

WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1155718

Details

Other names WRBC

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2014-02-10

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Walsworth Road Baptist Church
Walsworth Road
Hitchin
SG4 9SP

Phone 01462420681

Email webmaster@wrbchitchin.org.uk

Website www.wrbchitchin.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH IS THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION.THE CHURCH MAY ALSO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND CARRY OUT OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND/OR OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Activities: We are a friendly and all-age Baptist church family in Hitchin, Hertfordshire. We meet on Sundays for worship including a children's work called JAM Club. We have numerous other activities including house groups, prayer meetings, a monthly Friday lunch for the elderly, a Friday evening children's group, a toddler group, and we host Scout and Guide uniformed groups

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Hertfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£109,763	£122,077	-	-
2023-12-31	£101,839	£131,972	-	-
2022-12-31	£100,903	£107,112	-	-
2021-12-31	£91,320	£99,031	-	-
2020-12-31	£100,096	£102,238	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev ANDREW HENTON PUSEY	Chair	2014-02-05
Allison Ward		2023-11-22
Dr Stephen Pickett		2019-01-01
Elaine West		2025-11-18
LES EBDON		2014-02-05
Natalie Noble		2021-01-01

WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1155718

Accounts



Walsworth Road
Baptist Church

WRBC Treasurer
Walsworth Rd
Hitchin
Herts
SG4 9SP

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2024

ANNUAL REPORT - WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

This is a summary of some of the activities which took place during the year, with a particular focus on events which demonstrate our public benefit as a registered charity:

Walsworth Road Baptist Church (WRBC) is a friendly and welcoming church which celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2019. The church invites the whole community to worship God with us. There are regular Sunday services each week and a number of events, activities and groups to appeal to people of all ages.

WRBC employs a part-time youth worker and runs a youth club for young people in years 6 to 11 on Sunday evenings.

WRBC is the home of the 3rd Hitchin Scout and 9th Hitchin Guiding groups, playing a part in the lives of over 150 young people across six 'sections.'

WRBC aims to provide pastoral care for the wider community around the church and employs a church worker to help our full-time pastor with this task. We organised regular prayers for peace in Ukraine and in the Holy Land. We continued to support Ukrainians living and arriving in the area. A Saturday morning coffee drop in was expanded to support local homeless and lonely folk. We run a group on Monday afternoons specifically focussed on the mental well-being needs in our community. In 2023 this became part of our response to the Warm Spaces initiative responding to the cost-of-living crisis.

The church maintains its Victorian and Edwardian buildings and offers them to a wide range of local groups including an exercise class, a toddler group, a recorder group, a camera club, a local choir and a local residents' group. We were pleased to welcome back concerts from the North Herts Guild of Singers, The Orpheus Choir and the Stotfold Christian Choir.

We ran a series of well attended events for the local community including a Pancake Party in Lent, a Light Party as an alternative to Halloween and Gingerbread decoration at Christmas.

We continue to have close links with two local charities, the Hitchin Churches Schools Worker Trust (PHASE) and Churches Together in Hitchin.

WRBC continued to run its annual Shoe Box Project in collaboration with local schools, delivering a substantial number of shoe boxes for the charity Link to Hope to distribute abroad at Christmas time.

The church collects funds for other charities who give aid to people both in the UK and abroad. See note 4c for full details

1a Receipts & Payments

January - December 2024

	Designated	Restricted	Unrestricted	TOTAL 2024	Previous Year
Income					
Building Use			10,935.23	10,935 £	7,124
Mission Ad Hoc Income			2,583.62	2,584 £	3,673
Offering			74,316.11	74,316 £	70,062
Other Income			21,928.16	21,928 £	20,230
Traidcraft I&E			0.00	0 £	750
Total Income	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 109,763.12	109,763 £	101,839
Expenses					
Adminstration			3,773.82	3,774 £	4,234
Church Groups & Activities			3,740.88	3,741 £	3,951
Church Upkeep			12,739.64	12,740 £	18,824
Manse			4,653.38	4,653 £	18,182
Ministry & Payroll		6,000.00	63,390.19	69,390 £	61,205
Ministry Expenses			3,412.48	3,412 £	5,262
Mission Ad Hoc Expenditure			2,566.83	2,567 £	2,852
Mission Regular Support			9,760.00	9,760 £	8,400
Utilities			12,039.58	12,040 £	9,062
Total Expenses	£ 0.00	£ 6,000.00	£ 116,076.80	122,077 £	131,972
Net Operating Income	£ 0.00	-£ 6,000.00	-£ 6,313.68	-12,314 -£	30,133
Net Income	£ 0.00	-£ 6,000.00	-£ 6,313.68	-12,314 -£	30,133
Change in value of Stock					
Net Profit/Deficit				-12,314 -£	30,133

Transfers between Funds

	Restricted	Unrestricted
Youth Worker	-£ 6,000	
Reserves		
Justice Fund		

Total Funds Last Year End	£ 103,853
Total Funds This Year End	£ 91,539
Total Change in Funds	-£ 12,314
	£ 0

1b. Notes to the Receipts and Payments Statement

- 1 Building Use describes income from a wide range of people and organisations who use the premises, primarily the Church Hall. This was of course heavily reduced over the pandemic.
- 3 Mission Ad Hoc Income includes gifts received by the Church with the intention that those gifts are forwarded to other charities. The main charities supported by WRBC under this heading are BMS and Link to Hope; plus, each year, we hold a Christmas Tree Appeal for charity.
- 4 The Offering includes monies received through Monthly giving (mainly Standing Orders), Weekly giving (through an envelopes giving scheme), and any other gifts received via the website or in cash
- 5 Other Income includes monies received from the Hitchin Youth Trust (on an annual basis as part of an access agreement), Gift Aid reclaimed on donations and legacies or one-off donations.
- 6 Administration costs include a wide range of expenses including licences, subscriptions and conference costs, as well as straightforward administration costs such as paper, ink, posters, etc.
- 7 Church Groups and Activities includes expenses for Youth Work as well as catering & kitchen costs.
- 8 Church Upkeep includes services costs needed to maintain the church buildings such as PAT testing, boiler servicing, etc; equipment costs to replace old or damaged items, cleaning costs and insurance costs.
- 9 WRBC owns a Manse which is used to house our Minister and his family. Manse costs include council tax, water rates, heating, lighting, etc. Some of these costs are paid directly by the church, others are paid by the Minister and an agreed proportion claimed back through the Minister's Expenses system.
- 10 Ministry and payroll costs are the costs to the church of employing a Minister including stipend, employer's National Insurance, employer's pension contribution, etc, and the costs of employing a part time youth worker, a part time church worker with a special emphasis on pastoral care and outreach, and a cleaner, who was the only member of staff on furlough when the building was closed.
- 11 Ministry Expenses are split into two areas - expenses claimed by employees in connection with their duties (such as books, mileage, pastoral, etc) and external expenses associated with running services (fees for visiting preachers, organists, etc).
- 12 Mission Ad Hoc Expenditure is directly linked to item 2, and is the distribution of gifts received by the Church for other charities.
- 13 Mission Regular Support includes monies paid on a regular basis to organisations with which WRBC is linked such as the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS), the Central Baptist Association (CBA), PHASE Schools Worker, and via the Baptist Friends of Israel, to our twinned church in Tu'raan, Israel.
- 14 Utilities comprises the costs of gas, electricity, water, etc consumed by the church.
- 15 Restricted Income is a term defined by the Charity Commission to describe money which has been given for a specific purpose and so cannot be used for a different purpose. So the WRBC accounts have to split out our Receipts and Payments into Unrestricted and Restricted monies.

