

Bradfield and Rougham Baptist Church

Report and Accounts

31 December 2020

Charity number 1151214

**Bradfield and Rougham Baptist Church**  
**Charity Number - 1151214**  
**Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2020**

**Principal address**

Bradfield and Rougham Baptist Church  
Kingshall Street  
Rougham  
Bury St Edmunds  
IP30 9LE

**Trustees**

The trustees who served during the year under review were:

Alan Drury  
James Martin  
David Stannard  
Stuart Hitchcock  
Angus Michael Barnard  
Peter Marshall Mason  
Neil Gammon  
Benjamin Greeves  
Benjamin Ryan

**Structure, governance and management**

Bradfield and Rougham Baptist Church is governed under a Constitution adopted on 5th February 2013.

**Objects**

The principal object of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to Baptist principles and in accordance with the basis of faith as stated in Schedule 1. The charity may also carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and /or other parts of the world.

**Financial review**

The charity endeavours to utilise the funds available to the best effect in the advancement of its objects.

**Main activities**

Bradfield and Rougham Baptist Church is a growing and active Baptist Church in rural Suffolk. We meet for Christian worship every Sunday and have a range of activities for young and old throughout the week, including prayer meetings, home groups, parent & toddlers group, ladies and men's meetings, fellowship lunches and youth activities from age 4 upwards.

**Achievements and performance**

It is fair to say that nobody anticipated the kind of year that 2020 would be and in many ways, it has been the hardest year in living memory for the church. However, we feel blessed to have been able to continue teaching, serving and encouraging others and can see that God has been good to us through this time.

2020 began with us continuing the implementation of the Vision Document, and in the first quarter we were encouraged by the ongoing strength of all the ministries and the success of the two-service Sunday morning format.

January and February saw the Building Committee finalising plans for the upgrades to the main hall with the work planning to be done over the spring half-term week.

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Then coronavirus arrived and everything changed.

The church leadership team met pre-emptively as the cases of the virus started to rise and implemented social distancing and sanitising measures ahead of the government's guidelines. When the first lockdown was announced Peter Mason very rapidly mobilised a core technical team and immediately transitioned to running an online service that was streamed via the church's YouTube channel.

The online service was a mix of live and pre-recorded content and James and Peter gradually increased the scope and professionalism of the live-stream to include worship songs, kid's talks and prayers and readings from other members of the congregation. According to the online statistics online attendance has remained strong with over one hundred separate connections, views through the week, and attendees for wider national and international locations.

To support the Sunday morning live-stream the youth teams weekly prepared worksheets and videos for the Little Soldiers, Sunday School and TeenSearchers groups.

Mid-week activities were also taken online with weekly Community Groups being run via Zoom, the Sunday evening prayer meeting taking place over Zoom and Sunday School and TeenSearchers socials also taking place over Zoom.

The leadership team recognised early that there would be many elderly or vulnerable members of the congregation who would be additionally impacted by the lock-down and a care team was setup to call, shop for and support those in need. This proved to be a wonderful environment for generating cross-generational relationships within the church.

The Drurys continued to oversee the pastoral care needs, particularly of the elderly, with regular phone calls and, when allowed doorstep visits.

At the start of the first lockdown the Building Committee met and decided to delay the building works. This was in consideration of the potentially severe financial needs in the church and in the wider community and the recognition that funds may be needed to support in that way. After discussion it was agreed to partner with the local grocery store to finance food parcels for those in need and also to channel resources via Community Groups where possible.

As the weeks passed it became clear that the furlough scheme implemented by the government was providing a suitable safety net for most and the Building Committee took the decision to re-commence with the work recognising that the inability to meet in the church building provided an opportunity for less disruptive construction work. In addition, even after the initial phases of the work there would still be sufficient funds to provide essential financial support where needed.

Stuart Hitchcock did an excellent job in overseeing the building works and by mid-summer the pews had been removed and replaced with stackable chairs, the heating system installed, internal doors replaced, and re-carpeting and re-decorating done. This work is a significant improvement and expands the functionality of the building to better suit future plans. The next stage of building works will be considered in 2021.

As the year progressed it became clear that some of the changes forced upon everyone by the Coronavirus restrictions would likely become permanent. Particularly in the area of churches needing to have an online offering. Consequently 2020 has been a year of upgrading internet connections, computers, lighting and camera equipment to allow more professional and consistent delivery of online services. We are delighted with the results and this continues to be an area of development for us as the Pastors produce podcasts, share links, stream services and grow the online community.



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In the early autumn we were able to re-open the church to limited numbers on a Sunday morning and run hybrid online and in person services with much of the content being live streamed from the church building. Attendance was good with space being booked via an online ticketing service and it was an encouragement to many to be able to see people face to face again.

