



Trustees' Annual Report

for the period ending

31st December 2022

Charity Name: Beacon Evangelical Church

Registered Charity Number: 1163097

Principal address: 47 Sandwell Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 8NH

Trustees who manage the Charity

Name	Office (if any)	Dates in office if not for the whole year
Timothy Turner	Pastor and Elder	
Elaine Salmon	Deacon and Secretary	
Philip Evans	Deacon and Treasurer	
Veronica Johnson	Deacon	

Structure and governance

Beacon Evangelical Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees and is regulated by a constitution.

Trustees are elected by the members of the church and together constitute the “Leadership Team” of the church. Within the Leadership Team, there are Elders who are responsible for the spiritual and pastoral care of the members and Deacons who assist the Elders in their duties.

The trustees meet on a monthly basis to consider the spiritual and pastoral affairs of the church and on a quarterly basis to manage matters requiring financial and procedural decisions.

The church is a founder member of the Charity, Handsworth and District Christian Outreach also known as Hands Outstretched, a collaboration between local churches for the advancement of the Christian faith.

Objects

The church’s objects, for the public benefit, are to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Faith detailed in the church’s constitution.

To this end, the Leadership Team is committed to enabling the members of the church to communicate the Christian gospel with as many people as possible. This is understood to take place verbally and also by practical demonstration of God’s love through compassionate care for members of the community, the provision of services from the base of the church building on Sandwell Road and through the members’ lifestyle within the community.

In overseeing and developing the activities of the church, the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Activities

The activities of the church are open to the public.

Worship

The church holds one service of worship each Sunday. Members are encouraged to participate in running the service, building their faith, developing confidence and skills. Having developed the means to Live-stream our services during the Covid-19 restrictions we chose to continue to live-stream them to YouTube during 2022. This has benefitted not just those who cannot leave their homes for reasons of health and vulnerability but has strengthened our connection with other people who might not otherwise have come into contact with us.

Prayer

The church has a monthly day of prayer and two-week long prayer events, meeting together nightly. These events were often shared over the Zoom platform but this has been discontinued to encourage people to attend these very interactive meetings in person.

Fellowship groups

The church runs several small groups on weekday evenings for study of the Bible, to develop individual Christian faith and to engage in community outreach. From time to time, groups events to bring the community together and explain the Christian faith. There are now three evening groups and a new daytime group.

Drop-in days

In 2022 we started a monthly 'drop-in day' with activities, free refreshments and a free lunch. This is a prototype event, helping us to welcome and get to people from our immediate community, especially those who are lonely, isolated or vulnerable in some way. It is a welcoming space with a listening ear. We offer to help people with filling in forms, can issue foodbank vouchers and have incorporated a 'Dementia Café', run by a Dementia UK ambassador. This day has proved popular and attracted up to 20 people, most of whom we had never met before and who would not have come to the church for a service. This is intended to help us learn about the needs and aspirations of our community as we look to develop the new Beacon Centre.

Children and young people

- The church runs a **Sunday School** for children from Year 1 to year 11, teaching Bible knowledge and explaining the Christian faith. Numbers attending were still low compared to pre-pandemic but have slowly increased over the year. Sunday School was renamed **Sunday Club** during 2022 after it was realised that the local Community does not identify with the idea of a Sunday School.
- **Late Night Fridays (LNF)** is run by teenagers and young adults for those in year 10 and above, including young adults in their early 20s. The group combines activities, games, opportunity to explore life and faith issues and grow in understanding of the Christian faith. This group now meets on a Sunday evening and has become **Late Night Sunday (LNS)**!
- **12+** is a group for young people in year 7 to early teens meeting once a fortnight for games and topical study and once a month for a physical activity together such as

climbing, bowling etc. This was restarted in 2021 after a number of years' absence and has continued to grow in 2022.

Food bank

The church continued to support The Handsworth Food Bank, a Trussell Trust Food Bank based locally, providing funds from time to time, food and volunteers to staff the food bank.

