

BARNSTAPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2025**

Barnstaple Baptist Church - Trustees Annual Report Year Ending 31st December 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements
for the year ending 31st December 2025.

References and administrative details

- **Registered Address & Charity Number**
Boutport Street,
Barnstaple,
Devon, EX31 1TD
Charity Registration Number 1173772
- **Trustees**
 - Reverend Peter Spencer Price - Minister
 - Rhian Wyn Hogan – Secretary (Yearly appointment)
 - Hilary Kathryn Boone (retired April 2022 and re-elected April 2022 retired April 2025)
 - Vivien Moore (retired March 2023 re-elected March 2023)
 - Christopher Perry – Treasurer (Yearly appointment)
- **Property Trustees**
The Baptist Union Corporation Limited,
Baptist House,
129 Broadway,
Didcot,
Oxfordshire OX11 8RT
Tel: 01235 517700
Email: buc.corp@baptist.org.uk
- **Bankers**
Baptist Union Corporation Limited
Registered office Baptist House,
PO Box 44,
129 Broadway,
Didcot,
OX11 8RT
Also
Lloyds Bank plc.
Registered Office:
25 Gresham Street,
London
EC2V 7HN.
Registered in England and Wales No. 2065

- **Independent Examiner**
Catherine Williams FCA DChA
Westcotts (SW) LLP
47 Boutport Street, Barnstaple,
Devon, EX31 1SQ
Tel: 01271 374138
Email: cat.williams@westcotts.co.uk

Background information

Barnstaple Baptist Church started life in 1814. The first Church building was finished in 1823, with a Church in Boutport Street opening for worship in February 1833. This building proved too small, the site was cleared, with the current building opening in July 1861.

On 7th June 2017 the Church approved a new Constitution, based upon a template for a “Charitable Incorporated Organisation” (CIO) produced by the Baptist Union. The CIO started its activities under the governance of the new Constitution as from 1st January 2018.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document - the Constitution.

Membership of the Church is open to those who have professed faith in Jesus Christ so by applying for membership they have indicated acceptance of our beliefs, a willingness to participate in the activities of the Church, have shown their agreement and willingness to abide by our governing constitution.

Individuals seeking membership who have not been baptised in the manner described in the Baptist Union’s Declaration of Principle may be welcomed as Associate Members at the discretion of the Church Members’ Meeting, based on the applicant’s public profession of faith, this enables them to participate in Church Members’ Meetings, but with restricted voting rights, as determined from time to time by the Church Member’s Meeting.

A Church Member’s Meeting normally takes place bi-monthly, other than August and December and has responsibility for the overall policy of the Church’s activities. In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint Trustees, who together with the Minister, Church Secretary and Treasurer (who are also appointed by the Members annually), are responsible for the day to day running of the Church’s work and witness, the financial and legal aspects of the charity. All members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the Church’s charitable objective.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church Meeting by the Trustees for guidance, or may be raised by members in Church Meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Though the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Normal Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination, to include the advancement of education and such other general charitable purposes, in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world, as the Church shall determine.

In order to achieve the principal objective which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as living Lord.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. These services take place each Sunday at 10.30 a.m. services at other times, are advertised on the Church Notice Board and the church website which also contains our ETHOS statement. The Church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of these services.

Achievements and Performance

Our numbers of regular attendees though not large is stable with visitors often boosting the numbers for Sunday worship.

2025 has been a challenging year in all forms of measure, our aging congregation have like all other walks found the big cost of living increases hard, especially in the cost of food, gas, and electricity, to help we offer every Wednesday morning after our Bible study to which everyone is welcome, a time of fellowship with board games chat etc. with plenty of beverages and snacks in a warm and welcoming environment. Our web site has the weekly sermon available on line for those shut in or would just like to listen again, it also contains a great deal of information about the Church and its activities, into a search engine put "Barnstaple Baptist Church" and follow the links.

Secretary's Report Membership and attendance.

