

BARKING CHURCHES UNITE (BCU)

England & Wales · Charity number 1173315

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-06-07

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Unit 37a
The Vicarage Field Shopping Centre
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Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE: 1) TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE STATEMENT OF FAITH BY ADVANCING THE NETWORKING AND WORKING TOGETHER OF CHURCHES IN BARKING AND FACILITATING CHURCHES IN BARKING TO PRAY TOGETHER FOR THE COMMUNITY OF BARKING 2) THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY IN THE BARKING COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED.

Activities: CIO objects are 1) To advance the Christian Faith for benefit of the public in accordance with the Evangelical Alliance Statement of Faith by advancing the working together of churches in Barking and facilitating churches in Barking to pray together for the community of Barking 2) The prevention or relief of poverty in the Barking Community by providing services to individuals in need

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Barking And Dagenham
- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£263,159	£239,341	-	-
2023-12-31	£256,040	£220,385	-	-
2022-12-31	£156,798	£141,465	-	-
2021-12-31	£89,288	£76,730	-	-
2020-12-31	£118,036	£60,070	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANNE DEAR		2017-01-23
Antoinette Williamson		2023-02-13
Audrey Beverley Sutherland		2023-02-13
ELIZABETH MEDNICK		2017-01-23
MICHAEL MEDNICK		2017-01-23
MICHAEL TAYLOR		2017-01-23
Sandy Tomlinson		2022-02-26
THERESA IBRAHIM		2017-01-23
Unesu Audrey Chindabata Rev		2019-11-12
William Dear		2020-11-10

BARKING CHURCHES UNITE (BCU)

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Accounts



Annual General

Meeting

Report

2024

(7th November 2024)

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1 Chairman's Remarks

This section reflects my personal remarks about the year. Again this has been an amazing year for Barking Churches Unite(BCU) and again another challenging year for Barking, the UK and world. A year concerning the continued wars in the Ukraine and Middle East, cost of living crisis, energy, mortgage, food increases and change of Government & MP's. However, it has been a year where we have engaged even more closely with the Council and the community and this has been demonstrated through the services we have provided and those whom we have journeyed with in Christ. It has been a year we have seen a big increase in guest visits and the development of The Source Warehouse, Baby Bank, and the Centre of Warmth project. In everything we give thanks to God for His favour and His leading in the work of BCU and The Source.

At the Barking Learning Centre (BLC) we have continued to be responsible for the Barking's Food Club supporting up to 150 families a week and Pit Stop which supports up to 150 guests each day. In December 2023 we started sit down meals we are calling Pit Stop Diner. We have now started a Baby Bank supporting up to 30 Barking families. We now have monthly Communion sessions and Discipleship sessions every week at the BLC. The shop unit (known as The Source Wellbeing Centre) tenancy at Vicarage Field Shopping Centre has been extended to 2027, under the same rent-free conditions. The focus on Well-being Centre is wellbeing groups, key working guests, providing a warm space and a listening ear to guests. A mail box of around 80 guests use this facility at the centre. A youth café on a Saturday is to take place in the near future. The warehouse ministry has grown extensively and is providing the collection of food to the BLC as well as the delivery and collection of furniture and white goods to residents. In April we started a Centre of Warmth Project supported by Cadent Gas. This project provides helpful hints to reduce utility costs, gas safety and checks and CO2 alarms. Part of the project is to provide workshops on low cost cooking and the provision of slow cookers. Due to a reduction in funding to BCU, more reliance has been placed on volunteers across the three locations.

A new project is to start in November called 'Shower Box'. This project will be equally shared with The Shower Box charity, LBBB and lead churches. Shower Box is a container containing two separate showers and will be located in the BLC, to the rear loading bay area. The project will provide showers to the homeless and will operate initially on a Friday morning (November), then extended to a Saturday morning (December & January); and then to a Tuesday morning (February 2025). Funding is urgently required for this valuable project alongside a volunteers team.

United Prayer gatherings have continued alongside street praying, intercessory prayer and leaders' prayer meetings.

Barking Churches Unite has also had its logo and branding reviewed and now has a new corporate logo, linking more clearly to The Source activities. Its new website will become live by the end of the year.

I reaffirm my comments of previous AGM remarks, in that I believe that God is saying that it is through the United Church in society we can love the community back to life for God and bring about restoration and redemption. The pandemic and current crises have caused the church to review its biblical responsibility and call to 'Go' and love the community and to resemble the intention of the Lord's Prayer "On earth as in heaven".

I believe the dream of God over our life is that we come alive in His presence within an intimate relationship with Him and through the Holy Spirit we are able to bring life back to every environment, bringing restoration and redemption, spilling contagious hope into a broken and hurting world. To live in our true identity in God as people who are Christlike and live in His footprints and live supernatural lives in God. The next move of God I believe is not a revival or movement in the church but a movement of the Christians in our towns and communities; God's kingdom being established in all the spaces that we travel such as our work space and street and establishing them to be Kingdom spaces. The call is to 'Go'. The call to churches and BCU is to release unstoppable, impassioned Spirit-filled Christians into our communities and outside spaces and to be Kingdom people.

Compassion and mission are inseparable. The spirit of mission is a spirit of mercy. Kingdom People go around doing good, releasing compassion and healing, because God is in them moving them. Kingdom People release blessing, love and peace in their town. Kingdom People become Fathers, Mothers and Shepherds to their town. Kingdom People partner with their town. Every environment & space alive in His presence.

The future of Barking Churches Unite is to facilitate Christians to pray and work together to be Kingdom People in all spaces of our community and helping them to be Kingdom and Prayer Spaces for God. To be culture changers. We are called to 'Go', Be witnesses, and make disciples. To 'Go' into the world and our community and fulfil the Great Commission. Let us love our community back to God. My prayer is that we make every space in Barking and the UK be a Kingdom Space, filled with the presence of God and the Holy Spirit through being Kingdom People. I end with the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:31-40 and the lyrics of a song sung by Tim Hughes.

God of Justice, Saviour to all. Came to rescue the weak and the poor. Came to serve and not to be served. Jesus you have called us. Freely we've received now freely we will go. We must go. Live to feed the hungry. Stand beside the broken, we must go. Stepping forward keep us from just singing. Move us into ACTION, we must GO. Fill us up and send us out. To act justly every day. Loving mercy in every way. Walking humbly before You God. You have shown us what you require. Freely we've received now freely we must go

Mick Mednick – Chair of Barking Churches Unite

2 Barking Churches Unite (BCU)

Barking Churches Unite is a charitable group of Christians from churches in Barking who are committed to working with churches, Christians and volunteers, praying together for the transformation of our community. BCU was established in 2010 and became a registered charity on 7th June 2017. Our charity number is 1173315. We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

The Board of trustees includes the following:

Chair	Mick Mednick (Kings Church)
Co-Chair	Antoinette Williamson (Barking Baptist) Barking Learning Centre Lead United Prayer
Treasurer	Theresa Ibrahim (St Erkenwald Church)

Secretary	Liz Mednick (Kings Church)
Warehouse / Food	Bill Dear (St Erkenwald Church)
Wellbeing Centre	Audrey Sutherland (New Testament Assembly)
Grants/Food	Anne Dear (St Erkenwald Church)
Outreach	Michael Taylor (St Erkenwald Church)
Pastoral	Rev Unesu Chindabata (Christ Church)
Finance & Policies	Sandy Tomlinson
HR	

Mission Statement

Barking Churches Unite is a registered charity working to bring about change in Barking through prayer, the relief of poverty and other initiatives that serve the community and express God's love. We are a group of Christians attending churches across Barking. Barking Churches Unite facilitates contact with the council and other agencies, connecting like-minded Christians in our local area.

Basis of faith

We believe in one God, working as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe in the Lordship of Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection and uphold the Evangelical Alliance Statement of Faith (www.eauk.org) Jesus prayed for unity (John 17:21), Paul commanded we make an effort to maintain it (Ephesians 4:3) and God the Father promises to bless it (Psalm 133) and bring healing to the community through it. (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Organization

Barking Churches Unite is facilitated by a diverse group of Christian Trustees drawn from different church denominations, who include church leaders and Christians, seeking God's face for Barking. The trustees uphold the five-fold ministry and are led by a co-ordinator and chair of trustees. We facilitate communication between churches and among other agencies. Recently, and as a result of our work in the town the council and external bodies have communicated with us as a point of contact to engage with Christians who want to work in the community. We understand that unity is not uniformity and as such we are churches that have different expressions of our faith, believing that we are here to complement rather than compete with one another, and that together as the Body of Christ in Barking we can fulfill God's purpose for our lives in our town.

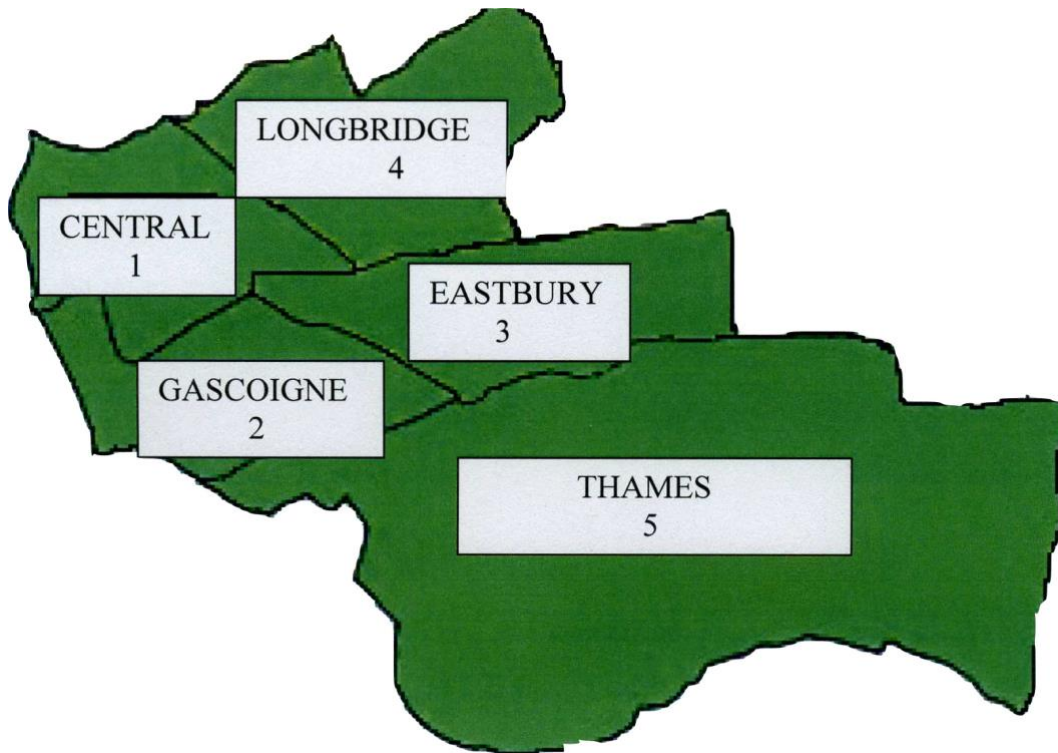
We see a church that will stand together in prayer to see social and spiritual transformation in our community. We see a church that will pray for one another and support one another practically as the need arises and resources allow. We see a church that will rejoice in what one another is doing and where possible promote that. We see a Church that will help facilitate and support the dreams of one another in order to advance God's Kingdom in Barking. We see a church that reaches out and meets the needs of the poor and the community, through joint ministries, initiatives and events.

Any Christian or/of Barking Church(s) that affirms the preceding statements can join us.

Strategy

1.Prayer

The individual churches are grouped into five zones, loosely based on the council wards. We cover Barking in prayer, through different forms of prayer meetings; church leader meetings, regular prayer walks and corporate prayer meetings in each zone, an intercessors group comprised of people from different churches, and open to all Christians from across the borough.



Mission and relief of poverty

Through an outpouring of God's love, The Source (Barking Learning Centre, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre & Riverside Industrial Estate) has been set up in Barking to support those in poverty, who are homeless and helpless to bring about hope, help and restoration in the community.

Through God's leading we have been involved in setting up and we continue to partner with other initiatives; the Food Bank and Kidz Klub.

We serve a big God and therefore have a big VISION of transformation to Barking. As we encourage and facilitate Christians to be released within their calling through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will see God move in a mighty way

Finance

Finance comes from grants, Barking & Dagenham Council, businesses, personal and church-based donations and through fund raising. We do not apply for lottery or gambling-related funding.

Governance

BCU has a constitutional document and a number of policies that are statutory and of good practice in its operation. These include Child Protection & Safeguarding, Health and Safety, GDPR, Food & Hygiene rating certificate, (Level 4 at BLC), Complaints procedures and Service Level agreements.

3 The story in the last 12 months

It has been a busy and challenging year for Barking Churches Unite. It has been another year where the charity has developed and grown by God's grace and favour. Throughout this period the Source has been open for weekdays and has been there to love our town with food, support and comfort. Its been a year of rebranding BCU & The Source and now has a new logo.

The Source continues to operate out of three sites:

- Vicarage Field Shopping Centre – The Source Wellbeing Centre
- The Barking Learning Centre (a Council building that hosts all the Council services and local library) – Pit Stop, Baby Bank & The Barking Food Club
- Riverside Industrial Estate, Thames View (a warehouse given to us by the Council) – The Source Warehouse

All the sites are provided rent free and the project receives 100% business rate relief from the Council.

Vicarage Field Shopping Centre site is hosting a Wellbeing Centre for community projects and key working activities and the Barking Learning Centre is responsible for food related projects. We have developed an even closer relationship and partnership with the Council. We are responsible for the Barking Community Food Club, which is the largest Food Club in the Borough at the BLC. The Warehouse is now fulfilling a mighty ministry, providing free furniture and white goods being delivered free of charge to those who are in need. We are now contracting 3 contractors to fulfil the work. We are hoping to extend this work to a Saturday.

We are hoping in 2025 to extend our infrastructure to two Co-Chair Trustees (one already appointed), additional trustees and an Operations Manager (if funding allows). A youth Café at the Wellbeing Centre on a Saturday is being established at the moment to start later this year or in January.

We have also continued our prayer strategy of prayer gatherings through 3 meetings (Christ Church, New Testament Assembly & Kings Church) and street praying. Zoom prayer intercession (BIN) meeting with Dagenham representatives have also regularly taken place.

The contractors of the Source are as follows:

	Lead	Support
Warehouse	Allglory	Emmanuel
Wellbeing Centre	Kay	Suzanne
Pit Stop	Lorraine	Shally
Food Club	Becky	Elyse
Baby Bank	Becky	Elyse
Centre of Warmth	Elyse	

4 The Source

The Source is located in three places. A shop unit in Vicarage Field Shopping Centre (VFSC) is now a Wellbeing Centre, the Barking Learning Centre (BLC) is the location of Pit Stop & together with the Barking Food Club and the Warehouse is located in Thames Road. It is a ministry which is part of Barking Churches Unite (BCU) that works across the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham to supports hundreds of people out of hopelessness, homelessness, disadvantage and isolation. The various locations are line-managed by a trustee - Audrey Sutherland (Wellbeing Centre, (VFSC) Bill Dear (Warehouse) and Antoinette Williamson (Pit Stop, Barking Food Club, Baby Bank (BLC). All staff are contracted. Kay Thompson is our Lead Contractor for the Wellbeing Centre, and Suzanne Playle (Support Assistant); Lorraine Allen is the Pitstop Lead Contractor, and Shally Mol Jose (Support Assistant); Rebecca Hutchon is Lead Contractor for The Source Barking Food Club and Elyse Ali (Support Assistant); Allglory Deo-Gratis Amah is the Lead Contractor for the Source Warehouse and Emmanuel Ato Arthur (Warehouse Assistant). Shally Mol Jose is our finance Assistant contractor.

We refuse to give up on anybody and believe that every person can have a bright future. We provide outreach, support and opportunity to help people out of poverty. We have a track record of seeing our visitors move away from life controlling unemployment, homelessness, mental illness, disability, marriage breakdowns, addictions, and therefore breaking the poverty-cycle and reliance on the benefits system. Over the past year many of our visitors moved out of hopelessness and into hopefulness. We have also seen many of our guests move into accommodation and employment following our support.

Over this past year we have seen an increase in opportunities to share our faith and pray with guests. We have seen several guests so grateful of the help they have had come back to offer their services. Recently one of the staff members had the opportunity of leading one guest into a relationship with Jesus. We now have a Communion service every month and a weekly discipleship group at the BLC.

Overview of our services at The Source in the past year

BLC

- Pit Stop – a take away lunch and refreshments for those people who are homeless or in need, running weekdays (up to 150 people a day)
- Food Club (up to 150 families a week)
- GP checks (eg hepatitis B / flu / covid jabs)
- Referral centre to services and organisations
- Giving prayer support
- Clothes bank to guests
- Emergency food parcels
- Baby Bank
- Centre of Warmth Project

Wellbeing Centre (Vicarage Field Shopping Centre)

- Community groups including arts and crafts, sewing, computer café, Job club, chair Zumba, cookery classes
- Well-being support for those overcoming bereavement, mental illness, and loneliness
- Barking Business Chaplaincy – a ministry to provide support to managers and employees of local shops
- Referral centre to services and organisations
- Provide vouchers to the local Food Banks
- Information centre for events and local services

- Providing a mail box for those without permanent accommodation (around 100 people)
- Completing forms for those whose primary language is not English, or who struggle with literacy
- Providing telephone advocacy
- Telephone Help Lines – Rediscover (bereavement & grief), Reconnect (65+ and loneliness/isolation) & Reset (Mental ill health, depression & anxiety) 0300 302 3160
- Providing a listening ear over free refreshments
- Giving prayer support
- Office to Barking Churches Unite
- Key working guests
- A warm space
- Centre of Warmth Project

Warehouse (Riverside Industrial Park, 27, Thames Road)

- Providing free furniture, white goods, cutlery, crockery
- Collecting furniture, white goods, cutlery, crockery free of charge
- Providing a listening ear
- Food collection & delivery
- Giving prayer support
- Centre of Warmth Project

Future ministries at the Source

- Youth Café on a Saturday at the Wellbeing Centre
- Shower Box

Many of the guests visiting The Source have mental health conditions including depression, anxiety, post traumatic stress disorder or personality disorders; others have learning disabilities. Many suffer physical health issues particularly mobility difficulties or visual impairment, deafness, cancer, amputated limbs, brain tumor, heart conditions, epilepsy, HIV, diabetes; and many are unemployed, homeless, refugees and elderly.

We believe that every visitor deserves the chance to see their dreams realized, and that it is not enough to provide a hot meal as important as that is, but to get people out of poverty, feeling empowered in their circumstances and off the streets for good, we need to offer something that's relevant and sustainable.

To this end, we believe the solution is a service that supports those in poverty or in need and to restore broken lives and bring hope to the helpless, employment to the unemployed, homes to the homeless. We aim to provide a service that will provide activities to help those in desperate need and assistance to develop the activities, skills and resources for guests to realize their aspirations and become active and integrated members of their local community.

In other words; each of our services lead to guests being offered the opportunity to change their lives, attend courses, receive a free meal, find help to fill in forms, learning English, support into paid employment, - and that is what will change lives and get those in poverty back into employment, accommodation, and self belief and off the streets for good.

Over the past five years we have been working with those in poverty and need in Barking & Dagenham and in the centre of Barking. We are in an exceptional position to assist those who are in poverty and deprivation and we have a track record of seeing our visitors move away

from life controlling addictions/offending and into lives they are able to control and feel proud of. We believe there is no such thing as a hopeless case, and that all deserve the chance to turn their lives around and come off the streets for good. What we have to offer is unique, carries excellent success rates, and is meeting a critical need in Barking.

In the past 12 months we have developed much closer links and regular contacts with the Council and other agencies, in order to work together for the positive outcomes of the guests.

5 Outcomes

BCU provided a healthy and vital linking of local churches to ensure compliance of legal restrictions. BCU has had 3 united prayer meetings at Christ Church, Kings Church and New Testament Assembly in churches and street praying sessions in this past year. The Barking Intercessors Network (BIN) has met around 6 times on Zoom. The pattern of regular leader's fellowship meetings has been erratic and this is now being further supported by Rev Urbain Yombe (St Erkenwald Church) and Antionette.

The Source keeps a visit register from which we measure our success in how many people we were able to feed, refer on to other support agencies and move on into other sustainable options. We currently refer people for Food Bank, council departments, as well as providing free daily lunchtime meals and other activities. Success is just about being there and knowing that we have restored hope to many lives, and enabled them to find a way out of the situation they are in.

For our **guests**, success in soft outcomes is measured by their personal development, restoring self-esteem and self-belief and basic skills and the hard outcomes are measured through attendance, those gaining employment and accommodation. Our **monitoring** is supported through a wide range of different measures which include; activity registers, face-to-face repeat conversations and meetings.

Visitors to The Source include those of different nationality and ethnic origin, low incomes, unemployed, homeless, mental health issues, elderly, disabled, single parents, bereaved and those with complex issues. From The Source they receive emotional and practical support and have a location in the marketplace that is sympathetic to those in need and works to resolve their issues. Referrals to agencies are made and people receive support that others are unable to provide.

The Source is often seen as a place of refuge and sanctuary providing hope to the hopeless, demonstrating God's love and compassion. Within the community The Source is seen as a first stop and last resort and people in need are referred to The Source by the Police, Social Services, Housing Office, Citizens Advice Bureau, Teen Challenge to name a few.

The Source is connected to a number of food agencies providing free food. These include Costco, KFC, Greggs, Lidl, Aldi, Asda, Tesco, Neighbourly and Felix (Fareshare). We have excellent relationships with Vicarage Field Shopping Centre and the BLC and as a result of the work we provide, we receive free rent and business rates.

The table below shows that our visits of 2023 and the data to September 2024.