Sisters of Strength Women's group (SOS)

Sisters of Strength is a women's group which meets up to 6 times a year for an evening of worship, teaching and celebration. Although this group was not able to meet as frequently in 2022, some women's breakfasts did take place.

Beacon Brothers Together

Brothers Together is a fairly informal group for men, which meets for breakfast from time to time and seeks to support men in the church and outside in putting their faith into action. It also operates as a support network for men via social media.

Beacon Listening Service

This is a free, appointment only service staffed by trained volunteers and offering up to three hour-long sessions of confidential listening with one or sometimes two listeners present. This service was able to operate in a limited capacity in 2022.

Safe Families

The church continued to partner with the Safe Families charity providing volunteer support to families needing a variety of help from support for struggling parents.

Staffing and safeguarding

The church had one paid employee, the pastor for most of 2022 but this role became voluntary and part time as our pastor of 24 years moved to a different job.

We began to recruit for a full time Community Development and Outreach Leader, changing the focus of our only full-time role to fit the church's vision to become more outward looking and to take the good news of Jesus to our community in both word and compassionate action to help the most vulnerable in our community.

The majority of the services and activities provided are organised and staffed by volunteers. The church's safeguarding officers ensure that those working with children and vulnerable adults are selected, trained, checked and supervised in accordance with the church's safeguarding policy.

Achievements and performance

The number of children and young people attending Sunday Club and other events increased during 2022 over the numbers immediately following the Covid-19 pandemic period.

The church continued to livestream Sunday Services via YouTube. This has allowed a number of members and others who are housebound along with those who have to remain at home for other reasons, to remain connected. It has also allowed those who work weekend shifts, were sick or away from home to connect and take part. Having service videos available after the event has also meant that new people have been able to connect with us. Family members and people who used to be connected to Beacon Church have also watched after the event.

