

Trustees Annual Report

and

Financial Statement

for the year ended 31 December 2024

for Hadleigh Baptist Church

Trustee's Annual Report for the year ending 31-12-2024

Reference and administration details

Charity name: Hadleigh Baptist Church

Registered charity number: 1150613

Charity's principal address: George Street, Hadleigh, Suffolk IP7 5BE

Names of the charity trustees (Office Bearers) who manage the charity.

These trustees are appointed by the Member's Meeting:

Trustee name	Office held	Dates acted if not for the whole year
Chris Todd	Church Senior Pastor	
Graham Peter Lancaster	Church Elder	
Luke Adam Frost	Events Deacon	
Joshua Halpin	Youth Deacon	
Steve Kingston	Premises Deacon	
Elaine Pulham	Pastoral Deacon	
Lorna Todd	Fellowship Deacon	

Church Administrator

Mrs Jade Halpin
Email: admin@hadleighbaptist.org.uk

Church Treasurer

Mrs Jade Halpin
Email: treasurer@hadleighbaptist.org.uk

Church Website

www.hadleighchurch.co.uk

Holding Trustees (property)

The Grace Baptist Trust Corporation.

This Company is a Registered Charity (No. 251675) and is limited by guarantee and registered in England No. 592488 with its registered office at:

19 Croydon Road
Caterham
Surrey
CR3 6PA

Independent Examiner of Accounts

Mrs Carole Cowgill ACA
4 Penny Meadow
Capel St. Mary
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP9 2UU

Bankers

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Structure, governance and management

Hadleigh Baptist Church is a charity that operates under the governance of a constitution adopted at a meeting of its members in November 2008.

This constitution governs the charitable assets of the Church from a legal perspective by the requirements of charity law. Regulations affecting the spiritual governance of the Church are contained in a separate document entitled "Rules and Regulations".

Hadleigh Baptist Church also owns two properties, the Chapel and the Manse. These are the subjects of the following Governing Instruments:

- Chapel – Deed of Covenant and Declaration of Trust dated 2 October 1830
- Manse – Deed of Declaration of Trust dated 25 March 1973

The **Trustees** of Hadleigh Baptist Church and the **Managing Trustees** for the above property trusts are the **Office Bearers** of the Church i.e. the Pastor/s, the Elders and the Deacons. These are appointed by the Church Members' Meeting and are listed above. New trustees are chosen from those within the existing membership who possess at least one

qualification and/or skill that is valuable to the team. e.g. Accountancy qualification, safeguarding, management, charity work, health and safety, building maintenance, and ICT.

Any potential trustee is given a job description ahead of taking on the role and allowed to discuss the role before being appointed. The trustees are given regular advice and information from the national network (FIEC) that we are affiliated with. Trustees are confirmed to the role by a vote taken at an annual church meeting and serve a minimum term of two years. After two years trustees may stand again following a majority vote in their favour at the church meeting.

The Grace Baptist Trust Corporation are the current **Holding Trustee** of the two properties belonging to the church.

Objectives and activities

The principal objective of Hadleigh Baptist Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to Baptist principles and in accordance with the Church's Basis of Faith.

The charity also carries out and supports other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.

We aim to glorify God in all that we do. Our published mission statement, introduced in 2022, states that:

'We seek to introduce people in Hadleigh, the surrounding area and beyond to the Lord Jesus Christ.'

Everything we do reflects this principal object. The mission statement that underpins it and the following core values introduced in 2012 to help make the mission possible. These core values were revisited in 2019 on Sundays and in our small groups: We seek to be:

A Discipling Church - Encouraging, supporting, teaching, and challenging one another to become more and more like Jesus – all that He would want us to be. Transforming lives by the gospel.

An Evangelising Church – Those who attend are equipped and confident to share the gospel openly and sensitively. Looking to make disciples, not just church attenders.

A Church Family – Hadleigh Baptist Church seeks to be a unique, distinctive people who are devoted to one another; where everyone is truly equal and no-one need ever feel alone. Sharing life as well as the gospel. Committed to praying with and for one another. a level of commitment to one another that can't be found anywhere else; distinctive people who are devoted to one another; Where we seek to share our life as well as our faith. We aim to be committed to pray for one another.

A Worshipping Church – Our love of God and all that He has done for us overflowing into praise, with all our heart soul mind and strength. Being devoted to prayer, because it is God

who brings the growth. Sharing the Lord's Supper together as a way of worshipping Him and giving thanks.

A Generous Church – We aim to be generous to anyone in need. Known for kindness. Making a difference in our local community and beyond. A light to the world because people see our good deeds. Looking after others in their distress.

