

# ABBEY BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1176927

## Details

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2018-01-31

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

## Contact

**Address** Abbey Baptist Church  
Checker Walk  
Abingdon  
OX14 3JB

**Phone** 00000 000000

**Email** [abbeybaptist@gmail.com](mailto:abbeybaptist@gmail.com)

**Website** [www.abbey-baptist-church.org.uk](http://www.abbey-baptist-church.org.uk)

## Activities

**Objects:** THE PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH ARE: 1. THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BASIS OF FAITH PRIMARILY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY WITHIN ABINGDON AND THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBOURHOOD; AND 2. SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES AS SHALL, IN THE OPINION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH IN GENERAL MEETING, PUT INTO PRACTICE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BASIS OF FAITH, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: THE PREVENTION AND RELIEF OF NEED, HARDSHIP AND SICKNESS; THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION; AND THE PROVISION OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES; AND THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE INFIRMITY OR DISABILITY, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE PROVIDED THAT THE ADVANCEMENT OF SUCH PURPOSES MUST BE UNDERTAKEN IN A MANNER THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE ETHICAL STATEMENTS AS MAY BE ADOPTED AND AMENDED BY THE CHURCH FROM TIME TO TIME IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHURCH HANDBOOK.

**Activities:** Bible proclamation and teaching, supporting corporate and private worship, prayer, discussion and friendship. Regular activities for specific groups including elderly people, children, people from other countries/cultures. Special events with more concerted publicity to raise awareness of what we offer as public benefits. Support of local community events in line with our aims.

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Oxfordshire

## Finances

| Period end | Income   | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|----------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| 2025-03-31 | £119,048 | £106,988    | -      | -         |
| 2024-03-31 | £115,661 | £117,757    | -      | -         |
| 2023-03-31 | £127,420 | £88,188     | -      | -         |
| 2022-03-31 | £106,550 | £107,986    | -      | -         |
| 2021-03-31 | £108,537 | £79,279     | -      | -         |

## Trustees

| Name                       | Role  | Appointed  |
|----------------------------|-------|------------|
| Dr GRAEME STONELL          | Chair | 2023-10-01 |
| Christopher John Hawthorne |       | 2023-01-01 |
| ELIZABETH ROLFE            |       | 2018-01-31 |
| JOHN DAVID LIPP            |       | 2018-01-31 |
| PETER ARKILL               |       | 2018-01-31 |
| STEPHEN MAYO               |       | 2018-01-31 |
| Timothy Fox                |       | 2025-10-01 |

**ABBEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1176927

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

|      |                   |       |      |    |                  |       |      |
|------|-------------------|-------|------|----|------------------|-------|------|
| From | Period start date |       |      | To | Period end date  |       |      |
|      | 1 <sup>st</sup>   | April | 2024 |    | 31 <sup>st</sup> | March | 2025 |

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Abbey Baptist Church

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1176927

Charity's principal address

Abbey Baptist Church

Checker Walk

Abingdon

Postcode

OX14 3JB

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

|   | Trustee name    | Office (if any)   | Dates acted if not for whole year | Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any) |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Graeme Stonell  | Chair of trustees |                                   |                                                               |
| 2 | Chris Hawthorne |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 3 | John Lipp       |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 4 | Elizabeth Rolfe |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 5 | Peter Akrill    |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 6 | Stephen Mayo    |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 7 |                 |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 8 |                 |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 9 |                 |                   |                                   |                                                               |

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

| Name | Dates acted if not for whole year |
|------|-----------------------------------|
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser Name

Address

|  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |
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### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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|  |
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## Section B

## Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

|                                                                     |                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Type of governing document<br>(eg. trust deed, constitution)        | Constitution          |
| How the charity is constituted<br>(eg. trust, association, company) | CIO                   |
| Trustee selection methods<br>(eg. appointed by, elected by)         | Elected by membership |

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

In addition to our constitution, we make use of our church handbook to guide our practice in the everyday running of our affairs.

Elders direct the day-to-day operations of the church. All work conducted by the church is done under their leadership. The elders are also trustees of the charity and are joined by additional trustees. All elders and trustees are selected by the members in accordance with our church handbook.

We are affiliated to two external organisations (The Association of Grace Baptist Churches (Southeast) and the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC)). The nature of these affiliations is mutually supporting and both bodies are non-governing of our church's affairs.

As a long standing, stable church there are few operational risks. By offering services to vulnerable people there are risks associated to appointing volunteers/workers. These are managed through our Safeguarding Policy.

## Section C

## Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The purposes of the Church are:

- the advancement of the Christian faith (in accordance with the Basis of Faith) primarily, but not exclusively, within Abingdon and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the members of the Church in general meeting, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to: the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness; the advancement of education; and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life;

provided that the advancement of such purposes is undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the Ethical Statements as may be adopted and amended by the Church from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Church Handbook.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>We seek to set up and respond to opportunities which allow us to fulfil our stated purposes, examples being as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Our main weekly meetings including Sunday worship, midweek small groups and prayer opportunities have continued, with in-person and on-line attendance options at most meetings.</li> <li>○ Our work amongst older people/seniors continues through regular events (Time Out For Seniors (TOFS) and coffee mornings), and support to local care homes, one of which regularly brings a group of residents to Sunday services.</li> <li>○ Work amongst young people, with specific weekly activities for primary aged children and older secondary children. One-off events have made some limited provision for those who do not fall into these age categories.</li> <li>○ English language classes for non-native English speakers prove to be a useful service to attendees, but also an avenue which enables some attendees to explore the Christian faith for themselves.</li> <li>○ The work of an outreach team to advance the Christian faith through events aimed at providing benefit to those who are outside of the church.</li> </ul> <p>The Trustees are satisfied that these activities are conducted in line with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.</p> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>We are not involved in awarding grants or in investing (except for holding reserves in an interest paying bank account).</p> <p>All of our work is supported and enabled by volunteers from within our membership. The Trustees thank the members of the church who conduct all of these activities on a voluntary basis.</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

During this year, we have continued to respond to opportunities which allow us to fulfil our stated purposes, as set out in the previous Section C. The continuance of these ministries is regarded as a worthy outcome for which we are glad and thankful each year. In particular, we note the following highlights from the year under report.

The continual healthy level of interest in our in-person meetings and activities by a mixture of members, families of members and non-members is regarded as an essential achievement. The ongoing regular ministry and Bible teaching from our Minister has helped many in the understanding of the Christian faith.

We have supported one person from the membership to attend a theological training course with a view to eventual entry into Church ministry for the advancement of the Christian faith. During the year, preaching opportunities have been extended to the individual to develop these strengths.

We have also been running a preachers' workshop to help develop the gifts and skills of members in the Church to take meetings and bring Bible teaching both to our Church and other Churches.

