

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1159600

Details

Other names ABC

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2014-12-12

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

Contact

Address Ashby Baptist Church
Brook Street
Ashby-De-La-Zouch
LE65 1HA

Phone 01530413721

Email info@ashbybaptist.co.uk

Website www.ashbybaptist.co.uk

Activities

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

Activities: Regular public services of Christian worship; occasional services at other times; full children's and youth programme; mid-week home groups for the growth of faith and discipleship. A variety of events and activities for older people. Many other organisations use the facilities.Involvement with other Ashby churches, Ashby Youth for Christ, Christians Against Poverty, and Street Pastors.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Leicestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£222,766	£405,095	-	-
2023-12-31	£233,250	£69,690	-	-
2022-12-31	£118,749	£102,529	-	-
2021-12-31	£108,381	£109,925	-	-
2020-12-31	£122,225	£114,706	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Brenda Williams-Hunter		2024-02-27
Heath Brian Marlow		2025-02-25
Ian Mark Hunt		2023-02-28
Louise Jane Scott		2025-02-25
Martin Insley Mr		2022-02-22
Mary Edith Jones		2026-03-10
Michael Sweeney		2024-02-27
Rev Mathew James Sheffield		2024-08-10
Sheila Rook		2024-02-27

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1159600

Accounts



Compiled by Mat Sheffield (Minister),
Sue Treasure (Secretary), Wendy
Becker (Treasurer) on behalf of Ashby
Baptist Church

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT

2024

Statutory Information

Registered Address

Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire. LE65 1HA

Charity Registration Number 1159600

Trustees

Rev Mathew Sheffield (Minister) (Inducted as Minister 17 August 2024)

Mrs Wendy Becker (Treasurer) (Appointed as Deacon 28 June 2016)

Mr Ian Hunt (Appointed as Deacon 28 February 2023)

Mrs Brenda Hunter (Appointed as Deacon 27 February 2024)

Prof. Martin Insley (Appointed as Deacon 22 February 2022)

Mr Michael Sweeney (Appointed as Deacon 27 February 2024)

Mrs Sheila Rook (Appointed as Deacon 27 February 2024)

Mrs Sue Treasure (Secretary) (Re -appointed 27 February 2024)

Mrs Sarah Anderson (Retired as Deacon 27 February 2024)

Prof. Richard Craggs (Retired as Deacon 27 February 2024)

Mrs Lesley Salter (Retired as Deacon 27 February 2024)

Mr Duncan Scott (Retired as Deacon 27 February 2024)

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Limited

Baptist House

129 Broadway, Didcot

Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

Bankers

National Westminster Bank, Ashby-de-la-Zouch

Kingdom Bank, Beeston

Independent Examiners

Mrs Anne Myring

Mrs Sandra Shaw



Charities Commission Annual Report.

Charitable Object

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the declaration of principle of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education and other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

Organisational Structure and Decision-making process.

Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution which requires them to be baptised by immersion upon personal profession of faith or, at the discretion of the Church, upon an alternative personal profession of faith.

The members' Meeting normally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the Church. In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint a minimum of six Trustees (including the Secretary and Treasurer), who together with the Minister (who is also appointed by the Members), and collectively known as the Diaconate, 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 the Church meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Although the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church Meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities

In order to achieve the Charitable Object, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. 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. Anybody is free to attend these services which take place each Sunday morning at 10.30am; there are also occasional services at other times, as advertised from time to time. There is a children's programme linked to the morning services.

The Church runs a series of mid-week home groups for the growth of faith and discipleship, both in the homes of members and on the Church premises. The Church runs various activities specifically for the wider community, some of which are recommended by the local Council's social services department, including Renew Wellbeing and a lunch club.

Rainbows and Guides meet regularly in the Church building and a number of activities for young people are held on a regular basis, some in conjunction with Ashby Youth for Christ; the Women's Institute meets monthly on the premises, and many other organisations use the facilities on an occasional basis.

Valued links with the other Churches in Ashby and in to the community find expression through involvement with Ashby Youth for Christ, Christians Against Poverty, and Street Pastors, as well as through town-wide gatherings for prayer. Many members are involved individually in the life of the community, in Ashby and further afield.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and adults at risk are appropriately vetted through the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The Trustees are satisfied that the Church's activities, which can be seen in more detail on the Church's website, clearly demonstrate that it is providing a benefit to the public.

Achievements and Successes

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, whether financial or otherwise, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship, encouragement and spiritual growth. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure, but the wide range of successful activities indicate that the Charitable objective has been met and will continue to be met in 2025.

This section of the report comprises both the Trustee's and the Minister's formal reports, reflecting as it does the Baptist principle that leadership within a Baptist Church is done collaboratively and fundamentally an act of service to both the membership and wider community.

(i) Changing Leadership

We began the year in Pastoral Vacancy with the Church Profile live on the Baptist Union Pastoral Vacancy list. However, in January we interviewed two potential applicants, one we asked to preach with a view. Following a weekend of interviews and meetings at a Special Church Meeting, Rev. Mat Sheffield was invited to become our new Minister. Mat began work on 8 July.

At the February AGM, Four Deacons came to the end of their terms of office, one stood for a further term while another Deacon resigned to take up leadership of Junior church. Three new Deacons were appointed.

In January our Pastoral Assistant, Rhona Passey, retired and we publicly gave thanks for her ministry and acknowledged her with a gift during a service. Rhona continues with us as a member of the church.

In September Mat took over from Martin Insley as the chair of deacons, and we want to thank and recognise his contribution in that role.

(ii) Changing Membership

During the past year, two members died, while four people were received into membership.

We held a wedding in February for two members of our congregation and two adults were baptised: one in May and one in December.

(iii) Sunday Services / Word & Worship

For 4 weeks during the summer, we held Café Church in our lounge area instead of meeting upstairs in the Sanctuary. All the meetings were very well attended and attracted new people.

On 17 August we held an Ordination and Induction service for Mat to which local dignitaries and the other local Church Ministers were invited, as well as representation from Mat's training college and the East Midlands Baptist Association.

In September Mat ran a preaching series called 'Manifesto', with a view to setting a vision for the church in the years ahead. Taking us through 10 weeks we looked together at the distinctiveness of church, and what it means to be a community of disciples. This followed directly on from the themes of our weekend away, and through discussion in small groups, bible study and prayer we committed to living out our faith and exploring what this means.

In November we ran an evening for those seeking to explore Baptism. Just under 10 people attended, out of which we had three certain commitments, and two others considering it.

In December we looked at the theme of Advent and at Christmas, to the incarnation. We first explored how Advent means 'coming' and points us to the second coming of Christ, and then how the incarnation recognises the miracle of the first. All the services over the Christmas period were well attended, with notable highlights of our Carol Service and Nativity.

Also, in December we ran three evening devotional sessions, consisting of teaching and bible study, which were received very well. These were on the theme of 'myth busting' the Christmas Story and placing it in its proper historical context.

More broadly attendance over the course of the latter half of the year has increased, with some growth coming from brand new people joining us, some from people returning, and some coming from transfer from other churches.

(iv) Missional Activities

The last weekend in August we had a church weekend away, the theme being 'Mission Possible'. Approximately 40 members attended, and we theologically reflected together on the urgency of mission, and its centrality to the expression of Christian faith as it relates to our Baptist Declaration of Principle. In addition, we spent time in fellowship, prayer and worship together.

The mid-week small groups for adult Bible study, prayer and support continued. The Friday 'Why Jesus?' and 'Lunch Club', and the regular reflective Sunday afternoon service, 'Prime Time' continued.

'Renew 139' the weekly Wednesday group where it is 'OK to not be OK,' with craft and other activities, and an opportunity to gather for quiet prayer; continued to be very popular.

As a church we took part in the Sunday 'bumper cars' service as part of the Ashby Statutes festival and continue to engage in events and activities that foster collaboration between the churches in Ashby, such as Remembrance Sunday.

(v) Prayer

In May we began a 45-minute prayer meeting on the first Saturday of each month. We held a week of prayer in February and another at the end of October which ended with a period of 24 hours of prayer, beginning and ending corporately in church with a great many people signing up to cover the 24 hours praying at home in between. We also held special mid-week prayer meetings during Lent and Advent, and a regular prayer meeting prior to our Sunday morning service forms part of our regular pattern.

(vi) Children and Youth

The provision for children and young people continued on Sunday mornings, the monthly Saturday morning group for fathers and their pre-schoolers, '*Who let the dads out?*' continued as well. The deaconate gave time to the consideration of, and then approved, a baby and toddler group, expected to start in January 2025.

(vii) Wider Charitable & Community Support

Ashby Youth for Christ ran activities from our premises for young people, as did the *Guides and Rainbows*. The monthly *Women's Institute* meeting continued, and a monthly Saturday morning '*Make do, mend and create*' group in partnership with another local church continued.

As a member of the local East Midlands Baptist Association, we continued to support the ministry of *Ebenezer Baptist Church* and the *Kingsgate Project* at *Greenhill Baptist Church*, both in Coalville, while the annual toy service brought generous contributions for the *Marlene Reid Centre*. The church also provides ongoing financial and prayer support to a number of ministries, both in this country and overseas, offering assistance to church workers, young people, students, victims of abuse, and those in need of development aid or emergency assistance.

(viii) Other

In November following a lengthy process we purchased a house (Manse) for our new Pastor and his family. We recognise the generosity of giving, both in finance and in time and patience, that has enabled this.

Minister's Report.

On a personal note, this year has been a significant blessing. Both for me personally and for us a family. We were delighted to be invited to preach with a peep and then with a view at the start of the year and were excited to recognise and accept a calling to be minister here back in March ahead of my induction and ordination in August. The journey here was not the easiest, and for a while we had to live in a temporary house in Measham while the manse purchase completed and was made ready, but God works all things for good and in the end, we were able to move and now live in the town we are called to serve.

I am also of course immensely thankful for the easy transition to full-time ministry from Regent's Park College, and for the three years of formation shared between there and my training church in Rugby. The Baptist association are supporting me well, and I have been assigned a mentor who I regular see.

Picking a few highlights is difficult, and the six months I have been in office here have flown by. I think particularly of the warm welcome we have received from the church membership, the support we were given as we transitioned to living here, and the time, effort and expense the church has made to make sure that welcome is sincere and meaningful.

My ministry here has begun with great encouragement and a positive reception from both the membership and the wider town community. I have similarly been welcomed by the other churches and their leaders, community groups, and ministries in the town every bit as much as I have been welcomed into my role as preacher, pastor and teacher. It has been a wonderful affirmation, as well as a challenge.

From a ministry perspective things are finding their natural rhythm quickly, and while we have been busy as a church community (as the previous section of this report testifies) we have nevertheless spent time getting to know each other. Things have not been intense, rather they have been exciting and encouraging. We have had several large preaching series, and a range of study materials in different formats that are all being well received; I came here with a promise that I was passionate about God's word, and people seem to be catching that excitement. Pastorally I am still finding my feet and getting to know everyone, but with the capable help of people in the church I am slowly getting to know people and making myself known in turn.

On a more spiritual note, I cannot help feeling that the pastoral vacancy, while certainly draining and consuming of energy for many, has left us feeling like a coiled spring. There is so much potential here, and already in the people God has brought to us we are seeing encouraging signs of growth, not simply in the numerical sense (although, yes, that too!) but in the spiritual sense as well. There is an urgency to mission in this town, exemplified by the message of our church weekend, but this needs to be tempered with the desire to be faithful with those we already have.