Annual Totals 2023	Pitstop	Food parcels	Food Vouchers	Community Food Club	Well Being Groups	Enquiries & Key Working	Post	Warehouse Food Collections	Warehouse Furniture Collections	Warehouse Food deliveries	Warehouse Furniture deliveries	Warehouse Full house deliveries	2023 Monthly: Total Visits	2022 Monthly: Total Visits	Diff	% Diff
January	2446	31	17	543	40	52	80	42	13	17	30	5	3257	2463	794	32.24
February	2305	21	16	403	58	38	80	33	42	25	26	5	2994	2401	593	24.70
March	2185	21	26	428	80	59	53	30	56	29	28	9	2945	2713	232	8.55
April	1366	15	41	559	55	58	53	33	38	28	26	10	2221	2175	46	2.11
May	2874	17	38	541	66	70	53	40	28	31	23	4	3714	1981	1733	87.48
June	2464	11	32	499	56	66	53	28	30	15	24	4	3239	2597	642	24.72
July	2851	15	43	565	67	77	0	33	2	24	6	0	3626	2367	1259	53.19
August	3557	9	46	593	70	134	106	42	26	37	19	1	4561	2542	2019	79.43
September	2602	11	47	501	59	113	55	46	23	34	29	1	3441	2351	1090	46.36
October	3398	10	52	662	56	122	42	54	54	30	29	3	4428	2553	1875	73.44
November	3244	5	53	412	67	83	74	40	25	31	38	4	4005	2472	1533	62.01
December	1349	0	43	0	73	74	0	34	25	29	29	2	1595	2530	-935	-36.96
Year to Date Running Total	30541	166	454	5706	747	946	649	455	362	330	307	48	40026	29145	10881	37.3

Annual Statistics : - No. People served / Impacted

Community Food Club (No. People directly impacted)	22824	** Based on average Family size = 4 persons	Total number of people directly impacted by all services >>>>	57144
Total No. of Visits : All Services combined	40026	Pitstop, Food parcels, Food vouchers, CFC, Well being groups, Keyworking, Enquiries, Post, Warehouse Furniture collection & Deliveries		



Annual Totals 2024	Pitstop	Food parcels	Food Vouchers	Community Food Club	Well Being Groups	Enquiries & Key Working	Post	Baby Bank - Registered	Baby Bank - Emergency parcel	Warehouse Food Collections	Warehouse Furniture Collections	Warehouse Food deliveries	Warehouse Furniture deliveries	Warehouse Full house deliveries	2024 Monthly: Total Visits	2023 Monthly: Total Visits	Diff	% Diff
January	2807	26	45	603	28	140	158	0	0	46	42	38	37	4	3890	3257	633	19.44
February	2545	16	44	330	65	101	84	0	0	38	38	47	17	6	3246	2994	252	8.42
March	2205	23	55	338	67	94	0	4	0	46	35	41	25	2	2844	2945	-101	-3.43
April	2253	13	40	421	69	90	86	19	1	39	14	31	29	5	3020	2221	799	35.97
May	2861	13	58	457	103	110	185	79	6	44	30	43	34	7	3858	3714	144	3.88
June	2522	19	42	763	55	95	0	72	2	37	22	27	26	2	3546	3239	307	9.48
July	2279	13	50	458	59	84	94	89	1	32	24	24	28	2	3091	3626	-535	-14.75
August	2650	8	33	512	60	128	202	129	0	42	33	31	28	3	3657	4561	-904	-19.82
September	0	0	25	0	43	109	0	0	0	37	21	25	28	2	228	3441	-3213	-93.37
October	0	0	22	0	37	72	103	0	0	34	12	26	23	3	272	4428	-4156	-93.86
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2808	-2808	-100.00
December	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	88	-88	-100.00
Year to Date Running Total	20122	131	414	3882	586	1023	912	392	10	395	271	333	275	36	27652	37322	-9670	-25.9

Annual Statistics : - No. People served / Impacted

Community Food Club (No. People directly impacted)	15528	** Based on average Family size = 4 persons	Total number of people directly impacted by all services >>>>	39308
Total No. of Visits : All Services combined	27662	Pitstop, Food parcels, Food vouchers, CFC, Well being groups, Keyworking, Enquiries, Post, Baby Bank, Warehouse Furniture collection & Deliveries		

The Source hosts at Easter and Christmas an outside prayer station for visitors to the shopping centre to write their prayer requests and receive prayer. Also, we had a carol service in Vicarage Field Shopping Centre.

Impact

Over the past year the Source has seen people overcome extreme adversity and circumstances to go on to achieve incredible personal success. We refuse to give up on anybody and believe that every visitor / rough sleeper can have a bright future. We have seen guests become champions of the community. We believe in building people into a community where they feel safe and are resourced to contribute. We believe that we all have a role to play and that together we can end homelessness - The impact of our services is lives changed; more people who are without hope to regain their hope, lives that are broken to be restored, more homeless people off the streets, and into employment, which in turn ends the cycle of poverty and homelessness and has a positive effect on the community!

6 Future Thoughts

Forthcoming plans

- The borough of Barking & Dagenham is facing over £65 million of cuts (before Covid19) in the next four years and looking to offload many of its services to the voluntary sector. The leader of the council has publicly stated that homelessness is one of its biggest concerns and acknowledged the significant contribution already made by BCU in addressing it.
- Discussions are underway to explore by the council the data for homelessness and rough sleepers
- To work with the Council and support our community through the energy and food crisis.
- Working with Dagenham Christians Together

BCU proposed developments and activities

- Further the Kingdom of God in Barking
- Maintain and extend the ministry of the Source Wellbeing Centre
- Engage more closely with the Council
- Engage and partner with local businesses
- Work more closely to increase church unity & adoption of churches in BCU
- Develop discipleship spaces at BLC locations
- Support Dagenham Christian Together in developing The Church Elm Hub at Dagenham Library

7 How can YOU help Barking Churches Unite?

1 Praying

- Attending the united prayer & street praying events
- Using the Prayer Diary daily at home
- Praying for the Source and community ministries
- Praying for church unity and each church
- Joining the BIN (Barking Intercessors Network)
- Joining different BCU prayer networks
- Encouraging your Church to pray for BCU and support its ministries
- Church leaders to join Leaders Network
- More workers and volunteers
- Funding

2 Volunteering

- Helping at the Source for a 1-4 hour session a week
- Picking up food from retail shops / supermarkets
- Attending the Christmas Tree and Easter Garden witnesses
- Attending the BCU at events
- Joining the BCU WhatsApp Information group
- Offering your talent to create or contribute to a community well-being group

3 Join

- Join the Well-Being groups at The Source Wellbeing Centre, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre
- Join us in united prayer & street praying
- Joining the BCU WhatsApp Information group

4 Donating

Supporting the Source by

£15 provides additional refreshments for a week

£20 Provides tea, coffee and milk for a week

£100 Provides heating costs for a month

£100 Provides a 8 hours part-time worker costs

- Non-Perishable food
- Toiletries
- Individual donations to sustain the work on a regular basis
- Church collections (ie Harvest festival, Christmas donation)
- Organising fund raising events
- Ask your employers to sponsor BCU
- Clothes
- Furniture & White Goods

8 Prayer Requests

- 1 For God to pour out His Holy Spirit on staff, guests and volunteers of those involved at the Source
- 2 For guidance and wisdom for the trustees in the leading of BCU
- 3 Volunteers to support the Source & The Source Warehouse
- 4 Christians to join the well-being groups
- 5 Safety of the team and guests.
- 6 For God's love, compassion and presence to be evident in all that BCU does
- 7 To use the activities of BCU to bring people to salvation and a deeper walk with God
- 8 For greater unity amongst the church in praying and working together
- 9 For greater links between agencies and the Council
- 10 For more support from the churches and individual Christians in Barking
- 11 For our broken community of Barking & Dagenham
- 12 Funding for the ministry

In 2023, Grants were gratefully received from

Grant Body	Award Name	Amount
ALDI	Neighbourly Grant - ALDI WINTER FUND	£1,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	The Source - Pitstop and Wellbeing Centre - Yr 2 of 3	£35,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	The Source - Pitstop and Wellbeing Centre - Yr 3 of 3	£35,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Homes and Money Hub - Food Club Food Support	£30,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Furniture Warehouse Project - Yr 2 of 3	£25,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Furniture Warehouse Project - Yr 3 of 3	£25,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	For the continued Support of Food Provision	£20,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	NCIL	£10,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Grow - Cook - Eat Project at Source Wellbeing Centre	£3,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	BD Community Wellbeing Family Event 21/12/23	£2,200
Barking & Dagenham Council	Vaccination pop in clinic to support with activity on 10th Feb 23 at BLC	£2,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Professional services to fund The Source Wellbeing Day at BLC	£1,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Warm Spaces	£1,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Signage - Pitstop, Diner, Warehouse, Van, Wellbeing Centre, Food Club	£605
Barking & Dagenham Council	For co-production of the Asylum Welcome Pack costs at The Source	£500
Barking & Dagenham Council	Warm Spaces	£500
Barking & Dagenham Council	Warm Spaces	£500
DCT	Source support	£12,500
Easy	Lidl "Easy Fundraising".	£24
HAPAG LLOYD	Food Club – Food and Hygiene	£1,000
Homeless Heroes	Homeless Heroes Aid	£1,500
Kingsley Hall	Wellbeing Centre	£3,500
Kingsley Hall	BD Community Wellbeing Project £5K for each of 2 years - Year 2	£2,500
MERCERS	MERCERS Unrestricted - Year 2 of 2	£20,000
NEIGHBOURLY	Lidl "Easy Fundraising"	£500
NEIGHBOURLY	Lidl "Easy Fundraising"	£250
Project Delivery Ultimate C.I.C.	For co-production of the Asylum Welcome Pack costs at The Source	£500
The Faith Leaders Network	Hardship Fund	£625
	Total	£235,204

In addition to grants, many individual donors contributed to the work of Barking Churches Unite and gift aid was claimed on taxpayer donations. Many churches have set up standing orders or subscriptions all of which are gratefully received.

The Toye Foundation provided £3k for School Uniforms which supported families in poverty.

We are extremely grateful to all the grant making bodies and donors above for their favour towards Barking Churches Unite, its guests, Service Providers, Volunteers, the community of Barking and its environs and recognise God's hand in keeping us abundantly ready for more work in this area.

10 Donation Form & Gift Aid Form



Barking Churches Unite

The SOURCE. 37A, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre. Barking, Essex, IG118DH

Telephone: 020 8594 2404

Email: michael.mednick@barkingchurchesunite.org

Charity No: 1173315

STANDING ORDER MANDATE FORM

Please return this form to your Bank and inform BCU / SOURCE of your decision

Please debit the account of:

Name:	_____	
Bank:	_____	
Branch:	_____	
Full address:	_____	
Account Name:	_____	
Account Number:	_____	Sort code: _____

Please credit the account of:

Bank:	CAF	
Account Name:	Barking Churches Unite	
Account Number:	00035231	Sort code: 40-52-40

The Sum of	£	_____
	Amount in words	_____
Commencing date	From	_____
	To	_____
Last Payment	£	_____
	Amount in words	_____
Frequency	Weekly	_____
	Monthly	_____

Signature: _____	Date: _____
------------------	-------------

11 Procedures for Questions

If after reading the report, you have any questions, please complete the slip below & email them back to the Source with AGM in the subject box by 1st November (Michael.mednick@barkingchurchesunite.org) This will give time for a reply. You can provide a general comment if you wish. Questions not submitted before the meeting will be answered after the Annual General Meeting by email.

RESPONSE SLIP

Name _____ Church _____

Question



Barking Churches Unite

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024**

Barking Churches Unite

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Current Assets		
Cash in Hand and at Bank	160,321	135,717
Debtors		170
Total Assets	<u>160,321</u>	<u>135,887</u>
Liabilities		
Due within one year		
Creditors	710	94
Total Liabilities	<u>710</u>	<u>94</u>
Net Assets (Assets less Liabilities)	<u>159,610</u>	<u>135,793</u>
Capital and Reserves	£	£
Reserves brought forward	135,793	100,139
Surplus/(Deficit)	23,817	35,654
Total Equity	<u>159,610</u>	<u>135,793</u>

The comparable figures for 2023 are for information only and do not form part of these accounts

The above accounts were approved by Barking Churches Unite Board on 17/10/2025



Theresa Ibrahim
Treasurer



Antoinette Williamson
Co-Chair

Barking Churches Unite

Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31st December 2024

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Income</u>		263,159		256,040
<u>Less: Expenses</u>				
Service Providers	148,017		140,726	
Light and Heat	1,926		2,253	
Catering & Hospitality	26,423		31,022	
Projects (incls Pitstop Diner/Wellbeing Events/Vaccinati	18,090		4,232	
Telephone	516		639	
Repairs and Maintenance	1,873		1,054	
ICT incls Signage	720		1,257	
Insurance	784		856	
Legal and Professional	1,628		1,021	
Postage, Printing, Stationery, Training, Travel	15		606	
Gift Cards & Rewards	648		438	
Baby Bank	16,076		-	
Mental Health & Uniforms	1,209		6,942	
Warehouse	7,788		20,321	
Clothing, Shoes & Toiletries	2,879		9,020	
ShowerBox	10,750		-	
		(239,341)		(220,385)
Surplus/(Deficit)		<u>23,817</u>		<u>35,654</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to Barking Churches Unite

This report on the financial statements of Barking Churches Unite (BCU) for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the Board of Barking Churches Unite and the Examiner

As members of Barking Churches Unite, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.43 (2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.43(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by BCU and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently, I do not express on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s.41 of the Act; and to prepare financial statements in accordance with accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



L Satar, FCCA



Barking Churches Unite

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024**

Barking Churches Unite

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2024

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Theresa Ibrahim
Treasurer



Antoinette Williamson
Co-Chair

Barking Churches Unite

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L Satar, FCCA

BARKING CHURCHES UNITE (BCU)

England & Wales - Charity number 1173315

Accounts



Annual General

Meeting

Report

2024

(7th November 2024)

INDEX

- 1 Chairman's Remarks
- 2 Barking Churches Unite
- 3 The story since last year
- 4 The Source
- 5 Outcomes
- 6 Future Thoughts
- 7 How can you support Barking Churches Unite?
- 8 Prayer Requests
- 9 Finance Report
- 10 Donation Form & Gift Aid Form
- 11 Procedure for Questions

1 Chairman's Remarks

This section reflects my personal remarks about the year. Again this has been an amazing year for Barking Churches Unite(BCU) and again another challenging year for Barking, the UK and world. A year concerning the continued wars in the Ukraine and Middle East, cost of living crisis, energy, mortgage, food increases and change of Government & MP's. However, it has been a year where we have engaged even more closely with the Council and the community and this has been demonstrated through the services we have provided and those whom we have journeyed with in Christ. It has been a year we have seen a big increase in guest visits and the development of The Source Warehouse, Baby Bank, and the Centre of Warmth project. In everything we give thanks to God for His favour and His leading in the work of BCU and The Source.

At the Barking Learning Centre (BLC) we have continued to be responsible for the Barking's Food Club supporting up to 150 families a week and Pit Stop which supports up to 150 guests each day. In December 2023 we started sit down meals we are calling Pit Stop Diner. We have now started a Baby Bank supporting up to 30 Barking families. We now have monthly Communion sessions and Discipleship sessions every week at the BLC. The shop unit (known as The Source Wellbeing Centre) tenancy at Vicarage Field Shopping Centre has been extended to 2027, under the same rent-free conditions. The focus on Well-being Centre is wellbeing groups, key working guests, providing a warm space and a listening ear to guests. A mail box of around 80 guests use this facility at the centre. A youth café on a Saturday is to take place in the near future. The warehouse ministry has grown extensively and is providing the collection of food to the BLC as well as the delivery and collection of furniture and white goods to residents. In April we started a Centre of Warmth Project supported by Cadent Gas. This project provides helpful hints to reduce utility costs, gas safety and checks and CO2 alarms. Part of the project is to provide workshops on low cost cooking and the provision of slow cookers. Due to a reduction in funding to BCU, more reliance has been placed on volunteers across the three locations.

A new project is to start in November called 'Shower Box'. This project will be equally shared with The Shower Box charity, LBBB and lead churches. Shower Box is a container containing two separate showers and will be located in the BLC, to the rear loading bay area. The project will provide showers to the homeless and will operate initially on a Friday morning (November), then extended to a Saturday morning (December & January); and then to a Tuesday morning (February 2025). Funding is urgently required for this valuable project alongside a volunteers team.

United Prayer gatherings have continued alongside street praying, intercessory prayer and leaders' prayer meetings.

Barking Churches Unite has also had its logo and branding reviewed and now has a new corporate logo, linking more clearly to The Source activities. Its new website will become live by the end of the year.

I reaffirm my comments of previous AGM remarks, in that I believe that God is saying that it is through the United Church in society we can love the community back to life for God and bring about restoration and redemption. The pandemic and current crises have caused the church to review its biblical responsibility and call to 'Go' and love the community and to resemble the intention of the Lord's Prayer "On earth as in heaven".

I believe the dream of God over our life is that we come alive in His presence within an intimate relationship with Him and through the Holy Spirit we are able to bring life back to every environment, bringing restoration and redemption, spilling contagious hope into a broken and hurting world. To live in our true identity in God as people who are Christlike and live in His footprints and live supernatural lives in God. The next move of God I believe is not a revival or movement in the church but a movement of the Christians in our towns and communities; God's kingdom being established in all the spaces that we travel such as our work space and street and establishing them to be Kingdom spaces. The call is to 'Go'. The call to churches and BCU is to release unstoppable, impassioned Spirit-filled Christians into our communities and outside spaces and to be Kingdom people.

Compassion and mission are inseparable. The spirit of mission is a spirit of mercy. Kingdom People go around doing good, releasing compassion and healing, because God is in them moving them. Kingdom People release blessing, love and peace in their town. Kingdom People become Fathers, Mothers and Shepherds to their town. Kingdom People partner with their town. Every environment & space alive in His presence.

The future of Barking Churches Unite is to facilitate Christians to pray and work together to be Kingdom People in all spaces of our community and helping them to be Kingdom and Prayer Spaces for God. To be culture changers. We are called to 'Go', Be witnesses, and make disciples. To 'Go' into the world and our community and fulfil the Great Commission. Let us love our community back to God. My prayer is that we make every space in Barking and the UK be a Kingdom Space, filled with the presence of God and the Holy Spirit through being Kingdom People. I end with the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:31-40 and the lyrics of a song sung by Tim Hughes.

God of Justice, Saviour to all. Came to rescue the weak and the poor. Came to serve and not to be served. Jesus you have called us. Freely we've received now freely we will go. We must go. Live to feed the hungry. Stand beside the broken, we must go. Stepping forward keep us from just singing. Move us into ACTION, we must GO. Fill us up and send us out. To act justly every day. Loving mercy in every way. Walking humbly before You God. You have shown us what you require. Freely we've received now freely we must go

Mick Mednick – Chair of Barking Churches Unite

2 Barking Churches Unite (BCU)

Barking Churches Unite is a charitable group of Christians from churches in Barking who are committed to working with churches, Christians and volunteers, praying together for the transformation of our community. BCU was established in 2010 and became a registered charity on 7th June 2017. Our charity number is 1173315. We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

The Board of trustees includes the following:

Chair	Mick Mednick (Kings Church)
Co-Chair	Antoinette Williamson (Barking Baptist) Barking Learning Centre Lead United Prayer
Treasurer	Theresa Ibrahim (St Erkenwald Church)

Secretary	Liz Mednick (Kings Church)
Warehouse / Food	Bill Dear (St Erkenwald Church)
Wellbeing Centre	Audrey Sutherland (New Testament Assembly)
Grants/Food	Anne Dear (St Erkenwald Church)
Outreach	Michael Taylor (St Erkenwald Church)
Pastoral	Rev Unesu Chindabata (Christ Church)
Finance & Policies	Sandy Tomlinson
HR	

Mission Statement

Barking Churches Unite is a registered charity working to bring about change in Barking through prayer, the relief of poverty and other initiatives that serve the community and express God's love. We are a group of Christians attending churches across Barking. Barking Churches Unite facilitates contact with the council and other agencies, connecting like-minded Christians in our local area.

Basis of faith

We believe in one God, working as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe in the Lordship of Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection and uphold the Evangelical Alliance Statement of Faith (www.eauk.org) Jesus prayed for unity (John 17:21), Paul commanded we make an effort to maintain it (Ephesians 4:3) and God the Father promises to bless it (Psalm 133) and bring healing to the community through it. (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Organization

Barking Churches Unite is facilitated by a diverse group of Christian Trustees drawn from different church denominations, who include church leaders and Christians, seeking God's face for Barking. The trustees uphold the five-fold ministry and are led by a co-ordinator and chair of trustees. We facilitate communication between churches and among other agencies. Recently, and as a result of our work in the town the council and external bodies have communicated with us as a point of contact to engage with Christians who want to work in the community. We understand that unity is not uniformity and as such we are churches that have different expressions of our faith, believing that we are here to complement rather than compete with one another, and that together as the Body of Christ in Barking we can fulfill God's purpose for our lives in our town.

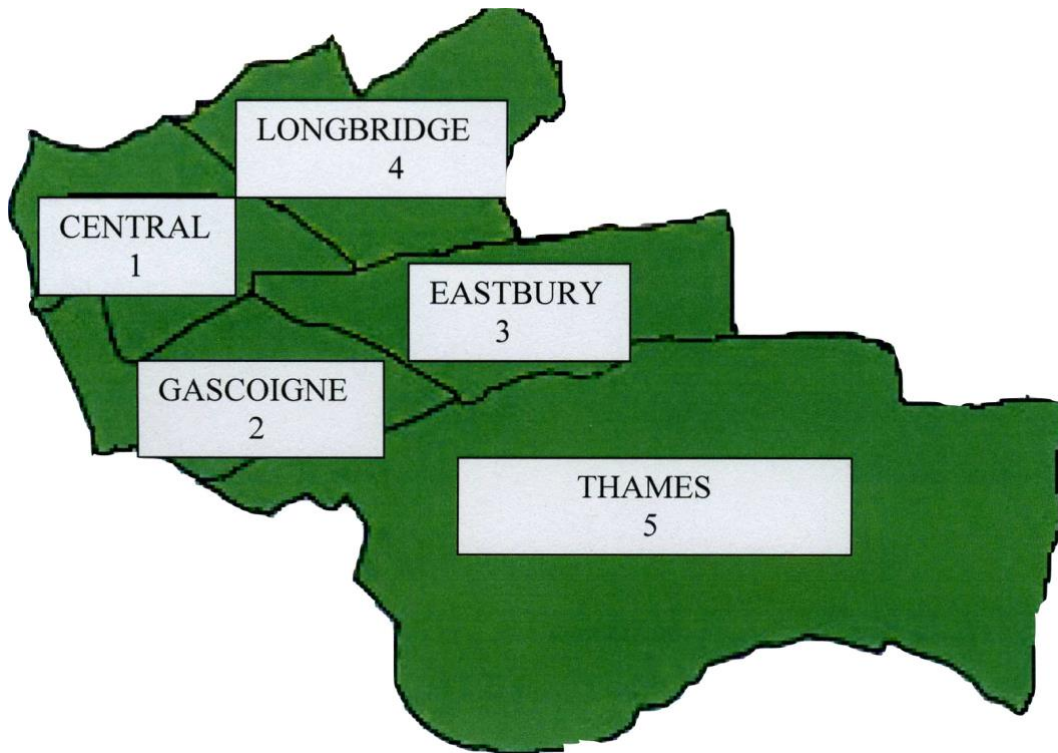
We see a church that will stand together in prayer to see social and spiritual transformation in our community. We see a church that will pray for one another and support one another practically as the need arises and resources allow. We see a church that will rejoice in what one another is doing and where possible promote that. We see a Church that will help facilitate and support the dreams of one another in order to advance God's Kingdom in Barking. We see a church that reaches out and meets the needs of the poor and the community, through joint ministries, initiatives and events.