The outreach team has continued to organise events aimed at providing benefit to those who are outside of the church, including quiz nights and meal evenings with thought-provoking epilogues, all with the aim of advancing understanding of the Christian faith.

During February, we hosted a Bible Weekend to which we invited some local churches, where we spent time in depth looking at the Bible teaching on the resurrection and the end times and the difference this makes to our daily lives.

The online provision of our main worship activities has continued to benefit our local supporters/beneficiaries, especially those for whom it is not possible or not wise to gather with the church. Although not fully measurable, we are also aware of a more geographically dispersed group of beneficiaries who have been able to continue to receive benefit through remote ministry. We believe that this also enables people to sample the ministry of the Church from a distance with a view to coming to attend in person in due course.

The 'additional needs' team has continued to ensure we are doing everything reasonable to welcome people regardless of any additional needs they may have. This team has focussed on including those with additional needs within our existing programme of activities, and has influenced the way we present materials on screen so as to be readily accessible to people joining in.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We seek to maintain reserves of around 3-6 months of operating costs. These are held in order to cushion the effect of any unplanned short-term reduction in income or increase in expenditure.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our principal sources of funding are donations, supported in previous years by some modest income from the renting of property owned by the Church. Donations have continued to be generously gifted by members and supporters without any explicit fundraising initiatives. A £2000 grant was received from an external charity towards training for an individual in the Church (see table in Section F).

During the course of the year, it was necessary to sell the rentable property owned by the Church in order to raise money towards purchase of the manse used by the Church, but which is owned by a separate Charitable Trust. The property was marketed in May 2024, and the sale proceeded to completion in January 2025. This is reflected in the accounts. Steps are in hand to purchase the manse in the FY 2025/26.

Our largest item of expenditure has been for the ministry of the church. This has funded the various activities and provided a salary for the staff who support and prepare every volunteer for their work.

A summary of our examined accounts is provided in Section F.

Financial Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

| Income and Expenditure          | Notes | 2024/25       | 2023/24       |
|---------------------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Income</b>                   |       |               |               |
| Donations to the church         |       | 108408        | 94809         |
| Income from properties          |       | 3000          | 6000          |
| Bank interest and other income  |       | 2960          | 3251          |
| Donations for specific purposes |       | 2680          | 11601         |
| Grants for support of trainee   |       | 2000          |               |
| <b>Total income</b>             |       | <b>119048</b> | <b>115661</b> |
|                                 |       |               |               |
| Designated giving paid out      | 2     | 2680          | 11601         |
| Surplus on sale of Fixed Asset  |       | 12168         |               |
| <b>Income for Church use</b>    |       | <b>128536</b> | <b>104060</b> |
|                                 |       |               |               |
| <b>Expenditure</b>              |       |               |               |
| Ministry of the Church          | 3     | 63017         | 68342         |
| Gifts made by the Church        | 2     | 18036         | 18996         |
| Church maintenance              |       | 21249         | 26388         |
| Properties maintenance          |       | 4686          | 4031          |
|                                 |       |               |               |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>        |       | <b>106988</b> | <b>117757</b> |
|                                 |       |               |               |
| <b>Net income (expenditure)</b> |       | <b>21548</b>  | <b>-13697</b> |
|                                 |       |               |               |

| Balance Sheet                        | Notes | 2024/25       | 2023/24       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                  |       |               |               |
| Church buildings and properties      | 4     | 400000        | 860000        |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                |       |               |               |
| Debtors                              |       | 8663          | 5673          |
| Cash at bank and in hand             |       | 553865        | 76119         |
| <b>Total current assets</b>          |       | <b>562528</b> | <b>81792</b>  |
| Creditors                            |       | 170           | 983           |
| <b>Total Assets less liabilities</b> |       | <b>962358</b> | <b>940809</b> |
|                                      |       |               |               |
| <b>Represented by</b>                |       |               |               |
| Unrestricted funds                   |       | 562358        | 80809         |
| Restricted funds                     |       |               |               |
| Capital funds                        |       | 400000        | 860000        |
|                                      |       |               |               |
| <b>Funds at end of year</b>          |       | <b>962358</b> | <b>940809</b> |
|                                      |       |               |               |

# Notes to the Accounts

## 1. Accounting policies

### *Basis of preparation and audit of accounts*

These accounts have been prepared on a historical cost and accruals basis and in accordance with the Charities Commission SORP. The church is a small entity and therefore no cash flow statement is included and a full audit report is not required.

### *Church properties*

Church properties are held for the use of the church or for let to church members where possible.

The properties are held in the accounts at market value and are independently revalued every five years.

## 2. Church Giving

The church made gifts for the support of missionary work and other Christian work during the course of the year as detailed below. These figures include gifts from members for specific missionary work and for other compassionate purposes.

|                        | 2024/25      |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Grace Baptist Mission  | 10060        |
| Pilgrim Homes          | 2800         |
| AGBC(SE) Home Mission  | 480          |
| Mission work in Poland | 1740         |
| Mission work in Italy  | 1525         |
| Open Doors             | 1000         |
| Gifts to members       | 431          |
| <b>Total Giving</b>    | <b>18036</b> |

### **Designated Giving**

|                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Grace Baptist Mission             | 620         |
| Abingdon Food Bank                | 288         |
| Special Appeal for Church in Rome | 1500        |
| Other compassion ministry         | 272         |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>2680</b> |

## 3. The Ministry of the Church

|                                | 2024/25      | 2023/24      |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Elders and visiting speakers   | 53114        | 52654        |
| Outreach and Church Activities | 2416         | 3746         |
| Other                          | 7487         | 11942        |
|                                | <b>63017</b> | <b>68342</b> |

## 4. Church Buildings and Properties

During the year the church disposed of the property at 18 Radley Road, Abingdon. The proceeds are currently invested in the Charities Official Investment Fund pending purchase of another property for occupation by our Minister.

|                                | 2024/25       | 2023/24       |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Brought forward                | 860000        | 860000        |
| Revaluation in the year        | -460000       | 0             |
| <b>Balance carried forward</b> | <b>400000</b> | <b>860000</b> |

## Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

|                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Signature(s)                                 |  Recoverable Signature<br><br><hr/> Graeme Stonell<br>Chair of Trustees<br>Signed by: 2c567fc3-44c2-4b60-a4eb-d73782f78dec |  Recoverable Signature<br><br><hr/> John Lipp<br>Trustee<br>Signed by: 9B2DA16C838A4E3B91CB7AC0A91BBAE3 |
|                                              | Full name(s)<br>Graeme Paul Stonell                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | John David Lipp                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)<br>Chair | Trustee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Date<br>22-Sep-2025                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Abbey Baptist Church

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 March 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