In thinking ahead about the shape this will take, the church leadership team felt unanimously that our theme for 2025 should be 'Hope', and we have commissioned a

Ashby Baptist Church Annual Report | Compiled by Mat Sheffield (Minister), Sue
Treasure (Secretary), Wendy Becker (Treasurer) on behalf of Ashby Baptist Church

banner and set the church text to reflect this and are planning to renew our focus on the covenant service in the new year.

As a final point, but a hugely positive one to end on, it was my privilege this year to take part in my first Baptism service as a NAM, and already we are exploring more possibilities for the new year, and there seems to be a steady stream of people considering this.

Sola Deo Gratia

Rev. Mat Sheffield, 2024/25

Thanksgiving:

The Deacons and Minister are grateful to everyone who contributed to all that was achieved during 2024. May God enable us to 'prepare the way for the Lord' in 2025, so His purposes might be fulfilled in our own lives and in the lives of those He calls us to serve.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2025 AGM

“Be Bold and Courageous, all you who hope in the Lord.”

Psalm 31:24

1. Independent Examination

The Independent Examiners have completed their work and signed off the accounts. A copy of their Report and the Accounts in the format for the Charity Commission is attached.

2. Receipts

The Church continues to raise the funds that it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation.

Income for 2024 benefitted from a specific appeal to help fund the purchase of a manse as a home for the new Pastor and his immediate family. Over £100,000 was raised.

3. Payments

The purchase of the manse was enabled by the legacy received at the end of 2023, the gifts received following the appeal and a relatively small mortgage. As well as the expected costs associated with buying a house additional costs were incurred. It proved necessary to thoroughly clean the house, to undertake some repairs and to redecorate much of it before it was in a suitable condition to be occupied. Most of the work was done by friends of the church thus keeping expenditure to a minimum. However, some professional services were employed.

a. Ministry

It was good to be able to welcome the new Pastor who officially took up his role in early July. The Pastoral Worker retired earlier in the year and it has been decided not to re-appoint at present.

b. Mission

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church with financial support to local, national and international organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose. These are summarised in Note 5 to the Accounts and detailed at Note 3.

10% of the church's income continues to be tithed equally between BMS World Mission and EMBA Home Mission Fund. Financial support is also given out of Church funds to Ashby Youth for Christ, Oasis International (to support the work of Phil Lane), Christians Against Poverty (CAP - Ashby), British Youth for Christ and Ashby Street Pastors.

c. Upkeep of church premises

The Trustees continue to monitor the condition of the building and have recently commissioned an inspection to ascertain the work currently recommended to maintain the condition of the building. The outcome of the report is awaited.

4. Surplus for the year and bank balances

With the appointment of a Pastor, the purchase of a manse and the retirement of the Pastoral Worker, the pattern of spending is necessarily changing. However, with some careful management the Trustees anticipate that the church will function satisfactorily in 2025.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

GENERAL RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Receipts			
Regular offerings		77,745.66	71,385
Donations and other income	2	7,527.66	139,342
Income tax recovered on gift aided receipts to general funds		14,195.36	15,986
Bank interest		4,085.54	1,362
Rents and contributions for use of premises		3,324.05	2,397
Manse Fund		114,756.00	1,020
Monies raised and received for other causes	3	1,131.62	1,759
		<u>222,765.89</u>	<u>£233,251</u>
Payments			
Ministry	4	39,130.00	17,624
Mission	5	37,540.61	23,267
Administration		12,404.22	11,325
Manse		294,700.19	-
Upkeep of Church premises	6	21,320.17	17,474
		<u>405,095.19</u>	<u>£69,690</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(182,329.30)	163,561
Balance brought forward at 1st January		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>62,865</u>
Closing Balance at 31st December		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>226,426</u>

STATEMENT OF BANK & CASH BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
General Funds - balance brought forward at 1 January		226,425.83	62,865
Total General Funds Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		<u>(182,329.30)</u>	<u>163,561</u>
Balance carried forward at 31 December		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>£226,426</u>
represented by:			
NatWest Current & Business Reserve Accounts		7,987.99	22,785
Kingdom Bank Savings Accounts		36,097.10	203,614
Petty Cash		<u>11.44</u>	<u>27</u>
Total Cash and Bank balances at 31 December		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>£226,426</u>
allocated to:			
General Fund		27,610.16	163,234
Building & Maintenance Fund		7,704.56	2,228
Ministry & Manse Deposit Fund		6,719.68	58,727
Benevolence Fund		<u>2,062.13</u>	<u>2,237</u>
Total		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>£ 226,426</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Assets			
Bank and other cash balances		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>226,425.83</u>
representing Balances in the following Funds			
Total Funds		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>226,425.83</u>
Other monetary assets	7	<u>7,090</u>	<u>£ 6,039.85</u>
Non-monetary assets	8	<u>2,606,982</u>	<u>£2,126,681</u>

ADOPTION BY THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Accounts, including the Notes, were adopted at the Annual General Meeting of Ashby Baptist Church on 25th February 2025.

Dated: 25/2/25

25/2/25

Signed: 



Chair of Deacons
Mat Sheffield

Secretary
Sue Treasure.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of accounts:

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and accord with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011

2. Donations and other income:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
General donations	520.50	191
Legacy	-	137,188
Saturday coffee mornings	45.00	256
Family activities	6,556.49	1,007
Income towards upkeep of Church premises	405.67	699
	<u>7,527.66</u>	<u>139,341</u>

3. Other causes

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>
Agape (L McIntosh)	-	-	82.32	82.32
Ashby Blokes	202.90	-	-	-
Ashby Food Bank	-	-	10.00	10.00
Ashby Youth for Christ	-	7,554.00	32.00	6,000.00
BMS World Mission	-	11,335.00	210.00	4,724.00
British Youth For Christ (N Roberts)	-	978.00	-	900.00
Christians Against Poverty (Ashby)	-	1,304.40	-	1,200.00
Christian Aid	-	-	507.23	507.23
EMBA Home Mission Fund	-	11,335.00	-	5,653.90
Oasis International (P & R Lane)	15.00	2,949.60	82.31	2,782.31
Open Doors	-	-	177.00	177.00
Retirement Gifts	436.00	808.05	387.00	24.95
Street Pastors	-	261.00	-	240.00
Tearfund	477.72	562.22	271.00	186.50
	<u>1,131.62</u>	<u>37,087.27</u>	<u>£1,759</u>	<u>£22,488</u>

4. Ministry

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Minister's Stipend, on-costs and expenses	15,351.00	12
Minister's housing costs	14,601.48	-
Pastoral worker and costs	1,482.97	13,397
Family activities	6,010.80	1,891
Worship resources	842.80	1,626
Fellowship support and events	640.95	246
Benevolence	200.00	452
	<u>39,130.00</u>	<u>£17,624</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5. Mission	Note	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Given to other causes	3	37,087.27	22,488
Other local outreach		453.34	779
		<u>37,540.61</u>	<u>£23,267</u>

6. Upkeep of Church Premises and General Running Costs	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Insurance	2,808.16	2,487
Gas and electricity	4,038.87	3,182
Other running costs	3,711.28	3,312
Cleaning	5,016.97	4,606
Catering	911.25	862
General repairs & maintenance	4,833.64	3,025
	<u>21,320.17</u>	<u>£17,474</u>

7. Other monetary assets	Note	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Current debtors:			
HMRC - tax recoverable on Gift Aid Q3		4,258	3,255
Insurance prepaid		2,494	2,487
		<u>£6,752</u>	<u>£5,742</u>
Cash balances of Church organisations	9	338	297
		<u>£7,090</u>	<u>£6,040</u>

8. Non-monetary assets	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
(a) Church premises situate Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, built in 1862 and held by The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. as Custodian Trustees.		
The building is currently insured for	2,000,690	1,949,984
Contents of the Church premises are currently insured for	181,292	176,697
	<u>£2,181,982</u>	<u>£2,126,681</u>

(b) The Manse: 1, Moleyns Close, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, LE65 1GN, bought in 2024 and held by The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. as Custodian Trustees.

The house is currently insured for £425,000
£2,606,982

9. Cash balances of Church organisations

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance
Lunch Club	297.48	750.50	710.25	337.73
	<u>£297.48</u>	<u>£750.50</u>	<u>£710.25</u>	<u>£337.73</u>

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiners

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is our responsibility to:

- examine the Accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners' Statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the Trustees concerning 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 Examiners' Statement

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

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
(b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act ;
have not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached

Dated:

29-1-2025

29/01/25

Signed:



Anne Myring
14 Woodlands Way
Moir
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6HE

Sandra Shaw
41 Ashby Road
Moir
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6DJ

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2025 AGM

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a. Ministry

It was good to be able to welcome the new Pastor who officially took up his role in early July. The Pastoral Worker retired earlier in the year and it has been decided not to re-appoint at present.

b. Mission

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church with financial support to local, national and international organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose. These are summarised in Note 5 to the Accounts and detailed at Note 3.

10% of the church's income continues to be tithed equally between BMS World Mission and EMBA Home Mission Fund. Financial support is also given out of Church funds to Ashby Youth for Christ, Oasis International (to support the work of Phil Lane), Christians Against Poverty (CAP - Ashby), British Youth for Christ and Ashby Street Pastors.

c. Upkeep of church premises

The Trustees continue to monitor the condition of the building and have recently commissioned an inspection to ascertain the work currently recommended to maintain the condition of the building. The outcome of the report is awaited.

4. Surplus for the year and bank balances

With the appointment of a Pastor, the purchase of a manse and the retirement of the Pastoral Worker, the pattern of spending is necessarily changing. However, with some careful management the Trustees anticipate that the church will function satisfactorily in 2025.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

GENERAL RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Receipts			
Regular offerings		77,745.66	71,385
Donations and other income	2	7,527.66	139,342
Income tax recovered on gift aided receipts to general funds		14,195.36	15,986
Bank interest		4,085.54	1,362
Rents and contributions for use of premises		3,324.05	2,397
Manse Fund		114,756.00	1,020
Monies raised and received for other causes	3	1,131.62	1,759
		<u>222,765.89</u>	<u>£233,251</u>
Payments			
Ministry	4	39,130.00	17,624
Mission	5	37,540.61	23,267
Administration		12,404.22	11,325
Manse		294,700.19	-
Upkeep of Church premises	6	21,320.17	17,474
		<u>405,095.19</u>	<u>£69,690</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(182,329.30)	163,561
Balance brought forward at 1st January		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>62,865</u>
Closing Balance at 31st December		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>226,426</u>

STATEMENT OF BANK & CASH BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
General Funds - balance brought forward at 1 January		226,425.83	62,865
Total General Funds Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		<u>(182,329.30)</u>	<u>163,561</u>
Balance carried forward at 31 December		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>£226,426</u>
represented by:			
NatWest Current & Business Reserve Accounts		7,987.99	22,785
Kingdom Bank Savings Accounts		36,097.10	203,614
Petty Cash		<u>11.44</u>	<u>27</u>
Total Cash and Bank balances at 31 December		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>£226,426</u>
allocated to:			
General Fund		27,610.16	163,234
Building & Maintenance Fund		7,704.56	2,228
Ministry & Manse Deposit Fund		6,719.68	58,727
Benevolence Fund		<u>2,062.13</u>	<u>2,237</u>
Total		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>£ 226,426</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Assets			
Bank and other cash balances		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>226,425.83</u>
representing Balances in the following Funds			
Total Funds		<u>44,096.53</u>	<u>226,425.83</u>
Other monetary assets	7	<u>7,090</u>	<u>£ 6,039.85</u>
Non-monetary assets	8	<u>2,606,982</u>	<u>£2,126,681</u>

ADOPTION BY THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Accounts, including the Notes, were adopted at the Annual General Meeting of Ashby Baptist Church on 25th February 2025.

