NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

England & Wales · Charity number 1176587

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2018-01-09
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Newport Baptist Church Water Lane Newport TF10 7LD
Phone	01952811331
Email	treasurer@newportbaptistchurch.org.uk
Website	www.newportbaptistchurch.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH ARE:- 3.1.1 THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION. 3.1.2 THE CHURCH MAY ALSO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND CARRY OUT OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND/OR OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. 3.2 [NOTHING IN THIS CONSTITUTION SHALL AUTHORISE AN APPLICATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE CHURCH FOR PURPOSES WHICH ARE NOT CHARITABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 7 OF THE CHARITIES AND TRUSTEE INVESTMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005 OR SECTION 2 OF THE CHARITIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2008.]

Activities: Christian worship services, Sunday School, Pastoral Care, Community Support e.g. Parent/Carer Toddler Group

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Shropshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£25,208	£19,698	-	-
2023-12-31	£25,300	£17,800	-	-
2022-12-31	£20,262	£24,536	-	-
2021-12-31	£31,353	£59,758	-	-
2020-12-31	£44,237	£51,982	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alison Mary Davies		2019-03-11
Christopher Page Cartwright		2019-03-11
HELEN WILSON		2018-01-09
IAN ROLAND WALSH		2018-01-09
PAULINE CREEVEY		2022-04-05
Ruth Summers		2023-03-14

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NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1176587

Accounts

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE
A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION
CHARITY NO: 1176587

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Newport

Baptist Church

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities of the Church for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Newport Baptist Church Shropshire was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 9 January 2018. By an agreement executed by the Trustees dated 5 April 2018, all assets, liabilities and activities of the Church were transferred from Newport Baptist Church, an excepted charity (by virtue of its affiliation to the Baptist Union of Great Britain) to this charity.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church's Constitution.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

As a member of the Baptist Union the Church subscribes to the Union's Declaration of Principle: -

- That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each Church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.

- That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who 'died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again on the third day'.

- That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world.

During the year the Church has engaged in regular public worship, prayer and Bible study, preaching, teaching and observance of the Communion of the Lord's Supper.

In shaping our objectives for the period and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'Public Benefit: Running a Charity (PB2)'. The Church is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During the year, we have continued to wait on the Lord to see where he is leading us. It has been encouraging to see a number of new people attending the church, and in September, we held a service where three of our congregation demonstrated their obedience to the Lord by being baptised. We have continued to be blessed by the ministry of a wide range of visiting preachers, who have led our Sunday morning services and, as we have said in previous reports, there is no reason why that could not continue for the foreseeable future. However, as a church we continue to seek the Lord to see if this is the right way forward or if He wants to take us in a different direction.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

During the year, our activities have continued.

The weekly prayer meeting meets on Thursday evenings via Zoom. The number of regulars at the meetings has remained constant throughout the year. In addition to this, an in person, meeting for prayer takes place on Saturday mornings and some members still come together for prayer immediately before the Sunday morning service

Our WhatsApp group remains an integral part of our communications within the church family. It is an efficient and effective way to share news, things to celebrate and concerns for prayer. Whilst not everyone is digitally active, we have ensured that we stay in contact with them through text, email, and phone calls so that no one feels excluded.

The weekly Bible study group meets on a Monday morning. This is an opportunity for those who are able to attend to engage in a more in-depth study of the Bible using a structured study guide.

The fortnightly ladies' fellowship group (known as the Esther Group) has met throughout the year on Wednesday mornings, and the men's fellowship group has evolved into a walking group, weather permitting, and now includes some ladies who wish to walk. Both groups aim to provide an opportunity for sharing in an informal non-threatening environment.

A Harvest service was held in October, followed by a lunch in the church hall. We had the opportunity to welcome members of the Harper Adams University Christian Union to the service and to meet and talk with them over lunch. All Harvest gifts were donated to Newport Foodbank. The Church supports Newport Foodbank throughout the year with gifts of food received from members.

Our Gift Day took place in March 2024. A total of £2,800 was raised (including the related Gift Aid) and this amount was shared between one of our missionaries, Judy Cook and Hope Now Ukraine, a charity operating mainly in the Ukraine, but who also work in Moldova and Sri Lanka.

There were a number of new activities that started in 2024.

With the support of a grant from the Shropshire Community Foundation, we started the Tuesday Warm Drop in. The church is open on a Tuesday morning for anyone in the community to drop in for a chat, a cup of coffee and the opportunity to settle in a warm welcoming cosy environment. The Drop in is a success and we have therefore decided to continue it for 2025.

Also during the year a new Wednesday evening meeting has commenced, known as the Encounter Group. The Group meets once a month, and in 2025 it will be meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month. The group is open to anyone in Newport and the wider Christian Community who would like to set aside an evening to wait on the Lord and receive from Him.

In September, the Church held a separate coffee morning in support of MacMillan Cancer Support and raised £226 for their cause.

The Church has also been involved with Newport Singing Together, a choir for people with dementia and their carers. During the year they have held a number of events, the aim of which has been to provide a degree of respite for the people involved in caring for the dementia sufferers.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Looking ahead into 2025

We said last year that we came into 2023 with no minister, and without a major change in our financial position, there is still no no real prospect of being able to appoint a new minister in the foreseeable future. At present this continues to be our position. To be able to appoint a full time minister, our average weekly offering would have to rise by about £800, each and every week.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church's work is entirely dependent on the Lord's leading and the resources He provides.

Our finances are on an even keel and if the current levels of income and expenditure continue, we should be able to operate as we are indefinitely. However, it is a delicate balance and one large unexpected bill could change that.

We started the year with cash reserves in the bank of £25,636. During the year income received was £25,208 and our expenditure totalled £19,698. We received £5,510 more than we spent. This has increased our year end cash reserves to £31,146.

The Church received gifts and donations of £5,128 which were for specific causes. Most of these funds were paid out in accordance with the donors' wishes, although at the year-end £406 was still held pending payment.

Reserves policy
Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover unplanned emergency expenditure.

The Trustees feel that it is prudent for the Church to aim to maintain a level of cash reserves equivalent to the cost of running the church for a period of six months, plus a contingency fund of £10,000 for one off expenses. We know that during 2025, we are going to have to have the outside of the church decorated, there is also some work required on the interior of the building. . The running costs of the church for six months will be in the region of £8,375. Reserves at the year-end amounted to £31,146

Reserves at the year-end exceeded the policy level by £12,771. This is the extent of our buffer against unforeseen expenditure and part of our savings so that we may, at some point in the future, be able to employ a minister. Being realistic, the cost of employing a new minister full time would be in the region of £42,000 per annum. Therefore, savings alone will never be enough. Our weekly offerings would need to rise by £800 per week each and every week.

Risk policy
The Trustees have identified and reviewed the risk to which the Church is exposed and taken steps to eliminate, reduce or manage those risks. They have also taken steps to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud or error.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is governed by its constitution document which was unanimously adopted at a Church Members' meeting held on 30 October 2017, prior to it being submitted to the Charities Commission for England & Wales as part of the registration process. The document is based on the model constitution produced by the Baptist Union Corporation Limited in consultation with the Charity Commission for England & Wales.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Church Members' meeting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit appoint Trustees to be responsible for the governance of the Church. Deacons are appointed for an initial three year term with the opportunity to be nominated for reappointment at the end of each three year term, or as agreed from time to time by the Church Members' Meeting. The Church Secretary and Church Treasurer are appointed annually and there is no restriction on the number of years that they can serve. New Trustees are trained and guided on the job by the more experienced Trustees.

Organisational structure

Church Members meet together in a Church Members' Meeting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and under the Lordship of Christ to discern the mind of God in the affairs of the Church. Members shall, so far as is possible, seek consensus on all matters considered at a Church Meeting. However, for matters requiring a decision, a vote shall be taken and the outcome of the vote recorded as a resolution of the Members. There are two types of formal Church Members' Meetings, Ordinary Church Members' Meetings (normally held quarterly) and Special Church Members' Meetings. In order to be carried, a resolution at an Ordinary Church Members' Meeting requires a simple majority of Members attending and voting. At a Special Church Members' Meeting a resolution requires a two thirds majority of Members attending and voting in order to be carried.