1176927

Set out on pages

1 - 8

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

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

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

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

21/9/25

Name:

Andrew Woods

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

None

Address:

23 Blenheim Gardens

|          |
|----------|
| Grove    |
| OX12 0NP |

**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

None

**ABBEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1176927

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

|      |                   |       |      |    |                  |       |      |
|------|-------------------|-------|------|----|------------------|-------|------|
| From | Period start date |       |      | To | Period end date  |       |      |
|      | 1 <sup>st</sup>   | April | 2023 |    | 31 <sup>st</sup> | March | 2024 |

## Section A

## Reference and administration details

Charity name

Abbey Baptist Church

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1176927

Charity's principal address

Abbey Baptist Church

Checker Walk

Abingdon

Postcode

OX14 3JB

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

|   | Trustee name    | Office (if any)                   | Dates acted if not for whole year | Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any) |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Graeme Stonell  | Chair of trustees (from-Oct 2023) |                                   |                                                               |
| 2 | Chris Hawthorne |                                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 3 | John Lipp       | Chair of trustees (Apr-Oct 2023)  |                                   |                                                               |
| 4 | Elizabeth Rolfe |                                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 5 | Peter Akrill    |                                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 6 | Stephen Mayo    |                                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 7 | Daniel Bryant   |                                   | Until 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2023   |                                                               |
| 8 |                 |                                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 9 |                 |                                   |                                   |                                                               |

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

| Name | Dates acted if not for whole year |
|------|-----------------------------------|
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser Name

Address

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
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### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

|                                                                     |                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Type of governing document<br>(eg. trust deed, constitution)        | Constitution          |
| How the charity is constituted<br>(eg. trust, association, company) | CIO                   |
| Trustee selection methods<br>(eg. appointed by, elected by)         | Elected by membership |

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

In addition to our constitution, we make use of our church handbook to guide our practice in the everyday running of our affairs.

Elders direct the day-to-day operations of the church. All work conducted by the church is done under their leadership. The elders are also trustees of the charity and are joined by additional trustees. All elders and trustees are selected by the members in accordance with our church handbook.

We are affiliated to two external organisations (The Association of Grace Baptist Churches (Southeast) and the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC)). The nature of these affiliations is mutually supporting and both bodies are non-governing of our church's affairs.

As a long standing, stable church there are few operational risks. By offering services to vulnerable people there are risks associated to appointing volunteers/workers. These are managed through our Safeguarding Policy.

## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The purposes of the Church are:

- the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily, but not exclusively, within Abingdon and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the members of the Church in general meeting, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to: the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness; the advancement of education; and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life

provided that the advancement of such purposes must be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the Ethical Statements as may be adopted and amended by the Church from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Church Handbook.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>We seek to set up and respond to opportunities which allow us to fulfil our stated purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Our main weekly meetings including Sunday worship, midweek small groups and prayer opportunities have continued, with in-person and on-line attendance options at most meetings.</li> <li>○ Our work amongst older people/seniors continues through regular events (TOFS and coffee mornings), and support to local care homes, one of which regularly brings a group of residents to Sunday services.</li> <li>○ Work amongst young people, with specific weekly activities for primary aged children and older secondary children. One-off events have made some limited provision for those who do not fall into these age categories.</li> <li>○ English language classes for non-native English speakers prove to be a useful service to attendees, but also an avenue which enables some attendees to explore the Christian faith for themselves.</li> <li>○ The work of an outreach team to advance the Christian faith through events aimed at providing benefit to those who are outside of the church.</li> </ul> <p>The trustees are satisfied that these activities are conducted in line with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>We are not involved in awarding grants or in investing (except for holding reserves in an interest paying bank account).</p> <p>All of our work is supported and enabled by volunteers from within our membership. The Trustees thank the members of the church who conduct all of these activities on a voluntary basis.</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

During this year, we have continued to respond to opportunities which allow us to fulfil our stated purposes, as set out in the previous Section C. The continuance of these ministries is regarded as a worthy outcome for which we are glad and thankful each year. In particular, we note the following highlights from the year under report.

The continual healthy level of interest in our in-person meetings and activities by a mixture of members, families of members and non-members is regarded as an essential achievement. The ongoing regular ministry and Bible teaching from the new Minister (Mr Chris Hawthorne) has helped many in the understanding of the Christian faith.

We have supported and sent one family to begin Christian ministry in a Church beyond Abingdon for the advancement of the Christian faith. This was our Trainee minister Dan Bryant, who was a trustee here with the church until taking up the role of pastor at a church in Suffolk in September 23.

We have supported one person from the congregation to attend a theological training course with a view to eventual entry into Church ministry for the advancement of the Christian faith.

The outreach team has organised events aimed at providing benefit to those who are outside of the church, including quiz nights and harvest evening with thought provoking epilogues. A series of Sunday evenings aimed at answering topical issues from a Christian perspective was held in November 23, all with the aim of advancing understanding of the Christian faith.

The online provision of our main worship activities has continued to benefit our local supporters/beneficiaries, especially those for whom it was not possible or not wise to gather with the church. Although not fully measurable, we are also aware of a more geographically dispersed group of beneficiaries who have been able to continue to receive benefit through remote ministry.

The additional needs team established the previous year has continued to be a worthy venture to ensure we are doing everything reasonable to welcome people regardless of what additional needs they may have. This team has focussed on including those with additional needs within our existing programme of activities, and has influenced the way we present materials on screen so as to be readily accessible to people joining in.

Section E

Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves**

We seek to maintain reserves of around 3-6 months of operating costs. These are held in order to cushion the effect of any unplanned short-term reduction in income or increase in expenditure.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity’s principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our principal sources of funding are donations and income from the renting of property. The former have been generously gifted by members and supporters without any explicit fundraising initiatives. No funding was received from grants during this reporting year.

Our largest item of expenditure has been for the ministry of the church. This has funded the various activities and provided a salary for the staff who support and prepare every volunteer for their work.

A summary of our examined accounts is provided in Section F.

