

SIDLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1158651

Details

Other names	Freedom Church, Bexhill
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2014-09-23
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address Freedom Church (Sidley Baptist)
Claremont Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
TN39 5BX

Phone 01424218987

Email office@freedomchurchbexhill.com

Website www.freedomchurchbexhill.com

Activities

Objects: 3.1 THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH ARE:-3.1.1 THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION. 3.1.2 THE CHURCH MAY ALSO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND CARRY OUT OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND/OR OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. 3.2 NOTHING IN THIS CONSTITUTION SHALL AUTHORISE AN APPLICATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE CHURCH FOR PURPOSES WHICH ARE NOT CHARITABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 7 OF THE CHARITIES AND TRUSTEE INVESTMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005 OR SECTION 2 OF THE CHARITIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2008. 4 BELIEFS AS A MEMBER OF THE BAPTIST UNION THE CHURCH SUBSCRIBES TO THE BAPTIST UNION'S DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE: "THAT OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, GOD MANIFEST IN THE FLESH, IS THE SOLE AND ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO FAITH AND PRACTICE, AS REVEALED IN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, AND THAT EACH CHURCH HAS LIBERTY, UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, TO INTERPRET AND ADMINISTER HIS LAWS. THAT CHRISTIAN BAPTISM IS THE IMMERSION IN WATER INTO THE NAME OF THE FATHER, THE SON AND HOLY SPIRIT, OF THOSE WHO HAVE PROFESSED REPENTANCE TOWARDS GOD AND FAITH IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST WHO 'DIED FOR OUR SINS ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES; WAS BURIED, AND ROSE AGAIN ON THE THIRD DAY'. THAT IT IS THE DUTY OF EVERY DISCIPLE TO BEAR PERSONAL WITNESS TO THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST, AND TO TAKE PART IN THE EVANGELISATION OF THE WORLD.

Activities: As a Christian Church activities include but are not restricted to: regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching; believers baptism by total immersion, celebration of Lord's Supper? evangelism, mission (local, national & international), discipleship, pastoral care and inclusion of all? encouraging relationships with and supporting other Christians.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£131,766	£132,230	-	-
2023-12-31	£112,858	£113,531	-	-
2022-12-31	£89,283	£108,241	-	-
2021-12-31	£76,442	£117,476	-	-
2020-12-31	£312,825	£96,768	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Heidi Belton		2024-06-12
Helen Jane Goldsmith		2026-01-07
Isobel Costley		2024-06-12
Jennifer Ann Hall		2026-02-25
Peter Graham Goldsmith		2023-04-27
Rev Sally Sago		2024-02-01
Sharon Britton		2024-06-12

SIDLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1158651

Accounts

**Sidley Baptist Church
Known as
Freedom Church Bexhill**

**Report and Accounts
For the Year Ended
31 December 2024**

Charity number: 1158651

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2024

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Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2024
Legal and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Freedom Church Bexhill
Charity Registration Number	1158651
Mailing Address	Claremont Road Bexhill On Sea East Sussex TN39 5BX
Trustees	P Asselin (Resigned 12/06/24) B Chaseley (Resigned May 2024) P Goldsmith (Appointed Oct 2023) K Davis (Appointed Oct 2023 Resigned Jan 2024) L Daniels (Appointed Oct 2023 Resigned June 2024) M Scarlett (Appointed 12/06/24) S Briton (Appointed 12/06/24) P Mullens (Appointed 12/06/24) T Purfield (Appointed 12/06/24 resigned November 2024) I Costley (Appointed 12/06/24) H Belton (Appointed 12/06/24) Rev Sally Sago (Appointed Feb 2024)
Property Trustees	The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd., Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 8RT
Independent Examiners	Ryefields Limited Unit 139 Airport House Purley Way Croydon Surrey CR0 0XZ

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2024
Report of the Trustees

The Trustees presents their report and unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

Governance, Structure and Management

The Charity is governed by a constitution based on the Approved Governing Document for Baptist Churches.

The principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education, community service and other such general charitable purposes in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Church shall determine.

Membership and Trustees

Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution wherein baptism by immersion upon a personal profession of faith is the normal mode of entry but persons seeking membership who have not been baptised may be accepted at the discretion of the Church Members' Meeting on their own public profession of faith.

The members Meeting normally takes place 4-6 times a year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church.

In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint up to 12 Trustees including the Minister, Church Secretary and Treasurer. They are responsible for the day to day running of the church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity.

All members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church meeting by the Trustees for guidance or may be raised by members in Church meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Though the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Public Benefit

The Church has read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and is satisfied that there is clear benefit to the public through the activities it carries out in meeting its purpose and objectives.

This is particularly shown by:

- Public opportunity to attend Worship events on Sundays including Sunday morning services and evening zoom meetings
- Open access to outreach activities
- Public access to Little Seeds (Parent and Toddler group)
- Public access to Market Place (a community food larder and café)
- Accommodating other publicly accessible activities and private hire agreements eg. Community & Church lunches, Dance groups, Cookery Classes, Art Classes, Older Peoples groups, Family Parties and Partnering with Local Charities for special events.

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2024
Report of the Trustee (Cont)

Objectives and Activities

Core Activities

In order to achieve the principal objective, which is set out above, the Church seeks to provide a variety of activities both for its membership and the wider community of Sidley and beyond. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with him as living Lord.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. The main services take place each Sunday at 10.30 am, this service is live streamed. This enables those who cannot get to the building to continue to engage and worship with us. There is a quieter worship and prayer service on zoom at 6pm on Sundays, with a face-to-face meeting called 'The Well', at 6pm on the last Sunday of the month in the church sanctuary.

Other occasional services are advertised on the church notice board, the website and using the weekly newsheet.

Early in the year the AV desk was improved with the replacement and reconfiguring of some of the existing equipment. This was financed by the members through a special gift appeal. This resulted in improved sound quality both in the church and online for streamed services. Thanks to Andy Sago for all his work in this area. Thanks also to those who worked as part of the team each week on the sound and visuals to support the services.

Many teams contributed to Sunday service provision, this included the Sunday School team, the worship band, the welcome team, the prayer ministry team, those providing refreshments, those preaching and those bringing all age messages. All volunteers and all working to fulfil our aim of sharing the love of Jesus to all who come into the church.

Attendance over the year was relatively static with occasional peaks for special occasions.