Wider network

The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Heart of England Baptist Association. The Church will normally promote, encourage, support and advance the work of the Baptist Union, The Association and BMS World Mission through prayer, through financial contributions and, where appropriate, by making personnel available from membership of the Church. The Church will also support local Baptist and ecumenical gatherings when it is able to do so. The Baptist Union has no controlling interest in the conduct and operation of the Church.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name: Newport Baptist Church Shropshire

Registered Charity Number: 1176587

Principal address
Water Lane
Newport
Shropshire
TF10 7LD

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Trustees

Deacons:

Chris Cartwright	reappointed 12 March 2024
Mrs Alison Davies	
Mrs Helen Wilson	
Mrs Pauline Creevey	

Other officers:

Mrs Ruth Summers (secretary)	reappointed 12 March 2024
Ian Walsh (treasurer)	reappointed 12 March 2024

Property trustee:
Legal title to the Church's freehold property is held by HEBA (Trust) Association (formerly The West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association) for the benefit of the members of Newport Baptist Church Shropshire.

Independent examiner
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
Stafford
ST17 4QP

The Trustees approved the Trustees' Annual Report on 4 February 2025.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

R E Summers

Mrs R Summers (Secretary)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

I report on the accounts of Newport Baptist Church Shropshire (Charity No: 1176587) for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



T Herriott
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
STAFFORD
ST17 4QP

Date: 10/3/25

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024			2023		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Receipts						
Offerings - general	15,113	-	15,113	16,169	-	16,169
Offerings - appeals	-	2,334	2,334	-	2,720	2,720
Home Mission Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid recovered	3,015	466	3,481	3,168	580	3,748
Donations	1,000	2,258	3,258	200	1,035	1,235
Rents received	793	-	793	1,227	-	1,227-
Other income	-	70	70	30	171	201
Bank interest received	159		159			
Total receipts	20,080	5,128	25,208	20,794	4,506	25,300
Payments						
Visiting speakers' expenses	1,550	-	1,550	1,850	-	1,850
Donations	4,344	4,227	8,571	2,320	3,963	6,283
Insurance	1,293	-	1,293	1,282	-	1,282
Heat, light, telephone and water	2,458	-	2,458	2,170	-	2,170
Cleaning	2,912	-	2,912	2,912	-	2,912
Subscriptions	605	-	605	561	-	561
Repairs and maintenance	726	-	726	818	-	818
Miscellaneous expenses	378	905	1,283	595	514	1,109
Independent Reviewer's fee	300	-	300	300	-	300
	14,566	5,132	19,698	12,808	4,477	17,285
Asset purchases						
Purchase of furniture and equipment	-	-	-	515	-	515
Total payments	14,566	5,132	19,698	13,323	4,477	17,800
Net cash outflow for the period	5,514	(4)	5,510	7,471	29	7,500
Cash funds at 1 January 2024	25,226	410	25,636	17,755	381	18,136
Cash funds at 31 December 2024	30,740	406	31,146	25,226	410	25,636

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

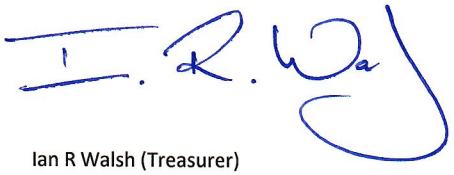
	2024			2023		
Cash funds	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank	30,740	406	31,146	25,226	410	25,636

Other assets	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gift Aid recoverable on gifts	867	-	867	814	-	814
Utilities paid in advance	-	-	-	146	-	146
	867	-	867	960	-	960

	2024		2023	
Assets retained for own use	**Cost**	**Estimated current value**	**Cost**	**Estimated current value**
	£	£	£	£
Freehold property	327,266	330,000	327,266	330,000

Liabilities	**2024**	**2023**
	£	£
Estimated amount owing for utilities prior to period end	355	-
Expenditure committed before period end	-	-
	355	-

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Ian R Walsh (Treasurer)

4 February 2025

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Establishment of the Charity

Newport Baptist Church Shropshire was registered, as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 9 January 2018, although it did not commence activities until 5 April 2018.

2 Accounts format

The Trustees have taken the decision to prepare these accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

3 Payments to Trustees

No Trustee, other than the cleaner, was remunerated. However some trustees were reimbursed for expenses they incurred on behalf of the Church.

The cleaner, who is a trustee, is engaged for four hours per week.

4 Donor specific donations

	B/fwd	Received	Paid	C/fwd
Gift Day	-	2,800	(2,800)	-
Esther Group donations	-	231	(231)	-
Home Mission in lieu	-	100	(100)	-
Grace Ministries	-	500	(500)	-
Esther Group funds	100	20	0	120
Tuesday Warm Drop In	-	581	(579)	2
Newport Foodbank	-	40	(40)	-
Pauline Chambers	-	330	(330)	-
MacMillan Coffee	-	226	(226)	-
Newport Singing Together	310	300	(326)	284
	410	5,128	(5,132)	406
2023	381	4,506	(4,477)	410

5 Related parties

Some Trustees have bought items for the Church and have been subsequently reimbursed.

Reimbursements where paid as follows: -

	2024	2023
Mr C Cartwright	-	32
Mrs P Creevey	104	35
Mrs A Davies	66	21
Mrs R Summers (and husband)	193	-
Mr I Walsh (treasurer)	-	89
Other church member	-	-
	363	177

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1176587

Accounts

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE
A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION
CHARITY NO: 1176587

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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As a member of the Baptist Union the Church subscribes to the Union's Declaration of Principle: -

- That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each Church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

This year, 2023, has been a year of pausing and waiting on the Lord to see where he is leading us. During the year, the church has begun to think about a vision for the future. We have continued to be blessed by the ministry of a wide range of visiting preachers, who have led our Sunday morning services and there is no reason why that could not continue for the foreseeable future. However, as a church we are seeking the Lord to see if that is the right way forward or if He wants to take us in a different direction.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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Our Gift Day took place in March 2023. A total of £3,300 was raised (including the related Gift Aid) and this amount was shared between our two missionaries, Judy Cook and the Fletchers, both of whom work in Thailand.

Looking ahead into 2024

We came into 2023 with no minister, and without a major change in our financial position, there is still no no real prospect of being able to appoint a new minister in the foreseeable future.

We have agreed to start a weekly Warm Drop In on a Tuesday morning. This will run from January through to the end of March, at which point we shall assess its effectiveness and consider whether or not to extend it.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church's work is entirely dependent on the Lord's leading and the resources He provides.

Our finances are on an even keel and if the current levels of income and expenditure continue, we should be able to operate as we are indefinitely. However, it is a delicate balance and one large unexpected bill could change that.

We started the year with cash reserves in the bank of £18,136. During the year income received was £25,300 and our expenditure totalled £17,800. We received £7,500 more than we spent. This has increased our year end cash reserves to £25,636.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Church received gifts and donations of £4,507 which were for specific causes. Most of these funds were paid out in accordance with the donors' wishes, although at the year-end £410 was still held pending payment.

Reserves policy
Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover unplanned emergency expenditure.

The Trustees feel that it is prudent for the Church to aim to maintain a level of cash reserves equivalent to the cost of running the church for a period of six months. Given our new circumstances, with no minister to pay, the running costs of the church for six months will be in the region of £8,750. Reserves at the yearend amounted to £25,636.

Reserves at the year-end exceeded the policy level by £16,886. This is the extent of our buffer against unforeseen expenditure and part of our savings so that we may, at some point in the future, be able to employ a minister. Being realistic, the cost of employing a new minister full time would be in the region of £42,000 per annum. Therefore, savings alone will never be enough. Our weekly offerings would need to rise by £800 per week each and every week.

Risk policy
The Trustees have identified and reviewed the risk to which the Church is exposed and taken steps to eliminate, reduce or manage those risks. They have also taken steps to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud or error.