Church Membership at the end of 2025 is 27. One of our regular attenders became a member this year. Sunday worship attendance was on average 35 persons. Although all our permanent members and attenders are adult, we had 3 children attend intermittently throughout the year. Another 2 children attended Sunday school throughout the months of July and August. They were staying with their grandmother who is a member of the church.

Pastors Report on Church activities: 2025.

1. OVERVIEW.

Normal Church activities continued throughout 2025, albeit a number of health challenges affecting several of our church family have affected our Sunday morning attendances.

However, even though most of the church are in their 60,s, 70,s and 80,s , most continue to come on Sundays and are faithful in both their commitment of time and finance.

2/ WHAT WE WERE ABLE TO DO:

a) Happily, we were able to hold a Harvest Festival Service and donated a substantial amount of nonperishable food to The Freedom Centre, Barnstaple – an outreach center caring for the needs of the most vulnerable in the area.

We were also able to donate any surplus food to the charity next door, 124, who care for young people who have been excluded from home or school

We continue to do that during the week, passing over surplus food from both our Wednesday and Sunday meetings.

. b) We were also able to send £??? to the Baptist Missionary Society for their Cyprus Appeal and £??? to the Baptist Home mission, and Baptist missionary society for their general work fund

c) Our annual shoe-box appeal enabled us to send over 20 boxes containing toys and resources to needy children in the third world via the Samaritans Purse appeal.

d) Our annual Suffering Church Sunday appeal meant that we could send funds to persecuted Christians in countries on the Open Doors World Watch List via the Open Doors UK Charity.

e) Locally, we hold a drop-in coffee morning each Wednesday offering a “warm space” for anyone to come in for a chat and free refreshments.

d) We also have supported Age Concern by letting out our fellowship room at a nominal rent on most days of the week for a range of social activities.

f) Happily, we have managed to maintain our financial giving on the part of the church members, and there has also been a gradual increase in hiring income, giving us some financial “breathing space.”

Summary.

In the meantime, the leadership and members remain upbeat about our future as a gathered group as we continue to endeavor to be a beacon of light, hope, and compassion to our local community.

Treasurers report

In 2025 there has been some very sacrificial giving, meaning I can report that we are ahead of our set budget.

The hire of our hall and premiss has allowed us to carry out some very necessary repairs externally and internally.

We have had to deal with a complicated repair to the central heating system which we had to claim on our insurance, who were responsible for finding the leak with ourselves responsible for carrying out the repair. In the search for the leak the asbestos tiles to the vestibule floor had to be removed which damaged the chipboard under floor which then had to be replaced with marine ply and recarpeted.

The leak was eventually traced to an old cellar, housing an old unused oil boiler system. The pipework extended the length of the main corridor under the floor, and was so corroded each time it was repaired it leaked further along the pipe in all a three-meter length of pipe needed to be replaced.

The gas boilers being out of use for some months while searching for the leak and carrying out the repair have needed extra maintenance and some repair to get them working again.

The boilers are twenty five plus years old and will need replacing in 2026

We have managed to contain our gas and electricity costs by careful management throughout the year and turning the gas heating off for the summer period, I have been able to renew our contract with SSE energy on favourable terms for a fixed three-year term

The church has been fortunate to welcome Age Concern North Devon on a regular weekly basis, which has proved beneficial to both parties, with some interest from their clientele to Church activities in particular the Wednesday coffee morning which we expect to become more popular over the winter months.

Our rooms and hall letting programme has been very successful with now only Friday evenings being available to hire and the Fellowship room in use every day most weeks. The hall and part of the upstairs were used by the youth group Allstarz for 3 days in August as a rehearsal venue for their “musical in a week”. In all 70 children and 10 adults attended each day. We have also continued to support Barnstaple’s “Theaterfest” happening in June each year.

We now feel secure and settled in our building although old and continuing to need repair it would appear we are where GOD wants us. Though should a favourable partnership become available this would be seriously considered as building maintenance is a serious drain on the limited Church resources.