Financial Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

| Income and Expenditure          | Notes | 2022/23        | 2023/24        |
|---------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Income</b>                   |       |                |                |
| Donations to the church         |       | 104,745        | 94,809         |
| Income from properties          |       | 9,330          | 6,000          |
| Bank interest and other income  |       | 13,345         | 3,251          |
| Donations for specific purposes |       | 3,771          | 11,601         |
|                                 |       |                |                |
| <b>Total income</b>             |       | <b>131,191</b> | <b>115,661</b> |
|                                 |       |                |                |
| Designated giving paid out      | 2     | 3,771          | 11,601         |
|                                 |       |                |                |
| <b>Income for Church use</b>    |       | <b>127,420</b> | <b>104,060</b> |
|                                 |       |                |                |
| <b>Expenditure</b>              |       |                |                |
| Ministry of the Church          | 3     | 50,342         | 68,342         |
| Gifts made by the Church        | 2     | 17,656         | 18,996         |
| Church maintenance              |       | 11,841         | 26,388         |
| Properties maintenance          |       | 8,349          | 4,031          |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>        |       | <b>88,188</b>  | <b>117,757</b> |
|                                 |       |                |                |
| <b>Net income (expenditure)</b> |       | <b>39,232</b>  | <b>-13,697</b> |

| Balance Sheet                        | Notes | 2022/23        | 2023/24        |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                  |       |                |                |
| Church buildings and properties      | 4     | 860,000        | 860,000        |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                |       |                |                |
| Debtors                              |       | 6,400          | 5,673          |
| Cash at bank and in hand             |       | 89,630         | 76,119         |
| <b>Total current assets</b>          |       | <b>96,030</b>  | <b>82,011</b>  |
| Creditors                            |       | 1,522          | 983            |
| <b>Total Assets less liabilities</b> |       | <b>954,508</b> | <b>940,809</b> |
|                                      |       |                |                |
| <b>Represented by</b>                |       |                |                |
| Unrestricted funds                   |       | 94,508         | 80,809         |
| Restricted funds                     |       |                |                |
| Capital funds                        |       | 860,000        | 860,000        |
|                                      |       |                |                |
| <b>Funds at end of year</b>          |       | <b>954,508</b> | <b>940,809</b> |

## Notes to the Accounts

### 1. Accounting policies

#### *Basis of preparation and audit of accounts*

These accounts have been prepared on a historical cost and accruals basis and in accordance with the Charities Commission SORP. The church is a small entity and therefore no cash flow statement is included and a full audit report is not required

#### *Church properties*

Church properties are held for the use of the church or for let to church members where possible. The properties are held in the accounts at market value and are independently revalued every five years.

### 2. Church Giving

The church made gifts for the support of missionary work and other Christian work during the course of the year as detailed below. These figures include gifts from members for specific missionary work. Special offerings were taken during the year to assist in ministry of compassion in the UK and other parts of the world.

| <b>Church gifts</b>    | <b>£</b>      |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Grace Baptist Mission  | 9,480         |
| Pilgrim Homes          | 2,760         |
| AGBC(SE) Home Mission  | 480           |
| Mission work in Poland | 1,740         |
| Mission work in Italy  | 1,525         |
| Open Doors             | 1,000         |
| Other Missions         | 500           |
| Gifts to members       | 1,511         |
| <b>Total Giving</b>    | <b>18,996</b> |

| <b>Designated giving</b>           | <b>£</b>      |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Grace Baptist Mission              | 600           |
| Gift to leaving and current pastor | 10,001        |
| Other compassion ministry          | 1,000         |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>11,601</b> |

### 3. The Ministry of the Church

| <b>Expenditure on ministry</b> | <b>2022/23 (£)</b> | <b>2023/24 (£)</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Elders and visiting speakers   | 42,075             | 52,654             |
| Outreach and Church Activities | 2,293              | 3,746              |
| Other                          | 5,974              | 11,942             |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>50,342</b>      | <b>68,342</b>      |

### 4. Church Buildings and Properties

|                                | <b>2022/23 (£)</b> | <b>2023/24 (£)</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Brought forward                | 860,000            | 860,000            |
| Revaluation in the year        | 0                  | 0                  |
| <b>Balance carried forward</b> | <b>860,000</b>     | <b>860,000</b>     |

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Signature(s)                        | <div><div> Recoverable Signature</div><div>X </div><div>Graeme Paul Stonell</div><div>Signed by: 5ba1c8ad-9275-48fa-8bf3-10ee7b9cc9c3</div></div> | <div><div> Recoverable Signature</div><div>X </div><div>John David Lipp</div><div>Signed by: trust_</div></div> |
|                                     | Full name(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Graeme Paul Stonell                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) | Chair                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Trustee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Date                                | 05-Oct-2024                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |



# CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
Abbey Baptist Church

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1176927

Set out on pages

6-7

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / March / 2024.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

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 (~~other than that disclosed below~~\*) 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.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

27/01/25

Name:

ANDREW STEPHEN WOODS

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

N/A

Address:

23 BLENHEIM GARDENS  
GROVE, WANTAGE  
OX12 0NP

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

**ABBEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1176927

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# Accounts

---

# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

|      |                   |       |      |    |                  |       |      |
|------|-------------------|-------|------|----|------------------|-------|------|
| From | Period start date |       |      | To | Period end date  |       |      |
|      | 1 <sup>st</sup>   | April | 2022 |    | 31 <sup>st</sup> | March | 2023 |

## Section A Reference and administration details

|                                    |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Charity name                       | Abbey Baptist Church |
| Other names charity is known by    |                      |
| Registered charity number (if any) | 1176927              |
| Charity's principal address        | Abbey Baptist Church |
|                                    | Checker Walk         |
|                                    | Abingdon             |
| Postcode                           | OX14 3JB             |

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

|   | Trustee name      | Office (if any)   | Dates acted if not for whole year | Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any) |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Dr Graeme Stonell |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 2 | Iain Baker        |                   | Until 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 |                                                               |
| 3 | John Lipp         | Chair of trustees |                                   |                                                               |
| 4 | Elizabeth Rolfe   |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 5 | Peter Akrill      |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 6 | Stephen Mayo      |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 7 | Daniel Bryant     |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 8 | Chris Hawthorne   |                   | From 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023     |                                                               |
| 9 |                   |                   |                                   |                                                               |

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

| Name | Dates acted if not for whole year |
|------|-----------------------------------|
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

| Type of adviser | Name | Address |
|-----------------|------|---------|
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |

### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

## Section B Structure, governance and management

## Description of the charity's trusts

|                                                                     |                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Type of governing document<br>(eg. trust deed, constitution)        | Constitution          |
| How the charity is constituted<br>(eg. trust, association, company) | CIO                   |
| Trustee selection methods<br>(eg. appointed by, elected by)         | Elected by membership |

## Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

In addition to our constitution, we make use of our church handbook to guide our practice in the everyday running of our affairs.

Elders direct the day to day operations of the church. All work conducted by the church is done under their leadership. The elders are also trustees of the charity and are joined by additional trustees. All elders and trustees are selected by the members in accordance with our church handbook.

We are affiliated to two external organisations (The Association of Grace Baptist Churches (South East) and the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches). The nature of these affiliations is mutually supporting and both bodies are non-governing of our church's affairs.

As a long standing, stable church there are few operational risks. By offering services to vulnerable people there are risks associated to appointing volunteers/workers. These are managed through our Safeguarding Policy.