Dated: 25/2/25

25/2/25

Signed: 



Chair of Deacons
Mat Sheffield

Secretary
Sue Treasure.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of accounts:

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and accord with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011

2. Donations and other income:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
General donations	520.50	191
Legacy	-	137,188
Saturday coffee mornings	45.00	256
Family activities	6,556.49	1,007
Income towards upkeep of Church premises	405.67	699
	<u>7,527.66</u>	<u>139,341</u>

3. Other causes

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>
Agape (L McIntosh)	-	-	82.32	82.32
Ashby Blokes	202.90	-	-	-
Ashby Food Bank	-	-	10.00	10.00
Ashby Youth for Christ	-	7,554.00	32.00	6,000.00
BMS World Mission	-	11,335.00	210.00	4,724.00
British Youth For Christ (N Roberts)	-	978.00	-	900.00
Christians Against Poverty (Ashby)	-	1,304.40	-	1,200.00
Christian Aid	-	-	507.23	507.23
EMBA Home Mission Fund	-	11,335.00	-	5,653.90
Oasis International (P & R Lane)	15.00	2,949.60	82.31	2,782.31
Open Doors	-	-	177.00	177.00
Retirement Gifts	436.00	808.05	387.00	24.95
Street Pastors	-	261.00	-	240.00
Tearfund	477.72	562.22	271.00	186.50
	<u>1,131.62</u>	<u>37,087.27</u>	<u>£1,759</u>	<u>£22,488</u>

4. Ministry

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Minister's Stipend, on-costs and expenses	15,351.00	12
Minister's housing costs	14,601.48	-
Pastoral worker and costs	1,482.97	13,397
Family activities	6,010.80	1,891
Worship resources	842.80	1,626
Fellowship support and events	640.95	246
Benevolence	200.00	452
	<u>39,130.00</u>	<u>£17,624</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5. Mission	<i>Note</i>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Given to other causes	3	37,087.27	22,488
Other local outreach		453.34	779
		<u>37,540.61</u>	<u>£23,267</u>

6. Upkeep of Church Premises and General Running Costs	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Insurance	2,808.16	2,487
Gas and electricity	4,038.87	3,182
Other running costs	3,711.28	3,312
Cleaning	5,016.97	4,606
Catering	911.25	862
General repairs & maintenance	4,833.64	3,025
	<u>21,320.17</u>	<u>£17,474</u>

7. Other monetary assets	<i>Note</i>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Current debtors:			
HMRC - tax recoverable on Gift Aid Q3		4,258	3,255
Insurance prepaid		2,494	2,487
		<u>£6,752</u>	<u>£5,742</u>
Cash balances of Church organisations	9	338	297
		<u>£7,090</u>	<u>£6,040</u>

8. Non-monetary assets	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
(a) Church premises situate Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, built in 1862 and held by The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. as Custodian Trustees.		
The building is currently insured for	2,000,690	1,949,984
Contents of the Church premises are currently insured for	181,292	176,697
	<u>£2,181,982</u>	<u>£2,126,681</u>

(b) The Manse: 1, Moleyns Close, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, LE65 1GN, bought in 2024 and held by The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. as Custodian Trustees.

The house is currently insured for £425,000
£2,606,982

9. Cash balances of Church organisations

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance
Lunch Club	297.48	750.50	710.25	337.73
	<u>£297.48</u>	<u>£750.50</u>	<u>£710.25</u>	<u>£337.73</u>

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiners

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is our responsibility to:

- examine the Accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners' Statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the Trustees concerning 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 Examiners' Statement

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

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
(b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act ;
have not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached

Dated:

29-1-2025

29/01/25

Signed:



Anne Myring
14 Woodlands Way
Moir
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6HE

Sandra Shaw
41 Ashby Road
Moir
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6DJ

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1159600

Accounts

Ashby Baptist Church 2023 Trustees' Report

Ashby Baptist Church 2023 Report

Statutory Information

Registered Address

Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire. LE65 1HA
Charity Registration Number 1159600

Trustees

Mrs Sarah Anderson (Appointed as Deacon 22 February 2022)
Mrs W Becker (Treasurer) (Appointed as Deacon 28 June 2016)
Prof. Richard Craggs (Appointed as Deacon 23 February 2021)
Mr Ian Hunt (Appointed as Deacon 28 February 2023)
Prof. Martin Insley (Appointed as Deacon 22 February 2022)
Mrs Lesley Salter (Appointed as Deacon 23 February 2021)
Mr Duncan Scott (Appointed as Deacon 27 February 2018)
Mrs Sue Treasure (Secretary) (Appointed 23 February 2021)

Mr Graeme Robinson (Retired as Deacon 28 February 2023)

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Limited
Baptist House
129 Broadway
Didcot
Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

Bankers

National Westminster Bank
Ashby-de-la-Zouch

Kingdom Bank
Beeston

Independent Examiners

Mrs Anne Myring
Mrs Sandra Shaw

Ashby Baptist Church 2023 Trustees' Report

Annual Report for 2023

The Trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2023.

Charitable Object

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the declaration of principle of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education and other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

Organisational Structure and Decision making processes

Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution which requires them to be baptised by immersion upon personal profession of faith or, at the discretion of the Church, upon an alternative personal profession of faith.

The members' Meeting normally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the Church. In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint a minimum of six Trustees (including the Secretary and Treasurer), who together with the Minister (who is also appointed by the Members), and collectively known as the Diaconate, 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 the Church meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Although the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church Meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities

In order to achieve the Charitable Object, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. 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. Anybody is free to attend these services which take place each Sunday morning at 10.30am; there are also occasional services at other times, as advertised from time to time. There is a children's programme linked to the morning services.

The Church runs a series of mid-week home groups for the growth of faith and discipleship, both in the homes of members and on the Church premises. The Church runs various activities specifically for the wider community, some of which are recommended by the local Council's social services department, including Renew Wellbeing and a lunch club.

Rainbows and Guides meet regularly in the Church building and a number of activities for young people are held on a regular basis, some in conjunction with Ashby Youth for Christ; the Women's Institute meets monthly on the premises, and many other organisations use the facilities on an occasional basis.

Ashby Baptist Church 2023 Trustees' Report

Valued links with the other Churches in Ashby and in to the community find particular expression through involvement with Ashby Youth for Christ, Christians Against Poverty, and Street Pastors, as well as through town-wide gatherings for prayer. Many members are involved individually in the life of the community, in Ashby and further afield.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted through the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The Trustees are satisfied that the Church's activities, which can be seen in more detail on the Church's website, clearly demonstrate that it is providing a benefit to the public.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, whether financial or otherwise, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship, encouragement and spiritual growth. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure, but the wide range of successful activities indicate that the Charitable objective has been met and will continue to be met in 2024.

We began the year in Pastoral Vacancy with the Church Profile live on the Baptist Union Pastoral Vacancy list. A number of our members ably led and preached at our Sunday morning services.

At the February AGM, one Deacon retired, while one was appointed.

During the past year, three members died, four members resigned their membership, one member transferred her membership due to moving away, while one person was received into membership. In July we had a baby Dedication and an adult Baptism.

Our Administrator retired in June and a new appointment was made.

For 6 weeks during the summer, we held Café Church in our lounge area instead of meeting upstairs in the Sanctuary. We had anticipated low numbers during this period but in reality, all the meetings were very well attended and attracted new people.

In October we held an away day at home – Upper Room a day of ministry and fun together. Held on a Sunday this was very well attended. It was followed by a week of prayer with a different focus each day.

We held special mid-week meetings during Lent and Advent.

The provision for children and young people continued on a Sunday morning, the monthly Saturday morning group for fathers and their pre-schoolers, *'Who let the dads out?'* continued.

The mid-week small groups for adult Bible study, prayer and support continued. The Friday *'Why Jesus?'* and *'Lunch Club'*, and the regular reflective Sunday afternoon service, *'Prime Time'* continued. The social group started so that Ukrainians staying with local families could meet in a safe place came to a natural end; three Ukrainian families have become part of the church fellowship.

'Renew 139' the weekly Wednesday group where it is 'OK to not be OK,' with craft and other activities, and an opportunity to gather for quiet prayer; continued to be very popular.

Ashby Youth for Christ ran activities from our premises for young people, as did the *Rainbows and Guides*. The monthly *Women's Institute* meeting continued, and a monthly Saturday morning *'Make do, mend and create'* group in partnership with another local church continued.

Ashby Baptist Church 2023 Trustees' Report

As a member of the local East Midlands Baptist Association, we continued to support the ministry of *Ebenezer Baptist Church* and the *Kingsgate Project* at *Greenhill Baptist Church*, both in Coalville, while the annual toy service brought generous contributions for the *Marlene Reid Centre*. The church also provides ongoing financial and prayer support to a number of ministries, both in this country and overseas, offering assistance to church workers, young people, students, victims of abuse, and those in need of development aid or emergency assistance.

Financial Review

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to continue its activities from within its own membership and congregation. The regular expense associated with the cost of employing a Minister has ceased whilst the church looks for a new minister. The church continues to employ a parttime Pastoral Worker, who assists the Minister in providing pastoral care for the congregation and others, and in equipping and encouraging the membership in their life, Christian witness and service. The church also employs an administrator on a parttime basis.

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church by making grants to local, national and international Christian organisations with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose.

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.

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

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy and are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the Church to function effectively in the coming year.

The Trustees have made an assessment of the major risks facing the Church and are satisfied that there are policies in place to minimise these risks.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2024 AGM

“For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”

1 Corinthians 15:22

1. Independent Examination

The Independent Examiners have completed their work and signed off the accounts. A copy of their Report and the Accounts in the format for the Charity Commission is attached.

2. Receipts

The Church continues to raise the funds that it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation.

Income for 2023 was up by over £114,500 on that for the previous year. Towards the end of 2023 Ashby Baptist Church unexpectedly received a substantial legacy from a previous long-standing member who had named the church as a residual beneficiary in his will. The church acknowledges God's gracious timing in this matter and plans to use a major part of this gift towards providing suitable housing for the incoming Pastor, when he or she is appointed. However, the final decisions concerning this depends upon many factors that are as yet unknown.

3. Payments

Following the retirement of the previous Pastor in 2022 the church has continued to function well. The majority of the regular services have been led by members of the church family with occasional input from visiting contributors. This has enabled the associated costs to be kept to a minimum and is reflected in the overall expenditure.

a. Ministry

The services continue to be available via a sound recording.

b. Mission

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church with financial support to local, national and international organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose. These are summarised in Note 5 to the Accounts and detailed at Note 3.

10% of the church's income continues to be tithed equally between BMS World Mission and EMBA Home Mission Fund. Financial support is also given out of Church funds to Ashby Youth for Christ, Oasis International (to support the work of Phil Lane), Christians Against Poverty (CAP - Ashby), British Youth for Christ and Ashby Street Pastors.

c. Upkeep of church premises

The church continues to monitor the condition of the building and is planning to use some of the money from the recently received legacy to enable implementation of necessary repairs.