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Wider network

The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Heart of England Baptist Association. The Church will normally promote, encourage, support and advance the work of the Baptist Union, The Association and BMS World Mission through prayer, through financial contributions and, where appropriate, by making personnel available from membership of the Church. The Church will also support local Baptist and ecumenical gatherings when it is able to do so. The Baptist Union has no controlling interest in the conduct and operation of the Church.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name:	Newport Baptist Church Shropshire
Registered Charity Number:	1176587

Principal address
Water Lane
Newport
Shropshire
TF10 7LD

Trustees

Deacons:	
Chris Cartwright	
Mrs Alison Davies	
Mrs Helen Wilson	reappointed 14 March 2023
Mrs Pauline Creevey	
Other officers:	
Mrs Ruth Summers (secretary)	appointed 14 March 2023
Ian Walsh (treasurer)	reappointed 14 March 2023

Property trustee:
Legal title to the Church's freehold property is held by HEBA (Trust) Association (formerly The West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association) for the benefit of the members of Newport Baptist Church Shropshire.

Independent examiner
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
Stafford
ST17 4QP

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees approved the Trustees' Annual Report on 6 February 2024.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Mrs R Summers (Secretary)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

I report on the accounts of Newport Baptist Church Shropshire (Charity No: 1176587) for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

T Herriott
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
STAFFORD
ST17 4QP

Date: 20/2/24

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023			2022		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Receipts						
Offerings - general	16,169	-	16,169	15,065	-	15,065
Offerings - appeals	-	2,720	2,720	-	737	737
Home Mission Grant	-	-	-	-	330	330
Gift Aid recovered	3,168	580	3,748	2,926	138	3,064
Donations	200	1,035	1,235	-	913	913
Rents received	1,227	-	1,227	-	-	-
Other income	30	171	201	153	-	153
Total receipts	20,794	4,506	25,300	18,144	2,118	20,262
Payments						
Minister's stipend	-	-	-	755	330	1,085
Minister's housing allowance	-	-	-	284	-	284
Minister's expenses	-	-	-	16	-	16
Manse expenses	-	-	-	117	-	117
Contribution to Pension Fund deficit	-	-	-	7,700	-	7,700
Visiting speakers' expenses	1,850	-	1,850	1,800	-	1,800
Donations	2,320	3,963	6,283	1,933	1,407	3,340
Insurance	1,282	-	1,282	1,136	-	1,136
Heat, light, telephone and water	2,170	-	2,170	3,085	-	3,085
Cleaning	2,912	-	2,912	2,912	-	2,912
Subscriptions	561	-	561	527	-	527
Repairs and maintenance	818	-	818	1,500	-	1,500
Miscellaneous expenses	595	514	1,109	634	-	634
Independent Reviewer's fee	300	-	300	400	-	400
	12,808	4,477	17,285	22,799	1,737	24,536
Asset purchases						
Purchase of furniture and equipment	515	-	515	-	-	-
Total payments	13,323	4,477	17,800	22,799	1,737	24,536
Net cash outflow for the period	7,471	29	7,500	(4,655)	381	(4,274)
Cash funds at 1 January 2023	17,755	381	18,136	22,410	-	22,410
Cash funds at 31 December 2023	25,226	410	25,636	17,755	381	18,136

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023			2022		
Cash funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank	25,226	410	25,636	17,755	381	18,136

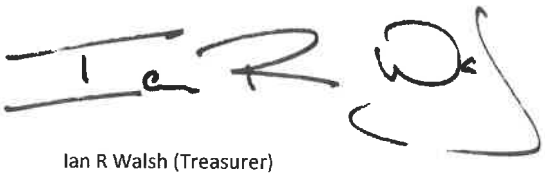
Other assets	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gift Aid recoverable on gifts	814	-	814	761		761
Utilities paid in advance	146	-	146	554	-	554
	960	-	960	1,315	-	1,315

	2023		2022	
Assets retained for own use	Cost	Estimated current value	Cost	Estimated current value
	£	£	£	£
Freehold property	327,266	330,000	327,266	330,000
Equipment and furniture	4,094	1,500	4,094	1,900
	331,360	331,500	331,360	331,900

Legal title to the Church's freehold property is held by HEBA (Trust) Association (formerly The West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association) for the benefit of the members of Newport Baptist Church.

Liabilities	2023	2022
	£	£
Estimated amount owing for utilities prior to period end	-	-
Expenditure committed before period end	-	-
	-	-

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Ian R Walsh (Treasurer)

6 February 2024

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Establishment of the Charity

Newport Baptist Church Shropshire was registered, as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 9 January 2018, although it did not commence activities until 5 April 2018.

2 Accounts format

The Trustees have taken the decision to prepare these accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

3 Payments to Trustees

No Trustee, other than the cleaner, was remunerated. However some trustees were reimbursed for expenses they incurred on behalf of the Church.

The cleaner, who is a trustee, is engaged for four hours per week.

4 Restricted funds

	2023		2022	
	Donor specific donations	Home Mission Grant	Donor specific donations	Total
Brought forward	381	-	-	-
Received in the year	4,506	330	1,788	2,118
Spent in the year	(4,477)	(330)	(1,407)	(1,737)
	410	-	381	381

The Home Mission grant was given by the Heart of England Baptist Association as a contribution towards the cost of the minister's stipend.

5 Donor specific donations

	B/fwd	Received	Paid	C/fwd
Gift Day	-	3,300	(3,300)	-
Esther Group collections	-	295	(295)	-
Home Mission	-	138	(138)	-
Collections for leaving members	81	150	(231)	-
Demential Choir	-	493	(183)	310
Esther Group funds	100	130	(130)	100
Gift for fridge repir	200	-	(200)	-
	381	4,506	(4,477)	410

6 Related parties

The Tustees and several Church Members have bought items for the Church and have been subsequently reimbursed.

Reimbursements where paid as follows: -

	2023	2022
Mrs A Davies	21	19
Mrs P Creevey	35	20
Mr C Cartwright	32	-
Mr I Walsh (treasurer)	89	-
	177	39

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1176587

Accounts

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE
A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION
CHARITY NO: 1176587

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Newport

Baptist Church

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees present their annual report together with the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities of the Church for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Newport Baptist Church Shropshire was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 9 January 2018. By an agreement executed by the Trustees dated 5 April 2018, all assets, liabilities and activities of the Church were transferred from Newport Baptist Church, an excepted charity (by virtue of its affiliation to the Baptist Union of Great Britain) to this charity.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church's Constitution.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

As a member of the Baptist Union the Church subscribes to the Union's Declaration of Principle: -

- That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each Church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.

- That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who 'died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again on the third day'.

- That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world.

During the year the Church has engaged in regular public worship, prayer and Bible study, preaching, teaching and observance of the Communion of the Lord's Supper.

In shaping our objectives for the period and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'Public Benefit: Running a Charity (PB2)'. The Church is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Overall, 2022 was a good year for the Church. The year started on a less happy note when we said good bye to our minister David Middleton and Kathie, his wife. They left in mid-January, and since then, we have been blessed by the ministry of a wide range of visiting preachers, who have led our Sunday morning services. Their differing and complementary styles have brought a new enthusiasm to the Church as we emerge from the effects of the Covid pandemic.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

During the year, we have seen our congregation grow. A number of new members have joined the fellowship and become immersed in the life of the Church. We were thrilled to see the birth of three babies during the year.

The weekly prayer meeting has continued to flourish, meeting on Thursday evenings via Zoom. The number of regulars at the meetings has increased during the year. We are constantly looking at ways to include those members who do not find modern digital communications easy.

Our WhatsApp group for the Church family has become established and is a very effective way to share news, things to celebrate and concerns for prayer. It is recognised that there are a number of members who either do not have access to, or choose not to embrace, digital technology. We stayed in contact with them through text, email, and phone calls so that no one feels excluded.

Recently, some members have resumed the get together for prayer immediately before the Sunday morning service.

The weekly Bible study group meets on a Monday morning. This is an opportunity for those who are able to attend to engage in a more in-depth study of the Bible using a structured study guide.

The fortnightly ladies' fellowship group (known as the Esther Group) has met throughout the year on Wednesday mornings, and the men's fellowship group has evolved into a walking group, weather permitting, and now includes some ladies who wish to walk. Both groups aim to provide an opportunity for sharing in an informal non-threatening environment.

The Tuesday morning Sewing Grace group continues to meet regularly. This is a weekly sewing and quilting group run in the church building to provide care and support to anyone who wishes to attend.

A Harvest service was held in October, followed by a lunch in the church hall. We had the opportunity to welcome members of the Harper Adams Agricultural University Christian Union to the service and to meet and talk with them over lunch. All Harvest gifts were donated to Newport Foodbank.