A full children's programme is provided during the morning services and numbers of children grew slightly over the year. Thanks to the Sunday team of volunteers who dedicated time and energy to providing teaching and activities week by week for varying ages of the children and young people who came along to church.

The Church runs several Explore groups for the growth of faith, fellowship and discipleship in the homes of some members, and in the church during each week. These groups continued to be fully subscribed. At the end of the year planning was taking place to consider how capacity and provision may be increased in the new year. These groups only run due to the commitment and dedication of those willing to lead and those opening their homes where the groups take place. We are grateful to them. The groups play an important part in the discipleship journey of faithful Christians and contribute to the overall unity and deeper relationships that characterise church life.

The Church is responsible for a Toddler Group which meets in the Church premises on Wednesday mornings, with the purpose of assisting the community and demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ, whilst helping in the development of learning and social skills in those under 5. This has continued to thrive during this year being very popular with parents and their children. We thank Angie Young for leading this group so well over the last eighteen months and all the team working with her as she stood in the gap whilst there was no Children and Families Worker.

The Market place is a community Food Larder which seeks to serve the local Sidley community as the impact of economic hardship has had a considerable effect on those living in the area. By providing very cheap food, much of which is donated by local supermarkets etc the work brings some needed relief and support. This project allows the church to work in partnership with many local agencies, local businesses and local schools.

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2024
Report of the Trustee (Cont)

Through the provision of a café at Market Place, this work also provides a place for those isolated, seeking friendship as well as a safe place for parents and their pre-school children to play.

The Market Place is led by project leader Maureen Chaseley a church member who worked tirelessly throughout the year, not only on the premises but across the voluntary sector, partnering with many local businesses and charities, accessing grant funding to support the cost of food and social events for those who consider Market Place their community. In 2024 the Market place provided the equivalent of 8616 meals to local people. There were 3 social events plus a summer barbecue and a harvest supper all of which provided meals as part of the gatherings resulting another 110 meals. We consider this a massive achievement by the team of volunteers.

We were hugely proud to celebrate Maureen's award as East Sussex Woman of the Year in recognition of all her work in May. The team were also nominated this year for BBC Radio Sussex and BBC Radio Surrey's Make a Difference Award. Also, at the Rother Voluntary Action (RVA) group's AGM in October, two of the team, Chris Miles and Tony Purfield received awards recognising their work and commitment as volunteers at the Market place.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP)

The church is the lead church for Bexhill and Hastings for CAP providing office accommodation for the CAP team within the church building. The church also assists with financial and practical support towards the much-needed work that the team provide to those struggling with debt.

Rev Guy Partridge, a member of the church, continued as the centre manager, overseeing growth in the team with additional staff and volunteers. This work sees many helped to escape overwhelming debt as well as introducing them where possible to Jesus.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted in line with the Disclosure and Barring Service. The policy is reviewed annually. Access to suitable and appropriate training is provided to all those in roles which require it.

Grateful thanks are expressed to Helen Goldsmith who was appointed as Designated Person for Safeguarding with Luci Partridge as her, deputy in June 2024. Paula Mullens became our Safeguarding Trustee. Helen led the team and worked closely with the minister and organisational teams to update church practices where needed and to raise the awareness of safeguarding within the church.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, including financial numbers, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship and encouragement. 2024 was a time of change in the leadership of the church. The previous minister in training had left a pastoral vacancy in June 2023 and this was filled by the calling of Rev Sally Sago to full time ministry in February 2024. An induction service was held in March led by Rev Joth Hunt, SEBA Regional Minister Team Leader and the speaker was Rev Beth Powney. This was attended by many representatives of local churches as well as members and friends from Sally's previous church in Norfolk.

Barry Chaseley ended his 3-year term of office in May and the then treasurer, Phil Asselin fulfilled his extended term of office and stood down in June. The church recognised their contributions with gifts and thanks as they stepped down.

Liz Daniels resigned as a trustee also in June, after resigning her role as church administrator and finishing in May. We are grateful for all her help in overseeing and handing over the work of the office to temporary volunteers as she worked her notice and prepared to move away from the area, and again the church expressed their thanks with a gift as she relinquished her roles of administrator and trustee.

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2024
Report of the Trustee (Cont)

Trustee elections were held at the members meeting in June and 5 new trustees were elected. Heidi Belton, Sharon Britton, Isobel Costley, Paula Mullens and Tony Purfield.

Mike Scarlett was appointed as Treasurer.

Along with Peter Goldsmith, Church Secretary and Rev Sally Sago this resulted in a team of 8 Trustees. A Core Leaders Training session was held in November led by Paul Kerley Regional Minister for SEBA.

During July/August the church provided a placement to Yuki Kim a student ordinand with Westminster College Cambridge. This was a positive experience for both the church and Yuki.

Paid staff

The church continues to employ a cleaner 6 hrs per week, Deborah Brown who does a fantastic job.

A new church administrator, Jo Marder was appointed in August to oversee the work of the church office four mornings a week.

In response to advertising for a Children and Families Worker to replace the vacancy left in June 2023, no applicants were interviewed, and it was decided by the trustees to increase the salary being offered. This resulted in a successful candidate being appointed who will start in January 2025 working 15hrs per week.

Membership

A membership and baptism information evening was held in July and was attended by 7 people.

On 31 December 2024 the membership stood at 50 compared to 52 a year earlier.

3 people were received into church membership.

1 member died

4 members resigned

Attendance is between 50-65 per week on Sunday mornings. (average =57)

Other Activities

The church continued to welcome local organisations into the building and to hire the premises for functions and charity events as mentioned above as well as being used as a Polling Station for election purposes. These activities are reliant on our volunteer caretakers who lock and unlock the building, and we appreciate all the hard work of John Knight, Fred Ginbey and Simon Green throughout the year.

The church joined with Churches Together in Bexhill at Easter and in the summer for ecumenical gatherings.

Links were also maintained with Hopes, a house of prayer and The Pelham a local community hub and coffee lounge. Speakers were welcomed from International Mission to Jewish People, Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team and Geoff Thompkins (Jesus Loves Bexhill).

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2024
Report of the Trustee (Cont)

New initiatives

Towards the end of the year the church was delighted to celebrate with 'Jesus Loves Bexhill' a litter picking community group as they launched a new 'Jesus Loves Sidley' team. The church support them with use of the premises for prayer cover and refreshments as well as joining in with letter picking in our local area.

The church also began a monthly prayer walking initiative, walking the streets praying and meeting local people out and about in December.