4. Surplus for the year and bank balances

The Trustees are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with ongoing anticipated income, to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

While the church continues to operate without a paid Pastor there is a significant monthly surplus; see No 3 Payments, above.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

GENERAL RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Receipts			
Regular offerings		71,384.58	82,526
Donations and other income	2	139,341.52	12,344
Income tax recovered on gift aided receipts to general funds		15,986.45	18,553
Bank interest		1,361.93	207
Rents and contributions for use of premises		2,396.90	2,349
Ministry & Manse Fund		1,020.00	1,354
Monies raised and received for other causes	3	1,758.86	1,416
		<u>233,250.24</u>	<u>£118,749</u>
Payments			
Ministry	4	17,623.96	47,628
Mission	5	23,266.99	26,052
Administration		11,324.60	9,912
Upkeep of Church premises	6	17,474.11	18,936
		<u>69,689.66</u>	<u>£ 102,529</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		163,560.58	16,220
Balance brought forward at 1st January		62,865.25	46,645
Closing Balance at 31st December		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,865</u>

STATEMENT OF BANK & CASH BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
General Funds - balance brought forward at 1 January		62,865.25	46,645
Total General Funds Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		<u>163,560.58</u>	<u>16,220</u>
Balance carried forward at 31 December		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,865</u>
represented by:			
NatWest Current & Business Reserve Accounts		22,785.23	25,402
Kingdom Bank Savings Accounts		203,613.94	37,437
Petty Cash		<u>26.66</u>	<u>27</u>
Total Cash and Bank balances at 31 December		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,866</u>
allocated to:			
General Fund		163,233.81	17,583
Building & Maintenance Fund		2,227.93	2,509
Ministry & Manse Deposit Fund		58,726.96	41,207
Benevolence Fund		<u>2,237.13</u>	<u>1,567</u>
Total		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£ 62,866</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Assets			
Bank and other cash balances		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,865</u>
representing Balances in the following Funds			
Total Funds		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,865</u>
		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,865</u>
Other monetary assets	7	<u>£6,039.85</u>	<u>£ 7,380</u>
Non-monetary assets	8	<u>£2,126,681</u>	<u>£2,064,741</u>

ADOPTION BY THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

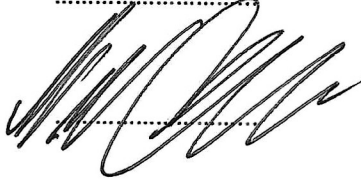
The Accounts, including the Notes, were adopted at the Annual General Meeting of Ashby Baptist Church on 27th February 2024.

Dated:

27 Feb 24

27 Feb 24

Signed:



S J Treasure

Chair of Deacons
Martin Insley

Secretary
Sue Treasure

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of accounts:

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and accord with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011

2. Donations and other income:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
General donations	191.44	85
Legacy	137,188.07	-
Saturday coffee mornings	256.26	48
Grants and donations for mission	-	2,217
Family activities	1,006.50	8,833
Income towards upkeep of Church premises	699.25	1,161
	<u>139,341.52</u>	<u>£12,344</u>

3. Other causes

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>
Agape (L McIntosh)	82.32	82.32	-	-
Ashby Food Bank	10.00	10.00	122	122
Ashby Youth for Christ	32.00	6,000.00	-	4,704
BMS World Mission	210.00	4,724.00	40	5,620
British Youth For Christ (N Roberts)	-	900.00	-	2,055
Christians Against Poverty (Ashby)	-	1,200.00	-	1,044
Christian Aid	507.23	507.23	-	-
EMBA Home Mission Fund	-	5,653.90	-	6,050
Oasis International (P & R Lane)	82.31	2,782.31	57	2,343
Open Doors	177.00	177.00	-	-
Retirement Gifts	387.00	24.95	1,110	1,510
Street Pastors	-	240.00	-	-
Tearfund	271.00	186.50	87	87
	<u>£1,758.86</u>	<u>22,488.21</u>	<u>£1,416</u>	<u>£23,535</u>

4. Ministry

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Minister's Stipend, on-costs and expenses	12.00	20,340
Minister's housing costs	-	5,629
Pastoral worker and costs	13,396.83	12,605
Family activities	1,891.27	7,725
Worship resources	1,626.16	518
Fellowship support and events	246.20	327
Benevolence	451.50	485
	<u>17,623.96</u>	<u>£47,629</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5. Mission	Note	2023	2022	
Given to other causes	3	22,488.21	23,535	
Other local outreach		778.78	2,518	
		<u>23,266.99</u>	<u>£26,053</u>	
6. Upkeep of Church Premises and General Running Costs		2023	2022	
Insurance		2,487.21	2,734	
Gas and electricity		3,182.02	2,984	
Other running costs		3,312.03	2,600	
Cleaning		4,605.89	3,978	
Catering		862.31	1,380	
General repairs & maintenance		3,024.65	5,259	
		<u>17,474.11</u>	<u>£18,935</u>	
7. Other monetary assets	Note	2023	2022	
Current debtors:				
HMRC - tax recoverable on Gift Aid Q3		3,255.25	4,434	
Insurance prepaid		2,487.21	2,734	
		<u>£5,742.46</u>	<u>£7,168</u>	
Cash balances of Church organisations	9	297.39	212	
		<u>£6,039.85</u>	<u>£7,380</u>	
8. Non-monetary assets		2023	2022	
Church premises situate Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, built in 1862 and held by The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. as Custodian Trustees.				
The building is currently insured for		1,949,984	1,893,190	
Contents of the Church premises are currently insured for		176,697	171,551	
		<u>£2,126,681</u>	<u>£2,064,741</u>	
9. Cash balances of Church organisations				
	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance
Lunch Club	212.30	722.00	636.91	297.39
	<u>£212.30</u>	<u>£722.00</u>	<u>£636.91</u>	<u>£297.39</u>

Included in Payments for the Church organisation above are 2023 donations to charitable causes of £100.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiners

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is our responsibility to:

- examine the Accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners' Statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the Trustees concerning 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 Examiners' Statement

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

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
(b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act ;
have not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached

Dated:

6-2-24

6/2/24

Signed:



Anne Myring
14 Woodlands Way
Moirā
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6HE

Sandra Shaw
41 Ashby Road
Moirā
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6DJ

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2024 AGM

“For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”

1 Corinthians 15:22

1. Independent Examination

The Independent Examiners have completed their work and signed off the accounts. A copy of their Report and the Accounts in the format for the Charity Commission is attached.

2. Receipts

The Church continues to raise the funds that it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation.

Income for 2023 was up by over £114,500 on that for the previous year. Towards the end of 2023 Ashby Baptist Church unexpectedly received a substantial legacy from a previous long-standing member who had named the church as a residual beneficiary in his will. The church acknowledges God's gracious timing in this matter and plans to use a major part of this gift towards providing suitable housing for the incoming Pastor, when he or she is appointed. However, the final decisions concerning this depends upon many factors that are as yet unknown.

3. Payments

Following the retirement of the previous Pastor in 2022 the church has continued to function well. The majority of the regular services have been led by members of the church family with occasional input from visiting contributors. This has enabled the associated costs to be kept to a minimum and is reflected in the overall expenditure.

a. Ministry

The services continue to be available via a sound recording.

b. Mission

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church with financial support to local, national and international organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose. These are summarised in Note 5 to the Accounts and detailed at Note 3.

10% of the church's income continues to be tithed equally between BMS World Mission and EMBA Home Mission Fund. Financial support is also given out of Church funds to Ashby Youth for Christ, Oasis International (to support the work of Phil Lane), Christians Against Poverty (CAP - Ashby), British Youth for Christ and Ashby Street Pastors.

c. Upkeep of church premises

The church continues to monitor the condition of the building and is planning to use some of the money from the recently received legacy to enable implementation of necessary repairs.

4. Surplus for the year and bank balances

The Trustees are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with ongoing anticipated income, to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

While the church continues to operate without a paid Pastor there is a significant monthly surplus; see No 3 Payments, above.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

GENERAL RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Receipts			
Regular offerings		71,384.58	82,526
Donations and other income	2	139,341.52	12,344
Income tax recovered on gift aided receipts to general funds		15,986.45	18,553
Bank interest		1,361.93	207
Rents and contributions for use of premises		2,396.90	2,349
Ministry & Manse Fund		1,020.00	1,354
Monies raised and received for other causes	3	1,758.86	1,416
		<u>233,250.24</u>	<u>£118,749</u>
Payments			
Ministry	4	17,623.96	47,628
Mission	5	23,266.99	26,052
Administration		11,324.60	9,912
Upkeep of Church premises	6	17,474.11	18,936
		<u>69,689.66</u>	<u>£ 102,529</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		163,560.58	16,220
Balance brought forward at 1st January		62,865.25	46,645
Closing Balance at 31st December		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,865</u>

STATEMENT OF BANK & CASH BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
General Funds - balance brought forward at 1 January		62,865.25	46,645
Total General Funds Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		<u>163,560.58</u>	<u>16,220</u>
Balance carried forward at 31 December		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,865</u>
represented by:			
NatWest Current & Business Reserve Accounts		22,785.23	25,402
Kingdom Bank Savings Accounts		203,613.94	37,437
Petty Cash		<u>26.66</u>	<u>27</u>
Total Cash and Bank balances at 31 December		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,866</u>
allocated to:			
General Fund		163,233.81	17,583
Building & Maintenance Fund		2,227.93	2,509
Ministry & Manse Deposit Fund		58,726.96	41,207
Benevolence Fund		<u>2,237.13</u>	<u>1,567</u>
Total		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£ 62,866</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Assets			
Bank and other cash balances		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,865</u>
representing Balances in the following Funds			
Total Funds		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,865</u>
		<u>226,425.83</u>	<u>£62,865</u>
Other monetary assets	7	<u>£6,039.85</u>	<u>£ 7,380</u>
Non-monetary assets	8	<u>£2,126,681</u>	<u>£2,064,741</u>

ADOPTION BY THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

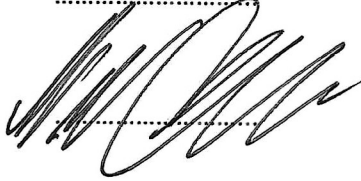
The Accounts, including the Notes, were adopted at the Annual General Meeting of Ashby Baptist Church on 27th February 2024.