Our Gift Day took place in April 2022. A total of £875 was raised (including the related Gift Aid) and this amount was donated to the Baptist Missionary Society's Ukraine Appeal.

Looking ahead into 2023

The Church faces 2023 with no minister, and no real prospect of being able to appoint a new minister in the foreseeable future. We are trusting in the Lord for His guidance and mercy as we seek His will for Newport Baptist Church. We wait on Him.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church's work is entirely dependent on the Lord's leading and the resources He provides.

Our finances are on an even keel and if the current levels of income and expenditure continue, we should be able to operate as we are indefinitely. However, it is a delicate balance and one large unexpected bill could change that.

The Covid-19 pandemic caused us to lose all our rental income. We also lost our Home Mission Grant, but we no longer have the expense of a full time minister. These events have changed the landscape of our finances. We are now operating on a much smaller scale financially.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

At the beginning of the year, the Church had cash reserves in the bank of £22,410. During the year income received was £20,262 but our expenditure totalled £24,536. We spent £4,274 more than we received which is reflected in the reduced amount held in our bank at the end of the year. Our bank balance at the year-end was £18,136. Our expenses included the settlement of the Baptist Pension Fund deficit of £7,700.

To put this into the context of our new circumstances, if one off income and expenses relating to our previous activities were to be ignored, we would be showing a surplus for the year of £3,794.

The Church received a Home Mission grant of £330 to contribute towards the final payment of our minister's stipend in January 2022. During the year, the Church also received gifts and donations of £1,788 which were for specific causes. Most of these funds were paid out in accordance with the donors' wishes, although at the year-end £381 was still held pending payment.

Reserves policy
Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover unplanned emergency expenditure.

The Trustees feel that it is prudent for the Church to aim to maintain a level of cash reserves equivalent to the cost of running the church for a period of six months. Given our new circumstances, with no minister to pay, the running costs of the church for six months will be in the region of £8,750. Reserves at the yearend amounted to £18,136.

Reserves at the year-end exceeded the policy level by £9,386. This is the extent of our buffer against unforeseen expenditure.

Risk policy
The Trustees have identified and reviewed the risk to which the Church is exposed and taken steps to eliminate, reduce or manage those risks. They have also taken steps to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud or error.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document
The Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is governed by its constitution document which was unanimously adopted at a Church Members' meeting held on 30 October 2017, prior to it being submitted to the Charities Commission for England & Wales as part of the registration process. The document is based on the model constitution produced by the Baptist Union Corporation Limited in consultation with the Charity Commission for England & Wales.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
The Church Members' meeting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit appoint Trustees to be responsible for the governance of the Church. The Minister is also a Trustee because of his role and responsibilities. Deacons are appointed for an initial three year term with the opportunity to be nominated for reappointment at the end of each three year term, or as agreed from time to time by the Church Members' Meeting. The Church Secretary and Church Treasurer are appointed annually and there is no restriction on the number of years that they can serve. New Trustees are trained and guided on the job by the Minister and the more experienced Trustees.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Organisational structure

Church Members meet together in a Church Members' Meeting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and under the Lordship of Christ to discern the mind of God in the affairs of the Church. Members shall, so far as is possible, seek consensus on all matters considered at a Church Meeting. However, for matters requiring a decision, a vote shall be taken and the outcome of the vote recorded as a resolution of the Members. There are two types of formal Church Members' Meetings, Ordinary Church Members' Meetings (normally held quarterly) and Special Church Members' Meetings. In order to be carried, a resolution at an Ordinary Church Members' Meeting requires a simple majority of Members attending and voting. At a Special Church Members' Meeting a resolution requires a two thirds majority of Members attending and voting in order to be carried.

Wider network

The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Heart of England Baptist Association. The Church will normally promote, encourage, support and advance the work of the Baptist Union, The Association and BMS World Mission through prayer, through financial contributions and, where appropriate, by making personnel available from membership of the Church. The Church will also support local Baptist and ecumenical gatherings when it is able to do so. The Baptist Union has no controlling interest in the conduct and operation of the Church.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name:	Newport Baptist Church Shropshire
Registered Charity Number:	1176587

Principal address
Water Lane
Newport
Shropshire
TF10 7LD

Trustees

Minister:	
Revd David Middleton	resigned 16 January 2022
Deacons:	
Chris Cartwright	
Mrs Alison Davies	reappointed 5 April 2022
Mrs Helen Wilson	
Mrs Pauline Creevey	appointed 5 April 2022
Other officers:	
Miss Tamlyn Fowler (secretary)	reappointed 5 April 2022
Ian Walsh (treasurer)	reappointed 5 April 2022

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Property trustee:
Legal title to the Church's freehold property is held by HEBA (Trust) Association (formerly The West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association) for the benefit of the members of Newport Baptist Church Shropshire.

Independent examiner
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
Stafford
ST17 4QP

The Trustees approved the Trustees' Annual Report on 7 February 2023.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Miss Tamlyn Fowler (Secretary)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

I report on the accounts of Newport Baptist Church Shropshire (Charity No: 1176587) for the year ended 31 December 2022 set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



T Herriott
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
STAFFORD
ST17 4PQ

Date: 10/2/23

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022			2021		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Receipts						
Offerings - general	15,065	-	15,065	16,103	-	16,103
Offerings - appeals	0	737	737	429	1,659	2,088
Home Mission Grant	-	330	330	-	8,587	8,587
Gift Aid recovered	2,926	138	3,064	3,154	-	3,154
Donations	0	913	913	2	220	222
Rents received	0	-	0	400	-	400
Coronavirus support	0	-	0	777	-	777
Other income	153	-	153	22	-	22
Total receipts	18,144	2,118	20,262	20,887	10,466	31,353
Payments						
Minister's stipend	755	330	1,085	15,913	8,587	24,500
Minister's pension contributions	0	-	0	3,207	-	3,207
Minister's housing allowance	284	-	284	6,279	-	6,279
Minister's expenses	16	-	16	1,377	-	1,377
Manse expenses	117	-	117	2,645	-	2,645
Contribution to Pension Fund deficit	7,700	-	7,700	3,387	-	3,387
Visiting speakers' expenses	1,800	-	1,800	250	-	250
Donations	1,933	1,407	3,340	2,252	1879	4,131
Insurance	1,136	-	1,136	1,081	-	1,081
Heat, light, telephone and water	3,085	-	3,085	1,919	-	1,919
Cleaning	2,912	-	2,912	2,912	-	2,912
Subscriptions	527	-	527	472	-	472
Repairs and maintenance	1,500	-	1,500	6,807	-	6,807
Miscellaneous expenses	634	-	634	391	-	391
Independent Reviewer's fee	400	-	400	400	-	400
	22,799	1,737	24,536	49,292	10,466	59,758
Asset purchases						
Purchase of furniture and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	22,799	1,737	24,536	49,292	10,466	59,758
Net cash outflow for the period	(4,655)	381	(4,274)	(28,405)	-	(28,405)
Cash funds at 1 January 2021	22,410	-	22,410	50,815	-	50,815
Cash funds at 31 December 2021	17,755	381	18,136	22,410	-	22,410

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022			2021		
Cash funds	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank	17,755	381	18,136	22,410	-	22,410

	2022			2021		
Other assets	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gift Aid recoverable on gifts	761	-	761	830		830
Utilities paid in advance	554	-	554	-	-	-
	1,315	-	1,315	830	-	830

	2022		2021	
Assets retained for own use	**Cost**	**Estimated current value**	**Cost**	**Estimated current value**
	£	£	£	£
Freehold property	327,266	330,000	327,266	327,266
Equipment and furniture	4,094	1,900	4,094	1,861
	331,360	331,900	331,360	329,127

Legal title to the Church's freehold property is held by HEBA (Trust) Association (formerly The West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association) for the benefit of the members of Newport Baptist Church.

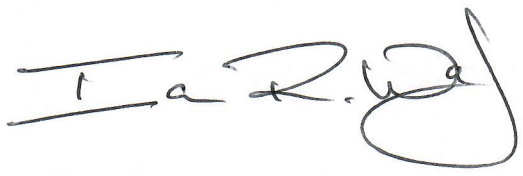
Liabilities	**2022**	**2021**
	£	£
Estimated amount owing for utilities prior to period end	-	-
Expenditure committed before period end	-	-
	-	-

Contingent liability	£	£
Pension fund deficit	-	7,700

The Church contributed to the Baptist Pension Fund final salary scheme until the scheme was closed on 31 December 2011. The Church has an on going liability to contribute to this scheme in respect of former ministers' pensions. Contributions are calculated annually by the Baptist Pension Scheme.