Building and Maintenance

On behalf of the trustees Peter Goldsmith led the oversight and implementation of various building and maintenance tasks during the year. This included the replacement and installation of a new servery in the café area of the sanctuary. This was financed by grants in support of Market place.

A quinquennial survey report was also undertaken for the first time in 2024 and this will provide a plan of action for necessary work to the building going forward.

The work is ongoing, constant and demanding and moving forward the hope is that a team may be developed to help with the work needed in 2025. Thanks to Barry Chaseley and Tony Williams who assisted in various tasks during the year.

Financial Review

Mike Scarlett was appointed Treasurer in June and our thanks are offered to him for all his hard work week by week and the production of the yearly accounts below.

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation together with grants from a number of sympathetic charities in support of the Market Place

Financial systems are in place, as are policies for accountability and management, which are reviewed regularly.

The Church is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy to enable the church to function effectively and meet its obligations in the event of a decline in our income or a major cost.

Statement from policy

Freedom Church Reserves Policy is as follows:

"To hold three months of all expenditure plus a further three months staff costs to adapt to any changes in the income or expenditure of the church. The policy will be reviewed annually."

This Report was accepted by the Trustees Date:

Signed: Church Secretary

Treasurer

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2024
Independent examiner's report to the trustees

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the period ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider 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;
to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions 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 independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 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 gives 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 to be reached.

Name: Leslie John Tasker FCCA

Relevant professional qualification or body: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Address: Ryefields Ltd. Unit 139 Airport House, Purley Way, Croydon. Surrey CR0 0XZ.

Date: 19 September 2025

Freedom Church Bexhill

Receipts and Payments Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Designated funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	2023 £
Incoming resources						
Charitable giving:						
Giving to the church	2	72,550	10,651	-	83,202	59,171
Other income:	2	16,100	-	-	16,100	28,865
Grants received		-	27,136	-	27,136	19,491
Bank interest	2	5,329	-	-	5,329	5,331
Total incoming resources		93,979	37,787	-	131,766	112,858
Resources expended						
Charitable activities	3	102,144	30,086	-	132,230	113,532
Total resources expended		102,144	30,086	-	132,230	113,532
Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources for the year		(8,165)	7,701	-	(464)	(674)
Transfers between funds		150,238	(150,238)	-	-	-
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		48,762	182,628	-	231,390	232,064
Total funds carried forward		190,835	40,091	-	230,926	231,390
Represented by:						
Petty cash		182	-	-	182	178
Bank		190,653	40,091	-	230,744	231,212
		190,835	40,091	-	230,926	231,390

Approved by the Trustees on

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The notes on pages 9 and 10 form part of these accounts.

Freedom Church Bexhill

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

- (a) The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis.
- (b) • Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
 - Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.
 - Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.
- (c) Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts.
- (d) • Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
 - Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- e) Capital expenditure is written off on purchase.

2 Giving to the church

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Gifts and donations	65,945	10,651	-	76,596	51827
Interest	5,329	-	-	5,329	5331
Property letting	15,159	-	-	15,159	14333
Other Income	445	-	-	445	999
Income form Market Place	-	-	-	-	13054
BMS - Birthday Scheme	-	-	-	-	50
Little Seeds/Messy	495	-	-	495	429
Gants - New Garden	-	-	-	-	9971
Garnts - Other	-	27,136	-	27,136	9520
Tax recovered	6,606	-	-	6,606	7344
	93,979	37,787	-	131,766	112858

Freedom Church Bexhill

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

3 Total resources expended

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
C & FW costs	-	504		504	-
Hospitality	1,048			1,048	2991
Children's work resources	1,575			1,575	877
Telephone, internet & Zoom	1,099			1,099	910
Insurance	1,618			1,618	1581
grants made	6,170	1,128		7,298	6888
Charitable trading		11,536		11,536	10377
Worship and PA resources	966			966	818
Safeguarding	331			331	-
Travel and subsistence	87			87	2863
Stationery & printing	798			798	1467
Equipment costs	1,858		-	1,858	882
Subscriptions	643			643	1189
Leasing costs	886		-	886	955
Advertising and marketing	137		-	137	792
Training and resources	535		-	535	315
Bank Charges	172		-	172	-
Manse costs	21,903		-	21,903	7128
Premise costs	8,846		-	8,846	6409
Rates and Water	1,172		-	1,172	897
Light and Heat	8,440		-	8,440	7705
Clearing and waste	812		-	812	5049
Church suite	414		-	414	-
AV upgrade		3,290		3,290	-
Servery area refurbishment		13,628		13,628	294
New Garden			-	-	14873
Kitchen	-	-	-	-	3651
Professional Fees	1,968		-	1,968	5740
Administration costs	638		-	638	1222
Employment costs	40,028		-	40,028	27659
	<u>102,144</u>	<u>30,086</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>132,230</u>	<u>113532</u>

4 Movement of funds

	Balance at 1 Dec 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 Dec 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	<u>48,762</u>	<u>93,979</u>	<u>(102,144)</u>	<u>150,238</u>	<u>190,835</u>
Restricted funds	<u>182,628</u>	<u>37,787</u>	<u>(30,086)</u>	<u>(150,238)</u>	<u>40,091</u>
Designated funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>231,390</u>	<u>131,766</u>	<u>(132,230)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>230,926</u>

Freedom Church Bexhill

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

5 Assets

At 31 December 2024 the Charity had the following assets:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	£
Current Account	18,124			18,124
Savings Accounts	22,653	29,336		51,989
Manse Trust fund	150,238	10,755		160,993
Cash held	182			182
PAYE Paid in January 2025	<u>-362</u>	<u></u>		<u>-362</u>
	<u>190,835</u>	<u>40,091</u>		<u>230,926</u>

6 Defined contribution pension schemes

The charity utilises the services of the Baptist Union Pension Scheme in respect of the Minister's pension and NEST for the Administrator's pension.

7 Remuneration and payments to Trustees and persons connected with them

No Trustees or persons connected with them received any remuneration from the charity or any related entity other than as disclosed below.

Rev Sally Sago acts as one of the church's trustees and receives remuneration and other benefits in respect of her services as minister. This includes rent paid by the church for the provision of manse accommodation in the private residence of the minister and her husband.

Liz Daniels, one of the trustees, received remuneration in respect of her services as a church Administrator, until her resignation in June 2024.

SIDLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1158651

Accounts

Sidley Baptist Church

Annual Report for 2023

References and administrative details

Registered Address: Claremont Road, Bexhill on Sea, TN39 5BX

Charity Registration Number: 1158651

Trustees

The Revd D Cooke, Minister in Training, (until June)

Phil Asselin (Treasurer)

Barry Chaseley

Rev Guy Partridge (stepped down September)

Jenny Hall (Chair and Safeguarding Trustee stepped down September)

Heidi Belton (Secretary stepped down September)

Peter Goldsmith (Secretary from October)

Karina Davis (Chair from October)

Liz Daniels

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd., Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxfordshire
OX11 8RT

Bankers

HSBC Hastings, 4 Robertson Street, Hastings East Sussex, TN34 1HW

The Baptist Union of Great Britain, Baptist House, PO Box 44, 129 Broadway, Didcot, OX11
8RT

Independent Examiner

Leslie John Tasker

Annual Report for 2023

The trustees present their Annual Report for 2023

Governance, Structure and Management

Governance

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- Open access to outreach activities
- Public access to Little Seeds (Parent and Toddler group)
- Public access to Market Place (a community food larder and café)
- Accommodating other publicly accessible activities eg. Community & Church lunches, Theatre workshops, Jugglers, Dance groups, Slimming classes, Cookery Classes, Art Classes, Older Peoples groups, Family Parties. Partnering with Local Charities for special events.

Objectives and Activities

Core Activities

In order to achieve the principal objective which is set out above, the Church seeks to provide a variety of activities both for its membership and the wider community of Sidley and beyond. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with him as living Lord.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. The main service take place each Sunday at 10.30 am, this service is live streamed. This enables those who cannot get to the building to continue to engage. There is a quieter worship and prayer service on zoom at 6pm on Sundays, with a face to face meeting called 'The Well', on the last Sunday of the month in the church sanctuary.

Other occasional services are advertised on the church notice board, the website and using the weekly newsletter.

There is a full children's programme during the morning services.

The Church runs a number of Explore groups for the growth of faith and discipleship in the homes of some members and in the church, and further details of these can be obtained from the Trustees on request, or at the Sunday services of worship.

The Church is responsible for a Toddler Group which meets in the Church premises on Wednesday mornings, with the purpose of assisting the community and demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ, whilst helping in the development of learning and social skills in those under 5.

The Market place is a community Food Larder which seeks to serve the local Sidley community as the impact of economic hardship has had a considerable effect on those living in the area. By providing very cheap food, much of which is donated by local supermarkets etc the work brings some needed relief and support. This project allows the church to work in partnership with many local agencies and local businesses. In 2023 1833 people were served providing food for 3 meals, so 5499 meals in total.

Through the provision of a café staffed by volunteers, this work also provides a place for those isolated, seeking friendship as well as a safe place for parents and their pre-school children to play.

The church is the lead church for Bexhill and Hastings for CAP (Christians Against Poverty), hosting the office of CAP in the building. Rev Guy Partridge, a member of the church, is now the centre manager having moved from being a Minister and Trustee of the church. This work sees many helped to escape overwhelming debt as well as introducing them where possible to Jesus.

From time to time the Church runs courses for people interested in discovering more about Christianity.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted with regard to the Disclosure and Barring Service. The policy is reviewed annually. Access to suitable and appropriate training is provided to all those in roles which require it.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, including financial numbers, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship and encouragement. The

Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure but believe that 2023 was a positive year in the life of the church, despite the loss of their minister-in-training as he was called to another church following his ordination.

Other staff changes were:-

In July 2023 the decision was made by the church members to call a new Full Time Minister, Rev Sally Sago who will take up her role in Feb of next year. With that in mind, the church is looking to be able to continue to pursue its mission purposes and outreach in 2024 with renewed enthusiasm.

3 people were baptised and received into church membership.

18 other people became members of the church.

12 members died during or moved away/left

At 31 December 2023 the membership stood at 52 compared to 43 a year earlier.

Average attendance at worship services decreased during the year.

The Toddler Group continued to be oversubscribed with a waiting list of people wishing to attend regularly.

Carried out Safeguarding Training, level 2 and 3

Financial Review

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation **together with grants from a number of sympathetic** charities.

Financial systems are in place, as are policies for accountability and management, which are reviewed regularly.

Income in 2023 increased to £112,858 from £89,283 in the previous year.

The most significant expense related to Salaries - £41,157

Total expenditure increased from £108,241 to £113,531.

Accounts

The accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis in accordance with Section 133 Charities Act 2011.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

The church is a participating employer within the Defined Benefit section of the Baptist Pension scheme and has been making ongoing deficit payments of £1 per month to cover the costs of past service of its staff within the scheme.

Charitable Giving

The church gave a proportion of its income to other Christian charities. These include: The Baptist Home Mission, Baptist World Mission and Jews for Jesus

The Church is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy to enable the church to function effectively and meet its obligations in the event of a decline in our income or a major cost.

Statement from policy

Freedom Church Reserves Policy is as follows:

“To hold three months of all expenditure plus a further three months staff costs to adapt to any changes in the income or expenditure of the church. The policy will be reviewed annually.”

This Report was accepted by the Trustees

Date: 4th September 2024

Signed:

Church Secretary

Treasurer

Attached Accounts

**Sidley Baptist Church
Known as
Freedom Church Bexhill**

**Report and Accounts
For the Year Ended
31 December 2023**

Charity number: 1158651

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2023

Contents	Page
Legal and Administrative Details	1
Report of the Trustees	2 - 6
Report of the Independent Examiners	7
Receipts and Payments Accounts	8
Notes to the Accounts	9 - 10

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2023
Legal and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Freedom Church Bexhill
Charity Registration Number	1158651
Mailing Address	Claremont Road Bexhill On Sea East Sussex TN39 5BX
Trustees	Rev G Partridge (Resigned Sept 2023) Rev D Cooke (Resigned June 2023) J Hall (Resigned Sept 2023) P Asselin (Resigned 12/06/24) H Belton (Resigned Sept 2023) B Chaseley (Resigned Apr 2024) P Goldsmith (Appointed Oct 2023) K Davis (Appointed Oct 2023 Resigned Apr 2024) L Daniels (Appointed Oct 2023 Resigned Apr 2024) M Scarlett (Appointed 12/06/24) S Briton (Appointed 12/06/24) P Mullens (Appointed 12/06/24) T Purfield (Appointed 12/06/24) I Costley (Appointed 12/06/24) H Belton (Appointed 12/06/24)
Independent Examiner	Mr L J Tasker FCCA Ryefields Ltd Unit 139 Airport House Purley Way Croydon Surrey CR0 0XZ

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2023
Independent examiner's report to the trustees

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the period ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider 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;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions 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 independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 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 gives 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 to be reached.

