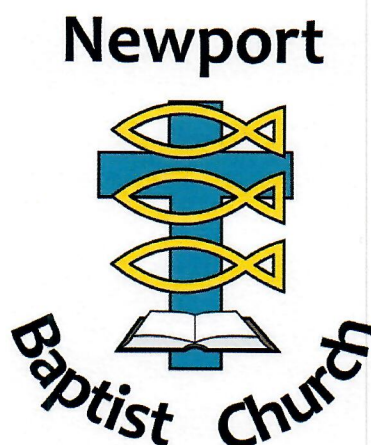


**NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE
A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION
CHARITY NO: 1176587**

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021



NEWPORT BAPTIST CHURCH SHROPSHIRE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

INDEX

	Page
Trustees' annual report	1 - 5
Independent Examiner's report	6
Receipts and payments account	7
Statement of assets and liabilities	8
Notes to the accounts	9

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 than 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: 24/3/22

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		
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
Cash funds						
Cash at bank	22,410	-	22,410	50,815	-	50,815
Other assets						
Gift Aid recoverable on gifts	830	-	830	1,397	157	1,554

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

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	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>345</u>
Contingent liability	£	£
Pension fund deficit	<u>7,700</u>	<u>10,300</u>

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)	-
	<u>10,466</u>	<u>(10,466)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,165</u>	<u>(10,165)</u>	<u>-</u>

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

Reimbursements were paid as follows: -

	2021	2020
D Summers	-	102
Rev'd D Middleton	-	205
Mrs H Wilson	<u>70</u>	<u>61</u>
	<u>70</u>	<u>368</u>