equip parents and carers to raise God-connected children. We also send out weekly emails to our volunteer teams for Sundays that share resources and encouragements.

Jo White also meets with individuals and families who need some extra support.

We continued to run outdoor activities in the Community Garden that are faith based, including a monthly outdoor worship session called Garden Church where we engage with God, His creation and each other.

We also ran a Light Party actually in the Community Garden this year, as a Halloween alternative, which many of our community families supported.

Our Early Years sessions are oversubscribed and we often have a waiting list. Our Babybaloo sessions for under ones provide a place for new parents to meet each other and the Childminders session offers a place for those in that profession too. We continue to use bible stories and songs and a prayer in the sessions which has changed the focus of what we do. Our seasonal celebrations for Easter, Harvest and Christmas also provide an opportunity to share more meaningfully at these times.

Our Junior Section of the Boys Brigade continues weekly and welcomes boys from the community and Messy Church.

Messy Church continues once a half term on a Thursday afternoon and is regularly growing and reaching new families. We ran Messy Easter and Messy Christmas on Sunday mornings as a whole church initiative and many families who are at SBC during the week attended.

Following on from the success of our intergenerational Patchwork sessions on Monday mornings, we ran Summer Patchwork sessions for all ages on five Mondays in the summer holiday weeks. This was very popular and saw all generations joining together looking at different Bible characters through activities, crafts, games, songs and teaching, before having lunch together.

We regularly provide collective worship to local primary schools, sharing bible stories linked with the value of the month and, on special occasions, focused on Easter and Christmas.

We also ran some Year 6 transition sessions at the end of the summer term linked to the bible story of Jonah.

In September we introduced Kids Socials, which is a group run for children in primary school, as a chance for them to connect with each other. This has seen more children coming from the community and our weekly congregation than our SBC families and it has been a fun time spent together.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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### Youthwork

At the start of the year, we ran two discipleship groups; one for 11-14 groups called 'Impact' on Monday evenings and one for 14-18 year olds called 'Ignite' on Sunday evenings. Both groups followed a similar curriculum and encouraged involvement and participation from the young people themselves. Our monthly social session draws both age groups together and creates a community and connection and provides a lot of fun! In September we moved both of these groups to meet together on a Thursday evening.

Our Sunday morning 11-14's group continues while we encourage the over 14's to serve on teams, apart from a monthly session to socialise and be taught some leadership skills.

Just Girls is a discipleship group that meets monthly for all 11-18 girls and is led by a committed team of ladies working through studying and looking at women in the Bible. This includes a time of crafting together too.

Boys Brigade company section meets weekly for 11-18 boys and has seen many of them work towards and achieve their Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

We held a youth weekend in March called "Discover" where we looked at our identity, spiritual gifts and purpose. This was a significant time to build relationships and enable young people to connect to Jesus and ground their faith.

2023 saw us baptise 3 more young people which was a great celebration of all that God has done.

In August, we took a large group of our older youth to the Satellites festival run by Youthscape which was a brilliant time for them to grow in their connection with Jesus and gain experience in confidence in praying for each other. We already have 14 young people signed up to this year's event after only two weeks since tickets were made available.

### GreenHouse Mentoring

Catriona and the team have had an encouraging and successful year during 2023. We have developed all of our Group Mentoring courses in a way that encourages conversation around a table and invites young people into a new story where they create something with an art/craft theme, while they have the available space to open up and share their thoughts. We have also made room for social time in order to allow friendships to grow.

We are partnering with various organisations across Luton to support one another in tackling some of the issues young people are facing. Our part in this is to bring awareness to young people in a way which helps to prevent them becoming involved in harmful activities.

During the year, GHM has successfully launched a new Group Mentoring Course called "Hanging Out Safely", based around keeping young people aware of the dangers online and on the streets. Topics included online safety, bullying, good and bad friendships and safety on the streets. We also talked about how within crime you can be guilty by association.

We have also continued our new Saturday Drop-In, to provide a more relaxed space where we can encourage young people to make friends and develop their social skills and where we also introduce bite-size parts of our existing courses. The numbers attending have increased and we have found that the friendships within this group include every age attending which is a real joy to see. It has also helped the younger ones who join us on Saturdays before the courses commence. They then start in September more confidently and settled, because they have already made friends.

We continued to strengthen our existing courses and look at the best way to deliver material to the current generation.

14 new volunteers were trained, some of whom are now part of the team.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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GHM now provides the following main services:

- Group Mentoring Courses, 'Building Self-Esteem' and 'Dealing with Anger', for ages 8-13;
- Group Mentoring Courses, 'Exploring Identity Through Creative Process', 'Six Words', "Hanging out Safely" and 'Six Weeks of Summer', for ages 8-12;
- One2One Mentoring;
- Club Evening for 11-15 years;
- Saturday Drop-In.

The financial strategy has remained the same and we have secured most of our funding for 2024 through several grants and are applying for others. We have also continued to receive regular donations.

We welcomed Ellie-Mae Waller to our team in September as our new Relationships and Administration Assistant and are thankful to Rachel Gillies for her support as a casual worker.

During the summer holidays we ran four Holiday Drop-In days with lunch provided. These were successful and we are planning them again in 2024.

Looking to the future, we have been approached by two schools who have been so impressed with the changes they have seen in young people attending our services that they would like us to provide similar support within the schools. We are currently in conversation with them to plan a way forward.

### Global and Cross-Cultural Mission

The church continues to support work overseas in the Balkans, Cambodia, Pakistan, and the Middle East. SBC has members of the church who are living overseas permanently while others visit for periods of up to two months at a time. We have also developed partnerships with pastors from churches overseas through Radstock Ministries, as well as a link with a pastor in Nigeria, who we have managed to connect with and fundraise towards a well project. Members of our church and leadership were involved in a conference in Macedonia last year where they were able to meet with many of our Balkans mission partners. Alongside this, we regularly connect on zoom and email with all of our mission partners.

We aim to support the members and partners in the work they are undertaking and offer opportunities for the wider church to get involved in supporting them through prayer, pastoral care, fundraising and short-term trips.

We continued to support and promote the work of a number of activities based in Luton, which seek to operate with and offer friendship and basic skills to a number of the different ethnic groups found in the town, notably amongst Pakistani Muslims. These local outreach opportunities are an opportunity for many in our church family to get involved in serving and reaching out to the community.

The budget to finance the individuals involved in mission is approximately £47,000 per annum and just over £40,000 of this was raised by the SBC family following the distribution of our Global Chronicles and the appeal we gave on Global Sunday, our special mission day. This funds the individuals who are involved in education, serving the poor and equipping and developing leaders.

### Pastoral Care

The church continues to work hard to offer care to those who attend and to the wider community. Our goal is to provide this primarily through the work of Beacons. By way of regular meetings, WhatsApp and friendship, many of our pastoral needs are catered for via these extended families. Beyond this, we have a Pastoral Steering Group covering the breadth of our community.

We also continue to run a Foodworks ministry, stocked by members of the church and through contributions from local schools. This store is used to supply food parcels to referrals received either personally or through a range of agencies. In the last year, as well as parcels in response to individual referrals, we provided gifts to Azalea, one of our local partners, who run their own Food Ministry, and also to the town Foodbank. Towards the end of 2023, we entered into a trial partnership with Luton Foodbank, acting as a weekly distribution point for people from our immediate area.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

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The church continues to value its senior citizens. The Patchwork meeting on a Monday provides a drop-in space and offers craft activities. We are now back in a regular rhythm offering a Sunday worship hour on the first Sunday of the month, with a variety of speakers and refreshments after the service. This is complemented by 'Tuesdays Together', a monthly meeting for Seniors in our church building. This has been attended regularly by a faithful number who have enjoyed the regular company it provides. The Seniors are led through a small but committed team of volunteers who not only make arrangements but provide care.

We support the development of a community outreach project called 'The Tent Project', led by one of our members and delivered in partnership with St Thomas' Church and others. A Singing Café is now run alongside the Tent Project, which has up to 80 attendees.

In Winter months, we provided both a warm space and a weekly 'Pay as you can' meal for the local community called 'Food for All'. Numbers were not high but the meal times provided an important meeting point for a number of families and older people.

Indeed food is a significant part of our life together. We now have a monthly breakfast provided before our Feast services and occasional shared suppers that we have called 'Feast for the Nations', conceived as a space to build relationships and celebrate the diversity of our community through eating together.

### Use of the Church Centre

Our vision remains to be open to the wider community and known as a safe and warm place to visit. The foyer area is available daily to anyone and self-service tea and coffee are available. We have seen some from our Early Years sessions and other bookings using this facility and we are hopeful that in time more people will see this as a welcome area to meet.

The hard work of our bookings manager has seen the continued use of the building as a venue for letting to a number of local groups. This has served both to be a useful source of income as well as an expression of our vision to be a space for extended family and community.

### Staffing

We are grateful for all the hard work of the staff, as well as for the many volunteers who make life at SBC possible.

Our staff team are extremely conscientious, and we are grateful for their commitment given that activity remains high and staffing levels are lower. Internships in our Early Years and Youth and Children's work came to an end in July 2023 and we were able to reflect both on a good quality experience for those who have been serving and also on the benefit for our work through our interns in this period.

As of July, we were able to recruit an assistant to our Youth and Children's work, one of the previous year's interns, which has provided more capacity in that area.

We have also re-arranged our Operations and Administration function in 2023, following the retirement of our Executive Director in July. This has been achieved by developing one of our existing staff into an Operations Manager roll,

It is hoped that they will be in a position to take over the role fully by July 2025.

In December 2023, our Senior Pastor announced that he would be moving on at the end of June 2024 after 15 years in the role and our Finance Officer will be retiring in August. The impact of this will need to be worked through in the coming months but the strength and depth of the church community mean that we are well placed to navigate a transition and to take the opportunity to reflect and review before moving into a new season in the future.

### Membership and Baptisms

Last year we baptised 4 people. At the end of 2023, the church had 212 members.

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# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### **Financial position**

During the year under review, the objective was to maintain the reserves in the general fund in line with the agreed policy. There was a surplus for the year of £4,906 (2022 £64,755) in the general fund. The designated fund reduced by £61,834 leaving a balance of £115,766. There was a surplus in restricted funds of £6,594 (2022 increase of £8,769). Total income for the year was £569,405 (2022 £747,893) and total expenditure £642,739 (2022 £496,769). More detailed information regarding income and expenditure can be found in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

#### **Investment policy and objectives**

The trustees consider that the present policy of investing funds in higher rate bank accounts offers the least risk in the current economic climate, although interest rates continue to be low. The funds received from a legacy have been invested in the Baptists Together 3 Month Notice Account.

#### **Reserves policy**

The trustees have considered the requirements for reserves based on the main risks to the funding. The restricted activities are mainly supported from contracts or fundraising and all of these activities could be reduced without significant risk. Reserves are therefore only required to cover unrestricted activities, namely general fund. Approximately 90% of general fund income comes from the regular weekly or monthly commitment from Members and the gift aid recovered on it. Consequently, it is considered that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets should ultimately be no less than 1.5 months of expenditure. As of 31 December 2023, the general fund reserves calculated on the above basis were £125,851 representing 3.6 months of future expenditure. Based on the budgeted expenditure for 2024, the reserve target will be £52,769.

### **FUTURE PLANS**

We continue to operate out of our vision statement that envisages our church as 'an extended family, growing and being transformed in Jesus Christ and sharing the good news wherever we go.'

The community engagement aspect of this has seen significant development in 2023 and it will continue in the coming year. The GreenHouse Hub Project has become a real focus; plans are being drawn up for building works and tenders are being invited to complete this, linking the community garden to the GreenHouse building and preparing a community space, the Living Room, which will be used for community events and as a drop-in space. The Stopsley Community Chaplaincy continues to thrive. Together, these represent our continuing intention to reach out into the community with care and with the gospel. The church has a partnership now as well with the Foodbank, acting as a distribution point weekly.

The future will be a significant preoccupation for the church in the coming months as they seek direction following the resignation of the Senior Pastor and his leaving at the end of June 2024. It is a time to be grateful for the wider leadership that is established and ready, and for the whole church to come together, listen, talk and discern. In addition, we will be seeking members who will be willing to step forward where volunteer support is needed. SBC will not be merely waiting but continuing to live and reach out in this period of change.

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Governing document**

Stopsley Baptist Church was registered as a company limited by guarantee and having no share capital on 14 April 2011, company number 07605036, and registration as an independent charity was granted on 22 January 2013, charity number 1150563.

Until 20 September 2013, SBC operated as an unincorporated business and had excepted charity status via the Baptist Union of Great Britain, who is the custodian trustee for the church properties. With effect from 1 October 2013 all income and expenditure for SBC has been reflected through the company limited by guarantee.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Elders are appointed by a formal ballot at a Church Members' Meeting and, once appointed, automatically become trustees. The minimum number of elders is three and there is no maximum number. An elder serves for an initial term of three years but may be reappointed for further terms. No restrictions apply to the Senior Pastor who is automatically an elder and trustee.

#### **Organisational structure**

The trustees are accountable for the overall management of SBC. This report contains a list of those who served in this capacity. The day-to-day provision of services is overseen by a staff team led by the Senior Pastor. This team is responsible for the operational management of the charity, the recruitment and supervision of volunteers and the development of skills and procedures in line with good practice. There are also approved policies for Volunteers, Investment, Risk Management, Conflict of Interest, Safeguarding Vulnerable Children and Adults, Complaints Handling and Paying Staff.

SBC is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Central Baptist Association.

#### **Induction and training of new trustees**

New trustees are expected to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. They are also required to read the Charity Commission publication "The Essential Trustee: What you need to know".

#### **Affiliations and relationships**

SBC is a member of Churches Together in Luton and has been involved in town-wide initiatives through the umbrella of the Transforming Luton organisation. In 2023, we hosted the annual Pentecost Praise event. Our Senior Pastor has continued to be involved with a group of ministers meeting from across Luton to discuss advocacy for racial justice. A leaders' breakfast in the autumn included an act of reconciliation between church ministers that was powerful and laid the foundation for cooperation into the future.

We continue to enjoy good relationships with other churches across the town and in the immediate area. This is witnessed by our involvement locally with churches in the East of Luton sharing in a Good Friday Walk of Witness and regular meetings between ministers. Our Senior Pastor continued in 2023 to serve as the Moderator at Ramridge Baptist Church as they enter into another interregnum; members of the church have also provided support in offering to preach.

We continue to support, through individuals, and in some cases as a church, the work of a number of local charities and parachurch organisations. Formally, SBC has recognised four Local Partners with whom we are seeking to develop a closer relationship of support and mutual benefit. In 2023 these were: Azalea, Youthscape (Luton), Noah and the Luton Community Chaplaincy.

#### **Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

All volunteers working with children and young people are required to complete Level 1 online safeguarding training accessed through Bedfordshire Children's Services, to provide a current DBS disclosure certificate and to attend our annual training evening 'Equip'. Our Safeguarding Board, under the chair of a Safeguarding Trustee, has met quarterly.

In the short term, the risks of a shortfall in funding are minimised by the reserves held and the commitment of the members through donations and monthly standing orders. Internally, procedures are in place for the authorisation of expenditure and the receipt of monies. Computer records and bank statements are reconciled monthly.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

07605036 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

1150563

**Registered office**

Stopsley Baptist Church

St Thomas' Road

Luton

Bedfordshire

LU2 7XP

**Trustees**

N Mattocks (Chair)

S Moody

J Hylton

L Mudd

I Pirks

C Roberts

A Davie

J White

L Yule

**Auditors**

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

Statutory Auditors

3 Kensworth Gate

200 - 204 High Street South

Dunstable

Bedfordshire

LU6 3HS

**Solicitors**

Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP

134 Edmund Street

Birmingham B3 2ES

**Bankers**

Barclays Bank Plc

28 George Street

Luton LU1 2AE

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Stopsley Baptist Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- 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 charitable company 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 charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

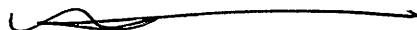
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### **AUDITORS**

The auditors, Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on .....28/8/24..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
N Mattocks (Chair) - Trustee

# **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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## **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Stopsley Baptist Church (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st December 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

## **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## **Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

### **Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

#### **Audit response to risks identified**

- the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance including the design of the remuneration policy;
- results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Company documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of noncompliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
  - the matters discussed among the audit engagement team, including tax regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in relation to revenue deferrals. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the Company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the UK Companies Act, UK Corporate Governance Code and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the Company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. These included compliance with Financial Conduct Authority regulation for the UK operating segment and compliance with local legislation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Donald M Brown FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

Date: 28/9/2024

  
Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

|                                    | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Designated<br>fund<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2023<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2022<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>  |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Donations and legacies             | 2     | 347,796                    | -                       | 23,836                   | 371,632                     | 568,574                     |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>       | 4     |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Mission Support                    |       | -                          | -                       | 50,472                   | 50,472                      | 34,026                      |
| GreenHouse Mentoring Organisations |       | -                          | -                       | 70,554                   | 70,554                      | 91,426                      |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre               |       | -                          | -                       | 1,123                    | 1,123                       | 1,054                       |
|                                    |       | -                          | -                       | 12,477                   | 12,477                      | 8,966                       |
| Investment income                  | 3     | 63,147                     | -                       | -                        | 63,147                      | 43,847                      |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <u>410,943</u>             | <u>-</u>                | <u>158,462</u>           | <u>569,405</u>              | <u>747,893</u>              |
| <b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>              |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Raising funds                      | 5     | 4,791                      | -                       | -                        | 4,791                       | 4,626                       |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>       | 6     |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Mission Support                    |       | -                          | -                       | 71,152                   | 71,152                      | 76,089                      |
| GreenHouse Mentoring Organisations |       | -                          | -                       | 78,485                   | 78,485                      | 69,694                      |
| General                            |       | 411,058                    | 61,834                  | -                        | 472,892                     | 353,814                     |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre               |       | -                          | -                       | 14,187                   | 14,187                      | 14,652                      |
| Pension fund liability movement    |       | -                          | -                       | -                        | -                           | (23,300)                    |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <u>415,849</u>             | <u>61,834</u>           | <u>165,056</u>           | <u>642,739</u>              | <u>496,769</u>              |
| <b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>    |       | (4,906)                    | (61,834)                | (6,594)                  | (73,334)                    | 251,124                     |
| <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>     |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Total funds brought forward        |       | 1,908,425                  | 177,600                 | 57,572                   | 2,143,597                   | 1,892,473                   |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b> |       | <u><u>1,903,519</u></u>    | <u><u>115,766</u></u>   | <u><u>50,978</u></u>     | <u><u>2,070,263</u></u>     | <u><u>2,143,597</u></u>     |

The notes form part of these financial statements

**STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
31ST DECEMBER 2023**

|                                                  |       | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Designated<br>fund<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2023<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2022<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                                  | Notes |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                              |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Tangible assets                                  | 11    | 1,777,668                  | -                       | -                        | 1,777,668                   | 1,777,668                   |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                            |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Debtors                                          | 12    | 12,309                     | -                       | 4,001                    | 16,310                      | 22,764                      |
| Cash at bank                                     |       | 136,975                    | 115,766                 | 90,992                   | 343,733                     | 403,251                     |
|                                                  |       | <u>149,284</u>             | <u>115,766</u>          | <u>94,993</u>            | <u>360,043</u>              | <u>426,015</u>              |
| <b>CREDITORS</b>                                 |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Amounts falling due within one year              | 13    | (23,433)                   | -                       | (44,015)                 | (67,448)                    | (60,086)                    |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>                        |       | <u>125,851</u>             | <u>115,766</u>          | <u>50,978</u>            | <u>292,595</u>              | <u>365,929</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS<br/>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b> |       | <u>1,903,519</u>           | <u>115,766</u>          | <u>50,978</u>            | <u>2,070,263</u>            | <u>2,143,597</u>            |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                                |       | <u><u>1,903,519</u></u>    | <u><u>115,766</u></u>   | <u><u>50,978</u></u>     | <u><u>2,070,263</u></u>     | <u><u>2,143,597</u></u>     |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                                     | 14    |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| Unrestricted funds:                              |       |                            |                         |                          |                             |                             |
| General fund                                     |       |                            |                         |                          | 1,903,519                   | 1,908,425                   |
| Designated fund                                  |       |                            |                         |                          | 115,766                     | 177,600                     |
|                                                  |       |                            |                         |                          | <u>2,019,285</u>            | <u>2,086,025</u>            |
| Restricted funds                                 |       |                            |                         |                          | <u>50,978</u>               | <u>57,572</u>               |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                               |       |                            |                         |                          | <u><u>2,070,263</u></u>     | <u><u>2,143,597</u></u>     |

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 28/8/24 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....  
N Mattocks (Chair) - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

|                                                                           | Notes | 2023<br>£ | 2022<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                               |       |           |           |
| Cash generated from operations                                            | 1     | (72,359)  | 225,998   |
| Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities                       |       | (72,359)  | 225,998   |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                               |       |           |           |
| Interest received                                                         |       | 12,841    | 1,010     |
| Net cash provided by investing activities                                 |       | 12,841    | 1,010     |
| <b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>        |       | (59,518)  | 227,008   |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b> |       | 403,251   | 176,243   |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>       |       | 343,733   | 403,251   |

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

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### 1. RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

|                                                                                                  | 2023<br>£       | 2022<br>£      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities) | (73,334)        | 251,124        |
| Adjustments for:                                                                                 |                 |                |
| Interest received                                                                                | (12,841)        | (1,010)        |
| (Decrease)/increase in Pension Liability                                                         | -               | (23,300)       |
| Decrease/(increase) in debtors                                                                   | 6,454           | (3,503)        |
| Increase in creditors                                                                            | 7,362           | 2,687          |
| Net cash (used in)/provided by operations                                                        | <u>(72,359)</u> | <u>225,998</u> |

### 2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

|              | At 1.1.23<br>£ | Cash flow<br>£  | At 31.12.23<br>£ |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Net cash     |                |                 |                  |
| Cash at bank | 403,251        | (59,518)        | 343,733          |
|              | <u>403,251</u> | <u>(59,518)</u> | <u>343,733</u>   |
| Total        | <u>403,251</u> | <u>(59,518)</u> | <u>343,733</u>   |

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

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### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

#### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

#### **Charitable activities**

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both 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 and include the audit fees and costs linked to strategic management.