Name: Leslie John Tasker FCCA

Relevant professional qualification or body: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Address: Ryefields Ltd. Unit 139 Airport House, Purley Way, Croydon. Surrey CR0 0XZ.

Date: 21 October 2024

Freedom Church Bexhill

Receipts and Payments Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Designated funds	Total funds	
	Notes	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources						
Charitable giving:						
Giving to the church	2	59,171	-	-	59,171	52,050
Other income:	2	15,761	13,104	-	28,865	26,733
Grants received		-	19,491	-	19,491	10,500
Bank interest	2	787	4,544	-	5,331	-
Total incoming resources		75,719	37,139	-	112,858	89,283
Resources expended						
Charitable activities	3	79,302	34,230	-	113,532	108,241
Total resources expended		79,302	34,230	-	113,532	108,241
Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources for the year		(3,583)	2,909	-	(674)	(18,958)
Transfers between funds					-	-
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		52,345	179,719	-	232,064	251,022
Total funds carried forward		48,762	182,628	-	231,390	232,064
Represented by:						
Petty cash		178	-	-	178	819
Bank		48,587	182,625	-	231,212	231,245
		48,765	182,625	-	231,390	232,064

Approved by the Trustees on 4th September 2024

M Scarlett (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 9 and 10 form part of these accounts.

Freedom Church Bexhill

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

- (a) The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis.
- (b) • Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
• Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.
• Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.
- (c) Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts.
- (d) • Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

• Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.
- (e) Capital expenditure is written off on purchase.

2 Giving to the church

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Gifts and donations	51,827	-	-	51,827
Interest	787	4,544	-	5,331
Property letting	14,333	-	-	14,333
Other Income	999	-	-	999
Income from Market Place	-	13,054	-	13,054
BMS - Birthday Scheme	-	50	-	50
Coffee Morning	-	-	-	-
Little Seeds/Messy Church	429	-	-	429
Grants - New Garden	-	9,971	-	9,971
Grants - Other	-	9,520	-	9,520
Tax recovered	7,344	-	-	7,344
	<u>75,719</u>	<u>37,139</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,858</u>

3 Total resources expended

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities				
Church activities	4,866	10,377	-	15,243
Church Mission	6,888	-	-	6,888
Gifts	-	-	-	-
Training and resources	315	-	-	315
Bank Charges	222	-	-	222
Premises costs	19,317	3,651	-	22,968
New Garden	-	14,873	-	14,873
Professional Fees	5,740	-	-	5,740
Administration costs	6,126	-	-	6,126
Employment costs	35,828	5,329	-	41,157

<u>79,302</u>	<u>34,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>113,532</u>
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Freedom Church Bexhill**Notes forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023****4 Movement of funds**

	Balance at 1 Dec 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 Dec 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	52,345	75,719	(79,302)	-	48,762
Restricted funds	179,719	37,139	(34,230)	-	182,628
Designated funds	-	-	-	-	-
	232,064	112,858	(113,532)	-	231,390

5 Assets

At 31 December 2023 the Charity had the following assets:

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	£
Current Account	22,812			22,812
Savings Accounts	25,775	25,219		50,994
Manse Trust fund		157,406		157,406
Cash held	178			178
				231,390

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2023
Report of the Trustees

The Trustees presents their report and unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022

A copy of the report is below:

Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2023
Independent examiner's report to the trustees

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the period ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pag

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is n

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(2) of the 2011 Act;
to state 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 Commission. I have examined the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. I have also looked for unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such items. However, as the examination undertaken does not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is expressed, the report presents 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 gives 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 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 to be obtained.

Name: Leslie John Tasker FCCA

Relevant professional qualification or body: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Address: Ryefields Ltd. Unit 139 Airport House, Purley Way, Croydon. Surrey CR0 0XZ.

Date: 21 October 2024

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rg of the accounts to be reached.

SIDLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1158651

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1st	January	2022		31 st	December	2022

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Sidley Baptist Church

Other names charity is known by Freedom Church Bexhill

Registered charity number (if any) 1158651

Charity's principal address

Claremont Road
Bexhill On Sea
East Sussex
Postcode TN39 5BX

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Rev Guy Partridge	Trustee		
2	Darren Cooke	Trustee/MiT		
3	Jenny Hall	Chair of Trustees		
4	Philip Asselin	Trustee/Treasurer		
5	Heidi Belton	Trustee/Secretary		
6	Barry Chaseley	Trustee		
7				
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17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

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Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <small>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</small>	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
How the charity is constituted <small>(eg. trust, association, company)</small>	As a CIO
Trustee selection methods <small>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</small>	The Church Members' Meeting shall appoint Elders, Deacons, a Church Secretary and a Church Treasurer to be responsible for the governance of the Church and where there is a Minister that person is also a Charity Trustee because of their role and responsibilities.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	<p>Pastor Guy Partridge reduced his hours further to one day a week as his duties at CAP (Christians against Poverty) increased. CAP have offices in our building and as we are the Lead Church for CAP this continues to work well for both organisations.</p> <p>Our MiT (Minister in Training) brings a great contribution to the church both spiritually and in the running of it.</p> <p>The coronavirus epidemic, though lessened, is still with us and several of our involvements have necessarily been curtailed, though things are improving, and they are beginning to open up.</p> <p>We continue with our Sunday evening prayer meetings on Zoom.</p>
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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The advancement of the Christian faith in conformance with the Baptist declaration of principles.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

We have been fortunate enough to have a new believer; a qualified cook who is organising a lunch club to be held once a week in the church hall. This should be up and running in the new year.