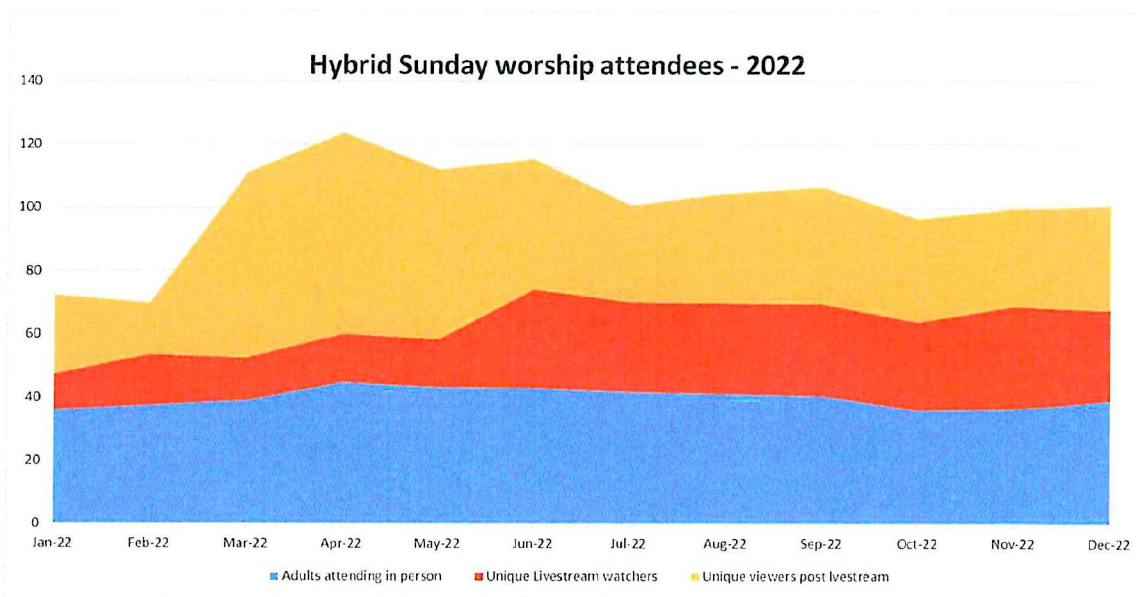


Figure 1 – 2022 Hybrid Sunday worship attendance

The number of people attending Sunday Worship in person averaged around 40 (up from 30 in 2021), still only around 66% of the pre-pandemic attendance. An average of 23 additional people watched live (up from 14 in 2021) and another average of 38 watched the service after the event (27 in 2021). This additional number must be reduced slightly to account for hosts watching the service in the building in order to interact with those online.

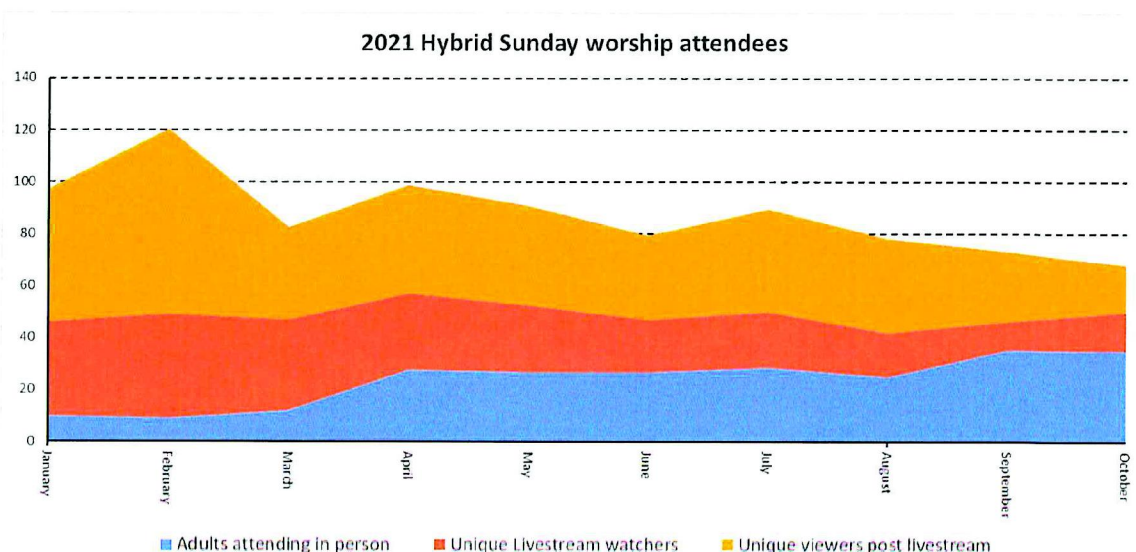


Figure 2 – 2021 Hybrid Sunday worship attendance

The total number of people joining in with our Sunday Services in some way during 2022 averaged 101, up from 71 in 2021 and 66% higher than pre-pandemic.

In all the church published 50 videos on YouTube and the number of people subscribing to our YouTube channel rose from around 148 to 178. Once again this involved a huge amount of creativity, energy, volunteer hours and commitment from our volunteers carrying out preparation, the Sunday technical team and our worship team.

The church conducted one wedding, two funerals and one baby dedication service in 2022. Seventy-eight people were in membership at the end of 2021 (82 at the end of 2020). Four transferred to other churches, one passed away and one joined.

Outreach

The Church continued to offer support to individuals and families in need with contact, food parcels, food bank vouchers, practical help through our 25:35 fund, transport to appointments, applications for grants for essential items, assistance with filling in forms, assistance to move home or to prevent people becoming homeless. Over the Christmas period the church distributed food hampers to families in need, partly via our contact with St James School and distributed Christmas presents to over 20 families via the Birmingham City Mission Toylink scheme.

