

**TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH TENTERDEN**  
**Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2025**

The Trustees of Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

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## **1. Aims and purposes**

Our aim and purpose as a church is to see God's kingdom grow as families, friends and communities are transformed by Jesus Christ.

## **2. Objectives and activities**

The main objects of the charity are to promote the worship of God and the preaching of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ both locally and internationally.

When planning our activities for the year we have considered the Charity Commissioner's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. We try to show people how to come to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and to live out their faith in the local community through:

- Worship, prayer and Bible study; learning about the gospel and developing people's knowledge of and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ;
- Supporting missionary endeavour and other outreach here and overseas;
- Providing pastoral support for Church members and others who are in need.

To facilitate the work it is essential we maintain the fabric of the Church building.

## **3. Achievements and performance**

It has always been the wish of the Trustees to hold services and a range of other activities during the week, and over the course of the year, that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling. Our Sunday morning service is family-friendly and intended to facilitate worship in an accessible way, whereas our evening meeting is less formal and provides more opportunity for people to participate in the time together. There are mid-week meetings for Bible study and prayer, many of which are held in people's homes, which are useful means of spiritual growth.

We continue to share the good news of the Gospel in the town of Tenterden: once a week we go to a busy part of the High Street with a view to offering passers-by literature and information about the Church, and to engage in conversation with them. Our Wednesday morning meeting continues to provide a forum for those wishing to ask questions and discuss issues relating to the Christian life.

As part of our wish to offer pastoral care for our members and those connected to the Church, the Elders and other helpers visited many of the sick, elderly and needy folk.

At the end of the year our membership stood at 29.

#### **4. Financial review**

Unrestricted donations were £45 530 which, together with the Gift Aid claim, meant that our income from regular donations amounted to £58 817. Incoming resources from charitable activities amounted to £5267, including £4880 raised from hiring the hall to outside organisations.

Costs associated with running the Church amounted to £69 337. This included grants for missionary work totalling £6608 and international aid of £1008. Much of the former was sent to missionary organisations working abroad.

The Trustees noted that expenditure exceeded income during the year, leading to a deficit of £1534. This was expected on account of our decision to recruit and employ a new pastor, which was made in the knowledge that there would be a call on our reserves until donation income increases through a growth in membership. The Trustees were also pleased to note that donation income has increased over the year and is one of the significant reasons the deficit has reduced.

Please see the attached Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts for further details.

#### **5 Reserves policy**

The Trustees aim to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds equivalent to 3 months expenditure, amounting to approximately £17 250 in 2024/25. This was achieved.

#### **6. Volunteers**

The Church relies on the support of volunteers drawn from the membership and regular attendees to carry out many of the activities undertaken in the local area.

#### **7. Safeguarding**

The Church opened an account with Christian Safeguarding Services in September 2021 and reviewed its safeguarding policy in January 2025. A training session is planned for April 2026 and DBS checks are instigated where appropriate.

#### **8. General Data Protection Regulations**

The Church has relevant policies in place in regard to GDPR. A copy of our Privacy Notice can be found on our Church Website. Our database is held within password protected software called "ChurchSuite", a cloud-hosted GDPR compliant system and personal data is only included with specific consent.

## **9. Structure, governance and management**

Trinity Baptist Church was founded in 1967. On 19 July 1976 an Assignment and Declaration of Trust was established in relation to the premises where the Church currently meets. The trustees were named officers of the Church and the Grace Baptist Trust Corporation.

At a formally constituted meeting of members on 25 October 2012, the Church adopted a constitution governing the charitable assets of the Church from a legal perspective in accordance with the requirements of charity law. The trustees of this charity were the minister of the Church together with the other elders and the deacons.

New rules were adopted at the same time. In 2016/17 the Church adopted a new Constitution and Handbook for the purposes of obtaining registration as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The Charity Commission confirmed the new charitable status on 9 January 2017 (Registered charity number 1171047). The trustees of the charity were, again, the minister, the other elders and the deacons. Since as a CIO the Church was able to own property, the ownership of building and land were transferred to the CIO, thus ending the 1976 Trust deed.

Charity Trustees:	Matthew Clay	Matthew Hopkins
	John McDonald	Peter Smith (Chair)

## **10. Administrative information**

Charity No:	1171047
Address:	Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 6LR
Independent examiner	Paxton Independent Examiners, 6 Alfred Street, NN10 9YS
Solicitors	Edward Connor Solicitors, 10 The Point, LE16 7QU

**Approved by the Trustees on 06/05/2025 and signed on their behalf by Peter Smith.**

## **11. Appendix: Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025**

Pages 1 & 2	Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts.
Page 3	Charity Commission Balance Sheet
Page 4	Charity Commission Movement of Funds Report
Pages 5 & 6	Charity Commission SOFA Report



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 March 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

1171047

Set out on pages

1 to 6 (One to Six including these pages)

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025.