## Section C

## Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The purposes of the Church are:

- the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Abingdon and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the members of the Church in general meeting, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to: the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness; the advancement of education; and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

provided that the advancement of such purposes must be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the Ethical Statements as may be adopted and amended by the Church from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Church Handbook.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

During this year, we have continued to respond to opportunities which allow us to fulfil our stated purposes.

Our main weekly meetings including Sunday worship, midweek small groups and prayer opportunities have continued, with in-person and on-line attendance options at most.

Our work amongst seniors has continued through regular events (TOFS and coffee mornings)

Work amongst young people has continued, with specific weekly activities for primary aged children and older secondary children. One-off events have made some limited provision for those who do not fall into these age categories.

English language classes for non-native English speakers have continued and proven to be a useful service to attendees, but also an avenue which has enabled some attendees to explore the Christian faith for themselves.

We established an outreach team to further the aim of advancing the Christian faith. This resulted in training for our members/attendees and a week of focussed events in the lead up to Easter 2022. Following that week, the outreach team has continued to run events aimed at providing benefit to those who are outside of the church.

The trustees are satisfied that these activities are conducted in line with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

We are not involved in awarding grants or in investing (except for holding reserves in an interest paying bank account).

All of our work is supported and enabled by volunteers from within our membership. The Trustees thank the members of the church who conduct all of these activities on a voluntary basis.

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

The continual healthy level of interest in our in-person meetings and activities by a mixture of members, families of members and non-members is regarded as an achievement.

The online provision of our main worship activities has benefited our local supporters/beneficiaries, some of whom have faced periods where it was not possible or not wise for them to gather with the church. Although not fully measurable, we are also aware of a more geographically dispersed group of beneficiaries who have also been able to continue to receive benefit through remote ministry.

Following the resignation of our previous minister (effective 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2021) we embarked on the exercise of finding and appointing a new minister. Dan Bryant, who had been our trainee until the 31<sup>st</sup> Dec, agreed to take on the role of Associate Minister until a new Minister was appointed. When Chris Hawthorne commenced employment as our Minister on 1st January 2023, Dan Bryant remained in employment, but now as our Assistant Minister.

An additional needs team was established to consider how to ensure we are doing everything reasonable to welcome people regardless of what additional needs they may have. This team has focussed on including those with additional needs within our existing programme of activities.

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

We seek to maintain reserves of around 3-6 months of operating costs. These are held in order to cushion the effect of any unplanned short term drop in income or increase in expenditure.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit****Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our principal sources of funding are donations and income from the renting of property. The former have been generously gifted by members and supporters without any explicit fundraising initiatives. No funding was received from grants during this reporting year.

Our largest item of expenditure has been for the ministry of the church. This has funded the various activities and provided a salary for the staff who support and prepare every volunteer for their work.

A summary of our examined accounts is provided in Section F.

Financial Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

| Income and Expenditure             | Notes | 2021/22        | 2022/23        |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Income</b>                      |       |                |                |
| Donations to the church            |       | 78,020         | 104,745        |
| Income from properties             |       | 10,440         | 9,330          |
| Bank interest and other income     |       | 5,653          | 13,345         |
| Gifts for support of second worker |       | 0              | 0              |
| Donations for specific purposes    |       | 4,920          | 3,771          |
| Grants for pastor in training post |       | 7,517          | 0              |
| <b>Total income</b>                |       | <b>106,550</b> | <b>131,191</b> |
| Designated giving paid out         | 2     | 4,920          | 3,771          |
| <b>Income for Church use</b>       |       | <b>101,630</b> | <b>127,420</b> |
|                                    |       |                |                |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                 |       |                |                |
| Ministry of the Church             | 3     | 52,828         | 50,342         |
| Gifts made by the Church           | 2     | 17,902         | 17,656         |
| Church maintenance                 |       | 33,674         | 11,841         |
| Properties maintenance             |       | 3,582          | 8,349          |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>           |       | <b>107,986</b> | <b>88,188</b>  |
|                                    |       |                |                |
| <b>Net income (expenditure)</b>    |       | <b>-6,356</b>  | <b>39,232</b>  |

| Balance Sheet                        | Notes | 2021/22        | 2022/23        |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                  |       |                |                |
| Church buildings and properties      | 4     | 860,000        | 860,000        |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                |       |                |                |
| Debtors                              |       | 3,846          | 6,400          |
| Cash at bank and in hand             |       | 51,581         | 89,630         |
| <b>Total current assets</b>          |       | <b>55,427</b>  | <b>96,030</b>  |
| Creditors                            |       | 150            | 1,522          |
| <b>Total Assets less liabilities</b> |       | <b>915,277</b> | <b>954,508</b> |
|                                      |       |                |                |
| <b>Represented by</b>                |       |                |                |
| Unrestricted funds                   |       | 55,277         | 94,508         |
| Restricted funds                     |       |                |                |
| Capital funds                        |       | 860,000        | 860,000        |
|                                      |       |                |                |
| <b>Funds at end of year</b>          |       | <b>915,277</b> | <b>954,508</b> |

# Notes to the Accounts

## 1. Accounting policies

### *Basis of preparation and audit of accounts*

These accounts have been prepared on a historical cost and accruals basis and in accordance with the Charities Commission SORP. The church is a small entity and therefore no cash flow statement is included and a full audit report is not required

### *Church properties*

Church properties are held for the use of the church or for let to church members where possible. The properties are held in the accounts at market value and are independently revalued every five years.

## 2. Church Giving

The church made gifts for the support of missionary work and other Christian work during the course of the year as detailed below. These figures include gifts from members for specific missionary work. Special offerings were taken during the year to assist in ministry of compassion in the UK and other parts of the world.

| <b>Church gifts</b>    | <b>£</b>      |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Grace Baptist Mission  | 9,480         |
| Pilgrim Homes          | 2,760         |
| AGBC(SE) Home Mission  | 480           |
| Mission work in Poland | 1,740         |
| Mission work in Italy  | 1,525         |
| Open Doors             | 1,000         |
| Other Missions         | 500           |
| Gifts to members       | 171           |
| <b>Total Giving</b>    | <b>17,656</b> |

| <b>Designated giving</b>                   | <b>£</b>     |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Grace Baptist Mission                      | 600          |
| Relief needs arising from Ukraine conflict | 3,000        |
| Other compassion ministry                  | 171          |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>3,771</b> |

## 3. The Ministry of the Church

| <b>Expenditure on ministry</b> | <b>2021/22 (£)</b> | <b>2022/23 (£)</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Elders and visiting speakers   | 44,986             | 42,075             |
| Outreach and Church Activities | 1,409              | 2,293              |
| Other                          | 6,433              | 5,974              |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>48,787</b>      | <b>50,342</b>      |