A Worldwide Church –

Recognising that we are part of God's one worldwide church. Passionate in any areas in which we can work in partnership with other churches. Committed to mission in our giving and our prayers. Praying regularly, passionately and compellingly that God might bless the work of others and grow them.

Our main activities include:

- Sunday morning worship services
- Sunday evening prayer meetings and communion
- Mid-week small groups, prayer meetings and Bible studies
- Provision of free community events for all ages.
- Introducing Jesus to our community and the wider world through our social media channels.
- Pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- Promotion of mission and matters of social concern, both locally and further afield
- Taking school assemblies
- Informal social events for fellowship and outreach
- CAP Money, Enquirers, baptismal and discipleship courses
- Practical support to individuals and families through acts of kindness
- Supporting the lonely and bereaved.
- Drop-in facility in Church Offices

Achievements and performance

The following information attempts to paint a fuller picture of the life of the Church over the past year.

Serving the local and wider community

We continue to serve the local community. In 2024, we held our annual free Easter Egg Hunt reaching 300 children in the community.

Over 60 children took part in a Summer Holiday Club over two days, with several families coming to the Sunday service.

2024 saw significant growth in a football initiative by the church drawing in a wide range of men from the local community. Several of the footballers were joined by members of the congregation for a sponsored walk along the Suffolk Coastal Path.

The church ran an 3-2-1 and CAP course during the Autumn of 2024 for the church members and the wider community.

The Church actively engages the community through adverts in the Hadleigh Community News, Hadleigh In Touch, a regularly updated church website and various social media sites, e.g. Facebook, X, and YouTube.

In terms of our church building, we were delighted to complete an extension to our church office which can now accommodate our teenage 'Gang of Disciples' on a Sunday morning.

Children and Young people

The baby and toddler group called 'The Ark' that began in January 2016 ran during term time, serving 25-30 children and their parents/carers.

A crèche for the under 3's was provided on a Sunday morning along with Junior Church (Sunday School) for those aged 3 – 10. A group for those in the first two years of senior school (Years 6 to 8) met every Sunday mornings alongside the morning service. A new youth group was established for those in years 9 – 10.

Teaching and building up of God's people.

On each Sunday we held one worship service in the morning and on two Sunday evenings we met for prayer and another for communion. A pastoral care team continued to support people throughout the week. Every Sunday, several people join via YouTube from across the UK and beyond.

Four small groups have met for prayer, study and fellowship, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. These have attracted an average attendance of 50+. These groups continue to lead to new friendships within the Church and provide the opportunity for more support and care for each other and our neighbours. We supplemented these groups with occasional midweek prayer/communion services.

We continued in 2024 the pattern established in 2012 of focusing our local, national and international support on four main ministries. This continues to be very well received and has helped us to be more prayerfully focused and informed about the ministries that we support.

Over 80 people from the Church spent a weekend together at Sizewell Hall, with Jonathan Moore-Crispin giving the Bible teaching.

Our Pastor has a regular opportunity to be involved in local school assemblies. He is a Foundation Governor at St Mary's Primary School, Hadleigh.

Financial Review

The financial statement for the year ended 31 December 2024 and the report from the Independent Examiner can be found later in this document.

It has been another extremely encouraging year financially with a gross income (excluding short-term loans repaid in-year) of £126,073.47 All commitments to our General Fund have been met on time our end-of-year balance of £50,874.65 compared to an opening balance of £49,312.50.

Once again, we gave financial, practical, and prayerful support to Christian-based organisations and individuals, both in the UK and abroad. In 2024, £11,800.81 of our gross income was given to such organisations and individuals. This is in line with our tithing policy i.e. to give at least 10% in this way.

We continue to **'..... walk by faith, not by sight'** (2 Corinthians 5:7) and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ to provide finances to match the work He has commissioned us to undertake.

A brief statement of policy on reserves

We seek to keep the month-end reserves at a minimum of between £8,000 and £10,000 to facilitate cash flow and to be in a position to cover unplanned/emergency expenditures.