Any Christian or/of Barking Church(s) that affirms the preceding statements can join us.

Strategy

1.Prayer

The individual churches are grouped into five zones, loosely based on the council wards. We cover Barking in prayer, through different forms of prayer meetings; church leader meetings, regular prayer walks and corporate prayer meetings in each zone, an intercessors group comprised of people from different churches, and open to all Christians from across the borough.



Mission and relief of poverty

Through an outpouring of God's love, The Source (Barking Learning Centre, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre & Riverside Industrial Estate) has been set up in Barking to support those in poverty, who are homeless and helpless to bring about hope, help and restoration in the community.

Through God's leading we have been involved in setting up and we continue to partner with other initiatives; the Food Bank and Kidz Klub.

We serve a big God and therefore have a big VISION of transformation to Barking. As we encourage and facilitate Christians to be released within their calling through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will see God move in a mighty way

Finance

Finance comes from grants, Barking & Dagenham Council, businesses, personal and church-based donations and through fund raising. We do not apply for lottery or gambling-related funding.

Governance

BCU has a constitutional document and a number of policies that are statutory and of good practice in its operation. These include Child Protection & Safeguarding, Health and Safety, GDPR, Food & Hygiene rating certificate, (Level 4 at BLC), Complaints procedures and Service Level agreements.

3 The story in the last 12 months

It has been a busy and challenging year for Barking Churches Unite. It has been another year where the charity has developed and grown by God's grace and favour. Throughout this period the Source has been open for weekdays and has been there to love our town with food, support and comfort. Its been a year of rebranding BCU & The Source and now has a new logo.

The Source continues to operate out of three sites:

- Vicarage Field Shopping Centre – The Source Wellbeing Centre
- The Barking Learning Centre (a Council building that hosts all the Council services and local library) – Pit Stop, Baby Bank & The Barking Food Club
- Riverside Industrial Estate, Thames View (a warehouse given to us by the Council) – The Source Warehouse

All the sites are provided rent free and the project receives 100% business rate relief from the Council.

Vicarage Field Shopping Centre site is hosting a Wellbeing Centre for community projects and key working activities and the Barking Learning Centre is responsible for food related projects. We have developed an even closer relationship and partnership with the Council. We are responsible for the Barking Community Food Club, which is the largest Food Club in the Borough at the BLC. The Warehouse is now fulfilling a mighty ministry, providing free furniture and white goods being delivered free of charge to those who are in need. We are now contracting 3 contractors to fulfil the work. We are hoping to extend this work to a Saturday.

We are hoping in 2025 to extend our infrastructure to two Co-Chair Trustees (one already appointed), additional trustees and an Operations Manager (if funding allows). A youth Café at the Wellbeing Centre on a Saturday is being established at the moment to start later this year or in January.

We have also continued our prayer strategy of prayer gatherings through 3 meetings (Christ Church, New Testament Assembly & Kings Church) and street praying. Zoom prayer intercession (BIN) meeting with Dagenham representatives have also regularly taken place.

The contractors of the Source are as follows:

	Lead	Support
Warehouse	Allglory	Emmanuel
Wellbeing Centre	Kay	Suzanne
Pit Stop	Lorraine	Shally
Food Club	Becky	Elyse
Baby Bank	Becky	Elyse
Centre of Warmth	Elyse	

4 The Source

The Source is located in three places. A shop unit in Vicarage Field Shopping Centre (VFSC) is now a Wellbeing Centre, the Barking Learning Centre (BLC) is the location of Pit Stop & together with the Barking Food Club and the Warehouse is located in Thames Road. It is a ministry which is part of Barking Churches Unite (BCU) that works across the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham to supports hundreds of people out of hopelessness, homelessness, disadvantage and isolation. The various locations are line-managed by a trustee - Audrey Sutherland (Wellbeing Centre, (VFSC) Bill Dear (Warehouse) and Antoinette Williamson (Pit Stop, Barking Food Club, Baby Bank (BLC). All staff are contracted. Kay Thompson is our Lead Contractor for the Wellbeing Centre, and Suzanne Playle (Support Assistant); Lorraine Allen is the Pitstop Lead Contractor, and Shally Mol Jose (Support Assistant); Rebecca Hutchon is Lead Contractor for The Source Barking Food Club and Elyse Ali (Support Assistant); Allglory Deo-Gratis Amah is the Lead Contractor for the Source Warehouse and Emmanuel Ato Arthur (Warehouse Assistant). Shally Mol Jose is our finance Assistant contractor.

We refuse to give up on anybody and believe that every person can have a bright future. We provide outreach, support and opportunity to help people out of poverty. We have a track record of seeing our visitors move away from life controlling unemployment, homelessness, mental illness, disability, marriage breakdowns, addictions, and therefore breaking the poverty-cycle and reliance on the benefits system. Over the past year many of our visitors moved out of hopelessness and into hopefulness. We have also seen many of our guests move into accommodation and employment following our support.

Over this past year we have seen an increase in opportunities to share our faith and pray with guests. We have seen several guests so grateful of the help they have had come back to offer their services. Recently one of the staff members had the opportunity of leading one guest into a relationship with Jesus. We now have a Communion service every month and a weekly discipleship group at the BLC.

Overview of our services at The Source in the past year

BLC

- Pit Stop – a take away lunch and refreshments for those people who are homeless or in need, running weekdays (up to 150 people a day)
- Food Club (up to 150 families a week)
- GP checks (eg hepatitis B / flu / covid jabs)
- Referral centre to services and organisations
- Giving prayer support
- Clothes bank to guests
- Emergency food parcels
- Baby Bank
- Centre of Warmth Project

Wellbeing Centre (Vicarage Field Shopping Centre)

- Community groups including arts and crafts, sewing, computer café, Job club, chair Zumba, cookery classes
- Well-being support for those overcoming bereavement, mental illness, and loneliness
- Barking Business Chaplaincy – a ministry to provide support to managers and employees of local shops
- Referral centre to services and organisations
- Provide vouchers to the local Food Banks
- Information centre for events and local services

- Providing a mail box for those without permanent accommodation (around 100 people)
- Completing forms for those whose primary language is not English, or who struggle with literacy
- Providing telephone advocacy
- Telephone Help Lines – Rediscover (bereavement & grief), Reconnect (65+ and loneliness/isolation) & Reset (Mental ill health, depression & anxiety) 0300 302 3160
- Providing a listening ear over free refreshments
- Giving prayer support
- Office to Barking Churches Unite
- Key working guests
- A warm space
- Centre of Warmth Project

Warehouse (Riverside Industrial Park, 27, Thames Road)

- Providing free furniture, white goods, cutlery, crockery
- Collecting furniture, white goods, cutlery, crockery free of charge
- Providing a listening ear
- Food collection & delivery
- Giving prayer support
- Centre of Warmth Project

Future ministries at the Source

- Youth Café on a Saturday at the Wellbeing Centre
- Shower Box

Many of the guests visiting The Source have mental health conditions including depression, anxiety, post traumatic stress disorder or personality disorders; others have learning disabilities. Many suffer physical health issues particularly mobility difficulties or visual impairment, deafness, cancer, amputated limbs, brain tumor, heart conditions, epilepsy, HIV, diabetes; and many are unemployed, homeless, refugees and elderly.

We believe that every visitor deserves the chance to see their dreams realized, and that it is not enough to provide a hot meal as important as that is, but to get people out of poverty, feeling empowered in their circumstances and off the streets for good, we need to offer something that's relevant and sustainable.

To this end, we believe the solution is a service that supports those in poverty or in need and to restore broken lives and bring hope to the helpless, employment to the unemployed, homes to the homeless. We aim to provide a service that will provide activities to help those in desperate need and assistance to develop the activities, skills and resources for guests to realize their aspirations and become active and integrated members of their local community.

In other words; each of our services lead to guests being offered the opportunity to change their lives, attend courses, receive a free meal, find help to fill in forms, learning English, support into paid employment, - and that is what will change lives and get those in poverty back into employment, accommodation, and self belief and off the streets for good.

Over the past five years we have been working with those in poverty and need in Barking & Dagenham and in the centre of Barking. We are in an exceptional position to assist those who are in poverty and deprivation and we have a track record of seeing our visitors move away

from life controlling addictions/offending and into lives they are able to control and feel proud of. We believe there is no such thing as a hopeless case, and that all deserve the chance to turn their lives around and come off the streets for good. What we have to offer is unique, carries excellent success rates, and is meeting a critical need in Barking.

In the past 12 months we have developed much closer links and regular contacts with the Council and other agencies, in order to work together for the positive outcomes of the guests.

5 Outcomes

BCU provided a healthy and vital linking of local churches to ensure compliance of legal restrictions. BCU has had 3 united prayer meetings at Christ Church, Kings Church and New Testament Assembly in churches and street praying sessions in this past year. The Barking Intercessors Network (BIN) has met around 6 times on Zoom. The pattern of regular leader's fellowship meetings has been erratic and this is now being further supported by Rev Urbain Yombe (St Erkenwald Church) and Antionette.

The Source keeps a visit register from which we measure our success in how many people we were able to feed, refer on to other support agencies and move on into other sustainable options. We currently refer people for Food Bank, council departments, as well as providing free daily lunchtime meals and other activities. Success is just about being there and knowing that we have restored hope to many lives, and enabled them to find a way out of the situation they are in.

For our **guests**, success in soft outcomes is measured by their personal development, restoring self-esteem and self-belief and basic skills and the hard outcomes are measured through attendance, those gaining employment and accommodation. Our **monitoring** is supported through a wide range of different measures which include; activity registers, face-to-face repeat conversations and meetings.

Visitors to The Source include those of different nationality and ethnic origin, low incomes, unemployed, homeless, mental health issues, elderly, disabled, single parents, bereaved and those with complex issues. From The Source they receive emotional and practical support and have a location in the marketplace that is sympathetic to those in need and works to resolve their issues. Referrals to agencies are made and people receive support that others are unable to provide.

The Source is often seen as a place of refuge and sanctuary providing hope to the hopeless, demonstrating God's love and compassion. Within the community The Source is seen as a first stop and last resort and people in need are referred to The Source by the Police, Social Services, Housing Office, Citizens Advice Bureau, Teen Challenge to name a few.

The Source is connected to a number of food agencies providing free food. These include Costco, KFC, Greggs, Lidl, Aldi, Asda, Tesco, Neighbourly and Felix (Fareshare). We have excellent relationships with Vicarage Field Shopping Centre and the BLC and as a result of the work we provide, we receive free rent and business rates.

The table below shows that our visits of 2023 and the data to September 2024.



Annual Totals 2023	Pitstop	Food parcels	Food Vouchers	Community Food Club	Well Being Groups	Enquiries & Key Working	Post	Warehouse Food Collections	Warehouse Furniture Collections	Warehouse Food deliveries	Warehouse Furniture deliveries	Warehouse Full house deliveries	2023 Monthly: Total Visits	2022 Monthly: Total Visits	Diff	% Diff
January	2446	31	17	543	40	52	80	42	13	17	30	5	3257	2463	794	32.24
February	2305	21	16	403	58	38	80	33	42	25	26	5	2994	2401	593	24.70
March	2185	21	26	428	80	59	53	30	56	29	28	9	2945	2713	232	8.55
April	1366	15	41	559	55	58	53	33	38	28	26	10	2221	2175	46	2.11
May	2874	17	38	541	66	70	53	40	28	31	23	4	3714	1981	1733	87.48
June	2464	11	32	499	56	66	53	28	30	15	24	4	3239	2597	642	24.72
July	2851	15	43	565	67	77	0	33	2	24	6	0	3626	2367	1259	53.19
August	3557	9	46	593	70	134	106	42	26	37	19	1	4561	2542	2019	79.43
September	2602	11	47	501	59	113	55	46	23	34	29	1	3441	2351	1090	46.36
October	3398	10	52	662	56	122	42	54	54	30	29	3	4428	2553	1875	73.44
November	3244	5	53	412	67	83	74	40	25	31	38	4	4005	2472	1533	62.01
December	1349	0	43	0	73	74	0	34	25	29	29	2	1595	2530	-935	-36.96
Year to Date Running Total	30541	166	454	5706	747	946	649	455	362	330	307	48	40026	29145	10881	37.3

Annual Statistics : - No. People served / Impacted

Community Food Club (No. People directly impacted)	22824	** Based on average Family size = 4 persons	Total number of people directly impacted by all services >>>>	57144
Total No. of Visits : All Services combined	40026	Pitstop, Food parcels, Food vouchers, CFC, Well being groups, Keyworking, Enquiries, Post, Warehouse Furniture collection & Deliveries		



Annual Totals 2024	Pitstop	Food parcels	Food Vouchers	Community Food Club	Well Being Groups	Enquiries & Key Working	Post	Baby Bank - Registered	Baby Bank - Emergency parcel	Warehouse Food Collections	Warehouse Furniture Collections	Warehouse Food deliveries	Warehouse Furniture deliveries	Warehouse Full house deliveries	2024 Monthly: Total Visits	2023 Monthly: Total Visits	Diff	% Diff
January	2807	26	45	603	28	140	158	0	0	46	42	38	37	4	3890	3257	633	19.44
February	2545	16	44	330	65	101	84	0	0	38	38	47	17	6	3246	2994	252	8.42
March	2205	23	55	338	67	94	0	4	0	46	35	41	25	2	2844	2945	-101	-3.43
April	2253	13	40	421	69	90	86	19	1	39	14	31	29	5	3020	2221	799	35.97
May	2861	13	58	457	103	110	185	79	6	44	30	43	34	7	3858	3714	144	3.88
June	2522	19	42	763	55	95	0	72	2	37	22	27	26	2	3546	3239	307	9.48
July	2279	13	50	458	59	84	94	89	1	32	24	24	28	2	3091	3626	-535	-14.75
August	2650	8	33	512	60	128	202	129	0	42	33	31	28	3	3657	4561	-904	-19.82
September	0	0	25	0	43	109	0	0	0	37	21	25	28	2	228	3441	-3213	-93.37
October	0	0	22	0	37	72	103	0	0	34	12	26	23	3	272	4428	-4156	-93.86
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2808	-2808	-100.00
December	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	88	-88	-100.00
Year to Date Running Total	20122	131	414	3882	586	1023	912	392	10	395	271	333	275	36	27652	37322	-9670	-25.9

Annual Statistics : - No. People served / Impacted

Community Food Club (No. People directly impacted)	15528	** Based on average Family size = 4 persons	Total number of people directly impacted by all services >>>>	39308
Total No. of Visits : All Services combined	27662	Pitstop, Food parcels, Food vouchers, CFC, Well being groups, Keyworking, Enquiries, Post, Baby Bank, Warehouse Furniture collection & Deliveries		

The Source hosts at Easter and Christmas an outside prayer station for visitors to the shopping centre to write their prayer requests and receive prayer. Also, we had a carol service in Vicarage Field Shopping Centre.

Impact

Over the past year the Source has seen people overcome extreme adversity and circumstances to go on to achieve incredible personal success. We refuse to give up on anybody and believe that every visitor / rough sleeper can have a bright future. We have seen guests become champions of the community. We believe in building people into a community where they feel safe and are resourced to contribute. We believe that we all have a role to play and that together we can end homelessness - The impact of our services is lives changed; more people who are without hope to regain their hope, lives that are broken to be restored, more homeless people off the streets, and into employment, which in turn ends the cycle of poverty and homelessness and has a positive effect on the community!

6 Future Thoughts

Forthcoming plans

- The borough of Barking & Dagenham is facing over £65 million of cuts (before Covid19) in the next four years and looking to offload many of its services to the voluntary sector. The leader of the council has publicly stated that homelessness is one of its biggest concerns and acknowledged the significant contribution already made by BCU in addressing it.
- Discussions are underway to explore by the council the data for homelessness and rough sleepers
- To work with the Council and support our community through the energy and food crisis.
- Working with Dagenham Christians Together

BCU proposed developments and activities

- Further the Kingdom of God in Barking
- Maintain and extend the ministry of the Source Wellbeing Centre
- Engage more closely with the Council
- Engage and partner with local businesses
- Work more closely to increase church unity & adoption of churches in BCU
- Develop discipleship spaces at BLC locations
- Support Dagenham Christian Together in developing The Church Elm Hub at Dagenham Library

7 How can YOU help Barking Churches Unite?

1 Praying

- Attending the united prayer & street praying events
- Using the Prayer Diary daily at home
- Praying for the Source and community ministries
- Praying for church unity and each church
- Joining the BIN (Barking Intercessors Network)
- Joining different BCU prayer networks
- Encouraging your Church to pray for BCU and support its ministries
- Church leaders to join Leaders Network
- More workers and volunteers
- Funding

2 Volunteering

- Helping at the Source for a 1-4 hour session a week
- Picking up food from retail shops / supermarkets
- Attending the Christmas Tree and Easter Garden witnesses
- Attending the BCU at events
- Joining the BCU WhatsApp Information group
- Offering your talent to create or contribute to a community well-being group

3 Join

- Join the Well-Being groups at The Source Wellbeing Centre, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre
- Join us in united prayer & street praying
- Joining the BCU WhatsApp Information group

4 Donating

Supporting the Source by

£15 provides additional refreshments for a week

£20 Provides tea, coffee and milk for a week

£100 Provides heating costs for a month

£100 Provides a 8 hours part-time worker costs

- Non-Perishable food
- Toiletries
- Individual donations to sustain the work on a regular basis
- Church collections (ie Harvest festival, Christmas donation)
- Organising fund raising events
- Ask your employers to sponsor BCU
- Clothes
- Furniture & White Goods

8 Prayer Requests

- 1 For God to pour out His Holy Spirit on staff, guests and volunteers of those involved at the Source
- 2 For guidance and wisdom for the trustees in the leading of BCU
- 3 Volunteers to support the Source & The Source Warehouse
- 4 Christians to join the well-being groups
- 5 Safety of the team and guests.
- 6 For God's love, compassion and presence to be evident in all that BCU does
- 7 To use the activities of BCU to bring people to salvation and a deeper walk with God
- 8 For greater unity amongst the church in praying and working together
- 9 For greater links between agencies and the Council
- 10 For more support from the churches and individual Christians in Barking
- 11 For our broken community of Barking & Dagenham
- 12 Funding for the ministry

In 2023, Grants were gratefully received from

Grant Body	Award Name	Amount
ALDI	Neighbourly Grant - ALDI WINTER FUND	£1,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	The Source - Pitstop and Wellbeing Centre - Yr 2 of 3	£35,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	The Source - Pitstop and Wellbeing Centre - Yr 3 of 3	£35,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Homes and Money Hub - Food Club Food Support	£30,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Furniture Warehouse Project - Yr 2 of 3	£25,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Furniture Warehouse Project - Yr 3 of 3	£25,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	For the continued Support of Food Provision	£20,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	NCIL	£10,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Grow - Cook - Eat Project at Source Wellbeing Centre	£3,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	BD Community Wellbeing Family Event 21/12/23	£2,200
Barking & Dagenham Council	Vaccination pop in clinic to support with activity on 10th Feb 23 at BLC	£2,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Professional services to fund The Source Wellbeing Day at BLC	£1,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Warm Spaces	£1,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Signage - Pitstop, Diner, Warehouse, Van, Wellbeing Centre, Food Club	£605
Barking & Dagenham Council	For co-production of the Asylum Welcome Pack costs at The Source	£500
Barking & Dagenham Council	Warm Spaces	£500
Barking & Dagenham Council	Warm Spaces	£500
DCT	Source support	£12,500
Easy	Lidl "Easy Fundraising".	£24
HAPAG LLOYD	Food Club – Food and Hygiene	£1,000
Homeless Heroes	Homeless Heroes Aid	£1,500
Kingsley Hall	Wellbeing Centre	£3,500
Kingsley Hall	BD Community Wellbeing Project £5K for each of 2 years - Year 2	£2,500
MERCERS	MERCERS Unrestricted - Year 2 of 2	£20,000
NEIGHBOURLY	Lidl "Easy Fundraising"	£500
NEIGHBOURLY	Lidl "Easy Fundraising"	£250
Project Delivery Ultimate C.I.C.	For co-production of the Asylum Welcome Pack costs at The Source	£500
The Faith Leaders Network	Hardship Fund	£625
	Total	£235,204

In addition to grants, many individual donors contributed to the work of Barking Churches Unite and gift aid was claimed on taxpayer donations. Many churches have set up standing orders or subscriptions all of which are gratefully received.

The Toye Foundation provided £3k for School Uniforms which supported families in poverty.

We are extremely grateful to all the grant making bodies and donors above for their favour towards Barking Churches Unite, its guests, Service Providers, Volunteers, the community of Barking and its environs and recognise God's hand in keeping us abundantly ready for more work in this area.

10 Donation Form & Gift Aid Form



Barking Churches Unite

The SOURCE. 37A, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre. Barking, Essex, IG118DH

Telephone: 020 8594 2404

Email: michael.mednick@barkingchurchesunite.org

Charity No: 1173315

STANDING ORDER MANDATE FORM

Please return this form to your Bank and inform BCU / SOURCE of your decision

Please debit the account of:

Name:	_____
Bank:	_____
Branch:	_____
Full address:	_____
Account Name:	_____
Account Number:	_____ Sort code: _____

Please credit the account of:

Bank:	CAF
Account Name:	Barking Churches Unite
Account Number:	00035231 Sort code: 40-52-40

The Sum of	£	_____
	Amount in words	_____
Commencing date	From	_____
	To	_____
Last Payment	£	_____
	Amount in words	_____
Frequency	Weekly	_____
	Monthly	_____

Signature: _____	Date: _____
------------------	-------------

11 Procedures for Questions

If after reading the report, you have any questions, please complete the slip below & email them back to the Source with AGM in the subject box by 1st November (Michael.mednick@barkingchurchesunite.org) This will give time for a reply. You can provide a general comment if you wish. Questions not submitted before the meeting will be answered after the Annual General Meeting by email.