1c. Analysis of Fund Movements for the Y

<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Restricted - Youth Worker		
	Opening balance	£ 6,000.00
	Receipts during the year	
	Payments during the year	£ 6,000.00
	Closing balance	£ -
Designated - Reserves		
	Opening balance	£ 35,000.00
	Receipts during the year	£ -
	Payments during the year	£ -
	Closing balance	£ 35,000.00
Restricted - Justice Fund		
	Opening balance	£ 7,185.00
	Receipts during the year	
	Payments during the year	
	Closing balance	£ 7,185

2. Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31st. December, 2024

	As of Dec 31,	
	2024	Previous Year
Cash at bank and in hand		
Baptist Union Deposit Account	48,885.08	37,035.25
Barclays	2,355.15	5,348.44
CAF Bank Cash Account	0.00	0.00
HSBC	30,701.68	55,864.90
Total Cash at bank and in hand	£ 81,941.91	98,248.59
Current Assets		
Equipment	0.00	0.00
Investments - Other	9,477.00	5,604.00
Stock	0.00	
Undeposited funds	120.00	0.00
Total Current Assets	9,597.00	5,604.00
Net current assets	91,538.91	103,852.59
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Current Liabilities		
Payroll Liabilities	0.00	0.00
VAT Liability	0.00	0.00
Prepayments	0.00	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	£ 0.00	0.00
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	£ 0.00	0.00
Net current assets (liabilities)	£ 91,538.91	103,852.59
Total assets less current liabilities	£ 91,538.91	103,852.59
Total net assets (liabilities)	£ 91,538.91	103,852.59
Capital and Reserves		
Funds Designated		
BMS Birthday	0.00	0.00
Christmas Tree	0.00	0.00
Flower Fund	0.00	0.00
General Reserve	35,000.00	35,000.00
Mission Ad Hoc Gifts Fund	0.00	0.00
Pastoral Gifts	0.00	0.00
Twinning		
Total Funds Designated	£ 35,000.00	35,000.00
Funds Restricted		
Justice	7,185.00	7,185.00
Youth Worker	0.00	6,000.00
Total Funds Restricted	£ 7,185.00	13,185.00
Unrestricted funds brought forward	55,667.59	85,080.76
Net movement in unrestricted funds	-6,313.68	-29,413.17
Total Capital and Reserves	91,538.91	103,852.59
Balances at Start of year	103,853	
Total Receipts	109,763	
Total Payments	-122,077	
Balancing item		
Balances at End of year	£ 91,539	

4. Notes to the Financial Statements

4a Basis of Accounts

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis as described in the Charity Commission document CC16 and accord with S.42(3) Charities Act 1993. The format of these accounts is further based on the recommendations produced by the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers (ACAT) and the Baptist Union.

4b Incoming Resources - Charitable activities

Income from donations and other voluntary income are recognised on a received basis. The charity has not given any financial consideration for voluntary help received during the year, and is not able to quantify such assistance.

4c Grant making policy

Grants, gifts and donations were made to various charities in the furtherance of the church's objectives. Monies received for specific causes are held in a restricted fund, pending remittance of monies to the appropriate beneficiary. The charity provides funds each year to support BMS World Mission, the Central Baptist Association Home Mission Fund, Churches Together in Hitchin, our twinned church in Turaan (via Baptist Twinning in Israel, a UK charity) and the Hitchin Schools Worker project.

4d Pension costs

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund ('the Ministers' Fund'). The Minister(s) are eligible to join the Fund, which is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme, which is funded and not contracted out of the state scheme.

The main benefit provided by the Ministers' Fund is a pension of one eightieth of final Minimum Pensionable Income together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of the Minimum Pensionable Income.

The profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contribution payable.

4e Investments

Investments are quoted under the Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the market value on the date these investments were donated to the church. All are in LSE quoted funds. It is intended to revalue these investments every 5 years, the next revaluation being in 2025. Income from investments is accounted for when receivable.

4f Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are classified as :-

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees;

Designated funds - these are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific purposes. In order to simply these statements this category will be discontinued from 2022

Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the funds.

4g Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires the Trustees (Deacons) to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

- i) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- ii) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii) State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- iv) Prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Deacons are responsible as trustees for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that financial statements comply with charity law. The Deacons are also responsible for safe guarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

4h Property Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee [the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd]:

Walsworth Road Baptist Church, Walsworth Road, Hitchin, SG4 9SP
The Manse, 13 Ninesprings Way, Hitchin, SG4 9NQ

4i Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy was last reviewed in 2018 where it was agreed that a figure of £35,000 would be seen as a minimum amount and this is treated as a designated fund within the balance sheet.

4j Related Charities

The custodian Trustee of the church is the Baptist Union Corporation Limited which is charity number 249635, and which is controlled by the Baptist Union Council. The church is also a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Central Baptist Association and Churches Together in Hitchin.

4k Banking

There were two bank accounts in use during this accounting period. The Barclays account is used as the main day-to-day banking account & almost all bills are paid from this account. The HSBC account is used as the account for paying in via standing orders. The church also has an interest bearing deposit with the Baptist Union.

The accounts package used during this accounting period was the 'QuickBooks Online' product supplied by Intuit Inc.

All the banking transactions are held exclusively in QuickBooks and are reconciled on a monthly basis with the Bank Statements. Thus the year's closing balances are maintained in QuickBooks and accord with the Bank Statements.

4l Funds

The church accounts have a number of Funds which are maintained in QuickBooks which allows reporting by Restricted Funds and Unrestricted Funds as required by the Charities Commission. (WRBC does not currently have any Endowment Funds).

4m Reporting

The format of these accounts is based on the use of the standard business reports which are available within the QuickBooks software, such as the Comparative P&L Report (which is the basis of the Receipts & Payments Summary); and the Balance Sheet Report (which is the basis of the Assets & Liabilities Report).

4n Signature and Declaration

The Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities relating to the year ending 31 December are as approved by the Deacons of Walsworth Road Baptist Church.

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee, that the trustees have approved the report above: and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signed: 

Rev Andrew Henton Pusey
13 Ninesprings Way
Hitchin
SG4 9NQ

Dated: *1st May 2025*

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of Walsworth Road Baptist Church

I report on the financial statements of Walsworth Road Baptist Church for the year ended 31 December 2024 to be co

This report is made solely to the charity members, as a body, in accordance with Charity law. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity members those matters which I am required to state to them in my independent examination report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the church charity and the charity members as a body, for my independent examination work, or the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  Date 30 May 2025

WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1155718

Accounts



Walsworth Road
Baptist Church

WRBC Treasurer
Walsworth Rd
Hitchin
Herts
SG4 9SP

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2023

ANNUAL REPORT - WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

This is a summary of some of the activities which took place during the year, with a particular focus on events which demonstrate our public benefit as a registered charity:

Walsworth Road Baptist Church (WRBC) is a friendly and welcoming church which celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2019. The church invites the whole community to worship God with us. There are regular Sunday services each week and a number of events, activities and groups to appeal to people of all ages. Throughout the year there was a Zoom broadcast of our services for those unable to attend in person. Our premises are used regularly for weddings, infant dedications, blessings and funerals.

WRBC employs a part-time youth worker and runs a youth club for young people in years 6 to 11 on Sunday evenings. In 2023 we once again ran our popular Holiday Club in August.

WRBC is the home of the 3rd Hitchin Scout and 9th Hitchin Guiding groups, playing a part in the lives of over 150 young people across six 'sections.'

WRBC aims to provide pastoral care for the wider community around the church and employs a church worker to help our full-time pastor with this task. We organised regular prayers for peace in Ukraine and in the Holy Land. We continued to support Ukrainians living and arriving in the area. A Saturday morning coffee drop in was expanded to support local homeless and lonely folk. We run a group on Monday afternoons specifically focussed on the mental well-being needs in our community. In 2023 this became part of our response to the Warm Spaces initiative responding to the cost-of-living crisis. We also offer a warm breakfast on Sunday mornings for families and others. Through our twinning arrangement with a Baptist church in Israel we were able to offer relief support

The church maintains its Victorian and Edwardian buildings and offers them to a wide range of local groups including an exercise class, a toddler group, a recorder group, a camera club, a local choir and a local residents' group. We were pleased to welcome back concerts from the North Herts Guild of Singers, The Orpheus Choir and the Stotfold Christian Choir.

We ran a series of well attended events for the local community including a Pancake Party in Lent, Gingerbread decoration at Christmas and a Barn Dance to celebrate the Coronation of HM King Charles III.

We continue to have close links with two local charities, the Hitchin Churches Schools Worker Trust (PHASE) and Churches Together in Hitchin.

WRBC continued to run its annual Shoe Box Project in collaboration with local schools, delivering a substantial number of shoe boxes for the charity Link to Hope to distribute abroad at Christmas time.

