

# Blackhorse Road Baptist Church

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 December 2024

Stewardship   
*Active generosity*

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB  
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**BLACKHORSE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	65 Blackhorse Road Walthamstow E17 7AS
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Declaration of Trust dated October 2013
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1154906
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	David Arkell Timothy Barker James Brown (Associate Pastor) Veronica Hanson-Allen (resigned September 2024) James Hutchinson Veronica Neblett (Church Administrator) Malcolm Patten (Senior Pastor) Christine South (Treasurer) Clarisse Tchatchou (appointed September 2024)
CUSTODIAN TRUSTEES	London Baptist Property Board Ltd.
BANKERS	Barclays Bank plc
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jaimée Young Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

**INDEX**

Page 1	Legal & Administrative Details
Pages 2-3	Trustees' Report
Page 4	Independent Examiner's Report
Page 5	Receipts and Payments Account
Page 6	Statement of Assets & Liabilities
Pages 7-8	Notes to the Accounts

# **BLACKHORSE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

#### **Objects of the charity**

The charity, which is a church, is governed by a trust deed and is constituted as a trust. The charity's principal object, as set out in its governing document, is the advancement of the Christian faith. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the UK and/or other parts of the world.

#### **Aims and purposes**

The Trustees of Blackhorse Road Baptist Church, with the support of the Covenant Members' Meeting, have responsibility to ensure that the church fulfils its objectives and also oversee the activities of the church. In particular they seek to ensure that the church's legal responsibilities with regard to Safeguarding, Health and Safety, and Public Liability are fulfilled. They also seek to steer the church to ensure it continues to develop and grow and serve both its members and the local community well.

In planning the activities the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

#### **Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements**

2024 became a year when we finally felt that we had recovered from the covid-19 years. We have had a more settled congregation of around 100 and new members serving church life in a number of different ways. Our new Associate Pastor has grown into his role and brought some fresh impetus to our youth and students' work and church life generally.

It was particularly encouraging to see our young people take more responsibility in church life including playing in the music group, running multimedia on Sundays and helping with the young people's groups. Our Christmas services also saw our Junior Church and Youth contribute drama and songs and we enjoyed a performance by a local opera singer in our Carol service.

We had a delicious Men's Breakfast at a local Carvery with an engaging speaker, something we intend to continue more regularly. Our Church lunches on occasional Sundays continue to prove very popular and in September we amalgamated our Church covenant service, with lunch and AGM elements (finances and leaders election) which encouraged greater participation by the congregation than we have seen for some time. We will continue to review our arrangements for church meetings in 2025 to make them more effective.

Following on from our commitment to outreach, we held 'Crafts and Activities' mornings linked to Easter and Christmas which strengthened our connections to those involved with our Toddler Group and Guides. Our preaching team remained strong and after a series through Hebrews moved on to John's gospel. This is followed up in our Grow Groups (house groups) in which around 40 of our members attend. In September we brought all the groups together for a study series following the Prayer 24-7 course which proved particularly helpful in encouraging a deeper and richer personal prayer life amongst individuals. Together as a church we continued to benefit from the monthly zoom prayer on the first Wednesday of each month.

We had a baptism service in October in which four people were baptised. It was particularly pleasing that three of them were young people as we continue to see many of them give their lives to Jesus and witness to their faith in baptism.

As part of our commitment to our local community the church runs a Toddler Group and continues to host 'Migrant Action', a 'Community Kitchen', Police/residents forums and local residents' groups. We have a Pilates group, a theatre school and Guides company using our church building.

We also rent out the hall at a reasonable cost on Saturdays for children's parties. Our building use by outside users has returned to pre-covid levels.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Trustees provide the overall governance of the church and meet at least three times a year. We held our AGM in September when Tim Barker and Dave Arkell were reappointed to serve another term and Clarisse Tchatchou was appointed to serve for the first time. Our Safeguarding Team continued to monitor compliance with our policy, deal with any concerns and ensure DBS checks and training is up to date. We have also updated our general health and safety policy and annual risk assessment.

## **Financial review**

During the year income decreased by £7,000, to £127,100, and expenditure increased by £10,100, to £132,800. As a result the cash held by the charity decreased by £5,700, to £160,800, of which £155,500 is unrestricted and can be used for any charitable purpose.

