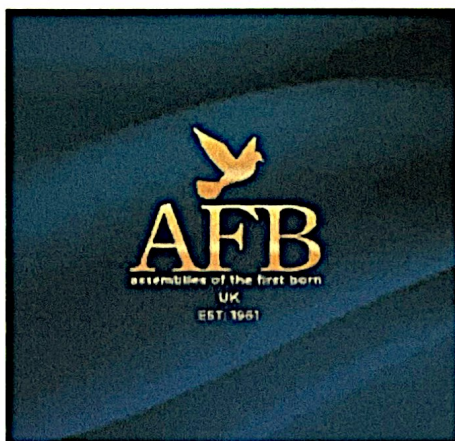


**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 08833424 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1156317**



**ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

**ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN**  
**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Legal and Administrative Information</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Trustees' Report</b>	<b>4 to 7</b>
<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Notes to the Financial Activities</b>	<b>11 to 15</b>

**ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN**  
**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

**TRUSTEES:**

Rev A Brown  
Rev J I Green-Wright  
Mr H E Thomas  
Rev E K Vassell

**COMPANY SECRETARY:**

Rev E K Vassell

**REGISTERED OFFICE:**

The Holy Trinity Church  
117 London Road  
Derby  
DE1 2QS

**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER:**

08833424 (England and Wales)

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:**

1156317

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:**

Arinola James Ogunsanwo  
San Phillips Finance Limited  
74 Kelvin Gardens  
Croydon  
Surrey  
CR0 4UR

**ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023**

The Board of Trustees are pleased to present our report and accounts for the year ended 31 July 2023. The trustees are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), effective 1 January 2021.

We are thankful to God and for the support and help of our church ministers, officers, members and volunteers we were able to continue on our mission and meet many of our objectives for the year and take on some additional responsibilities.

The Charity, Assemblies of the First Born (AFB), continues to have has fourteen church branches throughout the UK based in London, Croydon, Luton, Swindon, Bristol, Birmingham, Walsall, Derby and Nottingham. We also share fellowship with other churches both on a national and international basis which includes AFB fellowships in Jamaica, USA, Canada and Grand Caymans and India and have three international partner churches based in New York and Florida in the USA. We have been established since 1961 and are grateful for the rich history and church planting of our founding fathers and mothers who were part of the Windrush Generation.

The Assemblies of the First Born Church continues to prioritise the reaching out to as many people as possible with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to help and support people to discover their potential and live a fulfilling life.

The Church is a member of the Evangelical Alliance, the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers (ACAT) and the Pentecostal Credit Union (PCU).

The Trustees are also indebted to our Statutory Auditors, Leroy Reid & Co. Chartered Certified Auditors, 299 Norborough Road, Norbury, London SW16 4TR whose continuing support and available advice was been paramount in helping us to meet our statutory responsibilities over the last few years. We are also grateful to both NVCO (the National Council for Voluntary Organisation) and ACAT (the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers) for their support, resources and advice made available to us as members.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Public benefit**

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidelines on public benefit. The work of the Charity includes the provision of free to use places of worship, prayer and public orientated activities. The funds raised by the Charity are wholly directed towards the religious and charitable objectives of the Charity. The Trustees are therefore of the view that the Charity satisfies the criteria laid down for meeting the public interest test.

### **Our mission is to:**

- To preach and teach the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- To evangelise and win souls.
- To work within our community.
- To build a church of believers who are empowered and equipped to achieve their full potential.
- To maintain a friendly and loving environment where everyone can flourish and feel accepted.
- To encourage believers to recognise their spiritual gifts so that they may operate within those ministries.

**Our set objectives for this reporting year as part of our mission included holding and delivering the follow activities:**

- General Convention 2023
- Women's Convention 2023
- Youth Convention 2023
- Regional and local evangelistic outreach and fellowship meetings
- Local weekly Sunday school sessions
- Local weekly prayer meetings and bible study sessions
- Home and support visits to unwell members, families and friends
- Hospital visits
- Care home visit
- Provision of baby and child blessings
- Provision of baptisms
- Provision of wedding ceremonies
- Provision of funeral services

In addition, we have been able to provide food banks and distribute both food and clothing to those in need within our local communities.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE and MANAGEMENT**

### **Governing document**

The Charitable company is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 2013 and was incorporated as a limited company, limited by guarantee on the 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014, as defined by the Companies c 2006

The old charity formerly known as Assemblies of the First Born, charity no. 258457 was converted into a Scheme under the guidance of the Charity Commission on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014, whereby the old charity has been removed and re-established as Assemblies of the First Born Charity and linked to the principal charity using charity no. 1156317-01. For purposes of Part II (registration) and Part VI (accounting) of the Charities Act 2011, the commission directs that as at the date of the Scheme shall be treated as forming part of the company. Under the Scheme to the Company as Trustees to be held in trust for the object of the Charity.