As mentioned in last year's report we have sold our old manse and purchased a new property suitable as a Manse, but let at the moment to cover the rental on our minister's rented property.

Financial Review - Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2025

The accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and in accordance with Section 133 Charities Act 2011. The previous period comparative figures represent activities from the 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024, Therefore the Accounts for the period ending 31st December 2025 represent 12 months activities and are a direct comparison to the year ending 31st December 2025

The Church raises the funds it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation and the letting out of rooms and hall on a regular basis to local community activities including dance, Judo, games, majorettes, and the Age Concern charity.

The most significant expense relates to Revd. Peter Price as Pastor of the Church, who leads and co-ordinate the Church's activities including the Sunday Services, providing pastoral care for the congregation and others in the community, his objective is to equip and encourage the membership in their life of Christian witness, and service.

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider Church by making grants to local, national, and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose.

The Church is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the Church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the Church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the Church's objectives, however with a very aging congregation we are finding it increasingly difficult to be physically involved in anything but the daily/weekly activities of running the Church.

The financial results for the year are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

The Baptist Union Pension Fund has cancelled our Deferred Debt Arrangement (DDA) along with many other Churches affected, and our liability under the "Cessation Event" has been written off as from the end of October 2024.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy to enable the Church to function effectively and meet its obligations in the event of a decline in our income or a major cost.

Having considered the relevant risks of changes in income and expenditure, the Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of reserves is in the range £7,500 to £12,500, representing up to three month's forward expenditure.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C G Perry'.

C G Perry Treasurer/Trustee

17th March 2026

Barnstaple Baptist Church

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Barnstaple Baptist Church.

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Barnstaple Baptist Church for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Respective responsibilities of Deacons and Members and independent examiner

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

I report in respect of my examination of Barnstaple Baptist Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Barnstaple Baptist Church as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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



Catherine Williams FCA DChA

Independent examiner

Westcotts (SW) LLP

47 Boutport Street

Barnstaple

Devon

EX31 1SQ

17th March 2026

BARNSTAPLE BAPTIST CHURCH - CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION - CHARITY NUMBER 1173772

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

		YEAR ENDING 31/12/2024	YEAR ENDING 31/12/2025
Receipts	Note		
Offerings	3	£ 35,261.60	£ 37,662.50
Income tax recovered on gifts		£ 8,718.94	£ 8,292.53
Donations and other income	4	£ 160.00	£ 51,989.69
Hire and contributions for use of premises		£ 7,673.50	£ 10,844.50
Raised for other causes	5	£ 400.00	£ 460.00
Rent received from manse		£ 10,625.00	£ 3,490.50
Grants received		£ 1,883.76	
Interest received		£ 3.02	£ 3,408.09
Property sale			£ 228,760.15
Total Receipts		£ 64,725.82	£ 344,907.96
Payments			
Ministry	6	£ 38,632.00	£ 40,153.16
Upkeep of church premises	7	£ 25,285.37	£ 30,992.98
Mission	8	£ 1,735.24	£ 3,048.00
Administration & general expenditure	9	£ 3,809.37	£ 5,941.54
Property purchase			£ 276,821.94
Total Payments		£ 69,461.98	£ 356,957.62
Net receipts for the period		-£ 4,736.16	-£ 12,049.66
Transfers from General Fund to Building Fund			
Transfers from/to General Fund from/to Community Evangelist Fund		£ 3,504.50	£ 10,000.00
Balance - at start of period		£ 12,331.21	£ 11,099.55
Balance - as at end of period		£ 11,099.55	£ 9,049.89

The balance on the General Fund represents unrestricted funds to be used by the charity in fulfilling its charitable objectives.