Dated:

27 Feb 24

27 Feb 24

Signed:



S J Treasure

Chair of Deacons
Martin Insley

Secretary
Sue Treasure

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of accounts:

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and accord with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011

2. Donations and other income:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
General donations	191.44	85
Legacy	137,188.07	-
Saturday coffee mornings	256.26	48
Grants and donations for mission	-	2,217
Family activities	1,006.50	8,833
Income towards upkeep of Church premises	699.25	1,161
	<u>139,341.52</u>	<u>£12,344</u>

3. Other causes

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>
Agape (L McIntosh)	82.32	82.32	-	-
Ashby Food Bank	10.00	10.00	122	122
Ashby Youth for Christ	32.00	6,000.00	-	4,704
BMS World Mission	210.00	4,724.00	40	5,620
British Youth For Christ (N Roberts)	-	900.00	-	2,055
Christians Against Poverty (Ashby)	-	1,200.00	-	1,044
Christian Aid	507.23	507.23	-	-
EMBA Home Mission Fund	-	5,653.90	-	6,050
Oasis International (P & R Lane)	82.31	2,782.31	57	2,343
Open Doors	177.00	177.00	-	-
Retirement Gifts	387.00	24.95	1,110	1,510
Street Pastors	-	240.00	-	-
Tearfund	271.00	186.50	87	87
	<u>£1,758.86</u>	<u>22,488.21</u>	<u>£1,416</u>	<u>£23,535</u>

4. Ministry

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Minister's Stipend, on-costs and expenses	12.00	20,340
Minister's housing costs	-	5,629
Pastoral worker and costs	13,396.83	12,605
Family activities	1,891.27	7,725
Worship resources	1,626.16	518
Fellowship support and events	246.20	327
Benevolence	451.50	485
	<u>17,623.96</u>	<u>£47,629</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5. Mission	Note	2023	2022	
Given to other causes	3	22,488.21	23,535	
Other local outreach		778.78	2,518	
		<u>23,266.99</u>	<u>£26,053</u>	
6. Upkeep of Church Premises and General Running Costs		2023	2022	
Insurance		2,487.21	2,734	
Gas and electricity		3,182.02	2,984	
Other running costs		3,312.03	2,600	
Cleaning		4,605.89	3,978	
Catering		862.31	1,380	
General repairs & maintenance		3,024.65	5,259	
		<u>17,474.11</u>	<u>£18,935</u>	
7. Other monetary assets	Note	2023	2022	
Current debtors:				
HMRC - tax recoverable on Gift Aid Q3		3,255.25	4,434	
Insurance prepaid		2,487.21	2,734	
		<u>£5,742.46</u>	<u>£7,168</u>	
Cash balances of Church organisations	9	297.39	212	
		<u>£6,039.85</u>	<u>£7,380</u>	
8. Non-monetary assets		2023	2022	
Church premises situate Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, built in 1862 and held by The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. as Custodian Trustees.				
The building is currently insured for		1,949,984	1,893,190	
Contents of the Church premises are currently insured for		176,697	171,551	
		<u>£2,126,681</u>	<u>£2,064,741</u>	
9. Cash balances of Church organisations				
	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance
Lunch Club	212.30	722.00	636.91	297.39
	<u>£212.30</u>	<u>£722.00</u>	<u>£636.91</u>	<u>£297.39</u>

Included in Payments for the Church organisation above are 2023 donations to charitable causes of £100.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiners

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is our responsibility to:

- examine the Accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners' Statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the Trustees concerning 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 Examiners' Statement

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

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
(b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act ;
have not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached

Dated:

6-2-24

6/2/24

Signed:



Anne Myring
14 Woodlands Way
Moir
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6HE

Sandra Shaw
41 Ashby Road
Moir
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6DJ

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1159600

Accounts

Ashby Baptist Church 2022 Trustees' Report

Ashby Baptist Church 2022 Report

Statutory Information

Registered Address

Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire. LE65 1HA
Charity Registration Number 1159600

Trustees

Mrs Sarah Anderson (Appointed as Deacon 22 February 2022)
Mrs W Becker (Treasurer) (Appointed as Deacon 28 June 2016)
Mr Richard Craggs (Appointed as Deacon 23 February 2021)
Mr Martin Insley (Appointed as Deacon 22 February 2022)
Mr Graeme Robinson (Appointed as Deacon 25 February 2020)
Mrs Lesley Salter (Appointed as Deacon 23 February 2021)
Mr Duncan Scott (Appointed as Deacon 27 February 2018)
Mrs Sue Treasure (Secretary) (Appointed 23 February 2021)

Rev G Heath (Pastor Retired 31st May 2022)
Mrs J Earnshaw (Retired as Deacon 22nd February 2022)
Mr J Greening (Retired as Deacon 22nd February 2022)

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Limited
Baptist House
129 Broadway
Didcot
Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

Bankers

National Westminster Bank
Ashby-de-la-Zouch

Kingdom Bank
Beeston, Nottingham

Independent Examiners

Mrs Anne Myring
Mrs S Shaw

Ashby Baptist Church 2022 Trustees' Report

Annual Report for 2022

The Trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2022.

Charitable Object

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the declaration of principle of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education and other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

Organisational Structure and Decision making processes

Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution which requires them to be baptised by immersion upon personal profession of faith or, at the discretion of the Church, upon an alternative personal profession of faith.

The members' Meeting normally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the Church. In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint a minimum of six Trustees (including the Secretary and Treasurer), who together with the Minister (who is also appointed by the Members), and collectively known as the Diaconate, 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 the Church meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Although the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church Meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities

In order to achieve the Charitable Object, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. 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. Anybody is free to attend these services which take place each Sunday morning at 10.30am; there are also occasional services at other times, as advertised from time to time. There is a children's programme linked to the morning services.

The Church runs a series of mid-week home groups for the growth of faith and discipleship, both in the homes of members and on the Church premises. The Church runs various activities specifically for the wider community, some of which are recommended by the local Council's social services department, including a lunch club.

Rainbows and Guides meet regularly in the Church building and a number of activities for young people are held on a regular basis, some in conjunction with Ashby Youth for Christ; the Women's

Ashby Baptist Church 2022 Trustees' Report

Institute meets monthly on the premises, and many other organisations use the facilities on an occasional basis.

Valued links with the other Churches in Ashby and into the community find particular expression through involvement with Ashby Youth for Christ, Christians Against Poverty, and Street Pastors, as well as through town-wide gatherings for prayer. Many members are involved individually in the life of the community, in Ashby and further afield.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted through the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The Trustees are satisfied that the Church's activities, which can be seen in more detail on the Church's website, clearly demonstrate that it is providing a benefit to the public.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, whether financial or otherwise, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship, encouragement and spiritual growth. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure, but the wide range of successful activities indicate that the Charitable objective has been met and will continue to be met in 2023.

In February our Pastor began 3 months sick leave at the end of which he made the decision to retire and not return to work. He officially finished work on the 31st May and a farewell service was held on 19 June, which was attended by our Local MP, Regional Minister, Ministers from other churches, Civic Dignitaries, church members and friends

With the final lifting of Covid 19 restrictions Sunday services resumed, and we ceased online services. The provision for children and young people resumed on a Sunday morning, the monthly Saturday morning group for fathers and their pre-schoolers, *'Who let the dads out?'* continued. A new weekly baby and toddler group, *'Play and Pray'*, started but regrettably had to close after a few weeks due to lack of staff.

The mid-week small groups for adult Bible study, prayer and support were relaunched in September. The Friday *'Why Jesus?'* and *'Lunch Club'*, and the regular reflective Sunday afternoon service, *'Prime Time'* continued. In response to the war in Ukraine and with some Ukrainians staying with local families a social group was started where the Ukrainians could meet in a safe place. The church held a very successful weekend away in September with 42 families and singles participating, while a service was held in the church building for those who could not attend.

'Renew 139' the weekly Wednesday group where it is 'OK to not be OK,' with craft and other activities, and an opportunity to gather for quiet prayer; continued to be very popular.

During the past year, three members died two others ceased to be members due to moving away, while five people were received into membership.

At the February AGM, two Deacons retired, while two others were appointed.

In October we held a Vision Day led by our Regional Minister. Out of this day a team prepared a Church Profile which went live on the Baptist Union Pastoral Vacancy List in November. *Ashby Youth for Christ* ran activities from our premises for young people, as did the *Guides*. The monthly *Women's Institute* meeting restarted, and a monthly Saturday morning *'Make do, mend and create'* group in partnership with another local church continued.

As a member of the local East Midlands Baptist Association, we continued to support the ministry of *Ebenezer Baptist Church* and the *Kingsgate Project* at *Greenhill Baptist Church*, both in Coalville,

Ashby Baptist Church 2022 Trustees' Report

while the annual toy service brought generous contributions for the *Marlene Reid Centre*. The church also provides ongoing financial and prayer support to a number of ministries, both in this country and overseas, offering assistance to church workers, young people, students, victims of abuse, and those in need of development aid or emergency assistance.

The trustees can report that income exceeded outgoings by some fifteen thousand pounds in 2022. This is largely because the retirement of the pastor in 2022 has led to a significant reduction in expenditure. At the time of writing the timescale for the appointment of a successor is not known, but until that becomes clear additional funds are being reserved to assist with the housing needs of the incoming pastor.

May God enable us to 'Prepare the way for the Lord' (Matthew 3:3) in 2023, so His purposes might be fulfilled in our own lives and in the lives of those He calls us to serve.

Financial Review

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation. The most significant regular expense is the cost of the Minister who leads and co-ordinates the Church's activities including the Sunday Services, together with the parttime Pastoral Worker, who assists the Minister in providing pastoral care for the congregation and others, and in equipping and encouraging the membership in their life, Christian witness and service.

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church by making grants to local, national and international Christian organisations with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose.

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.

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

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy and are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the Church to function effectively in the coming year.

The Trustees have made an assessment of the major risks facing the Church and are satisfied that there are policies in place to minimise these risks.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2023 AGM

"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

Psalm 100 v 5

1. Independent Examination

The Independent Examiners have completed their work and signed off the accounts. A copy of their Report and the Accounts in the format for the Charity Commission is attached.

2. Receipts

The Church continues to raise the funds that it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation.

Income for 2022 was up by a little over £10,000 on that for the previous year. However, it should be noted that over £8,000 was registration fees for the church weekend away. The Job Retention Scheme is no longer in operation, thus all payroll expenses are again fully borne by the church.

3. Payments

The most noticeable event in 2022 was the unexpected retirement of the Pastor at the end of May. This has considerably reduced the payroll costs and the church is reserving a good portion of this gain so that it will be available to help with the housing requirements of the incoming pastor.

a. Ministry

The services are no longer live-streamed, although a sound recording is available.

The defined benefit pension scheme for Baptist employees closed in 2012 as it had been significantly underfunded. Accordingly, churches have been paying to offset the shortfall. During 2022 the deficit was largely resolved when the debt was assigned, saving affected churches considerable outgoings.

b. Mission

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church with financial support to local, national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose. These are summarised in Note 5 to the Accounts and detailed at Note 3.

10% of the church's income continues to be tithed equally between BMS World Mission and EMBA Home Mission Fund. Financial support was also given out of Church funds to Ashby Youth for Christ, Oasis International (to support the work of Phil Lane), and Christians Against Poverty (CAP-MNF in Ashby). Since Nigel Roberts' retirement in October the donations to British Youth for Christ have been adjusted which has allowed the support to others to be increased.

c. Upkeep of church premises

The church continues to monitor the condition of the building and is currently obtaining quotations and advice to enable implementation of necessary repairs.

4. Surplus for the year and bank balances

The Trustees are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with ongoing anticipated income, to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

While the church continues to operate without a paid Pastor there is a significant monthly surplus; see No 3 Payments, above.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

GENERAL RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Receipts			
Regular offerings		82,526.01	83,169
Donations and other income	2	12,343.55	556
Income tax recovered on gift aided receipts to general funds		18,553.42	18,707
Job Retention Scheme grants		-	1,370
Bank interest		206.95	278
Rents and contributions for use of premises		2,349.35	543
Ministry & Manse Fund		1,354.26	2,359
Monies raised and received for other causes	3	1,415.78	1,400
		<u>118,749.32</u>	<u>£108,381</u>
Payments			
Ministry	4	47,628.39	63,838
Mission	5	26,052.31	23,895
Administration		9,912.15	9,128
Upkeep of Church premises	6	18,936.17	13,064
		<u>102,529.02</u>	<u>£ 109,925</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		16,220.30	-1,544
Balance brought forward at 1st January		46,644.95	48,339
Unpresented Cheque No 5264 (2021)		-	-150
Closing Balance at 31st December		<u>62,865.25</u>	<u>£46,645</u>

STATEMENT OF BANK & CASH BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
General Funds - balance brought forward at 1 January		46,644.95	48,339
Total General Funds Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		16,220.30	-1,694
Balance carried forward at 31 December		<u>£62,865.25</u>	<u>£46,645</u>
represented by:			
NatWest Current & Business Reserve Accounts		25,402.02	9,329
Kingdom Bank Savings Accounts		37,436.57	37,280
Petty Cash		26.66	36
Total Cash and Bank balances at 31 December		<u>£62,865.25</u>	<u>£46,645</u>
allocated to:			
General Fund		17,582.83	19,488
Building & Maintenance Fund		2,508.33	4,052
Ministry & Manse Deposit Fund		41,206.96	21,253
Benevolence Fund		1,567.13	1,852
Total		<u>£62,865.25</u>	<u>£ 46,645</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

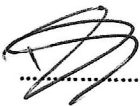
	<i>Note</i>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Assets			
Bank and other cash balances		<u>£62,865.25</u>	<u>£46,645</u>
representing Balances in the following Funds			
Total Funds		<u>62,865.25</u>	<u>46,645</u>
		<u>£62,865.25</u>	<u>£46,645</u>
Other monetary assets	7	<u>£7,380.45</u>	<u>£ 7,609</u>
Non-monetary assets	8	<u>£2,064,741</u>	<u>£1,808,018</u>

ADOPTION BY THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Accounts, including the Notes, were adopted at the Annual General Meeting of Ashby Baptist Church on 28th February 2023.