The church collects funds for other charities who give aid to people both in the UK and abroad. See note 4c for full details

1a Receipts & Payments

January - December 2023

	Designated	Restricted	Unrestricted	TOTAL 2023	Previous Year
Income					
Building Use			7,124.00	7,124 £	8,841
Mission Ad Hoc Income			3,672.59	3,673 £	2,664
Offering			70,062.08	70,062 £	69,897
Other Income			20,229.57	20,230 £	19,347
Traidcraft I&E			750.34	750 £	155
Total Income	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 101,838.58	101,839 £	100,903
Expenses					
Adminstration			4,234.04	4,234 £	4,266
Church Groups & Activities		128.46	3,822.53	3,951 £	3,208
Church Upkeep			18,824.18	18,824 £	14,364
Manse			18,181.61	18,182 £	8,769
Ministry & Payroll			61,204.90	61,205 £	54,695
Ministry Expenses			5,261.87	5,262 £	1,951
Mission Ad Hoc Expenditure			2,852.04	2,852 £	3,472
Mission Regular Support		591.32	7,808.68	8,400 £	9,450
Utilities			9,061.90	9,062 £	6,937
Total Expenses	£ 0.00	£ 719.78	£ 131,251.75	131,972 £	107,112
Net Operating Income	£ 0.00	-£ 719.78	-£ 29,413.17	-30,133 -£	6,209
Net Income	£ 0.00	-£ 719.78	-£ 29,413.17	-30,133 -£	6,209
Change in value of Stock					
Net Profit/Deficit				-30,133 -£	6,209

Transfers between Funds	Designated	Restricted	Unrestricted
Christmas Tree	£	-	
Twinning	-£	591	
Link to Hope	£	-	
Lezhe	£	-	
Flower Fund	-£	128	
Pastoral Gifts	£	-	
Youth Worker			
Total Funds Last Year End			£ 133,986
Total Funds This Year End			£ 103,853
Total Change in Funds			-£ 30,133
			£ 0

1b. Notes to the Receipts and Payments Statement

- 1 Building Use describes income from a wide range of people and organisations who use the premises, primarily the Church Hall. This was of course heavily reduced over the pandemic.
- 3 Mission Ad Hoc Income includes gifts received by the Church with the intention that those gifts are forwarded to other charities. The main charities supported by WRBC under this heading are BMS and Link to Hope; plus, each year, we hold a Christmas Tree Appeal for charity.
- 4 The Offering includes monies received through Monthly giving (mainly Standing Orders), Weekly giving (through an envelopes giving scheme), and any other gifts received via the website or in cash
- 5 Other Income includes monies received from the Hitchin Youth Trust (on an annual basis as part of an access agreement), Gift Aid reclaimed on donations and legacies or one-off donations.
- 6 Traidcraft income is derived from a stall run by volunteers which sells ethically-sourced products from the Traidcraft organisation. This scheme is intended to cover its costs & to make a small profit. The figures quoted include items used by the church which are tracked separately via a receipts system and are entered into the software.
- 7 Administration costs include a wide range of expenses including licences, subscriptions and conference costs, as well as straightforward administration costs such as paper, ink, posters, etc.
- 8 Church Groups and Activities includes expenses for Youth Work as well as catering & kitchen costs.
- 9 Church Upkeep includes services costs needed to maintain the church buildings such as PAT testing, boiler servicing, etc; equipment costs to replace old or damaged items, cleaning costs and insurance costs.
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- 12 Ministry Expenses are split into two areas - expenses claimed by employees in connection with their duties (such as books, mileage, pastoral, etc) and external expenses associated with running services (fees for visiting preachers, organists, etc).
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- 15 Utilities comprises the costs of gas, electricity, water, etc consumed by the church.
- 16 Restricted Income is a term defined by the Charity Commission to describe money which has been given for a specific purpose and so cannot be used for a different purpose. So the WRBC accounts have to split out our Receipts and Payments into Unrestricted and Restricted monies.

1c. Analysis of Fund Movements for the Year

<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Fund Sub-Categories</u>					
Christmas Tree			Designated - Flower Fund		
	Opening balance	£ -		Opening balance	£ 128
	Receipts during the year	£ -		Receipts during the year	
	Payments during the year	£ -		Payments during the year	-£ 128
	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>		Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>
General			Restricted - Youth Worker		
	Opening balance	£ -		Opening balance	£ 6,000.00
	Receipts during the year	£ -		Receipts during the year	
	Payments during the year			Payments during the year	
	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>		Closing balance	<u>£ 6,000.00</u>
Operation Agri			Designated - Reserves		
	Opening balance	£ -		Opening balance	£ 35,000.00
	Receipts during the year			Receipts during the year	£ -
	Payments during the year			Payments during the year	£ -
	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>		Closing balance	<u>£ 35,000.00</u>
Twinning			Restricted - Justice Fund		
	Opening balance	£ 591.32		Opening balance	£ 7,185.00
	Receipts during the year			Receipts during the year	
	Payments during the year	-£ 591.32		Payments during the year	
	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>		Closing balance	<u>£ 7,185</u>

2. Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31st. December, 2023

	As of Dec 31,	
	2023	Previous Year
Cash at bank and in hand		
Baptist Union Deposit Account	37,035.25	35,664.72
Barclays	5,348.44	3,678.71
CAF Bank Cash Account	0.00	0.00
HSBC	55,864.90	87,173.70
Total Cash at bank and in hand	£ 98,248.59	126,517.13
Current Assets		
Equipment	0.00	0.00
Investments - Other	5,604.00	7,219.11
Stock		249.30
Undeposited funds	0.00	0.00
Total Current Assets	5,604.00	7,468.41
Net current assets	103,852.59	133,985.54
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Current Liabilities		
Payroll Liabilities	0.00	0.00
VAT Liability	0.00	0.00
Prepayments	0.00	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	£ 0.00	0.00
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	£ 0.00	0.00
Net current assets (liabilities)	£ 103,852.59	133,985.54
Total assets less current liabilities	£ 103,852.59	133,985.54
Total net assets (liabilities)	£ 103,852.59	133,985.54
Capital and Reserves		
Funds Designated		
BMS Birthday	0.00	0.00
Christmas Tree	0.00	0.00
Flower Fund	0.00	128.46
General Reserve	35,000.00	35,000.00
Mission Ad Hoc Gifts Fund	0.00	0.00
Pastoral Gifts	0.00	0.00
Twinning		591.32
Total Funds Designated	£ 35,000.00	35,719.78
Funds Restricted		
Justice	7,185.00	7,185.00
Youth Worker	6,000.00	6,000.00
Total Funds Restricted	£ 13,185.00	13,185.00
Unrestricted funds brought forward	85,080.76	94,959.46
Net movement in unrestricted funds	-29,413.17	-9,878.70
Total Capital and Reserves	103,852.59	133,985.54
Balances at Start of year	133,986	
Total Receipts	101,839	
Total Payments	-131,972	
Balancing item		
Balances at End of year	£ 103,853	

4. Notes to the Financial Statements

4a Basis of Accounts

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis as described in the Charity Commission document CC16 and accord with S.42(3) Charities Act 1993. The format of these accounts is further based on the recommendations produced by the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers (ACAT) and the Baptist Union.

4b Incoming Resources - Charitable activities

Income from donations and other voluntary income are recognised on a received basis. The charity has not given any financial consideration for voluntary help received during the year, and is not able to quantify such assistance.

4c Grant making policy

Grants, gifts and donations were made to various charities in the furtherance of the church's objectives. Monies received for specific causes are held in a restricted fund, pending remittance of monies to the appropriate beneficiary. The charity provides funds each year to support BMS World Mission, the Central Baptist Association Home Mission Fund, Churches Together in Hitchin, our twinned church in Turaan (via Baptist Twinning in Israel, a UK charity) and the Hitchin Schools Worker project.

4d Pension costs

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund ('the Ministers' Fund'). The Minister(s) are eligible to join the Fund, which is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme, which is funded and not contracted out of the state scheme.

The main benefit provided by the Ministers' Fund is a pension of one eightieth of final Minimum Pensionable Income together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of the Minimum Pensionable Income.

The profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contribution payable.

4e Investments

Investments are quoted under the Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the market value on the date these investments were donated to the church. All are in LSE quoted funds. It is intended to revalue these investments every 5 years, the next revaluation being in 2025. Income from investments is accounted for when receivable.

4f Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are classified as :-

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees;

Designated funds - these are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific purposes. In order to simplify these statements this category will be discontinued from 2022

Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the funds.

4g Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires the Trustees (Deacons) to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

- i) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- ii) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii) State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- iv) Prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Deacons are responsible as trustees for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that financial statements comply with charity law. The Deacons are also responsible for safe guarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

4h Property Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee [the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd]:

Walsworth Road Baptist Church, Walsworth Road, Hitchin, SG4 9SP
The Manse, 13 Ninesprings Way, Hitchin, SG4 9NQ

4i Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy was last reviewed in 2018 where it was agreed that a figure of £35,000 would be seen as a minimum amount and this is treated as a designated fund within the balance sheet.

4j Related Charities

The custodian Trustee of the church is the Baptist Union Corporation Limited which is charity number 249635, and which is controlled by the Baptist Union Council. The church is also a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Central Baptist Association and Churches Together in Hitchin.

4k Banking

There were two bank accounts in use during this accounting period. The Barclays account is used as the main day-to-day banking account & almost all bills are paid from this account. The HSBC account is used as the account for paying in via standing orders. The church also has an interest bearing deposit with the Baptist Union.

The accounts package used during this accounting period was the 'QuickBooks Online' product supplied by Intuit Inc.

All the banking transactions are held exclusively in QuickBooks and are reconciled on a monthly basis with the Bank Statements. Thus the year's closing balances are maintained in QuickBooks and accord with the Bank Statements.