The Beacon Centre Project

A project to refocus the energy of the church on reaching and serving the community. It includes the plan to rebuild the church premises in Sandwell Road in order to better facilitate the church's vision to reach the community and provide more space for services of worship.

The vision includes expanding or providing for the first time some of the following services:

- counselling and support to address mental health needs
- facilities and support for parents with young children
- signposting and language learning to support incomers
- a place for young people to belong, learn and play
- a place for older people to socialise and obtain help

In June 2022 the Church submitted an application for planning permission. This date for this to be considered by the Birmingham City Council Planning Department was extended into 2022 to allow for continued discussions with the BCC Highways Department concerning the design for the integration of the site entrance with the public highway.

Financial Review

A full statement of accounts has been prepared by Data Developments (UK) Ltd, First Floor, The Chubb Buildings, Fryer Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HT. Data Developments act as the church's independent examiners.

The charity does not currently operate a policy on reserves.

Beacon Church's principal source of funding is donations from members.

The church makes use of the gift aid scheme to claim tax on donations.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature 

Date: 25-06-2023

Full Name Timothy John Holden Turner

Position Chair

Beacon Evangelical Church

Financial statements for the year ended 2022

Registered Charity Number: 1163097

Principal address: 47 Sandwell Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 8NH

Independent Examiner's report

Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and they consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity
Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these 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 for an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matter has come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

Date: 15th May 2023

Signed:



Stephen Hendy

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income	41,934	15,711	—	—	57,646	166,933
Investment income	84	60	—	—	144	0
Incoming resources from charitable activities	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other incoming resources	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total income	42,018	15,771	—	—	57,790	166,934
Resources used						
Charitable activities	9,896	872	—	—	10,768	16,299
Other resources used	39,437	9,128	—	—	48,566	93,802
Total expenditure	49,334	10,000	—	—	59,334	110,102
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(7,315)	5,770	—	—	(1,544)	56,831
Transfers						
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	—	—	—	50,000
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	—	—	—	—	(50,000)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds	(7,315)	5,770	—	—	(1,544)	56,831
Total funds brought forward	573,004	285,465	56,065	—	914,534	857,702
Total funds carried forward	565,689	291,235	56,065	—	912,990	914,534
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	565,689	—	—	—	565,689	573,004
Designated						
25-35 Fund	—	870	—	—	870	650
Distress Fund	—	1,280	—	—	1,280	1,547
New Beacon Fund	—	289,084	—	—	289,084	283,266
Travel Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—
Restricted						
Building Fund	—	—	56,065	—	56,065	56,065
New Beacon Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—

Balance sheet

	Total funds	Prior year funds
Fixed assets		
Heritage assets	440,433	440,433
	440,433	440,433
Current assets		
Debtors	—	8,243
Cash at bank and in hand	472,557	466,754
	472,557	474,997
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	—	896
	—	896
Net current assets less current liabilities	472,557	474,101
Total assets less current liabilities	912,990	914,534
Total net assets less liabilities	912,990	914,534

Represented by

Unrestricted

General fund	565,689	573,004
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Designated

25-35 Fund	870	650
Distress Fund	1,280	1,547
New Beacon Fund	289,084	283,266
Travel Fund	—	—

Restricted

Building Fund	56,065	56,065
New Beacon Fund	—	—

Funds of the church

912,990	914,534
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Statement of assets and liabilities

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Fixed assets - Heritage assets						
Church Premises -	440,433	—	—	—	440,433	440,433
Totals	440,433	—	—	—	440,433	440,433
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
Beacon CafCash -	49,315	32,736	2,859	—	84,911	182,912
Beacon Gold -	4,823	100,004	1,062	—	105,891	5,881
CAF - Scottish Widows Term deposit -	57,857	16,650	(22,857)	—	51,650	51,540
Cambridge & Counties Bank -	7,656	2,192	75,000	—	84,849	83,482
Lloyds TSB -	5,603	(620)	—	—	4,983	4,143
Redwood Bank -	—	52,721	—	—	52,721	52,084
United Trust Bank Limited -	—	87,551	—	—	87,551	86,709
Totals	125,256	291,235	56,065	—	472,557	466,754
Current assets - Debtors						
Sundry Debtors -	—	—	—	—	—	8,243
Totals	—	—	—	—	—	8,243
Liabilities - Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year						
Accruals -	—	—	—	—	—	896
Totals	—	—	—	—	—	896
Grand total	565,689	291,235	56,065	—	912,990	914,534