Public Benefit

The trustees have considered the guidance produced by the Charity Commission on the provision of public benefit and they confirm that public benefit has been provided by:


- Providing regular public worship open to all
- Promoting the whole mission of the Church through activities for individuals, parents and toddlers, and special needs groups
- Conducting pastoral work including visiting the sick in their homes where appropriate and hospital and the bereaved
- Teaching Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- Providing a baby and toddler group in the community
- Providing clubs for young people with a Christian ethos
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas
- Providing free Money Management Courses
- Providing a 'drop-in' facility for anyone at our Church offices.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature:



Full name:

Christopher Todd

Position:

Pastor

Date:

24/06/2025

HADLEIGH BAPTIST CHURCH

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Receipts					
Donations, legacies and similar incoming resources		106,482	0	106,482	124,041
<i>of which: Grant from Suffolk Historic Churches</i>			0	0	4,990
<i>Grant from Listed places of Worship Grant Scheme</i>			0	0	12,796
Activities in furtherance of charitable objectives		4,329		4,330	4,662
Activities for generating funds		4,941		4,941	4,966
Investment income		10,321		10,321	9,379
<i>of which: Bank interest</i>		103		103	79
Other incoming resources		-	-	-	-
		126,073	-	126,073	143,048
Loans received		-	-	-	17,000
Total receipts		126,073		126,073	160,048
Payments					
Grants and donations	1	11,801	-	11,801	14,035
Costs of activities for charitable objectives	1	17,514	-	17,514	19,083
Support costs excluding fixtures and fittings	1	89,944		89,944	98,992
		119,259		119,259	132,110
Fixtures and fittings	1	5,252	-	5,252	592
Other land and buildings		-	-		-
Loan repayments		-	-		17,000
Total payments		124,511		124,511	149,702
Net receipts (-payments)		1,562	-	1,562	10,346
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
		1,562	-	1,562	10,346
Cash funds last year end		49,313	-	49,313	38,967
Cash funds this year end		50,875	-	50,875	49,313

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts

HADLEIGH BAPTIST CHURCH

Statement of assets and liabilities

As at 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £
Cash funds				
Bank Accounts		50,416	-	50,416
Building Society accounts		-	-	-
Cash in hand		459	-	459
		-----	-----	-----
		50,875	-	50,875
		=====	=====	=====
Assets retained for the charity's own use	2			
Freehold land and buildings		-	310,000	310,000
Other land and buildings		-	2,169,664	2,169,664
Fixtures and fittings		13,457	-	13,457
		-----	-----	-----
		13,457	2,479,664	2,493,121
		=====	=====	=====
Other monetary assets				
Tax reclaim		1,304	-	1,304
Sizewell Hall deposit		640	-	640
		-----	-----	-----
		1,944	-	1,944
		=====	=====	=====
Liabilities				
Loans		-	-	-
Trade Creditors		-	-	-
Accruals		468	-	468
Deferred income		312	-	312
Agreed giving not dispersed		1,000	-	1,000
		-----	-----	-----
		1,780	-	1,780
		=====	=====	=====

Approved by the Board of Trustees on _____ and signed on its behalf by:

Trustee

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts

HADLEIGH BAPTIST CHURCH

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1) Analysis of payments

Costs of activities for charitable objectives	2024 £	2023 £
Outreach (including junior church)	8,317	9,329
Speakers' expenses	977	691
Church weekend away	6,837	6,950
Other expenses (including pastoral support)	1,383	2,113
	17,514	19,083
	=====	=====
Support Costs - unrestricted fund	2024 £	2023 £
Pastoral remuneration (b)	41,548	38,939
Manse running costs	1,619	792
Church running costs	24,208	22,112
Church maintenance (a)	22,149	36,739
Independent examiner's fee	360	350
Other expenses	60	60
	89,944	98,992
	=====	=====
Grants and donations	2024 £	2023 £
Total grants to institutions	11,701	14,035
Total grants to individuals	100	-
	11,801	14,035
	=====	=====

2) Assets retained for the charity's own use

	Freehold land and buildings £ (c)	Other land and buildings £ (c)	Fixtures and fittings (d) £	Total £
Net book value at 31 December 2023	310,000	2,098,321	12,800	2,421,121
Additions	-	-	5,252	5,252
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	71,343	-	71,343
Depreciation (e)	-	-	4,595	4,595
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net book value at 31 December 2024	310,000	2,169,664	13,457	2,493,121
	=====	=====	=====	=====

- Notes: (a) 2024 figures for these categories exclude a total of £5,252 in fixtures and fittings (£592 in 2023).
 (b) Pastoral remuneration was paid to trustee Chris Todd for his pastoral duties. He was not paid for his role as a trustee.
 (c) Freehold land and buildings at market value, other land and buildings at the insurance value as at 31 December 2023. Revaluation to take place by year end 2026.
 (d) From 2023 fixtures and fittings have a minimum value of £500 rather than £250.
 (e) Depreciation of new fixtures and fittings is over 7 years.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Hadleigh Baptist Church
(Charity Number 1150613)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above Charity for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Charities Act, and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act).

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that, in any material respect, accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records. I have no concerns, and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: CM Cowgill

Date: 5/8/2025

Mrs. Carole Cowgill ACA
4 Penny Meadow
Capel St. Mary
Ipswich
IP9 2UU