Our most significant outgoings are the Ministers' stipends and building maintenance and we have plans for improvements which will require significant funding over the next few years. We continue to work towards our building improvements and are building up our funds to support significant expenditure anticipated in the next few years. We remain thankful that God continues to provide through the generous giving of his people.

## **Reserves policy**

The trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £25,000 (which equates to about 3 months of overheads) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £155,500 and the charity is holding excess funds, as mentioned in the Financial Review above. The Trustees regularly review our income and spending to ensure that donations and assets are used to meet our objectives.

## **Responsibilities of trustees**

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

## **Approval**

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*Malcolm Patten*

Malcolm Patten (Oct 13, 2025 16:48:42 GMT+1)

Malcolm Patten

Date: Oct 13, 2025

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**BLACKHORSE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Blackhorse Road Baptist Church ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 on pages 5 to 8 following.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. 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.

Jaimée Young  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
LONDON  
EC1Y 8AB

Date:

**BLACKHORSE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	2024	2023
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income receipts</b>						
Donations		85,843	-	668	86,511	88,792
Gift aid receipts		19,332	-	-	19,332	20,161
Other grants		-	-	-	-	4,700
Income from charitable activities		540	1,150	-	1,690	581
Income from letting of facilities		12,437	-	-	12,437	15,865
Interest		5,245	-	-	5,245	3,960
		<u>123,396</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>668</u>	<u>125,214</u>	<u>134,060</u>
<b>Capital and similar receipts</b>						
Loan repayments		-	1,900	-	1,900	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u>123,396</u>	<u>3,050</u>	<u>668</u>	<u>127,114</u>	<u>134,060</u>
<b>Payments</b>						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	103,544	14,141	1,164	118,849	114,512
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	-	12,991	-	12,991	7,200
		<u>103,544</u>	<u>27,132</u>	<u>1,164</u>	<u>131,840</u>	<u>121,712</u>
Loans made		-	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
		<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<b>Total payments</b>		<u>103,544</u>	<u>28,132</u>	<u>1,164</u>	<u>132,840</u>	<u>122,712</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before		19,852	(25,082)	(496)	(5,726)	11,348
Transfers between funds	5	(26,214)	26,214	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(6,362)</u>	<u>1,132</u>	<u>(496)</u>	<u>(5,726)</u>	<u>11,348</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		76,818	83,869	5,874	166,561	155,214
<b>Cash funds at this year end</b>	A	<u>70,456</u>	<u>85,001</u>	<u>5,378</u>	<u>160,835</u>	<u>166,561</u>

The notes on pages 7 - 8 form part of these accounts.

**BLACKHORSE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**AS AT THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted funds	2024	2023
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>A Cash funds</b>					
Cash at bank with immediate access	7,404	-	5,378	12,782	18,273
Notice deposits	62,484	85,001	-	147,485	148,240
Petty cash	568	-	-	568	48
	<u>70,456</u>	<u>85,001</u>	<u>5,378</u>	<u>160,835</u>	<u>166,561</u>
<b>B Other monetary assets</b>					
Gift aid due to charity	16,559	-	-	16,559	16,967
Other debtors	100	-	-	100	1,500
	<u>16,659</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,659</u>	<u>18,467</u>
<b>C Liabilities</b>					
<b>Falling due within one year</b>					
Fee for Independent Examination	1,026	-	-	1,026	1,020
	<u>1,026</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,026</u>	<u>1,020</u>

**D Assets retained for charity's own use**

	Fund to which asset belongs	Purchase Cost	Value 2024
		£	£
Church property	Endowment	31,100	
Manse 1 (purchased 1995)	General	150,000	
Manse 2 (purchased 2009)	General	272,460	
Church contents	General		72,834
		<u>453,560</u>	<u>72,834</u>

The properties are shown at original cost.

The church property is held as endowment so that the proceeds of sale can only be used for the purchase of another building.

The trustees have used insurance values for church contents as the trustees are unable to reliably estimate current values; insurance values may differ materially from current values.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Malcolm Patten  
Malcolm Patten (Oct 13, 2025 16:48:42 GMT+1)

Revd Malcolm Patten

Date: Oct 13, 2025

The notes on pages 7 - 8 form part of these accounts.