#### **Allocation and apportionment of costs**

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. time spent or estimated usage as set out in Notes 5 to 8.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

The custodian trustee for the church land and buildings is the Baptist Union of Great Britain Trust. The Trust holds the deeds for the following:

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Church premises                       | 1,304,000  |
| Old Chapel refurbishment (GreenHouse) | 373,774    |
| Land (next to GreenHouse)             | 99,894     |
|                                       | <hr/>      |
|                                       | £1,777,668 |
|                                       | <hr/>      |

The current church premises were built in 1994. The property is shown at historic cost within the financial statements. The Old Chapel Building was built in 1869 and was converted for use as a youth centre in 2002. There is no cost included for the original chapel but the refurbishment is included at cost. The land next to it was purchased in 2002 and is included at cost.

The trustees had the above professionally valued in July 2017, and the open market value of land and buildings exceeds their historic cost for the "current use" of the assets. No depreciation has been charged for buildings due to this valuation.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

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### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

#### Tangible fixed assets

Equipment costing below £5,000 is not capitalised. Items costing over £5,000 purchased since 1 January 2009 are capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected life. Office equipment depreciation is 20% per year.

#### 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. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The charitable company also makes payment into The Peoples Pension. Contributions payable to these are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

|                     | 2023           | 2022           |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                     | £              | £              |
| Gifts and donations | 29,079         | 29,264         |
| Offerings           | 285,159        | 290,365        |
| Gift aid            | 57,394         | 56,642         |
| Legacies            | -              | 192,303        |
|                     | <u>371,632</u> | <u>568,574</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 3. INVESTMENT INCOME

|                          | 2023          | 2022          |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | £             | £             |
| Rents received           | 50,306        | 42,837        |
| Deposit account interest | 12,841        | 1,010         |
|                          | <u>63,147</u> | <u>43,847</u> |

### 4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| Source                     | Activity - restricted          | 2023           | 2022           |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                            |                                | £              | £              |
| Mission Support            | Mission works                  | 50,472         | 34,026         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring       | Mentoring                      | 70,554         | 91,426         |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre       | Luton Social Action            | 12,477         | 8,966          |
| Boys Brigade and Badminton | Organisation events/activities | 1,123          | 1,054          |
|                            |                                | <u>134,626</u> | <u>135,472</u> |

### 5. RAISING FUNDS

#### Raising donations and legacies

|                        | 2023         | 2022         |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                        | £            | £            |
| Postage and stationery | 105          | 54           |
| Sundries               | 553          | 733          |
| Support costs          | 4,133        | 3,839        |
|                        | <u>4,791</u> | <u>4,626</u> |

### 6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

|                      | Direct Costs   | Support costs (see note 7) | Totals         |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
|                      | £              | £                          | £              |
| Mission Support      | 71,152         | -                          | 71,152         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring | 78,485         | -                          | 78,485         |
| Organisations        | 1,232          | -                          | 1,232          |
| General              | 381,329        | 91,563                     | 472,892        |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre | 14,187         | -                          | 14,187         |
|                      | <u>546,385</u> | <u>91,563</u>              | <u>637,948</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 7. SUPPORT COSTS

|                                | Finance<br>£  | Reprographics<br>& Stationery<br>£ | Site<br>maintenance<br>& utilities<br>£ | Auditors<br>Remuneration<br>£ | Totals<br>£   |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Raising donations and legacies | 2,233         | 1,900                              | -                                       | -                             | 4,133         |
| General                        | 12,284        | 8,125                              | 68,454                                  | 2,700                         | 91,563        |
|                                | <u>14,517</u> | <u>10,025</u>                      | <u>68,454</u>                           | <u>2,700</u>                  | <u>95,696</u> |

### 8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

|                        | 2023<br>£    | 2022<br>£    |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Auditors' remuneration | <u>2,700</u> | <u>2,400</u> |

### 9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

#### Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' remuneration, other benefits or expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2023, nor for the year to 31 December 2022.

### 10. STAFF COSTS

|                                 | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£       |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Wages and salaries              | 323,052        | 281,021         |
| Social security costs           | 21,777         | 18,205          |
| Other pension costs             | <u>9,700</u>   | <u>11,664</u>   |
|                                 | 354,529        | 310,890         |
| Pension fund liability movement | <u>0</u>       | <u>(23,300)</u> |
|                                 | <u>354,529</u> | <u>287,590</u>  |

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

|                               | 2023      | 2022      |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Management and administration | 3         | 3         |
| Premises                      | 2         | 2         |
| Direct charitable activities  | <u>7</u>  | <u>7</u>  |
|                               | <u>12</u> | <u>12</u> |

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

|                                               | Land and<br>buildings<br>£ |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>COST</b>                                   |                            |
| At 1st January 2023 and<br>31st December 2023 | 1,777,668                  |
| <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>                         |                            |
| At 31st December 2023                         | 1,777,668                  |
| At 31st December 2022                         | 1,777,668                  |

### 12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|               | 2023<br>£ | 2022<br>£ |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Other debtors | 16,310    | 22,764    |

### 13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|                                 | 2023<br>£ | 2022<br>£ |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Social security and other taxes | 5,236     | 4,068     |
| Other creditors                 | 62,212    | 56,018    |
|                                 | 67,448    | 60,086    |

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

|                           | At 1.1.23<br>£ | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.23<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,908,425      | (4,906)                          | 1,903,519           |
| Designated fund           | 177,600        | (61,834)                         | 115,766             |
|                           | 2,086,025      | (66,740)                         | 2,019,285           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 27,715         | (7,931)                          | 19,784              |
| Global Sunday             | 16,962         | 3,156                            | 20,118              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 284            | (98)                             | 186                 |
| Badminton Club            | 49             | (11)                             | 38                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 12,562         | (1,710)                          | 10,852              |
|                           | 57,572         | (6,594)                          | 50,978              |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | 2,143,597      | (73,334)                         | 2,070,263           |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 410,943                    | (415,849)                  | (4,906)                   |
| Designated fund           | -                          | (61,834)                   | (61,834)                  |
|                           | <u>410,943</u>             | <u>(477,683)</u>           | <u>(66,740)</u>           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 23,836                     | (23,836)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 70,554                     | (78,485)                   | (7,931)                   |
| Global Sunday             | 50,472                     | (47,316)                   | 3,156                     |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 600                        | (698)                      | (98)                      |
| Badminton Club            | 523                        | (534)                      | (11)                      |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 12,477                     | (14,187)                   | (1,710)                   |
|                           | <u>158,462</u>             | <u>(165,056)</u>           | <u>(6,594)</u>            |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>569,405</u>             | <u>(642,739)</u>           | <u>(73,334)</u>           |

### Comparatives for movement in funds

|                           | At 1.1.22<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.22<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,843,670        | 64,755                           | 1,908,425           |
| Designated fund           | -                | 177,600                          | 177,600             |
|                           | <u>1,843,670</u> | <u>242,355</u>                   | <u>2,086,025</u>    |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 5,983            | 21,732                           | 27,715              |
| Global Sunday             | 24,099           | (7,137)                          | 16,962              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 397              | (113)                            | 284                 |
| Badminton Club            | 76               | (27)                             | 49                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 18,248           | (5,686)                          | 12,562              |
|                           | <u>48,803</u>    | <u>8,769</u>                     | <u>57,572</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,892,473</u> | <u>251,124</u>                   | <u>2,143,597</u>    |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 405,575                    | (340,820)                  | 64,755                    |
| Designated fund           | 177,600                    | -                          | 177,600                   |
|                           | <u>583,175</u>             | <u>(340,820)</u>           | <u>242,355</u>            |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 29,246                     | (29,246)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 91,426                     | (69,694)                   | 21,732                    |
| Global Sunday             | 34,026                     | (41,163)                   | (7,137)                   |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 561                        | (674)                      | (113)                     |
| Badminton Club            | 493                        | (520)                      | (27)                      |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 8,966                      | (14,652)                   | (5,686)                   |
|                           | <u>164,718</u>             | <u>(155,949)</u>           | <u>8,769</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u><u>747,893</u></u>      | <u><u>(496,769)</u></u>    | <u><u>251,124</u></u>     |

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

|                           | At 1.1.22<br>£          | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.23<br>£     |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                         |                                  |                         |
| General fund              | 1,843,670               | 59,849                           | 1,903,519               |
| Designated fund           | -                       | 115,766                          | 115,766                 |
|                           | <u>1,843,670</u>        | <u>175,615</u>                   | <u>2,019,285</u>        |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                         |                                  |                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 5,983                   | 13,801                           | 19,784                  |
| Global Sunday             | 24,099                  | (3,981)                          | 20,118                  |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 397                     | (211)                            | 186                     |
| Badminton Club            | 76                      | (38)                             | 38                      |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 18,248                  | (7,396)                          | 10,852                  |
|                           | <u>48,803</u>           | <u>2,175</u>                     | <u>50,978</u>           |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u><u>1,892,473</u></u> | <u><u>177,790</u></u>            | <u><u>2,070,263</u></u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 816,518                    | (756,669)                  | 59,849                    |
| Designated fund           | 177,600                    | (61,834)                   | 115,766                   |
|                           | <u>994,118</u>             | <u>(818,503)</u>           | <u>175,615</u>            |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 53,082                     | (53,082)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 161,980                    | (148,179)                  | 13,801                    |
| Global Sunday             | 84,498                     | (88,479)                   | (3,981)                   |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 1,161                      | (1,372)                    | (211)                     |
| Badminton Club            | 1,016                      | (1,054)                    | (38)                      |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 21,443                     | (28,839)                   | (7,396)                   |
|                           | <u>323,180</u>             | <u>(321,005)</u>           | <u>2,175</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,317,298</u>           | <u>(1,139,508)</u>         | <u>177,790</u>            |

### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The Scheme is a separate legal entity and the assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

For any month, each participating employer in the Scheme pays contributions as set out in the Schedule of Contributions in force at that time.

The Scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year, plus any impact of deficiency contributions (see below).

From January 2012, pension provision is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Scheme. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Legal and General Life Assurance Society Limited. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members in the event that they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Aviva Limited.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

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### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

Benefits in respect of service prior to 1 January 2012 are provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan within the Scheme. The main benefits for pre-2012 service were a defined benefit pension of one eightieth of Final Minimum Pensionable Income for each year of Pensionable Service, together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011.

In June 2022 the Baptist Union Pension scheme signed an agreement with the insurance company Just Group (Just) to secure members' pensions under the Defined Benefit Plan. This agreement is referred to as a "Buy-in policy". It follows a similar agreement with Just in 2019 that covered most pensions in payment at that time. The combined agreements mean that Just are now providing financial backing for DB pensions provided through the Scheme DB Plan.

The cost of such policies is largely driven by financial markets and these have moved substantially in the Scheme's favour. As a result, this transaction takes the Scheme out of a shortfall position. Although risks remain, the Baptist Union and the Trustee of the Scheme have agreed that deficit contributions from each participating employer in the DB Plan be reduced to £1 per month from August 2022.

#### **Movement in Balance Sheet liability**

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. There is no current liability to be disclosed, and no further liability is expected..

The profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contributions payable. The total pension cost for the Church paid to the Baptist Pension Scheme is £4,531 (2022 £7,271).

Contributions were also made to The Peoples Pension of £5,168 (2022 £4,392).

### 16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There are no related party transactions.

### 17. PURPOSE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

#### **GreenHouse Mentoring:**

This is a project which helps young people in Luton achieve their potential by matching them with screened and trained volunteer mentors. Funding is received mainly from other grants and individual donations.

#### **Oasis Drop-in Centre**

The Centre, located in the LU3 area of Luton, provides a place of safety, friendship and learning for those in Luton with English as a second language and/or second culture, along with their friends and family.

#### **Global Sunday:**

Annual event where the focus is on raising funds specifically to provide support grants to SBC mission families located world-wide.

#### **Mission Support:**

Monies received specifically for the funding of short-term mission trips and the direct support of mission families and outreach both in the UK and overseas.

#### **Boys Brigade & Badminton:**

The Boys Brigade and Badminton Club organisations operate their own finances and are included in the church audit. Copies of their accounts can be obtained from the respective treasurers.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

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### 18. DESIGNATED FUND

Designated funds are unrestricted funds available for the general purposes of the organisation, but which have currently been earmarked for a particular purpose by the trustees.

During the 2022 year an unrestricted legacy of £192,303 was received and it was agreed that £14,703 should be retained in the General Fund and £177,600 be designated for the following:

|                                | As at 01<br>January 2023 | Year to 2023   | As at 31<br>December 2023 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
|                                | £                        | £              | £                         |
| Local Mission Partners         | 19,200                   | -14,900        | 4,300                     |
| GreenHouse Special Projects    | 96,000                   | -20,338        | 75,662                    |
| Building Improvements          | 14,400                   | -14,400        | 0                         |
| Environmental Special Projects | <u>48,000</u>            | <u>-12,196</u> | <u>35,804</u>             |
|                                | <u>177,600</u>           | <u>-61,834</u> | <u>115,766</u>            |

The 2023 expenditure is shown above. There was no expenditure in 2022.

### 19. GENERAL FUND

The general fund of £1,903,519 includes the property shown at £1,777,668, resulting a net reserve of £125,851.

# **Stopsley Baptist Church**

**Appendix to the financial statements  
for the year to 31 December 2023**

**Additional Information relating to the  
GreenHouse Mentoring Project and  
Oasis Drop-in Centre**

Stopsley Baptist Church

Appendix to the financial statements for the year to 31 December 2023

Additional Information relating to the Oasis Drop-in Centre

|                          |                                   | 2023<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 2022<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>            |                                   |                                  |                                  |
| Gifts and Donations:     | Churches                          | 5,150                            | 5,025                            |
|                          | Standing Orders                   | 680                              | 358                              |
|                          | Individuals                       | 4,415                            | 2,240                            |
|                          | Amazon Smile and Easy Fundraising | 17                               | 17                               |
| Fees & Subscriptions     |                                   | 1,890                            | 1,091                            |
| Tax Refunds              |                                   | 325                              | 120                              |
| Other Income             |                                   | 0                                | 115                              |
| Total Incoming Resources |                                   | <b>12,477</b>                    | <b>8,966</b>                     |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>       |                                   |                                  |                                  |
|                          | Benevolent Fund                   | 0                                | 16                               |
|                          | Resource Materials                | 38                               | 2                                |
|                          | Catering                          | 308                              | 136                              |
|                          | Office Equipment                  | 84                               | 166                              |
|                          | Special Events                    | 705                              | 443                              |
|                          | Communications                    | 622                              | 486                              |
|                          | DBS Costs                         | 24                               | 37                               |
|                          | Site Equipment & Repairs          | 0                                | 1,233                            |
|                          | Insurance                         | 50                               | 0                                |
|                          | Rent of Premises                  | 12,000                           | 12,000                           |
|                          | Sundries                          | 356                              | 133                              |
| Total Expenditure        |                                   | <b>14,187</b>                    | <b>14,652</b>                    |
| Net Movement in Funds    |                                   | (1,710)                          | (5,686)                          |
| Funds brought forward    |                                   | 12,562                           | 18,248                           |
| Funds carried forward    |                                   | <b>10,852</b>                    | <b>12,562</b>                    |

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements. However, we confirm that this shows a fair reflection of the transactions that relate to the Oasis Drop-in Centre and confirm that this income and expenditure is contained in the audited statutory financial statements.

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

*Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd*  
28/8/24.

Stopsley Baptist Church

Appendix to the financial statements for the year to 31 December 2023

Additional Information relating to the GreenHouse Mentoring Project

|                          |                                                                 | 2023<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 2022<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>            |                                                                 |                                  |                                  |
| Gifts and Donations:     | Givenet/Stewardship                                             | 5,623                            | 7,136                            |
|                          | DBS & First Aid Course Contributions                            | 0                                | 15                               |
|                          | 3 Peaks Challenge                                               | 0                                | 7,082                            |
|                          | Love Luton Run                                                  | 1,260                            | 0                                |
|                          | Easy Fundraising                                                | 81                               | 238                              |
|                          | Amazon Smile                                                    | 119                              | 122                              |
|                          | Others                                                          | 880                              | 2,834                            |
| Tax Refunds              |                                                                 | 925                              | 1,385                            |
| Grants:                  | Co-op Local Community Fund & Collecting Boxes                   | 621                              | 3,742                            |
|                          | Children in Need                                                | 27,245                           | 20,122                           |
|                          | Henry Smith Charity                                             | 23,800                           | 21,000                           |
|                          | Beds & Luton Community Foundation (Luton Rising-Youth Fund)     | 10,000                           | 24,266                           |
|                          | Beds & Luton Community Foundation (Luton Rising-Citizen's Fund) | 0                                | 3,484                            |
| Total Incoming Resources |                                                                 | <b>70,554</b>                    | <b>91,426</b>                    |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>       |                                                                 |                                  |                                  |
|                          | Payroll Costs                                                   | 69,465                           | 61,365                           |
|                          | DBS Costs                                                       | 295                              | 363                              |
|                          | Staff & Mentor Training                                         | 14                               | 0                                |
|                          | 3 Peaks Challenge                                               | 0                                | 631                              |
|                          | Communications                                                  | 897                              | 609                              |
|                          | Stationery & Postage                                            | 152                              | 385                              |
|                          | Small Equipment                                                 | 362                              | 303                              |
|                          | Resource Materials                                              | 1,335                            | 1,525                            |
|                          | Catering                                                        | 4,806                            | 2,955                            |
|                          | Subscriptions                                                   | 133                              | 169                              |
|                          | Software                                                        | 1,026                            | 1,389                            |
| Total Expenditure        |                                                                 | <b>78,485</b>                    | <b>69,694</b>                    |
| Net Movement in Funds    |                                                                 | 7,931                            | 21,732                           |
| Funds brought forward    |                                                                 | 27,715                           | 5,983                            |
| Funds carried forward    |                                                                 | <b>19,784</b>                    | <b>27,715</b>                    |

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements. However, we confirm that this shows a fair reflection of the transactions that relate to the GreenHouse Mentoring Project and confirm that this income and expenditure is contained in the audited statutory financial statements.

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

*Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd*  
28/8/24

**STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1150563

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07605036 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1150563**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022  
FOR  
STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

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# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022. 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Objectives and purposes**

Stopsley Baptist Church ('SBC') is committed to celebrating the Christian gospel and to devoting itself to bless the communities of Luton and the wider world. Fundamentally, these ends are pursued by the provision of regular opportunities for Christian teaching, prayer, and worship in our Sunday services and in our missional discipleship communities, Beacons. The church believes that the good news of Jesus Christ is not for those within the church alone and is, therefore, committed to sharing the message of hope found in the gospel. This is pursued through a range of outreach activities in Luton and in the mission activities of our overseas partners. 2022 saw us as a church community continue to adapt and learn from the challenges of Covid 19. By the end of the year the experience of lockdown had faded into memory, but many of our lessons and adaptations have become part of our regular practice. We continue to stream services and a weekly prayer and reflection time that reach beyond our local geography and make our content accessible, where it would not otherwise be so. The church also hosted an evening of lament and hope in March, open to all to allow people a space to process the pain of the pandemic.

2022 has again seen us seeking to formulate and step into plans for engaging with our local community. The Community Garden continues to be a facility that is used and loved by many. It is overseen by one of our Beacons but others from the wider community are involved in maintaining it. We celebrated a moving time of prayer there at dusk on Maundy Thursday, joining with friends from St Thomas church and leaving candles for passers-by to see as the night darkened. The space has been a cherished meeting place during times when it has been impossible to meet indoors.

Plans for a refurbishment of the GreenHouse site as a Community Hub, complementing the garden, are developing. A consultation with members of the church and with the local community has taken place, new teams overseeing the development plan have formed and we are seeking to employ an architect to put detail on the well thought out vision for the facility.

The Church continues to seek to prioritise areas of social concern as well, especially through an eco-group, a racial justice concern and an engagement with the Persecuted Church. The eco group have led us through services, reflecting on aspects of climate change and environmental concern, and we have been successful in being awarded a bronze award from the charity A Rocha as an Eco Church. We are now pursuing a silver award.

This alone, without the many other activities that SBC leads and makes possible, amply fulfils the criteria for public benefit laid down by the Charities Commission, as well as glorifying the God whom we follow in Jesus Christ. The vision at SBC is expressed as an aspiration to be 'an extended family, growing and being transformed in Jesus Christ and sharing the good news wherever we go'. Our church is not a Sunday club or a religious group as such but a whole life community, looking to Jesus Christ and out to our neighbourhoods and contacts. The mission of the church is to engender a life, a culture that seeks to influence and transform us as individuals and our communities.

This is pursued through our Sunday gatherings, both online and in person, and our Beacon Groups, missional families that seek to share life and faith and be places of encouragement in taking the good news into the whole of our lives. Beacons have been a very significant facility in helping us to maintain our community through the isolation of lockdown and they have successfully moved their activity online, exploring Zoom meetings, maximising the potential of WhatsApp groups and diversifying their pattern by incorporating walks in whatever sized groups restrictions have allowed. As we move into times when we are again able to meet in person with a degree of freedom, we are grateful for the strength of our community that has been maintained largely through personal relationship and structures like our Beacons. At the time of writing, there are reasons to be hopeful that not only is our pre-existing community returning to meet in worship in number but also new families and individuals have been added through online contacts and personal relationship. We are humbled and grateful for this.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

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### **Significant activities**

#### **Worship and Prayer**

2022 saw us able to welcome back our congregation regularly and more fully into a life of gathered worship week by week at our main building. Whilst this essentially remains unchanged, our delivery has seen new features that we have found and taken on from the creative enterprise that the pandemic demanded. This includes a commitment to functioning intergenerationally, adapting teaching to be consistent between adults and children and adopting ways of being together that seek to engage and learn from all ages. We have increased the amount of participation in services, which are now routinely delivered through a variety of changing people week by week. We have a reading, a time of prayer and storytelling, either in person or through video interviews. We seek to be interactive and have used text messaging and flipcharts to allow for great communication and involvement. We often offer some form of symbolic response time that allows people of all ages to take on aspects of the life of faith that are being offered and taught. We have seen a wider variety of people speaking and are looking to release more voices in the future.