4l Funds

The church accounts have a number of Funds which are maintained in QuickBooks which allows reporting by Restricted Funds and Unrestricted Funds as required by the Charities Commission. (WRBC does not currently have any Endowment Funds).

4m Reporting

The format of these accounts is based on the use of the standard business reports which are available within the QuickBooks software, such as the Comparative P&L Report (which is the basis of the Receipts & Payments Summary); and the Balance Sheet Report (which is the basis of the Assets & Liabilities Report).

4n Signature and Declaration

The Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities relating to the year ending 31 December are as approved by the Deacons of Walsworth Road Baptist Church.

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee, that the trustees have approved the report above: and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signed:

Rev Andrew Henton Pusey
13 Ninesprings Way
Hitchin
SG4 9NQ

Dated:

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of Walsworth Road Baptist Church

I report on the financial statements of Walsworth Road Baptist Church for the year ended 31 December 2023

This report is made solely to the charity members, as a body, in accordance with Charity law. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity members those matters which I am required to state to them in my independent examination report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the church charity and the charity members as a body, for my independent examination work, or the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Date

WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1155718

Accounts



Walsworth Road
Baptist Church

WRBC Treasurer
Walsworth Rd
Hitchin
Herts
SG4 9SP

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2022

ANNUAL REPORT - WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

This is a summary of some of the activities which took place during the year, with a particular focus on events which demonstrate our public benefit as a registered charity:

- 1 Walsworth Road Baptist Church is a friendly Baptist church which celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2019. The church invites the whole community to worship God with us. There are regular Sunday services each week, and a number of events and groups to appeal to people of all ages. There is a Zoom broadcast for those unable to attend in person
- 2 WRBC employs a part time youth worker and runs a youth club for young people in years 6 to 11 on Sunday evenings. In 2022 we once again ran our popular Holiday Club in August.
- 3 WRBC is the home for the 3rd Hitchin Scout and 9th Hitchin Guiding groups, playing a part in the lives of around 150 young people across six 'sections'.
- 4 WRBC aims to provide pastoral care for the wider community around the church and employs a church worker to help the pastor with this task. In 2022, we organised prayers for peace in Ukraine and supported a group of Ukrainians arriving in the area. We provided a Warm Space in coordination with other churches in the town.
- 5 The church maintains its Victorian and Edwardian buildings and offers them to a wide range of local groups including an exercise class, a yoga group, a toddler group, a recorder group, a local residents association. In 2022 we were pleased to welcome back concerts from North Herts Guild of Singers, The Orpheus Choir and Stotfold Christian Choir.
- 6 We continue to have close links with two local charities, the Hitchin Churches Schools Worker Trust (PHASE) and Churches Together in Hitchin.
- 7 WRBC continued to run its annual Shoe Box Project in collaboration with local schools, delivering a substantial number of shoe boxes for the charity Link to Hope to distribute abroad at Christmas time.
- 8 The church collects funds for other charities who give aid to people both in the UK and abroad. See note 4c for full details.

1a Receipts & Payments

January - December 2022

	Designated	Restricted	Unrestricted	TOTAL 2022	Previous Year 2021
Income					
Building Use			8,840.50	8,841 £	3,039
Mission Ad Hoc Income			2,663.51	2,664 £	2,654
Offering		6,000.00	63,896.74	69,897 £	64,249
Other Income			19,347.19	19,347 £	21,333
Traidcraft I&E			155.46	155 £	45
Total Income	£ 0.00	£ 6,000.00	£ 94,903.40	100,903 £	91,320
Expenses					
Administration			4,265.78	4,266 £	2,830
Church Groups & Activities	197.04		3,010.64	3,208 £	2,832
Church Upkeep			14,364.08	14,364 £	8,953
Manse			8,768.98	8,769 £	7,948
Ministry & Payroll			54,695.10	54,695 £	55,282
Ministry Expenses			1,951.45	1,951 £	1,320
Mission Ad Hoc Expenditure	383.15		3,088.85	3,472 £	3,988
Mission Regular Support	1,750.00		7,700.00	9,450 £	10,800
Utilities			6,937.22	6,937 £	5,078
Total Expenses	£ 2,330.19	£ 0.00	£ 104,782.10	107,112 £	99,032
Net Operating Income	-£ 2,330.19	£ 6,000.00	-£ 9,878.70	-£ 6,208.89	-£ 7,712
Net Income	-£ 2,330.19	£ 6,000.00	-£ 9,878.70	-6,209	-£ 7,712
Change in value of Stock					
Net Profit/Deficit				-6,209	-£ 7,712

Transfers between Funds

	Designated	Restricted	Unrestricted	
Christmas Tree	-£	383		
Twinning	-£	1,750		
Link to Hope	£	-		
Lezhe	£	-		
Flower Fund	-£	197		
Pastoral Gifts	£	-		
Youth Worker		£	6,000	
Total Funds Last Year End				£ 140,194
Total Funds This Year End				£ 133,986
Total Change in Funds				-£ 6,209
				£ 0

1b. Notes to the Receipts and Payments Statement

- 1 Building Use describes income from a wide range of people and organisations who use the premises, primarily the Church Hall. This was of course heavily reduced over the pandemic.
- 3 Mission Ad Hoc Income includes gifts received by the Church with the intention that those gifts are forwarded to other charities. The main charities supported by WRBC under this heading are BMS and Link to Hope; plus, each year, we hold a Christmas Tree Appeal for charity.
- 4 The Offering includes monies received through Monthly giving (mainly Standing Orders), Weekly giving (through an envelopes giving scheme), and any other gifts received via the website or in cash
- 5 Other Income includes monies received from the Hitchin Youth Trust (on an annual basis as part of an access agreement), Gift Aid reclaimed on donations and legacies or one-off donations.
- 6 Traidcraft income is derived from a stall run by volunteers which sells ethically-sourced products from the Traidcraft organisation. This scheme is intended to cover its costs & to make a small profit. The figures quoted include items used by the church which are tracked separately via a receipts system and are entered into the software.
- 7 Administration costs include a wide range of expenses including licences, subscriptions and conference costs, as well as straightforward administration costs such as paper, ink, posters, etc.
- 8 Church Groups and Activities includes expenses for Youth Work as well as catering & kitchen costs.
- 9 Church Upkeep includes services costs needed to maintain the church buildings such as PAT testing, boiler servicing, etc; equipment costs to replace old or damaged items, cleaning costs and insurance costs.
- 10 WRBC owns a Manse which is used to house our Minister and his family. Manse costs include council tax, water rates, heating, lighting, etc. Some of these costs are paid directly by the church, others are paid by the Minister and an agreed proportion claimed back through the Minister's Expenses system.
- 11 Ministry and payroll costs are the costs to the church of employing a Minister including stipend, employer's National Insurance, employer's pension contribution, etc, and the costs of employing a part time youth worker, a part time church worker with a special emphasis on pastoral care and outreach, and a cleaner, who was the only member of staff on furlough when the building was closed.
- 12 Ministry Expenses are split into two areas - expenses claimed by employees in connection with their duties (such as books, mileage, pastoral, etc) and external expenses associated with running services (fees for visiting preachers, organists, etc).
- 13 Mission Ad Hoc Expenditure is directly linked to item 2, and is the distribution of gifts received by the Church for other charities.
- 14 Mission Regular Support includes monies paid on a regular basis to organisations with which WRBC is linked such as the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS), the Central Baptist Association (CBA), PHASE Schools Worker, and via the Baptist Friends of Israel, to our twinned church in Tu'raan, Israel.
- 15 Utilities comprises the costs of gas, electricity, water, etc consumed by the church.
- 16 Restricted Income is a term defined by the Charity Commission to describe money which has been given for a specific purpose and so cannot be used for a different purpose. So the WRBC accounts have to split out our Receipts and Payments into Unrestricted and Restricted monies.