Our minister resigned and his employment with the church ceased on 16 January 2022. This caused a pension fund crystallisation event to occur. At that point the full pension fund deficit became payable. The final debt was £7,700 and this was paid to the Baptist Pension Fund in March 2022.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Ian R Walsh (Treasurer)

7 February 2023

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Establishment of the Charity

Newport Baptist Church Shropshire was registered, as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 9 January 2018, although it did not commence activities until 5 April 2018.

2 Accounts format

The Trustees have taken the decision to prepare these accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

3 Payments to Trustees

No Trustee, other than the minister and the cleaner, were remunerated. However some trustees were reimbursed for expenses they incurred on behalf of the Church.

The cleaner, who is a trustee, is engaged for four hours per week. The minister was also a trustee. His stipend and other allowances were paid at a level and in accordance with HEBA guidelines.

4 Restricted funds

	2022			2021		
	Received	Paid	C/fwd	Received	Paid	C/fwd
Home Mission Grant	330	(330)	-	8,587	(8,587)	-
Donor specific donations	1,788	(1,407)	381	1,879	(1,879)	-
	2,118	(1,737)	381	10,466	(10,466)	-

The Home Mission grant is given by the Heart of England Baptist Association as a contribution towards the cost of the minister's stipend.

During the year the church receives certain donations for specific purposes.

5 Government Aid

During the 2021 year £777 was received from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme in respect of the cleaner's wages.

6 Related parties

The Tustees and several Church Members have bought items for the Church and have been subsequently reimbursed.

Reimbursements where paid as follows: -

	2022	2021
Mrs A Davies	19	-
Mrs P Creevey	20	-
Mrs H Wilson	-	70
	39	70

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1176587

Accounts

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE
A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION
CHARITY NO: 1176587

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Newport

Baptist Church

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Trustees present their annual report together with the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities of the Church for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Newport Baptist Church Shropshire was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 9 January 2018. By an agreement executed by the Trustees dated 5 April 2018, all assets, liabilities and activities of the Church were transferred from Newport Baptist Church, an excepted charity (by virtue of its affiliation to the Baptist Union of Great Britain) to this charity.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church's Constitution.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

As a member of the Baptist Union the Church subscribes to the Union's Declaration of Principle: -

- That our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and that each Church has liberty, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to interpret and administer His laws.

- That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who 'died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again on the third day'.

- That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world.

During the year the Church has engaged in regular public worship, prayer and Bible study, preaching, teaching and observance of the Communion of the Lord's Supper. In view of the restrictions imposed by Covid-19, much of the Church's activity has been carried out using social media platforms, such as You Tube, and meetings conducted via Zoom. We returned to face to face meetings on 5 September 2021.

In shaping our objectives for the period and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'Public Benefit: Running a Charity (PB2)'. The Church is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Regular activities under pandemic

All church activity went online following the introduction of the pandemic lockdown in March 2020. At the start of this year, the church was still not meeting in person. Our first service back in the church building was on 5 September 2021.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

During this period our church activities continued online including our Sewing Grace ministry group; Esther Women's Fellowship, our weekly prayer meeting and a newly started weekly quiz night and a coffee and chat group all of which were carried out over Zoom. As a fellowship we were able to continue to worship together, through the medium of YouTube.

Our WhatsApp group for the Church family enabled conversations to continue amongst the fellowship. It became a way in which we could share prayer requests and so much more. This has been very well used and welcomed by the Church family, and undoubtedly has brought us closer together than before. A church Facebook and Instagram account has also been established.

For those without the technology, or who do not embrace the use of it, we stayed in contact through text, email, regular mail outs and phone calls. Throughout the pandemic, our Pastor and his wife have recorded the church services onto DVDs and delivered them weekly to those in the extended fellowship who are unable to access digital media. Pastoral care sessions with the Pastor have taken place over Zoom video conferencing or by socially distanced walks and when allowed we met in the Pastor's garden, following social distancing rules and the rule of six for as long as we could, weather permitting.

We have made contributions to the local food bank. And all our commitments to our link missionaries have been maintained. The Men's Fellowship, as a walking group, has recommenced, we also restarted our weekly Bible study group which is held over digital video conferencing.

Looking ahead into 2022

In 2022, the Church will celebrate its thirtieth anniversary, having been founded in March 1992.

We look forward to 2022 with some trepidation, trusting in the Lord for his guidance and mercy. Our pastor left the church on 16 January, and after a short period off to relax and reflect, he will take up a new position as minister of another church in the Heart of England Baptist Association's area.

In the short term, our Sunday services are being led by a variety of guest preachers. We are very grateful to them for supporting us in this way. The Church is prayerfully exploring the Fellowship's future: we wait on the Lord.

As the impact of Covid-19 reduces, we are looking to restart some of our regular activities on a face to face basis. Sewing Grace and our Esther Group have both started to meet again in the church building, we are in the process of restarting a bible study group, but our weekly prayer meeting will continue to be held via Zoom. This makes it easier for more people to attend.

Our home group and student fellowship group were suspended during the pandemic. As yet, they have not reopened.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church's work is entirely dependent on the Lord's leading and the resources He provides.

At the beginning of the year, the Church had cash reserves in the bank of £50,815. During the year income received was £31,353 which was £12,885 lower that the income for the previous year. Expenditure totalled £59,758 which was £7,775 higher than the expenditure in the previous year. During this year, we spent £28,405 more than we received, which reduced the amount we had in our bank at the end of the period by the same amount, to £22,410.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Church received a Home Mission grant of £8,587 to contribute towards the payment of our minister's stipend. During the year, the Church also received gifts and donations of £1,879 which were for specific causes. These funds were paid out in accordance with the donors' wishes. The Church incurred costs of almost £7,000 to bring the building up to the required standard of safety to enable the building to reopen following the period of closure caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Covid-19

The global pandemic has had a significant impact on the Church's finances. The building was closed to the public from March 2020 until 5 September 2021, when in person Sunday services were resumed. During the period of closure, the church lost its rental income. The organisations renting the church buildings have either closed permanently or they have found new premises in which to meet. Also, there was a significant reduction in weekly offerings because services were not held in church on a Sunday. There was a small saving in the establishment costs because it was not necessary to heat and light the building when it was not in use, but as mentioned above, substantial costs were incurred on updating and certifying systems within the building.

The Church's cleaner was furloughed from February to May and the Church made claims under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme of £777 (2020: £451).

The virus will continue to impact adversely the Church's finances into 2022 with the loss of rental income. Trustees have monitored the levels of cash reserves, and it became apparent during the year that the loss of income would make it very difficult to continue to pay a full time minister. Whilst forecasts and plans were being discussed, and the Lord's will was being sought, our minister felt led to look for a new church and as a result, he resigned in October 2021 and left the church on 16 January 2022.

Reserves policy

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover unplanned emergency expenditure.

The church had built up reserves to enable it to fund the cost of a full time minister for a number of years with the aid of a Home Mission grant. Over the last four years, those reserves have been eroded, because they were needed to plug the gap between our income and expenditure. The main causes of this were a fall in giving due to a reduction in the size of our congregation over that period and latterly the loss of rental income.

The Trustees feel that it is prudent for the Church to aim to maintain a level of cash reserves equivalent to the cost of running the church for a period of six months. Given our new circumstances, with no minister to pay, the running costs of the church for six months will be in the region of £7,500. Reserves at the yearend amounted to £22,410, however, there will be a final salary payment to our minister in January 2022 and we will have to pay the pension fund deficit of £7,700.

Reserves after exceptional costs currently exceed the policy level by £5,724. Given the current financial position and the current levels of giving, it is unlikely that the Church will be able to employ a new minister.