We also offer opportunities to engage in worship in different contexts and media throughout the week and beyond Sunday morning. Garden Church, meeting monthly, draws in families and offers a way to engage in faith through the outdoors and nature - it makes excellent use of our Community Garden facility. Messy Church has also continued to be part of our worship, meeting monthly and giving another community of people, not seen generally on Sunday morning, a different style of opportunity to pursue a life of faith in Christ. Patchwork on Mondays, a drop-in session aimed at both the older generation and young parents, has seen encouraging numbers week by week and has become an important point of contact for many. This time always incorporates a clear Christian message and a chance to respond through a prayer activity.

Alongside this, we have continued to offer materials for children on Sunday morning. This continues to be supported during the week by broadcasts through our SBC Kids Facebook page, youth sessions and Beacon meetings, as well as regular mailings, not only to keep people informed but to offer resources for developing faith-inspired life at home and wherever we go.

Our online presence has also continued through the now established 'Rise and Shine' morning prayer and reflection time, which generates an average of 80 views per week and is reaching people beyond our established congregation. In special seasons- Easter and Advent - we have included a guest in these times and made the offering more of a conversation.

We have hosted a 'Momentum: Yes' course that looked at a life of mission and sought to inspire engagement in this area. Also a 'Difference' course, that looked at learning to understand people with different beliefs and managing fruitful relationships in a pluralistic and often divided society.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

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### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Significant activities**

##### **Children's and Family Ministry**

2022 saw us continuing our Sunday group ministry although we were back in masks, which hindered some of the good work and relationship building that had started to happen.

We continued to have an area for families with tables, baskets and activities to help them settle in. We developed our monthly all age services to explore a bible story together and encourage encounter across the generations that points to Jesus.

Our weekly email to families continued including support materials and resources to equip parent and carers to raise God-connected children.

Jo White also meets with individuals and families who need some extra support

We continued to run outdoor activities in Stopsley Community Garden that are faith based including a monthly outdoor worship session called Garden Church where we engage with God, His creation and each other.

Our Early Years sessions are oversubscribed and we often have a waiting list. Our Babybaloo sessions for under ones provide a place for new parents to meet each other and the Childminders session offers a place for those in that profession too. We continue to use bible stories and songs and a prayer in the sessions which has changed the focus of what we do. Our seasonal celebrations for Easter, Harvest and Christmas also provide an opportunity to share more meaningfully at these times.

Our Junior Section of Boys Brigade continues weekly and welcomes boys from the community and Messy Church.

Messy Church continues once a month on a Thursday afternoon and is regularly growing and reaching new families. We ran Messy Easter and Messy Christmas on Sunday mornings as a whole church initiative and many families who are at SBC during the week attended.

We partnered with another church and the local guiding organisation to run a Light Party as a Halloween alternative which many of our community families supported.

We regularly provide collective worship to local primary schools, sharing bible stories linked with the value of the month and, on special occasions, focused on Easter and Christmas. We also ran some Year 6 transition sessions at the end of the summer term linked to the bible story of Jonah.

Following on from the success of our intergenerational Patchwork sessions on Monday mornings, we ran a one-day holiday club Patchwork session for all ages. This was very popular and saw all generations joining together looking at Psalm 23 through activities, crafts, games, songs and teaching before having lunch together.

#### **Youthwork**

We continued with our youth ministry structure set up in 2021, two discipleship groups; one for 11-14 group called 'Impact' on Monday evenings and one for 14-18 year olds called 'Ignite' on Sunday evenings. Both groups follow a similar curriculum and encourage involvement and participation from the young people themselves. Our monthly social session draws both age groups together and creates a community and connection and provides a lot of fun!

Our Sunday morning 11-18 group outgrew the room and we decided in September that it would be best to provide this just for 11-14's and encourage the over 14's to serve on teams, but with a monthly session to encourage them and teach some leadership skills.

Just Girls is a discipleship group that meets monthly for all 11-18 girls and is led by a committed team of ladies working through a Girl got Faith resource called 'Discovering You'.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

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Boys Brigade company section meets weekly for 11-18 boys and has seen many of them work towards and achieve their Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Finally, out of masks, we were able to run an 'inhouse' youth weekend in March called 'Illuminate' where we looked at the 3 topics of Identity, Belonging and Purpose, which was a significant time to build relationships and enable young people to connect to Jesus and ground their faith.

2022 saw 7 young people baptised, which was a great celebration of all that God has done since we were able to meet back together again.

In July, we took 27 of our younger youth to Spree run by Urban Saints and some of our older youth served on the team. This was another great opportunity for our young people to experience some of the things they had missed out on the last 2 years and was a key part of their development and involvement.

In August, we took 8 of our older youth to the Satellites festival run by Youthscape and, despite it being the hottest week of the year and all the challenges that brings when camping and taking care of young people, we had an amazing time.

### Greenhouse Mentoring

Catriona and the team have had an encouraging year now that GHM is fully open and back to normal. 2022 has seen us start to strengthen the service and team as we commence our new, fresh approach to engaging with young people. We are partnering with various organisations across Luton to support one another in tackling some of the issues young people are facing and being part of this network has been both educational and exciting. We look forward to 2023 as a year when we will hopefully grow in numbers, having had a reduced service since the pandemic. We have a new course starting after Easter which will give us a full academic year of group mentoring to offer to young people.

During the year, GHM has successfully launched a new Group Mentoring Course called 'Six Weeks of Summer', based around community and fun activities, appointed Emma as Relationships and Admin Coordinator, Becca as Group Mentoring Manager and Jane as Mentoring and Admin Assistant and started to build up our One2One Mentoring.

We have also launched our new Saturday Drop-In, to provide a more relaxed space where we can encourage young people to make friends and develop their social skills and where we also introduce bite-size parts of our existing courses.

We continued to strengthen our existing courses and look at the best way to deliver material to the current generation.

11 new volunteers were trained, a majority of whom are now part of the team.

GHM now provides the following main services:

- Group Mentoring Courses, 'Building Self-Esteem' and 'Dealing with Anger', for ages 8-13;
- Group Mentoring Courses, 'Exploring Identity Through Creative Process', 'Six Words' and 'Six Weeks of Summer', for ages 8-13;
- One2One Mentoring, face to face once again;
- Club Evening for 11-16 years;
- Saturday Drop-In.

The financial strategy has remained the same and we have secured most of our funding for 2023 through two main grants and are applying for others. We have also been awarded smaller grants and funding and continue to receive regular donations.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

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### Global and Cross-Cultural Mission

The church continues to support work overseas in the Balkans, Cambodia, Pakistan, and the Middle East. SBC has members of our church who are living overseas permanently while others visit for periods of up to two months at a time. We also have developed partnerships with pastors from churches overseas through Radstock Ministries, as well as a link with a pastor in Nigeria who we have managed to connect with and fundraise towards a well project. Members of our church and leadership were involved in a pastoral visit last year in Albania, we were able to connect with many of our mission partners at a conference and a team took part in a short-term mission trip in Albania. Alongside this, we regularly connect on zoom and email with all of our mission partners.

We aim to support the members and partners in the work they are undertaking and offer opportunities for the wider church to get involved in supporting them through prayer, pastoral care, fundraising and short-term trips.

We continued to support and promote the work of a number of activities based in Luton, which seek to operate with and offer friendship and basic skills to a number of the different ethnic groups found in the town, notably amongst Pakistani Muslims. These local outreach opportunities are an opportunity for many in our church family to get involved in serving and reaching out to the community.

The budget to finance the individuals involved in mission is approximately £47,000 per annum and just over £40,000 of this was raised by the SBC family following the distribution of our Global Chronicles and the appeal we gave on Global Sunday, our special mission day. This funds the individuals who are involved in education, serving the poor and equipping and developing leaders.

### Pastoral Care

The church continues to work hard to offer care to those who attend and to the wider community. Our goal is to provide this primarily through the work of Beacons. By way of regular meetings, WhatsApp and friendship, many of our pastoral needs are catered for via these extended families. Beyond this, we have a Pastoral Steering Group covering the breadth of our community.

We also continue to run a Foodworks ministry, stocked by members of the church and through contributions from local schools. This store is used to supply food parcels to referrals received either personally or through a range of agencies. In the last year, as well as parcels in response to individual referrals, we provided gifts to Azalea, one of our local partners, who run their own Food Ministry, and also to the town Foodbank.

The church continues to value its senior citizens. The Patchwork meeting on a Monday provides a drop in space and offers craft activities. We are now back in a regular rhythm offering a Sunday worship hour on the first Sunday of the month, with a variety of speakers and refreshments after the service. A monthly Tuesday afternoon social event to compliment this was started in May. The Seniors are led through a small but committed team of volunteers who not only make arrangements but provide care.

We support the development of a community outreach project called 'The Tent Project', led by one of our members and delivered in partnership with St Thomas' Church and others. A Singing Café is now run alongside the Tent Project, which has up to 80 attendees. These are now back in full operation following the pandemic.

### Use of the Church Centre

Our vision remains to be a community that is open to the wider community and known as a safe and warm place to visit. Following the loss of our professional cafe as a result of Covid, we have slowly been developing a self-service area in our foyer where tea and coffee as well as fruit and toast are available. We have seen some from our Early Years sessions and bookings using this facility and we are hopeful that in time more people will see the space as a welcome area to meet.

The hard work of our bookings manager has seen the use of the building for lettings return almost to the level of pre-pandemic. This has both served to be a useful source of income but also has been an expression of our vision to be a space for extended family and community.

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# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

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### Staffing

We are grateful for all the hard work of the staff, as well as for the many volunteers who make life at SBC possible.

Our staff team are extremely conscientious and we are grateful for their commitment given that activity remains high and staffing levels are lower. Nowhere is that more the case than in our youth and children's work. This work has been made possible through the dedication of the Director of Families' Ministry and also through internships and placements. Javin Ramkissoon, Emily White and Holly have all provided welcome support in this area. We have appreciated the opportunity this provides to invest in young people and would want to continue internship into the future.

We have seen the retirement of Karen Carron after many years working at the church. Her presence is missed both personally and also in what she provided in a support function to the ministry leads.

Roger Auburn reduced his hours, stepping away from his role as Bookings Manager to take up a part time role assisting in site management

We have been delighted to welcome Chris Young as Operations Manager. He has made a significant impact in this role and continues as well to provide IT support.

Adrian Nolloth the Executive Director retired in July. A new structure was implemented with Lysle Osbourne as Governance and Administration Director and Jane Lambert- Mason as Operations Administrator.

### Membership and Baptisms

Last year we baptised 9 people. At the end of 2022, the church had 206 members.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial position**

During the year under review, the objective was to maintain the reserves in the general fund in line with the agreed policy. There was a surplus for the year of £64,755 (2021 £10,440) in the general fund, a surplus for the year of £177,600 (2021 £nil) in the designated fund and a surplus in restricted funds of £8,769 (2021 decrease of £9,025). Total income for the year was £747,893 (2021 £502,597) and total expenditure £496,769 (2021 £501,182). More detailed information regarding income and expenditure can be found in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

### **Investment policy and objectives**

The trustees consider that the present policy of investing funds in higher rate bank accounts offers the least risk in the current economic climate, although interest rates continue to be low. The funds received from a legacy have been invested in the Baptists Together 3 Month Notice Account.

### **Reserves policy**

The trustees have considered the requirements for reserves based on the main risks to the funding. The restricted activities are mainly supported from contracts or fundraising and all of these activities could be reduced without significant risk. Reserves are therefore only required to cover unrestricted activities, namely general fund. Approximately 90% of general fund income comes from the regular weekly or monthly commitment from Members and the gift aid recovered on it. Consequently, it is considered that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets should ultimately be no less than 1.5 months of expenditure. As of 31 December 2022, the general fund reserves calculated on the above basis were £130,757 representing 3.5 months of future expenditure. Based on the budgeted expenditure for 2023, the reserve target will be £55,863.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

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### **FUTURE PLANS**

We continue to operate out of our vision statement that envisages our church as 'an extended family, growing and being transformed in Jesus Christ and sharing the good news wherever we go.'

Our intention remains to work out of the four focus areas of beacons, families' ministry, teaching and learning and growth through community engagement and evangelism.

The community engagement aspect of this has seen significant development in 2022 and will continue to develop in the coming year. The GreenHouse Hub Project has seen consultation with the church and the public and at the time of writing an intention is being explored about appointing a short-term project manager to inject some momentum. We have seen the launch of a Stopsley Community Chaplaincy in partnership with St Thomas Parish Church and Luton Community Chaplaincy. Both of these represent our continuing intention to reach out into the community with care and with the gospel.

The Beacons Steering Group has re-formed and this has resulted in new developments. We held a Beacons Sunday in May, we have established a Beacon Leaders' Zoom drop in and we are looking at ways to raise the profile of Beacons and facilitate new groups.

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Governing document**

Stopsley Baptist Church was registered as a company limited by guarantee and having no share capital on 14 April 2011, company number 07605036, and registration as an independent charity was granted on 22 January 2013, charity number 1150563.

Until 20 September 2013, SBC operated as an unincorporated business and had excepted charity status via the Baptist Union of Great Britain, who is the custodian trustee for the church properties. With effect from 1 October 2013 all income and expenditure for SBC has been reflected through the company limited by guarantee.

#### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Elders are appointed by a formal ballot at a Church Members' Meeting and, once appointed, automatically become trustees. The minimum number of elders is three and there is no maximum number. An elder serves for an initial term of three years but may be reappointed for further terms. No restrictions apply to the Senior Pastor who is automatically an elder and trustee.

#### **Organisational structure**

The trustees are accountable for the overall management of SBC. This report contains a list of those who served in this capacity. The day-to-day provision of services is overseen by a staff team led by the Senior Pastor. This team is responsible for the operational management of the charity, the recruitment and supervision of volunteers and the development of skills and procedures in line with good practice. There are also approved policies for Volunteers, Investment, Risk Management, Conflict of Interest, Safeguarding Vulnerable Children and Adults, Complaints Handling and Paying Staff.

SBC is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Central Baptist Association.

#### **Induction and training of new trustees**

New trustees are expected to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. They are also required to read the Charity Commission publication "The Essential Trustee: What you need to know".

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

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### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Affiliations and relationships**

SBC is a member of Churches Together in Luton and has been involved in town-wide initiatives through the umbrella of the Transforming Luton organisation. In 2022, we hosted two town wide services, 'Back Stronger' and 'Staying Strong'. Our Senior Pastor has been involved with a group of ministers meeting from across Luton to discuss advocacy for racial justice and produced an interview with another pastor for the service above as part of this. Leaders' breakfasts are taking this issue on and there are plans to use a model looking at the process of reconciliation to shape events and action in the future.

We continue to enjoy good relationships with other churches across the town and in the immediate area. This is witnessed by our involvement locally with churches in the East of Luton sharing in a virtual Good Friday Walk of Witness and regular meetings between ministers. Our Senior Pastor has again been appointed as the Moderator at Ramridge Baptist Church as they enter into another interregnum; members of the church have also provided support in offering to preach.

We continue to support, through individuals and in some cases as a church, the work of a number of local charities and parachurch organisations. Formally, SBC has recognised four Local Partners with whom we are seeking to develop a closer relationship of support and mutual benefit. In 2022 these were: Azalea, Youthscape (Luton), GreenHouse Mentoring and Signposts.

#### **Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

All volunteers working with children and young people are required to complete Level 1 online safeguarding training accessed through Bedfordshire Children's Services, to provide a current DBS disclosure certificate and to attend our annual training evening 'Equip'. Our Safeguarding Board, under the chair of a Safeguarding Trustee, has met quarterly.

In the short term, the risks of a shortfall in funding are minimised by the reserves held and the commitment of the members through donations and monthly standing orders. Internally, procedures are in place for the authorisation of expenditure and the receipt of monies. Computer records and bank statements are reconciled monthly.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

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### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**  
07605036 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**  
1150563

**Registered office**  
Stopsley Baptist Church  
St Thomas' Road  
Luton  
Bedfordshire  
LU2 7XP

**Trustees**  
N Mattocks (Chair)  
S Moody  
J Hylton  
L Mudd  
I Pirks  
C Roberts  
L Osborne (resigned 9/2/2022)  
A Davie  
J White  
L Yule

**Auditors**  
Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

**Solicitors**  
Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP  
134 Edmund Street  
Birmingham B3 2ES

**Bankers**  
Barclays Bank Plc  
28 George Street  
Luton LU1 2AE

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

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### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Stopsley Baptist Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- 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 charitable company 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 charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

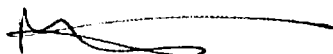
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### AUDITORS

The auditors, Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 19 September 23 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
N Mattocks (Chair) - Trustee

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Stopsley Baptist Church (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st December 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

### **Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

#### **Audit response to risks identified**

- the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance including the design of the remuneration policy;
- results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Company documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of noncompliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
  - the matters discussed among the audit engagement team, including tax regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in relation to revenue deferrals. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the Company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the UK Companies Act, UK Corporate Governance Code and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the Company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. These included compliance with Financial Conduct Authority regulation for the UK operating segment and compliance with local legislation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Donald M Brown FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS


Date: 19 SEPTEMBER 2023

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

|                                    | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2022<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2021<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>  |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Donations and legacies             | 2     | 539,328                    | 29,246                   | 568,574                     | 352,367                     |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>       | 4     |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Mission Support                    |       | -                          | 34,026                   | 34,026                      | 44,083                      |
| GreenHouse Mentoring               |       | -                          | 91,426                   | 91,426                      | 54,876                      |
| Organisations                      |       | -                          | 1,054                    | 1,054                       | 1,055                       |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre               |       | -                          | 8,966                    | 8,966                       | 11,116                      |
| Investment income                  | 3     | 43,847                     | -                        | 43,847                      | 26,569                      |
| HMRC Job Retention Scheme Grant    |       | -                          | -                        | -                           | 12,531                      |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <u>583,175</u>             | <u>164,718</u>           | <u>747,893</u>              | <u>502,597</u>              |
| <b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>              |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Raising funds                      | 5     | 4,626                      | -                        | 4,626                       | 4,006                       |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>       | 6     |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Mission Support                    |       | 5,680                      | 70,409                   | 76,089                      | 72,460                      |
| GreenHouse Mentoring               |       | -                          | 69,694                   | 69,694                      | 62,191                      |
| Organisations                      |       | -                          | 1,194                    | 1,194                       | 847                         |
| General                            |       | 353,814                    | -                        | 353,814                     | 352,249                     |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre               |       | -                          | 14,652                   | 14,652                      | 14,979                      |
| Pension fund liability movement    |       | (23,300)                   | -                        | (23,300)                    | (5,550)                     |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <u>340,820</u>             | <u>155,949</u>           | <u>496,769</u>              | <u>501,182</u>              |
| <b>NET INCOME</b>                  |       | 242,355                    | 8,769                    | 251,124                     | 1,415                       |
| <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>     |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Total funds brought forward        |       | 1,843,670                  | 48,803                   | 1,892,473                   | 1,891,058                   |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b> |       | <u><u>2,086,025</u></u>    | <u><u>57,572</u></u>     | <u><u>2,143,597</u></u>     | <u><u>1,892,473</u></u>     |

The notes form part of these financial statements

**STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
31ST DECEMBER 2022**

|                                                  | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2022<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2021<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                              |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Tangible assets                                  | 11    | 1,777,668                  | -                        | 1,777,668                   | 1,777,668                   |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                            |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Debtors                                          | 12    | 17,809                     | 4,955                    | 22,764                      | 19,261                      |
| Cash at bank                                     |       | 309,900                    | 93,351                   | 403,251                     | 176,243                     |
|                                                  |       | <u>327,709</u>             | <u>98,306</u>            | <u>426,015</u>              | <u>195,504</u>              |
| <b>CREDITORS</b>                                 |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Amounts falling due within one year              | 13    | (19,352)                   | (40,734)                 | (60,086)                    | (57,399)                    |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>                        |       | <u>308,357</u>             | <u>57,572</u>            | <u>365,929</u>              | <u>138,105</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT<br/>LIABILITIES</b> |       | <u>2,086,025</u>           | <u>57,572</u>            | <u>2,143,597</u>            | <u>1,915,773</u>            |
| <b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>                         | 15    | -                          | -                        | -                           | (23,300)                    |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                                |       | <u>2,086,025</u>           | <u>57,572</u>            | <u>2,143,597</u>            | <u>1,892,473</u>            |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                                     | 14    |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Unrestricted funds:                              |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| General fund                                     |       |                            |                          | 1,908,425                   | 1,843,670                   |
| Designated fund                                  |       |                            |                          | 177,600                     | -                           |
|                                                  |       |                            |                          | <u>2,086,025</u>            | <u>1,843,670</u>            |
| Restricted funds                                 |       |                            |                          | <u>57,572</u>               | <u>48,803</u>               |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                               |       |                            |                          | <u>2,143,597</u>            | <u>1,892,473</u>            |

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on ~~19 SEPTEMBER 2023~~ and were signed on its behalf by:



.....  
N Mattocks (Chair) - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

|                                                                           | Notes | 2022<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                               |       |           |           |
| Cash generated from operations                                            | 1     | 192,301   | 16,568    |
| Net cash provided by operating activities                                 |       | 192,301   | 16,568    |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                               |       |           |           |
| Interest received                                                         |       | 1,010     | 136       |
| Net cash provided by investing activities                                 |       | 1,010     | 136       |
| <b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>        |       | 193,311   | 16,704    |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b> |       | 176,243   | 193,236   |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>       |       | 403,251   | 176,243   |

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

### 1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

|                                                                                    | 2022<br>£      | 2021<br>£       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities) | 251,124        | 1,415           |
| Adjustments for:                                                                   |                |                 |
| Interest received                                                                  | (1,010)        | (136)           |
| (Decrease)/increase in Pension Liability                                           | (23,300)       | (5,550)         |
| Increase in debtors                                                                | (3,503)        | (5,976)         |
| Increase/(decrease) in creditors                                                   | 2,687          | (6,882)         |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operations                                          | <u>225,998</u> | <u>(17,129)</u> |

### 2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

|              | At 1.1.22<br>£ | Cash flow<br>£ | At 31.12.22<br>£ |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Net cash     |                |                |                  |
| Cash at bank | <u>176,243</u> | <u>227,008</u> | <u>403,251</u>   |
|              | <u>176,243</u> | <u>227,008</u> | <u>403,251</u>   |
| Total        | <u>176,243</u> | <u>227,008</u> | <u>403,251</u>   |

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

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### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

#### Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

#### Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both 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 and include the audit fees and costs linked to strategic management.