RESPONSE SLIP

Name _____ Church _____

Question



Barking Churches Unite

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023**

Barking Churches Unite

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Current Assets		
Cash in Hand and at Bank	135,717	102,139
Debtors	170	
Total Assets	<u>135,887</u>	<u>102,139</u>
Liabilities		
Due within one year		
Creditors	94	2,000
Total Liabilities	<u>94</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Net Assets (Assets less Liabilities)	<u><u>135,793</u></u>	<u><u>100,139</u></u>
Capital and Reserves	£	£
Reserves brought forward	100,139	84,807
Surplus/(Deficit)	35,654	15,332
Total Equity	<u><u>135,793</u></u>	<u><u>100,139</u></u>

The comparable figures for 2022 are for information only and do not form part of these accounts

The above accounts were approved by Barking Churches Unite Board on 26/10/2024

JA Ibrahim

Theresa Ibrahim
Treasurer

Antoinette Williamson
Antoinette Williamson
Co-Chair

Barking Churches Unite

Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31st December 2023

	<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
<u>Income</u>	£	£	£	£
		256,040		156,798
<u>Less: Expenses</u>				
Service Providers	140,726		78,445	
Light and Heat	2,253		939	
Catering & Hospitality	31,022		16,204	
Projects (incls Pitstop Diner/Wellbeing Event	4,232		35	
Telephone	639		706	
Repairs and Maintenance	1,054		1,473	
ICT incls Signage	1,257		209	
Insurance	856		780	
Legal and Professional	1,021		135	
Postage, Printing, Stationery, Training, Travel	606		26	
Gift Cards & Rewards	438		840	
Donations DCT & Night Shelter	-		470	
Mental Health & Uniforms	6,942		1,903	
Warehouse	20,321		34,542	
Clothing, Shoes & Toiletries	9,020		4,758	
		(220,385)		(141,465)
Surplus/(Deficit)		35,654		15,332

Independent Examiner's Report to Barking Churches Unite

This report on the financial statements of Barking Churches Unite (BCU) for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the Board of Barking Churches Unite and the Examiner

As members of Barking Churches Unite, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.43 (2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

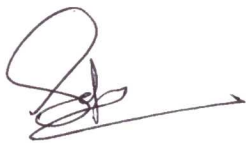
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.43(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by BCU and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently, I do not express on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s.41 of the Act; and to prepare financial statements in accordance with accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



L Satar, FCCA



Barking Churches Unite

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023**

Barking Churches Unite

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Treasurer

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Antoinette Williamson
Co-Chair

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Barking Churches Unite

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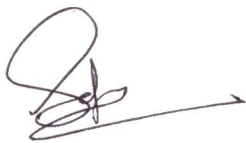
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L Satar, FCCA

BARKING CHURCHES UNITE (BCU)

England & Wales - Charity number 1173315

Accounts



Annual General

Meeting

Report

2023

(16th November 2023)

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- 5 Outcomes
- 6 Future Thoughts
- 7 How can you support Barking Churches Unite?
- 8 Prayer Requests
- 9 Finance Report
- 10 Donation Form & Gift Aid Form
- 11 Procedure for Questions

1 Chairman's Remarks

This section reflects my personal remarks about the year. Again this has been an amazing year for Barking Churches Unite(BCU) and a challenging year for the UK and world. A year concerning the aftermath of Covid, the Ukraine and Israel wars, cost of living crisis, and energy, fuel, mortgage and food increases. However, it has been a year where we have engaged even more closely with the Council and this has been demonstrated through regular contact and financial support for the Source. It has been a year we have seen a big increase in guest numbers and the development of The Source Warehouse. In everything we give thanks to God for His favour and His leading in the work of BCU and The Source.

At the Barking Learning Centre (BLC) we have continued to be responsible for the Barking's Food Club supporting around 150 families a week (an increase of 50 families) and Pit Stop which supports, on average 150 guests each day (an increase of nearly 40 -50 guests a day). In November we hope to bring back sit down meals we are calling Pit Stop Diner and a warm space called Pit Stop Lounge in February 2024. The shop unit (now known as The Source Wellbeing Centre) tenancy at Vicarage Field Shopping Centre has also been extended to 2025, under the same rent-free conditions. This has allowed us to focus on well-being groups, including, bereavement, mental health, employment and drugs support. We now have monthly Communion sessions and Discipleship sessions every week at the BLC.

BCU has extended its team engaging Support Assistant contractors for Pit Stop, Barking Food Club, The Wellbeing Centre & The Source Warehouse. A third Warehouse Assistant has just been recruited to enable collections and deliveries on a Saturday. An Operations Manager and Finance Officer are being considered, when finances allow for The Source activities.

It has also been another year with the return of the Turning Mission across Barking & Dagenham, where people gave their lives to the Lord became Christians and received prayers of blessings. United Prayer gatherings have continued alongside street praying, intercessory prayer and leaders' prayer meetings.

Barking Churches Unite has also had its logo and branding reviewed and now has a more corporate logo, linking more clearly to The Source activities. Its website is now being redesigned in line with BCU's branding review.

We now have a Co-Chair, Antoinette Williamson, who is mainly the Lead Trustee for the BLC activities. Audrey Sutherland is the now the Lead Trustee for The Wellbeing Centre. It is my hope to have a second Co-Chair by the end of the year.

In 2024 there is a possibility (if God so leads) for the development of supported housing, in partnership with LBBD & Green Pastures. This project will help those who are unable to sustain themselves in independent housing and require additional support in enabling them to become fully independent in basic household and budgeting skills and in drug rehabilitation.

There has also been a move of God towards bringing church leaders and congregations in Dagenham to come together to pray and to develop a cohesive strategy to love the community under the umbrella of Dagenham Christians Together. It has now been a charity for around 18 months and now has established a Dagenham Food Club & Wellbeing Centre at the Dagenham Library called The Church Elm Hub. The Food Club supports around 90 families a week and The Wellbeing Centre provides support to around 80 guests a week and runs a number of diverse wellbeing groups. I have the privilege to be chair of Dagenham Christians Together and

to bring a holistic strategy between BCU & DCT. I thank God for this move and the future partnership of churches in Barking & Dagenham to work and pray together.

I reaffirm my comments of the 2020, 2021 & 2022 AGM remarks in that I believe that God is saying that it is through the United Church in society we can love the community back to life for God and bring about restoration and redemption. The pandemic and current crises have caused the church to review its biblical responsibility and call to 'Go' and love the community and to resemble the intention of the Lord's Prayer "On earth as in heaven". I believe the dream of God over our life is that we come alive in His presence within an intimate relationship with Him and through the Holy Spirit we are able to bring life back to every environment, bringing restoration and redemption, spilling contagious hope into a broken and hurting world. To live in our true identity in God as people who are Christlike and live in His footprints and live supernatural lives in God. The next move of God I believe is not a revival or movement in the church but a movement of the Christians in our towns and communities; God's kingdom being established in all the spaces that we travel such as our work space and street and establishing them to be Kingdom spaces. The call is to 'Go'. The call to churches and BCU is to release unstoppable, impassioned Spirit-filled Christians into our communities and outside spaces and to be Kingdom people. We will need to embrace the love of the 95% of the people outside our church walls, who are in our town and community. When Kingdom People show up, they carry His presence, hope and love. As Kingdom People we carry the culture of the Kingdom. We carry the authority of God as sons, daughters & High Priests. We carry the favour, honour and anointing of God, because the power of the Holy Spirit & presence of God is within us. I believe that God's heart is to for us to love our community and to release Christians to be shepherds to our town and community. If we are to reach our community, we must reposition ourselves. God is sending us out into the world. Our calling & mission is to carry the Kingdom beyond the church into the heart of the culture, or community.

As Christians we are to transform the culture of the world as by introducing God's kingdom. We carry the wind of the Holy Spirit bringing release and authority where we go. Kingdom People release the Kingdom everywhere, every day. We must see our involvement and engagement in structures and institutions, work spaces as Kingdom work. We must reject the idea that Kingdom work mainly takes place in church buildings.

Compassion and mission are inseparable. The spirit of mission is a spirit of mercy. Kingdom People go around doing good, releasing compassion and healing, because God is in them moving them. Kingdom People release blessing, love and peace in their town. Kingdom People become Fathers, Mothers and Shepherds to their town. Kingdom People partner with their town. Every environment & space alive in His presence.

Kingdom culture empowers believers to bring life to every space. We need to dream over our town for God. We need to be Kingdom People. This is our spiritual DNA. We need to Wake Up (Open our eyes and Arise), Prepare (See and Hear God's Heartbeat & Get Ready) and be Mobilised for Action (Shine the Light of Love and the culture of the Kingdom). We need to pray together over our land (2 Chronicles 7:14). We need to change the culture and spiritual landscape of our community. We need to partner together even more closely as the United Body of Christ.

The future of Barking Churches Unite is to facilitate Christians to pray and work together to be Kingdom People in all spaces of our community and helping them to be Kingdom and Prayer Spaces for God. To be culture changers. We are called to 'Go', Be witnesses, and make disciples. To 'Go' into the world and our community and fulfil the Great Commission. Let us love our community back to God. My prayer is that we make every space in Barking and the UK be a Kingdom Space, filled with the presence of God and the Holy Spirit through being Kingdom People.

2 Barking Churches Unite (BCU)

Barking Churches Unite is a charitable group of Christians from churches in Barking who are committed to working with churches, Christians and volunteers, praying together for the transformation of our community. BCU was established in 2010 and became a registered charity on 7th June 2017. Our charity number is 1173315. We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

The Board of trustees includes the following:

Chair	Mick Mednick (Kings Church)
Co-Chair	Antoinette Williamson (Barking Baptist)
Treasurer	Theresa Ibrahim (St Erkenwald Church)
Secretary	Liz Mednick (Kings Church)
Warehouse	Bill Dear (St Erkenwald Church)
Wellbeing Centre	Audrey Sutherland (New Testament Assembly)
Grants/Food	Anne Dear (St Erkenwald Church)
Outreach	Michael Taylor (St Erkenwald Church)
Pastoral	Rev Unesu Chindabata (Christ Church)
Finance & Policies	Sandy Tomlinson

Mission Statement

Barking Churches Unite is a registered charity working to bring about change in Barking through prayer, the relief of poverty and other initiatives that serve the community and express God's love. We are a group of Christians attending churches across Barking. Barking Churches Unite facilitates contact with the council and other agencies, connecting like-minded Christians in our local area.

Basis of faith

We believe in one God, working as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe in the Lordship of Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection and uphold the Evangelical Alliance Statement of Faith (www.eauk.org) Jesus prayed for unity (John 17:21), Paul commanded we make an effort to maintain it (Ephesians 4:3) and God the Father promises to bless it (Psalm 133) and bring healing to the community through it. (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Organization

Barking Churches Unite is facilitated by a diverse group of Christian Trustees drawn from different church denominations, who include church leaders and Christians, seeking God's face for Barking. The trustees uphold the five-fold ministry and are led by a co-ordinator and chair of trustees. We facilitate communication between churches and among other agencies. Recently, and as a result of our work in the town the council and external bodies have communicated with us as a point of contact to engage with Christians who want to work in the community. We understand that unity is not uniformity and as such we are churches that have different expressions of our faith, believing that we are here to complement rather than compete with one

another, and that together as the Body of Christ in Barking we can fulfill God's purpose for our lives in our town.

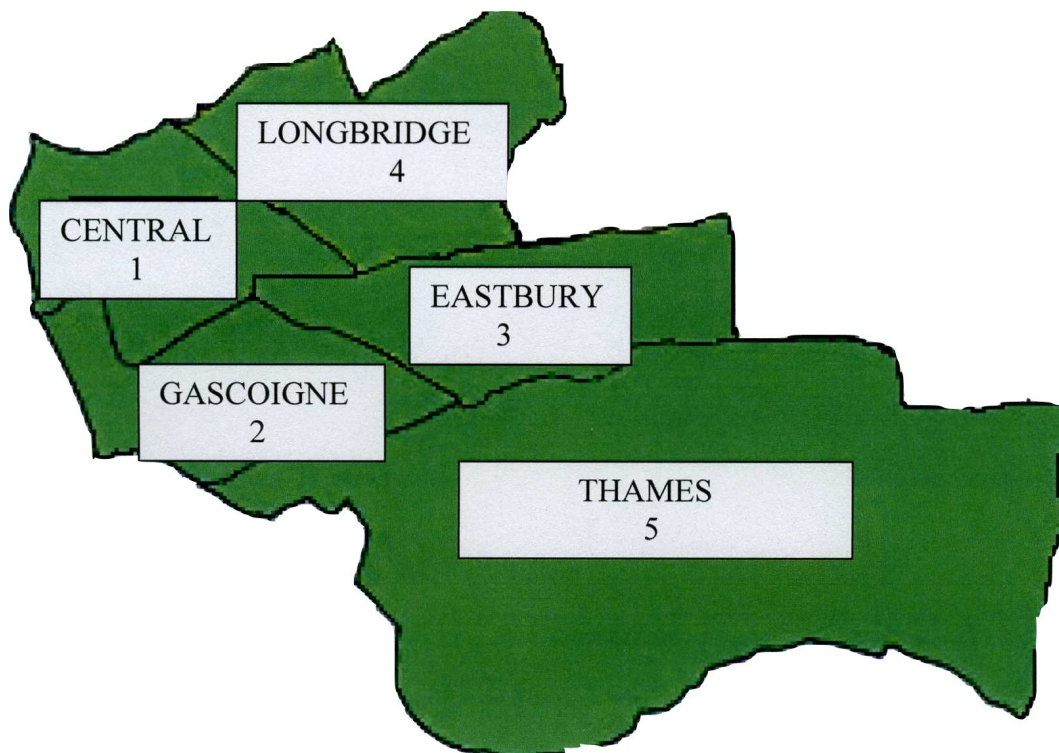
We see a church that will stand together in prayer to see social and spiritual transformation in our community. We see a church that will pray for one another and support one another practically as the need arises and resources allow. We see a church that will rejoice in what one another is doing and where possible promote that. We see a Church that will help facilitate and support the dreams of one another in order to advance God's Kingdom in Barking. We see a church that reaches out and meets the needs of the poor and the community, through joint ministries, initiatives and events.

Any Christian or/of Barking Church(s) that affirms the preceding statements can join us.

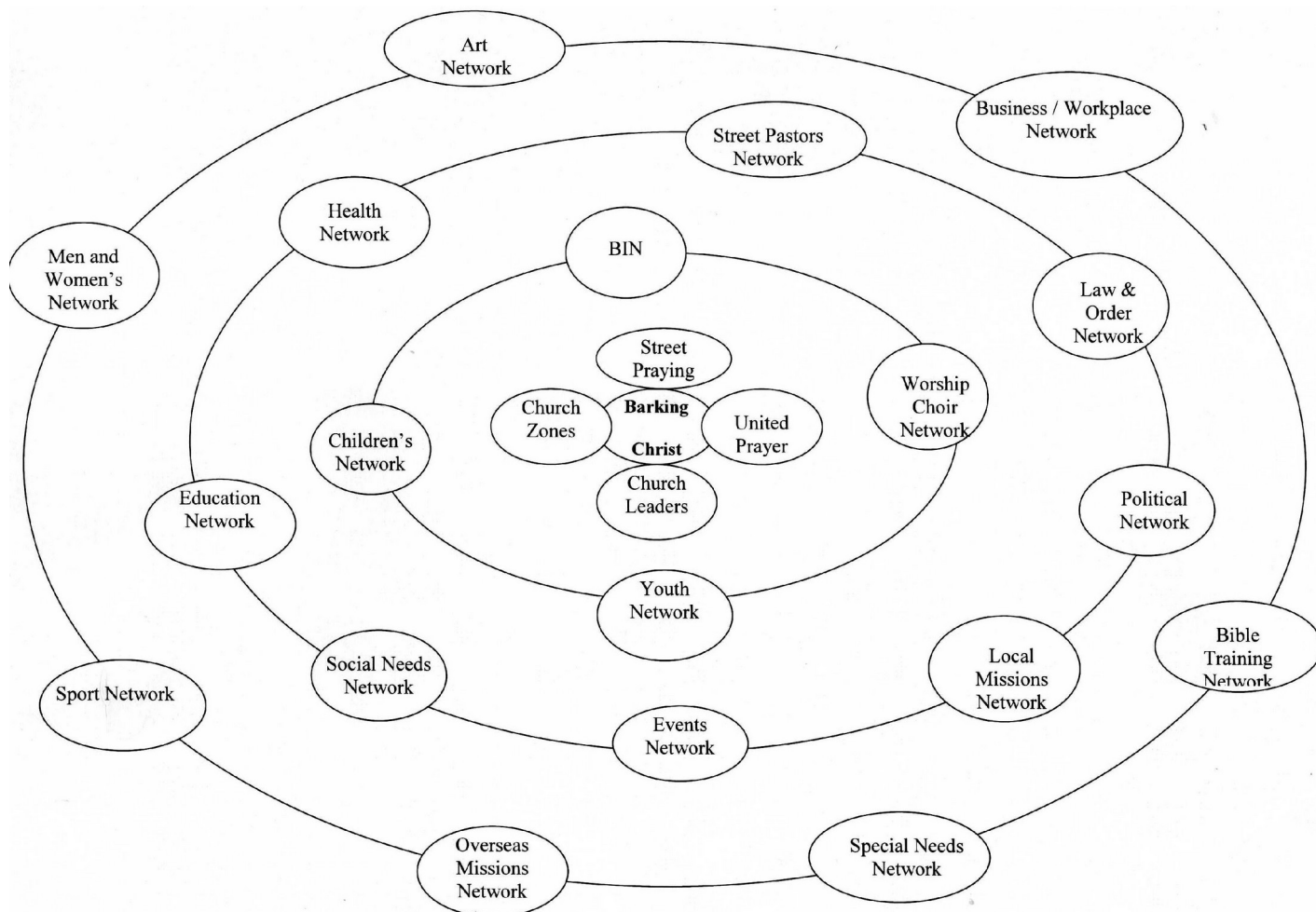
Strategy

1.Prayer

The individual churches are grouped into five zones, loosely based on the council wards. We cover Barking in prayer, through different forms of prayer meetings; church leader meetings, regular prayer walks and corporate prayer meetings in each zone, an intercessors group comprised of people from different churches, and open to all Christians from across the borough.



We are hoping to increase the numbers of intercessors by forming community prayer networks across the borough (see Solar picture below).



Mission and relief of poverty_

Through an outpouring of God's love, The Source (Barking Learning Centre, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre & Riverside Industrial Estate) has been set up in Barking to support those in poverty, who are homeless and helpless to bring about hope, help and restoration in the community.

Through God's leading we have been involved in setting up and we continue to partner with other initiatives; the Food Bank, The Turning, and Kidz Klub.

We serve a big God and therefore have a big VISION of transformation to Barking. As we encourage and facilitate Christians to be released within their calling through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will see God move in a mighty way

Finance

Finance comes from grants, Barking & Dagenham Council, businesses, personal and church-based donations and through fund raising. We do not apply for lottery or gambling-related funding.

Governance

BCU has a constitutional document and a number of policies that are statutory and of good practice in its operation. These include Child Protection & Safeguarding, Health and Safety, GDPR, Food & Hygiene rating certificate, (Level 4 at BLC), Complaints procedures and Service Level agreements.

3 The story in the last 12 months

It has been a busy and challenging year for Barking Churches Unite. It has been another year where the charity has developed and grown by God's grace and favour. Throughout this period the Source has been open for weekdays and has been there to love our town with food, support and comfort.

The Source continues to operate out of three sites:

- Vicarage Field Shopping Centre – The Source Wellbeing Centre
- The Barking Learning Centre (a Council building that hosts all the Council services and local library) – Pit Stop & The Barking Food Club
- Riverside Industrial Estate, Thames View (a warehouse given to us by the Council) – The Source Warehouse

All the sites are provided rent free and the project receives 100% business rate relief from the Council.

Vicarage Field Shopping Centre site is hosting a Wellbeing Centre for community projects and key working activities and the Barking Learning Centre is responsible for food related projects. We have developed an even closer relationship and partnership with the Council and as result The Source started an emergency food parcel service (delivery where necessary), in response to the Council's concerns over the deficit of people while awaiting benefits. We are responsible for the Barking Community Food Club, which is the largest Food Club in the Borough at the BLC. The Warehouse is now fulfilling a mighty ministry, providing free furniture and white goods being delivered free of charge to those who are in need. We are now contracting 3 contractors to fulfil the work. We are hoping to extend this work to a Saturday.

We are hoping in 2024 to extend our infrastructure to two Co-Chair Trustees (one already appointed) and an Operations Manager. To move into supported housing and to have a warm space area (Pit Stop Lounge). A youth Café at the Wellbeing Centre on a Saturday is being established at the moment. The branding and new logo will hopefully make a real difference to the marketing of BCU / The Source.

We have also continued our prayer strategy of prayer gatherings through 3 meetings (Christ Church, Barking Baptist & St Erkenwald) and street praying. Zoom prayer intercession (BIN) meeting with Dagenham representatives have also regularly taken place.

4 The Source

The Source is located in three places. A shop unit in Vicarage Field Shopping Centre (VFSC) is now a Wellbeing Centre, the Barking Learning Centre (BLC) is the location of Pit Stop & together with the Barking Food Club and the Warehouse is located in Thames Road. It is a ministry which is part of Barking Churches Unite (BCU) that works across the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham to supports hundreds of people out of hopelessness, homelessness, disadvantage and isolation. The various locations are line-managed by a trustee - Audrey Sutherland (Wellbeing Centre, (VFSC) Bill Dear (Warehouse) and Antoinette Williamson (Pit Stop & Barking Food Club, BLC). All staff are contracted. Kay Thompson is our Lead Contractor for the Wellbeing Centre, and Suzanne Playle (Support Assistant); Lorraine Allen is the Pitstop Lead Contractor, and Shally Mol Jose (Support Assistant); Rebecca Hutchon is Lead Contractor for The Source Barking Food Club and Elyse Ali (Support Assistant); Joshua Twine is the Lead Contractor for the Source Warehouse and Allglory Deo-Gratis Amah and Mihai Girbea

(Warehouse Assistants). Shally Mol Jose is our finance Assistant contractor. A second Co-Chair is being considered and a Chief Executive Officer is required as soon as we have the funding.

We refuse to give up on anybody and believe that every person can have a bright future. We provide outreach, support and opportunity to help people out of poverty. We have a track record of seeing our visitors move away from life controlling unemployment, homelessness, mental illness, disability, marriage breakdowns, addictions, and therefore breaking the poverty-cycle and reliance on the benefits system. Over the past year many of our visitors moved out of hopelessness and into hopefulness. We have also seen many of our guests move into accommodation and employment following our support.

Over this past year we have seen an increase in opportunities to share our faith and pray with guests. We have seen several guests so grateful of the help they have had come back to offer their services. Recently one of the staff members had the opportunity of leading one guest into a relationship with Jesus. We now have a Communion service every month and a weekly discipleship group at the BLC.