Dated: 28/2/23

28/2/23

Signed: 

S. Treasure

Chair of Deacons
Duncan Scott

Secretary
Sue Treasure

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of accounts:

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and accord with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011

2. Donations and other income:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
General donations	84.92	117
Saturday coffee mornings	47.50	31
Grants and donations tor mission	2,217.30	-
Family activities	8,833.11	-
Income towards upkeep of Church premises	1,160.72	407
	<u>12,343.55</u>	<u>£556</u>

3. Other causes

	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>	
	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>
BMS World Mission	40.00	5,620.00	275	5,726
EMBA Home Mission Fund		6,050.00	-	5,451
Ashby Youth for Christ		4,704.00	95	4,751
Christians Against Poverty (Midlands National Forest)		1,044.00	-	1,032
Oasis International (P & R Lane)	56.88	2,342.88	500	2,762
British Youth For Christ (N Roberts)		2,055.00	-	2,262
Tearfund	87.00	87.00	-	-
Christian Aid	-	-	30	30
Ashby Food Bank	121.90	121.90	-	-
Agape (L McIntosh)	-	-	500	500
Pastor's Retirement Gift	1,110.00	1,510.00	-	-
	<u>1,415.78</u>	<u>23,534.78</u>	<u>£1,400</u>	<u>£22,514</u>

4. Ministry

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Minister's Stipend, on-costs and expenses	20,339.64	38,864
Minister's housing costs	5,629.29	12,245
Pastoral worker and costs	12,605.10	12,303
Family activities	7,724.63	-
Worship resources	517.61	191
Fellowship support and events	327.12	194
Benevolence	485.00	40
	<u>47,628.39</u>	<u>£63,838</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5. Mission				
	<i>Note</i>	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>
Given to other causes	3	23,534.78		22,514
Other local outreach		2,517.53		1,381
		<u>26,052.31</u>		<u>£23,895</u>
6. Upkeep of Church Premises and General Running Costs				
		<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>
Insurance		2,734.40		2,559
Gas and electricity		2,984.17		2,064
Other running costs		2,599.76		2,199
Cleaning		3,978.19		4,135
Catering		1,380.27		-
General repairs & maintenance		5,259.38		2,107
		<u>18,936.17</u>		<u>£13,064</u>
7. Other monetary assets				
	<i>Note</i>	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>
Current debtors:				
HMRC - tax recoverable on Gift Aid Q3		4,433.75		4,822
Insurance prepaid		2,734.40		2,559
		<u>7,168.15</u>		<u>£7,380</u>
Cash balances of Church organisations	9	212.30		229
		<u>7,380.45</u>		<u>£7,609</u>
8. Non-monetary assets				
		<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>
Church premises situate Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, built in 1862 and held by The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. as Custodian Trustees.				
		1,893,190		1,657,797
		171,551		150,221
		<u>£2,064,741</u>		<u>£1,808,018</u>
9. Cash balances of Church organisations				
	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance
Lunch Club	228.89	1,099.44	1,116.03	212.30
	<u>£228.89</u>	<u>1,099.44</u>	<u>1,116.03</u>	<u>212.30</u>

Included in Payments for the Church organisation above are 2022 donations to charitable causes of £200.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiners

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is our responsibility to:

- examine the Accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners' Statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the Trustees concerning 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 Examiners' Statement

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

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
(b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act ;
have not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached

Dated:

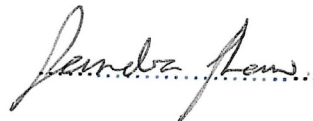
14-2-23

14-2-23

Signed:



Anne Myring
14 Woodlands Way
Moir
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6HE



Sandra Shaw
41 Ashby Road
Moir
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6DJ

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1159600

Accounts

Ashby Baptist Church 2021 Trustees' Report

Ashby Baptist Church 2021 Report

Statutory Information

Registered Address

Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire. LE65 1HA
Charity Registration Number 1159600

Trustees

Rev G Heath (Pastor Appointed 31 January 2009)
Mrs W Becker (Treasurer) (Appointed as Deacon 28 June 2016)
Mr Richard Craggs (Appointed 23 February 2021)
Mr J Greening (Appointed 23 February 2016)
Mrs J Earnshaw (Appointed 26 February 2019)
Mr Graeme Robinson (Appointed 25 February 2020)
Mrs Lesley Salter (Appointed 23 February 2021)
Mr Duncan Scott (Appointed 27 February 2018)
Mrs Sue Treasure (Secretary) (Appointed 23 February 2021)

Rev I Hunter (Retired 23 Feb 2021)
Mr Tom Beavin (Retired 23 Feb 2021)

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Limited
Baptist House
129 Broadway
Didcot
Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

Bankers

National Westminster Bank
Ashby-de-la-Zouch

Kingdom Bank
Ruddington

Independent Examiners

Mr Keith Malin
Mrs S Shaw

Ashby Baptist Church 2021 Trustees' Report

Annual Report for 2021

The Trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2021.

Charitable Object

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the declaration of principle of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education and other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

Organisational Structure and Decision making processes

Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution which requires them to be baptised by immersion upon personal profession of faith or, at the discretion of the Church, upon an alternative personal profession of faith.

The members' Meeting normally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the Church. In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint a minimum of six Trustees (including the Secretary and Treasurer), who together with the Minister (who is also appointed by the Members), and collectively known as the Diaconate, 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 the Church meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Although the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church Meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities

In order to achieve the Charitable Object, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. 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. Anybody is free to attend these services, when government regulations permit, which take place each Sunday morning at 10.30am; there are also occasional services at other times, as advertised from time to time. There is a children's programme linked to the morning services.

The Church runs a series of mid-week home groups for the growth of faith and discipleship, both in the homes of members and on the Church premises, when government regulations allow. The Church runs various activities specifically for the wider community, some of which are recommended by the local Council's social services department, including a lunch club.

Subject to government restrictions: Rainbows and Guides meet regularly in the Church building and a number of activities for young people are held on a regular basis, some in conjunction with Ashby Youth for Christ; the Women's Institute meets monthly on the premises, and many other organisations use the facilities on an occasional basis.

Ashby Baptist Church 2021 Trustees' Report

Valued links with the other Churches in Ashby and in to the community find particular expression through involvement with Ashby Youth for Christ, Christians Against Poverty, and Street Pastors, as well as through town-wide gatherings for prayer. Many members are involved individually in the life of the community, in Ashby and further afield.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted through the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The Trustees are satisfied that the Church's activities, which can be seen in more detail on the Church's website, clearly demonstrate that it is providing a benefit to the public.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, whether financial or otherwise, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship, encouragement and spiritual growth. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure, but the wide range of successful activities indicate that, even during a very difficult year, the Charitable objective has been met and will continue to be met in 2022.

As the church sought to look beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, it took as its theme for 2021, "*Beauty for ashes*" (Isaiah 61:3); and, as restrictions were gradually eased through the year, a variety of activities were able to recommence, with new ones being introduced.

In-person Sunday services resumed as permitted, with increasing numbers participating; a portion of each service was also streamed online for the benefit of those who were unable or not yet ready to attend.

By the end of the year, the provision for children and young people had moved largely from online to in-person, the monthly Saturday morning group for fathers and their pre-schoolers, '*Who let the dads out?*', had restarted, and preparations were being made for a new weekly baby and toddler group, '*Play and Pray*.'

The mid-week small groups for adult Bible study, prayer and support also began to return from online to in-person, with seniors especially benefitting from the Friday '*Why Jesus?*' and '*Lunch Club*', and the regular reflective Sunday afternoon service, '*Prime Time*.' There are also plans for a church weekend away in 2022, giving an opportunity for the renewal and deepening of relationships following the pandemic.

Recognising the impact of the pandemic on mental health in the community, '*Renew 139*' was launched as a weekly Wednesday group where it is 'OK to not be OK,' with craft and other activities, and an opportunity to gather for quiet prayer; this has proved very popular. A Sunday evening event, '*Pause and Reflect*,' was also provided as an opportunity to process the trauma of the pandemic.

During the past year, two members died and seven others ceased to be members, including three who had moved away, while three people were received into membership.

At the February AGM, two Deacons retired, while three others were appointed, one for a second consecutive term; and at a Special Church Meeting in June it was agreed to update the constitution so that, instead of having to take a vacant year after two terms, Deacons may be appointed for a third consecutive three-year term but only in exceptional circumstances and to fulfil specified roles.

As regulations permitted, *Ashby Youth for Christ* ran activities from our premises for young people, as did the *Guides*. The monthly *Women's Institute* meeting also restarted, and a monthly Saturday morning '*Make do, mend and create*' group was launched in partnership with another local church, while *Statutes*, the annual fair, provided an opportunity to work with other churches in the town on the '*Try Praying*' initiative.

Ashby Baptist Church 2021 Trustees' Report

As a member of the local East Midlands Baptist Association, we continued to support the ministry of *Ebenezer Baptist Church* and the *Kingsgate Project* at *Greenhill Baptist Church*, both in Coalville, while the annual toy service brought generous contributions for the *Marlene Reid Centre*. The church also provides ongoing financial and prayer support to a number of ministries, both in this country and overseas, offering assistance to church workers, young people, students, victims of abuse, and those in need of development aid or emergency assistance.

Although income did not fully match expenditure, because of reduced cash offerings and rental income due to the pandemic, currently reserves remain adequate. The Pastor and Deacons are grateful to everyone who contributed to all that was achieved in 2021, and look forward to 2022, when the theme will be "*Prepare the way for the Lord.*" (Matthew 3:3)

Financial Review

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation. The most significant regular expense is the cost of the Minister who leads and co-ordinates the Church's activities including the Sunday Services, together with the part-time Pastoral Worker, who assists the Minister in providing pastoral care for the congregation and others, and in equipping and encouraging the membership in their life, Christian witness and service.

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church by making grants to local, national and international Christian organisations with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose.

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.

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

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy and are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the Church to function effectively in the coming year.

The Trustees have made an assessment of the major risks facing the Church, and are satisfied that there are policies in place to minimise these risks.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2022 AGM

“Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever.”

Psalm 136:26

1. Independent Examination

The Independent Examiners have completed their work and signed off the accounts. A copy of their Report and the Accounts in the format for the Charity Commission is attached.

2. Receipts

The Church continues to raise the funds that it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation.

Income for 2021 was down by £14,000 on that for the previous year which is reflected in the General Fund being much reduced. Claims continued to be made under the Job Retention Scheme while it was running. All paid staff have now returned to working their contracted hours in full.