The objects of the Charity are for the advancement of the Christian faith for the benefit of the public according to the rites and doctrine of the Church of the Assemblies of the First Born and to further such exclusively charitable religious purposes according to English law as the Trustees shall from time to time direct in any part of the World.

The Members of the Board of Trustees who served during the year were:

Rev E K Vassell – Chair  
Rev A. Brown  
Rev J I Green-Wright  
Mr H E Thomas

The trustees are familiar with the workings of the church and charity being drawn from experienced church officers and members. As required by our governing document, all new trustees are selected by the Board of Trustees. An induction into the role and responsibilities is provided.

The Board of Trustees work with the Executive Board to provide strategic leadership for the activities of the Charity and with our Ministers Council working with local church officers and members to implement the decisions of the Trustee and Executive Boards.

### **Related Parties**

The trustees are aware that each member of the Board of Trustees, the executive board members, all ordained ministers and their spouses are considered to be related parties.

### **Staff and Volunteers**

The effort, commitment and skills of our staff and volunteers are at the heart of our charity. Our secretaries, treasurers, members, and outreach workers are truly valued, and we are committed to ensuring their health, safety and well-being.

### **Risk management and Safeguarding**

The Trustees have a duty to identify, manage and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate financial controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Board conducts reviews of major risks to which the charity is exposed and has put in place adequate guidelines and procedures for identifying, monitoring and management of those risks. The Health and Safety and Safeguarding of all our visitors and members is a central priority and we also undertake DBS checks and provide training for staff and volunteers as appropriate.

### **Grant making**

The Charity does not make any significant grants to individuals or other organisations. The Charity does however, assist or make contributions to other associated churches in Jamaica, India and the USA in regards to the fulfilment of our charitable objects.

### **Future plans**

The Assemblies of the First Born church is committed to continuous improvement to our ability to spread the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We have the following three ongoing main strategic objectives:

1. Evangelism and Outreach – we plan to increase our evangelistic activities including street evangelism, family and friends evangelism and social media evangelism.
2. Discipleship – we plan to continue to provide discipleship and mentoring sessions for new and existing members,
3. Training and Development – we plan to implement an in-house training programme based on identified needs and signpost members to recommended external training providers.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial Position**

The total incoming resources for the year was £218,657 (2022 - £246,819) and total resources expended was £190,348 reporting a surplus of £28,309 when compared to a surplus of £30,908 in the previous year.

### **Reserve policy**

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees to maintain a balance of available unrestricted funds which is equal to six months of planned expenditure for the current financial year. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that in the event of significant reduction in income they will be able to continue the Charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds can be identified. The Charity's reserves as at the end of the year 31 July 2023 was £3,930,897 (2022 - £3,902,588).

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also directors of the Assemblies of the First Born for purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and the Republic of Ireland".

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any given time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Board on 21st November 2024 signed on its behalf, as authorised by:



Errol Vassell  
Chairman

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Assemblies of the First Born**

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023, which are set out on pages 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 in this Report.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the trustee and examiner.**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity trustee considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow procedures laid down in the general Direction given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of the independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Direction given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It includes consideration of unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations. Form 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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 reached.

Arinola James Ogunsanwo  
San Phillips Finance Limited  
74 Kelvin Gardens  
Croydon  
Surrey  
CR0 4UR

Date: 21st November 2024

**ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 JULY 2022**

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	2	150,137	174,533
Investment income	3	68,520	72,286
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total</b>		<b>218,657</b>	<b>246,819</b>
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Charitable activities	5		
Church		190,348	215,911
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total</b>		<b>190,348</b>	<b>215,911</b>
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NET INCOME(EXPENDITURE)</b>		<b>28,309</b>	<b>30,908</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>3,902,588</b>	<b>3,871,680</b>
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>3,930,897</b>	<b>3,902,588</b>
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 JULY 2023**

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	9	4,190,745	4,206,061
<b>CURRENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>			
Debtors	10	12,464	6,467
Cash at bank		338,652	308,582
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amount falling due within one year	11	(84,821)	(86,475)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		266,295	228,574
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		4,457,040	4,434,635
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	11	(526,143)	(551,927)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		3,930,897	3,882,708
<b>FUNDS</b>	13		
Unrestricted		3,930,897	3,882,708
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		3,930,897	3,882,708