Risk policy

The Trustees have identified and reviewed the risk to which the Church is exposed and taken steps to eliminate, reduce or manage those risks. They have also taken steps to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud or error.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is governed by its constitution document which was unanimously adopted at a Church Members' meeting held on 30 October 2017, prior to it being submitted to the Charities Commission for England & Wales as part of the registration process. The document is based on the model constitution produced by the Baptist Union Corporation Limited in consultation with the Charity Commission for England & Wales.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Church Members' meeting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit appoint Trustees to be responsible for the governance of the Church. The Minister is also a Trustee because of his role and responsibilities. Deacons are appointed for an initial three year term with the opportunity to be nominated for reappointment at the end of each three year term, or as agreed from time to time by the Church Members' Meeting. The Church Secretary and Church Treasurer are appointed annually and there is no restriction on the number of years that they can serve. New Trustees are trained and guided on the job by the Minister and the more experienced Trustees.

Organisational structure

Church Members meet together in a Church Members' Meeting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and under the Lordship of Christ to discern the mind of God in the affairs of the Church. Members shall, so far as is possible, seek consensus on all matters considered at a Church Meeting. However, for matters requiring a decision, a vote shall be taken and the outcome of the vote recorded as a resolution of the Members. There are two types of formal Church Members' Meetings, Ordinary Church Members' Meetings (normally held quarterly) and Special Church Members' Meetings. In order to be carried, a resolution at an Ordinary Church Members' Meeting requires a simple majority of Members attending and voting. At a Special Church Members' Meeting a resolution requires a two thirds majority of Members attending and voting in order to be carried.

Wider network

The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Heart of England Baptist Association. The Church will normally promote, encourage, support and advance the work of the Baptist Union, The Association and BMS World Mission through prayer, through financial contributions and, where appropriate, by making personnel available from membership of the Church. The Church will also support local Baptist and ecumenical gatherings when it is able to do so. The Baptist Union has no controlling interest in the conduct and operation of the Church.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name: Newport Baptist Church Shropshire

Registered Charity Number: 1176587

Principal address
Water Lane
Newport
Shropshire
TF10 7LD

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Trustees

Minister:	
Revd David Middleton	resigned 16 January 2022
Deacons:	
Chris Cartwright	reappointed 19 October 2021
Mrs Alison Davies	appointed 11 March 2019
Mrs Helen Wilson	reappointed 9 March 2020
Other officers:	
Miss Tamlyn Fowler (secretary)	appointed 19 October 2021
Ian Walsh (treasurer)	reappointed 19 October 2021

Property trustee:
Legal title to the Church's freehold property is held by HEBA (Trust) Association (formerly The West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association) for the benefit of the members of Newport Baptist Church Shropshire.

Independent examiner
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
Stafford
ST17 4QP

The Trustees approved the Trustees' Annual Report on 16 March 2022.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Miss Tamlyn Fowler (Secretary)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

I report on the accounts of Newport Baptist Church Shropshire (Charity No: 1176587) for the year ended 31 December 2021 set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

T Herriott
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
STAFFORD
ST17 4PQ

Date: 24/5/22

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021			2020		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Receipts						
Offerings - general	16,103	-	16,103	19,349	-	19,349
Offerings - appeals	429	1,659	2,088	1,710	440	2,150
Home Mission Grant	-	8,587	8,587	-	9,600	9,600
Gift Aid recovered	3,154	-	3,154	5,131	-	5,131
Donations	2	220	222	5,570	125	5,695
Rents received	400	-	400	1,827	-	1,827
Coronavirus support	777	-	777	451	-	451
Other income	22	-	22	34	-	34
Total receipts	20,887	10,466	31,353	34,072	10,165	44,237
Payments						
Minister's stipend	15,913	8,587	24,500	14,400	9,600	24,000
Minister's pension contributions	3,207	-	3,207	3,025	-	3,025
Minister's housing allowance	6,279	-	6,279	6,248	-	6,248
Minister's expenses	1,377	-	1,377	1,520	-	1,520
Manse expenses	2,645	-	2,645	646	-	646
Contribution to Pension Fund deficit	3,387	-	3,387	2,497	-	2,497
Visiting speakers' expenses	250	-	250	250	-	250
Donations	2,252	1,879	4,131	4,350	565	4,915
Insurance	1,081	-	1,081	1,063	-	1,063
Heat, light, telephone and water	1,919	-	1,919	2,885	-	2,885
Cleaning	2,912	-	2,912	2,912	-	2,912
Subscriptions	472	-	472	503	-	503
Repairs and maintenance	6,807	-	6,807	263	-	263
Miscellaneous expenses	391	-	391	855	-	855
Independent Reviewer's fee	400	-	400	400	-	400
	49,292	10,466	59,758	41,817	10,165	51,982
Asset purchases						
Purchase of furniture and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	49,292	10,466	59,758	41,817	10,165	51,982
Net cash outflow for the period	(28,405)	-	(28,405)	(7,745)	-	(7,745)
Cash funds at 1 January 2021	50,815	-	50,815	58,560	-	58,560
Cash funds at 31 December 2021	22,410	-	22,410	50,815	-	50,815

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021			2020		
Cash funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank	22,410	-	22,410	50,815	-	50,815

	2021			2020		
Other assets	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gift Aid recoverable on gifts	830	-	830	1,397	157	1,554

	2021		2020	
Assets retained for own use	Cost	Estimated current value	Cost	Estimated current value
	£	£	£	£
Freehold property	327,266	327,266	327,266	327,266
Equipment and furniture	4,094	1,861	4,094	2,629
	331,360	329,127	331,360	329,895

Legal title to the Church's freehold property is held by HEBA (Trust) Association (formerly The West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association) for the benefit of the members of Newport Baptist Church.

In recognition of the Pension Trustee allowing the pension fund deficit to be transferred to the new CIO, the church consented in a special church meeting dated 18 December 2017 to the Pension Trustee protecting the BPS financial interest by placing a Land Registry restriction on the church property. The pension fund deficit will be repaid shortly , therefore the restriction is no longer required. As it was not registered, no further action will be necessary.

Liabilities	2021	2020
	£	£
Estimated amount owing for utilities prior to period end	-	345
Expenditure committed before period end	-	-
	-	345

Contingent liability	£	£
Pension fund deficit	7,700	10,300

The Church contributed to the Baptist Pension Fund final salary scheme until the scheme was closed on 31 December 2011. The Church has an on going liability to contribute to this scheme in respect of former ministers' pensions. Contributions are calculated annually by the Baptist Pension Scheme.

Our minister has resigned, and his employment with the church ceased on 16 January 2022. This caused a pension fund crystallisation event to occur. At that point the full pension fund deficit became payable. The final debt was £7,700 and this was paid to the Baptist Pension Fund after the year end.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Ian R Walsh (Treasurer)

16 March 2022

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1 Establishment of the Charity

Newport Baptist Church Shropshire was registered, as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 9 January 2018, although it did not commence activities until 5 April 2018.

2 Accounts format

The Trustees have taken the decision to prepare these accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

3 Payments to Trustees

No Trustee, other than the minister and the cleaner, were remunerated. However some trustees were reimbursed for expenses they incurred on behalf of the Church.

The cleaner, who is a trustee, is engaged for four hours per week. The minister is also a trustee. His stipend and other allowances are paid at a level and in accordance with HEBA guidelines.

4 Restricted funds

	2021			2020		
	Received	Paid	C/fwd	Received	Paid	C/fwd
Home Mission Grant	8,587	(8,587)	-	9,600	(9,600)	-
Donor specific donations	1,879	(1,879)	-	565	(565)	-
	10,466	(10,466)	-	10,165	(10,165)	-

The Home Mission grant is given by the Heart of England Baptist Association as a contribution towards the cost of the minister's stipend.

During the year the church receives certain donations for specific purposes.

5 Government Aid

During the year £777 was received from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme in respect of the cleaner's wages. The amount received in 2020 was £451.

6 Pension

Newport Baptist Church Shropshire is a participating employer in the Baptist Pension Scheme (the BPS) Defined Benefit Plan, which is a multi-employer scheme, having taken over membership from Newport Baptist Church.

The Church contributed to the Baptist Pension Fund final salary scheme until the scheme was closed on 31 December 2011. The Church has an on going liability to contribute to the scheme deficit in respect of former ministers' pensions. Contributions are calculated annually by the BPS. During the year £3,387 (2020: £2,497) was contributed towards the deficit.

