

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.

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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."

Psalms 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 LIABILITIES 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:  SJTreasure

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:

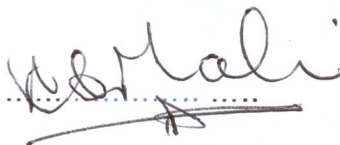
1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements
(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
(b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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

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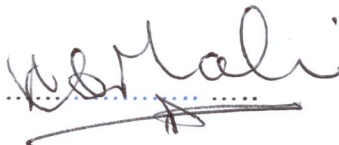
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