BARNSTAPLE BAPTIST CHURCH - CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION - CHARITY NUMBER 1173772

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

BUILDING FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	YEAR ENDING 31/12/2024	YEAR ENDING 31/12/2025
Receipts		
Insurance Claim		
Legacy		
VAT recovered		£ 1,246.70
Total Receipts	£ -	£ 1,246.70
Payments		
General repairs & improvements		
Total Payments	£ -	£ -
Net receipts for the period	£ -	£ 1,246.70
Transfers to Building Fund from General Fund		
Balance - at start of period	£ 439.50	£ 439.50
Balance - as at end of period	£ 439.50	£ 1,686.20

The balance on the Building Fund represents funds to be used by the charity for building projects.

Transfers from the General Fund are unrestricted funds that the Trustees have set aside for this purpose.

Envelopes and other income are restricted funds which have been given to the charity for the Building Fund.

A Legacy was received during 2019 and the Trustees agreed to contribute this to the Building Fund.

BARNSTAPLE BAPTIST CHURCH - CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION - CHARITY NUMBER 1173772

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

COMMUNITY EVANGELIST FUND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	YEAR ENDING 31/12/2024	YEAR ENDING 31/12/2025
Receipts		
Envelopes and other income	£ -	£ -
Slee Blackwell final distribution		
Interest received	£ 2,675.07	£ 3,703.98
Total Receipts	£ 2,675.07	£ 3,703.98
Payments		
BUC contribution	£ -	£ 1,178.06
Total Payments	£ -	£ 1,178.06
Net receipts for the period	£ 2,675.07	£ 2,525.92
Transfers to Community Evangelist Fund from General Fund		
Transfers from/to General Fund from/to Community Evangelist Fund	-£ 3,504.50	-£ 10,000.00
Balance - at start of period	£ 78,657.58	£ 77,828.15
Balance - as at end of period	£ 77,828.15	£ 70,354.07

The balance on the Community Evangelist Fund represents funds to be used by the charity to cover the costs of a Community Evangelist.

Transfers from the General Fund are unrestricted funds that the Trustees have set aside for this purpose.

BARNSTAPLE BAPTIST CHURCH - CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION - CHARITY NUMBER 1173772

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

		BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31/12/2024	BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31/12/2025
Statement of Assets and Liabilities			
ASSETS	Note		
Bank Balances			
Lloyds Account		£ 11,539.05	£ 10,736.09
BUC Accounts		£ 77,828.15	£ 70,354.07
	10	£ 89,367.20	£ 81,090.16
LESS LIABILITIES			
Short term Loans from Members			
TOTAL ASSETS LESS TOTAL LIABILITIES		£ 89,367.20	£ 81,090.16
REPRESENTED BY:			
GENERAL FUND			
Balance 1st January		£ 12,331.21	£ 11,099.55
Surplus/Deficit during Year		-£ 4,736.16	-£ 12,049.66
Transfer to Building Fund			
Transfer from/to Community Evangelist Fund		£ 3,504.50	£ 10,000.00
Balance 31st December		£ 11,099.55	£ 9,049.89
BUILDING FUND			
Balance 1st January		£ 439.50	£ 439.50
Surplus/Deficit during Year		£	£ 1,246.70
Transfer from General Fund		£	£
Balance 31st December		£ 439.50	£ 1,686.20
COMMUNITY EVANGELIST FUND			
Balance 1st January		£ 78,657.58	£ 77,828.15
Surplus/Deficit during Year		£ 2,675.07	£ 2,525.92
Transfer from General Fund		-£ 3,504.50	-£ 10,000.00
Balance 31st December		£ 77,828.15	£ 70,354.07
TOTAL RESERVES		£ 89,367.20	£ 81,090.16

This Balance Sheet is only intended for clarification of certain items as stated above and not to necessarily reflect all assets, liabilities or reserves.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 17 March 2026 and signed on their behalf by

C.S. Perry

Mr C Perry
Trustee

BARNSTAPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 Background information

Barnstaple Baptist Church started life in 1814. The first church building was finished in 1823, with a church in Boutport Street opening for worship in February 1833. This building proved too small, the site was cleared, with the current building opening in July 1861. Throughout many years the church has operated as a "Charitable Unincorporated Association", (CUA), with the charity being recognised by the Charity Commission as an "excepted charity" with no requirement to register.