## 4. Church Buildings and Properties

|                                | <b>2021/22 (£)</b> | <b>2022/23 (£)</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Brought forward                | 860,000            | 860,000            |
| Revaluation in the year        | 0                  | 0                  |
| <b>Balance carried forward</b> | <b>860,000</b>     | <b>860,000</b>     |

## Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Signature(s)                        |  Recoverable Signature<br><br><hr/> John Lipp<br>Chair<br>Signed by: f953579a-e575-4601-a197-fbb992e16481 |  Recoverable Signature<br><br><hr/> Stephen Mayo<br>Trustee<br>Signed by: f953579a-e575-4601-a197-fbb992e16481 |
|                                     | Full name(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | John David Lipp                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) | Chair                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Trustee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Date                                | 11-Oct-2023                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Abbey Baptist Church

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 March 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

1176927

Set out on pages

6-7

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

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

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

Independent  
examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

Date:

06/09/2023

Name:

Andrew Stephen Woods

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Address:

23 Blenheim Gardens

Grove

**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

**ABBEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1176927

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# Accounts

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| Trustees' Annual Report for the period |  |                   |       |      |    |  |                  |       |
|----------------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------|------|----|--|------------------|-------|
| From                                   |  | Period start date |       |      | To |  | Period end date  |       |
|                                        |  | 1 <sup>st</sup>   | April | 2021 |    |  | 31 <sup>st</sup> | March |

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address   
  
  
Postcode

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

|    | Trustee name      | Office (if any)   | Dates acted if not for whole year | Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any) |
|----|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Dr Graeme Stonell |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 2  | Iain Baker        |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 3  | John Lipp         | Chair of trustees |                                   |                                                               |
| 4  | Elizabeth Rolfe   |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 5  | Peter Akrill      |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 6  | Clive Bowsher     |                   | Until 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2021   |                                                               |
| 7  | Stephen Mayo      |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 8  | Daniel Bryant     |                   | From 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2022     |                                                               |
| 9  |                   |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 10 |                   |                   |                                   |                                                               |

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

| Name | Dates acted if not for whole year |
|------|-----------------------------------|
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

| Type of adviser | Name | Address |
|-----------------|------|---------|
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |

### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

|                                                                     |                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Type of governing document<br>(eg. trust deed, constitution)        | Constitution          |
| How the charity is constituted<br>(eg. trust, association, company) | CIO                   |
| Trustee selection methods<br>(eg. appointed by, elected by)         | Elected by membership |

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

In addition to our constitution, we make use of our church handbook to guide our practice in the everyday running of our affairs.

Elders direct the day to day operations of the church. All work conducted by the church is done under their leadership. The elders are also trustees of the charity and are joined by additional trustees. All elders and trustees are selected by the members in accordance with our church handbook.

We are affiliated to two external organisations (The Association of Grace Baptist Churches (South East) and the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches). The nature of these affiliations is mutually supporting and both bodies are non-governing of our church's affairs.

As a long standing, stable church there are few operational risks. By offering services to vulnerable people there are risks associated to appointing volunteers/workers. These are managed through our Safeguarding Policy.

## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The purposes of the Church are:

- the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Abingdon and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the members of the Church in general meeting, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to: the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness; the advancement of education; and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

provided that the advancement of such purposes must be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the Ethical Statements as may be adopted and amended by the Church from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Church Handbook.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

This year has required continual adaptation to continue fulfilling our purposes during the pandemic and associated restrictions on meeting, and then to transition out of those restrictions when they were lifted.

Many of our activities were initially moved full on-line where possible, and support provided to help all of our beneficiaries through the transition. This included our Sunday worship services and our midweek meetings. Most of our seniors meetings and youth work ceased, although some aspects of those works were maintained through online offerings. As the government vaccination program delivered benefits, we were able to restore more face to face meetings. Our main meetings have maintained an online option for the sake of those beneficiaries who were shielding or isolating.

Meetings for seniors, youth and international people have restarted.

The trustees are satisfied that these activities are conducted in line with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

We are not involved in awarding grants or in investing (except for holding reserves in an interest paying bank account).

All of our work is supported and enabled by volunteers from within our membership. The Trustees thank the members of the church who conduct all of these activities on a voluntary basis.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D Achievements and performance

| Section D                                                                     | Achievements and performance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year</b></p> | <p>The continual healthy level of interest in our in-person meetings and activities by a mixture of members, families of members and non-members is regarded as an achievement.</p> <p>The online provision of our main worship activities has benefited our local supporters/beneficiaries, many of whom have faced periods where it was not possible or not wise for them to gather with the church. Although not fully measurable, we are also aware of a more geographically dispersed group of beneficiaries who have also been able to continue to receive benefit though remote ministry.</p> <p>We continued to employ a pastor-in-training up to the point in time where our minister left to work for Union School of Theology. Without him, we were unable to continue providing the same quality of training, but we redeployed the trainee as an Associate Minister on a full-time basis. He has served the church through our vacancy period.</p> |

Section E

Financial review

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>We seek to maintain reserves of around 3-6 months of operating costs. These are held in order to cushion the effect of any unplanned short term drop in income or increase in expenditure.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <p><b>Details of any funds materially in deficit</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>Further financial review details</b> (Optional information)</p> <p>You <b>may choose</b> to include additional information, where relevant about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);</li> <li>how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;</li> <li>investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.</li> </ul> | <p>Our principal sources of funding are donations and income from the renting of property. The former have been generously gifted by members and supporters without any explicit fundraising initiatives. A proportion of the pastor in training funding was provided by grants from Association of Grace Baptist Churches (South East) and the Particular Baptist fund. We record our thanks to those organisations for their support while we were conducting this formal training.</p> <p>Our largest item of expenditure has been for the ministry of the church. This has funded the various activities and provided a salary for the staff who support and prepare every volunteer for their work.</p> <p>A summary of our examined accounts is provided in Section F.</p> |

**Commented [LJ(1)]:** Chris, please can you detail. I think it was AGBC(SE), but have we received any support from FIEC too?