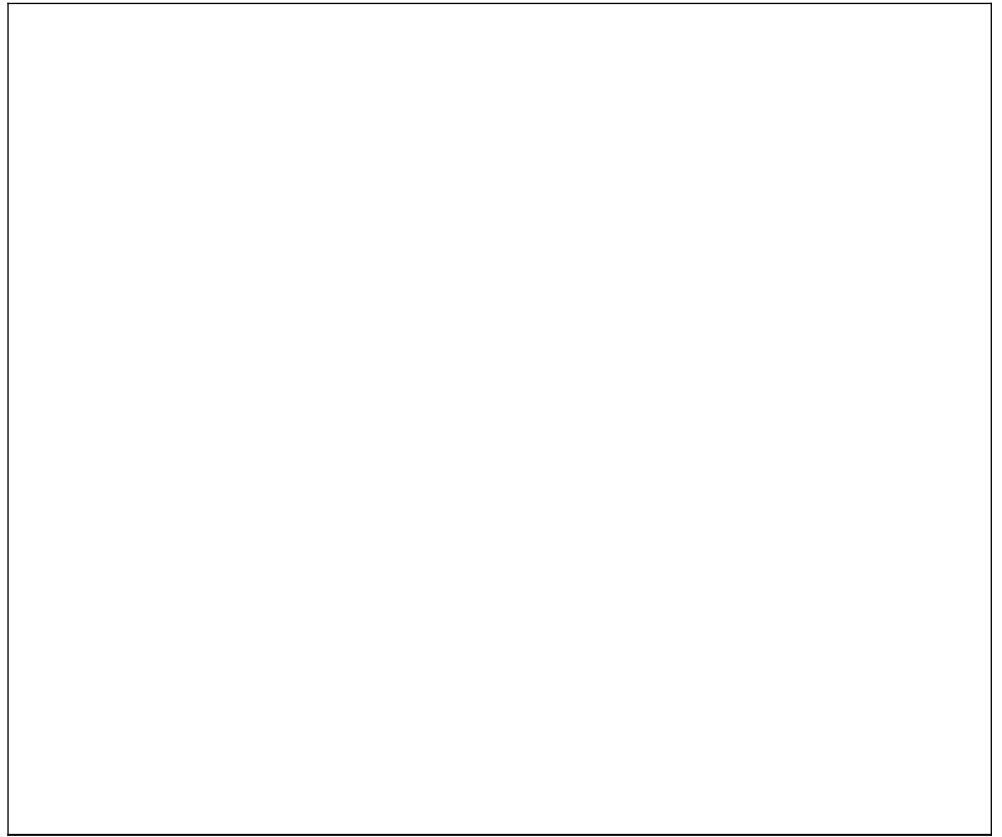
One of our members began contacting the local food outlets - some big supermarkets and some smaller shops to see if they might support a local "food market" for those in desperate financial need. Not only has she been able to get this support but has applied for and received financial grants from organisations that have charity money available for good causes. Several thousands of pounds have been donated. Currently grants up to £13,000 toward an outside space for relaxation and children's area attached to our food outlet "The Marketplace". The amount of people coming increases all the time. There is a great need here and is being met, though it can be hard work getting in the supplies.

We have been blessed with the MIT's wife who has been employed as the Children's and Families Worker. We now have a thriving toddler group once a week, Messy Church should be up and running in the New Year and a Sunday School is beginning to grow.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.



Section D

Achievements and performance

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Please see summary of main activities as these overlap.

The church is growing and almost doubled in membership over the last 18 months.

Therefore, we have received further certificates for those involved in the various activities in the church including:

DBS checks

Certificates for kitchen

Designated Safeguarding Certificates are still up to date.

We have 4 qualified prayer ministry team people who have set up training for prayer ministry within the church. This goes well and there is the option to have prayer after the service on Sundays together with longer term ministry if so desired.

A new Administrator was employed.

A Christianity Explore group course was set up and was very well attended.

We have 8 explore groups with attendees ranging from 4-12 people.

Our Minister in Training advised us that he had been called to another church once finalising his training in the summer of 2023. His wife, our C&FW also resigned as a result of their calling to another church,

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Three months total expenditure plus a further 3 months of wages.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Donations and gifts from members and visitors to the church. Some of the funds are also obtained via Gift Aid Refunds from HMRC as well as GASDS (Gift Aid Small Donations).

Interest is earned on funds held by the Baptist Union Manse Trust Fund on our behalf. They manage the investment of the money.

Section F Other optional information

--

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

--	--

Full name(s)

--	--

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

--	--

Date

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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name Sidley Baptist Church CIO	No (if any) 1158651
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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 1/1/2022	To	Period end date 31/12/2022
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations and Gifts from individuals	46,203	250	-	46,453	57,510
Gift Aid Reclaimed	5,597	-	-	5,597	5,361
Letting of property for charitable purposes	12,829	-	-	12,829	8,162
Other Income(Bank/Manse fund Interest recieved)	105	2,331	-	2,435	-
Church Activities Income_market Place	-	9,339	-	9,339	582
BMS-Birthday Scheme	-	180	-	180	155
Church Activities Income_Coffee Morning	-	60	-	60	205
Church Activities Income_Little Seeds/Messy	-	1,889	-	1,889	1,739
Grant Fund Income-Freedom Church	-	10,500	-	10,500	2,728
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	64,734	24,549	-	89,283	76,442
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	64,734	24,549	-	89,283	76,442
A3 Payments					
Employment Costs	52,152	-	-	52,152	57,345
Training and volunteers	2,722	758	-	3,480	75

Expenditure on Charitable Activities	3,392	9,314	-	12,706	8,746
Expenditure Church Mission	8,116	170	-	8,286	6,171
Premises Expenses	20,696	258	-	20,954	36,053
Administrative Overheads	3,345	68	-	3,413	3,318
Professional Fees	6,154	-	-	6,154	1,987
Financial Costs	365	-	-	365	1,710
Fellowship Fund Gifts	-	732	-	732	2,071
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	96,942	11,299	-	108,241	117,476
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	96,942	11,299	-	108,241	117,476
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 32,207	13,250	-	- 18,958	- 41,034
A5 Transfers between funds	6,727	- 6,727	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	77,826	173,196	-	251,022	292,056
Cash funds this year end	52,346	179,718	-	232,064	251,022

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Current account	28,176	-	-
	Bank Savings Account	23,351	26,856	-
	Baptist Union Manse Trust Fund		152,862	

Petty cash	819		
Tangible asset balance & creditors	-	-	-
Total cash funds	52,346	179,718	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account (s))	OK	OK	OK

Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Mr Philip Aselin	

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Freedom Church Bexhill
Year Ended 31 December 2022
Independent examiner's report to the trustees

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the period ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: Leslie John Tasker FCCA

Relevant professional qualification or body: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Address: Ryefields Ltd. Unit 139 Airport House, Purley Way, Croydon. Surrey CR0 0XZ.