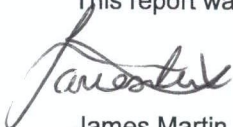
It was obvious that Christmas 2020 was going to be challenging for many and under the leadership of James and Peter the church managed to put together a wonderful online offering to encourage as many as possible. A detailed advent devotional was produced and in addition to the usual live streamed services there was a carols by candlelight service and evening fireside readings of C. S. Lewis' The lion, the witch and the wardrobe for the younger members of the congregation.

We continue to look to the future and the implementation of our vision document and were delighted with the appointment of a new youth pastor, Glen McLellan, who will be joining us full time in March 2021. Glen is joining us from a church in Enfield and moves with his wife and two young sons to take on the responsibility for the kids and young people in the church. This is a genuine answer for prayer and we believe that Glen will be an excellent addition to the team and greatly help in our work of encouraging Christians and spreading the Gospel.

The finances of the church have remained healthy and although we have seen a significant depletion of reserves this was to cover the building costs and is in line with our plans. We have continued our financial and prayer support of missions organisations with the Missions Team implementing plans for wider engagement and understanding of the impact that our church can have on mission.

2020 has been a challenging year and no one who has lived through these times will forget them. We are thankful for the impact and relevance of our church during these times and we are encouraged by what the future holds. We continue to plan and implement in Faith and we trust that as the vaccine rolls out things will start to return to normal and 2021 will provide more opportunities for us to teach, serve and support others in Jesus' name.

This report was approved by the trustees on 20 March 2021



James Martin  
Trustee



Benjamin Ryan  
Trustee

**Bradfield and Rougham Baptist Church  
Independent Examiner's Report  
for the year ended 31 December 2020**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Bradfield and Rougham Baptist Church**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Bradfield and Rougham Baptist Church for the year ended 31 December 2020.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 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.

*Andrew Prentice*

Andrew M Prentice FFA  
Incorporated Financial Accountant  
5 Market Place  
STOWMARKET  
Suffolk

23 September 2021

**Bradfield and Rougham Baptist Church**  
**Receipts and Payments Account**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2020**

	<b>2020</b>			<b>2019</b>
	<b>£</b>			<b>£</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Receipts</b>				
Offerings and General income	152,144		152,144	175,726
Gift aid tax reclaimed	11,574		11,574	5,494
Sundry income	1,205		1,205	7,211
Interest	203		203	409
Restricted income				
Mission offerings		1,650	1,650	1,355
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>165,126</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>166,776</b>	<b>190,195</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Restricted payments				
Mission donations		20,826	20,826	21,058
Church Activity Expenses	11,152		11,152	28,240
Church Administration expenses	13,360		13,360	15,334
Church Utilities and maintenance	68,597		68,597	19,740
Manse	23,017		23,017	13,906
Pastors and Ministry	54,769		54,769	54,842
	<b>170,895</b>	<b>20,826</b>	<b>191,721</b>	<b>153,120</b>
<b>Assets and investment purchases etc.</b>				
Equipment and fixtures	31,666		31,666	1,757
	<b>31,666</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31,666</b>	<b>1,757</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>202,561</b>	<b>20,826</b>	<b>223,387</b>	<b>154,877</b>
<b>Net (Payments)/receipts</b>	<b>(37,435)</b>	<b>(19,176)</b>	<b>(56,611)</b>	<b>35,318</b>

**Bradfield and Rougham Baptist Church**  
**Statement of assets and liabilities**  
**as at 31 December 2020**

	2020 £			2019 £
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
<b>Cash funds</b>				
Current a/c	13,580	-	13,580	39,268
Deposit a/c	112,822	-	112,822	142,620
Cash in hand	344	-	344	1,469
	<u>126,746</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>126,746</u>	<u>183,357</u>
<b>Other current assets</b>				
Manse deposit	1,269		1,269	2,489
HMRC overpayment	649		649	-
Gift aid tax to be reclaimed	11,073		11,073	11,574
	<u>12,991</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,991</u>	<u>14,063</u>
<b>Fixed Asset (insurance valuations)</b>				
Church premises	970,647		970,647	970,647
Fixtures and fittings	67,791		67,791	67,791
Manse	292,788		292,788	292,788
	<u>1,331,226</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,331,226</u>	<u>1,331,226</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>1,470,963</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,470,963</u>	<u>1,528,646</u>
<b>Movement of Funds</b>	Brought forward	Net receipts	Transfer from general fund	Carried forward
General	179,736	(37,435)	(16,371)	125,930
Mission	3,621	(19,176)	16,371	816
	<u>183,357</u>	<u>(56,611)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>126,746</u>