## Section F Other optional information

### Financial Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

| Income and Expenditure             | Notes | 2020/21        | 2021/22        |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Income</b>                      |       |                |                |
| Donations to the church            |       | 86,433         | 78,020         |
| Income from properties             |       | 10,440         | 10,440         |
| Bank interest and other income     |       | 19             | 5,653          |
| Gifts for support of second worker |       | 0              | 0              |
| Donations for specific purposes    |       | 800            | 4,920          |
| Grants for pastor in training post |       | 10,845         | 7,517          |
| <b>Total income</b>                |       | <b>108,537</b> | <b>106,550</b> |
| Designated giving paid out         | 2     | 800            | 4,920          |
| <b>Income for Church use</b>       |       | <b>108,537</b> | <b>101,630</b> |
|                                    |       |                |                |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                 |       |                |                |
| Ministry of the Church             | 3     | 48,787         | 52,828         |
| Gifts made by the Church           | 2     | 14,726         | 17,902         |
| Church maintenance                 |       | 11,761         | 33,674         |
| Properties maintenance             |       | 3,205          | 3,582          |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>           |       | <b>78,479</b>  | <b>107,986</b> |
|                                    |       |                |                |
| <b>Net income (expenditure)</b>    |       | <b>29,258</b>  | <b>-6,356</b>  |

**Commented [LJ(2):** This is the amount reported last year. A different amount shows in your report for this year – please can you check which is correct and make an additional note explaining the change if the figure is actually £17,902

**Commented [LJ(3):** Needs checking after "gifts made by church" confirmed

| Balance Sheet                        | Notes | 2020/21        | 2021/22        |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                  |       |                |                |
| Church buildings and properties      | 4     | 860,000        | 860,000        |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                |       |                |                |
| Debtors                              |       | 3,545          | 3,846          |
| Cash at bank and in hand             |       | 58,081         | 51,581         |
| <b>Total current assets</b>          |       | <b>61,626</b>  | <b>55,427</b>  |
| Creditors                            |       | 0              | 150            |
| <b>Total Assets less liabilities</b> |       | <b>921,626</b> | <b>915,277</b> |
|                                      |       |                |                |
| <b>Represented by</b>                |       |                |                |
| Unrestricted funds                   |       | 61,626         | 55,277         |
| Restricted funds                     |       |                |                |
| Capital funds                        |       | 860,000        | 860,000        |
|                                      |       |                |                |
| <b>Funds at end of year</b>          |       | <b>921,626</b> | <b>915,277</b> |

## Notes to the Accounts

### 1. Accounting policies

#### *Basis of preparation and audit of accounts*

These accounts have been prepared on a historical cost and accruals basis and in accordance with the Charities Commission SORP. The church is a small entity and therefore no cash flow statement is included and a full audit report is not required

#### *Church properties*

Church properties are held for the use of the church or for let to church members where possible. The properties are held in the accounts at market value and are independently revalued every five years.

### 2. Church Giving

The church made gifts for the support of missionary work and other Christian work during the course of the year as detailed below. These figures include gifts from members for specific missionary work. Special offerings were taken during the year to assist in ministry of compassion in the UK and other parts of the world.

| Church gifts           | £            |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Grace Baptist Mission  | 9,870        |
| Pilgrim Homes          | 2,760        |
| AGBC(SE) Home Mission  | 480          |
| Mission work in Poland | 1640         |
| Mission work in Italy  | 1525         |
| Open Doors             | 1000         |
| Other Missions         | 580          |
| Gifts to members       | 47           |
| <b>Total Giving</b>    | <b>17902</b> |

| Designated giving                          | £           |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Grace Baptist Mission                      | 600         |
| Relief needs arising from Ukraine conflict | 4000        |
| Other compassion ministry                  | 320         |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>4920</b> |

### 3. The Ministry of the Church

| Expenditure on ministry        | 2020/21 (£)   | 2021/22 (£)   |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Elders and visiting speakers   | 41,657        | 44,986        |
| Outreach and Church Activities | 800           | 1,409         |
| Other                          | 6,330         | 6,433         |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>48,787</b> | <b>52,828</b> |

### 4. Church Buildings and Properties

|                                | 2020/21 (£)    | 2021/22 (£)    |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Brought forward                | 860,000        | 860,000        |
| Revaluation in the year        | 0              | 0              |
| <b>Balance carried forward</b> | <b>860,000</b> | <b>860,000</b> |

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Signature(s)                        | <div><div><div><div></div><div>Recoverable Signature</div></div><div>X</div><div><div>John Lipp</div><div>Chair</div><div>Signed by: b31bb841-9fbb-45f8-ac8d-216fd1386528</div></div></div><div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div></div></div></div> | <div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div></div></div> <div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div></div></div> |
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| Full name(s)                        | John David Lipp                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Stephen Mayo                                                                                                                                                |
| Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) | Chair                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Trustee                                                                                                                                                     |
| Date                                | 03-Nov-2022                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                             |



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Abbey Baptist Church

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 March 2022

Charity no  
(if any)

1176927

Set out on pages

6-7

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2022.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

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

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

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

16.09.2022

Name:

Andrew Woods

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Address:

23 Blenheim Gardens,

|                 |
|-----------------|
| Grove, Wantage, |
|-----------------|

|          |
|----------|
| OX12 0NP |
|----------|

**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

**ABBEY BAPTIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1176927

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# Accounts

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

|             |                   |       |      |           |                  |       |      |
|-------------|-------------------|-------|------|-----------|------------------|-------|------|
| <b>From</b> | Period start date |       |      | <b>To</b> | Period end date  |       |      |
|             | 1 <sup>st</sup>   | April | 2020 |           | 31 <sup>st</sup> | March | 2021 |

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name**

Abbey Baptist Church

**Other names charity is known by**

**Registered charity number (if any)** 1176927

**Charity's principal address**

Abbey Baptist Church

Checker Walk

Abingdon

**Postcode**

**OX14 3JB**

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

|    | Trustee name      | Office (if any)   | Dates acted if not for whole year | Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any) |
|----|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Dr Graeme Stonell |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 2  | Iain Baker        |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 3  | John Lipp         | Chair of trustees |                                   |                                                               |
| 4  | Elizabeth Rolfe   |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 5  | Peter Akrill      |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 6  | Clive Bowsher     |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 7  | Stephen Mayo      |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 8  |                   |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 9  |                   |                   |                                   |                                                               |
| 10 |                   |                   |                                   |                                                               |

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

| Name | Dates acted if not for whole year |
|------|-----------------------------------|
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |
|      |                                   |

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

| Type of adviser | Name | Address |
|-----------------|------|---------|
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |

### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

|                                                                     |                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Type of governing document<br>(eg. trust deed, constitution)        | Constitution          |
| How the charity is constituted<br>(eg. trust, association, company) | CIO                   |
| Trustee selection methods<br>(eg. appointed by, elected by)         | Elected by membership |

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

In addition to our constitution, we make use of our church handbook to guide our practice in the everyday running of our affairs.

Elders direct the day to day operations of the church. All work conducted by the church is done under their leadership. The elders are also trustees of the charity and are joined by additional trustees. All elders and trustees are selected by the members in accordance with our church handbook.

We are affiliated to two external organisations (The Association of Grace Baptist Churches (South East) and the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches). The nature of these affiliations is mutually supporting and both bodies are non-governing of our church's affairs.