As already noted, our minister has resigned, and his employment with the church ceased on 16 January 2022. This caused a crystallisation event to occur. At that point the full pension fund deficit became payable. The final debt was £7,700 and this amount was paid to the Baptist Pension Fund after the year end.

7 Related parties

The Tustees and several Church Members have bought items for the Church and have been subsequently reimbursed.

Reimbursements where paid as follows: -

	2021	2020
D Summers	-	102
Revd D Middleton	-	205
Mrs H Wilson	70	61
	70	368

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

England & Wales - Charity number 1176587

Accounts

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

CHARITY NO: 1176587

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Newport

Baptist Church

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

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NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities of the Church for the year ended 31 December 2020.

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- That Christian Baptism is the immersion in water into the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, of those who have professed repentance towards God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ who 'died for our sins according to the Scriptures; was buried, and rose again on the third day'.

- That it is the duty of every disciple to bear personal witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to take part in the evangelisation of the world.

During the year the Church has engaged in regular public worship, prayer and Bible study, preaching, teaching and observance of the Communion of the Lord's Supper. In view of the restrictions imposed by Covid-19, much of the Church's activity has been carried out using social media platforms, such as You Tube, and meetings conducted via Zoom.

In shaping our objectives for the period and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'Public Benefit: Running a Charity (PB2)'. The Church is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Regular activities under pandemic

At the beginning of 2020, all our Church activities were continuing as normal with no hint of what was around the corner with the coming of the Covid-19 pandemic and it's ensuing restrictions.

Our final 'in-person' service in our Church building was on March 18th 2020 which was our Church anniversary and gift day, which we celebrated with a guest speaker and fellowship lunch following the service. This would be the last time that we would be together in our church building for the rest of 2020.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

In March 2020, we had to make some quick and far reaching decisions regarding how to do church going forward in such uncertain times. Our Church has a specific demographic. We have a congregation which includes a large number of elderly, elderly-infirm and other vulnerable adults. It was imperative that we stay connected with each other given the level of vulnerability and home shielding in our Church. This imperative dictated comprehensive and rapid action. Our first decision was to take the Church into digital and social media in a way that it had never been before. So we did the following:

- We set up a social media team which was overseen by the Pastor and included 3 members of the Church who had personal experience in the area of social media. The team was set up in order for there to be a plan going forward and good oversight. This has been a great success.
- We also set up a WhatsApp group for the Church family so that conversations could continue amongst the fellowship. It would also become a way we would share prayer requests and so much more. This has been very well used and welcomed by the Church family, and undoubtedly has brought us closer together than before. A church Facebook and Instagram account has also been established.
- In order to replace and replicate our worship experience as a church we created a dedicated Church YouTube channel to host our weekly services. As soon as the beginning of April 2020 we began to put together a complete weekly Sunday morning service that ran as a YouTube play list. This approach allowed us to comply with copyright issues regarding broadcast music. We have enabled others within the congregation to take part in the services by doing readings, prayers, service introductions and blessings, amongst other things. A shorter church YouTube Playlist was set up too for a children's worship experience.

All these digital social media and worship services have been a very steep learning curve. They are relentless in their planning and executing, but they have enabled us as a fellowship to continue to worship together, albeit through the medium of YouTube, without missing one service in the whole of 2020.

As a result of the above, we had to design, create and publish completely new digital content and platforms for our Church. This required a completely new website that could handle all the digital content, along with a new email system, hosting domains and website software. The opportunity was taken to bring all our GDPR systems and recording up to date to incorporate all our new social media forums.

Where we have been able, we have moved church activities online including our Sewing Grace ministry group; Esther Women's Fellowship, our weekly prayer meeting and a newly started weekly quiz night and a coffee and chat group both of which are carried out over Zoom.

For those without the technology, or who do not embrace the use of it, we have stayed in contact through text, email, regular mail outs and phone calls. Throughout the pandemic, our Pastor and his wife have recorded the church services onto DVDs and delivered them weekly to those in the extended fellowship who are unable to access digital media. Pastoral care sessions with the Pastor have taken place over Zoom video conferencing or by socially distanced walks and when allowed we met in the Pastor's garden, following social distancing rules and the rule of six for as long as we could, weather permitting.

Suspended activities under pandemic

Other established and regular activities we had planned for 2020 before the pandemic have had to be terminated and postponed until the pandemic is over. These are: Sunday evening reflective church services; Connect services, for people with learning disabilities, Bible Study at the church, weekly Fellowship Group, Toddler Group at the church, Pastoral Care Drop-In at the church that runs alongside and in partnership with the NHS Telford Public Health Nursing Service (we work in partnership with the local nursing teams for their well-baby and breastfeeding clinics that run from our church rooms), and Men's Fellowship. All our new activities planned for 2020 have had to be shelved due to pandemic restrictions; these were to be a Student Fellowship Group, and a Life Group (our second fellowship group).

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

There has been virtually no in-person local community involvement during this period as all but one group that hires our buildings had to suspend hiring because of the pandemic. But usually our buildings would be used by the following groups: The History Society; The Photographic Club; 1st Newport Guides; First Friday Lunch (Christian Aid). The church is also used as a Polling Station. Weight-Watchers (Tuesday and Wednesday) restarted their group for a period, but have now made their workers redundant because of the pandemic and the clubs have closed down.

We have made contributions to the local food bank. Under the pandemic, the Pastor's leading of care home services for Churches Together in Newport (CTiN) has been suspended, as has his involvement with dementia sufferers as the Honorary Chaplain to the local Newport Cottage Care Centre. All our commitments to our link missionaries have been maintained.

Looking ahead into the next review period of 2021 still under pandemic

As we enter 2021 we continue with all our on-line established ministries and are looking toward performing the necessary risk assessments to enable us to re-commence an in-person evening worship service. In view of the continuing fluctuation in tightening restrictions this may not go ahead, but we will continue with the planning.

If restrictions allow we will restart the Men's Fellowship as a walking group and we are also looking into restarting a weekly Bible study group which will be held over digital video conferencing.

We will restart all our regular activities as soon as social distancing and pandemic allow. We will also try again to start our new planned groups of Student Fellowship Group and a Life Group.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church's work is entirely dependent on the Lord's leading and the resources He provides.

At the beginning of the year, the Church had cash reserves in the bank of £58,560. During the year income received amounted £44,237 but expenditure totalled £51,982. We spent £7,745 more than we received, which reduced the amount we had in our bank at the end of the period by the same amount, to £50,815.

The Church received a Home Mission grant of £9,600 to contribute towards the payment of our minister's stipend. During the year, the Church also received gifts and donations of £565 which were for specific causes. These funds were paid out in accordance with the donors' wishes. The Church also received a one off gift of £5,500 towards its general funds.

Covid-19

The global pandemic has had a significant impact on the Church's finances. The two lock downs during the year saw the building being closed to the public. This resulted in the loss of rental income and, in part, the loss of the weekly offering income, because services could not be held in church on a Sunday. There was a small saving in the establishment costs because it was not necessary to heat and light the building when it was not in use.

The Church's cleaner was furloughed during April and May and the Church made claims under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme of £451. For June onwards, the opportunity was taken to deep clean the building whilst it was closed.

The virus will continue to impact adversely the Church's finances into 2021 with the loss of rental income and Sunday offerings.

Reserves policy

Reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of income and to cover unplanned emergency expenditure.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Trustees feel that it is prudent for the Church to aim to maintain a level of cash reserves equivalent to the cost of running the church for a period of six months, which based on the expenditure in these financial statements amounts to £26,000. At 31 December 2020 the Church had cash reserves of £50,815.

Reserves currently exceed the policy level because a fund has being accumulated that will allow the Church to fund the cost of a full time minister for a number of years with the aid of a Home Mission grant. The annual cost of a full time minister is approximately £40,000.

Risk policy

The Trustees have identified and reviewed the risk to which the Church is exposed and taken steps to eliminate, reduce or manage those risks. They have also taken steps to ensure that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud or error.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It is governed by its constitution document which was unanimously adopted at a Church Members' meeting held on 30 October 2017, prior to it being submitted to the Charities Commission for England & Wales as part of the registration process. The document is based on the model constitution produced by the Baptist Union Corporation Limited in consultation with the Charity Commission for England & Wales.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Church Members' meeting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit appoint Trustees to be responsible for the governance of the Church. The Minister is also a Trustee because of his role and responsibilities. Deacons are appointed for an initial three year term with the opportunity to be nominated for reappointment at the end of each three year term, or as agreed from time to time by the Church Members' Meeting. The Church Secretary and Church Treasurer are appointed annually and there is no restriction on the number of years that they can serve. New Trustees are trained and guided on the job by the Minister and the more experienced Trustees.