#### Allocation and apportionment of costs

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. time spent or estimated usage as set out in Notes 5 to 8.

#### Tangible fixed assets

The custodian trustee for the church land and buildings is the Baptist Union of Great Britain Trust. The Trust holds the deeds for the following:

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Church premises                       | 1,304,000  |
| Old Chapel refurbishment (GreenHouse) | 373,774    |
| Land (next to GreenHouse)             | 99,894     |
|                                       | <hr/>      |
|                                       | £1,777,668 |
|                                       | <hr/>      |

The current church premises were built in 1994. The property is shown at historic cost within the financial statements. The Old Chapel Building was built in 1869 and was converted for use as a youth centre in 2002. There is no cost included for the original chapel but the refurbishment is included at cost. The land next to it was purchased in 2002 and is included at cost.

The trustees had the above professionally valued in July 2017, and the open market value of land and buildings exceeds their historic cost for the "current use" of the assets. No depreciation has been charged for buildings due to this valuation.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

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### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Equipment costing below £5,000 is not capitalised. Items costing over £5,000 purchased since 1 January 2009 are capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected life. Office equipment depreciation is 20% per year.

#### **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. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The charitable company also makes payment into The Peoples Pension. Contributions payable to these are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

|                     | 2022           | 2021           |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                     | £              | £              |
| Gifts and donations | 29,264         | 22,353         |
| Offerings           | 290,365        | 275,227        |
| Gift aid            | 56,642         | 54,787         |
| Legacies            | 192,303        | -              |
|                     | <u>568,574</u> | <u>352,367</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

### 3. INVESTMENT INCOME

|                          | 2022          | 2021          |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | £             | £             |
| Rents received           | 42,837        | 26,433        |
| Deposit account interest | 1,010         | 136           |
|                          | <u>43,847</u> | <u>26,569</u> |

### 4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| Source                     | Activity - restricted          | 2022           | 2021           |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                            |                                | £              | £              |
| Mission Support            | Mission works                  | 34,026         | 44,083         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring       | Mentoring                      | 91,426         | 54,876         |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre       | Luton Social Action            | 8,966          | 11,116         |
| Boys Brigade and Badminton | Organisation events/activities | 1,054          | 1,055          |
|                            |                                | <u>135,472</u> | <u>111,130</u> |

### 5. RAISING FUNDS

#### Raising donations and legacies

|                        | 2022         | 2021         |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                        | £            | £            |
| Postage and stationery | 54           | 47           |
| Sundries               | 733          | 593          |
| Support costs          | 3,839        | 3,366        |
|                        | <u>4,626</u> | <u>4,006</u> |

### 6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

|                      | Direct Costs   | Support costs (see note 7) | Totals         |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
|                      | £              | £                          | £              |
| Mission Support      | 76,089         | -                          | 76,089         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring | 69,694         | -                          | 69,694         |
| Organisations        | 1,194          | -                          | 1,194          |
| General              | 278,833        | 74,981                     | 353,814        |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre | 14,652         | -                          | 14,652         |
|                      | <u>440,462</u> | <u>74,981</u>              | <u>515,443</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

### 7. SUPPORT COSTS

|                                | Finance<br>£  | Reprographics<br>& Stationery<br>£ | Site<br>maintenance<br>& utilities<br>£ | Auditors<br>Remuneration<br>£ | Totals<br>£   |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Raising donations and legacies | 2,101         | 1,738                              | -                                       | -                             | 3,839         |
| General                        | 11,557        | 6,954                              | 54,070                                  | 2,400                         | 74,981        |
|                                | <u>13,658</u> | <u>8,692</u>                       | <u>54,070</u>                           | <u>2,400</u>                  | <u>78,820</u> |

### 8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

|                        | 2022<br>£    | 2021<br>£    |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Auditors' remuneration | <u>2,400</u> | <u>2,100</u> |

### 9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

#### Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' remuneration, other benefits or expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022, nor for the year to 31 December 2021.

### 10. STAFF COSTS

|                                 | 2022<br>£       | 2021<br>£      |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Wages and salaries              | 281,021         | 283,016        |
| Social security costs           | 18,205          | 17,167         |
| Other pension costs             | <u>11,664</u>   | <u>13,375</u>  |
|                                 | 310,890         | 313,558        |
| Pension fund liability movement | <u>(23,300)</u> | <u>(5,550)</u> |
|                                 | <u>287,590</u>  | <u>308,008</u> |

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

|                               | 2022      | 2021      |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Management and administration | 3         | 3         |
| Premises                      | 2         | 2         |
| Direct charitable activities  | <u>7</u>  | <u>7</u>  |
|                               | <u>12</u> | <u>12</u> |

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

### 11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

|                                               | Land and<br>buildings<br>£ |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>COST</b>                                   |                            |
| At 1st January 2022 and<br>31st December 2022 | 1,777,668                  |
| <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>                         |                            |
| At 31st December 2022                         | 1,777,668                  |
| At 31st December 2021                         | 1,777,668                  |

### 12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|               | 2022<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Other debtors | 22,764    | 19,261    |

### 13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|                                 | 2022<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Social security and other taxes | 4,068     | 4,441     |
| Other creditors                 | 56,018    | 52,958    |
|                                 | 60,086    | 57,399    |

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

|                           | At 1.1.22<br>£ | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.22<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,843,670      | 64,755                           | 1,908,425           |
| Designated fund           | -              | 177,600                          | 177,600             |
|                           | 1,843,670      | 242,355                          | 2,086,025           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 5,983          | 21,732                           | 27,715              |
| Global Sunday             | 24,099         | (7,137)                          | 16,962              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 397            | (113)                            | 284                 |
| Badminton Club            | 76             | (27)                             | 49                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 18,248         | (5,686)                          | 12,562              |
|                           | 48,803         | 8,769                            | 57,572              |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | 1,892,473      | 251,124                          | 2,143,597           |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 405,575                    | (340,820)                  | 64,755                    |
| Designated fund           | 177,600                    | -                          | 177,600                   |
|                           | <u>583,175</u>             | <u>(340,820)</u>           | <u>242,355</u>            |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 29,246                     | (29,246)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 91,426                     | (69,694)                   | 21,732                    |
| Global Sunday             | 34,026                     | (41,163)                   | (7,137)                   |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 561                        | (674)                      | (113)                     |
| Badminton Club            | 493                        | (520)                      | (27)                      |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 8,966                      | (14,652)                   | (5,686)                   |
|                           | <u>164,718</u>             | <u>(155,949)</u>           | <u>8,769</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>747,893</u>             | <u>(496,769)</u>           | <u>251,124</u>            |

### Comparatives for movement in funds

|                           | At 1.1.21<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.21<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,833,230        | 10,440                           | 1,843,670           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 13,298           | (7,315)                          | 5,983               |
| Global Sunday             | 22,154           | 1,945                            | 24,099              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 222              | 175                              | 397                 |
| Badminton Club            | 43               | 33                               | 76                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 22,111           | (3,863)                          | 18,248              |
|                           | <u>57,828</u>    | <u>(9,025)</u>                   | <u>48,803</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,891,058</u> | <u>1,415</u>                     | <u>1,892,473</u>    |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 365,862                    | (355,422)                  | 10,440                    |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 25,605                     | (25,605)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 54,876                     | (62,191)                   | (7,315)                   |
| Global Sunday             | 44,083                     | (42,138)                   | 1,945                     |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 694                        | (519)                      | 175                       |
| Badminton Club            | 361                        | (328)                      | 33                        |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 11,116                     | (14,979)                   | (3,863)                   |
|                           | <u>136,735</u>             | <u>(145,760)</u>           | <u>(9,025)</u>            |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>502,597</u>             | <u>(501,182)</u>           | <u>1,415</u>              |

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

|                           | At 1.1.21<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.22<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,833,230        | 75,195                           | 1,908,425           |
| Designated fund           | -                | 177,600                          | 177,600             |
|                           | <u>1,833,230</u> | <u>252,795</u>                   | <u>2,086,025</u>    |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 13,298           | 14,417                           | 27,715              |
| Global Sunday             | 22,154           | (5,192)                          | 16,962              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 222              | 62                               | 284                 |
| Badminton Club            | 43               | 6                                | 49                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 22,111           | (9,549)                          | 12,562              |
|                           | <u>57,828</u>    | <u>(256)</u>                     | <u>57,572</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,891,058</u> | <u>252,539</u>                   | <u>2,143,597</u>    |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 771,437                    | (696,242)                  | 75,195                    |
| Designated fund           | 177,600                    | -                          | 177,600                   |
|                           | <u>949,037</u>             | <u>(696,242)</u>           | <u>252,795</u>            |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 54,851                     | (54,851)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 146,302                    | (131,885)                  | 14,417                    |
| Global Sunday             | 78,109                     | (83,301)                   | (5,192)                   |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 1,255                      | (1,193)                    | 62                        |
| Badminton Club            | 854                        | (848)                      | 6                         |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 20,082                     | (29,631)                   | (9,549)                   |
|                           | <u>301,453</u>             | <u>(301,709)</u>           | <u>(256)</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,250,490</u>           | <u>(997,951)</u>           | <u>252,539</u>            |

### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The Scheme is a separate legal entity and the assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

For any month, each participating employer in the Scheme pays contributions as set out in the Schedule of Contributions in force at that time.

The Scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year, plus any impact of deficiency contributions (see below).

From January 2012, pension provision is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Scheme. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Legal and General Life Assurance Society Limited. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members in the event that they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Aviva Limited.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

Benefits in respect of service prior to 1 January 2012 are provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan within the Scheme. The main benefits for pre-2012 service were a defined benefit pension of one eightieth of Final Minimum Pensionable Income for each year of Pensionable Service, together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011.

In June 2022 the Baptist Union Pension scheme signed an agreement with the insurance company Just Group (Just) to secure members' pensions under the Defined Benefit Plan. This agreement is referred to as a "Buy-in policy". It follows a similar agreement with Just in 2019 that covered most pensions in payment at that time. The combined agreements mean that Just are now providing financial backing for DB pensions provided through the Scheme DB Plan.

The cost of such policies is largely driven by financial markets and these have moved substantially in the Scheme's favour. As a result, this transaction takes the Scheme out of a shortfall position. Although risks remain, the Baptist Union and the Trustee of the Scheme have agreed that deficit contributions from each participating employer in the DB Plan be reduced to £1 per month from August 2022.

#### Movement in Balance Sheet liability

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. The movement in the provision is set out in the table below.

| Accounting date (year ending):                                       | 2022     | 2021    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------|
| Balance sheet liability at year start                                | £23,300  | £28,850 |
| Minus deficiency contributions paid                                  | -£3,009  | -£5,038 |
| Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)                                   | £436     | £ 290   |
| Remaining change to balance sheet liability*<br>(recognised in SoFA) | -£20,727 | -£802   |
| Balance sheet liability at year end                                  | £0       | £23,300 |

\* Comprises any change in agreed deficit recovery plan and change in assumptions between year-ends.

This liability represents the present value of the deficit contributions agreed as at the accounting date and has been valued using the following assumptions set by reference to the duration of the deficit recovery payments:

| Accounting date                                | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
|------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Discount rate 2.                               | 5.7% | 2.0% | 1.1% |
| Future increases to Minimum Pensionable Income | 0%   | 4.1% | 3.1% |

The profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contributions payable. The total pension cost for the Church paid to the Baptist Pension Scheme is £7,271 (2021 £9,274).

Contributions were also made to The Peoples Pension of £4,392 (2021 £4,100).

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

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### 16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There are no related party transactions.

### 17. PURPOSE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

GreenHouse Mentoring:

This is a project which helps young people in Luton achieve their potential by matching them with screened and trained volunteer mentors. Funding is received mainly from other grants and individual donations.

Oasis Drop-in Centre

The Centre, located in the LU3 area of Luton, provides a place of safety, friendship and learning for those in Luton with English as a second language and/or second culture, along with their friends and family.

Global Sunday:

Annual event where the focus is on raising funds specifically to provide support grants to SBC mission families located world-wide.

Mission Support:

Monies received specifically for the funding of short-term mission trips and the direct support of mission families and outreach both in the UK and overseas.

Boys Brigade & Badminton:

The Boys Brigade and Badminton Club organisations operate their own finances and are included in the church audit. Copies of their accounts can be obtained from the respective treasurers.

### 18. DESIGNATED FUND

Designated funds are unrestricted funds available for the general purposes of the organisation, but which have currently been earmarked for a particular purpose by the trustees.

During the year an unrestricted legacy of £192,303 was received and it was agreed that £14,703 should be retained in the General Fund and £177,600 be designated for the following:

|                                | £              |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Local Mission Partners         | 19,200         |
| GreenHouse Special Projects    | 96,000         |
| Environmental Special Projects | 48,000         |
| Building Improvements          | <u>14,400</u>  |
|                                | <u>177,600</u> |

## **Stopsley Baptist Church**

**Appendix to the financial statements  
for the year to 31 December 2022**

**Additional Information relating to the  
GreenHouse Mentoring Project and  
Oasis Drop-in Centre**

Stopsley Baptist Church

Appendix to the financial statements for the year to 31 December 2022

Additional Information relating to the GreenHouse Mentoring Project

|                          |                                                    | 2022<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 2021<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>            |                                                    |                                  |                                  |
| Gifts and Donations:     | Givenet/Stewardship                                | 7,136                            | 8,691                            |
|                          | DBS & First Aid Course Contributions               | 15                               | 122                              |
|                          | 3 Peaks Challenge                                  | 7,082                            | 0                                |
|                          | Easy Fundraising                                   | 238                              | 84                               |
|                          | Amazon Smile                                       | 122                              | 167                              |
|                          | Others                                             | 2,834                            | 1,453                            |
| Tax Refunds              |                                                    | 1,385                            | 1,103                            |
| Grants:                  | Co-op Local Community Fund                         | 3,742                            | 389                              |
|                          | Garfield Weston                                    | 0                                | 7,500                            |
|                          | Children in Need                                   | 20,122                           | 0                                |
|                          | Henry Smith Charity                                | 21,000                           | 0                                |
|                          | Wixamtree                                          | 0                                | 5,677                            |
|                          | Gale Family Trust                                  | 0                                | 8,000                            |
|                          | Beds & Luton Community Foundation (Youth Fund)     | 24,266                           | 19,206                           |
|                          | Beds & Luton Community Foundation (Citizen's Fund) | 3,484                            | 0                                |
|                          | Luton Borough Council (East Area Board)            | 0                                | 2,484                            |
| Total Incoming Resources |                                                    | 91,426                           | 54,876                           |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>       |                                                    |                                  |                                  |
|                          | Payroll Costs                                      | 61,365                           | 57,295                           |
|                          | DBS Costs                                          | 363                              | 554                              |
|                          | Staff & Mentor Training                            | 0                                | 827                              |
|                          | 3 Peaks Challenge                                  | 631                              | 0                                |
|                          | Communications                                     | 609                              | 631                              |
|                          | Stationery & Postage                               | 385                              | 157                              |
|                          | Small Equipment                                    | 303                              | 718                              |
|                          | Resource Materials                                 | 1,525                            | 581                              |
|                          | Catering                                           | 2,955                            | 680                              |
|                          | Subscriptions                                      | 169                              | 732                              |
|                          | Software                                           | 1,389                            | 16                               |
| Total Expenditure        |                                                    | 69,694                           | 62,191                           |
| Net Movement in Funds    |                                                    | 21,732                           | (7,315)                          |
| Funds brought forward    |                                                    | 5,983                            | 13,298                           |
| Funds carried forward    |                                                    | 27,715                           | 5,983                            |

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements. However, we confirm that this shows a fair reflection of the transactions that relate to the GreenHouse Mentoring Project and confirm that this income and expenditure is contained in the audited statutory financial statements.

*Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd*  
Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

Stopsley Baptist Church

Appendix to the financial statements for the year to 31 December 2022

Additional Information relating to the Oasis Drop-in Centre

|                          |                                   | 2022<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 2021<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>            |                                   |                                  |                                  |
| Gifts and Donations:     | Churches                          | 5,025                            | 5,188                            |
|                          | Stewardship                       | 358                              | 608                              |
|                          | Individuals                       | 2,240                            | 4,400                            |
|                          | Amazon Smile and Easy Fundraising | 17                               | 13                               |
| Fees & Subscriptions     |                                   | 1,091                            | 768                              |
| Tax Refunds              |                                   | 120                              | 139                              |
| Other Income             |                                   | 115                              | 0                                |
| Total Incoming Resources |                                   | 8,966                            | 11,116                           |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>       |                                   |                                  |                                  |
|                          | Benevolent Fund                   | 16                               | 42                               |
|                          | Resource Materials                | 2                                | 75                               |
|                          | Catering                          | 136                              | 175                              |
|                          | Office Equipment                  | 166                              | 177                              |
|                          | Special Events                    | 443                              | 319                              |
|                          | Communications                    | 486                              | 370                              |
|                          | Reprographics                     | 0                                | 83                               |
|                          | DBS Costs                         | 37                               | 37                               |
|                          | Building Maintenance & Repairs    | 0                                | 1,144                            |
|                          | Furnishings                       | 0                                | 71                               |
|                          | Site Equipment & Repairs          | 1,233                            | 1,814                            |
|                          | Utilities                         | 0                                | 64                               |
|                          | Rent of Premises                  | 12,000                           | 10,000                           |
|                          | Sundries                          | 133                              | 608                              |
| Total Expenditure        |                                   | 14,652                           | 14,979                           |
| Net Movement in Funds    |                                   | (5,686)                          | (3,863)                          |
| Funds brought forward    |                                   | 18,248                           | 22,111                           |
| Funds carried forward    |                                   | 12,562                           | 18,248                           |

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements. However, we confirm that this shows a fair reflection of the transactions that relate to the Oasis Drop-in Centre and confirm that this income and expenditure is contained in the audited statutory financial statements.

*Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd.*

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

**STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1150563

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07605036 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1150563**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021  
FOR  
STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2021. 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Objectives and purposes**

Stopsley Baptist Church ('SBC') is committed to celebrating the Christian gospel and to devoting itself to bless the communities of Luton and the wider world. Fundamentally, these ends are pursued by the provision of regular opportunities for Christian teaching, prayer, and worship in our Sunday services and in our missional discipleship communities, Beacons. The church believes that the good news of Jesus Christ is not for those within the church alone and is therefore committed to sharing the message of hope found in the gospel. This is pursued through a range of outreach activities in Luton and in the mission activities of our overseas partners. 2021 saw us as a church community continue to adapt and learn from the challenges of Covid 19. We began to meet in person as a congregation again in July, firstly in small numbers, and then in September with an open invitation wearing masks. In December, the outbreak of the Omicron variant saw us briefly return online, although we did manage to celebrate carols together in person on December 19th. We continue to need to be flexible as the situation develops but these challenges are also leading us to think creatively and purposefully about who we are called to be as a church. Consequently, we entered 2022 full of hope and are still feeling sharpened towards the vision that we perused at the start of the year..

2022 again has seen us seeking to formulate and step into plans for engaging with our local community. Last year, we reported the founding of a Community Garden on unused land next to our GreenHouse building. Work has continued throughout 2021 and seen the remaining section of the project completed with the addition of further grass areas, beds, children's play activities, seating and artwork created by a local artist. The project was officially opened by our local MP on June 26th. The space has been a cherished meeting place during times when it has been impossible to meet indoors. It continues to operate through volunteers both from the church and the local community.

Plans for a refurbishment of the GreenHouse site as a Community Hub, complementing the garden, are afoot. There has been a significant programme of redecoration and clearing out led by volunteer teams and we now have a vision group in place beginning to formulate plans that we will work to achieve into the future. These plans form the basis for potential funding bids that will support the project.

Another innovation in the last year has been the development of Patchwork, a Monday morning drop-in session that seeks to bring together young parents and their children, with older people from our community. From small beginnings, this has grown to see around 50-60 people attending weekly forming new connections and building community. At the centre of this is a talk about our faith and an opportunity to respond in a symbolic act of prayer. Many have commented on how significant this time has become for them emerging from these difficult years.