1c. Analysis of Fund Movements for the Year

<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Fund Sub-Categories</u>		
Christmas Tree		
01/01/2022	Opening balance	£ 383.15
	Receipts during the year	£ -
	Payments during the year	-£ 383.15
31/12/2022	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>
General		
01/01/2022	Opening balance	£ -
	Receipts during the year	£ -
	Payments during the year	-£ -
31/12/2022	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>
Operation Agri		
01/01/2022	Opening balance	£ -
	Receipts during the year	£ -
	Payments during the year	-£ -
31/12/2022	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>
Twinning		
01/01/2022	Opening balance	£ 2,341.32
	Receipts during the year	£ -
	Payments during the year	-£ 1,750.00
31/12/2022	Closing balance	<u>£ 591.32</u>

<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Designated - Flower Fund		
01/01/2022	Opening balance	£ 326
	Receipts during the year	£ -
	Payments during the year	-£ 197
31/12/2022	Closing balance	<u>£ 128</u>
youth Worker		
01/01/2022	Opening balance	£ -
	Receipts during the year	£ 6,000.00
	Payments during the year	-£ -
31/12/2022	Closing balance	<u>£ 6,000.00</u>
Designated - Reserves		
01/01/2022	Opening balance	£ 35,000.00
	Receipts during the year	£ -
	Payments during the year	-£ -
31/12/2022	Closing balance	<u>£ 35,000.00</u>
Restricted - Justice Fund		
01/01/2022	Opening balance	£ 7,185.00
	Receipts during the year	£ -
	Payments during the year	-£ -
31/12/2022	Closing balance	<u>£ 7,185</u>

2. Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31st. December, 2022

	As of Dec 31, 2022	As of Dec 31, 2021
Cash at bank and in hand		
Baptist Union Deposit Account	35,664.72	35,393.68
Barclays	3,678.71	6,873.18
CAF Bank Cash Account	0.00	0.00
HSBC	87,173.70	94,045.24
Total Cash at bank and in hand	£ 126,517.13	136,312.10
Current Assets		
Equipment	0.00	0.00
Investments - Other	7,219.11	7,448.78
Stock	249.30	249.30
Undeposited funds	0.00	0.00
Total Current Assets	7,468.41	7,698.08
Net current assets	133,985.54	144,010.18
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Current Liabilities		
Payroll Liabilities	0.00	0.00
VAT Liability	0.00	0.00
Prepayments	0.00	3,815.75
Total Current Liabilities	£ 0.00	3,815.75
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	£ 0.00	3,815.75
Net current assets (liabilities)	£ 133,985.54	140,194.43
Total assets less current liabilities	£ 133,985.54	140,194.43
Total net assets (liabilities)	£ 133,985.54	140,194.43
Capital and Reserves		
Funds Designated		
BMS Birthday	0.00	0.00
Christmas Tree	0.00	383.15
Flower Fund	128.46	325.50
General Reserve	35,000.00	35,000.00
Mission Ad Hoc Gifts Fund	0.00	0.00
Pastoral Gifts	0.00	0.00
Twinning	591.32	2,341.32
Total Funds Designated	£ 35,719.78	38,049.97
Funds Restricted		
Justice	7,185.00	7,185.00
Youth Worker	6,000.00	0.00
Total Funds Restricted	£ 13,185.00	7,185.00
Unrestricted funds brought forward	94,959.46	102,671.06
Net movement in unrestricted funds	-9,878.70	-7,711.60
Total Capital and Reserves	133,985.54	140,194.43
Balances at Start of year	140,194	
Total Receipts	100,903	
Total Payments	-107,112	
Balancing item		
Balances at End of year	£ 133,986	

4. Notes to the Financial Statements

4a Basis of Accounts

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis as described in the Charity Commission document CC16 and accord with S.42(3) Charities Act 1993. The format of these accounts is further based on the recommendations produced by the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers (ACAT) and the Baptist Union.

4b Incoming Resources - Charitable activities

Income from donations and other voluntary income are recognised on a received basis. The charity has not given any financial consideration for voluntary help received during the year, and is not able to quantify such assistance.

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Investments are quoted under the Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the market value on the date these investments were donated to the church. All are in LSE quoted funds. It is intended to revalue these investments every 5 years, the next revaluation being in 2025. Income from investments is accounted for when receivable.

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Funds held by the charity are classified as :-

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees;

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Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the funds.

4g Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires the Trustees (Deacons) to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

- i) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- ii) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii) State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- iv) Prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Deacons are responsible as trustees for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that financial statements comply with charity law. The Deacons are also responsible for safe guarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

4h Property Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee [the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd]:

Walsworth Road Baptist Church, Walsworth Road, Hitchin, SG4 9SP

The Manse, 13 Ninesprings Way, Hitchin, SG4 9NQ

4i Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy was last reviewed in 2018 where it was agreed that a figure of £35,000 would be seen as a minimum amount and this is treated as a designated fund within the balance sheet.

4j Related Charities

The custodian Trustee of the church is the Baptist Union Corporation Limited which is charity number 249635, and which is controlled by the Baptist Union Council. The church is also a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Central Baptist Association and Churches Together in Hitchin.

4k Banking

There were two bank accounts in use during this accounting period. The Barclays account is used as the main day-to-day banking account & almost all bills are paid from this account. The HSBC account is used as the account for paying in via standing orders. The church also has an interest bearing deposit with the Baptist Union.

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All the banking transactions are held exclusively in QuickBooks and are reconciled on a monthly basis with the Bank Statements. Thus the year's closing balances are maintained in QuickBooks and accord with the Bank Statements.

4l Funds

The church accounts have a number of Funds which are maintained in QuickBooks which allows reporting by Restricted Funds and Unrestricted Funds as required by the Charities Commission. (WRBC does not currently have any Endowment Funds).

4m Reporting

The format of these accounts is based on the use of the standard business reports which are available within the QuickBooks software, such as the Comparative P&L Report (which is the basis of the Receipts & Payments Summary); and the Balance Sheet Report (which is the basis of the Assets & Liabilities Report).

4n Signature and Declaration

The Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities relating to the year ending 31 December are as approved by the Deacons of Walsworth Road Baptist Church.

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee, that the trustees have approved the report above: and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signed:



Rev Andrew Henton Pusey
13 Ninesprings Way
Hitchin
SG4 9NQ

Dated:

18th July 2023

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of Walsworth Road Baptist Church

I report on the financial statements of Walsworth Road Baptist Church for the year ended 31 December 2022

This report is made solely to the charity members, as a body, in accordance with Charity law. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity members those matters which I am required to state to them in my independent examination report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the church charity and the charity members as a body, for my independent examination work, or the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: *C D Maylin*

Date : 17 July 2023

C D Maylin
FCA

WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1155718

Accounts



Walsworth Road
Baptist Church

WRBC Treasurer
Walsworth Rd
Hitchin
Herts
SG4 9SP

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2021

ANNUAL REPORT - WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

This is a summary of some of the activities which took place during the year, with a particular focus on events which demonstrate our public benefit as a registered charity:

- 1 Walsworth Road Baptist Church is a friendly Baptist church which celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2019. The church invites the whole community to worship God with us. There are regular Sunday services each week, and a number of events and groups to appeal to people of all ages. In 2021 we returned to meeting in the building, with a Zoom broadcast for those unable to attend in person
- 2 WRBC runs a youth club for young people in years 6 to 11 on Sunday evenings. Online activities continued all year for young people.
- 3 WRBC is the home for the 3rd Hitchin Scout and 9th Hitchin Guiding groups.
- 4 WRBC aims to provide pastoral care for the wider community around the church and employs a church worker to help the pastor with this task. They were particularly busy meeting the pastoral need of our community during lockdowns.
- 5 The church maintains its Victorian and Edwardian buildings and offers them to a wide range of local groups including an exercise class, a toddler group, a recorder group, a local residents association, etc.
- 6 We continue to have close links with two local charities, the Hitchin Churches Schools Worker Trust (PHASE) and Churches Together in Hitchin.
- 7 WRBC continued to run its annual Shoe Box Project in collaboration with local schools, delivering a reduced but still substantial number of shoe boxes which the charity Link to Hope distributed abroad at Christmas time.
- 8 The church collects funds for other charities who give aid to people both in the UK and abroad. See note 4c for full details.

1a Receipts & Payments

January - December 2021

	Designated	Restricted	Unrestricted	TOTAL 2021	Previous Year 2020
Income					
Building Use			3,039.00	3,039.00	£ 2,924
Mission Ad Hoc Income	^ 2,324.32		329.45	2,653.77	£ 2,026
Offering			64,248.93	64,248.93	£ 69,880
Other Income			21,333.19	21,333.19	£ 25,192
Traidcraft I&E			45.24	45.24	£ 76
Total Income	£ 2,324.32	£ 0.00	£ 88,995.81	£ 91,320.13	£ 100,097
Expenses					
Administration			2,830.48	2,830.48	£ 2,643
Church Groups & Activities	431.50		2,400.85	2,832.35	£ 2,477
Church Upkeep			8,953.36	8,953.36	£ 7,196
Manse			7,947.83	7,947.83	£ 11,421
Ministry & Payroll			55,281.67	55,281.67	£ 56,860
Ministry Expenses			1,319.99	1,319.99	£ 3,785
Mission Ad Hoc Expenditure	1,941.17		2,047.00	3,988.17	£ 3,052
Mission Regular Support	1,225.00		9,575.00	10,800.00	£ 10,804
Utilities			5,077.88	5,077.88	£ 4,002
Total Expenses	£ 3,597.67	£ 0.00	£ 95,434.06	£ 99,031.73	£ 102,239
Net Income	6 -£ 1,273.35	£ 0.00	£ 6,438.25	6 -£ 7,711.60	£ 2,142
Change in value of Stock					
Net Profit/Deficit				-7,712	£ 2,142