Organisational structure

Church Members meet together in a Church Members' Meeting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and under the Lordship of Christ to discern the mind of God in the affairs of the Church. Members shall, so far as is possible, seek consensus on all matters considered at a Church Meeting. However, for matters requiring a decision, a vote shall be taken and the outcome of the vote recorded as a resolution of the Members. There are two types of formal Church Members' Meetings, Ordinary Church Members' Meetings (normally held quarterly) and Special Church Members' Meetings. In order to be carried, a resolution at an Ordinary Church Members' Meeting requires a simple majority of Members attending and voting. At a Special Church Members' Meeting a resolution requires a two thirds majority of Members attending and voting in order to be carried.

Wider network

The Church is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Heart of England Baptist Association. The Church will normally promote, encourage, support and advance the work of the Baptist Union, The Association and BMS World Mission through prayer, through financial contributions and, where appropriate, by making personnel available from membership of the Church. The Church will also support local Baptist and ecumenical gatherings when it is able to do so. The Baptist Union has no controlling interest in the conduct and operation of the Church.

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity name: Newport Baptist Church Shropshire

Registered Charity Number: 1176587

Principal address
Water Lane
Newport
Shropshire
TF10 7LD

Trustees

Minister:

Revd David Middleton	permanent trustee by virtue of appointment as minister

Deacons:

Chris Cartwright	appointed 11 March 2019
Mrs Alison Davies	appointed 11 March 2019
Mrs Helen Wilson	reappointed 9 March 2020

Other officers:

Mrs Ruth Summers (secretary)	reappointed 9 March 2020 resigned 21 October 2020
Ian Walsh (treasurer)	reappointed 9 March 2020

Property trustee:
Legal title to the Church's freehold property is held by HEBA (Trust) Association (formerly The West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association) for the benefit of the members of Newport Baptist Church Shropshire.

Independent examiner
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
Stafford
ST17 4QP

The Trustees approved the Trustees' Annual Report on 9 March 2021

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Revd D J Middleton D. Middleton

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

I report on the accounts of Newport Baptist Church Shropshire (Charity No: 1176587) for the year ended 31 December 2020 set out on pages 7 to 10.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

T Herriott
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
STAFFORD
ST17 4PQ

Date: 4/5/21

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020			2019		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Receipts						
Offerings - general	19,349	-	19,349	24,539	-	24,539
Offerings - communion	-	-	-	-	626	626
Offerings - appeals	1,710	440	2,150	-	3,444	3,444
Offerings - Home Mission boxes	-	-	-	-	164	164
Home Mission Grant	-	9,600	9,600	-	10,552	10,552
Gift Aid recovered	5,131	-	5,131	6,032	813	6,845
Donations	5,570	125	5,695	292	640	932
Rents received	1,827	-	1,827	7,801	-	7,801
Other income	485	-	485	220	-	220
Total receipts	34,072	10,165	44,237	38,884	16,239	55,123
Payments						
Minister's stipend	14,400	9,600	24,000	12,898	10,552	23,450
Employers' National Insurance	-	-	-	66	-	66
Minister's pension contributions	3,025	-	3,025	2,959	-	2,959
Minister's housing allowance	6,248	-	6,248	6,144	-	6,144
Minister's expenses	1,520	-	1,520	1,704	-	1,704
Manse expenses	646	-	646	632	-	632
Contribution to Pension Fund deficit	2,497	-	2,497	3,257	-	3,257
Visiting speakers' expenses	250	-	250	620	-	620
Donations	4,350	565	4,915	4,206	5687	9,893
Insurance	1,063	-	1,063	1,031	-	1,031
Heat, light, telephone and water	2,885	-	2,885	2,650	-	2,650
Cleaning	2,912	-	2,912	2,912	-	2,912
Subscriptions	503	-	503	541	-	541
Repairs and maintenance	263	-	263	884	-	884
Miscellaneous expenses	855	-	855	1,076	-	1,076
Independent Reviewer's fee	400	-	400	400	-	400
Solicitors fees	-	-	-	430	-	430
	41,817	10,165	51,982	42,410	16,239	58,649
Asset purchases						
Purchase of furniture and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	41,817	10,165	51,982	42,410	16,239	58,649
Net cash outflow for the period	(7,745)	-	(7,745)	(3,526)	-	(3,526)
Cash funds at 1 January 2020	58,560	-	58,560	62,086	-	62,086
Cash funds at 31 December 2020	50,815	-	50,815	58,560	-	58,560

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	2020			2019		
Cash funds	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Cash at bank	50,815	-	50,815	58,560	-	58,560

	2020			2019		
Other assets	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**Total**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Gift Aid recoverable on gifts	819	-	819	1,397	157	1,554

	2020		2019	
Assets retains for own use	**Cost**	**Estimated current value**	**Cost**	**Estimated current value**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Freehold property	327,266	327,266	327,266	327,266
Equipment and furniture	4,094	2,629	4,094	3,093
	331,360	329,895	331,360	330,359

Legal title to the Church's freehold property is held by HEBA (Trust) Association (formerly The West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association) for the benefit of the members of Newport Baptist Church.

In recognition of the Pension Trustee allowing the pension fund deficit to be transferred to the new CIO, the church consented in a special church meeting dated 18 December 2017 to the Pension Trustee protecting the BPS financial interest by placing a Land Registry restriction on the church property. This restriction is yet to be registered.

Liabilities	**2020**	**2019**
	£	**£**
Estimated amount owing for utilities prior to period end	-	345
Expenditure committed before period end	-	-
	-	345

Contingent liability	**£**	**£**
Pension fund deficit	10,900	10,300

The Church contributed to the Baptist Pension Fund final salary scheme until the scheme was closed on 31 December 2011. The Church has an on going liability to contribute to this scheme in respect of former ministers' pensions. Contributions are calculated annually by the Baptist Pension Scheme.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

D. Middleton

Revd D J Middleton - pastor
9 March 2021

I R Walsh

I R Walsh - treasurer
9 March 2021

NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Establishment of the Charity

Newport Baptist Church Shropshire was registered, as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 9 January 2018, although it did not commence activities until 5 April 2018.

2 Accounts format

The Trustees have taken the decision to prepare these accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

3 Payments to Trustees

No Trustee, other than the minister and the cleaner, were remunerated. However some trustees were reimbursed for expenses they incurred on behalf of the Church.

The cleaner, who is a trustee, is engaged for four hours per week. The minister is also a trustee. His stipend and other allowances are paid at a level and in accordance with HEBA guidelines.

4 Restricted funds

	2020			2019		
	Received	**Paid**	**C/fwd**	**Received**	**Paid**	**C/fwd**
Home Mission Grant	9,600	(9,600)	-	10,552	(10,552)	-
Donor specific donations	565	(565)	-	5,687	(5,687)	-
	10,165	(10,165)	-	16,239	(16,239)	-

The Home Mission grant is given by the Heart of England Baptist Association as a contribution towards the cost of the minister's stipend.

During the year the church receives certain donations for specific purposes.

5 Pension

Newport Baptist Church Shropshire is a participating employer in the Baptist Pension Scheme (the BPS) Defined Benefit Plan, which is a multi-employer scheme, having taken over membership from Newport Baptist Church.

The Church contributed to the Baptist Pension Fund final salary scheme until the scheme was closed on 31 December 2011. The Church has an on going liability to contribute to the scheme deficit in respect of former ministers' pensions. Contributions are calculated annually by the BPS.

The cost of quantifying the Church's share of the deficit is prohibitive. However, the BPS has indicated that the figure is likely to be in the region of £10,900.

6 Related parties

The Tustees and several Church Members have bought items for the Church and have been subsequently reimbursed.

Reimbursements where paid as follows: -

	2020	**2019**
D Summers	102	511
Mrs A Trickett	-	8
Revd D Middleton	205	-
Mrs H Wilson	61	56
	368	575