3. Payments

The Church is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of Church activities, many of which run with little or no impact on Church expenditure but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the Church's objectives. Expenditure for the year was approaching £5,000 less than in 2020.

a. Ministry

The main Sunday morning service continued to be livestreamed for the benefit of those not able to attend in person. The numbers attending in person have fluctuated but with a general trend towards increasing congregations.

b. Mission

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church by making donations to local, national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose, summarised in Note 5 to the Accounts and detailed at Note 3.

10% of the church's income was tithed equally between BMS World Mission and EMBA Home Mission Fund. Financial support was also given out of Church funds to Ashby Youth for Christ, Oasis International (to support the work of Phil Lane), British Youth for Christ (supporting Nigel Roberts) and Christians Against Poverty (CAP-MNF in Ashby).

c. Upkeep of church premises

These costs are detailed in Note 6 to the Accounts and show that our expenditure was significantly lower than forecast in the budget. At the end of 2021 a quinquennial report was commissioned and the leadership team will be exploring its recommendations in 2022.

4. Deficit for the year and bank balances

The Trustees are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with ongoing anticipated income, to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

There was a deficit of £1,544 in the general accounts in 2021 against a surplus of £7,519 in 2020. The main reason being that income was around £14,000 lower in 2021, whereas total payments were nearly £5,000 less than in the previous year. As at 31 December 2021 total bank and cash balances stood at £46,645.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

GENERAL RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Receipts			
Regular offerings		83,168.76	86,727
Donations and other income	2	555.68	4,306
Income tax recovered on gift aided receipts to general funds		18,706.59	18,378
Job Retention Scheme grants		1,370.20	8,922
Bank interest		277.79	312
Rents and contributions for use of premises		543.35	600
Ministry & Manse Fund		2,358.69	2,238
Monies raised and received for other causes	3	1,400.00	742
		<u>£108,381.06</u>	<u>£122,225</u>
Payments			
Ministry	4	63,837.52	62,623
Mission	5	23,894.73	25,134
Administration		9,128.05	8,984
Upkeep of Church premises	6	13,064.31	17,965
		<u>£109,924.61</u>	<u>£ 114,706</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		-1,543.55	7,519
Balance brought forward at 1st January		48,338.50	40,669
Unpresented Cheque No 5264		-150.00	150
Closing Balance at 31st December		<u>£46,644.95</u>	<u>£48,338</u>

STATEMENT OF BANK & CASH BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
General Funds - balance brought forward at 1 January		48,338.50	40,669
Total General Funds Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		-1,693.55	7,669
Balance carried forward at 31 December		<u>£46,644.95</u>	<u>£48,338</u>
represented by:			
NatWest Current & Business Reserve Accounts		9,329.00	26,314
Kingdom Bank Savings Accounts		37,279.84	22,004
Petty Cash		36.11	20
Total Cash and Bank balances at 31 December		<u>£46,644.95</u>	<u>£48,338</u>
allocated to:			
General Fund		19,488.13	30,231
Building & Maintenance Fund		4,051.99	2,692
Mission Fund		-	186
Ministry & Manse Deposit Fund		21,252.70	13,837
Benevolence Fund		1,852.13	1,392
Total		<u>£46,644.95</u>	<u>£ 48,338</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Assets			
Bank and other cash balances		<u>£46,644.95</u>	<u>£48,338</u>
representing Balances in the following Funds			
Total Funds		<u>46,644.95</u>	<u>48,338</u>
		<u>£46,644.95</u>	<u>£48,338</u>
Other monetary assets	7	<u>£7,609.33</u>	<u>£ 7,590</u>
Non-monetary assets	8	<u>£1,808,018</u>	<u>£1,685,000</u>

ADOPTION BY THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Accounts, including the Notes, were adopted at the Annual General Meeting of Ashby Baptist Church on 22nd February 2022.

Dated: 22 Feb 20²² 22 Feb 2022

Signed:  SJ Treasure

Chairman
Rev Dr Nick Ashton

Secretary
Sue Treasure

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of accounts:

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and accord with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011

2. Donations and other income:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
General donations	117.45	3,561
Saturday coffee mornings	30.87	164
Donations towards upkeep of Church premises	407.36	581
	<u>£555.68</u>	<u>£4,306</u>

3. Other causes

	<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	
	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>
BMS World Mission	275	5,726	-	5,889
EMBA Home Mission Fund	-	5,451	-	5,889
Ashby Youth for Christ	95	4,751	-	4,560
Christians Against Poverty (Midlands National Forest)	-	1,032	-	1,008
Oasis International (P & R Lane)	500	2,762	167	2,381
British Youth For Christ (N Roberts)	-	2,262	-	2,214
Tearfund	-	-	75	75
Christian Aid	30	30	-	133
Latin Link	-	-	500	500
Agape (L McIntosh)	500	500	-	-
Other Causes	-	-	-	-
	<u>£1,400</u>	<u>£22,514</u>	<u>£742</u>	<u>£22,649</u>

4. Ministry

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Minister's Stipend, on-costs and expenses	38,863.92	37,340
Minister's housing costs	12,245.13	12,087
Minister-in-Training	-	18
Pastoral worker and costs	12,303.36	12,437
Family Ministries	-	110
Worship resources	190.89	414
Fellowship support and events	194.22	17
Benevolence	40.00	200
	<u>63,837.52</u>	<u>£62,623</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5. Mission	Note	2021	2020
Given to other causes	3	22,514.00	22,649
Other local outreach		1,380.73	2,485
		<u>23,894.73</u>	<u>£25,134</u>

6. Upkeep of Church Premises and General Running Costs	2021	2020
Insurance	2,558.74	2,418
Gas and electricity	2,064.03	2,880
Other running costs	2,199.43	2,679
Cleaning	4,135.13	4,125
Catering	-	443
General repairs & maintenance	2,106.98	5,420
	<u>13,064.31</u>	<u>£17,965</u>

7. Other monetary assets	Note	2021	2020
Current debtors:			
HMRC - tax recoverable on Gift Aid Q3		4,821.70	5,034
Insurance prepaid		2,558.74	2,417
		<u>£7,380.44</u>	<u>£7,451</u>
Cash balances of Church organisations	9	228.89	139
		<u>£7,609.33</u>	<u>£7,590</u>

8. Non-monetary assets	2021	2020
Church premises situate Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, built in 1862 and held by The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. as Custodian Trustees.		
The building is currently insured for	1,657,797	1,545,000
Contents of the Church premises are currently insured for	150,221	140,000
	<u>£1,808,018</u>	<u>£1,685,000</u>

9. Cash balances of Church organisations	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance
Lunch Club	59.52	283.71	114.34	228.89
Acorns (Toddler Group)	79.10	-	79.10	-
	<u>£138.62</u>	<u>£283.71</u>	<u>£193.44</u>	<u>£228.89</u>

In 2021 there were no donations made by the Church organisations above to charitable causes.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiners

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is our responsibility to:

- examine the Accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners' Statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the Trustees concerning 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 Examiners' Statement

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

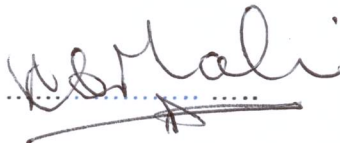
1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
(b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act ;
have not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached

Dated:

06/02/22

31/01/2022

Signed:



Keith Malin
64A The Crest
Linton
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6QE

Sandra Shaw
41 Ashby Road
Moir
Swadlincote
Derbyshire DE12 6DJ

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiners

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is our responsibility to:

- examine the Accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners' Statement

Our examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the Trustees concerning 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.

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

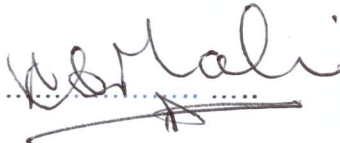
1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
(b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act ;
have not been met; or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached

Dated:

06/02/22

31/01/2022

Signed:



Keith Malin
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Derbyshire DE12 6QE

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ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1159600

Accounts

Ashby Baptist Church 2020 Trustees' Report

Statutory Information

Registered Address

Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire. LE65 1HA
Charity Registration Number 1159600

Trustees

Rev G Heath (Pastor Appointed 31 January 2009)
Mr Tom Beavin (Appointed 27 February 2018)
Mrs W Becker (Treasurer) (Appointed as Deacon 28 June 2016)
Mrs J Earnshaw (Appointed 26 February 2019)
Mr J Greening (Appointed 23 February 2016)
Rev I Hunter (Appointed 24 February 2015)
Mr Graeme Robinson (Appointed 25 February 2020)
Mr Duncan Scott (Acting Secretary) (Appointed 27 February 2018)

Mr R Craggs (Retired 25 February 2020)
Mrs S Treasure (Retired 25 February 2020)

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Limited
Baptist House
129 Broadway
Didcot
Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

Bankers

National Westminster Bank
Ashby-de-la-Zouch

Kingdom Bank
Ruddington

Independent Examiners

Mr Keith Malin
Mrs S Shaw

Ashby Baptist Church 2020 Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2020.

Charitable Object

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document which states that the principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the declaration of principle of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education and other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, on trusts which are entirely compatible with the above object.

Organisational Structure and Decision making processes

Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution which requires them to be baptised by immersion upon personal profession of faith or, at the discretion of the Church, upon an alternative personal profession of faith.

The members' Meeting normally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the Church. In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint a minimum of six Trustees (including the Secretary and Treasurer), who together with the Minister (who is also appointed by the Members), and collectively known as the Diaconate, 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 the Church meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Although the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church Meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities

In order to achieve the Charitable Object, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. 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. Anybody is free to attend these services, when government regulations permit, which take place each Sunday morning at 10.30am; there are also occasional services at other times, as advertised from time to time. There is a children's programme linked to the morning services.

The Church runs a series of mid-week home groups for the growth of faith and discipleship, both in the homes of members and on the Church premises, when government regulations allow. The Church runs various activities specifically for the wider community, some of which are recommended by the local Council's social services department, including a lunch club.

Subject to government restrictions: Rainbows and Guides meet regularly in the Church building and a number of activities for young people are held on a regular basis, some in conjunction with Ashby Youth for Christ; the Women's Institute meets monthly on the premises, and many other organisations use the facilities on an occasional basis.

Valued links with the other Churches in Ashby and in to the community find particular expression through involvement with Ashby Youth for Christ, Christians Against Poverty, and Street Pastors, as well as through town-wide gatherings for prayer. Many members are involved individually in the life of the community, in Ashby and further afield.

Ashby Baptist Church 2020 Trustees' Report

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted through the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The Trustees are satisfied that the Church's activities, which can be seen in more detail on the Church's website, clearly demonstrate that it is providing a benefit to the public.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, whether financial or otherwise, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship, encouragement and spiritual growth. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure, but the wide range of successful activities indicate that, even during a very difficult year, the Charitable objective has been met and will continue to be met in 2021.

The Ashby Baptist Church theme for 2020, "*Faith, hope and love*" (1 Corinthians 13:13), proved especially appropriate in facing the challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The year began with the continuation of existing activities, including Sunday services, regular all-age and reflective services, the nurture of children and young people by the *Junior Church Team* and the *Youth Team*, the Saturday morning group for *fathers and their pre-schoolers*, the Thursday morning *baby and toddler group*, and the *Friday lunch club* for seniors. There were small groups for Bible study, prayer and mutual support, and an evening series of church history lectures. The *hospital chaplain*, who had been accepted for accreditation by the Baptist Union of Great Britain in 2019, was ordained in February.