Overview of our services at The Source in the past year

BLC

- Pit Stop – a take away lunch and refreshments for those people who are homeless or in need, running weekdays (up to 150 people a day)
- Food Club (up to 150 families a week)
- GP checks (eg hepatitis B / flu / covid jabs)
- Referral centre to services and organisations
- Giving prayer support
- Clothes bank to guests
- Emergency food parcels

Wellbeing Centre (Vicarage Field Shopping Centre)

- Community groups including arts and crafts, sewing, computer café, Job club, chair Zumba, cookery classes
- Well-being support for those overcoming bereavement, mental illness, and loneliness
- Barking Business Chaplaincy – a ministry to provide support to managers and employees of local shops
- Referral centre to services and organisations
- Provide vouchers to the local Food Banks
- Information centre for events and local services
- Providing a mail box for those without permanent accommodation (around 100 people)
- Completing forms for those whose primary language is not English, or who struggle with literacy
- Providing telephone advocacy
- Telephone Help Lines – Rediscover (bereavement & grief), Reconnect (65+ and loneliness/isolation) & Reset (Mental ill health, depression & anxiety) 0300 302 3160
- Providing a listening ear over free refreshments
- Giving prayer support
- Office to Barking Churches Unite
- Key working guests
- A warm space

Warehouse (Riverside Industrial Park, 27, Thames Road)

- Providing free furniture, white goods, cutlery, crockery
- Collecting furniture, white goods, cutlery, crockery free of charge
- Providing a listening ear
- Food collection & delivery
- Giving prayer support

Future ministries at the Source

- Youth Café on a Saturday at the Wellbeing Centre
- A warm space at the BLC – Pit Stop Lounge
- Pit Stop Diner at the BLC (sit down provision) in November 2023
- Supported housing project
- Shower facilities at the BLC

Many of the guests visiting The Source have mental health conditions including depression, anxiety, post traumatic stress disorder or personality disorders; others have learning disabilities. Many suffer physical health issues particularly mobility difficulties or visual impairment, deafness, cancer, amputated limbs, brain tumor, heart conditions, epilepsy, HIV, diabetes; and many are unemployed, homeless, refugees and elderly.

We believe that every visitor deserves the chance to see their dreams realized, and that it is not enough to provide a hot meal as important as that is, but to get people out of poverty, feeling empowered in their circumstances and off the streets for good, we need to offer something that's relevant and sustainable.

To this end, we believe the solution is a service that supports those in poverty or in need and to restore broken lives and bring hope to the helpless, employment to the unemployed, homes to the homeless. We aim to provide a service that will provide activities to help those in desperate need and assistance to develop the activities, skills and resources for guests to realize their aspirations and become active and integrated members of their local community.

In other words; each of our services lead to guests being offered the opportunity to change their lives, attend courses, receive a free meal, find help to fill in forms, learning English, support into paid employment, - and that is what will change lives and get those in poverty back into employment, accommodation, and self belief and off the streets for good.

Over the past five years we have been working with those in poverty and need in Barking & Dagenham and in the centre of Barking. We are in an exceptional position to assist those who are in poverty and deprivation and we have a track record of seeing our visitors move away from life controlling addictions/offending and into lives they are able to control and feel proud of. We believe there is no such thing as a hopeless case, and that all deserve the chance to turn their lives around and come off the streets for good. What we have to offer is unique, carries excellent success rates, and is meeting a critical need in Barking.

In the past 12 months we have developed much closer links and regular contacts with the Council and other agencies, in order to work together for the positive outcomes of the guests.

5 Outcomes

BCU provided a healthy and vital linking of local churches to ensure compliance of legal restrictions. BCU has had 3 united prayer meetings at Christ Church, Barking Baptist and St Erkenwald in churches and street praying sessions in this past year. The Barking Intercessors Network (BIN) has met around 6 times on Zoom. There have been regular leader's fellowship meetings on Zoom (Barking Leaders Connect).

The Source keeps a visit register from which we measure our success in how many people we were able to feed, refer on to other support agencies and move on into other sustainable options. We currently refer people for Food Bank, council departments, as well as providing free daily lunchtime meals and other activities. Success is just about being there and knowing that we have restored hope to many lives, and enabled them to find a way out of the situation they are in.

For our **guests**, success in soft outcomes is measured by their personal development, restoring self-esteem and self-belief and basic skills and the hard outcomes are measured through attendance, those gaining employment and accommodation. Our **monitoring** is supported through a wide range of different measures which include; activity registers, face-to-face repeat conversations and meetings.

Visitors to The Source include those of different nationality and ethnic origin, low incomes, unemployed, homeless, mental health issues, elderly, disabled, single parents, bereaved and those with complex issues. From The Source they receive emotional and practical support and have a location in the marketplace that is sympathetic to those in need and works to resolve their issues. Referrals to agencies are made and people receive support that others are unable to provide.

The Source is often seen as a place of refuge and sanctuary providing hope to the hopeless, demonstrating God's love and compassion. Within the community The Source is seen as a first stop and last resort and people in need are referred to The Source by the Police, Social Services, Housing Office, Citizens Advice Bureau, Teen Challenge to name a few.

The Source is connected to a number of food agencies providing free food. These include Costco, KFC, Greggs, Lidl, Aldi, Asda, Tesco, Neighbourly and Felix (Fareshare). We have excellent relationships with Vicarage Field Shopping Centre and the BLC and as a result of the work we provide, we receive free rent and business rates.

The table below shows that our visits have increased in 2023. The forecast for 2023 is around 55,000-60,000 visits. The table indicates the number of visitors attending The Source and how God is amazingly using The Source to reach people in Barking. You will note that visits have increased at The Source to receive free services. The Council have also waived the Business Council Tax, in recognition of the free services we offer on behalf of Barking and Dagenham residents.

City	Well Being Job Groups	Enquiries & Key Working	Post Collections	Warehouse Food Collections	Warehouse Furniture Collections	Warehouse Food deliveries	Warehouse Furniture deliveries	Warehouse Full house deliveries	2023 Monthly: Total Visits	2022 Monthly: Total Visits	Diff	% Diff
	40	52	80	42	13	17	30	5	3257	2463	794	32.24
	58	38	80	33	42	25	26	5	2994	2401	593	24.70
	80	59	53	30	56	29	28	9	2945	2713	232	8.55
	55	58	53	33	38	28	26	10	2221	2175	46	2.11
	66	70	53	40	28	31	23	4	3714	1981	1733	87.48
	56	66	53	28	30	15	24	4	3239	2597	642	24.72
	67	77	0	33	2	24	6	0	3626	2367	1259	53.19
	70	134	106	42	26	37	19	1	4561	2542	2019	79.43
	59	113	55	46	23	34	29	1	3433	2351	1082	46.02
	39	103	42	43	32	24	18	3	2027	2553	-526	-20.60
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2472	-2472	-100.00
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2530	-2530	-100.00
	590	770	575	370	290	264	229	42	32017	29145	2872	9.9

Impacted

* Based on average Family size = 4 persons

p, Food parcels, Food vouchers, CFC, Well being groups, Working, Enquiries, Post, Warehouse Furniture collection & Deliveries

Total number of people directly impacted by all services >>>>	45913
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The Source hosted at Easter and Christmas an outside prayer station for visitors to the shopping centre to write their prayer requests and receive prayer. Also, we had a carol service in Vicarage Field Shopping Centre.

Impact

Over the past year the Source has seen people overcome extreme adversity and circumstances to go onto achieve incredible personal success. We refuse to give up on anybody and believe that every visitor / rough sleeper can have a bright future. We have seen guests become champions of the community. We believe in building people into a community where they feel safe and are resourced to contribute. We believe that we all have a role to play and that together we can end homelessness - The impact of our services is lives changed; more people who are without hope to regain their hope, lives that are broken to be restored, more homeless people off the streets, and into employment, which in turn ends the cycle of poverty and homelessness and has a positive effect on the community!

6 Future Thoughts

Forthcoming plans affecting BCU

- The borough of Barking & Dagenham is facing over £65 million of cuts (before Covid19) in the next four years and looking to offload many of its services to the voluntary sector. The leader of the council has publicly stated that homelessness is one of its biggest concerns and acknowledged the significant contribution already made by BCU in addressing it.
- Discussions are underway to explore by the council the data for homelessness and rough sleepers
- To work with the Council and support our community through the energy and food crisis.
- Vicarage Field Shopping Centre is due to close between 2024-25; to be demolished and rebuilt similar to the design of Westfield, Stratford. We have a 3 year tenancy.
- The BLC have offered BCU additional space in the event of the closure of Vicarage Field Shopping Centre.
- Working with Dagenham Christians Together
- Pit Stop Diner & Pit Stop Lounge
- Supported housing

BCU proposed developments and activities

- Further the Kingdom of God in Barking
- Maintain and extend the ministry of the Source wellbeing Centre
- Develop the warehouse project in the increase in collection and delivery of furniture & white goods to those in poverty
- Work with other places to help them model the BCU model
- Supported housing
- Logo & branding development
- Engage more closely with the Council
- Engage and partner with local businesses
- Work more closely to increase church unity & adoption of churches in BCU
- Develop discipleship spaces at BLC locations
- Support Dagenham Christian Together in developing The Church Elm Hub at Dagenham Library

7 How can YOU support Barking Churches Unite?

1 Praying

- Attending the united prayer & street praying events
- Using the Prayer Diary daily at home
- Praying for the Source and community ministries
- Praying for church unity and each church
- Joining the BIN (Barking Intercessors Network)
- Joining different BCU prayer networks
- Encouraging your Church to pray for BCU and support its ministries

- Church leaders to join Leaders Network
- More workers and volunteers
- Funding

2 Volunteering

- Helping at the Source for a 3-4 hour session a week
- Picking up food from retail shops / supermarkets
- Attending the Christmas Tree and Easter Garden witnesses
- Attending the BCU at events
- Joining the BCU WhatsApp Information group
- Offering your talent to create or contribute to a community well-being group

3 Join

- Join the Well-Being groups at The Source Wellbeing Centre, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre
- Join us in united prayer & street praying
- Joining the BCU WhatsApp Information group

4 Donating

Supporting the Source by

- £15** provides additional refreshments for a week
- £20** Provides tea, coffee and milk for a week
- £100** Provides heating costs for a month
- £100** Provides a 8 hours part-time worker costs

- Non-Perishable food
- Toiletries
- Individual donations to sustain the work on a regular basis
- Church collections (ie Harvest festival, Christmas donation)
- Organising fund raising events
- Ask your employers to sponsor BCU
- Clothes
- Furniture & White Goods

8 Prayer Requests

- 1 For God to pour out His Holy Spirit on staff, guests and volunteers of those involved at the Source
- 2 For guidance and wisdom for the trustees in the leading of BCU
- 3 Volunteers to support the Source & The Source Warehouse
- 4 Christians to join the well-being groups
- 5 Safety of the team and guests.
- 6 For God's love, compassion and presence to be evident in all that BCU does
- 7 To use the activities of BCU to bring people to salvation and a deeper walk with God
- 8 For greater unity amongst the church in praying and working together
- 9 For greater links between agencies and the Council
- 10 For more support from the churches and individual Christians in Barking
- 11 For our broken community of Barking & Dagenham

9 Financial Report

BCU Accounts Summary Jan 2018 to Dec 2022 and Budget for Jan 2023 – Dec 2023

Expenditure	Actual Jan - Dec 2018	Actual Jan - Dec 2019	Actual Jan - Dec 2020	Actual Jan - Dec 2021	Actual Jan - Dec 2022	Estimate Jan-Dec 2023
Service Providers	27,081	31,143	47,410	62,478	78,455	132,000
Key Worker	0	1,620	0	0	0	0
School Uniforms	0	0	0	0	1,366	2,500
Telephone	770	780	1,054	974	706	1,500
Heating & Light	1,891	1,860	656	520	939	1,500
Catering & Hospitality	2,347	2,409	3,851	3,717	16,204	30,000
Cleaning	1,278	1,021	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Repairs and Maintenance	894	2,504	1,476	1,469	1,473	3,000
Insurance	508	500	522	704	915	1,000
Legal		100	100	100	125	150
ICT & Computer Expenses	206	98	1,336	350	209	2,000
Peaced Together	28	0	0	0	0	0
H4BD & Turning & DCT Donations	300	446	300	0	470	50
Misc -Postage, Travel, Training, Printing & Stationery	298	370	288	144	26	2,000
Gift Cards & Rewards		400	2,618	1,521	840	3,000
Mental Health			240	358	572	3,000
Clothing & Toiletries			217	2,378	4,758	6,000
Micah Supported Living				1,190	35	30,000
Warehouse				826	34,542	42,000
Total Expenditure	35,601	43,250	60,070	76,730	141,465	259,700
Income						
Peaced Together	150	0	0	0	0	0
Gift Aid	0	0	0	0	0	5,000
Grants	18,600	22,049	97,067	61,075	124,950	220,000
Donations - Personal	14,492	17,120	14,111	13,987	13,586	15,000
Donations - Church	4,813	5,282	6,457	6,966	4,945	5,400
Donations - Business/Uniforms/Homeless H		183			4,450	3,000
Other - MSL + Telephone + Warehouse		40	400	7,260	8,867	9,000
Total Income	38,056	44,674	118,036	89,288	156,798	257,400
Expenditure over Income	2,45	1,42	57,96	12,5	15,33	-2,300

Independent Examiner

BCU appointed Leila Satar as the Independent Examiner (IE) of BCU accounts from 2019. She is a great supporter of the work of Barking Churches Unite, particularly we are grateful to her for all her work reviewing the accounts resulting in a successful 2022 IE report.

In 2022, Grants were gratefully received from

Grant Body	Award Name	Amount
Barking & Dagenham Council	Food & General Support	£37,500
Barking & Dagenham Council	Special Event	£2,500
Barking & Dagenham Council	Additional Restrictions Grant	£10,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Warehouse Furniture	£25,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Cooking Project	£2,500
Barking & Dagenham Council	Food at The Source	£9,950
Barking & Dagenham Council	Food at The Source	£30,000
Beatrice Laing	Grant for Warehouse Van	£5,000
Homeless Heroes	Homeless Heroes Aid	£1,750
Kingsley Hall	Community Wellbeing Project	£2,500
Toye Foundation	School Uniforms Grant	£1,500
Wates Family Enterprise Trust	100for500 Award	£500
	Total	£128,700

We are extremely grateful to all the grant making bodies above for their favour towards Barking Churches Unite, its guests, Service Providers, Volunteers, the community of Barking and its environs and recognise God's hand in keeping us abundantly ready for more work in this area.

10 Donation Form & Gift Aid Form



Barking Churches Unite

The SOURCE. 37A, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre. Barking, Essex, IG118DH

Telephone: **020 8594 2404**

Email: michael.mednick@barkingchurchesunite.org

Charity No: 1173315

STANDING ORDER MANDATE FORM

Please return this form to your Bank and inform BCU / SOURCE of your decision

Please debit the account of:

Name:	_____	
Bank:	_____	
Branch:	_____	
Full address:	_____	
Account Name:	_____	
Account Number:	_____	Sort code: _____

Please credit the account of:

Bank:	CAF	
Account Name:	Barking Churches Unite	
Account Number:	00035231	Sort code: 40-52-40

The Sum of	£	_____
	Amount in words	_____
Commencing date	From	_____

Last Payment	To	_____
	£	_____
	Amount in words	_____
Frequency	Weekly	_____
	Monthly	_____

Signature: _____	Date: _____
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11 Procedures for Questions

If after reading the report, you have any questions, please complete the slip below & email them back to the Source with AGM in the subject box by 5th November (Michael.mednick@barkingchurchesunite.org) This will give time for a reply. You can provide a general comment if you wish. Questions not submitted before the meeting will be answered after the Annual General Meeting by email.

RESPONSE SLIP

Name _____ Church _____

Question

Barking Churches Unite
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2022

Barking Churches Unite

Balance Sheet as at 31st Dec 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Current Assets		
Cash in Hand and at Bank	102,139	84,990
Total Assets	<u>102,139</u>	<u>84,990</u>
Liabilities		
Due within one year		
Creditors	2,000	183
Total Liabilities	<u>2,000</u>	<u>183</u>
Net Assets (Assets less Liabilities)	<u>100,139</u>	<u>84,807</u>
Capital and Reserves	£	£
Reserves brought forward	84,807	72,249
Surplus/(Deficit)	15,332	12,557
Total Equity	<u>100,139</u>	<u>84,807</u>

The comparable figures for 2021 are for information only and do not form part of these accounts

The above accounts were approved by Barking Churches Unite Board on 23/10/2023

JA Ibrahim

Theresa Ibrahim
Treasurer

Michael Mednick

Michael Mednick
Chairman

Barking Churches Unite

Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31st December 2022

	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>	
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>Income</u>				
		156,798		89,288
<u>Less: Expenses</u>				
Service Providers	78,445		62,478	
Light and Heat	939		520	
Catering & Hospitality	16,204		3,717	
Micah Supported Living	35		1,190	
Telephone	706		974	
Repairs and Maintenance	1,473		1,469	
ICT	209		350	
Insurance	780		704	
Legal and Professional	135		100	
Postage, Printing, Stationery, Training, Travel	26		144	
Gift Cards & Rewards	840		1,521	
Donations DCT & Night Shelter	470		-	
Mental Health & Uniforms	1,903		358	
Warehouse	34,542		826	
Clothing, Shoes & Toiletries	4,758		2,378	
		(141,465)		(76,730)
Surplus/(Deficit)		15,332		12,557

Independent Examiner's Report to Barking Churches Unite

This report on the financial statements of Barking Churches Unite (BCU) for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the Board of Barking Churches Unite and the Examiner

As members of Barking Churches Unite, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.43 (2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.43(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by BCU and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently, I do not express on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s.41 of the Act; and to prepare financial statements in accordance with accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



L Satar, FCCA

BARKING CHURCHES UNITE (BCU)

England & Wales - Charity number 1173315

Accounts



Annual General

Meeting

Report

2022

(10th November 2022)

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- 2 Barking Churches Unite
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- 7 How can you support Barking Churches Unite?
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- 9 Finance Report
- 10 Donation Form & Gift Aid Form
- 11 Procedure for Questions

1 Chairman's Remarks

This section reflects my personal remarks about the year. Again this has been an amazing and yet unprecedented year for Barking and Barking Churches Unite and indeed the UK and world. A year concerning the aftermath of Covid, the Ukraine war, energy & fuel crisis, mortgage and food increases. However, it has been a year where we have engaged even more closely with the Council and this has been demonstrated through regular contact and financial support for the Source. It has been a year we have seen a big increases in guest numbers and the establishment and development of The Source Warehouse.

At the Barking Learning Centre we have continued to be responsible for the Barking's Food Club (supporting around 110 families a week) and Pit Stop which supports, on average 90-114 guests each day. In November we hope to bring back sit down meals we are calling Pit Stop Diner and a recreation time called Pit Stop Lounge. The shop unit tenancy at Vicarage Field Shopping Centre has also been extended by a further 3 years under the same rent-free conditions. This has allowed us to focus on well-being groups, including, bereavement, mental health, employment and drugs support.

BCU has extended its team engaging Lead contractors for Pit Stop, Barking Food Club, The Source shop & The Source Warehouse. We also have two Support Assistants, one for the Warehouse and the other for BLC; a Wellbeing Worker for the BLC / Shop and a Finance Assistant.

It has also been a year with the return of the Turning Mission across Barking & Dagenham, where people became Christians and received prayers of blessings. United Prayer gatherings have continued alongside street praying, intercessory prayer and leaders prayer meetings.

There has also been a move of God towards bring church leaders and congregations in Dagenham to come together to pray and to develop a cohesive strategy to love the community under the umbrella of Dagenham Christians Together. It became a charity in May and now has established a Dagenham Food Club & Wellbeing Centre at the Dagenham Library called The Church Elm Hub. I have the privilege to be chair of Dagenham Christians Together. I thank God for this move and the future partnership of churches in Barking & Dagenham to work and pray together.

I reaffirm my comments of the 2020 & 2021 AGM remarks in that I believe that God is saying that it is through the united church in society we can love the community back to life for God and bring about restoration and redemption. The pandemic and current crisis has caused the physical doors of the church to close and so the call to 'Go' and love the community has increased. I believe the dream of God over our life is that we come alive in His presence within an intimate relationship with Him and through the Holy Spirit we are able to bring life back to every environment, bringing restoration and redemption, spilling contagious hope into a broken and hurting world. The next move of God I believe is not a revival or movement in the church but a movement of the Christians in our towns and communities; God's kingdom being established in all the spaces that we travel such as our work space and street and establishing them to be Kingdom spaces. The call is to 'Go'. The call to churches and BCU is to release unstoppable, impassioned Spirit-filled Christians into our communities and outside spaces and to be Kingdom people. We will need to embrace the love of the 95% of the people outside our church walls, who are in our town and community. When Kingdom People show up they carry His presence, hope and love. As Kingdom People we carry the culture of the Kingdom. We carry the authority of God as sons, daughters & High Priests. We carry the favour, honour

and anointing of God, because the power of the Holy Spirit & presence of God is within us. I believe that God's heart is to for us to love our community and to release Christians to be shepherds to our town and community. If we are to reach our community, we must reposition ourselves. God is sending us out into the world. Our calling & mission is to carry the Kingdom beyond the church into the heart of the culture.

As Christians we are to transform the culture of the world as by introducing God's kingdom. We carry the wind of the Holy Spirit bringing release and authority where we go. Kingdom People release the kingdom everywhere, everyday. We must see our involvement and engagement in structures and institutions, work spaces as kingdom work. We must reject the idea that kingdom work mainly takes place in church buildings.

Compassion and mission are inseparable. The spirit of mission is a spirit of mercy. Kingdom people go around doing good, releasing compassion and healing, because God is in them moving them. Kingdom People release blessing, love and peace in their town. Kingdom People become fathers, mothers and shepherds to their town. Kingdom People partner with their town. Every environment & space alive in His presence.

Kingdom culture empowers believers to bring life to every space. We need to dream over our town for God. We need to be Kingdom People. This is our spiritual DNA. We need to Wake Up (Open our eyes and Arise), Prepare (See and Hear God's heartbeat & Get Ready) and be Mobilised for Action (Shine the Light of Love and the culture of the Kingdom). We need to pray together over our land (2 Chron 7:14). We need to change the culture and spiritual landscape of our community. We need to partner together even more closely as the united body of Christ.

The future of Barking Churches Unite is to facilitate Christians to pray and work together to be Kingdom People in all spaces of our community and helping them to be Kingdom and Prayer Spaces for God. To be culture changers. We are called to 'Go', Be witnesses, and make disciples. To 'Go' into the world and our community and fulfil the Great Commission. Let us love our community back to God. My prayer is that we make every space in Barking and the UK be a Kingdom Space, filled with the presence of God and the Holy Spirit through being Kingdom People.

Mick Mednick – Chair of Barking Churches Unite

2 Barking Churches Unite (BCU)

Barking Churches Unite is a charitable group of Christians from churches in Barking who are committed to working with churches, Christians and volunteers, praying together for the transformation of our community. BCU was established in 2010 and became a registered charity on 7th June 2017. Our charity number is 1173315. We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

The Board of trustees includes the following:

Chair	Mick Mednick (Kings Church)
Treasurer	Theresa Ibrahim (St Erkenwald Church)
Secretary	Liz Mednick (Kings Church)
Warehouse	Bill Dear (St Erkenwald Church)
Grants/Food	Anne Dear (St Erkenwald Church)
Outreach	Michael Taylor (St Erkenwald Church)

Mission Statement

Barking Churches Unite is a registered charity working to bring about change in Barking through prayer, the relief of poverty and other initiatives that serve the community and express God's love. We are a group of Christians attending churches across Barking. Barking Churches Unite facilitates contact with the council and other agencies, connecting like-minded Christians in our local area.