Last year we reported on the church's response to the murder of George Floyd through a listening evening. In 2021, we have built on this beginning by forming a social justice group, who have led us to continue to think about changes that we want to pursue in our community. This has resulted in a document titled 'Steps to Change' that offers individuals and groups a process through which to examine attitudes and play a part in developing a more equitable society, beginning with our own church. We have redeveloped an area of our website bringing together sections on racial justice, environmental concern and the persecuted church under a banner of Transformation. This is an expression of our conviction that the gospel of Christ not only brings freedom from individuals in the message of salvation but also results in a responsibility to demonstrate this hope in working for change in wider society.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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This alone, without the many other activities that SBC leads and makes possible, amply fulfils the criteria for public benefit laid down by the Charities Commission, as well as glorifying the God whom we follow in Jesus Christ. The vision at SBC is expressed as an aspiration to be 'an extended family, growing and being transformed in Jesus Christ and sharing the good news wherever we go'. Our church is not a Sunday club or a religious group as such but a whole life community, looking to Jesus Christ and out to our neighbourhoods and contacts. The mission of the church is to engender a life, a culture that seeks to influence and transform us as individuals and our communities.

This is pursued through our Sunday gatherings, both online and in person, and our Beacon Groups, missional families that seek to share life and faith and be places of encouragement in taking the good news into the whole of our lives. Beacons have been a very significant facility in helping us to maintain our community through the isolation of lockdown and they have successfully moved their activity online, exploring Zoom meetings, maximising the potential of WhatsApp groups and diversifying their pattern by incorporating walks in whatever sized groups restrictions have allowed. As we move into times when we are again able to meet in person with a degree of freedom, we are grateful for the strength of our community that has been maintained largely through personal relationship and structures like our Beacons. At the time of writing, there are reasons to be hopeful that, not only is our pre-existing community returning to meet in worship in number, but also new families and individuals have been added through online contacts and personal relationship. We are humbled and grateful for this

### **Significant activities**

#### **Worship and Prayer**

We wrote last year of the way we moved our meeting from in person to pre-recorded, to live streamed and tentatively back to in person through a limited number of our 'Presence' services. In the middle of 2021, as we anticipated further easing of restrictions, we moved the production of our services back to the building, using improved camera facilities and inviting participants to come in and deliver their part in the service live without a physical congregation. At the time of writing, many of our people have returned to worship in person but we continue to be watched by around 50-60 screens each week. We are conscious of a wider audience and have been challenged to adapt to communicate appropriately.

As society has slowly allowed more freedom, we have walked over a number of stepping stones back towards a full gathering. We have already mentioned 'Presence', a more contemplative evening service that allowed music but not congregational singing and was billed as a space to meet God in the company of other people. We already have a missional community called Park Church, meeting fortnightly in a local park to explore God through nature. To this we have added Garden Church, open to all but aimed as a bridge to re-engage our young families after months without the opportunity to meet. Using the Community Garden space and seasonal observations in nature, this has proved a fun way for some families to re-engage with church in person. In September, we were able to reintroduce children's and young people's groups. Messy Church has also continued to be part of our worship, online during recent months and latterly in person again.

Alongside this, we have continued to offer materials for children on Sunday morning. This has been supported during the week by broadcasts through our SBC Kids Facebook page, youth sessions and Beacon meetings.

Our online presence has also continued through the now established 'Rise and Shine' morning prayer and reflection time. Towards the end of the year, this was supplemented by 'Muse at Ten', a brief reflection and prayer at the end of the same day. We have seen some of our innovations as permanent and some for a season. 'Rendezvous' stopped in September having formed a part of our life for eighteen months and playing an important role for that time.

We have hosted an online Christianity Explored course and are making plans for an online course looking at environmental issues from a Christian viewpoint.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

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### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

#### Significant activities

##### Children's Ministry

The year began with children being out of school again due to another lockdown but this time more emphasis on home school learning meant that being online to do other things was no longer very appealing!

We continued our weekly email to families including support materials and resources to aid 'faith at home', to link with our online Sunday services. We continued to make good use of our SBC Kids playlists on our YouTube channel, to provide additional resources to our main Sunday service broadcast, and ran an online zoom room for children as part of our post service video meetings where we played games, read a bible story, played a worship song and prayed together. We again wrote to each child and parent individually, to let them know we were praying for them, and continued the pen pal scheme for those who signed up to it with our wider team. We ran an online pancake party and sent an Easter countdown calendar to use during Lent that looked at the story of Jesus' life each day up to Easter. We also ran a Parenting for Faith course online which was well attended and offered good support to those taking part and is helping establish a different culture with our families.

Stopsley Community Garden was a great resource to us to run successful outdoor trails and a place where items could be collected to undertake at home. After Easter, we began to explore some new ways of connecting again, starting with a weekly open session to meet up in the garden in person for those that wanted to do so after school. Then in May we launched a monthly outdoor worship session called Garden Church where we engage with God, His creation and each other. This has continued and, although small in number, has been a great resource to those who are not yet comfortable coming back to the building. In May, we started our onsite Sunday services and introduced a new family area in the auditorium with tables, chairs and activity baskets. This included activities to help engage families with the service theme and make them feel welcome back to church. It has worked so well that we have kept this area and developed it further. During the summer holidays, we ran a weekly session for our primary school age children to come along including garden games, a treasure hunt and an activity afternoon to connect together again. In the Autumn term, we relaunched our Sunday service children's ministry groups with an over fives and an under-fives group. These have steadily increased in number as our volunteers have grown in confidence again to deliver these and engage with the children. We were able to offer an onsite Light Party as a Halloween alternative which many of our community families came along to.

Our Early Years sessions, working with under-fives, was unable to meet in the Spring term due to covid restrictions but, during that time, we provided a weekly newsletter, online cooking and craft videos and toddler trails in the community garden. After Easter, we resumed our stay and play sessions, in line with the current guidance and limited numbers, in a space that could be turned over and cleaned easily between sessions. This was hugely appreciated by the community and we had to operate waiting lists for many of the sessions. These culminated in a teddy bears picnic session at the end of the summer term where again the garden was used to provide a place for people to meet up after the session. Over the summer break, the family room was refurbished and redecorated to reflect our emphasis on being a ministry to under-fives and their families and provide better facilities to do this well. In September, we moved back into the family room and launched a new childminders session, to better meet their needs, and continued our Babybaloo sessions for under ones. We have continued to use bible stories and songs and a prayer in the sessions which has changed the focus of what we do. Our seasonal celebrations for Harvest and Christmas also provide an opportunity to share more meaningfully at these times. Julie Young has been a real driving force in ensuring we maintained connection and providing for our early years families and leading the volunteer team. Where we are now is a credit to her hard work during the last year.

Messy Church continued online and we provided activity bags to go along with the sessions that were available for contact free pick up or were able to be downloaded online. Messy Easter was an opportunity for many of our young people to be filmed in different roles of the Easter story and take part in that way too. In June, July and August we took Messy Church outside and met in the community garden in person which was a great event. Activity bags were still provided but were worked on together while, at the same time, being available for those wishing to stay online. Since September, we have met back onsite in the building once a month, simplifying what we do to increase engagement and interaction, and have maintained a steady number of attending families. The year ended with Messy Christmas Carols on a Sunday morning complete with a snow machine and festive baps!

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# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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We continued to provide collective worship to local primary schools via video and some schools have now invited us back in person too. We spoke at an outdoor Easter service, a Harvest service and are regularly in one school twice a month, sharing bible stories linked with the value of the month.

### Youthwork

2021 has presented both challenges and opportunities within our youthwork and has ended on a real sense of achievement and excitement for the future. At the beginning of the year, our contacts were low due to the prolonged need for online meeting. We then lost our Director of Youthwork and were faced with the need to take stock and create a plan for the future.

This led to a number of meetings online between an encouraging number of adults concerned for our young people and offering to be involved in various different ways with delivering future work. These discussions led us to draw out certain principles with which to rebuild our work:

- We wanted to create a large pool of volunteers and lead youth work as a community of adults and young people
- We wanted to create a safe space for our young people to be, to ask questions and to have fun.
- We wanted Jesus to be very obviously at the centre of all we did.
- We wanted also to allow opportunities for young people to take responsibility and to find their place in the wider church.
- We recognised that youthwork was part of what the young people would need to really experience the fulness of church, complemented by intergenerational worship and ideally by smaller community life.

In the summer term we were able to begin to meet together again in person. We called these Thursday evening sessions 'Re-Connect'. Our expectations were low for numbers and we were overjoyed to have 25 young people turn up for the first session. These evenings mixed fun and games and a short talk. They sought primarily to re-establish the community of young people in our church.

Following the summer, we relaunched youthwork with an 11-14 group called 'Impact' on Monday evenings; a 14-18-year-old group called 'Ignite' on Sunday evenings and a monthly social drawing both age groups together. The Impact sessions were hosted at three different houses by different people and drew on a team to deliver sessions. The Ignite sessions were hosted at SBC and led by a small and dedicated team. The year ended with a successful Christmas dinner and party. We also reintroduced a Sunday morning session that drew 11-18s together.

The term also has seen a small number of our young people engage with the town wide Luton Unite sessions hosted monthly on Friday evenings at Youthscape. Some members of our team have helped to staff and deliver these sessions.

The plans that we established and dreamed in the early part of the year have largely been realised. We are delighted at the diligence and commitment of volunteers under Jo White's capable leadership. We look forward to plans for a residential in early 2022, the first in two years, and are grateful to God for the opportunities and the young people that we have.

### Greenhouse Mentoring

The new Manager, Catriona Gillies, started in January 2021, after a three-month handover, as GHM began the year operating with online services. In the summer term we were finally able to trial some face-to-face meetings and in September we started to gradually get back to our full service of helping young people in Luton.

During the year, GHM has:

- Returned to a face-to-face service.
- Staff team now include Emma as Relationships and Admin Coordinator and Becca as Group Mentoring Manager.
- Streamlined our service to Group Mentoring, Clubs and One2One Mentoring.
- Redeveloped our existing courses, 'Building Self-Esteem' and 'Dealing with Anger', to have a fresh and relevant content.
- Introduced two new courses. The first, 'Exploring Identity Through Creative Process', is focused on helping young people think about their identity, 'Who am I?'. Our second course is 'Six Words', aimed at encouraging conversation around a new word each week. Both are art focused and have creative elements.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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We support the development of a community outreach project called 'The Tent Project', led by one of our members and delivered in partnership with St Thomas' Church and others. A Singing Café is now run alongside the Tent Project, which has up to 80 attendees. Many of these activities have been curtailed during the pandemic and we look forward to their recommencing as soon as possible.

### Use of the Church Centre

As we emerge out of the pandemic, one of our core aims is slowly to rebuild the activity within our building throughout the week.

The loss of The Lounge Coffee Shop has been felt by our community but it has also allowed us the opportunity to experiment with new ministry. Patchwork, our intergenerational drop in on Mondays has been the highlight of this. Those who attend often stay for lunch afterwards and we have replaced the service of the Lounge with the offer of tea and coffee on a self-service, contributions basis. We are just beginning to see women stay with their children after our early years' sessions and those in the building for bookings make use of the facilities.

The impact of Covid on our bookings' income has been very challenging. We are delighted to see old bookings returning and at the time of writing the level has returned close to pre-Covid levels. We have also been pleased to cooperate with the police and health services in providing space for crisis intervention and longer-term provision such as an eye clinic during this period.

Our vision remains to be a community that is open to the wider community and known as a safe and warm place to visit.

### Staffing

We are grateful for all the hard work of the staff, as well as for the many volunteers who make life at SBC possible.

The pandemic has affected our staffing as it has every area of church life. Several of our staff have been furloughed for long periods, which has proved very helpful in managing our human resources.

We have mentioned above the impact of losing Pete Croall, our Director of Youthwork; currently this is being covered by the leadership of Jo White, with an extra 8 hours a week, and a dedicated team of volunteers. We have also been helped by an intern, Javin Ramkissoon, who has been working with our young people and our worship team. We would love to develop the use of interns more fully in the future.

We have welcomed Rachel Gillies, working 8 hours a week, to help with administration and communication after Jane Lambert-Mason was forced to leave because of ill health.

The GHM team has been supplemented by the addition of Becca Burns and Emma Lawrence at the beginning of what we believe will be a reshaping of that service.

In 2022, we expect several other retirements from the staff team and with pressures on our finances we are looking in faith for a way forward that will see our ministry flourish.

### Membership and Baptisms

Last year we baptised 6 people, which was a great joy following the enforced impasse that Covid placed over our activities. At the end of 2021, the church had 217 members.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial position**

During the year under review, the objective was to maintain the reserves in the general fund in line with the agreed policy. There was a surplus for the year of £10,440 in the general fund and a decrease in restricted funds of £9,025. Total income for the year was £502,597 (2020 £545,523) and total expenditure £501,182 (2020 £501,374). More detailed information regarding income and expenditure can be found in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### **Investment policy and objectives**

The trustees consider that the present policy of investing funds in a higher rate bank account offers the least risk in the current economic climate although interest rates continue to be very low.

#### **Reserves policy**

The trustees have considered the requirements for reserves based on the main risks to the funding. The restricted activities are mainly supported from contracts or fundraising and all of these activities could be reduced without significant risk. Reserves are therefore only required to cover unrestricted activities, namely general fund. Approximately 90% of general fund income comes from the regular weekly or monthly commitment from Members and the gift aid recovered on it. Consequently, it is considered that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets should ultimately be no less than 1.5 months of expenditure. As of 31 December 2021, the general fund reserves calculated on the above basis were £89,302 representing 3.0 months of future expenditure. Based on budgeted expenditure for 2022, the reserve target will be £44,184.

### **FUTURE PLANS**

We continue to operate out of our vision statement that envisages our church as 'an extended family, growing and being transformed in Jesus Christ and sharing the good news wherever we go.'

Our intention remains to work out of the four focus areas of beacons, families' ministry, teaching and learning and growth through community engagement and evangelism. The events of the last year have held us back from developing these as we would have liked but it remains our objective to establish strategic leadership groups steering each area.

The pandemic has also forced us to consider the significance of our online presence and this has led us to a new website, new expertise and investment in an IT apprentice. It has also forced us to consider the use of our buildings, especially following the success of the Community Garden Project. We are looking to relocate all church activity and office resource to our main building and to release the GreenHouse facility to be a community hub with lettable office space from which to raise revenue. This will create more flexibility in the delivery of our ministry, build team and grow relationship into our community, which is an objective at the heart of our vision.

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Governing document**

Stopsley Baptist Church was registered as a company limited by guarantee and having no share capital on 14 April 2011, company number 07605036, and registration as an independent charity was granted on 22 January 2013, charity number 1150563.

Until 20 September 2013, SBC operated as an unincorporated business and had excepted charity status via the Baptist Union of Great Britain, who is the custodian trustee for the church properties. With effect from 1 October 2013 all income and expenditure for SBC has been reflected through the company limited by guarantee.

#### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Elders are appointed by a formal ballot at a Church Members' Meeting and, once appointed, automatically become trustees. The minimum number of elders is three and there is no maximum number. An elder serves for an initial term of three years but may be reappointed for further terms. No restrictions apply to the Senior Pastor who is automatically an elder and trustee.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Organisational structure**

The trustees are accountable for the overall management of SBC. This report contains a list of those who served in this capacity. The day-to-day provision of services is overseen by a staff team led by the Senior Pastor. This team is responsible for the operational management of the charity, the recruitment and supervision of volunteers and the development of skills and procedures in line with good practice. There are also approved policies for Volunteers, Investment, Risk Management, Conflict of Interest, Safeguarding Vulnerable Children and Adults, Complaints Handling and Paying Staff.

SBC is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Central Baptist Association.

#### **Induction and training of new trustees**

New trustees are expected to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. They are also required to read the Charity Commission publication "The Essential Trustee: What you need to know".

#### **Affiliations and relationships**

SBC is a member of Churches Together in Luton and has been involved in town-wide initiatives through the umbrella of the Transforming Luton organisation. In 2021, we were involved in a town wide service that was produced in person but experienced online by most. Our Senior Pastor has been involved with a group of ministers meeting from across Luton to discuss advocacy for racial justice as part of this commitment and produced an interview with another pastor for the service above as part of this. It is hoped that there will be an opportunity to meet in person in 2022.

We continue to enjoy good relationships with other churches across the town and in the immediate area. This is witnessed in our involvement locally with churches in the East of Luton sharing in a virtual Good Friday Walk of Witness and regular meetings between ministers.

We continue to support, through individuals and in some cases as a church, the work of a number of local charities and parachurch organisations. Formally, SBC has recognised four Local Partners with whom we are seeking to develop a closer relationship of support and mutual benefit. In 2021 these were: Azalea, Youthscape (Luton), GreenHouse Mentoring and Signposts.

#### **Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

All volunteers working with children and young people are required to complete Level 1 online safeguarding training accessed through Bedfordshire Children's Services, to provide a current DBS disclosure certificate and to attend our annual training evening 'Equip'. The Safeguarding Board have continued to meet throughout the pandemic and have overseen challenges in moving some of our operation online. Our annual Equip training will happen once we are able to meet again; we are planning to record a short training video for use in the future.

In the short term, the risks of a shortfall in funding are minimised by the reserves held and the commitment of the members through donations and monthly standing orders. Internally, procedures are in place for the authorisation of expenditure and the receipt of monies. Computer records and bank statements are reconciled monthly.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

#### **Registered Company number**

07605036 (England and Wales)

#### **Registered Charity number**

1150563

#### **Registered office**

Stopsley Baptist Church  
St Thomas' Road  
Luton  
Bedfordshire  
LU2 7XP

#### **Trustees**

N Matlocks (Chair)  
S Moody  
J Hylton  
L Mudd  
I Pirks  
C Roberts  
L Osborne (resigned 9/2/2022)  
A Davie  
J White (appointed 25/5/2021)  
L Yule (appointed 23/5/2021)

#### **Auditors**

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

#### **Solicitors**

Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP  
134 Edmund Street  
Birmingham B3 2ES

#### **Bankers**

Barclays Bank Plc  
28 George Street  
Luton LU1 2AE

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Stopsley Baptist Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- 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 charitable company 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 charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

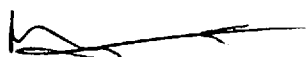
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### **AUDITORS**

The auditors, Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 22 AUGUST 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
N Mattocks (Chair) - Trustee

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Stopsley Baptist Church (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st December 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st December 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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### **Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

### **Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

#### **Audit response to risks identified**

- the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance including the design of the remuneration policy;
- results of our enquiries of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Company documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of noncompliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
  - the matters discussed among the audit engagement team, including tax regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in relation to revenue deferrals. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the Company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the UK

Companies Act, UK Corporate Governance Code and local tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the Company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. These included compliance with Financial Conduct Authority regulation for the UK operating segment and compliance with local legislation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

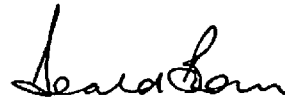
**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)**

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**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Donald M Brown FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

  
*Higginson Co (UK) Ltd*

Date: *22/8/2022*

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

|                                    | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2021<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2020<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>  |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Donations and legacies             | 2     | 326,762                    | 25,605                   | 352,367                     | 373,440                     |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>       | 4     |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Mission Support                    |       | -                          | 44,083                   | 44,083                      | 37,238                      |
| GreenHouse Mentoring               |       | -                          | 54,876                   | 54,876                      | 73,616                      |
| Organisations                      |       | -                          | 1,055                    | 1,055                       | 410                         |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre               |       | -                          | 11,116                   | 11,116                      | 24,733                      |
| Investment income                  | 3     | 26,569                     | -                        | 26,569                      | 20,650                      |
| HMRC Job Retention Scheme Grant    |       | 12,531                     | -                        | 12,531                      | 15,436                      |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <b>365,862</b>             | <b>136,735</b>           | <b>502,597</b>              | <b>545,523</b>              |
| <b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>              |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Raising funds                      | 5     | 4,006                      | -                        | 4,006                       | 4,384                       |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>       | 6     |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Mission Support                    |       | 4,717                      | 67,743                   | 72,460                      | 79,621                      |
| GreenHouse Mentoring               |       | -                          | 62,191                   | 62,191                      | 71,002                      |
| Organisations                      |       | -                          | 847                      | 847                         | 711                         |
| General                            |       | 352,249                    | -                        | 352,249                     | 361,996                     |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre               |       | -                          | 14,979                   | 14,979                      | 2,622                       |
| Pension fund liability movement    |       | (5,550)                    | -                        | (5,550)                     | (18,962)                    |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <b>355,422</b>             | <b>145,760</b>           | <b>501,182</b>              | <b>501,374</b>              |
| <b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>    |       | <b>10,440</b>              | <b>(9,025)</b>           | <b>1,415</b>                | <b>44,149</b>               |
| <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>     |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| <b>Total funds brought forward</b> |       | <b>1,833,230</b>           | <b>57,828</b>            | <b>1,891,058</b>            | <b>1,846,909</b>            |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b> |       | <b>1,843,670</b>           | <b>48,803</b>            | <b>1,892,473</b>            | <b>1,891,058</b>            |

The notes form part of these financial statements

**STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 07605036)****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
31ST DECEMBER 2021**

|                                                  | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2021<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2020<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                              |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Tangible assets                                  | 11    | 1,777,668                  | -                        | 1,777,668                   | 1,777,668                   |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                            |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Debtors                                          | 12    | 11,378                     | 7,883                    | 19,261                      | 13,285                      |
| Cash at bank                                     |       | 96,005                     | 80,238                   | 176,243                     | 193,236                     |
|                                                  |       | <u>107,383</u>             | <u>88,121</u>            | <u>195,504</u>              | <u>206,521</u>              |
| <b>CREDITORS</b>                                 |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Amounts falling due within one year              | 13    | (18,081)                   | (39,318)                 | (57,399)                    | (64,281)                    |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>                        |       | <u>89,302</u>              | <u>48,803</u>            | <u>138,105</u>              | <u>142,240</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT<br/>LIABILITIES</b> |       | 1,866,970                  | 48,803                   | 1,915,773                   | 1,919,908                   |
| <b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>                         | 15    | (23,300)                   | -                        | (23,300)                    | (28,850)                    |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                                |       | <u>1,843,670</u>           | <u>48,803</u>            | <u>1,892,473</u>            | <u>1,891,058</u>            |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                                     | 14    |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Unrestricted funds                               |       |                            |                          | 1,843,670                   | 1,833,230                   |
| Restricted funds                                 |       |                            |                          | 48,803                      | 57,828                      |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                               |       |                            |                          | <u>1,892,473</u>            | <u>1,891,058</u>            |

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on ~~22 August 2022~~ and were signed on its behalf by:



.....  
N Mattocks (Chair) - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

|                                                                           | Notes | 2021<br>£ | 2020<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                               |       |           |           |
| Cash generated from operations                                            | 1     | (17,129)  | 71,839    |
| Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities                       |       | (17,129)  | 71,839    |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                               |       |           |           |
| Interest received                                                         |       | 136       | 44        |
| Net cash provided by investing activities                                 |       | 136       | 44        |
| <b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>        |       | (16,993)  | 71,883    |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b> |       | 193,236   | 121,353   |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>       |       | 176,243   | 193,236   |

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

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### 1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

|                                                                                    | 2021<br>£       | 2020<br>£     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities) | 1,415           | 44,149        |
| Adjustments for:                                                                   |                 |               |
| Interest received                                                                  | (136)           | (44)          |
| (Decrease)/increase in Pension Liability                                           | (5,550)         | (18,962)      |
| (Increase)/decrease in debtors                                                     | (5,976)         | 14,466        |
| (Decrease)/increase in creditors                                                   | (6,882)         | 32,230        |
| Net cash (used in)/provided by operations                                          | <u>(17,129)</u> | <u>71,839</u> |

### 2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

|              | At 1.1.21<br>£ | Cash flow<br>£  | At 31.12.21<br>£ |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Net cash     |                |                 |                  |
| Cash at bank | <u>193,236</u> | <u>(16,993)</u> | <u>176,243</u>   |
|              | <u>193,236</u> | <u>(16,993)</u> | <u>176,243</u>   |
| Total        | <u>193,236</u> | <u>(16,993)</u> | <u>176,243</u>   |

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

---

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

#### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

#### **Charitable activities**

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both 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 and include the audit fees and costs linked to strategic management.