Transfers between Funds	Designated	Restricted	Unrestricted
Christmas Tree	£ 383	✓	
Twinning	-£ 1,225	✓	
Link to Hope	£ -		
Lezhe	£ -		
Flower Fund	-£ 432	✓	
Pastoral Gifts	£ -		
Justice		£ -	

1b. Notes to the Receipts and Payments Statement

- 1 Building Use describes income from a wide range of people and organisations who use the premises, primarily the Church Hall. This was of course heavily reduced over the pandemic.
- 3 Mission Ad Hoc Income includes gifts received by the Church with the intention that those gifts are forwarded to other charities. The main charities supported by WRBC under this heading are BMS and Link to Hope; plus, each year, we hold a Christmas Tree Appeal for charity.
- 4 The Offering includes monies received through Monthly giving (mainly Standing Orders), Weekly giving (through an envelopes giving scheme), and any other gifts received via the website or in cash
- 5 Other Income includes monies received from the Hitchin Youth Trust (on an annual basis as part of an access agreement), Gift Aid reclaimed on donations and legacies or one-off donations.
- 6 Traidcraft income is derived from a stall run by volunteers which sells ethically-sourced products from the Traidcraft organisation. This scheme is intended to cover its costs & to make a small profit. The figures quoted include items used by the church which are tracked separately via a receipts system and are entered into the software.
- 7 Administration costs include a wide range of expenses including licences, subscriptions and conference costs, as well as straightforward administration costs such as paper, ink, posters, etc.
- 8 Church Groups and Activities includes expenses for Youth Work as well as catering & kitchen costs.
- 9 Church Upkeep includes services costs needed to maintain the church buildings such as PAT testing, boiler servicing, etc; equipment costs to replace old or damaged items, cleaning costs and insurance costs.
- 10 WRBC owns a Manse which is used to house our Minister and his family. Manse costs include council tax, water rates, heating, lighting, etc. Some of these costs are paid directly by the church, others are paid by the Minister and an agreed proportion claimed back through the Minister's Expenses system.
- 11 Ministry and payroll costs are the costs to the church of employing a Minister including stipend, employer's National Insurance, employer's pension contribution, etc, and the costs of employing a part time youth worker, a part time church worker with a special emphasis on pastoral care and outreach, and a cleaner, who was the only member of staff on furlough when the building was closed.
- 12 Ministry Expenses are split into two areas - expenses claimed by employees in connection with their duties (such as books, mileage, pastoral, etc) and external expenses associated with running services (fees for visiting preachers, organists, etc).
- 13 Mission Ad Hoc Expenditure is directly linked to item 2, and is the distribution of gifts received by the Church for other charities.
- 14 Mission Regular Support includes monies paid on a regular basis to organisations with which WRBC is linked such as the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS), the Central Baptist Association (CBA), PHASE Schools Worker, etc. This support is voted as part of the annual budget at the start of each year.
- 15 Utilities comprises the costs of gas, electricity, water, etc consumed by the church.
- 16 Restricted Income is a term defined by the Charity Commission to describe money which has been given for a specific purpose and so cannot be used for a different purpose. So the WRBC accounts have to split out our Receipts and Payments into Unrestricted and Restricted monies.

1c. Analysis of Fund Movements for the Year

<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fund Sub-Categories		
Christmas Tree		
01/01/2021	Opening balance	£ -
	Receipts during the year	£ ^ 766.30
	Payments during the year	-£ 383.15 ✓
31/12/2021	Closing balance	<u>£ 383.15</u>
General		
01/01/2021	Opening balance	£ -
	Receipts during the year	£ ^ 265.02
	Payments during the year	-£ 265.02
31/12/2021	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>
Operation Agri		
01/01/2021	Opening balance	£ -
	Receipts during the year	£ ^ 62.00
	Payments during the year	-£ 62.00
31/12/2021	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>
Twinning		
01/01/2021	Opening balance	£ 3,566.32
	Receipts during the year	
	Payments during the year	-£ 1,225.00 ✓
31/12/2021	Closing balance	<u>£ 2,341.32</u>
Mission Ad Hoc - Link to Hope		
01/01/2021	Opening balance	£ -
	Receipts during the year	£ ^ 1,231.00
	Payments during the year	-£ 1,231.00
31/12/2021	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>

<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Designated - Flower Fund		
01/01/2021	Opening balance	£ 1,077
	Receipts during the year	
	Payments during the year	-£ 432 ✓
31/12/2021	Closing balance	<u>£ 646</u>
Designated - Reserves		
01/01/2021	Opening balance	£ 35,000.00
	Receipts during the year	£ -
	Payments during the year	£ -
31/12/2021	Closing balance	<u>£ 35,000.00</u>
Restricted - Justice Fund		
01/01/2021	Opening balance	£ 7,185.00
	Receipts during the year	
	Payments during the year	
31/12/2021	Closing balance	<u>£ 7,185</u>

2. Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31st. December, 2020

	As of Dec 31, 2021	As of Dec 31, 2020
Cash at bank and in hand		
Baptist Union Deposit Account	✓ 35,393.68	35,043.64
Barclays	✓ 6,873.18	12,045.12
CAF Bank Cash Account	0.00	0.00
HSBC	✓ 94,045.24	98,124.19
Total Cash at bank and in hand	136,312.10	145,212.95
Current Assets		
Equipment	0.00	120.00
Investments - Other	7,448.78	2,323.78
Stock	249.30	249.30
Total Current Assets	7,698.08	2,693.08
Net current assets	144,010.18	147,906.03
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Current Liabilities		
Payroll Liabilities	0.00	0.00
VAT Liability	0.00	0.00
Prepayments	∧ 3,815.75	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	3,815.75	0.00
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	3,815.75	0.00
Net current assets (liabilities)	140,194.43	147,906.03
Total assets less current liabilities	140,194.43	147,906.03
Total net assets (liabilities)	140,194.43	147,906.03
Capital and Reserves		
Funds Designated		
BMS Birthday	0.00	0.00
Christmas Tree	✓ 383.15	0.00
Flower Fund	✓ 325.50	1,077.00
General Reserve	✓ 35,000.00	35,000.00
Mission Ad Hoc Gifts Fund	0.00	0.00
Pastoral Gifts	0.00	0.00
Twinning	✓ 2,341.32	3,566.32
Total Funds Designated	38,049.97	39,643.32
Funds Restricted		
Justice	7,185.00	7,185.00
Youth Worker	0.00	0.00
Total Funds Restricted	7,185.00	7,185.00
Unrestricted funds brought forward	102,671.06	107,174.95
Net movement in unrestricted funds	5 -7,711.60	-6,097.24
Total Capital and Reserves	140,194.43	147,906.03
Balances at Start of year	147,906	
Total Receipts	91,320	
Total Payments	-99,032	
Balancing item		
Balances at End of year	£ 140,194	

4. Notes to the Financial Statements

4a Basis of Accounts

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis as described in the Charity Commission document CC16 and accord with S.42(3) Charities Act 1993. The format of these accounts is further based on the recommendations produced by the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers (ACAT) and the Baptist Union.

4b Incoming Resources - Charitable activities

Income from donations and other voluntary income are recognised on a received basis. The charity has not given any financial consideration for voluntary help received during the year, and is not able to quantify such assistance.

4c Grant making policy

Grants, gifts and donations were made to various charities in the furtherance of the church's objectives. Monies received for specific causes are held in a restricted fund, pending remittance of monies to the appropriate beneficiary. The charity provides funds each year to support BMS World Mission, the Central Baptist Association Home Mission Fund, Churches Together in Hitchin, our twinned church in Turaan (via Baptist Twinning in Israel, a UK charity) and the Hitchin Schools Worker project.

4d Pension costs

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund ('the Ministers' Fund'). The Minister(s) are eligible to join the Fund, which is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme, which is funded and not contracted out of the state scheme.

The main benefit provided by the Ministers' Fund is a pension of one eightieth of final Minimum Pensionable Income together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of the Minimum Pensionable Income.

The profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contribution payable.

4e Investments

Investments are quoted under the Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the market value on the date these investments were donated to the church. All are in LSE quoted funds. It is intended to revalue these investments every 5 years, the next revaluation being in 2025. Income from investments is accounted for when receivable.

4f Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are classified as :-

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees;

Designated funds - these are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific purposes. In order to simplify these statements this category will be discontinued from 2022

Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the funds.

4g Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires the Trustees (Deacons) to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

- i) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- ii) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii) State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- iv) Prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Deacons are responsible as trustees for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that financial statements comply with charity law. The Deacons are also responsible for safe guarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

4h Property Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee [the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd]:

Walsworth Road Baptist Church, Walsworth Road, Hitchin, SG4 9SP

The Manse, 13 Ninesprings Way, Hitchin, SG4 9NQ

4i Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy was last reviewed in 2018 where it was agreed that a figure of £35,000 would be seen as a minimum amount.

