

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 2024

ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

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ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

TRUSTEES:

Rev A Brown
Mr H E Thomas
Rev E K Vassell
Rev P Pryce (appointed 2.4.24)
Rev J Green-Wright (resigned 2.4.24)

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:

Mr Samuel Henry CMI
5 Thornton Road
Wolverhampton
WV1 2QG

ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

The Board of Trustees are pleased to present our report and accounts for the year ended 31 July 2024. 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, volunteers and partners we were able to continue on our mission and meet our objectives for the year. As a church with the wider community, we reflect with gratitude for the ministry of our late Bishop Jennifer Green-Wright who passed on 3rd May 2024, and who also served as a trustee until the 4th April 2024.

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 and prosperous 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 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 and our Independent Examiner, Mr S. Henry. 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 following activities:

- General Convention 2024
- Easter Convention 2024
- Women's Convention 2024
- Youth Convention 2024
- 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
- Residential Care home visits
- Provision of baby and child blessings
- Provision of baptisms
- Provision of wedding ceremonies
- Provision of funeral services

In addition, we continue 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 13th November 2013 and was incorporated as a limited company, limited by guarantee on the 6th January 2014, as defined by the Companies Act 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 16th 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

Mr H E Thomas

Rev P. Pryce (appointed 2nd April 2024)

Rev J I Green-Wright (resigned 2nd April 2024)

The trustees are familiar with the church and charity's activities 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 £232,458 (2023 - £218,657) and total resources expended was £204,862 reporting a surplus of £27,596 when compared to a surplus of £28,309 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 2024 was £3,958,493 (2023 - £3,930,897).

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

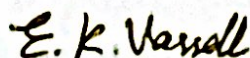
The trustees (who are also directors of the Assemblies of the First Born for purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) 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 is 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 reasonably 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 30th May 2025 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 31st July 2024, 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.

Mr Samuel Henry CMI
5 Thornton Road
Wolverhampton
WV1 2QG

Date: 30th May 2025

ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 JULY 2024

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	2	162,833	150,137
Investment income	3	69,625	68,520
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total		232,458	218,657
		<hr/>	<hr/>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	5		
Church		204,862	190,348
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total		204,862	190,348
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET INCOME(EXPENDITURE)		27,596	28,309
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		3,930,897	3,902,588
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		3,958,493	3,930,897
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The notes form part of these financial statements

ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN
BALANCE SHEET
31 JULY 2024

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Total funds £
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	9	4,178,672	4,190,745
CURRENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES			
Debtors	10	10,538	12,464
Cash at bank		316,302	338,652
CREDITORS			
Amount falling due within one year	11	(83,125)	(84,821)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		243,715	266,295
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		4,422,387	4,457,040
		<hr/>	<hr/>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	12	(463,894)	(526,143)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET ASSETS		3,958,493	3,930,897
		<hr/>	<hr/>
FUNDS	13		
Unrestricted		3,958,493	3,930,897
TOTAL FUNDS		3,958,493	3,930,897

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 30th May 2025 signed on its behalf by:

E R Vassell

Errol Vassell
Chairman

ASSEMBLIES OF THE FIRST BORN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 JULY 2024

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.

	2024 £	2023 £	
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS			
2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES			
Tithes and offerings	162,833	150,137	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	162833	150,137	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
3. INVESTMENT INCOME			
Rents received	69,590	68,493	
Deposit account interest	35	27	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	69,625	68,520	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
4. TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>232,458</u>	<u>218,657</u>	
5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS			
	Direct Costs (see note 5) £	Support Costs (see note 6) £	Totals £
Church	167,082	37,780	204,862
Direct Costs of Charitable activities			
	2024	2023	
Rates and water	6372	5,465	
Insurance	20,268	18,372	
Light and heat	51,372	40,558	
Telephone	5,347	4,838	
Postage and stationary	2,674	2,048	
Sundry expenses	2,887	2,952	
Hire of hall	1,708	1,608	
Convention expenses	7,750	7,440	
Gifts and donations	15,030	13,748	
Motor and travel expenses	9,378	8,332	
Catering and hospitality	2,236	2,548	
Cleaning and laundry	4,678	4,825	
Floral arrangements	260	220	
Premises maintenance	19,824	16,378	
Small equipment purchases	2,175	2,868	
Youth Forum expenses	3,000	3,250	
Fines and penalties	900	1,000	
Bank charges	3,620	2,542	
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	7,603	8,436	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	167,082	147,428	

6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Church	13,842	23,938	37,780
Interest payable and similar charges		13,842	15,282
Trustees' remuneration etc		12,000	14,400
Wages		7,488	7,488
Legal and professional fess.		3,250	4,750
Administration and Audit fees		1,200	1,200
		37,780	42,920
Total Expenditure		204,862	190,348
Net Income		27,596	28,309

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

	2024 £	2023 £
Trustees' salaries	12,000	14,400

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were no trustees' expenses paid from the year ended 31st July 2024 nor for the year ended 31st July 2023.

8. STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages, Salaries and N.I. Contributions	21,929	22,380

The average monthly number of employees during the year

	2024 Number	2023 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 £
COST					
At 1st August 2023 and 31st July 2024	4,162,564	223,625	91,580	14,679	4,492,448
DEPRECIATION					
At 1st August 2023	-	190,081	73,264	11,009	274,354
Charges for year	-	4336	2875	392	7,603
At 31st July 2024	-	194,417	76,139	11,401	281,957
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31st July 2024	4,162,564	20,842	11,479	169	4,195,054
At 31st July 2023	4,162,564	24,235	14,624	201	4,201,624

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR:

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	10,538	12,464

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	2023 £
Barclaycard	541	437
Other creditors	82,584	84,384
	83,125	84,821

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans	463,894	526,143

13. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2024 £	2023 £
Amount falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loans - 2-5 years	463,894	526,143

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.8.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.7.24 £
Unrestricted funds	3,930,897	27,596	3,958,493
General Fund			
TOTAL FUNDS	3,930,897	27,596	3,958,493
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	232,458	(204,862)	27,596
General Fund			
TOTAL FUNDS	232,458	(204,862)	27,596
	<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 £12,000 (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 (5th December 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.