#### **Allocation and apportionment of costs**

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. time spent or estimated usage as set out in Notes 5 to 8.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

The custodian trustee for the church land and buildings is the Baptist Union of Great Britain Trust. The Trust holds the deeds for the following:

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Church premises                       | 1,304,000  |
| Old Chapel refurbishment (GreenHouse) | 373,774    |
| Land (next to GreenHouse)             | 99,894     |
|                                       | <hr/>      |
|                                       | £1,777,668 |
|                                       | <hr/>      |

The current church premises were built in 1994. The property is shown at historic cost within the financial statements. The Old Chapel Building was built in 1869 and was converted for use as a youth centre in 2002. There is no cost included for the original chapel but the refurbishment is included at cost. The land next to it was purchased in 2002 and is included at cost.

The trustees had the above professionally valued in July 2017, and the open market value of land and buildings exceeds their historic cost for the "current use" of the assets. No depreciation has been charged for buildings due to this valuation.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

---

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Equipment costing below £5,000 is not capitalised. Items costing over £5,000 purchased since 1 January 2009 are capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected life. Office equipment depreciation is 20% per year.

#### **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. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The charitable company also makes payment into The Peoples Pension. Contributions payable to these are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

|                     | 2021           | 2020           |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                     | £              | £              |
| Gifts and donations | 22,353         | 21,791         |
| Offerings           | 275,227        | 292,645        |
| Gift aid            | 54,787         | 59,004         |
|                     | <u>352,367</u> | <u>373,440</u> |

### 3. INVESTMENT INCOME

|                          | 2021          | 2020          |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | £             | £             |
| Rents received           | 26,433        | 20,606        |
| Deposit account interest | 136           | 44            |
|                          | <u>26,569</u> | <u>20,650</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

### 4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| Source                     | Activity - restricted          | 2021<br>£      | 2020<br>£      |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Mission Support            | Mission works                  | 44,083         | 37,236         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring       | Mentoring                      | 54,876         | 73,616         |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre       | Luton Social Action            | 11,116         | 24,733         |
| Boys Brigade and Badminton | Organisation events/activities | 1,055          | 410            |
|                            |                                | <u>111,130</u> | <u>135,995</u> |

Responsibility for the Oasis Drop-in Centre was taken over from the Stopsley Project on 31 October 2020. Funds of £17,005 were transferred at that time and were included in the Oasis income shown in 2020..

### 5. RAISING FUNDS

#### Raising donations and legacies

|                        | 2021<br>£    | 2020<br>£    |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Postage and stationery | 47           | 46           |
| Sundries               | 593          | 437          |
| Support costs          | 3,366        | 3,901        |
|                        | <u>4,006</u> | <u>4,384</u> |

### 6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

|                      | Direct<br>Costs<br>£ | Support<br>costs (see<br>note 7)<br>£ | Totals<br>£    |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Mission Support      | 72,460               | -                                     | 72,460         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring | 62,191               | -                                     | 62,191         |
| Organisations        | 847                  | -                                     | 847            |
| General              | 292,243              | 60,006                                | 352,249        |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre | 14,979               | -                                     | 14,979         |
|                      | <u>442,720</u>       | <u>60,006</u>                         | <u>502,726</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

### 7. SUPPORT COSTS

|                                | Finance<br>£  | Reprographics<br>& Stationery<br>£ | Site<br>maintenance<br>& utilities<br>£ | Auditors<br>Remuneration<br>£ | Totals<br>£   |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Raising donations and legacies | 2,066         | 1,300                              | -                                       | -                             | 3,366         |
| General                        | 11,369        | 7,437                              | 39,100                                  | 2,100                         | 60,006        |
|                                | <u>13,435</u> | <u>8,737</u>                       | <u>39,100</u>                           | <u>2,100</u>                  | <u>63,372</u> |

### 8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

|                        | 2021<br>£    | 2020<br>£    |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Auditors' remuneration | <u>2,100</u> | <u>2,100</u> |

### 9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

#### Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' remuneration, other benefits or expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2021, nor for the year to 31 December 2020.

### 10. STAFF COSTS

|                                 | 2021<br>£      | 2020<br>£       |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Wages and salaries              | 283,016        | 290,523         |
| Social security costs           | 17,167         | 18,113          |
| Other pension costs             | <u>13,375</u>  | <u>11,777</u>   |
|                                 | 313,558        | 320,413         |
| Pension fund liability movement | <u>(5,550)</u> | <u>(18,962)</u> |
|                                 | <u>308,008</u> | <u>301,451</u>  |

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

|                               | 2021      | 2020      |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Management and administration | 3         | 3         |
| Premises                      | 2         | 2         |
| Direct charitable activities  | <u>7</u>  | <u>7</u>  |
|                               | <u>12</u> | <u>12</u> |

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

### 11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

|                        | Land and<br>buildings<br>£ | Fixtures<br>and<br>fittings<br>£ | Totals<br>£      |
|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>COST</b>            |                            |                                  |                  |
| At 1st January 2021    | 1,777,668                  | 6,567                            | 1,784,235        |
| Disposals              | -                          | (6,567)                          | (6,567)          |
|                        | <u>1,777,668</u>           | <u>-</u>                         | <u>1,777,668</u> |
| At 31st December 2021  | 1,777,668                  | -                                | 1,777,668        |
| <b>DEPRECIATION</b>    |                            |                                  |                  |
| At 1st January 2021    | -                          | 6,567                            | 6,567            |
| Eliminated on disposal | -                          | (6,567)                          | (6,567)          |
|                        | <u>-</u>                   | <u>-</u>                         | <u>-</u>         |
| At 31st December 2021  | -                          | -                                | -                |
| <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>  |                            |                                  |                  |
| At 31st December 2021  | <u>1,777,668</u>           | <u>-</u>                         | <u>1,777,668</u> |
| At 31st December 2020  | <u>1,777,668</u>           | <u>-</u>                         | <u>1,777,668</u> |

### 12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|               | 2021<br>£     | 2020<br>£     |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Other debtors | <u>19,261</u> | <u>13,285</u> |

### 13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|                                 | 2021<br>£     | 2020<br>£     |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Social security and other taxes | 4,441         | 5,340         |
| Other creditors                 | <u>52,958</u> | <u>58,941</u> |
|                                 | <u>57,399</u> | <u>64,281</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

|                           | At 1.1.21<br>£          | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.21<br>£     |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                         |                                  |                         |
| General fund              | 1,833,230               | 10,440                           | 1,843,670               |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                         |                                  |                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 13,298                  | (7,315)                          | 5,983                   |
| Global Sunday             | 22,154                  | 1,945                            | 24,099                  |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 222                     | 175                              | 397                     |
| Badminton Club            | 43                      | 33                               | 76                      |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 22,111                  | (3,863)                          | 18,248                  |
|                           | <u>57,828</u>           | <u>(9,025)</u>                   | <u>48,803</u>           |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u><u>1,891,058</u></u> | <u><u>1,415</u></u>              | <u><u>1,892,473</u></u> |

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 365,862                    | (355,422)                  | 10,440                    |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 25,605                     | (25,605)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 54,876                     | (62,191)                   | (7,315)                   |
| Global Sunday             | 44,083                     | (42,138)                   | 1,945                     |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 694                        | (519)                      | 175                       |
| Badminton Club            | 361                        | (328)                      | 33                        |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 11,116                     | (14,979)                   | (3,863)                   |
|                           | <u>136,735</u>             | <u>(145,760)</u>           | <u>(9,025)</u>            |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u><u>502,597</u></u>      | <u><u>(501,182)</u></u>    | <u><u>1,415</u></u>       |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

#### Comparatives for movement in funds

|                           | At 1.1.20<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.20<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,811,486        | 21,744                           | 1,833,230           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 10,684           | 2,614                            | 13,298              |
| Global Sunday             | 24,173           | (2,019)                          | 22,154              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 527              | (305)                            | 222                 |
| Badminton Club            | 39               | 4                                | 43                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | -                | 22,111                           | 22,111              |
|                           | <u>35,423</u>    | <u>22,405</u>                    | <u>57,828</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,846,909</u> | <u>44,149</u>                    | <u>1,891,058</u>    |

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 377,731                    | (355,987)                  | 21,744                    |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 31,795                     | (31,795)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 73,616                     | (71,002)                   | 2,614                     |
| Global Sunday             | 37,238                     | (39,257)                   | (2,019)                   |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 180                        | (485)                      | (305)                     |
| Badminton Club            | 230                        | (226)                      | 4                         |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 24,733                     | (2,622)                    | 22,111                    |
|                           | <u>167,792</u>             | <u>(145,387)</u>           | <u>22,405</u>             |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>545,523</u>             | <u>(501,374)</u>           | <u>44,149</u>             |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

|                           | At 1.1.20<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.21<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,811,486        | 32,184                           | 1,843,670           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 10,684           | (4,701)                          | 5,983               |
| Global Sunday             | 24,173           | (74)                             | 24,099              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 527              | (130)                            | 397                 |
| Badminton Club            | 39               | 37                               | 76                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | -                | 18,248                           | 18,248              |
|                           | <u>35,423</u>    | <u>13,380</u>                    | <u>48,803</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,846,909</u> | <u>45,564</u>                    | <u>1,892,473</u>    |

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 743,593                    | (711,409)                  | 32,184                    |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 57,400                     | (57,400)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 128,492                    | (133,193)                  | (4,701)                   |
| Global Sunday             | 81,321                     | (81,395)                   | (74)                      |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 874                        | (1,004)                    | (130)                     |
| Badminton Club            | 591                        | (554)                      | 37                        |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 35,849                     | (17,601)                   | 18,248                    |
|                           | <u>304,527</u>             | <u>(291,147)</u>           | <u>13,380</u>             |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,048,120</u>           | <u>(1,002,556)</u>         | <u>45,564</u>             |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

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### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The Scheme is a separate legal entity and the assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

For any month, each participating employer in the Scheme pays contributions as set out in the Schedule of Contributions in force at that time.

The Scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year, plus any impact of deficiency contributions (see below).

From January 2012, pension provision is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Scheme. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Broadstone Corporate Benefits Limited. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members in the event that they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Aviva Limited.

Benefits in respect of service prior to 1 January 2012 are provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan within the Scheme. The main benefits for pre-2012 service were a defined benefit pension of one eightieth of Final Minimum Pensionable Income for each year of Pensionable Service, together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011.

#### Actuarial valuation as at 31 December 2019

A formal valuation of the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was performed at 31 December 2019 by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. The market value of the DB Plan assets at the valuation date was £298 million.

The valuation of the DB Plan revealed a deficit of assets compared with the value of liabilities of £18 million (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%). The Church and the other employers supporting the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit.

The key assumptions underlying the valuation were as follows:

|                                      |      |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Type of financial assumption         | % pa |
| RPI price inflation assumption       | 3.20 |
| CPI price inflation assumption       | 2.70 |
| Minimum Pensionable Income increases |      |
| RPI                                  | 0.50 |
| Assumed investment returns           |      |
| - Pre-retirement                     | 2.95 |
| - Post retirement                    | 1.70 |
| Minimum Pensionable Income increases | 3.20 |
| Deferred pension increases           |      |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

|                       |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| - Pre April 2009      | 3.20 |
| - Post April 2009     | 2.50 |
| Pension increases     |      |
| - Main Scheme pension | 2.70 |

The next actuarial valuation of the DB Plan within the Scheme is due to take place not later than as at 31 December 2022.

#### Recovery Plan

In addition to the contributions to the DC Plan set out above, where a valuation of the DB Plan reveals a deficit the Trustee and the Council agree to a rate of deficiency contributions from churches and other employers involved in the DB Plan.

Under the current Recovery Plan dated 30 September 2020, deficiency contributions are payable until 30 June 2026. These contributions are broadly based on the employer's membership at 31 December 2014 and increase annually in line with increases to Minimum Pensionable Income as defined in the Rules.

#### Movement in Balance Sheet liability

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. The movement in the provision is set out in the table below.

| Accounting date (year ending):                                       | 2021    | 2020     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Balance sheet liability at year start                                | £28,850 | £47,812  |
| Minus deficiency contributions paid                                  | -£5,038 | -£3,780  |
| Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)                                   | £290    | £ 781    |
| Remaining change to balance sheet liability*<br>(recognised in SoFA) | -£802   | -£15,963 |
| Balance sheet liability at year end                                  | £23,300 | £28,850  |

\* Comprises any change in agreed deficit recovery plan and change in assumptions between year-ends.

This liability represents the present value of the deficit contributions agreed as at the accounting date and has been valued using the following assumptions set by reference to the duration of the deficit recovery payments:

| Accounting date                                | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 |
|------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Discount rate 2.                               | 2.0% | 1.1% | 1.7% |
| Future increases to Minimum Pensionable Income | 4.1% | 3.1% | 3.2% |

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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### **15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued**

The profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contributions payable. The total pension cost for the Church paid to the Baptist Pension Scheme is £9,274 (2020 £7,940).

Contributions were also made to The Peoples Pension of £4,100 (2020 £3,837).

### **16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

Hullabaloo and the Oasis Drop-in Centre were administered by The Stopsley Project until it ceased operations on 31 October 2020, at which date their activities were taken over by Stopsley Baptist Church. The Lounge had also been part of The Stopsley Project until it closed in March 2020. Two of the trustees of The Stopsley Project were also trustees of the Church.

These activities are now fully integrated into the Church and there are no related third parties.

### **17. PURPOSE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS**

GreenHouse Mentoring:

This is a project which helps young people in Luton achieve their potential by matching them with screened and trained volunteer mentors. Funding is received mainly from other grants and individual donations.

Oasis Drop-in Centre

The Centre, located in the LU3 area of Luton, provides a place of safety, friendship and learning for those in Luton with English as a second language and/or second culture, along with their friends and family.

Global Sunday:

Annual event where the focus is on raising funds specifically to provide support grants to SBC mission families located world-wide.

Mission Support:

Monies received specifically for the funding of short-term mission trips and the direct support of mission families and outreach both in the UK and overseas.

Boys Brigade & Badminton:

The Boys Brigade and Badminton Club organisations operate their own finances and are included in the church audit. Copies of their accounts can be obtained from the respective treasurers.

## **Stopsley Baptist Church**

**Appendix to the financial statements  
for the year to 31 December 2021**

**Additional Information relating to the  
GreenHouse Mentoring Project and  
Oasis Drop-in Centre**

# Stopsley Baptist Church

## Appendix to the financial statements for the year to 31 December 2021

### Additional Information relating to the GreenHouse Mentoring Project

|                          |                                         | 2021<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 2020<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>            |                                         |                                  |                                  |
| Gifts and Donations:     | Givenet/Stewardship                     | 8,691                            | 7,555                            |
|                          | DBS & First Aid Course Contributions    | 122                              | 180                              |
|                          | Café Donations                          | 0                                | 144                              |
|                          | Easy Fundraising                        | 84                               | 82                               |
|                          | Amazon Smile                            | 167                              | 112                              |
|                          | Others                                  | 1,453                            | 8,272                            |
| Tax Refunds              |                                         | 1,103                            | 2,275                            |
| Grants:                  | Co-op Local Community Fund              | 389                              | 4,537                            |
|                          | Garfield Weston                         | 7,500                            | 7,500                            |
|                          | Children in Need                        | 0                                | 17,675                           |
|                          | Wixamtree                               | 5,677                            | 5,000                            |
|                          | Gale Family Trust                       | 8,000                            | 0                                |
|                          | Beds & Luton Community Fund             | 19,206                           | 20,284                           |
|                          | Luton Borough Council (East Area Board) | 2,484                            | 0                                |
| Total Incoming Resources |                                         | <b>54,876</b>                    | <b>73,616</b>                    |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>       |                                         |                                  |                                  |
|                          | Payroll Costs                           | 57,295                           | 63,061                           |
|                          | Staff Travel and other expenses         | 0                                | 40                               |
|                          | DBS Costs                               | 554                              | 374                              |
|                          | Staff & Mentor Training                 | 827                              | 0                                |
|                          | Volunteers Expenses                     | 0                                | 11                               |
|                          | Communications                          | 631                              | 448                              |
|                          | Stationery & Postage                    | 157                              | 374                              |
|                          | Small Equipment                         | 718                              | 289                              |
|                          | Resource Materials                      | 581                              | 2,593                            |
|                          | Catering                                | 680                              | 131                              |
|                          | Subscriptions                           | 732                              | 553                              |
|                          | Software                                | 16                               | 3,128                            |
| Total Expenditure        |                                         | <b>62,191</b>                    | <b>71,002</b>                    |
| Net Movement in Funds    |                                         | (7,315)                          | 2,614                            |
| Funds brought forward    |                                         | 13,298                           | 10,684                           |
| Funds carried forward    |                                         | <b>5,983</b>                     | <b>13,298</b>                    |

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements. However, we confirm that this shows a fair reflection of the transactions that relate to the GreenHouse Mentoring Project and confirm that this income and expenditure is contained in the audited statutory financial statements.

*Higginson Co (UK) Ltd*

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

**Stopsley Baptist Church**

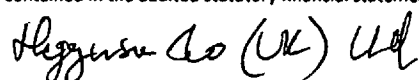
**Appendix to the financial statements for the year to 31 December 2021**

**Additional information relating to the Oasis Drop-in Centre**

|                                    |                                | <b>2021</b>       | <b>2020</b>       |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                    |                                | <b>Restricted</b> | <b>Restricted</b> |
|                                    |                                | <b>Funds</b>      | <b>Funds</b>      |
|                                    |                                | <b>£</b>          | <b>£</b>          |
| <b>INCOME</b>                      |                                |                   |                   |
| Gifts and Donations:               | Churches                       | 5,188             | 4,478             |
|                                    | Stewardship                    | 608               |                   |
|                                    | Individuals                    | 4,400             | 2,991             |
|                                    | Amazon Smile                   | 13                |                   |
| Fees & Subscriptions               |                                | 768               | 250               |
| Tax Refunds                        |                                | 139               | 9                 |
| Transfer from The Stopsley Project |                                |                   | 17,005            |
| Total Incoming Resources           |                                | <b>11,116</b>     | <b>24,733</b>     |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                 |                                |                   |                   |
|                                    | Benevolent Fund                | 42                |                   |
|                                    | Resource Materials             | 75                | 170               |
|                                    | Catering                       | 175               | 27                |
|                                    | Office Equipment               | 177               |                   |
|                                    | Special Events                 | 319               | 88                |
|                                    | Communications                 | 370               | 101               |
|                                    | Reprographics                  | 83                |                   |
|                                    | DBS Costs                      | 37                |                   |
|                                    | Building Maintenance & Repairs | 1,144             | 10                |
|                                    | Furnishings                    | 71                |                   |
|                                    | Site Equipment & Repairs       | 1,814             |                   |
|                                    | Utilities                      | 64                | 219               |
|                                    | Rent of Premises               | 10,000            | 2,000             |
|                                    | Sundries                       | 608               | 7                 |
| Total Expenditure                  |                                | <b>14,979</b>     | <b>2,622</b>      |
| Net Movement in Funds              |                                | (3,863)           | 22,111            |
| Funds brought forward              |                                | 22,111            | 0                 |
| Funds carried forward              |                                | <b>18,248</b>     | <b>22,111</b>     |

Note: Until 31 October 2020 the Oasis Drop-in Centre was part of The Stopsley Project. At this date their activities were taken over by the Church. The 2020 figures relate to November and December 2020 and the transfer of the assets.

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements. However, we confirm that this shows a fair reflection of the transactions that relate to the Oasis Drop-in Centre and confirm that this income and expenditure is contained in the audited statutory financial statements.



Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

**STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1150563

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 7695836 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1150563**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020  
FOR  
STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

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# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

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The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020. 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

#### Objectives and purposes

Stopsley Baptist Church (SBC) is committed to celebrating the Christian gospel and to devoting itself to bless the communities of Luton and the wider world. Fundamentally, these ends are pursued by the provision of regular opportunities for Christian teaching, prayer and worship in our Sunday services and in our missional discipleship communities, Beacons. The church believes that the good news of Jesus Christ is not for those within the church alone and is therefore committed to sharing the message of hope found in the gospel. This is pursued through a range of outreach activities in Luton and in the mission activities of our overseas partners. 2020 began with a mission trip to Cambodia in January, at which time worry was increasing about an infectious disease already established in China. Within six weeks of our return from that trip the pandemic had hit the UK and this went on to affect everything that happened beyond that point. It has been a complex but ultimately fulfilling year and this report seeks to give some indication as to how that has affected our ministry and re-doubled our resolve to pursue our charitable ends.

Our links with the local community have seen us assisting the local secondary school in delivering free school meals to students during recent months. It has also seen our giving away significant food gifts to a local outreach and then re-establishing our own Foodworks ministry with a more local focus. Our cupboard has been re-stocked, new supply partnerships forged, letters written to local schools inviting their use of our crisis parcels and we are now issuing 4-5 parcels a week. At Easter we had a neighbourhood initiative delivering Easter eggs and a message of care to local households. We have also developed a significant online presence that has facilitated the worship life of the church but also has provided outreach into our local community, offering quiz nights and other social opportunities that have been taken up not only by our church but other contacts in Stopsley and beyond.

Perhaps, the greatest new community initiative has been led by our Community Beacon, resourced by the wider church. A piece of land owned by SBC, next to our GreenHouse site, has been re-developed into a Community Garden, growing vegetables which are offered to visitors and establishing a seated area under a pergola for people to meet and enjoy. There are further plans to develop a final section into a children's area with a tunnel and other features. We want to grow this area in partnership with people from the local community; there is already a thriving Facebook page and regular trails for families. The garden is the vanguard of our intention to re-develop our GreenHouse site as a community hub.

In the middle of 2020, our church was deeply affected by the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd in the USA. These events led us to have two listening events, where black members of our family shared their experiences on a Zoom call. Our church has a growing sense of its responsibility in terms of justice issues and now has both a climate change group and a social justice group taking a lead in ensuring that we engage seriously with these matters within our church and advocate more broadly.

This alone, without the many other activities that SBC leads and makes possible, amply fulfils the criteria for public benefit laid down by the Charities Commission, as well as glorifying the God whom we follow in Jesus Christ. The vision at SBC is expressed as an aspiration to be 'an extended family, growing and being transformed in Jesus Christ and sharing the good news wherever we go'. Our church is not a Sunday club or a religious group as such but a whole life community, looking to Jesus Christ and out to our neighbourhoods and contacts. The mission of the church is to engender a life, a culture that seeks to influence and transform us as individuals and our communities.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

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This is pursued through our Sunday gatherings, now online, and our Beacon Groups, missional families that seek to share life and faith and be places of encouragement in taking the good news into the whole of our lives. Beacons have been a very significant facility helping us to maintain our community through the isolation of lockdown and they have successfully moved their activity online, exploring Zoom meetings, maximising the potential of WhatsApp groups and diversifying their pattern by incorporating walks in whatever sized groups restrictions have allowed. While it will be impossible to assess the impact of Covid on our life until sometime after it has passed, currently we are able to reflect that our community life remains intact and new opportunities that have sharpened our vision and practice have emerged as a consequence.

### Significant activities

#### Worship and Prayer

Until the beginning of lockdown, the church continued to gather for worship regularly on Sunday mornings at 10.30am. However, the arrival of Covid forced us to re-think the way that we 'meet' to worship. Initially we offered a simple message out through streaming on Facebook Live. Our life quickly developed from this point, initially with a pre-recorded service, edited together during the week and then streamed on Sunday. Latterly, we have developed confidence through ReStream, an online broadcast platform to bring multiple participants together, mixing live material and pre-recorded items to continue to offer a regular and engaging worship time. This has been streamed through Facebook and YouTube and averages around 120 screens during the live broadcast - that number grows as others watch during the week. We have concentrated on seeking to include as many people in our services as possible, favouring an emphasis on family and participation over high production values in line with our vision. This has been greatly helped by our worship team, who have worked hard to record music, and by the goodwill of many in our community. The consequence has been that, while we have struggled to engage some who do not have access to or confidence in technology, the vast majority of our fellowship have continued to come together weekly and we have seen others, who would never ordinarily come to our building, become involved.

Alongside this, we have continued to offer materials for children on Sunday morning and started a virtual coffee time online after the service, to allow people to chat and maintain relationship. This has been supported during the week by broadcasts through our SBC Kids Facebook page, youth sessions and Beacon meetings.

On Thursday morning, we now have a regular time of reflection and prayer called 'Rise and Shine' that goes out at 8am on Facebook Live. We have also developed a time of 'Chat and Prayer' that we are calling 'Rendezvous' on Sunday evening, where a guest each week comes and is interviewed about their experience of Covid and their own areas of interest. Both of these have a growing following.

We have hosted an online Alpha course with another Luton church and have run 'The Prayer Course' on Zoom during summer evenings.

We have also begun to develop an evening physical gathering called 'Presence'. This operates out of a contemplative environment, is centred on communion and includes performed music, liturgy and prayer as well as short bible-based teaching. Due to lockdown restrictions this only happened once in December but is now part of our 'Stepping Stones' plan to return to physical gathering as soon as circumstances allow.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

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### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

#### Significant activities

##### Children's Ministry

The year began with a strong programme of activities for children and families on Sundays and during the week. Since March 2020 we have been on a journey of finding new and innovative ways to maintain the connection with our families.

We started a weekly email to these families including support materials and resources to aid 'faith at home', to link with our online Sunday services. We used our SBC Kids playlists to upload stories from our children's ministry team, point to other resources and to worship songs. We also wrote to each child and parent individually to let them know we were praying for them and since then have set up a pen pal scheme for those who signed up to it with our wider team. We also posted out a 'faith at home' hope box to use over the summer holidays, a lockdown journal in the Autumn term, a Christmas card and gift and an Easter countdown calendar for Lent. We ran fortnightly Zoom sessions in the first lockdown for our under 11's where we played games, read a bible story, had a worship song and prayed together. Now we run these sessions every Sunday as part of the post service video meetings. We also ran a Light Party online by Zoom which was enjoyed by all those that were a part of it.

Our Early Years sessions, working with under-fives, have made good use of Facebook. These link to a weekly newsletter and a range of activities to get involved with from Zoom sessions, weekly crafts to collect from the community garden, online cooking videos and outdoor trails. All of this has ensured that we not only have maintained our relationships with our existing young families but have been able to reach even more. We were able to offer 6 weeks of Covid-secure sessions from September to October which were very much appreciated, despite the restrictions we had to put in place for these to run safely, and were also able to offer a Christmas session for each family as well.

Messy Church also went online and we are seeing a good number of viewings for these even now. As the first lockdown eased, we provided activity bags to go along with the sessions that were available for contact free pick up or were able to be downloaded online. These have been very well received and we have had positive feedback from the community.

Local schools have continued to want us to contribute to collective worship and so these have been recorded and sent to them to use in either a classroom setting or at home. We were also asked by one school to attend a physical harvest assembly led by Jo White which resulted in the collection being donated to our Foodworks ministry.

##### Youthwork

2020 has been a busy year for SBC Youthworks as it continued its mission to make contact with young people, connecting them with each other and commissioning them to make a difference in the world. Under normal circumstances, Youthworks sees around 50 young people connected with during the week. Our regular meetings include Elevate on Sunday nights for Years 10-13, Fuse on Sunday mornings and Pods on Monday nights for Years 7-9 and a games club in Stopsley High School.

During the last year, the PODS night and Elevate have shifted online with varying degrees of success. It has been challenging to engage young people in this way while they are spending much of their weeks on screen with schoolwork and when, with the best of intentions, it is difficult to make these meetings personal. We are very grateful for the dedicated volunteer leaders who have faithfully continued to offer opportunities to our young people. Nevertheless, the young people led the church in raising awareness about racial justice in the wake of the George Floyd murder and several of the young people have taken part in leading aspects of our online services. We also organised a virtual summer camp that was greatly appreciated by those who attended.

The impact of Covid, the move to online school teaching and youth work moving online have been significant factors in seeing the Elevate age group less engaged through the week than in previous years. Lines of communication remain open and regular invitations are sent out for SBC and town-wide initiatives, but the uptake amongst this age group is small.

The year ended with the news that Pete Croall, our Director of Youthwork would be moving on. So, we face a new year with the opportunity to reflect and re-launch in anticipation of restrictions being eased in 2021.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

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### Greenhouse Mentoring

GHM has also been adversely affected by Covid restrictions but, nevertheless, has continued to operate throughout, adapting to the changed circumstances and helping young people in Luton.

During the year, GHM has:

- Adjusted services and procedures from face-to-face mentoring into TeleMentoring so that young people continue to be helped through the virus lockdown.
- Joined #weareluton - a group of voluntary service organisations formed to:
- Provide an easy way for children, young people and parents to ask for help
- Facilitate joined up working between organisations
- Finished transferring all IT systems to secure, cloud-based solutions. This has allowed GHM to work without restrictions during the coronavirus lockdown.
- Trained a new cohort of 41 potential volunteers to become mentors, using a completely re-written training course and website, managed and run online successfully without any face-to-face contact.
- Adjusted services and procedures from face-to-face mentoring to TeleMentoring so that young people continue to be helped through the lockdown.
- Carried out a 'Back to School Booster Packs' project for all mentees to help them during lockdown and encourage them as they returned to school.

The Scheme provided support to over 120 children and teenagers during the year and continues to thrive and expand. GHM draws from a volunteer pool of over 150, with training opportunities for new volunteers twice a year. GHM holds the Investing in Volunteers Award.

GHM has continued to provide three main services:

- Group Mentoring Skills Courses in Dealing with Anger and Building Self-Esteem
- Group Mentoring Skills and Activity Clubs - with "ACE Kids", for ages 8-10, "ACE Plus", for ages 11-13, and "The BASE", for ages 14-18;
- One-to-One Mentoring and TeleMentoring with mentoring support for around 75 young people, Young Parent Mentoring, English Corner Mentoring and the Cluster Mentoring service.

During the year GHM progressed a succession plan for the managers and succeeded in appointing a new manager with a 3 month period of shadowing and job overlap.

Financial support has been achieved through a balanced strategy of seeking individual support, fund raising schemes/events and application to trusts. GHM has begun funding for 2021.

### Global and Cross-Cultural Mission

The church continues to support work overseas in the Balkans, Cambodia, Pakistan, and the Middle East. SBC has members of our church who are living overseas permanently while others visit for periods of up to two months at a time. We also have developed partnerships with pastors from churches overseas through Radstock Ministries. We were unable to participate in any pastoral visits this year, due to travel restrictions, but communication and relationships continued as we connected using video conferencing. As well as this, many of our partners were involved in different aspects of our Sunday morning services and our church meetings on Zoom.

We aim to support the members and partners in the work they are undertaking and offer opportunities for the wider church to get involved in supporting them through prayer, pastoral care, fundraising and short-term trips. At the start of 2020 we sent a group to Cambodia to assist the work of the team there. They were involved in teaching, pastoral care, prayer and fellowship. Due to the constraints on travel, we were unable to send any more short-term teams overseas.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

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We continued to support and promote the work of a number of activities based in Luton, which seek to work with and offer friendship and basic skills to a number of the different ethnic groups found in the town, notably amongst Pakistani Muslims and Albanians. The pandemic gave opportunities for members of the church family to engage with this and join Zoom gatherings which helped them get to know the families that these groups are working with.

The budget to finance the individuals involved in mission exceeds £50,000 per annum and £36,000 of this was raised by the SBC family following the distribution of our Global Chronicles and the appeal we gave on Global Sunday - our special mission day. This funds the individuals who are involved in education, serving the poor and equipping and developing leaders.

### Pastoral Care

The church continues to work hard to offer care to those who attend and to the wider community. Our goal is to provide this primarily through the work of Beacons. By way of regular meetings, WhatsApp and friendship, many of our pastoral needs are catered for via these extended families. Beyond this, we have a Pastoral Steering Group covering the breadth of our community. In the last year, this group has ensured that all people on our database who are not placed in Beacons have received an initial phone call and then regular follow up, when invited to do so, to ensure that care is available where needed.

We also continue to run a Foodworks ministry, stocked by members of the church and through contributions from local schools. This store is used to supply food parcels to referrals received either personally or through a range of agencies. In the last year, as well as parcels in response to individual referrals, we provided gifts to Azalea, one of our local partners, who run their own Food Ministry. The need in our town remains, even with the availability of an established Food Bank. In the last year we have made major donations to a food bank operating in Farley Hill and have supported our local secondary school in delivering free meal parcels to a number of pupils' homes.

The church continues to serve senior citizens through our Seniors' ministry, which meets weekly for a service and social time on a Tuesday and monthly on a Sunday afternoon. In the last year, the Seniors' Team have rung all of those who would have attended our Tuesday afternoon sessions on a regular basis. We have also sent pastoral letters and provided a DVD of services on several occasions.

We support the development of a community outreach project called 'The Tent Project', led by one of our members and delivered in partnership with St Thomas' Church and others. A Singing Café is now run alongside the Tent Project, which has up to 80 attendees. Many of these activities have been curtailed during the pandemic and we look forward to their recommencing as soon as possible.

### Use of the Church Centre

One of the great joys of Stopsley Baptist Church has been the way that the building has been busy throughout the week, welcoming many different people in and offering them a place of belonging. Covid has seen this profoundly changed.

Budget cuts forced upon Luton Borough Council, largely due to the loss of income from Luton Airport, has led to radical cuts to Children's Centre services in the town. The partnership we have enjoyed with them for the last ten years has consequently come to an end and we are saddened by this. It is hoped that some of their provision will be met in the future through our own initiatives and fresh partnerships.

The loss of footfall in our building also led us to the very difficult decision to close the in-house café, The Lounge. This facility has been provided by The Stopsley Project for about 15 years and had a very good reputation locally as a welcoming, child-friendly service.

All of these developments will shape the community that we will emerge as into the future. Our lettings, we hope, will gradually begin to resume once lockdown measures are released. Already, however, we are beginning to think strategically about new ways to deploy our buildings to better serve the local community and to be more efficiently arranged to service our role as a worship centre.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

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### Staffing

We are grateful for all of the hard work of the staff, as well as for the many volunteers who make life at SBC possible.

The pandemic has affected our staffing as it has every area of church life. Several of our staff have been furloughed for long periods, which has proved very helpful in managing our human resources.

During this period, the manager and assistant manager of our GreenHouse Mentoring Project announced that they would be retiring at the end of December 2020. This has been a very significant change as they have been profoundly influential in shaping this work for many years. Catriona Gillies was, however, appointed in October 2020. She worked alongside Ian and Sue Pirks until their retirement and is now in post as manager, leading the Mentoring Project into this new season.

Our Director of Youth Ministry, Pete Croall, has also taken up a new career and we are about to begin a reflection in the wake of this as we continue to seek to serve young people into the future.

### Membership and Baptisms

Last year we did not celebrate any baptisms but we do have several people waiting for this to happen once our facilities are re-opened. At the end of 2020, the church had 219 members.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

### Financial position

During the year under review, the objective was to maintain the reserves in the general fund in line with the agreed policy. There was a surplus for the year of £21,744 in the general fund and an increase in restricted funds of £22,405. Total income for the year was £545,523 (2019 £526,717) and total expenditure £501,374 (2019 £542,389). More detailed information regarding income and expenditure can be found in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

### Investment policy and objectives

The trustees consider that the present policy of investing funds in a higher rate bank account offers the least risk in the current economic climate although interest rates continue to be very low.

### Reserves policy

The trustees have considered the requirements for reserves based on the main risks to the funding. The restricted activities are mainly supported from contracts or fundraising and all of these activities could be reduced without significant risk. Reserves are therefore only required to cover unrestricted activities, namely general fund. Approximately 90% of general fund income comes from the regular weekly or monthly commitment from Members and the gift aid recovered on it. Consequently, it is considered that the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets should ultimately be no less than 1.5 months of expenditure. As of 31 December 2020, the general fund reserves calculated on the above basis were £84,412 representing 2.6 months of future expenditure. Based on budgeted expenditure for 2021, the reserve target will be £48,395.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

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### FUTURE PLANS

We continue to operate out of our vision statement that envisages our church as 'an extended family, growing and being transformed in Jesus Christ and sharing the good news wherever we go.'

Our intention remains to work out of the four focus areas of beacons, families' ministry, teaching and learning and growth through community engagement and evangelism. The events of the last year have held us back from developing these as we would have liked but it remains our objective to establish strategic leadership groups steering each area.

The pandemic has also forced us to consider the significance of our online presence and this has led us to a new website, new expertise and investment in an IT apprentice. It has also forced us to consider the use of our buildings, especially following the success of the Community Garden Project. We are looking to re-locate all church activity and office resource to our main building and to release the GreenHouse facility to be a community hub with lettable office space seeking to raise revenue. This will create more flexibility in the delivery of our ministry, build team and grow relationship into our community, which is an objective at the heart of our vision.

### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

#### Governing document

Stopsley Baptist Church was registered as a company limited by guarantee and having no share capital on 14 April 2011, company number 7605036, and registration as an independent charity was granted on 22 January 2013, charity number 1150563.

Until 20 September 2013, SBC operated as an unincorporated business and had exempted charity status via the Baptist Union of Great Britain, who is the custodian trustee for the church properties. With effect from 1 October 2013 all income and expenditure for SBC has been reflected through the company limited by guarantee.

#### Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Elders are appointed by a formal ballot at a Church Members' Meeting and, once appointed, automatically become trustees. The minimum number of elders is three and there is no maximum number. An elder serves for an initial term of three years but may be reappointed for further terms. No restrictions apply to the Senior Pastor who is automatically an elder and trustee.

#### Organisational structure

The trustees are accountable for the overall management of SBC. This report contains a list of those who served in this capacity. The day to day provision of services is overseen by a staff team led by the Senior Pastor. This team is responsible for the operational management of the charity, the recruitment and supervision of volunteers and the development of skills and procedures in line with good practice. There are also approved policies for Volunteers, Investment, Risk Management, Conflict of Interest, Safeguarding Vulnerable Children and Adults, Complaints Handling and Paying Staff.

SBC is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Central Baptist Association. The church has worked in partnership with The Stopsley Project, a charitable company, since it was established in 1997. The Covid restrictions meant that the in-house café, known as the Lounge, had to close in March 2020 and the decision was taken by The Stopsley Project Trustees not to re-open. At the end of October 2020 the Project Trustees decided to close the Charity and the activities of both Early Learning and the Oasis Centre were transferred to SBC.

As well as contributing some financial support to the Oasis Centre, the Early Learning activities and the Lounge, prior to the closure, the church provided many of the volunteers involved.

#### Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees are expected to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. They are also required to read the Charity Commission publication "The Essential Trustee: What you need to know".

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

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### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

#### Affiliations and relationships

SBC is a member of Churches Together in Luton and has been involved in town-wide initiatives through the umbrella of the Transforming Luton organisation. Our Senior Pastor has been involved with a group of ministers meeting from across Luton to discuss advocacy for racial justice as part of this commitment.

We continue to enjoy good relationships with other churches across the town and in the immediate area. This is witnessed in our involvement locally with churches in the East of Luton sharing in a virtual Good Friday Walk of Witness. We also partnered with Hope Church in leading two online Alpha courses.

We continue to support, through individuals and in some cases as a church, the work of a number of local charities and parachurch organisations. Formally, SBC has recognised four Local Partners with whom we are seeking to develop a closer relationship of support and mutual benefit. In 2020 these were: Azalea, Youthscape (Luton), FLINT and Signposts.

#### Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

All volunteers working with children and young people are required to complete Level 1 online safeguarding training accessed through Bedfordshire Children's Services, to provide a current DBS disclosure certificate and to attend our annual training evening 'Equip'. The Safeguarding Board have continued to meet throughout the pandemic and have overseen challenges in moving some of our operation online. Our annual Equip training will happen once we are able to meet again; we are planning to record a short training video for use in the future.

In the short term, the risks of a shortfall in funding are minimised by the reserves held and the commitment of the members through donations and monthly standing orders. Internally, procedures are in place for the authorisation of expenditure and the receipt of monies. Computer records and bank statements are reconciled monthly.

