

# Dunstable Baptist Church

## 2023 Trustees' Annual Report

### Section A Reference and Administrative Details

#### Full Name and Principle Address

Dunstable Baptist Church, St Mary's Gate, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 3SW

#### Registered Charity Number

1164112

#### Financial Year

1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023

#### Trustees

The managing trustees are the elders and deacons of Dunstable Baptist Church who are responsible for Church funds and the running of the Church.

The trustees who served during 2023 were:

Steve Burton	Pastor & Elder	Whole Year
Jeff Hewitt	Elder & Chairman	Whole Year
Barry King	Pastor & Elder	Ended Oct 2023
Nigel Browne	Deacon	Whole Year
Robert Davies	Deacon	Whole Year
Graham Starkey	Deacon	Whole Year

#### Professional Advisers

Grace Baptist Trust Corporation, 19 Croydon Road, Caterham, Surry, CR3 6PA

### Section B Structure, Governance and Management

#### Governing Document

Dunstable Baptist Church Constitution, Version 1 dated 28th January 2015

#### Appointments of Trustees/Church Leaders

The Trustees/Church Leaders were appointed by resolutions of the Church and every new appointment will be made in the same way and are recorded in the Church minutes.

### **Associated Charities**

Dunstable Baptist Chapel (Charity Commission registered no. 233323) which is in the trust of the Grace Baptist Trust Corporation.

Christian Books, Dunstable (Charity Commission registered no. 801449)

## **Section C Objectives and Activities**

### **Objects of the Charity**

The principal object of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to Baptist principles and in accordance with the Basis of Faith as stated in Schedule 1 of the Constitution.

The charity may also carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

### **Main Activities in Relation to Public Benefit**

The Trustees/Church Leaders are aware of, and have taken regard to, the Charity Commission's guidance to public benefit in "The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and believe that the Main Activities detailed in Section D below, that are an outworking of the Objects above, provide a benefit to the public by:

- providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual and moral development, both for our members and for members of the public who want to benefit;
- promoting Christian values (based on the Bible), and service by members of the Church to the local community, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

### **Grant Making Policy**

Grants (donations) from the Church for Mission/Relief and pastoral gifts for individuals are decided by the Trustees/Church Leaders at the time that they are required and endorsed as necessary at the next Church members' meeting.

### **Investment Selection Policy**

Current and future policies are decided by the Trustees/Church Leaders, with professional advice being sought when necessary.

#### **Section D Achievements and Performance**

The church employs one pastor, Steve Burton. He is responsible for the pastoral care of the members of the Church and any others who come to the Church for spiritual help. In addition, the pastor and elders are responsible for overseeing the teaching given at all meetings of the Church. All involved in the work of the Church are volunteers except for the pastor. Discretionary payments have been made to those inside and outside the church undertaking individual preaching engagements that have been required. The church has a Safeguarding Policy (Protection of Christian and Vulnerable Adults) and volunteers working with children and vulnerable adults are DBS checked and trained.

Regular services and meetings have continued through the year including: Sunday worship, mid-week Bible study and prayer meetings, Early Learning Time, DBC Kids, Tots and Co, Men's Prayer Meetings and Ladies' Bible Studies.

During the year donations were made to our four main missions: Grace Baptist Mission, European Missionary Fellowship, Grace Baptist Partnership, and Caring For Life.

#### **Section E Financial Review**

##### **Reserved Funds**

At the end of the year the money held in the Barclay's Business Premium Account for the Church was £20,554.

##### **Source of Funds**

The principle source of funds is the voluntary giving by the members of the church and congregation, making use of the Gift Aid Scheme and the Small Donations Scheme where appropriate.

#### **Section F Declaration**

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

# **Dunstable Baptist Church**

## **Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds General Fund	Manse Fund	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
<b>Receipts</b>					
Voluntary Receipts:					
Planned Giving & collection at services		64,842	0	64,842	59,525
All other giving	2	11,514	0	11,514	92,403
Gift Aid recovered		10,832	0	10,832	11,462
		<b>87,188</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>87,188</b>	<b>163,390</b>
Activites for generating funds		0	0	0	0
Investment income		0	53	53	8
Church activities		0	0	0	0
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>87,188</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>87,241</b>	<b>163,398</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Church activities	3	137,688	1,915	139,603	444,641
Governance costs		325	0	325	250
Cost of generating funds		0	0	0	0
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>138,013</b>	<b>1,915</b>	<b>139,928</b>	<b>444,891</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Payments</b>		<b>-50,825</b>	<b>-1,862</b>	<b>-52,687</b>	<b>-281,493</b>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		<b>2,000</b>	<b>-2,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Net movement in funds		-48,825	-3,862	-52,687	-281,493
Cash at bank and in hand 1 January		69,379	6,590	75,869	357,362
<b>Cash at bank and in hand 31 December</b>		<b>20,554</b>	<b>2,728</b>	<b>23,182</b>	<b>75,869</b>

## **Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds General Fund	Manse Fund	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Cash Funds				
Bank Current Account	20,454		20,454	69,279
Deposit Account		2,728	2,728	6,590
	<b>20,454</b>	<b>2,728</b>	<b>23,182</b>	<b>75,869</b>

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

1 The Financial Statements of the Church have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

	2023	2022
2 All other giving		
Donations	11,514	6,860
Legacy	0	85,543
	<b>11,514</b>	<b>92,403</b>
3 Church activities		
Pastoral Ministry	65,989	77,396
Mission Support	16,950	20,420
Ministry Expenses	12,170	10,305
Building Capital Expenditure	17,371	1,496
Building Repairs and Renewals	1,083	2,647
Utilities and Insurance	5,969	5,946
Manse Expenditure	1,686	2,409
Administration Expenses	1,937	314
Miscellaneous Expenses	7,998	918
Wimbledon Building Fund	8,450	0
Purchase of manse	0	296,790
Repayment of loan	0	26,000
	<b>139,603</b>	<b>444,641</b>

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Dunstable Baptist Church**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. The financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Financial statements and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

*R D Felix*

Robert Felix FCA  
33 Broomhill Road  
Woodford Green  
Essex IG8 9HD

Date : 1 October 2024

# **Dunstable Baptist Church**

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