

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 for 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

Current debtors:

	<i>Note</i>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
HMRC - tax recoverable on Gift Aid Q3		4,433.75	4,822
Insurance prepaid		2,734.40	2,559
		7,168.15	£7,380
Cash balances of Church organisations	9	212.30	229
		<u>7,380.45</u>	<u>£7,609</u>

8. Non-monetary assets

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	1,893,190	1,657,797
Contents of the Church premises are currently insured for	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