

**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 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'T' and 'F' intertwined, followed by a horizontal line.

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 | <u>17,755</u> | <u>381</u> | <u>18,136</u> | <u>22,410</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>22,410</u> |
| Other assets | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total £ | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total £ |
| Gift Aid recoverable on gifts | 761 | - | 761 | 830 | - | 830 |
| Utilities paid in advance | <u>554</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>554</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| | <u>1,315</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,315</u> | <u>830</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>830</u> |

| | 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 | <u>4,094</u> | <u>1,900</u> | <u>4,094</u> | <u>1,861</u> |
| | <u>331,360</u> | <u>331,900</u> | <u>331,360</u> | <u>329,127</u> |

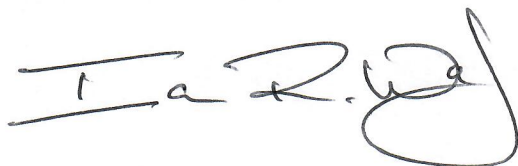
Legal title to the Church's freehold property is held by HEBA (Trust) Association (formerly The West Midland Baptist (Trust) Association) for the benefit of the members of Newport Baptist Church.

| Liabilities | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|--|-----------|--------------|
| Estimated amount owing for utilities prior to period end | - | - |
| Expenditure committed before period end | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Contingent liability | £ | £ |
| Pension fund deficit | <u>-</u> | <u>7,700</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 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) | - |
| | <u>2,118</u> | <u>(1,737)</u> | <u>381</u> | <u>10,466</u> | <u>(10,466)</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 2021 year £777 was received from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme in respect of the cleaner's wages.

6 Related parties

The Trustees 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 |
| | <u>39</u> | <u>70</u> |