Fund movement by type

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Closing
25-35 - 25-35 Fund						
Designated	650	642	422	—	—	870
Sub-total for 25-35	650	642	422	—	—	870
BF - Building Fund						
Restricted	56,065	—	—	—	—	56,065
Sub-total for BF	56,065	—	—	—	—	56,065
Distr - Distress Fund						
Designated	1,547	183	450	—	—	1,280
Sub-total for Distr	1,547	183	450	—	—	1,280
General - General fund						
Unrestricted	573,004	42,018	49,334	—	—	565,689
Sub-total for General	573,004	42,018	49,334	—	—	565,689
NBF - New Beacon Fund						
Designated	283,266	14,946	9,128	—	—	289,084
Restricted	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-total for NBF	283,266	14,946	9,128	—	—	289,084
Tra - Travel Fund						
Designated	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-total for Tra	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand total	914,534	57,790	59,334	—	—	912,990

Analysis of income and expenditure

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS						
Incoming resources from generated funds - Voluntary income						
Offerings	39,096	—	—	—	39,096	36,322
Income tax refund	—	—	—	—	—	18,648
Other Income	2,837	—	—	—	2,837	30,378
Distress fund	—	183	—	—	183	571
25-35	—	642	—	—	642	1,091
New Beacon Fund Income	—	14,885	—	—	14,885	79,922
Total	41,934	15,711	—	—	57,646	166,933
Incoming resources from generated funds - Investment income						
Bank Interest	84	60	—	—	144	0
Total	84	60	—	—	144	0
Incoming resources from charitable activities						
Rental Income	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other incoming resources						
Building Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—
Minibus fund	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—
INCOME TOTAL	42,018	15,771	—	—	57,790	166,934

EXPENDITURE

Charitable activities

Church Gifts	8,039	—	—	—	8,039	10,722
Distress Fund expenses	—	450	—	—	450	505
25-35 expenses	—	422	—	—	422	769
Organisational Support & Events	1,856	—	—	—	1,856	4,302
Total	9,896	872	—	—	10,768	16,299

Other resources used

Salaries:Net Salary	14,774	—	—	—	14,774	18,170
Salaries:Employers National Insurance	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salaries:Pensions	1,000	—	—	—	1,000	1,200
Salaries:Income tax	1,414	—	—	—	1,414	1,757
Salaries:Employee National Insurance	1,110	—	—	—	1,110	1,415
Payroll:Volunteer Expenses	655	—	—	—	655	141
Salaries:Telephone Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	—
Preaching fees	100	—	—	—	100	130
Training	—	—	—	—	—	—
Subscriptions	243	—	—	—	243	129
Governance Costs	696	—	—	—	696	696

Establishment costs:Light & Heat	4,322	—	—	—	4,322	2,730
Establishment costs:Insurances	1,547	—	—	—	1,547	—
Establishment costs:Repairs and renewals	2,178	—	—	—	2,178	4,653
Establishment costs:depreciation	—	—	—	—	—	40,415
Establishment costs:Cleaning & consumabs	443	—	—	—	443	293
New Beacon Project cost	—	9,128	—	—	9,128	10,850
Support Costs	10,738	—	—	—	10,738	3,226
Depreciation	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	39,437	9,128	—	—	48,566	93,802
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	49,334	10,000	—	—	59,334	110,102
GRAND TOTAL	(7,315)	5,770	—	—	(1,544)	56,831