4j Related Charities

The custodian Trustee of the church is the Baptist Union Corporation Limited which is charity number 249635, and which is controlled by the Baptist Union Council. The church is also a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Central Baptist Association and Churches Together in Hitchin.

4k Banking

There were two bank accounts in use during this accounting period. The Barclays account is used as the main day-to-day banking account & almost all bills are paid from this account. The HSBC account is used as the account for paying in via standing orders. The church also has an interest bearing deposit with the Baptist Union.

The accounts package used during this accounting period was the 'QuickBooks Online' product supplied by Intuit Inc.

All the banking transactions are held exclusively in QuickBooks and are reconciled on a monthly basis with the Bank Statements. Thus the year's closing balances are maintained in QuickBooks and accord with the Bank Statements.

4l Funds

The church accounts have a number of Funds which are maintained in QuickBooks which allows reporting by Restricted Funds and Unrestricted Funds as required by the Charities Commission. (WRBC does not currently have any Endowment Funds).

4m Reporting

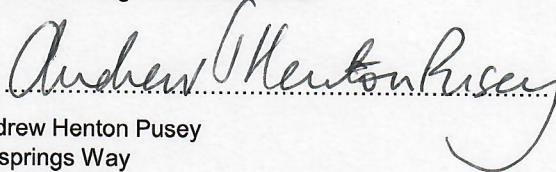
The format of these accounts is based on the use of the standard business reports which are available within the QuickBooks software, such as the Comparative P&L Report (which is the basis of the Receipts & Payments Summary); and the Balance Sheet Report (which is the basis of the Assets & Liabilities Report).

4n Signature and Declaration

The Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities relating to the year ending 31 December are as approved by the Deacons of Walsworth Road Baptist Church.

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee, that the trustees have approved the report above: and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signed:



Rev Andrew Henton Pusey
13 Ninesprings Way
Hitchin
SG4 9NQ

Dated:

15 June 2022

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of Walsworth Road Baptist Church

I report on the financial statements of Walsworth Road Baptist Church for the year ended 31 December 2021

This report is made solely to the charity members, as a body, in accordance with Charity law. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity members those matters which I am required to state to them in my independent examination report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the church charity and the charity members as a body, for my independent examination work, or the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  Date 23 MARCH 2022

WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1155718

Accounts



Walsworth Road
Baptist Church

WRBC Treasurer
41 Benslow Rise
Hitchin
Herts
SG4 9QY

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2020

ANNUAL REPORT - WALSWORTH ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

This is a summary of some of the activities which took place during the year, with a particular focus on events which demonstrate our public benefit as a registered charity:

- 1 Walsworth Road Baptist Church is a friendly Baptist church which celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2019. The church invites the whole community to worship God with us. There are normally two regular Sunday services each week, and a number of events and groups to appeal to people of all ages. In 2020, most of our services took place online and the church family adapted to life with a pandemic.
- 2 WRBC runs a group for young people during the morning service on Sunday, and a separate youth club for young people in years 6 to 11 on Sunday evenings. Online activities continued all year for young people.
- 3 WRBC is the home for Scout and Guiding groups. We hope to welcome them back to Parade Services later in 2021.
- 4 WRBC aims to provide pastoral care for the wider community around the church and employs a church worker to help the pastor with this task. In 2020, they were particularly busy meeting the pastoral need of our community during lockdown.
- 5 The church maintains its Victorian and Edwardian buildings and offers them to a wide range of local groups including an exercise class, a toddler group, a recorder group, a local residents association, etc. We hope to welcome these classes back in 2021
- 6 We continue to have close links with two local charities, the Hitchin Churches Schools Worker Trust (PHASE) and Churches Together in Hitchin.

WRBC continued to run its annual Shoe Box Project in collaboration with local schools,
7 delivering a reduced but still substantial number of shoe boxes which the charity Link to Hope distributed abroad at Christmas time.
- 8 The housing association formerly known as North Herts Homes were the grateful recipients of toys donated at a Toy Service held online in December.
- 9 Proceeds from the church's 2020 Christmas Tree Appeal were donated to an appeal to refurbish a youth club area at our sponsored Baptist Church near Nazareth in Israel, see note 4c for further details.

1a Receipts & Payments

January - December 2020

	Designated	Restricted	Unrestricted	TOTAL 2020	Previous Year 2019
Income					
Building Use			2,923.50	2,923.50	12,275
Mission Ad Hoc Income	2,025.86			2,025.86	5,609
Offering	320.00		69,559.92	69,879.92	71,008
Other Income		5,000.00	20,192.05	25,192.05	36,906
Traidcraft I&E			75.52	75.52	46
Total Income	£ 2,345.86	£ 5,000.00	£ 92,750.99	£ 100,096.85	£ 125,844
Expenses					
Administration			2,643.18	2,643.18	4,285
Church Groups & Activities			2,477.06	2,477.06	12,259
Church Upkeep			7,196.32	7,196.32	18,346
Manse			11,420.73	11,420.73	4,114
Ministry & Payroll			56,859.73	56,859.73	51,813
Ministry Expenses			3,784.70	3,784.70	5,956
Mission Ad Hoc Expenditure	2,190.70		861.16	3,051.86	6,493
Mission Regular Support	1,200.00		9,603.50	10,803.50	12,831
Utilities			4,001.85	4,001.85	7,634
Total Expenses	£ 3,390.70	£ 0.00	£ 98,848.23	£ 102,238.93	£ 123,732
Net Income	-£ 1,044.84	£ 5,000.00	-£ 6,097.24	-£ 2,142.08	£ 2,112
Change in value of Stock					-£ 19
Net Profit/Deficit				-2,142	£ 2,093

Transfers between Funds	Designated	Restricted	Unrestricted	
Christmas Tree	£	-		
Twinning	-£	1,200		
Link to Hope	-£	165		
Lezhe	£	-		
Flower Fund	£	320		
Pastoral Gifts	£	-		
Justice		£	5,000	
Total Funds Last Year End				£ 150,048
Total Funds This Year End				£ 147,906
Total Change in Funds				-£ 2,142

1b. Notes to the Receipts and Payments Statement

- 1 Building Use describes income from a wide range of people and organisations who use the premises, primarily the Church Hall. This was of course heavily reduced in 2020
- 3 Mission Ad Hoc Income includes gifts received by the Church with the intention that those gifts are forwarded to other charities. The main charities supported by WRBC under this heading are BMS and Link to Hope; plus, each year, we hold a Christmas Tree Appeal for charity.
- 4 The Offering includes monies received through Monthly giving (mainly Standing Orders), Weekly giving (through an envelopes giving scheme and through the loose collection), and any other gifts received which are stated by the giver to be part of the offering.
- 5 Other Income includes monies received from the Hitchin Youth Trust (on an annual basis as part of an access agreement), Gift Aid reclaimed on donations and legacies or one-off donations.
- 6 Traidcraft income is derived from a stall run by volunteers which sells ethically-sourced products from the Traidcraft organisation. This scheme is intended to cover its costs & to make a small profit. The figures quoted include items used by the church which are tracked separately via a receipts system and are entered into the software.
- 7 Administration costs include a wide range of expenses including licences, subscriptions and conference costs, as well as straightforward administration costs such as paper, ink, posters, etc.
- 8 Church Groups and Activities includes expenses for Youth Work as well as catering & kitchen costs.
- 9 Church Upkeep includes services costs needed to maintain the church buildings such as PAT testing, boiler servicing, etc; equipment costs to replace old or damaged items, cleaning costs and insurance costs.
- 10 WRBC owns a Manse which is used to house our Minister and his family. Manse costs include council tax, water rates, heating, lighting, etc. Some of these costs are paid directly by the church, others are paid by the Minister and an agreed proportion claimed back through the Minister's Expenses system.
- 11 Ministry and payroll costs are the costs to the church of employing a Minister including stipend, employer's National Insurance, employer's pension contribution, etc, and the costs of employing a part time youth worker, a part time church worker with a special emphasis on pastoral care and outreach, and a cleaner, who was the only member of staff on furlough when the building was closed.
- 12 Ministry Expenses are split into two areas - expenses claimed by the Minister and Youthworker in connection with their duties (such as books, mileage, pastoral, etc) and external expenses associated with running services (fees for visiting preachers, organists, etc).
- 13 Mission Ad Hoc Expenditure is directly linked to item 2, and is the distribution of gifts received by the Church for other charities.
- 14 Mission Regular Support includes monies paid on a regular basis to organisations with which WRBC is linked such as the Baptist Missionary Society (BMS), the Central Baptist Association (CBA), PHASE Schools Worker, etc. This support is voted as part of the annual budget at the start of each year.
- 15 Utilities comprises the costs of gas, electricity, water, etc consumed by the church.
- 16 Restricted Income is a term defined by the Charity Commission to describe money which has been given for a specific purpose and so cannot be used for a different purpose. So the WRBC accounts have to split out our Receipts and Payments into Unrestricted and Restricted monies. These items show Restricted gifts which have been made during the year, notably a gift of £5,000 towards the Justice fund.