Basis of faith

We believe in one God, working as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe in the Lordship of Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection and uphold the Evangelical Alliance Statement of Faith (www.eauk.org) Jesus prayed for unity (John 17:21), Paul commanded we make an effort to maintain it (Ephesians 4:3) and God the Father promises to bless it (Psalm 133) and bring healing to the community through it. (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Organization

Barking Churches Unite is facilitated by a diverse group of Christian Trustees drawn from different church denominations, who include church leaders and Christians, seeking God's face for Barking. The trustees uphold a five-fold ministry and are led by a co-ordinator and chair of trustees. We facilitate communication between churches and among other agencies. Recently, and as a result of our work in the town the council and external bodies have communicated with us as a point of contact to engage with Christians who want to work in the community. We understand that unity is not uniformity and as such we are churches that have different expressions of our faith, believing that we are here to complement rather than compete with one another, and that together as the Body of Christ in Barking we can fulfill God's purpose for our lives in our town.

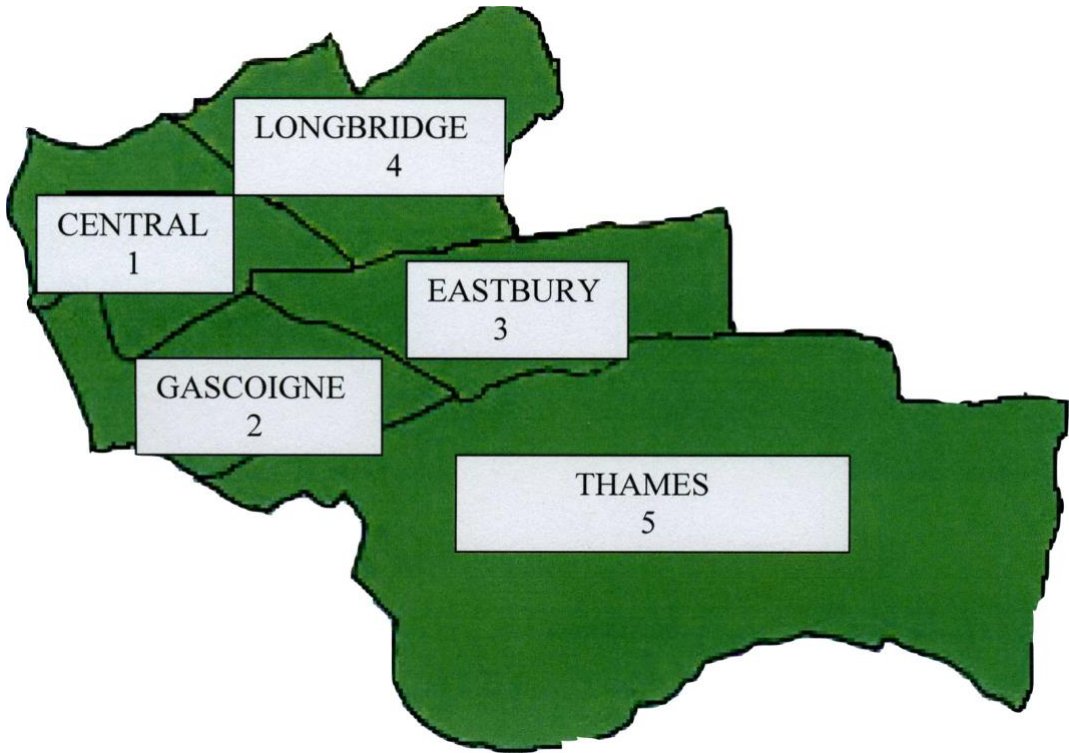
We see a church that will stand together in prayer to see social and spiritual transformation in our community. We see a church that will pray for one another and support one another practically as the need arises and resources allow. We see a church that will rejoice in what one another is doing and where possible promote that. We see a Church that will help facilitate and support the dreams of one another in order to advance God's kingdom in Barking. We see a church that reaches out and meets the needs of the poor and the community, through joint ministries, initiatives and events.

Any Christian or Barking Church that affirms the preceding statements can join us.

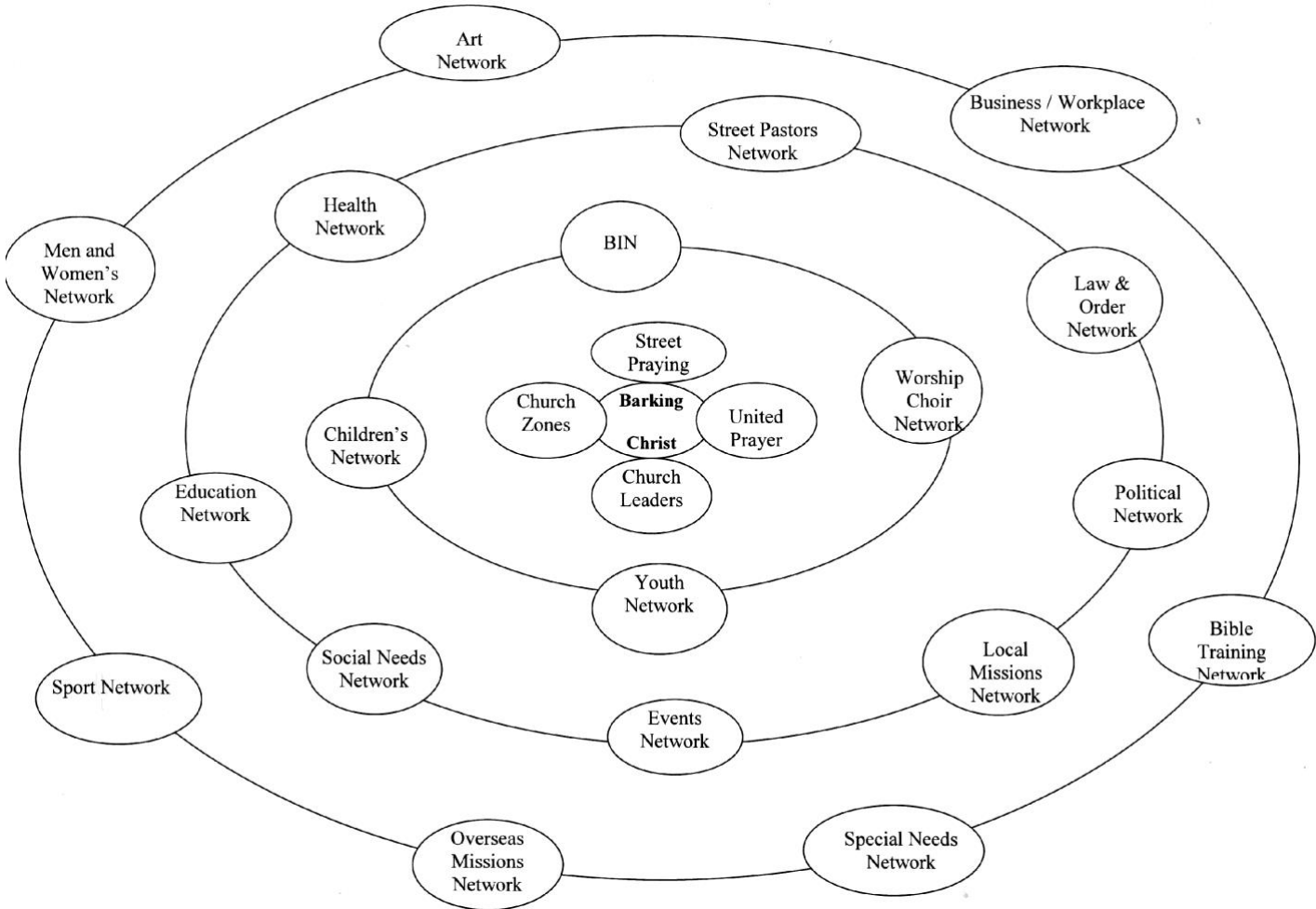
Strategy

1.Prayer

The individual churches are grouped into five zones, loosely based on the council wards. We cover Barking in prayer, through different forms of prayer meetings; church leader meetings, regular prayer walks and corporate prayer meetings in each zone, an intercessors group comprised of people from different churches, and open to all Christians from across the borough.



We are hoping to increase the numbers of intercessors by forming community prayer networks across the borough (see Solar picture below).



Mission and relief of poverty

Through an outpouring of God's love, The Source (Barking Learning Centre, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre & Riverside Industrial Estate) has been set up in Barking to support those in poverty, who are homeless and helpless to bring about hope, help and restoration in the community.

Through God's leading we have been involved in setting up and we continue to partner with other initiatives; the Food Bank, Hope 4 Barking Dagenham Night Shelter, The Turning, and Kidz Klub. Due to Covid19 and other issues the Night Shelter has not been operating.

We serve a big God and therefore have a big vision of transformation to Barking. As we encourage and facilitate Christians to be released within their calling through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will see God move in a mighty way

Finance

Finance comes from grants, Barking & Dagenham Council, businesses, personal and church-based donations and through fund raising. We do not apply for lottery or gambling-related funding.

Governance

BCU has a constitutional document and a number of policies that are statutory and of good practice in its operation. These include Child Protection & Safeguarding, Health and Safety, GDPR, Food & Hygiene rating certificate, Complaints procedures and Service Level agreements.

3 The story in the last 12 months

It has been a busy and challenging year for Barking Churches Unite. It has been another unprecedented year with Post-Covid19 pandemic and the energy, fuel and food crisis. It has also been a year where the charity has developed and grown by God's grace and favour. Throughout this period the Source has been open for weekdays and has been there to love our town with food, support and comfort.

The Source now operates out of three sites:

- a shop unit at the Vicarage Field Shopping Centre
- The Barking Learning Centre (a Council building that hosts all the Council services and local library)
- a warehouse in Riverside Industrial Estate, Thames View (given to us by the Council).

All the sites are provided rent free and the project receives 100% business rate relief from the Council.

Vicarage Field Shopping Centre site is hosting a Wellbeing Centre for community projects and key working activities and the Barking Learning Centre is responsible for food related projects. We have developed an even a closer relationship and partnership with the Council and as result The Source started an emergency food parcel service (delivery where necessary), in response to the Council's concerns over the deficit of people while awaiting benefits.

We are responsible for the Barking Community Food Club, which is the largest Food Club in the Borough at the BLC.

The Warehouse is now fulfilling a mighty ministry, providing free furniture and white goods being delivered free of charge to those who are in need. We purchased a nearly new van from donations and grants, a real gift of God.

It has been an amazing year in which we have been successful in gaining a number of grants. We now have a new website and we have purchased the Restore My Town software to be used across churches to enable them to support the vulnerable in the community and to refer people into local services by the end of the year.

It has also been a year where two trustees have retired (Eddie Anning & Carlton Smith) and Sandy Tomlinson has joined us. We thank Eddie & Carlton for their support & time with us.

We have also continued our prayer strategy of prayer gatherings through Zoom, prayer intercession (BIN) and street praying. These groups now include a Mahabba group. The Food Club, Pit Stop and Source Warehouse actively offer prayer and as a result have been instrumental in connecting people they have met to a local church. The next move is to develop Kingdom Prayer Spaces in our community and to continue to release people in dreams that God has bestowed upon their heart to fulfil and to sew, grow and release strategy.

4 The Source

The Source is now located in three places. A shop unit in Vicarage Field Shopping Centre (VFSC) is now a Wellbeing Centre, the Barking Learning Centre (BLC) is the location of Pit Stop & The Food Club and the Warehouse is located in Thames Road. It is a ministry which is part of Barking Churches Unite (BCU) that works across the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham to supports hundreds of people out of hopelessness, homelessness, disadvantage and isolation. The Source was managed by the late Amanda Grace and now is line-managed by trustees, Mick Mednick (BLC & VFSC) and Bill Dear (Warehouse). All staff are contracted. Kay Thompson is our Lead Contractor for the shop unit / Wellbeing Centre; Gerhard Marais is Pitstop Project Lead Contractor; Rebecca Hutchon is Project Lead Contractor for The Source Barking Food Club; and Steven Fletcher is the Lead Contractor for the Source Warehouse. Shally Mol Jose is our finance Assistant contractor; Joshua Twine joins our team as a Warehouse Support Assistant contractor; Elyse Ali is a Support Assistant contractor at The BLC; and Lorraine Allen as a Wellbeing Support Assistant contractor. A Pit Stop Support Assistant contractor and a Chief Executive Officer is required as soon as we have the funding.

We refuse to give up on anybody and believe that every person can have a bright future. We provide outreach, support and opportunity to help people out of poverty. We have a track record of seeing our visitors move away from life controlling unemployment, homelessness, mental illness, disability, marriage breakdowns, addictions, and therefore breaking the poverty-cycle and reliance on the benefits system. Over the past year many of our visitors moved out of hopelessness and into hope. We have also seen many of our guests move into accommodation and employment following our support.

Over this past year we have seen an increase in opportunities to share our faith and pray with guests. We have seen several guests so grateful of the help they have had come back to offer their services. Recently one of the staff members had the opportunity of leading one guest into a relationship with Jesus.

Overview of our services at The Source in the past year

BLC

- Pit Stop – a take away lunch and hot meal throughout the pandemic and refreshments for those people who are homeless or in need, running 5 days a week
- Food Club
- GP checks (eg flu jabs)
- Facilitating our guests being offered and given Covid Vaccine
- Referral centre to services and organisations
- Giving prayer support
- Clothes bank to guests
- Emergency food parcels

Wellbeing Centre (Vicarage Field Shopping Centre)

- Community groups including arts and crafts, sewing, computer café, Job club
- Well-being support for those overcoming bereavement, mental illness, and loneliness
- Barking Business Chaplaincy – a ministry to provide support to managers and employees of local shops
- Referral centre to services and organisations
- Provide vouchers to the local Food Banks
- Information centre for events and local services
- Providing a mail box for those without permanent accommodation
- Completing forms for those whose primary language is not English, or who struggle with literacy
- Providing telephone advocacy
- Telephone Help Lines – Rediscover (bereavement & grief), Reconnect (65+ and loneliness/isolation) & Reset (Mental ill health, depression & anxiety)
- Providing a listening ear over free refreshments
- Giving prayer support
- Office to Barking Churches Unite
- A satellite venue for CGL Drugs Alcohol Services
- Chair Zumba

Warehouse (Riverside Industrial Park, 27, Thames Road)

- Providing free furniture, white goods, cutlery, crockery
- Collecting furniture, white goods, cutlery, crockery free of charge
- Providing a listening ear
- Food collection & delivery

Future ministries at the Source

- Youth Café on a Saturday at the Wellbeing Centre
- A warm space at the Wellbeing Centre
- Pit Stop Lounge & Pit Stop Diner at the BLC (sit down provision)
- Development of Restore My Town and warehouse

Many of the guests visiting The Source have mental health conditions including depression, anxiety, post traumatic stress disorder or personality disorders; others have learning disabilities. Many suffer physical health issues particularly mobility difficulties or visual impairment, deafness, cancer, amputated limbs, brain tumor, heart conditions, epilepsy, HIV, diabetes; and many are unemployed, homeless, refugees and elderly.

We believe that every visitor deserves the chance to see their dreams realized, and that it is not enough to provide a hot meal as important as that is, but to get people out of poverty, feeling empowered in their circumstances and off the streets for good, we need to offer something that's relevant and sustainable.

To this end, we believe the solution is a service that supports those in poverty or in need and to restore broken lives and bring hope to the helpless, employment to the unemployed, homes to the homeless. We aim to provide a service that will provide activities to help those in desperate need and assistance to develop the activities, skills and resources for guests to realize their aspirations and become active and integrated members of their local community.

In other words; each of our services lead to guests being offered the opportunity to change their lives, attend courses, receive a free meal, find help to fill in forms, learning English, support into paid employment, - and that is what will change lives and get those in poverty back into employment, accommodation, and self belief and off the streets for good.

Over the past five years we have been working with those in poverty and need in Barking & Dagenham and in the centre of Barking. We are in an exceptional position to assist those who are in poverty and deprivation and we have a track record of seeing our visitors move away from life controlling addictions/offending and into lives they are able to control and feel proud of. We believe there is no such thing as a hopeless case, and that all deserve the chance to turn their lives around and come off the streets for good. What we have to offer is unique, carries excellent success rates, and is meeting a critical need in Barking.

In the past 12 months we have developed much closer links and regular contacts with the Council and other agencies, in order to work together for the positive outcomes of the guests.

5 Outcomes

BCU provided a healthy and vital linking of local churches to ensure compliance of legal restrictions. BCU has had united prayer meetings on Zoom and in churches, street praying sessions this past year. The BIN has met around 6 times on Zoom. There have been regular leader's fellowship meetings on Zoom.

The Source keeps a visit register from which we measure our success in how many people we were able to feed, refer on to other support agencies and move on into other sustainable options. We currently refer people for Food Bank, debt advice, council departments, as well as providing free daily lunchtime meals and other activities. Success is just about being there and knowing that we have restored hope to many lives, and enabled them to find a way out of the situation they are in.

For our **guests**, success in soft outcomes is measured by their personal development, restoring self-esteem and self-belief and basic skills and the hard outcomes are measured through attendance, those gaining employment and accommodation. Our **monitoring** is supported through a wide range of different measures which include; activity registers, face-to-face repeat conversations and meetings.

Visitors to The Source include those of different nationality and ethnic origin, low incomes, unemployed, homeless, mental health issues, elderly, disabled, single parents, bereaved and those with complex issues. From The Source they receive emotional and practical support and have a location in the marketplace that is sympathetic to those in need and works to resolve their issues. Referrals to agencies are made and people receive support that others are unable to provide.

The Source is often seen as a place of refuge and sanctuary providing hope to the hopeless, demonstrating God's love and compassion. Within the community The Source is seen as a first stop and last resort and people in need are referred to The Source by the Police, Social Services, Housing Office, Citizens Advice Bureau, Teen Challenge to name a few.

The Source is connected to a number of food agencies providing free food. These include Costco, KFC, Greggs, Lidl, Aldi, Asda, Tesco, Neighbourly and Felix (Fareshare). We have excellent relationships with Vicarage Field Shopping Centre and the BLC and as a result of the work we provide, we receive free rent and business rates.

Year	Date	Pit Stop	Food Bk Voucher	Post	Other	Food Parcels	Total Visits
2020	January	1,575	38	95	101	NA	1,809
	February	1,723	43	93	80	NA	1,939
	March	1,181	7	92	21	NA	1,301
	April	518	5	90	223	NA	836
	May	767	10	90	187	59	1,113
	June	852	10	87	96	57	1,102
	July	1,323	27	85	114	57	1,606
	August	1,084	11	85	80	33	1,293
	September	1,037	12	84	50	31	1,214
	October	1,448	12	84	83	50	1,677
	November	1,564	0	86	37	29	1,716
	December	1,651	30	86	30+59FC	40	1,860
Total		14,723	205	1,057	1,161	356	17,502

Year	Date	Pit Stop	Food Bk Voucher	Food Club	Food Parcels	Post	Well-Being Groups	Other	Ware-House	Total Visits
2021	January	1,793	14	(104)496	37	103	NA	20	NA	2,463
	February	1,868	0	(96)384	24	103	NA	22	NA	2,401
	March	2,100	0	(118)472	16	98	NA	27	NA	2,713
	April	1,722	0	(76)304	25	109	NA	15	NA	2,175
	May	1,501	0	(84)336	11	109	NA	24	NA	1,981
	June	2,028	3	(99)396	13	109	22	26	NA	2,597
	July	1,832	1	(91)364	12	120	23	15	NA	2,367
	August	1,922	6	(124)496	10	66	18	24	NA	2,542
	September	1,895	9	(79)316	11	70	13	37	NA	2,351
	October	1,979	2	(113)452	8	70	15	27	NA	2,553
	November	1,830	4	(114)456	20	80	23	48	11	2,472
	December	1,792	4	(148)592	25	80	16	16	3	2,530
Total		22,268	43	(1,256)5,024	212	1,128	130	302	14	30,351

The tables shows that our visits have increased and the total number of 2021 visits has been surpassed within the first 9 months of 2022. The forecast is to reach around 42,000 visits by the end of the year. The table indicates the number of visitors attending The Source and how God is amazingly using The Source to reach people in Barking. You will note that visits have increased at The Source to receive free services..

Council have also waived the Business Council Tax, in recognition of the free services we offer on behalf of Barking and Dagenham residents.

Year	Date	Pit Stop	Food Bk Voucher	Food Club	Food Parcels	Post	Well-Being Groups	Enquiries/ Keyworking	Ware-House	Total Visits
2022	January	1,802	6	(107)428	12	80	24(40)	23	6	2,421
	February	2,036	3	(166)664	20	80	29(40)	33	8	2,913
	March	1,850	9	(303)1,212	25	80	22(40)	48	29	3,315
	April	1,805	7	(208)833	12	80	28(40)	29	27	2,861
	May	1,997	7	(270)1,080	18	80	23(40)	52	51	3,348
	June	1,990	5	(360)1,440	20	89	36(40)	45	51	3,716
	July	2,169	8	(400)1,600	21	89	22(40)	51	65	4,065
	August	2,248	2	(389)1,556	0	139	28(40)	42	58	4,113
	September	1,985	4	(354)1,416	0	139	25(40)	43	116	3,768
Total		17,882	51	(2,557)10,229	128	856	(360)597	366	411	30,520

The Source hosted at Easter and Christmas an outside prayer station for visitors to the shopping centre to write their prayer requests and receive prayer. Also, we had a carol service in Vicarage Field Shopping Centre.

Impact

Over the past year the Source has seen people overcome extreme adversity and circumstance to go on to achieve incredible personal success. We refuse to give up on anybody and believe that every visitor / rough sleeper can have a bright future. We have seen guests become champions of the community. We believe in building people into a community where they feel safe and are resourced to contribute. We believe that we all have a role to play and that together we can end homelessness - The impact of our services is lives changed; more people who are without hope to regain their hope, lives that are broken to be restored, more homeless people off the streets, and into employment, which in turn ends the cycle of poverty and homelessness and has a positive effect on the community!