March began with a week of prayer. Shortly afterwards, restrictions imposed due to the pandemic resulted in the postponement of several baptisms and a much anticipated church weekend, while many church activities, including Sunday services, moved online, and the use of the premises by community groups, including *Ashby Youth for Christ*, the *Guides*, and the *Women's Institute*, had to be suspended.

The loss of rental income and Sunday offerings contributed to a financial shortfall. So the decision was made to furlough the *cleaner* and, for three months from early June, the *Minister*, who used the time as a sabbatical for personal study and reflection.

During the minister's absence, the online ministry was organised and overseen by a church member, who produced a variety of resources, with contributions from families and individuals. The *Pastoral Worker* and *Administrator* encouraged fellowship by organising walks and events as regulations allowed, establishing online coffee mornings, and ensuring ongoing contact with isolated and vulnerable people.

In early September, the minister returned to work half time under the job retention scheme, and then full time from November. When regulations permitted, online Sunday services were attended by small pre-booked congregations. Projectors were replaced with flat screens in readiness for the lifting of restrictions, and the premises were opened for private prayer on Saturday mornings from October.

The church is grateful for everyone involved in facilitating online ministry, including Sunday services, Junior Church worship, youth activities, small groups, times of prayer and reflection, coffee mornings, Christingle, family games, and craft activities. It is hoped that such initiatives might continue after restrictions are lifted.

Ashby Baptist Church 2020 Trustees' Report

As an active member of the *East Midlands Baptist Association*, the church collected food for the *Kingsgate Project* at *Greenhill Community Church*, Coalville, especially during Advent and, although online, the annual toy service brought generous contributions for the *Marlene Reid Centre*.

During the year, four members died and three others ceased to be members, including two who transferred membership to Ebenezer Baptist Church in Coalville, having been part of a team serving there. At the February AGM, the Deacon Associate stepped down, as did two Deacons who had completed their terms of service, and one Deacon was appointed for the first time.

Since the AGM, no Church Meetings have been possible, and the Deacons have rarely been permitted to meet. Nevertheless, risk assessments have been approved for the use of the building and church activities, and necessary decisions have been agreed via email.

With the support of the 'furlough scheme' and the generosity the church family, income and expenditure were satisfactory, and the Pastor and Deacons are grateful to everyone who has contributed to all that was achieved in 2020. We look forward to 2021, when the theme will be "*Beauty for ashes*" (Isaiah 61:3).

Financial Review

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation. The most significant regular expense is the cost of the Minister who leads and co-ordinates the Church's activities including the Sunday Services, together with the part-time Pastoral Worker, who assists the Minister in providing pastoral care for the congregation and others, and in equipping and encouraging the membership in their life, Christian witness and service.

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church by making grants to local, national and international Christian organisations with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose.

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.

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

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy and are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with ongoing income anticipated, to enable the Church to function effectively in the coming year.

The Trustees have made an assessment of the major risks facing the Church, and are satisfied that there are policies in place to minimise these risks.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH FINANCE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR 2021 AGM

**Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail.
(Lamentations 3:22)**

1. Independent Examination

The Independent Examiners have completed their work and signed off the accounts. A copy of their Report and the Accounts in the format for the Charity Commission is attached.

2. Receipts

The Church continues to raise the funds that it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation. Thanks must be expressed to church members, the general congregation and others for their continued faithful giving to the church during the Covid-19 pandemic. Many people who might normally make their donations at the weekly services have gone out of their way to find alternative methods to donate while it has not been possible to gather in the usual way. This has been an enormously important factor in the healthy finances reported on herewith.

Income for the 2020 General Account was down on that for 2019 by nearly £9,000. This notwithstanding claims made and grants received under the government's Job Retention Scheme totalling £8,922. Income from use of the building was substantially down in 2020 at £600 compared with a little under £2,000 in 2019.

3. Payments

The Church is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of Church activities, many of which run with little or no impact on Church expenditure but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the Church's objectives. Expenditure for the year was down on that for 2019 by £20,000.

a. Ministry

During 2020 the minister took sabbatical leave for three months. It was an opportunity for him to engage in personal study and reflection without the responsibilities of day to day church matters distracting him.

b. Mission

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church by making donations to local, national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose, summarised in Note 5 to the Accounts and detailed at Note 3.

10% of the church's income was tithed equally between BMS World Mission and EMBA Home Mission Fund. Financial support was also given out of Church funds to Ashby Youth for Christ, Oasis International (to support the work of Phil Lane), British Youth for Christ (supporting Nigel Roberts) and Christians Against Poverty (CAP-MNF in Ashby).

c. Upkeep of church premises

These costs are detailed in Note 6 to the Accounts and show that our expenditure was only very slightly in excess of that forecast in the budget.

4. Surplus for the year and bank balances

The Trustees are satisfied that they have sufficient reserves at the Balance Sheet date, together with ongoing anticipated income, to enable the church to function effectively in the coming year.

There was a surplus of £7,519 in the general accounts in 2020 for which we are most grateful given the exceptional circumstances that prevailed in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic. As at 31 December 2020 total bank and cash balances stood at £48,338.

ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

GENERAL RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Receipts			
Regular offerings		86,727	88,330
Donations and other income	2	4,306	8,423
Income tax recovered on gift aided receipts to general funds		18,378	20,307
Job Retention Scheme grants		8,922	-
Bank interest		312	257
Rents and contributions for use of premises		600	1,975
Ministry & Manse Fund		2,238	555
Monies raised and received for other causes	3	742	3,226
EMBA Grant towards Minister in Training		-	7,932
		<u>£122,225</u>	<u>£131,005</u>
Payments			
Ministry	4	62,623	79,879
Mission	5	25,134	25,868
Administration		8,984	9,373
Upkeep of Church premises	6	17,965	19,593
		<u>£114,706</u>	<u>£134,713</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		7,519	(3,708)
Balance brought forward at 1st January		40,669	37,734
Unpresented Cheque No 5264		150	-
Transferred from Frontage and Partitioning Project		-	6,644
Closing Balance at 31st December		<u>£48,338</u>	<u>£40,670</u>

CHURCH FRONTAGE & PARTITIONING PROJECT RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Receipts			
Income		-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Payments			
Transferred to General Fund		-	6,644
		<u>-</u>	<u>£6,644</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		-	(6,644)
Balance brought forward at 1st January		-	6,644
Closing Balance at 31st December		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

STATEMENT OF BANK & CASH BALANCES AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
General Funds - balance brought forward at 1 January		40,669	44,377
Total General Funds Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		7,669	(3,708)
Frontage/Partitioning Project – balance brought forward at 1 January		-	6,644
Total Frontage/Partitioning Project Funds Surplus/(Deficit) for year		-	(6,644)
Balance carried forward at 31 December		<u>£48,338</u>	<u>£40,669</u>
represented by:			
NatWest Current & Business Reserve Accounts		26,314	3,648
Kingdom Bank Savings Accounts		22,004	37,005
Petty Cash		20	16
Total Cash and Bank balances at 31 December		<u>£48,338</u>	<u>£40,669</u>
allocated to:			
General Fund		30,231	31,706
Building & Maintenance Fund		2,692	2,280
Mission Fund		186	1,435
Ministry & Manse Deposit Fund		13,837	4,056
Benevolence Fund		1,392	1,192
Total		<u>£48,338</u>	<u>£ 40,669</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Assets			
Bank and other cash balances		<u>£48,338</u>	<u>£40,669</u>
representing Balances in the following Funds			
Total Funds		<u>48,338</u>	<u>40,669</u>
		<u>£48,338</u>	<u>£40,669</u>
Other monetary assets	7	<u>7554</u>	<u>£ 6,696</u>
Non-monetary assets	8	<u>£1,685,000</u>	<u>£1,655,514</u>

ADOPTION BY THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Accounts, including the Notes, were adopted at the Annual General Meeting of Ashby Baptist Church on 23rd February 2021.

Dated: 23rd February 2021

21/3/2021

Signed: 



Chairman
Rev G Heath

Acting Secretary
Duncan Scott

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of accounts:

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and accord with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011

2. Donations and other income:	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
General donations	3,561	7,117
Saturday coffee mornings	164	719
Donations towards upkeep of Church premises	581	587
	<u>£4,306</u>	<u>£8,423</u>

3. Other causes	<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>	
	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>	<u>Raised</u>	<u>Given</u>
BMS World Mission	-	5,889	342	6,250
EMBA Home Mission Fund	-	5,889	-	5,908
Ashby Youth for Christ	-	4,560	-	4,500
Christians Against Poverty (Midlands National Forest)	-	1,008	-	984
Oasis International (P & R Lane)	167	2,381	502	2,673
British Youth For Christ (N Roberts)	-	2,214	-	2,136
Tearfund	75	75	-	179
Christian Aid	-	133	133	-
Latin Link	500	500	-	-
Ashby Street Pastors	-	-	139	199
Other Causes	-	-	2,110	2154
	<u>£742</u>	<u>22,649</u>	<u>£3,226</u>	<u>£24,983</u>

4. Ministry	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Minister's Stipend, on-costs and expenses	37,340	38,550
Minister's housing costs	12,087	10,555
Minister-in-Training	18	16,050
Pastoral worker and costs	12,437	12,572
Family Ministries	110	859
Worship resources	414	254
Fellowship support and events	17	761
Benevolence	200	278
	<u>£62,623</u>	<u>£79,879</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5. Mission	Note	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	
Given to other causes	3	22,649	24,983	
Other local outreach		2,485	885	
		<u>25,134</u>	<u>£25,868</u>	
6. Upkeep of Church Premises and General Running Costs		<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	
Insurance		2,418	2,364	
Gas and electricity		2,880	3,143	
Other running costs		2,679	2,544	
Cleaning		4,125	4,249	
Catering		443	2,342	
General repairs & maintenance		5,420	4,951	
		<u>17,965</u>	<u>£19,593</u>	
7. Other monetary assets	Note	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	
Current debtors:				
Unpaid Invoice 344 Ashby Spa WI		-	71	
HMRC - tax recoverable on Gift Aid Q3		5,034	4,481	
Insurance prepaid		2,417	2,005	
		<u>£7,451</u>	<u>6,557</u>	
Cash balances of Church organisations	9	103	139	
		<u>£7,554</u>	<u>£6,696</u>	
8. Non-monetary assets		<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	
Church premises situate Brook Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, built in 1862 and held by The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. as Custodian Trustees.				
The building is currently insured for		1,545,000	1,517,555	
Contents of the Church premises are currently insured for		140,000	137,959	
		<u>£1,685,000</u>	<u>£1,655,514</u>	
9. Cash balances of Church organisations				
	Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance
Lunch Club	125	99	164	60
Acorns (Toddler Group)	24	194	175	43
	<u>£149</u>	<u>£293</u>	<u>£339</u>	<u>£103</u>

In 2020 there were no donations made by the Church organisations above to charitable causes.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ASHBY BAPTIST CHURCH ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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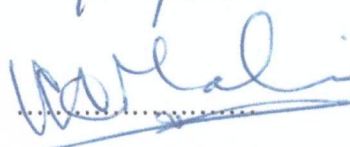
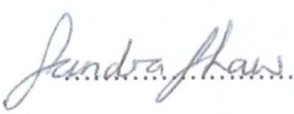
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Dated:	31/01/21	2/2/2021
Signed:		
	Keith Malin 64A The Crest Linton Swadlincote Derbyshire DE12 6QE	Sandra Shaw 41 Ashby Road Moir Swadlincote Derbyshire DE12 6DJ