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

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### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**  
7605036 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**  
1150563

**Registered office**  
Stopsley Baptist Church  
St Thomas' Road  
Luton  
Bedfordshire  
LU2 7XP

**Trustees**  
N Mattocks (Chair)  
S Moody  
J Hyllon  
L Mudd  
I Pirks  
C Roberts  
L Osborne  
A Davie  
F Theron (resigned 9/2/2020)

**Auditors**  
Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kensworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

**Solicitors**  
Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP  
134 Edmund Street  
Birmingham B3 2ES

**Bankers**  
Barclays Bank Plc  
28 George Street  
Luton LU1 2AE

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

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### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Stopsley Baptist Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- 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 charitable company 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 charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

### AUDITORS

The auditors, Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 12/8/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

  
N Matlocks (Chair) - Trustee

## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 7605036)

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### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Stopsley Baptist Church (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st December 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st December 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 7605036)**

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### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 7605036)**

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### **Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

### **Detecting Irregularities**

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

#### **Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

#### **Audit response to risks identified**

- the nature of the sector, control environment and overall performance
- results of our enquiries of Trustees about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Company documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of noncompliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
  - the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in relation to revenue deferrals. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), We are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the Company operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the UK Companies Act, Charities Act, UK Corporate Governance Code and local tax legislation. In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statement.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 7605036)**

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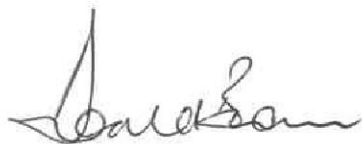
**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Donald M Brown FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd  
Statutory Auditors  
3 Kersworth Gate  
200 - 204 High Street South  
Dunstable  
Bedfordshire  
LU6 3HS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

12 / 8 / 2021

  
Higginson & Co (UK) Ltd

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

|                                       | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2020<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2019<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>     |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Donations and legacies                | 2     | 341,645                    | 31,795                   | 373,440                     | 377,782                     |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>          | 4     |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Mission Support                       |       | -                          | 37,238                   | 37,238                      | 38,142                      |
| GreenHouse Mentoring<br>Organisations |       | -                          | 73,616                   | 73,616                      | 55,404                      |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre                  |       | -                          | 410                      | 410                         | 1,127                       |
|                                       |       | -                          | 24,733                   | 24,733                      | -                           |
| Investment income                     | 3     | 20,650                     | -                        | 20,650                      | 54,262                      |
| HMRC Job Retention Scheme Grant       |       | 15,436                     | -                        | 15,436                      | -                           |
| <b>Total</b>                          |       | <b>377,731</b>             | <b>167,792</b>           | <b>545,523</b>              | <b>526,717</b>              |
| <b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>                 |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Raising funds                         | 5     | 4,384                      | -                        | 4,384                       | 5,229                       |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>          | 6     |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Mission Support                       |       | 8,569                      | 71,052                   | 79,621                      | 92,293                      |
| GreenHouse Mentoring<br>Organisations |       | -                          | 71,002                   | 71,002                      | 66,702                      |
| General                               |       | -                          | 711                      | 711                         | 1,498                       |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre                  |       | 361,996                    | -                        | 361,996                     | 379,868                     |
|                                       |       | -                          | 2,622                    | 2,622                       | -                           |
| Pension fund liability movement       |       | (18,962)                   | -                        | (18,962)                    | (3,201)                     |
| <b>Total</b>                          |       | <b>355,987</b>             | <b>145,387</b>           | <b>501,374</b>              | <b>542,389</b>              |
| <b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>       |       | <b>21,744</b>              | <b>22,405</b>            | <b>44,149</b>               | <b>(15,672)</b>             |
| <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>        |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| <b>Total funds brought forward</b>    |       | <b>1,811,486</b>           | <b>35,423</b>            | <b>1,846,909</b>            | <b>1,862,581</b>            |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>    |       | <b>1,833,230</b>           | <b>57,828</b>            | <b>1,891,058</b>            | <b>1,846,909</b>            |

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER: 7605036)

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION 31ST DECEMBER 2020

|                                                  | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2020<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2019<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                              |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Tangible assets                                  | 11    | 1,777,668                  | -                        | 1,777,668                   | 1,777,668                   |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                            |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Debtors                                          | 12    | 8,352                      | 4,933                    | 13,285                      | 27,751                      |
| Cash at bank                                     |       | 97,918                     | 95,318                   | 193,236                     | 121,353                     |
|                                                  |       | <u>106,270</u>             | <u>100,251</u>           | <u>206,521</u>              | <u>149,104</u>              |
| <b>CREDITORS</b>                                 |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Amounts falling due within one year              | 13    | (21,858)                   | (42,423)                 | (64,281)                    | (32,051)                    |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>                        |       | <u>84,412</u>              | <u>57,828</u>            | <u>142,240</u>              | <u>117,053</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT<br/>LIABILITIES</b> |       | 1,862,080                  | 57,828                   | 1,919,908                   | 1,894,721                   |
| <b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>                         | 15    | (28,850)                   | -                        | (28,850)                    | (47,812)                    |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                                |       | <u>1,833,230</u>           | <u>57,828</u>            | <u>1,891,058</u>            | <u>1,846,909</u>            |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                                     | 14    |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Unrestricted funds                               |       |                            |                          | 1,833,230                   | 1,811,486                   |
| Restricted funds                                 |       |                            |                          | 57,828                      | 35,423                      |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                               |       |                            |                          | <u>1,891,058</u>            | <u>1,846,909</u>            |

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 12/8/2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



N Mattocks (Chair) - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

# **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

|                                                                    | Notes | 2020<br>£ | 2019<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                        |       |           |           |
| Cash generated from operations                                     | 1     | 71,839    | (8,853)   |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities                |       | 71,839    | (8,853)   |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                        |       |           |           |
| Interest received                                                  |       | 44        | 101       |
| Net cash provided by investing activities                          |       | 44        | 101       |
| <b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b> |       | 71,883    | (8,752)   |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period |       | 121,353   | 130,105   |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period       |       | 193,236   | 121,353   |

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

|                                                                                                  | 2020<br>£ | 2019<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities) | 44,149    | (15,672)  |
| Adjustments for:                                                                                 |           |           |
| Interest received                                                                                | (44)      | (101)     |
| (Decrease)/increase in Pension Liability                                                         | (18,962)  | (3,201)   |
| Decrease in debtors                                                                              | 14,466    | 3,926     |
| Increase in creditors                                                                            | 32,230    | 6,195     |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operations                                                        | 71,839    | (8,853)   |

### 2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

|              | At 1.1.20<br>£ | Cash flow<br>£ | At 31.12.20<br>£ |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Net cash     |                |                |                  |
| Cash at bank | 121,353        | 71,883         | 193,236          |
|              | 121,353        | 71,883         | 193,236          |
| <b>Total</b> | 121,353        | 71,883         | 193,236          |

The notes form part of these financial statements

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

#### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

#### **Charitable activities**

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both 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 and include the audit fees and costs linked to strategic management.

#### **Allocation and apportionment of costs**

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SOFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis e.g. time spent or estimated usage as set out in Notes 5 to 8.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

The custodian trustee for the church land and buildings is the Baptist Union of Great Britain Trust. The Trust holds the deeds for the following:

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Church premises                       | 1,304,000  |
| Old Chapel refurbishment (GreenHouse) | 373,774    |
| Land (next to GreenHouse)             | 99,894     |
|                                       | <hr/>      |
|                                       | £1,777,668 |

The current church premises were built in 1994. The property is shown at historic cost within the financial statements. The Old Chapel Building was built in 1869 and was converted for use as a youth centre in 2002. There is no cost included for the original chapel but the refurbishment is included at cost. The land next to it was purchased in 2002 and is included at cost.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

The trustees had the above professionally valued in July 2017, and the open market value of land and buildings exceeds their historic cost for the "current use" of the assets. No depreciation has been charged for buildings due to this valuation.

Equipment costing below £5,000 is not capitalised. Items costing over £5,000 purchased since 1 January 2009 are capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected life. Office equipment depreciation is 20% per year.

#### **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. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The charitable company also makes payment into The Peoples Pension. Contributions payable to these are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

|                     | 2020           | 2019           |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                     | £              | £              |
| Gifts and donations | 21,791         | 3,907          |
| Offerings           | 292,645        | 307,476        |
| Gift aid            | 59,004         | 66,399         |
|                     | <u>373,440</u> | <u>377,782</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 3. INVESTMENT INCOME

|                          | 2020          | 2019          |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | £             | £             |
| Rents received           | 20,606        | 54,161        |
| Deposit account interest | 44            | 101           |
|                          | <u>20,650</u> | <u>54,262</u> |

### 4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

| Source                     | Activity - restricted          | 2020           | 2019          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
|                            |                                | £              | £             |
| Mission Support            | Mission works                  | 37,236         | 38,142        |
| GreenHouse Mentoring       | Mentoring                      | 73,616         | 55,404        |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre       | Luton Social Action            | 24,733         | -             |
| Boys Brigade and Badminton | Organisation events/activities | 410            | 1,127         |
|                            |                                | <u>135,995</u> | <u>94,673</u> |

Responsibility for the Oasis Drop-in Centre was taken over from the Stopsley Project on 31 October 2020. Funds of £17,005 were transferred at that time and are included in the Oasis income shown above.

### 5. RAISING FUNDS

#### Raising donations and legacies

|                        | 2020         | 2019         |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                        | £            | £            |
| Postage and stationery | 46           | 45           |
| Sundries               | 437          | 627          |
| Support costs          | 3,901        | 4,557        |
|                        | <u>4,384</u> | <u>5,229</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

|                      | Direct<br>Costs<br>£ | Support<br>costs (see<br>note 7)<br>£ | Totals<br>£    |
|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Mission Support      | 79,621               | -                                     | 79,621         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring | 71,002               | -                                     | 71,002         |
| Organisations        | 711                  | -                                     | 711            |
| General              | 301,657              | 60,339                                | 361,996        |
| Oasis Drop-in Centre | 2,622                | -                                     | 2,622          |
|                      | <u>455,613</u>       | <u>60,339</u>                         | <u>515,952</u> |

### 7. SUPPORT COSTS

|                                   | Finance<br>£  | Reprographics<br>& Stationery<br>£ | Site<br>maintenance<br>& utilities<br>£ | Auditors<br>Remuneration<br>£ | Totals<br>£   |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Raising donations and<br>legacies | 2,296         | 1,605                              | -                                       | -                             | 3,901         |
| General                           | 10,975        | 9,097                              | 38,167                                  | 2,100                         | 60,339        |
|                                   | <u>13,271</u> | <u>10,702</u>                      | <u>38,167</u>                           | <u>2,100</u>                  | <u>64,240</u> |

### 8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

|                        | 2020<br>£    | 2019<br>£    |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Auditors' remuneration | <u>2,100</u> | <u>2,100</u> |

### 9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

#### Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' remuneration, other benefits or expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2020, nor for the year to 31 December 2019.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 10. STAFF COSTS

|                                 | 2020           | 2019           |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                 | £              | £              |
| Wages and salaries              | 290,523        | 258,611        |
| Social security costs           | 18,113         | 15,490         |
| Other pension costs             | 11,777         | 11,465         |
|                                 | <u>320,413</u> | <u>285,566</u> |
| Pension fund liability movement | (18,962)       | (3,201)        |
|                                 | <u>301,451</u> | <u>282,365</u> |

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

|                               | 2020      | 2019      |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Management and administration | 3         | 2         |
| Premises                      | 2         | 2         |
| Direct charitable activities  | 7         | 7         |
|                               | <u>12</u> | <u>11</u> |

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

### 11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

|                                               | Land and<br>buildings<br>£ | Fixtures<br>and<br>fittings<br>£ | Totals<br>£      |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>COST</b>                                   |                            |                                  |                  |
| At 1st January 2020 and<br>31st December 2020 | <u>1,777,668</u>           | <u>6,567</u>                     | <u>1,784,235</u> |
| <b>DEPRECIATION</b>                           |                            |                                  |                  |
| At 1st January 2020 and<br>31st December 2020 | <u>-</u>                   | <u>6,567</u>                     | <u>6,567</u>     |
| <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>                         |                            |                                  |                  |
| At 31st December 2020                         | <u>1,777,668</u>           | <u>-</u>                         | <u>1,777,668</u> |
| At 31st December 2019                         | <u>1,777,668</u>           | <u>-</u>                         | <u>1,777,668</u> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|               | 2020   | 2019   |
|---------------|--------|--------|
|               | £      | £      |
| Other debtors | 13,285 | 27,751 |

### 13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|                                 | 2020   | 2019   |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|
|                                 | £      | £      |
| Social security and other taxes | 5,340  | 5,040  |
| Other creditors                 | 58,941 | 27,011 |
|                                 | 64,281 | 32,051 |

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

|                           | At 1.1.20        | Net movement  | At               |
|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
|                           | £                | in funds      | 31.12.20         |
|                           |                  | £             | £                |
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |               |                  |
| General fund              | 1,811,486        | 21,744        | 1,833,230        |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |               |                  |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 10,684           | 2,614         | 13,298           |
| Global Sunday             | 24,173           | (2,019)       | 22,154           |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 527              | (305)         | 222              |
| Badminton Club            | 39               | 4             | 43               |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | -                | 22,111        | 22,111           |
|                           | 35,423           | 22,405        | 57,828           |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <b>1,846,909</b> | <b>44,149</b> | <b>1,891,058</b> |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 377,731                    | (355,987)                  | 21,744                    |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 31,795                     | (31,795)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 73,616                     | (71,002)                   | 2,614                     |
| Global Sunday             | 37,238                     | (39,257)                   | (2,019)                   |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 180                        | (485)                      | (305)                     |
| Badminton Club            | 230                        | (226)                      | 4                         |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 24,733                     | (2,622)                    | 22,111                    |
|                           | <u>167,792</u>             | <u>(145,387)</u>           | <u>22,405</u>             |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>545,523</u>             | <u>(501,374)</u>           | <u>44,149</u>             |

### Comparatives for movement in funds

|                           | At 1.1.19<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.19<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,818,621        | (7,135)                          | 1,811,486           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 21,982           | (11,298)                         | 10,684              |
| Global Sunday             | 21,041           | 3,132                            | 24,173              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 891              | (364)                            | 527                 |
| Badminton Club            | 46               | (7)                              | 39                  |
|                           | <u>43,960</u>    | <u>(8,537)</u>                   | <u>35,423</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,862,581</u> | <u>(15,672)</u>                  | <u>1,846,909</u>    |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 393,013                    | (400,148)                  | (7,135)                   |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 38,142                     | (38,142)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 55,404                     | (66,702)                   | (11,298)                  |
| Global Sunday             | 39,031                     | (35,899)                   | 3,132                     |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 635                        | (999)                      | (364)                     |
| Badminton Club            | 492                        | (499)                      | (7)                       |
|                           | <u>133,704</u>             | <u>(142,241)</u>           | <u>(8,537)</u>            |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>526,717</u>             | <u>(542,389)</u>           | <u>(15,672)</u>           |

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

|                           | At 1.1.19<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | At<br>31.12.20<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                     |
| General fund              | 1,818,621        | 14,609                           | 1,833,230           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                     |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 21,982           | (8,684)                          | 13,298              |
| Global Sunday             | 21,041           | 1,113                            | 22,154              |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 891              | (669)                            | 222                 |
| Badminton Club            | 46               | (3)                              | 43                  |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | -                | 22,111                           | 22,111              |
|                           | <u>43,960</u>    | <u>13,868</u>                    | <u>57,828</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>1,862,581</u> | <u>28,477</u>                    | <u>1,891,058</u>    |

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 770,744                    | (756,135)                  | 14,609                    |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Mission Support           | 69,937                     | (69,937)                   | -                         |
| GreenHouse Mentoring      | 129,020                    | (137,704)                  | (8,684)                   |
| Global Sunday             | 76,269                     | (75,156)                   | 1,113                     |
| 15th Luton Boys Brigade   | 815                        | (1,484)                    | (669)                     |
| Badminton Club            | 722                        | (725)                      | (3)                       |
| Oasis Drop-In Centre      | 24,733                     | (2,622)                    | 22,111                    |
|                           | 301,496                    | (287,628)                  | 13,868                    |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <b>1,072,240</b>           | <b>(1,043,763)</b>         | <b>28,477</b>             |

### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The Scheme is a separate legal entity and the assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

For any month, each participating employer in the Scheme pays contributions as set out in the Schedule of Contributions in force at that time.

The Scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year, plus any impact of deficiency contributions (see below).

From January 2012, pension provision is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Scheme. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Legal and General Life Assurance Society Limited. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members in the event that they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Unum Limited.

# STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

Benefits in respect of service prior to 1 January 2012 are provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan within the Scheme. The main benefits for pre-2012 service were a defined benefit pension of one eightieth of Final Minimum Pensionable Income for each year of Pensionable Service, together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011.

#### Actuarial valuation as at 31 December 2019

A formal valuation of the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was performed at 31 December 2019 by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. The market value of the DB Plan assets at the valuation date was £298 million.

The valuation of the DB Plan revealed a deficit of assets compared with the value of liabilities of £18 million (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%). The Church and the other employers supporting the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit.

The key assumptions underlying the valuation were as follows:

| Type of financial assumption         | % pa |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| RPI price inflation assumption       | 3.20 |
| CPI price inflation assumption       | 2.70 |
| Minimum Pensionable Income increases |      |
| RPI                                  | 3.20 |
| Assumed investment returns           |      |
| - Pre-retirement                     | 2.95 |
| - Post retirement                    | 1.70 |
| Deferred pension increases           |      |
| - Pre April 2009                     | 3.20 |
| - Post April 2009                    | 2.50 |
| Pension increases                    |      |
| - Main Scheme pension                | 2.70 |

The next actuarial valuation of the DB Plan within the Scheme is due to take place not later than as at 31 December 2022.

#### Recovery Plan

In addition to the contributions to the DC Plan set out above, where a valuation of the DB Plan reveals a deficit the Trustee and the Council agree to a rate of deficiency contributions from churches and other employers involved in the DB Plan.

Under the current Recovery Plan dated 30 September 2020, deficiency contributions are payable until 30 June 2026. These contributions are broadly based on the employer's membership at 31 December 2014 and increase annually in line with increases to Minimum Pensionable Income as defined in the Rules. However, the Trustee and the Council agreed a 50% reduction for all deficiency contributions payable between 1 July 2020 and 31 December 2020.

## STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

#### 15. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

##### Movement in Balance Sheet liability

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. The movement in the provision is set out in the table below.

| Accounting date (year ending):                                       | 2020     | 2019    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------|
| Balance sheet liability at year start                                | £47,812  | £51,013 |
| Minus deficiency contributions paid                                  | -£3,780  | -£4,941 |
| Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)                                   | £781     | £1,165  |
| Remaining change to balance sheet liability*<br>(recognised in SoFA) | -£15,963 | £576    |
| Balance sheet liability at year end                                  | £28,850  | £47,812 |

\* Comprises any change in agreed deficit recovery plan and change in assumptions between year-ends.

This liability represents the present value of the deficit contributions agreed as at the accounting date and has been valued using the following assumptions set by reference to the duration of the deficit recovery payments:

| Accounting date                                | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 |
|------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Discount rate 2.                               | 1.1% | 1.7% | 2.4% |
| Future increases to Minimum Pensionable Income | 3.1% | 3.2% | 3.3% |

The profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contributions payable. The total pension cost for the Church paid to the Baptist Pension Scheme is £7,940 (2019 £8,996).

Contributions were also made to The Peoples Pension of £3,837 (2019 £2,469).

#### 16. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Hullabaloo and the Oasis Drop-in Centre were administered by The Stopsley Project until it ceased operations on 31 October 2020, at which date their activities were taken over by Stopsley Baptist Church. The Lounge had also been part of The Stopsley Project until it closed in March 2020. Two of the trustees of The Stopsley Project were also trustees of the Church.

For the period from 1 January 2020 to closure, the Lounge charged Stopsley Baptist Church £3,233 (2019 £13,488) for refreshments for Sunday services and other events and received donations of £3,758 (2019 Nil). For the ten month period to 31 October 2020, donations were made to Hullabaloo of £4,800 (2019 £4,800).

## **STOPSLEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

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#### **17. PURPOSE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS**

**GreenHouse Mentoring:**

This is a project which helps young people in Luton achieve their potential by matching them with screened and trained volunteer mentors. Funding is received mainly from other grants and individual donations.

**Oasis Drop-in Centre**

The Centre, located in the LU3 area of Luton, provides a place of safety, friendship and learning for those in Luton with English as a second language and/or second culture, along with their friends and family.

**Global Sunday:**

Annual event where the focus is on raising funds specifically to provide support grants to SBC mission families located world-wide.

**Mission Support:**

Monies received specifically for the funding of short-term mission trips and the direct support of mission families and outreach both in the UK and overseas.

**Boys Brigade & Badminton:**

The Boys Brigade and Badminton Club organisations operate their own finances and are included in the church audit. Copies of their accounts can be obtained from the respective treasurers.

# Stopsley Baptist Church

Appendix to the financial statements for the year to 31 December 2020

Additional Information relating to the GreenHouse Mentoring Project

|                          |                                         | 2020<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 2019<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>            |                                         |                                  |                                  |
| Gifts and Donations:     | Givenet/Stewardship                     | 7,555                            | 8,554                            |
|                          | DBS Contributions                       | 180                              | 161                              |
|                          | Café Donations                          | 144                              | 445                              |
|                          | Easy Fundraising                        | 82                               | 209                              |
|                          | Others                                  | 8,384                            | 10,744                           |
| Tax Refunds              |                                         | 2,275                            | 1,360                            |
| Grants:                  | Co-op Local Community Fund              | 4,537                            | 4,571                            |
|                          | Garfield Weston                         | 7,500                            | 0                                |
|                          | Children in Need                        | 17,675                           | 11,130                           |
|                          | Wicamtree                               | 5,000                            | 2,000                            |
|                          | Beds & Luton Community Fund             | 20,284                           | 13,752                           |
|                          | Luton Borough Council (East Area Board) | 0                                | 2,478                            |
| Total Incoming Resources |                                         | 73,616                           | 55,404                           |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>       |                                         |                                  |                                  |
|                          | Payroll Costs                           | 63,061                           | 52,201                           |
|                          | Staff Travel and other expenses         | 40                               | 150                              |
|                          | DBS Costs                               | 374                              | 715                              |
|                          | Volunteers Expenses                     | 11                               | 195                              |
|                          | Communications                          | 448                              | 969                              |
|                          | Stationery                              | 374                              | 1,401                            |
|                          | Small Equipment                         | 289                              | 1,608                            |
|                          | Resource Materials                      | 2,593                            | 888                              |
|                          | Catering                                | 131                              | 2,129                            |
|                          | Subscriptions                           | 553                              | 190                              |
|                          | Software                                | 3,128                            | 6,256                            |
| Total Expenditure        |                                         | 71,002                           | 66,702                           |
| Net Movement in Funds    |                                         | 2,614                            | (11,298)                         |
| Funds brought forward    |                                         | 10,684                           | 21,982                           |
| Funds carried forward    |                                         | 13,298                           | 10,684                           |

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements. However, we confirm that this shows a fair reflection of the transactions that relate to the GreenHouse Mentoring Project and confirm that this income and expenditure is contained in the audited statutory financial statements.