Date: 27 October 2023

SIDLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1158651

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date	Period end date
From	01 January 2021	To 31 st December 2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Sidley Baptist Church

Other names charity is known by Freedom Church

Registered charity number (if any) 1158651

Charity's principal address

Claremont Road	
Bexhill On Sea	
East Sussex	
Postcode	TN39 5BX

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Guy Partridge	Community Pastor		
2	Darren Cooke	Lead Pastor		
3	Jenny Hall	Chair		
4	Heidi Belton	Secretary		
5	Phil Asselin	Treasurer		
6	Barry Chaseley	Trustee		
7	Angie Young	Trustee	Until April 2021	
8	Paul Farrow	Trustee	Until April 2021	
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

	Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)	
	Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

	Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)	
Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	As a CIO
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	The Church Members' Meeting shall appoint Elders, Deacons, a Church Secretary and a Church Treasurer to be responsible for the governance of the Church and where there is a Minister that person is also a Charity Trustee because of their role and responsibilities.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	<p>Rev Guy Partridge reduced his hours to part time in November 2020 as he became their Debt Coach and Community Liaison Officer working for Christians Against Poverty ("CAP") also in a part time capacity. As CAP have offices in our church building and we are the Lead Church for CAP, this has worked out really well for both organisations. We have now recruited a Minister in Training (MiT), attending Spurgeons, who joined us for three days a week in February 2021.</p> <p>The two Pastors work very closely with the whole leadership team so that all tasks are managed by several people and not just the few. Delegation is high on the agenda.</p> <p>We have a trained Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS).</p> <p>The church works with several charities, churches and organisations within the Sidley area, including Heart of Sidley, The Pelham, All Saints Church.</p>
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Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The advancement of the Christian faith in conformance with the Baptist declaration of principles.

Even in these challenging times of Covid, we are setting in place plans for the church once we are legally able. For instance, we have been blessed with another part-time pastor since February and have also employed a Children's and Families Worker, who is with us on a part time basis. She started by reorganising the children's work within the church and has begun to start a toddlers' group which it is hoped will begin early in the new year. There is also the possibility of creating a 'Messy Church' in the new year.

The weekly 'home groups' had fallen into decline, mainly because of the pandemic, but the Lead Pastor is reorganising them: 'Explore Groups', with the hope that they will be attended by all members.

He has also created several teams and a high percentage of the membership are involved: mission, hospitality, discipleship, pastoral care, facilities, families, worship; it is not the intention to have a prayer team as this is expected to be high on the agenda of each team.

Two of our members, once we are allowed to meet again, are highly trained members of Glynley Manor, a healing and teaching centre in East Sussex, who will be teaching the church with regard to prayer ministry.

One of our members, with a heart for the people in the community, is putting together a 'Marketplace' whereby people can buy a tray of 10 goods (plus several additional free goods – mainly fresh), for a cost of £2. This is hoped to be started very soon.

Due to the continuing Coronavirus epidemic, several of the areas we have been involved in have necessarily been curtailed again this year, e.g. Street Pastors, Prayer Pastors, church meetings, children's club, hall hire outs.

We are still signed up to Zoom, whereby we have managed to conduct our weekly church Sunday morning services and evening prayer meetings; when allowed we have continued to meet in accordance with Government guidelines in church, continuing with Zoom for those who are unable for whatever reason to attend. We have discovered that with Zoom there are those who are housebound who are now able to attend via that medium and we shall therefore continue with it post-covi

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

We have been unable to achieve a lot of what we had planned because of the continuing pandemic but we have found that many can attend on Zoom and where in the past we have not had an evening meeting on a Sunday, we have been holding a Zoom prayer meeting each week. This has been very fruitful and we have found that many people from outside the church have joined us and wish to come to our church once we are able to meet again.

Once again, we hope to be able to plan for Easter and Christmas when we are able.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

We have received certificates for those involved in various activities in the church:

All members have been DBS checked.

All those involved with the kitchen have received their Certificates of Achievement.

The Designated Safeguarding Persons have their Certificates.

With regard to the works done to the church this year, we have been blessed with several grants and gifts (see Section E) which we have used to finalise the refurbishment works and several repairs. We have also been able to update our technology to be able to livestream our morning services to replace zoom. This is ongoing.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

3 months' total expenditure plus a further 3 months of salaries for the Pastor and Administrator.

Further financial review details:

1. Sunday offerings; regular giving by standing order (due to Covid, Sunday offerings have decreased but most people have set up standing orders, so there is really no difference in the offerings).
2. We received income from the rental of the downstairs hall for the first two months of the year.
3. The manse was sold in March and some of the proceeds were used to defray upgrade and renovation costs of the Church and Hall. The rest is held in a Manse Trust Fund (closing balance at year end of £185,294), overseen by the Baptist Union, to cover further renovation costs.
4. We received £4,232 from the final winding up of the Bethany Trust.
5. All income is used for the purpose of supporting our work in the community and beyond, as previously indicated.
6. Surplus funds are on deposit in our bank account.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Andrew Guy Partridge

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Trustee

Date

1st August 2022



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Sidley Baptist Church CIO

No (if any)
1158651

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from 1/1/2021 To 31/12/2021

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations and Gifts from individuals	57,510	-	-	57,510	49,019
Gift Aid Reclaimed	5,361	-	-	5,361	3,864
Letting of property for charitable purposes	8,162	-	-	8,162	1,090
Investment income-Manse Trust Fund	-	-	-	-	235,325
Other Income(Bank/Manse fund Interest received)	5	577	-	582	44
Other Income-BMS Birthday Fund	-	155	-	155	-
Other Income-Coffee Morning Fund Raising & Savings Funds	-	205	-	205	-
Other Income-Market Place donations	-	1,739	-	1,739	-
Grant Fund Income-Including Bethany Trust	2,728	-	-	2,728	23,482
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	73,766	2,676	-	76,442	312,825
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	73,766	2,676	-	76,442	312,825
A3 Payments					
Employment Costs	57,345	-	-	57,345	32,508
Training and volunteers	75	-	-	75	120
Expenditure on Charitable Activities-Direct Spending	7,024	1,722	-	8,746	6,483
Expenditure on Charitable Activities-Grant Funding Activities	5,960	211	-	6,171	6,907
Premises Expenses	35,981	72	-	36,053	40,107
Administrative Overheads	3,304	14	-	3,318	4,431
Professional Fees	1,987	-	-	1,987	2,027
Financial Costs	1,710	-	-	1,710	378
Fellowship Fund Gifts	-	2,071	-	2,071	3,808
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	113,386	4,090	-	117,476	96,768
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	113,386	4,090	-	117,476	96,768
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 39,620	- 1,414	-	- 41,034	216,057
A5 Transfers between funds	37,310	- 37,310	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	80,136	211,920	-	292,056	75,999
Cash funds this year end	77,826	173,196	-	251,022	292,056