1c. Analysis of Fund Movements for the Year

<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Fund Sub-Categories</u>		
Christmas Tree		
01/01/2020	Opening balance	£ -
31/12/2020	Receipts during the year	£ 1,265.87
31/12/2020	Payments during the year	-£ 1,265.87
31/12/2020	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>
General		
01/01/2020	Opening balance	£ -
31/12/2020	Receipts during the year	£ 190.00
31/12/2020	Payments during the year	-£ 190.00
31/12/2020	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>
Operation Agri		
01/01/2020	Opening balance	£ -
31/12/2020	Receipts during the year	£ 141.99
31/12/2020	Payments during the year	-£ 141.99
31/12/2020	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>
Twinning		
01/01/2020	Opening balance	£ 4,766.32
31/12/2020	Receipts during the year	
31/12/2020	Payments during the year	-£ 1,200.00
31/12/2020	Closing balance	<u>£ 3,566.32</u>
Mission Ad Hoc - Link to Hope		
01/01/2020	Opening balance	£ 164.84
31/12/2020	Receipts during the year	£ 428.00
31/12/2020	Payments during the year	-£ 592.84
31/12/2020	Closing balance	<u>£ -</u>

<u>Date</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Designated - Flower Fund		
01/01/2020	Opening balance	£ 757
31/12/2020	Receipts during the year	£ 320
31/12/2020	Payments during the year	
31/12/2020	Closing balance	<u>£ 1,077</u>
Designated - Reserves		
01/01/2020	Opening balance	£ 35,000.00
31/12/2020	Receipts during the year	£ -
31/12/2020	Payments during the year	£ -
31/12/2020	Closing balance	<u>£ 35,000.00</u>
Restricted - Justice Fund		
01/01/2020	Opening balance	£ 2,185.00
31/12/2020	Receipts during the year	£ 5,000.00
31/12/2020	Payments during the year	
31/12/2020	Closing balance	<u>£ 7,185</u>

1. The 2019 Christmas Tree appeal raised £1443.13 in the year.

2. Statement of Assets & Liabilities at 31st. December, 2020

	As of Dec 31, 2020	As of Dec 31, 2019
Cash at bank and in hand		
Baptist Union Deposit Account	35,043.64	
Barclays	12,045.12	2,809.99
CAF Bank Cash Account	0.00	21,812.79
CAF Bank Platinum Account	0.00	66,378.99
HSBC	98,124.19	58,602.79
Total Cash at bank and in hand	£ 145,212.95	149,604.56
Current Assets		
Equipment	120.00	240.00
Investments - Other	2,323.78	0.00
Stock	249.30	203.55
Total Current Assets	2,693.08	443.55
Net current assets	147,906.03	150,048.11
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Current Liabilities		
Payroll Liabilities	0.00	0.00
VAT Liability	0.00	0.00
Weddings Prepaid	0.00	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	0.00	0.00
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	0.00	0.00
Net current assets (liabilities)	147,906.03	150,048.11
Total assets less current liabilities	147,906.03	150,048.11
Total net assets (liabilities)	147,906.03	150,048.11
Capital and Reserves		
Funds Designated		
BMS Birthday	0.00	0.00
Christmas Tree	0.00	0.00
Flower Fund	1,077.00	757.00
General Reserve	35,000.00	35,000.00
Mission Ad Hoc Gifts Fund	0.00	164.84
Pastoral Gifts	0.00	0.00
Twinning	3,566.32	4,766.32
Total Funds Designated	39,643.32	40,688.16
Funds Restricted		
Justice	7,185.00	2,185.00
Youth Worker	0.00	0.00
Total Funds Restricted	7,185.00	2,185.00
Unrestricted funds brought forward	107,174.95	105,063.43
Net movement in unrestricted funds	-6,097.24	2,111.52
Total Capital and Reserves	147,906.03	150,048.11
Balances at Start of year	150,048	
Total Receipts	100,097	
Total Payments	-102,239	
Balancing item		
Balances at End of year	£ 147,906	

4. Notes to the Financial Statements

4a Basis of Accounts

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis as described in the Charity Commission document CC16 and accord with S.42(3) Charities Act 1993. The format of these accounts is further based on the recommendations produced by the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers (ACAT) and the Baptist Union.

4b Incoming Resources - Charitable activities

Income from donations and other voluntary income are recognised on a received basis. The charity has not given any financial consideration for voluntary help received during the year, and is not able to quantify such assistance.

4c Grant making policy

Grants, gifts and donations were made to various organisations in the furtherance of the charity's objectives. Monies received for specific causes are held in a restricted fund, pending remittance of monies to the appropriate beneficiary. The charity provides funds each year to support BMS World Mission, the Central Baptist Association Home Mission Fund, Churches Together in Hitchin, our twinned church in Turaan (via Baptist Twinning in Israel, a UK charity) and the Hitchin Schools Worker project.

4d Pension costs

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund ('the Ministers' Fund'). The Minister(s) are eligible to join the Fund, which is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme, which is funded and not contracted out of the state scheme.

The main benefit provided by the Ministers' Fund is a pension of one eightieth of final Minimum Pensionable Income together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of the Minimum Pensionable Income.

The profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contribution payable.

4e Investments

Investments are quoted under the Statement of Assets and Liabilities at their market value as at the Statement date, though there are none relevant in this Financial Year. Income from investments is accounted for when receivable.

4f Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are classified as :-

Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees;

Designated funds - these are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for specific purposes or projects;

Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the funds.

4g Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires the Trustees (Deacons) to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year. In doing so the trustees are required to:

- i) Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- ii) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii) State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- iv) Prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Deacons are responsible as trustees for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that financial statements comply with charity law. The Deacons are also responsible for safe guarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

4h Property Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee [the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd]:

Walsworth Road Baptist Church, Walsworth Road, Hitchin, SG4 9SP

The Manse, 13 Ninesprings Way, Hitchin, SG4 9NQ

4i Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy was last reviewed in 2018 where it was agreed that a figure of £35,000 would be seen as a minimum amount.

4j Related Charities

The custodian Trustee of the church is the Baptist Union Corporation Limited which is charity number 249635, and which is controlled by the Baptist Union Council. The church is also a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Central Baptist Association and Churches Together in Hitchin.

4k Banking

There were four bank accounts in use during this accounting period. The Barclays account is used as the main day-to-day banking account & almost all bills are paid from this account. The HSBC account is used as the account for paying in via standing orders. The two accounts with CAF Bank were closed during 2020, and an interest bearing deposit made with the Baptist Union instead.

The accounts package used during this accounting period was the 'QuickBooks Online' product supplied by Intuit Inc.

All the banking transactions are held exclusively in QuickBooks and are reconciled on a monthly basis using the printed Bank Statements. Thus the year's closing balances are maintained in QuickBooks and accord with the Bank Statements.

4l Funds

The church accounts have a number of Funds which are maintained in QuickBooks which allows reporting by Restricted Funds and Unrestricted Funds as required by the Charities Commission. (WRBC does not currently have any Endowment Funds).

4m Reporting

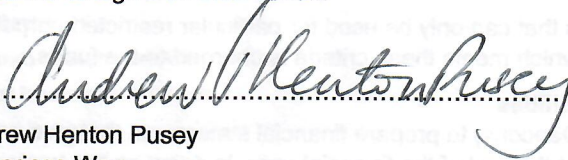
The format of these accounts is based on the use of the standard business reports which are available within the QuickBooks software, such as the Comparative P&L Report (which is the basis of the Receipts & Payments Summary); and the Balance Sheet Report (which is the basis of the Assets & Liabilities Report).

4n Signature and Declaration

The Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities relating to the year ending 31 December are as approved by the Deacons of Walsworth Road Baptist Church.

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee, that the trustees have approved the report above: and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signed:



Rev Andrew Henton Pusey
13 Ninesprings Way
Hitchin
SG4 9NQ

Dated:

23 March 2021

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Trustees of Walsworth Road Baptist Church

I report on the financial statements of Walsworth Road Baptist Church for the year ended 31 December 2020

This report is made solely to the charity members, as a body, in accordance with Charity law. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity members those matters which I am required to state to them in my independent examination report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the church charity and the charity members as a body, for my independent examination work, or the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  Date 3rd MARCH 2021

C. MAYLIN F.C.A.