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts 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 accounts to be reached.

Signed: Darren Warren

Date: 02/05/2025

Name: Darren Warren – Paxton Independent Examiners

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

FMAAT

Address:

61a High Street South

Rushden

Northants, NN10 0RA

**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

## Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

	Total funds	Prior year funds
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Intangible assets	0	0
Tangible assets	681,490	681,490
Heritage assets	0	0
Investments	0	0
<i>Total fixed assets</i>	<b>681,490</b>	<b>681,490</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Stocks	0	0
Debtors	9,898	8,244
Investments	0	0
Cash at bank and in hand	87,300	90,491
<i>Total current assets</i>	<b>97,199</b>	<b>98,735</b>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	0	0
<i>Net current assets/(liabilities)</i>	97,199	98,735
<i>Total assets less current liabilities</i>	<b>778,689</b>	<b>780,225</b>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	0	0
Provisions for liabilities	0	0
<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>	<b>778,689</b>	<b>780,225</b>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>		
Endowment funds	0	0
Restricted income funds	0	0
Unrestricted funds	778,689	780,225
Revaluation reserve	0	0
<b>Total charity funds</b>	<b>778,689</b>	<b>780,225</b>

Signed by one or two trustees  
on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy

## Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

Month = March 2025

<u>Fund name</u>	<u>Fund balances brought forward</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Gains and losses</u>	<u>Fund balances carried forward</u>
General fund	780,225	67,802	-69,338	0	0	778,689
Totals	780,225	67,802	-69,338	0	0	778,689



## Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

March 2025

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Year Total</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
S01 Donations and legacies					
Donations - regular	36,754	0	0	36,754	29,510
Donations - other	8,776	0	0	8,776	13,062
Gift aid tax claimed	13,287	0	0	13,287	11,034
	58,817	0	0	58,817	53,606
S02 Charitable activities (inc.)					
Room Hire	4,880	0	0	4,880	1,604
Book sales	387	0	0	387	454
Other income	81	0	0	81	0
	5,348	0	0	5,348	2,058
S04 Investments					
Interest received	3,638	0	0	3,638	4,112
	3,638	0	0	3,638	4,112
S09 Charitable activities					
GBM	4,008	0	0	4,008	4,108
EMI Int UK	1,200	0	0	1,200	1,200
Asia Link	1,000	0	0	1,000	1,200
Sat 7	200	0	0	200	100
Other missionary support	200	0	0	200	350
International support	1,008	0	0	1,008	0
TBC assistance	180	0	0	180	17
Salaries and wages	29,365	0	0	29,365	26,932
PAYE/Employer NI	6,414	0	0	6,414	6,156
Pastor Pension	3,427	0	0	3,427	3,176
Pastor expenses	87	0	0	87	156
Pastor travel/subsistence	26	0	0	26	37
Rent for Church Manse	8,400	0	0	8,400	8,300
Conference expenses	0	0	0	0	245
Visiting speaker costs	415	0	0	415	260
Youth work costs	234	0	0	234	328
Evangelism - events	125	0	0	125	0
Evangelism - publicity	30	0	0	30	373
Evangelism - literature	63	0	0	63	193
Printing & stationery	28	0	0	28	257
Bookstall purchases	281	0	0	281	290
Flowers	0	0	0	0	58
Catering	448	0	0	448	512
Anniversary Expenses	0	0	0	0	181
Fire alarm maintenance	721	0	0	721	985
IT, audio visual	372	0	0	372	31
Music, licences	324	0	0	324	293
FIEC Subscription	1,158	0	0	1,158	1,166
Gas	1,309	0	0	1,309	863
Electricity	1,758	0	0	1,758	1,401
Water	120	0	0	120	68
Telephone, internet	596	0	0	596	401

## Trinity Baptist Church Tenterden

March 2025

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Year Total</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Insurance	1,529	0	0	1,529	1,600
Other costs	380	0	0	380	963
Cleaning	1,049	0	0	1,049	1,352
Repairs & maintenance	1,034	0	0	1,034	5,945
Furniture & equipment	26	0	0	26	13
Audit & accountancy	180	0	0	180	180
Safeguarding	157	0	0	157	132
Paxton software support	656	0	0	656	619
Paxton Payroll	439	0	0	439	403
Church Suite admin	390	0	0	390	390
	69,337	0	0	69,337	71,234



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

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	69,337	0	0	69,337	71,234