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Current account	50,117	-	-
	Bank Savings Account	27,697	22,406	-
	Baptist Union Manse Trust Fund		150,532	
	Petty cash	11	259	
	Tangible asset balance & creditors	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	77,826	173,196	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) OK OK OK



	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Mr Philip Aselin	1/8/2022
	Rev Andrew Guy Partridge	1/8/2022



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name

Sidley Baptist Church

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/12/2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

1158651

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st Dec 2021.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

01/08/2022

Name:

James Hough

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

Flat 8, The Borodales

White Hill Drive, Bexhill On Sea

East Sussex, TN39 3RW

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

SIDLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1158651

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date			Period end date			
From	Day01	January	2020	To	31 st	December	2020

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Sidley Baptist Church

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1158651

Charity's principal address

Claremont Road	
Bexhill On Sea	
East Sussex	
Postcode	TN39 5BX

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Guy Partridge	Pastor		
2	Jenny Hall	Chair		
3	Heidi Belton	Secretary		
4	Philip Asselin	Treasurer		
5	Angie Young	Administrator		
6	Paul Farrow	Trustee		
7	Michael Andrew Hutchinson	Elder	To July 2020	
8				
9				
10				
11				
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13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <i>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</i>	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
How the charity is constituted <i>(eg. trust, association, company)</i>	As a CIO
Trustee selection methods <i>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</i>	The Church Members' Meeting shall appoint Elders, Deacons, a Church Secretary and a Church Treasurer to be responsible for the governance of the Church and where there is a Minister that person is also a Charity Trustee because of their role and responsibilities.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Pastor Guy Partridge reduced his hours to part time in November 2020 as he became their Debt Coach and Community Liaison Officer working for Christians Against Poverty ("CAP") also in a part time capacity. As CAP have offices in our church building and we are the Lead Church for CAP, this has worked out really well for both organisations. In addition, we have interviewed a trainee pastor (attending Spurgeons) who will be joining us in February 2021.

Due to the Coronavirus epidemic, several of the areas we have been involved in have necessarily been curtailed since February 2020, e.g. Street Pastors, Prayer Pastors, church meetings, children's club, hall hire outs.

We have signed up to Zoom, whereby we have managed to conduct our weekly church Sunday morning services; when allowed we have continued to meet in accordance with Government guidelines in church, continuing with Zoom for those who are unable for whatever reason to attend. We have discovered that with Zoom there are those who are housebound who are now able to attend via that medium and we shall therefore continue with it post-covid.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The advancement of the Christian faith in conformance with the Baptist declaration of principles.

Even in these challenging times of Covid, we are setting in place plans for the church once we are legally able. For instance, we shall be blessed with another part-time pastor next February and are also planning to employ a children's and family's worker.

We have used the talents of one of our trustees, Paul Farrow, who has been the project manager to plan and oversee the repairs, alterations and refurbishment so as to enable the disabled to access the church. (see Section D.)

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

We have been unable to achieve a lot of what we had planned because of the pandemic but we have found that many can attend on Zoom and where in the past we have not had an evening meeting on a Sunday, we have been holding a Zoom prayer meeting each week. This has been very fruitful and we have found that many people from outside the church have joined us and wish to come to our church once we are able to meet again.

Once again, we hope to be able to plan for Easter and Christmas when we are able.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

We have received certificates for those involved in various activities in the church:

All Trustees and those involved in the children's work have been DBS checked.

All those involved with the kitchen have received their Certificates of Achievement.

The Designated Safeguarding Persons have their Certificates.

With regard to the works done to the church this year, we have been blessed with several grants and gifts, and a percentage from the sale of a property that was bought several years ago in a joint enterprise with Beulah Baptist Church – we received the bulk of this last year but there was an amount left to give us on its winding up, thus what should have cost us a princely sum, merely cost us just under £3,000.

The works were:

Repair and redecoration of the sanctuary, church hall and offices.

New heating for offices.

Safety shutter for downstairs kitchen.

New entrance doors to allow for enabled access.

New downstairs toilet block with enabled access.

Repair and redecoration of the front of the building.

Work to the roof and parts of the walls that were leaking.

And other small works.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

3 months' total expenditure plus a further 3 months of salaries for the Pastor and Administrator.

Further financial review details:

1. Sunday offerings; regular giving by standing order (due to Covid, Sunday offerings have decreased but most people have set up standing orders, so there is really no difference in the offerings).
2. We received income from the rental of the downstairs hall for the first two months of the year.
3. The manse was sold in March and some of the proceeds were used to defray upgrade and renovation costs of the Church and Hall. The rest is held in a Manse Trust Fund (closing balance at year end of £185,294), overseen by the Baptist Union, to cover further renovation costs.
4. We received £4,232 from the final winding up of the Bethany Trust.
5. All income is used for the purpose of supporting our work in the community and beyond, as previously indicated.
6. Surplus funds are on deposit in our bank account.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

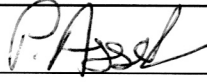
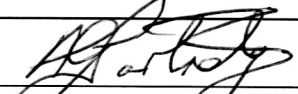
Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signature(s)  

Full name(s) PHILIP GEORGE ASSELIN ANDREW GUY PARTRIDGE

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) Treasurer Pastor



Date 23rd May 2021

Net of receipts/(payments)	-	15,881	-	231,938	-	216,057	-	15,942
A5 Transfers between funds	50,032		50,032		-	75,999		
A6 Cash funds last year end	45,985		30,014		-	292,056		
Cash funds this year end	80,136		211,920		-			15,942

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
PAYE & NI Month 9 (Dec 2020)	General	119	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Mr Philip Aselin	22/9/2021
	Rev Andrew Guy Partridge	22/9/2021



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name Sidley Baptist Church CIO

On accounts for the year ended

31st December 2020 Charity no (if any) 1158651

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD31/12/2020/Y.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
• the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
• the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: [Signature]

Date: 08 September 2021

Name: Alan Staples

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

FCA Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Address:	8 High Street
	Heathfield
	East Sussex, TN21 8LS

Section B	Disclosure
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Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.