6 Future Thoughts

Forthcoming plans affecting BCU

- The borough of Barking & Dagenham is facing over £65 million of cuts (before Covid19) in the next four years and looking to offload many of its services to the voluntary sector. The leader of the council has publicly stated that homelessness is one of its biggest concerns and acknowledged the significant contribution already made by BCU in addressing it.
- Discussions are underway to explore by the council the data for homelessness and rough sleepers
- To work with the Council and support our community through the energy and food crisis.
- Vicarage Field Shopping Centre is due to close between 2024-25; to be demolished and rebuilt similar to the design of Westfield, Stratford. We have a 3 year tenancy.
- The BLC have offered BCU additional space in the event of the the closure of Vicarage Field Shopping Centre.
- Working with Dagenham Christians Together
- The Turning

BCU proposed developments and activities

- Further the Kingdom of God in Barking
- Maintain and extend the ministry of the Source shop unit
- Develop the warehouse project in the increase in collection and delivery of furniture & white goods to those in poverty
- Work with other places to help them model the BCU model
- Develop Restore My Town software in locations around the borough
- Continue and extend the prayer strategy adopted
- Engage more closely with the Council
- Engage and partner with local businesses
- Work more closely to increase church unity & adoption of churches in BCU
- Develop discipleship spaces at BLC locations
- Support Dagenham Christian Together in developing The Church Elm Hub at Dagenham Library

7 How can YOU support Barking Churches Unite?

1 Praying

- Attending the united prayer & street praying events
- Using the Prayer Diary daily at home
- Praying for the Source and community ministries
- Praying for church unity and each church
- Joining the BIN (Barking Intercessors Network)
- Joining different BCU prayer networks
- Encouraging your Church to pray for BCU and support its ministries
- Church leaders to join Leaders Network
- More workers and volunteers
- Funding

2 Volunteering

- Helping at the Source for a 3-4 hour session a week
- Picking up food from retail shops / supermarkets
- Attending the Christmas Tree and Easter Garden witnesses (after Covid19)
- Attending the BCU at events
- Joining the BCU WhatsApp Information group
- Offering your talent to create or contribute to a community well-being group

3 Join

- Join the Well-Being groups at The Source, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre
- Join us in united prayer & street praying
- Joining the BCU WhatsApp Information group

4 Donating

Supporting the Source by

- £15** provides additional refreshments for a week
- £20** Provides tea, coffee and milk for a week
- £50** Provides heating costs for a month
- £100** Provides a part-time worker costs for a week

- Non-Perishable food
- Toiletries
- Individual donations to sustain the work on a regular basis
- Church collections (ie Harvest festival, Christmas donation)
- Organising fund raising events
- Ask your employers to sponsor BCU
- Clothes
- Furniture & White Goods

8 Prayer Requests

- 1 For God to pour out His Holy Spirit on staff, guests and volunteers of those involved at the Source
- 2 For guidance and wisdom for the trustees in the leading of BCU
- 3 Volunteers to support the Source & The Source Warehouse
- 4 Christians to join the well-being groups
- 5 Safety of the team and guests.
- 6 For God's love, compassion and presence to be evident in all that BCU does
- 7 To use the activities of BCU to bring people to salvation and a deeper walk with God
- 8 For greater unity amongst the church in praying and working together
- 9 For greater links between agencies and the Council
- 10 For more support from the churches and individual Christians in Barking
- 11 For our broken community of Barking & Dagenham

9 Financial Report

BCU Accounts Summary Jan 2017 to Dec 2021 and Budget for Jan 2022 – Dec 2022

Expenditure	Actual Jan - Dec 2017	Actual Jan - Dec 2018	Actual Jan - Dec 2019	Actual Jan - Dec 2020	Actual Jan - Dec 2021	Estimate Jan - Dec 2022
Service Providers	15,869	27,081	31,143	47,410	62,478	79,221
Key Worker	0	0	1,620	0	0	0
School Uniforms	0	0	0	0	0	1,551
Telephone	856	770	780	1,054	974	734
Heating & Light	1,160	1,891	1,860	656	520	968
Catering & Hospitality	979	2,347	2,409	3,851	3,717	8,358
Cleaning	162	1,278	1,021	0	N/A	N/A
Repairs and Maintenance	824	894	2,504	1,476	1,469	2,091
Insurance	401	508	500	522	704	953
Legal			100	100	100	125
ICT & Computer Expenses	860	206	98	1,336	350	974
Peaced Together	358	28	0	0	0	0
H4BD & Turning & DCT Donations	300	300	446	300	0	20,250
Misc –Postage, Travel, Training, Printing & Stationery	56	298	370	288	144	40
Gift Cards & Rewards			400	2,618	1,521	792
Mental Health				240	358	324
Clothing & Toiletries				217	2,378	3,247
Micah Supported Living					1,190	35
Warehouse					826	63,543
Total Expenditure	21,825	35,601	43,250	60,070	76,730	183,207
Income						
Peaced Together	360	150	0	0	0	0
Gift Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants	8,300	18,600	22,049	97,067	61,075	163,950
Donations – Personal	7,588	14,492	17,120	14,111	13,987	12,415
Donations – Church	2,535	4,813	5,282	6,457	6,966	4,935
Donations – Business			183			
Other - MSL + Telephone			40	400	7,260	7,196
Total Income	18,783	38,056	44,674	118,036	89,288	188,496
Expenditure over Income	-3,043	2,454	1,424	57,966	12,557	5,290

Independent Examiner

BCU appointed Leila Satar as the Independent Examiner (IE) of BCU accounts from 2019. She is a great supporter of the work of Barking Churches Unite, particularly we are grateful to her for all her work reviewing the accounts resulting in a successful 2021 IE report.

In 2021, Grants were gratefully received from

Grant Body	Award Name	Amount
Arnold Clark	Arnold Clark Community Fund	£1,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	4 Local Restrictions Support Grants	£10,754
Barking & Dagenham Council	Business Rates 1	£634
Barking & Dagenham Council	Business Rates 2	£1,334
Barking & Dagenham Council	Business Rates 3	£4,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Business Rates 4	£2,001
Barking & Dagenham Council	Business Rates 5	£762
Barking & Dagenham Council	Christmas Cheer	£2,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Connect	£6,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	Household Support Fund	£5,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	NCIL	£10,000
DWF Foundation	DWF Grant	£500
Garfield Weston Foundation	Garfield Weston Grant	£15,000
Homeless Heroes	Homeless Heroes Aid	£1,790
Outcome It S	Outcome It S Grant Van	£300
	Total	£61,075

We are extremely grateful to all the grant making bodies above for their favour towards Barking Churches Unite, its guests, Service Providers, Volunteers, the community of Barking and its environs and recognise God's hand in keeping us abundantly ready for more work in this area.

10 Donation Form & Gift Aid Form



Barking Churches Unite

The SOURCE. 37A, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre. Barking, Essex, IG118DH

Telephone: 020 8594 2404

Email: michael.mednick@barkingchurchesunite.org

Charity No: 1173315

STANDING ORDER MANDATE FORM

Please return this form to your Bank and inform BCU / SOURCE of your decision

Please debit the account of:

Name:	_____	
Bank:	_____	
Branch:	_____	
Full address:	_____	
Account Name:	_____	
Account Number:	_____	Sort code: _____

Please credit the account of:

Bank:	CAF	
Account Name:	Barking Churches Unite	
Account Number:	00035231	Sort code: 40-52-40

The Sum of	£	_____
	Amount in words	_____
Commencing date	From	_____
	To	_____
Last Payment	£	_____
	Amount in words	_____
Frequency	Weekly	_____
	Monthly	_____

Signature: _____	Date: _____
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11 Procedures for Questions

If after reading the report, you have any questions, please complete the slip below & email them back to the Source with AGM in the subject box by 5th November (Michael.mednick@barkingchurchesunite.org) This will give time for a reply. You can provide a general comment if you wish. Questions not submitted before the meeting will be answered after the Annual General Meeting by email.

RESPONSE SLIP

Name _____ Church _____

Question

Barking Churches Unite
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021

Barking Churches Unite

Balance Sheet as at 31st Dec 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Current Assets		
Cash in Hand and at Bank	84,990	72,699
Total Assets	<u>84,990</u>	<u>72,699</u>
Liabilities		
Due within one year		
Creditors	183	450
Total Liabilities	<u>183</u>	<u>450</u>
Net Assets (Assets less Liabilities)	<u>84,807</u>	<u>72,249</u>
Capital and Reserves	£	£
Reserves brought forward	72,249	14,283
Surplus/(Deficit)	12,557	57,966
Total Equity	<u>84,807</u>	<u>72,249</u>

The comparable figures for 2020 are for information only and do not form part of these accounts

The above accounts were approved by Barking Churches Unite Board on 30/10/2022

JA Ibrahim

Theresa Ibrahim
Treasurer

31/10/22

Michael Mednick

Michael Mednick
Chairman

31/10/22

Barking Churches Unite

Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31st December 2021

	<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	
<u>Income</u>	£	£	£	£
		89,288		118,036
 <u>Less: Expenses</u>				
Service Providers	62,478		47,410	
Light and Heat	520		656	
Catering & Hospitality	3,717		3,851	
Micah Supported Living	1,190		-	
Telephone	974		1,054	
Repairs and Maintenance	1,469		1,476	
ICT	350		1,336	
Insurance	704		522	
Legal and Professional	100		100	
Postage, Printing, Stationery, Training, Travel	144		288	
Gift Cards & Rewards	1,521		2,618	
Donations DCT & Night Shelter	-		300	
Mental Health	358		240	
Warehouse	826		-	
Clothing, Shoes & Toiletries	2,378		217	
		(76,730)		(60,070)
 Surplus/(Deficit)		12,557		57,966

Independent Examiner's Report to Barking Churches Unite

This report on the financial statements of Barking Churches Unite (BCU) for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the Board of Barking Churches Unite and the Examiner

As members of Barking Churches Unite, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.43 (2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

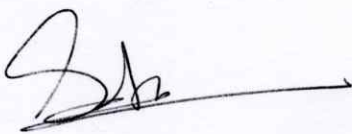
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.43(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by BCU and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently, I do not express on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s.41 of the Act; and to prepare financial statements in accordance with accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



L Satar, FCCA

Barking Churches Unite

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2021

Barking Churches Unite

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31/10/22

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31/10/22

Barking Churches Unite

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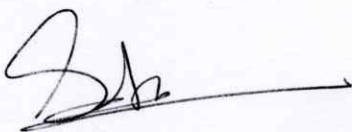
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L Satar, FCCA

BARKING CHURCHES UNITE (BCU)

England & Wales - Charity number 1173315

Accounts



Annual General

Meeting

Report

2021

(10th November 2021)

INDEX

- 1 Chairman's Remarks
- 2 Barking Churches Unite
- 3 The story since last year
- 4 The Source
- 5 Outcomes
- 6 Future Thoughts
- 7 How can you support Barking Churches Unite?
- 8 Prayer Requests
- 9 Financial Report
- 10 Donation Form & Gift Aid Form
- 11 Procedure for Questions

1 Chairman's Remarks

This section reflects my personal remarks about the year. Again this has been an amazing and yet unprecedented year for Barking and Barking Churches Unite and indeed the UK and world. It has been a year where we have engaged even more closely with the Council and this has been demonstrated through regular contact and financial support for the Source. It has been a year we have extended our ministry through Micah Supported Living and a third site that is rent free from the Council at a warehouse in Thames View. It has been a year with the continuation and reduction in restrictions of Covid19; where The Source has remained open throughout all the lockdowns providing love, support and food to the vulnerable in our community.

It has been a year the trustees have believed that BCU should start a supported housing project and to partner with different Christian organisations to acquire property to house the homeless.

To facilitate this dream, BCU has established the Micah Supported Living project (MSL), in partnership with Green Pastures, a Christian charity, who are purchasing these homes on our behalf. The first property of many is due for completion in November 2021.

MSL aims to provide homes for the homeless and vulnerable as well as support to acquire independent living skills. This now provides a real opportunity for those in poverty and homelessness to recover and live sustainable lives.

At the Barking Learning Centre we are now responsible for the Borough's Food Club and Pit Stop which supports, on average 90-114 guests each day. In November we hope to bring back sit down meals and start a recreation café for the homeless in the afternoons. The shop unit tenancy at Vicarage Field Shopping Centre has also been extended by a further 3 years under the same rent-free conditions. This has allowed us to focus on well-being groups, including, bereavement, mental health, employment and drugs support.

BCU is extending its team engaging, a Warehouse Supervisor, a Finance Assistant and a future manager for Micah Supported Living. We have also engaged a funding officer to apply for grants. BCU have partnered closely with the Council and business world and we hope next year that these partnerships will be extended and involve more local businesses.

It has also been a year with the return of the Turning Mission across Barking & Dagenham, where 18 people became Christians in the Barking town centre and 54 people received prayers of blessings. 4 other London boroughs were involved in the Turning Reboot (Merton, Lambeth, Ealing and Croydon) which resulted in a further 86 people becoming Christians and 205 people receiving a blessing. We give thanks and praise to God for the move of the Holy Spirit across our borough and London. In Barking & Dagenham it was a challenge for church involvement as a result of the pandemic, however, around 30 people across the churches were involved in the street evangelism and evening prayer celebrations.

There has also been a move of God towards bring church leaders and congregations in Dagenham to come together to pray and to develop a cohesive strategy to love the community under the umbrella of Dagenham Christians Together. I thank God for this move and the future partnership of churches in Barking & Dagenham to work and pray together.

I reaffirm my comments of the 2020 AGM remarks in that I believe that God is saying that Covid19 has reinforced the fact that it is through the united church in society we can love the community back to life for God and bring about restoration and redemption. The pandemic has caused the physical doors of the church to close and so the call to 'Go' and love the community has increased. I believe the dream of God over our life is that we come alive in His presence within an intimate relationship with Him and through the Holy Spirit we are able to bring life back

to every environment, bringing restoration and redemption, spilling contagious hope into a broken and hurting world. The next move of God I believe is not a revival or movement in the church but a movement of the Christians in our towns and communities; God's kingdom being established in all the spaces that we travel such as our work space and street and establishing them to be Kingdom spaces. The call is to 'Go'. The call to churches and BCU is to release unstoppable, impassioned Spirit-filled Christians into our communities and outside spaces and to be Kingdom people. After Covid19 a 'New Normal' will exist for our society and the world and a "New Normal" will need to be embraced to love the 95% of the people outside our own walls and the church walls, who are in our town and community.

When Kingdom People show up they carry His presence, hope and love. As Kingdom People we carry the culture of the Kingdom. We carry the authority of God as sons, daughters & High Priests. We carry the favour, honour and anointing of God, because the power of the Holy Spirit & presence of God is within us.

I believe that God's heart is to for us to love our community and to release Christians to be shepherds to our town and community. If we are to reach our community, we must reposition ourselves. God is sending us out into the world. Our calling & mission is to carry the Kingdom beyond the church into the heart of the culture.

As Christians we are to transform the culture of the world as God's kingdom. We carry the wind of the Holy Spirit bringing release and authority where we go. Kingdom People release the kingdom everywhere, everyday. We must see our involvement and engagement in structures and institutions, work spaces as kingdom work. We must reject the idea that kingdom work mainly takes place in church buildings.

Compassion and mission are inseparable. The spirit of mission is a spirit of mercy. Kingdom people go around doing good, releasing compassion and healing, because God is in them moving them. Kingdom People release blessing, love and peace in their town. Kingdom People become fathers, mothers and shepherds to their town. Kingdom People partner with their town. Every environment & space alive in His presence.

Kingdom culture empowers believers to bring life to every space. We need to dream over our town for God. We need to be Kingdom People. This is our spiritual DNA. We need to Wake Up (Open our eyes and Arise), Prepare (See and Hear God's heartbeat & Get Ready) and be Mobilised for Action (Shine the Light of Love and the culture of the Kingdom). We need to pray together over our land (2 Chron 7:14). We need to change the culture and spiritual landscape of our community. We need to partner together even more closely as the united body of Christ.

The future of Barking Churches Unite is to facilitate Christians to pray and work together to be Kingdom People in all spaces of our community and helping them to be Kingdom and Prayer Spaces for God. To be culture changers. We are called to 'Go', Be witnesses, and make disciples. To 'Go' into the world and our community and fulfil the Great Commission. Let us love our community back to God. My prayer is that we make every space in Barking and the UK be a Kingdom Space, filled with the presence of God and the Holy Spirit through being Kingdom People.

Mick Mednick – Chair of Barking Churches Unite

2 Barking Churches Unite (BCU)

Barking Churches Unite is a charitable group of Christians from churches in Barking who are committed to working with churches, Christians and volunteers, praying together for the transformation of our community. BCU was established in 2010 and became a registered charity on 7th June 2017. Our charity number is 1173315. We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

The Board of trustees includes the following:

Chair	Mick Mednick (Kings Church)
Treasurer	Theresa Ibrahim (St Erkenwald Church)
Secretary	Liz Mednick (Kings Church)
Micah	Bill Dear (St Erkenwald Church)
Grants/Micah	Anne Dear (St Erkenwald Church)
Member	Rev Carlton Smith (New Testament Assembly)
Outreach	Michael Taylor (St Erkenwald Church)
Member	Eddie Anning (Fountain of Life)
Pastoral	Rev Unesu Chindabata (Christ Church)

Mission Statement

Barking Churches Unite is a registered charity working to bring about change in Barking through prayer, the relief of poverty and other initiatives that serve the community and express God's love. We are a group of Christians attending churches across Barking. Barking Churches Unite facilitates contact with the council and other agencies, connecting like-minded Christians in our local area.

Basis of faith

We believe in one God, working as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe in the Lordship of Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection and uphold the Evangelical Alliance Statement of Faith (www.eauk.org) Jesus prayed for unity (John 17:21), Paul commanded we make an effort to maintain it (Ephesians 4:3) and God the Father promises to bless it (Psalm 133) and bring healing to the community through it. (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Organization

Barking Churches Unite is facilitated by a diverse group of Christian Trustees drawn from different church denominations, who include church leaders and Christians, seeking God's face for Barking. The trustees uphold a five-fold ministry and are led by a co-ordinator and chair of trustees. We facilitate communication between churches and among other agencies. Recently, and as a result of our work in the town the council and external bodies have communicated with us as a point of contact to engage with Christians who want to work in the community. We understand that unity is not uniformity and as such we are churches that have different expressions of our faith, believing that we are here to complement rather than compete with one another, and that together as the Body of Christ in Barking we can fulfill God's purpose for our lives in our town.

We see a church that will stand together in prayer to see social and spiritual transformation in our community. We see a church that will pray for one another and support one another practically as the need arises and resources allow. We see a church that will rejoice in what

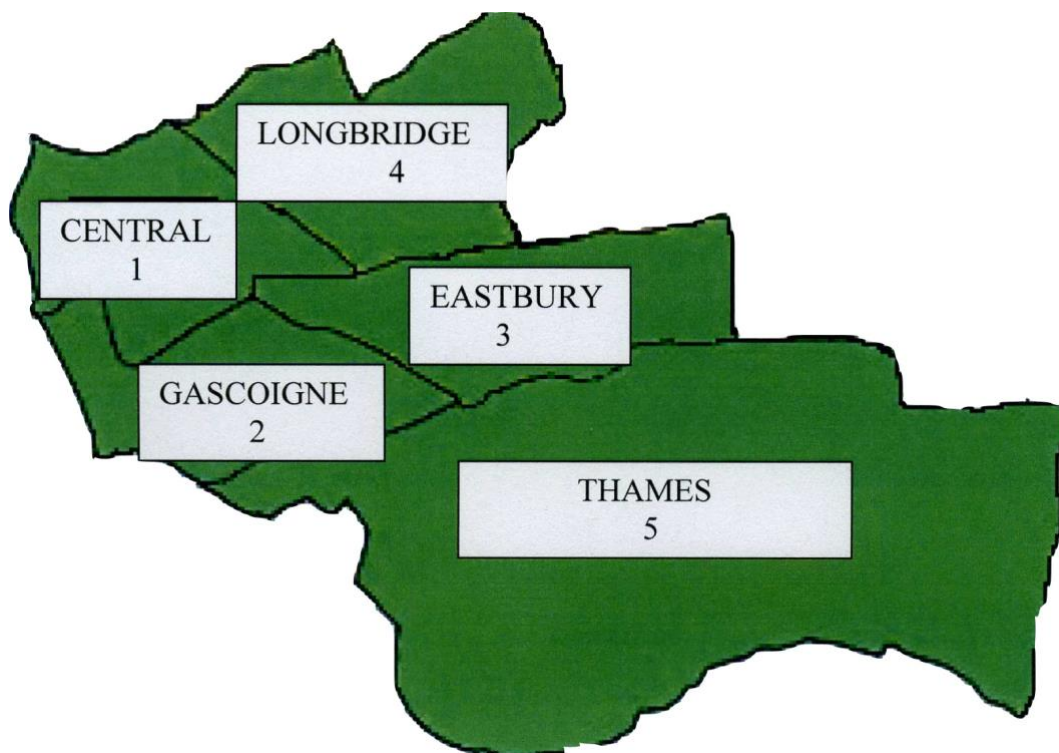
each another is doing and where possible promote that. We see a Church that will help facilitate and support the dreams of one another in order to advance God's kingdom in Barking. We see a church that reaches out and meets the needs of the poor and the community, through joint ministries, initiatives and events.

Any Christian or Barking Church that affirms the preceding statements can join us.