**BLACKHORSE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**1 Accounting policies**

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted	2024	2023
		General funds	Designated funds	Funds		
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly</b>						
Employment costs	Note 4	74,463	-	-	74,463	47,146
Manse expenses, including insurance	Note 4	4,006	-	-	4,006	6,602
Manse renovation	Note 4	-	-	-	-	31,455
Maintenance of buildings & equipment		5,360	13,086	-	18,445	6,702
Utilities		6,927	-	-	6,927	6,516
Church insurance and licences		6,582	-	-	6,582	5,560
Church activities including outreach		1,789	1,055	1,164	4,009	7,061
Youth and Children's work		732	-	-	732	228
Governance		990	-	-	990	972
Administration and support		2,695	-	-	2,695	2,244
Other costs		-	-	-	-	28
		<u>103,544</u>	<u>14,141</u>	<u>1,164</u>	<u>118,849</u>	<u>114,512</u>

**3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others**

Organisations:						
Tear Fund		-	1,490	-	1,490	900
BMS World Mission		-	1,505	-	1,505	900
London City Mission		-	1,505	-	1,505	900
Worth Unlimited		-	1,490	-	1,490	900
Christian Kitchen		-	1,505	-	1,505	900
Wycliffe UK		-	1,505	-	1,505	900
Good Shepherd Project		-	1,505	-	1,505	900
Organisations < £1,000		-	1,450	-	1,450	-
Individuals		-	1,036	-	1,036	900
		<u>-</u>	<u>12,991</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,991</u>	<u>7,200</u>

**4 Transactions with related parties**

Trustees M. Patten and J Brown served as Pastors [ministers] and were paid £34,793 and £33,032 [2023: £32,491 and £8,832] respectively for serving in that capacity, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document and include employer pension contributions.

In addition the charity incurred expenditure totalling £4,006 [2023: £38,057] in respect of the provision of accommodation (which is customary for ministers) so that they could better perform their duties.

No payments were made to any other trustees or persons related to them, except for reimbursement of expenses paid out on behalf of the charity.



**BLACKHORSE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**5 Movement of funds**

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
General funds	76,818	123,396	(103,544)	(26,214)	70,456
Designated funds					
Tithe	13,884	-	(12,991)	11,709	12,602
Fellowship	2,935	1,900	(1,690)	1,706	4,851
Folkard	5,468	-	-	-	5,468
Building	35,277	-	(13,086)	12,798	34,990
Other designated	1,145	-	-	-	1,145
Reserve	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Church conference	-	1,150	(365)	160	945
Sizewell Hall	160	-	-	(160)	-
	<u>83,869</u>	<u>3,050</u>	<u>(28,132)</u>	<u>26,214</u>	<u>85,001</u>
Restricted funds					
Women's Bible Study	49	-	-	-	49
Warm Spaces Project / Food and Friends	4,959	-	(1,164)	-	3,795
Tearfund	866	668	-	-	1,534
	<u>5,874</u>	<u>668</u>	<u>(1,164)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,378</u>
Total funds	<u>166,561</u>	<u>127,114</u>	<u>(132,840)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>160,835</u>

The Tithe Fund was established by the church members and is administered by them. Income is derived from a tithe of all general funds offerings plus a tithe of any gifts of legacies to the general funds.

The Fellowship Fund was created by the Church in 1986. It is to be administered for the benefit of the members of the fellowship in confidence by the Deacons / trustees. New donations to this fund are treated as restricted.

The Folkard Fund is anticipated to be used for future building development works.

The Building Fund was created with the objective of identifying the money we have separated to help with maintenance work in the church building and manse.

Other designated includes funds to be used for Women's and Men's ministries in the church and community.

The reserve is shown as designated and can be transferred using the trustees' discretion.

The Church conference relates to an event.

The Women's Bible study funds are to be used in 2025.

Warm Spaces Project – BRBC collaboration with the Women's Faith Network to run a Community Kitchen from our church hall. This is funded by LB Waltham Forest's Warm Spaces funding. The project is now called 'Food and Friends' but is essentially the same activity.

Tearfund - A special collection is taken on behalf of Tearfund a few times each year. These collections are amalgamated and paid to Tearfund.

**6 The Baptist Pension Scheme**

The Church is 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.

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. Prior to this date the main benefit provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was a 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.

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.

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.