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

Approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 21st November 2024 signed on its behalf by:

*E. K. Vassell*

Errol Vassell  
Chairman

**ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 JULY 2023**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 the Financial Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**INCOME**

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

**EXPENDITURE**

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

**TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	-
Fixtures and fittings	- 15% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	- 20% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 25% on reducing balance

**TAXATION**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**FUND ACCOUNTING**

Unrestricted funds can be use in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes with the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b>2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES</b>		
Tithes and offerings	150,137	174,533
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	150,137	174,533
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>3. INVESTMENT INCOME</b>		
Rents received	68,493	72,254
Deposit account interest	27	32
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	68,520	72,286
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>4. TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>218,657</b>	<b>246,819</b>

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs (see note 5) £	Support Costs (see note 6) £	Totals £
Church	147,428	42,920	190,348

**Direct Costs of Charitable activities**

	2023	2022
Rates and water	5,465	4,842
Insurance	18,372	19,262
Light and heat	40,558	45,784
Telephone	4,838	5,172
Postage and stationary	2,048	2,338
Sundry expenses	2,952	2,306
Hire of hall	1,608	1,658
Convention expenses	7,440	6,460
Gifts and donations	13,748	16,186
Motor and travel expenses	8,332	7,845
Catering and hospitality	2,548	2,342
Cleaning and laundry	4,825	5,633
Floral arrangements	220	120
Premises maintenance	16,378	18,712
Small equipment purchases	2,868	2,341
Youth Forum expenses	3,250	3,250
Fines and penalties	1,000	1,350
Bank charges	2,542	2,700
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	8,436	9,048
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	147,428	157,349

## 6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Church	15,282	27,638	42,920
Interest payable and similar charges		15,282	24,746
Trustees' remuneration etc		14,400	14,400
Wages		7,488	7,488
Legal and professional fees.		4,750	10,436
Administration and Audit fees		1,000	1,000
		42,920	58,562
Total Expenditure		190,348	215,911
Net Income		28,309	30,475

## 7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

	2023 £	2022 £
Trustees' salaries	14,400	14,400

### TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were no trustees' expenses paid from the year ended 31st July 2022 nor for the year ended 31st July 2021.

## 8. STAFF COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	22,380	21,888

The average monthly number of employees during the year

	2023 Number	2022 Number
General Overseer and Administrator	2	2

There were no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more.

## 9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>					
At 1st August 2022 and 31st July 2023	4,162,564	223,625	91,580	14,679	4,492,448
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>					
At 1st August 2022	-	198,425	72,467	13,993	284,885
Charges for year	-	4,802	3,216	418	8,436
At 31st July 2023	-	203,227	75,683	14,411	293,321
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>					
At 31st July 2023	4,162,564	24,235	14,624	201	4,201,624
At 31st July 2022	4,162,564	27,797	15,382	244	4,206,061

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	12,464	6,467

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Barclaycard	437	374
Other creditors	84,384	86,101
	84,821	86,475

## 12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans	526,143	551,927

## 13. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2023 £	2022 £
Amount falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loans - 2-5 years	526,143	551,927

#### 14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.8.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.7.23 £
Unrestricted funds	3,907,287	28,309	3,935,596
General Fund			
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>3,907,287</b>	<b>28,309</b>	<b>3,935,596</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	218,657	(190,348)	28,309
General Fund			
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>218,657</b>	<b>(190,348)</b>	<b>28,309</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

#### 15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year the following related party transactions occurred between the trustees of the Charity as follows:

1. Stipend payments were made to the Overseer, Bishop Jennifer Green-Wright for the sum of £14,400 (2022 - £14,400). The basis of these payments was approved by the Board of Trustees of the Charity on the 17th January 2017.
2. Stipend payments to Rev Errol Vassell were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 17th January 2017 for the provision of administration, financial control and internal policies and training and development activities for the sum of £3,600 (2022 - £3,600).
3. A loan of £20,000 was made to the Charity by Rev Errol Vassell between the 4th December 2020 and 22nd June 2021 and remains outstanding at the end of the year.
4. A loan of £8,500 was made to the Charity by Mrs Miriam Walker on the 6th March 2020. Mrs Walker, an ex-trustee of the Charity, is now deceased (5/12/2020) remains outstanding at the year end. The Estate of the late Mrs Walker is now the legally responsible party to recover the amount on behalf of the Estate.