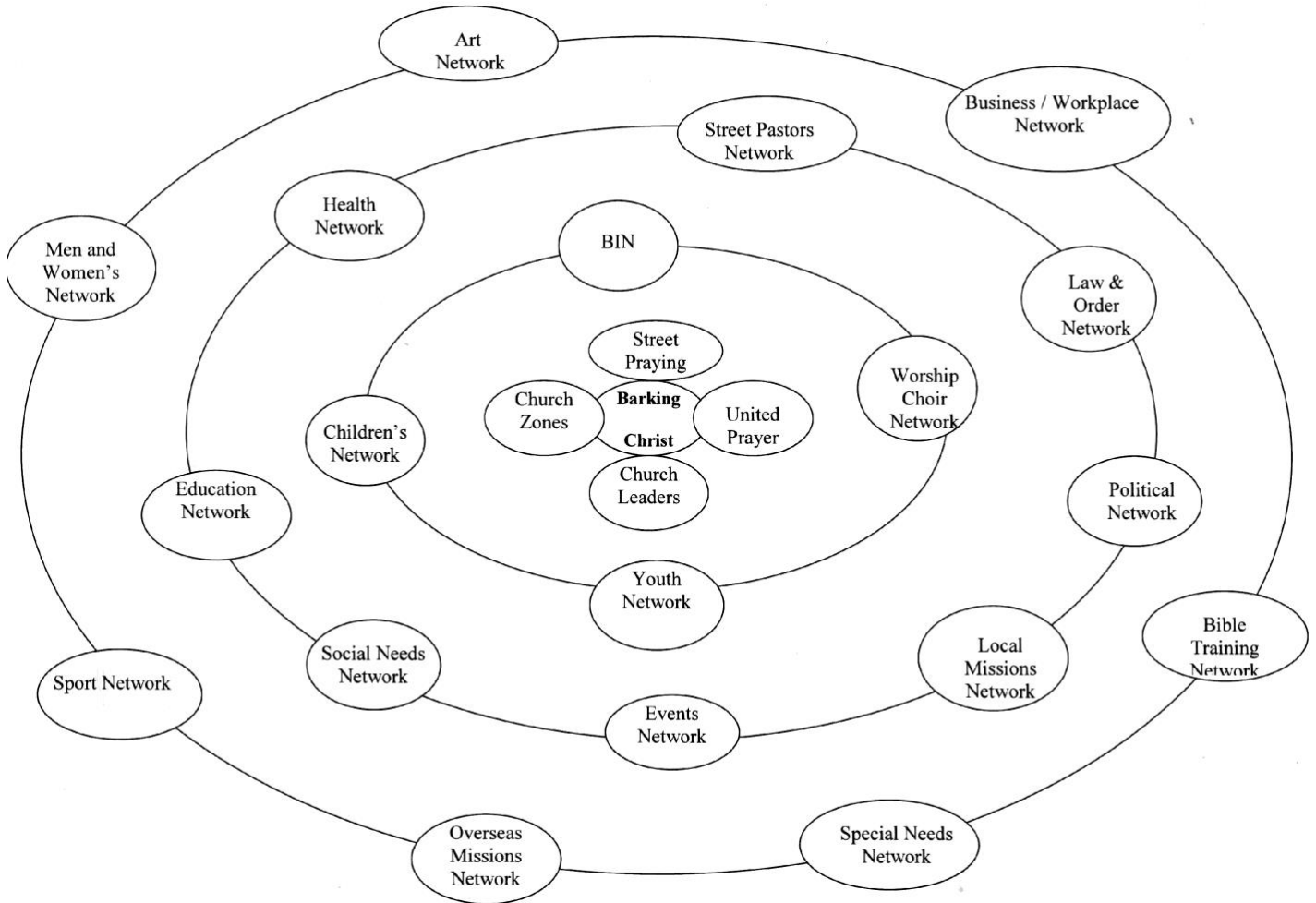
Strategy

1. Prayer

The individual churches are grouped into five zones, loosely based on the council wards. We cover Barking in prayer, through different forms of prayer meetings; church leader meetings, regular prayer walks and corporate prayer meetings in each zone, an intercessors group comprised of people from different churches, and open to all Christians from across the borough.



We are hoping to increase the numbers of intercessors by forming community prayer networks across the borough (see Solar picture below).



Mission and relief of poverty

Through an outpouring of God's love, The Source has been set up, as a retail unit space in Barking town that supports the homeless and helpless to bring about hope, help and restoration in the community.

Through God's leading we have been involved in setting up and we continue to partner with other initiatives; the Food Bank, Hope 4 Barking Dagenham Night Shelter, The Turning, and Kidz Klub. Due to Covid19 some of these initiatives are not operating.

We serve a big God and therefore have a big vision of transformation to Barking. As we encourage and facilitate Christians to be released within their calling through the power of the Holy Spirit, we will see God move in a mighty way

Finance

Finance comes from grants, Barking & Dagenham Council, businesses, personal and church-based donations and through fund raising. We do not apply for lottery or gambling-related funding.

Governance

BCU has a constitutional document and a number of policies that are statutory and of good practice in its operation. These include Child Protection & Safeguarding, Health and Safety, GDPR, Food & Hygiene rating certificate, Complaints procedures and Service Level agreements.

3 The story in the last 12 months

It has been a busy and challenging year for Barking Churches Unite. It has been another unprecedented year with Covid19 pandemic and the lockdowns. It has also been a year where the charity has developed and grown by God's grace and favour. Throughout this period the Source has been open for weekdays and has been there to love our town with food, support and comfort.

The Source now operates out of three sites, a shop unit at the Vicarage Field Shopping Centre, the Barking Learning Centre (a Council building that hosts all the Council services and local library) and a warehouse in Thames View (given to us by the Council). All the sites are provided rent free and the project receives 100% business rate relief from the Council.

Vicarage Field Shopping Centre site is hosting community projects and key working activities and the Barking Learning Centre is responsible for food related projects and accommodation issues. We have developed an even a closer relationship and partnership with the Council and as result The Source started an emergency food parcel service (delivery where necessary), in response to the Council's concerns over the deficit of people while awaiting benefits.

We have also assumed responsibility for the Barking Community Food Club, a council initiative run from the BLC.

We have commenced a partnership with Green Pastures, a Christian charity, through the Micah Supported Living project; our first house / flat coming online late 2021.

The warehouse is now starting to be filled with furniture and white goods and this is slowly being delivered free of charge to those who are in need. However, this work is being thwarted by the absence of a charity van. However, we are praying for the purchase of one by the end of the year and we are seeing God's provision at work as donations start to come in for purchase of our own van.

It has been an amazing year in which we have been successful in gaining a number of grants. We now have a new website and we are to purchase the Restore My Town software to be used across churches to enable them to support the vulnerable in the community and to refer people into local services by the end of the year.

We have also continued our prayer strategy of prayer gatherings through Zoom, prayer intercession (BIN) and street praying. These groups now include children and youth leaders, political network and a Mahabba group. The next move is to develop Kingdom Prayer Spaces in our community and to continue to release people in dreams that God has bestowed upon their heart to fulfil and to sew, grow and release strategy.

4 The Source

The Source is a care centre to support poverty relief in Barking for residents in need of help and support during the day. It is a ministry which is part of Barking Churches Unite (BCU) that works across the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham to support hundreds of people out of hopelessness, homelessness, disadvantage and isolation. The Source is managed by Amanda Grace. Kay Thompson is our Community Worker leading the wellbeing groups at the Source in Vicarage Fields. Gerhard Marais is Pitstop Supervisor. This year we have had a few staff leave for various reasons. We are grateful to Hazel Price, Dave Chuck and Olubola Oguntokun for their service and being a part of our journey in 2021. We pray that the Lord will bless them all in their next steps in the Journey of Life.

Since COVID 19 The Source is open weekdays due to the limitations at the BLC. We refuse to give up on anybody and believe that every person can have a bright future. We provide outreach, support and opportunity to help people out of poverty. We have a track record of seeing our visitors move away from life controlling unemployment, homelessness, mental illness, disability, marriage breakdowns, addictions, and therefore breaking the poverty-cycle and reliance on the benefits system. Over the past year many of our visitors moved out of hopelessness and into hope. We have also seen many of our guests move into accommodation and employment following our support.

Over this past year we have seen an increase in opportunities to share our faith and pray with guests. We have seen several guests so grateful of the help they have had come back to offer their services. Recently one of the staff members had the opportunity of leading one guest into a relationship with Jesus.

Overview of our services at The Source in the past year

- Pit Stop – a take away lunch and hot meal throughout the pandemic and refreshments for those people who are homeless or in need, running 5 days a week
- GP checks (eg flu jabs)
- Facilitating our guests being offered and given Covid Vaccine
- Barking Business Chaplaincy – a ministry to provide support to managers and employees of local shops
- Referral centre to services and organisations
- Provide vouchers to the local Food Banks
- Information centre for events and local services
- Providing a mail box for those without permanent accommodation
- Completing forms for those whose primary language is not English, or who struggle with literacy
- Providing telephone advocacy
- Telephone Help Lines – Rediscover (bereavement & grief), Reconnect (65+ and loneliness/isolation) & Reset (Mental ill health, depression & anxiety)
- Providing a listening ear over free refreshments
- Giving prayer support
- Office to Barking Churches Unite
- Distributing free food to the guests to take away
- Clothes bank to guests
- Emergency food parcels
- Community food club
- A satellite venue for CGL Drugs Alcohol Services

In 2021 we were able to once again open the shop unit up in Vicarage Fields. We offer

- Community groups including arts and crafts, sewing, computer café, Job club

- Well-being groups for those overcoming bereavement, mental illness, and loneliness

Future ministries at the Source

- Community choir
- Workshops to support mental health

Many of the guests visiting The Source have mental health conditions including depression, anxiety, post traumatic stress disorder or personality disorders; others have learning disabilities such as autism or ADHD. Many suffer physical health issues particularly mobility difficulties or visual impairment, deafness, cancer, amputated limbs, brain tumor, heart conditions, epilepsy, HIV, diabetes; and many are unemployed, homeless, refugees and elderly.

We believe that every visitor deserves the chance to see their dreams realized, and that it is not enough to provide a hot meal as important as that is, but to get people out of poverty, feeling empowered in their circumstances and off the streets for good, we need to offer something that's relevant and sustainable.

To this end, we believe the solution is a service that supports those in poverty or in need and to restore broken lives and bring hope to the helpless, employment to the unemployed, homes to the homeless. We aim to provide a service that will provide activities to help those in desperate need and assistance to develop the activities, skills and resources for guests to realize their aspirations and become active and integrated members of their local community.

In other words; each of our services lead to guests being offered the opportunity to change their lives, attend courses, receive a free meal, find help to fill in forms, learning English, support into paid employment, - and that is what will change lives and get those in poverty back into employment, accommodation, and self belief and off the streets for good.

Over the past five years we have been working with those in poverty and need in Barking & Dagenham and in the centre of Barking. We are in an exceptional position to assist those who are in poverty and deprivation and we have a track record of seeing our visitors move away from life controlling addictions/offending and into lives they are able to control and feel proud of. We believe there is no such thing as a hopeless case, and that all deserve the chance to turn their lives around and come off the streets for good. What we have to offer is unique, carries excellent success rates, and is meeting a critical need in Barking.

In the past 12 months we have developed much closer links and regular contacts with the Council and other agencies, in order to work together for the positive outcomes of the guests.

5 Outcomes

BCU supported church leaders in coming together to overcome pandemic restrictions, which disabled them from physically praying together. As BCU were well-established pre-pandemic this brought relief to church leaders in their transition to the on-line world from the physical, so they could share from experience and learn from each other. BCU provided a healthy and vital linking of local churches to ensure compliance of legal restrictions. BCU has had 3 united prayer meetings on Zoom and 3 street praying sessions on Zoom and on the streets this past year. The BIN has met around 4 times. There have been monthly leader's fellowship meetings a year on Zoom.

The Source keeps a visit register from which we measure our success in how many people we were able to feed, refer on to other support agencies and move on into other sustainable options. We currently refer people for Food Bank, debt advice, council departments, as well as providing free daily lunchtime meals and other activities. Success is just about being there and knowing that we have restored hope to many lives, and enabled them to find a way out of the situation they are in.

For our **guests**, success in soft outcomes is measured by their personal development, restoring self-esteem and self-belief and basic skills and the hard outcomes are measured through attendance, those gaining employment and accommodation. Our **monitoring** is supported through a wide range of different measures which include; activity registers, face-to-face repeat conversations and meetings.

Visitors to The Source include those of different nationality and ethnic origin, low incomes, unemployed, homeless, mental health issues, elderly, disabled, single parents, bereaved and those with complex issues. From The Source they receive emotional and practical support and have a location in the marketplace that is sympathetic to those in need and works to resolve their issues. Referrals to agencies are made and people receive support that others are unable to provide.

The Source is often seen as a place of refuge and sanctuary providing hope to the hopeless, demonstrating God's love and compassion. Within the community The Source is seen as a first stop and last resort and people in need are referred to The Source by the Police, Social Services, Housing Office, Citizens Advice Bureau, Teen Challenge to name a few.

The Source is connected to a number of food agencies providing free food. These include Costco, KFC, Greggs, Lidl, Aldi, Asda, Tesco and Fareshare. We have an excellent relationship with Vicarage Field Shopping Centre and as a result of this relationship and support for the services we provide, Vicarage Field have waived the rent to the shop. Barking & Dagenham Council have also waived the Business Council Tax, in recognition of the free services we offer on behalf of Barking and Dagenham residents.

In the past The Source has hosted at Easter and Christmas an outside prayer station for visitors to the shopping centre to write their prayer requests and receive prayer. Also, at Easter we have an Easter service for people to attend. It has not been possible to do these two activities due to Covid19.

The below table and graph indicates the number of visitors attending The Source and how God is amazingly using The Source to reach people in Barking. You will note that visits have increased at The Source to receive free services. It is expected that this trend will continue to increase even more due to Covid19. The Source will continue to provide love, care and compassion to a really needy ethnically and culturally diverse area of London.

Year	Date	Pit Stop	Food Bk Voucher	Post	Other	Food Parcels	Total Visits
2020	January	1,575	38	95	101	NA	1,749
	February	1,723	43	93	80	NA	1,939
	March	1,181	7	92	21	NA	1,301
	April	518	5	90	223	NA	836
	May	767	10	90	187	59	1,113
	June	852	10	87	96	57	1,102
	July	1,323	27	85	114	57	1,606
	August	1,084	11	85	80	33	1,293
	September	1,037	12	84	50	31	1,214
	October	1,448	12	84	83	50	1,677
	November	1,564	0	86	37	29	1,716
	December	1,651	30	86	30+59FC	40	1,896
Total		14,723	205	1,057	1,161	356	17,502

Year	Date	Pit Stop	Food Bk Voucher	Food Club	Food Parcels	Post	Well-Being Groups	Other	Total Visits
2021	January	1,793	14	104	37	103	NA	20	2,071
	February	1,868	0	96	24	103	NA	22	2,113
	March	2,100	0	118	16	98	NA	27	2,359
	April	1,722	0	76	25	109	NA	15	1,947
	May	1,501	0	84	11	109	NA	24	1,729
	June	2,028	3	99	13	109	22	26	2,300
	July	1,832	1	91	12	120	23	15	2,094
	August	1,922	6	124	10	66	18	24	2,170
	September	1,895	9	79	11	70	13	37	2,114
	October								
	November								
	December								
Total		16,661	33	871	159	887	76	210	18,897

Impact

Over the past year the Source has seen people overcome extreme adversity and circumstance to go onto achieve incredible personal success. We refuse to give up on anybody and believe that every visitor / rough sleeper can have a bright future. We have seen guests become champions of the community. We believe in building people into a community where they feel safe and are resourced to contribute. We believe that we all have a role to play and that together we can end homelessness - The impact of our services is lives changed; more people who are without hope to regain their hope, lives that are broken to be restored, more homeless people off the streets, and into employment, which in turn ends the cycle of poverty and homelessness and has a positive effect on the community!

6 Future Thoughts

Forthcoming plans affecting BCU

- The borough of Barking & Dagenham is facing over £65 million of cuts (before Covid19) in the next four years and looking to offload many of its services to the voluntary sector. The leader of the council has publicly stated that homelessness is one of its biggest concerns and acknowledged the significant contribution already made by BCU in addressing it.
- Discussions are underway to explore by the council the data for homelessness and rough sleepers
- To work with the Council and support our community through the Covid19 pandemic
- Vicarage Field Shopping Centre is due to close between 2024-25; to be demolished and rebuilt similar to the design of Westfield, Stratford. We have a 3 year tenancy.
- John Smith House has been relocated to the Barking Learning Centre
- Working with Dagenham churches
- Developing Micah Supported Living
- The Turning

BCU proposed developments and activities

- Further the Kingdom of God in Barking
- Commission a Key Worker post to support guests into accommodation, employment and benefits
- Maintain and extend the ministry of the Source
- Develop the warehouse project in the increase in collection and delivery of furniture & white goods to those in poverty
- Establish and develop the Micah Supported Housing Project
- To continue to establish and develop community groups
- Install and develop Restore My Town software in locations around the borough
- Collect information on activities across Barking and Dagenham to direct residents into these ministries
- Continue and extend the prayer strategy adopted
- Engage more closely with the Council
- Engage and partner with local businesses
- Work more closely to increase church unity & adoption of churches in BCU
- Support Dagenham Christian Together in developing a Source at Dagenham Library

7 How can YOU support Barking Churches Unite?

1 Praying

- Attending the united prayer & street praying events
- Using the Prayer Diary daily at home
- Praying for the Source and community ministries
- Praying for church unity and each church
- Joining the BIN (Barking Intercessors Network)
- Joining different BCU prayer networks
- Encouraging your Church to pray for BCU and support its ministries
- Church leaders to join Leaders Network

2 Volunteering

- Helping at the Source for a 3-4 hour session a week
- Picking up food from Costco or Greggs or KFC or Lidl or Aldi
- Attending the Christmas Tree and Easter Garden witnesses (after Covid19)
- Attending the BCU at events
- Supporting the Micah Supported Housing Project and The Source Warehouse
- Website support
- Contact The Source or any of the trustees
- Joining the BCU WhatsApp Information group
- Offering your talent to create or contribute to a community well-being group

3 Join

- Join the Well-Being groups at The Source, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre
- Join us in united prayer & street praying
- Joining the BCU WhatsApp Information group

4 Donating

Supporting the Source by

- £15** provides additional refreshments for a week
- £20** Provides tea, coffee and milk for a week
- £50** Provides heating costs for a month
- £100** Provides a part-time worker costs for a week

- Non-Perishable food
- Toiletries
- Individual donations to sustain the work on a regular basis
- Church collections (ie Harvest festival, Christmas donation)
- Organising fund raising events
- Ask your employers to sponsor BCU
- Clothes
- Furniture & White Goods

8 Prayer Requests

- 1 For God to pour out His Holy Spirit on staff, guests and volunteers of those involved at the Source
- 2 For guidance and wisdom for the trustees in the leading of BCU
- 3 Volunteers to support the Source, Micah Supported Living & The Source Warehouse
- 4 Christians to join the well-being groups
- 5 Safety of the team and guests.
- 6 For God's love, compassion and presence to be evident in all that BCU does
- 7 To use the activities of BCU to bring people to salvation and a deeper walk with God
- 8 For greater unity amongst the church in praying and working together
- 9 For greater links between agencies and the Council
- 10 For more support from the churches and individual Christians in Barking
- 11 For our broken community of Barking & Dagenham

In 2020, Grants were gratefully received from

Grant Body	Award Name	Amount
AllChurches Trust Ltd (EIG)		£2,500
ASDA Tokens		£500
Barking & Dagenham Council	Christmas Cheer	£2,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	RSI (Rough Sleepers Initiative)	£30,000
Barking & Dagenham Council	The Source Winter Project	£12,307
BD Renew	Rapid Response Fund	£5,000
Bridge House Estates, City of London Corp, City Bridge Trust	London Community Response Fund - Wave 1	£4,000
Bridge House Estates, City of London Corp, City Bridge Trust	London Community Response Fund - Wave 2	£11,500
CRISIS	In This Together Award	£5,000
Local Government COVID19 Grant	Business Rates Relief Covid19 Assistance	£10,000
Homeless Heroes	monthly standing order for £140 to The Source, Barking Sep-Dec 2020	£560
Homeless Heroes		£800
Leathersellers Company Charitable Fund		£1,000
NCIL	Community Panel Funding	£10,000
Neighbourly.com	COVID-19 Community Fund	£400
Samaritans Purse		£1,000
Tesco Bags of Help COVID 19 Community Fund	Groundwork UK	£500
		£97,067

We are extremely grateful to all the grant making bodies above for their favour towards Barking Churches Unite, its guests, Service Providers, Volunteers, the community of Barking and its environs and recognise God's hand in keeping us abundantly ready for more work in this area.

10 Donation Form & Gift Aid Form



Barking Churches Unite

The SOURCE. 37A, Vicarage Field Shopping Centre. Barking, Essex, IG118DH

Telephone: 020 8594 2404

Email: thesourcebcu@gmail.com

Charity No: 1173315

STANDING ORDER MANDATE FORM

Please return this form to your Bank and inform BCU / SOURCE of your decision

Please debit the account of:

Name:	_____	
Bank:	_____	
Branch:	_____	
Full address:	_____	
Account Name:	_____	
Account Number:	_____	Sort code: _____

Please credit the account of:

Bank:	Barclays Bank	
Branch:	Ripple Road, Barking, Essex	
Account Name:	Barking Churches Unite	
Account Number:	43152324	Sort code: 207289

The Sum of	£	_____
	Amount in words	_____
Commencing date	From	_____
	To	_____
Last Payment	£	_____
	Amount in words	_____
Frequency	Weekly	_____
	Monthly	_____

Signature: _____	Date: _____
------------------	-------------

11 Procedures for Questions

If after reading the report, you have any questions, please complete the slip below & email them back to the Source with AGM in the subject box by 7th November (mednickfamily2@gmail.com) This will give time for a reply. You can provide a general comment if you wish. Questions not submitted before the meeting will be answered after the Annual General Meeting by email.

RESPONSE SLIP

Name _____ **Church** _____

Question

Barking Churches Unite
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020

Barking Churches Unite

Balance Sheet as at 31st Dec 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Current Assets		
Cash in Hand and at Bank	72,699	16,342
Total Assets	<u>72,699</u>	<u>16,342</u>
Liabilities		
Due within one year		
Creditors	450	2,059
Total Liabilities	<u>450</u>	<u>2,059</u>
Net Assets (Assets less Liabilities)	<u>72,249</u>	<u>14,283</u>
Capital and Reserves	£	£
Reserves brought forward	14,283	12,859
Surplus/(Deficit)	57,966	1,424
Total Equity	<u>72,249</u>	<u>14,283</u>

The comparable figures for 2019 are for information only and do not form part of these accounts

The above accounts were approved by Barking Churches Unite Board on 28/10/2021

JA Ibrahim

Theresa Ibrahim
Treasurer

29/10/21

Michael Mednick

Michael Mednick
Chairman

29/10/21

Barking Churches Unite

Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31st December 2020

	<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>	
<u>Income</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
		118,036		44,674
 <u>Less: Expenses</u>				
Administrators	47,410		32,763	
Light and Heat	656		1,860	
Catering & Hospitality	3,851		2,409	
Cleaning	-		1,021	
Telephone	1,054		780	
Repairs and Maintenance	1,476		2,504	
Computer Expenses	1,336		98	
Insurance	522		500	
Legal and Professional	100		100	
Postage, Printing, Stationery, Training, Travel	288		370	Printing & St
Gift Cards & Rewards	2,618		400	Travel & Gift
Donations Night Shelter	300		446	
Mental Health	240		-	
Clothing & Toiletries	217		-	
	<hr/>	(60,070)	<hr/>	(43,250)
 Surplus/(Deficit)		<hr/> <u>57,966</u>		<hr/> <u>1,424</u>

Independent Examiner's Report to Barking Churches Unite

This report on the financial statements of Barking Churches Unite (BCU) for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the Board of Barking Churches Unite and the Examiner

As members of Barking Churches Unite, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and s.43 (2) of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.43(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church guidance 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by BCU and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently, I do not express on the view given by the accounts.

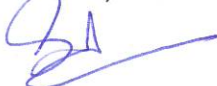
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with s.41 of the Act; and to prepare financial statements in accordance with accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

L Satar, FCCA



Barking Churches Unite
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020

Barking Churches Unite

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