On 7th June 2017 the church approved a new Constitution, based upon a template for a "Charitable Incorporated Organisation" (CIO) produced by the Baptist Union working in conjunction with the Charity Commission. Application was made to the Charity Commission to register a new charity and this was completed on 11th July 2017.

2 Basis of accounts

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis and in accordance with Section 133 Charities Act 2011.

3 Offerings

	2024	2025
Sunday offerings - envelopes	£ 15,311.60	£ 15,639.50
Standing Order offerings	£ 19,950.00	£ 22,023.00
Total Offerings	£ 35,261.60	£ 37,662.50

4 Donations and Other Income

	2024	2025
Communion offerings	£ 160.00	£ 112.70 please check
Legacy income	£ -	£ 51,876.99
Gift Day	£ -	£ -
Lee Abbey training	£ -	£ -
Total Donations and Other Income	£ 160.00	£ 51,989.69

5 Raised for Other Causes

	2024	2025
Home Mission	£ 20.00	£ 30.00
BMS World Mission		
Other Mission	£ 380.00	£ 430.00
Total Raised for Other Causes	£ 400.00	£ 460.00

6 Ministry

	2024	2025
Minister's stipend	£ 22,880.04	£ 23,660.04
Baptist Pension Fund DC plan employer contributions	£ -	
Baptist Pension Fund DB plan deficiency contributions	£ 10.00	
Minister's travel & other expenses	£ 1,053.65	£ 1,502.43
Music & worship expenditure	£ 358.92	£ 134.84
Training & teaching	£ 110.16	£ 132.84
Manse rent, council tax & water expenditure	£ 13,345.19	£ 13,761.71
BU Subscriptions	£ 874.04	£ 961.30
Total Ministry	£ 38,632.00	£ 40,153.16

Rev. Peter Price acts as one of the church's trustees and receives remuneration and other benefits in respect of his services as Minister, including the provision of manse accommodation, which is rented by the church.

BARNSTAPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

7 Upkeep of church premises

	2024	2025
Lighting and heating	£ 4,591.35	£ 5,409.14
Cleaning & catering	£ 2,421.01	£ 2,712.26
Insurance	£ 5,483.31	£ 6,058.30
Repairs and maintenance	£ 12,789.70	£ 16,813.28
Total Upkeep of church premises	£ 25,285.37	£ 30,992.98

8 Mission

	2024	2025
Home Mission	£ 750.00	£ 1,250.00
BMS World Mission		£ 800.00
Sunday School Youth Work	£ 100.00	£ 120.00
Other mission	£ 280.00	£ 350.00
Publicity & outreach	£ 605.24	£ 528.00
Total Mission	£ 1,735.24	£ 3,048.00

9 Administration & general expenditure

	2024	2025
Church office	£ 1,462.95	£ 1,989.36
BUC contribution	£ -	£ 1,150.00
Equipment	£ 300.73	£ 1,225.18
Other administration & general expenditure	£ 2,045.69	£ 1,577.00
Total Administration & general expenditure	£ 3,809.37	£ 5,941.54

10 Reconciliation - Bank Balances & Funds

	31/12/2024	31/12/2025
Lloyds Business Account	£ 11,539.05	£ 10,736.09
Bank Balance - CAF Cash Account		
Baptist Union Corporation Account	£ 77,828.15	£ 70,354.07
Bank Balance - CAF Gold Account		
	£ 89,367.20	£ 81,090.16

11 Assets Held for the Church's own use

The church is the beneficial owner (subject to the relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the church's custodian trustee, the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd:

- Church & Hall premises at Tawcroft, Barnstaple valued at £6,629,007, based on 2026 insured values.
- The church also owns fixtures, furniture and equipment with a 2026 insured value of £299,817.