As a long standing, stable church there are few operational risks. By offering services to vulnerable people there are risks associated to appointing volunteers/workers. These are managed through our Safeguarding Policy.

## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The purposes of the Church are:

- the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Abingdon and the surrounding neighbourhood; and
- such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the members of the Church in general meeting, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith, including but not limited to: the prevention and relief of need, hardship and sickness; the advancement of education; and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

provided that the advancement of such purposes must be undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the Ethical Statements as may be adopted and amended by the Church from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Church Handbook.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

This year has seen many changes in order to continue fulfilling our purposes during the pandemic and associated restrictions on meeting. Many of our activities were initially moved full on-line where possible, and support provided to help all of our beneficiaries through the transition. This included our Sunday worship services and our midweek meetings. Most of our seniors meetings and youth work ceased, although some aspects of those works were maintained through online gatherings. As the opportunities for people to meet were very restricted, we commenced some additional prayer opportunities online. Our members also found ways to continue to provide benefit to the wider community through channels such as deepening and enriching contact with neighbours, running and supporting online quizzes, starting an online baking club, arranging online meals and setting up a free book and literature stall outside our chapel building.

As lockdown restrictions eased a little in late 2020 and again in spring 2021, some restricted in-person gatherings recommenced. Online provision continued to be offered for those who needed to stay at home for shielding, self-isolation or preferential reasons.

The trustees are satisfied that these activities are conducted in line with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

We are not involved in awarding grants or in investing (except for holding reserves in an interest paying bank account).

All of our work is supported and enabled by volunteers from within our membership. The Trustees thank the members of the church who conduct all of these activities on a voluntary basis.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The continual healthy level of interest in our meetings and activities by a mixture of members, families of members and non-members is regarded as an achievement.

The online provision of our main worship activities has benefited not only our local supporters/beneficiaries, but also a much more geographically dispersed group of beneficiaries.

We commenced employment of a pastor-in-training. This has provided an additional part time employee, who has been a great help in the period of greater pastoral need and greater reliance on IT provision brought on by the pandemic. It has also provided our minister with the opportunity to help train and prepare another for future pastoral ministry.

## Section E

## Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

We seek to maintain reserves of around 3-6 months of operating costs. These are held in order to cushion the effect of any unplanned short term drop in income or increase in expenditure.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our principal sources of funding are donations and income from the renting of property. The former have been generously gifted by members and supporters without any explicit fundraising initiatives. A proportion of the pastor in training funding has been provided by grants from the Association of Grace Baptist Churches (South East) and the Particular Baptist fund. We record our thanks to those organisations for their kind support.

Our largest item of expenditure has been for the ministry of the church. This has funded the various activities and provided a salary for the staff who support and prepare every volunteer for their work.

A summary of our examined accounts is provided in Section F.

## Section F

## Other optional information

### Financial Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

| Income and Expenditure             | Notes | 2019/20       | 2020/21        |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Income</b>                      |       |               |                |
| Donations to the church            |       | 63,873        | 86,433         |
| Income from properties             |       | 10,440        | 10,440         |
| Bank interest and other income     |       | 4,310         | 19             |
| Gifts for support of second worker |       | 14,096        | 0              |
| Donations for specific purposes    |       | 1,191         | 800            |
| Grants for pastor in training post |       | 0             | 10,845         |
| <b>Total income</b>                |       | <b>93,910</b> | <b>108,537</b> |
| Designated giving paid out         | 2     | 1,191         | 800            |
| <b>Income for Church use</b>       |       | <b>92,719</b> | <b>107,737</b> |
|                                    |       |               |                |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                 |       |               |                |
| Ministry of the Church             | 3     | 49,130        | 48,787         |
| Gifts made by the Church           | 2     | 14,623        | 14,726         |
| Church maintenance                 |       | 11,346        | 11,761         |
| Properties maintenance             |       | 12,212        | 3,205          |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>           |       | <b>87,311</b> | <b>78,479</b>  |
|                                    |       |               |                |
| <b>Net income (expenditure)</b>    |       | <b>5,408</b>  | <b>29,258</b>  |

| Balance Sheet                        | Notes | 2019/20        | 2020/21        |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                  |       |                |                |
| Church buildings and properties      | 4     | 860,000        | 860,000        |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                |       |                |                |
| Debtors                              |       | 7,569          | 3,545          |
| Cash at bank and in hand             |       | 25,613         | 58,081         |
| <b>Total current assets</b>          |       | <b>33,182</b>  | <b>61,626</b>  |
| Creditors                            |       | 565            | 0              |
| <b>Total Assets less liabilities</b> |       | <b>892,617</b> | <b>921,626</b> |
|                                      |       |                |                |
| <b>Represented by</b>                |       |                |                |
| Unrestricted funds                   |       | 32,617         | 61,626         |
| Restricted funds                     |       |                |                |
| Capital funds                        |       | 860,000        | 860,000        |
|                                      |       |                |                |
| <b>Funds at end of year</b>          |       | <b>892,617</b> | <b>921,626</b> |

## Notes to the Accounts

### 1. Accounting policies

#### *Basis of preparation and audit of accounts*

These accounts have been prepared on a historical cost and accruals basis and in accordance with the Charities Commission SORP. The church is a small entity and therefore no cash flow statement is included and a full audit report is not required

#### *Church properties*

Church properties are held for the use of the church or for let to church members where possible. The properties are held in the accounts at market value and are independently revalued every five years.

### 2. Church Giving

The church made gifts for the support of missionary work and other Christian work during the course of the year as detailed below. These figures include gifts from members for specific missionary work. Special offerings were taken during the year to assist in ministry of compassion in the UK and other parts of the world.

| <b>Church gifts</b>    | <b>£</b>      |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Grace Baptist Mission  | 7,980         |
| Pilgrim Homes          | 2,520         |
| AGBC(SE) Home Mission  | 480           |
| Mission work in Poland | 1,500         |
| Mission work in Italy  | 1,525         |
| Other Missions         | 500           |
| Gifts to members       | 221           |
| <b>Total Giving</b>    | <b>14,726</b> |

| <b>Designated giving</b>  | <b>£</b>   |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Grace Baptist Mission     | 600        |
| Other compassion ministry | 200        |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>800</b> |

### 3. The Ministry of the Church

| <b>Expenditure on ministry</b> | <b>2019/20 (£)</b> | <b>2020/21 (£)</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Elders and visiting speakers   | 38,475             | 41,657             |
| Outreach and Church Activities | 2,176              | 800                |
| Other                          | 8,479              | 6,330              |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>49,130</b>      | <b>48,787</b>      |

### 4. Church Buildings and Properties

|                                | <b>2019/20 (£)</b> | <b>2020/21 (£)</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Brought forward                | 770,000            | 860,0000           |
| Revaluation in the year        | 90,000             | 0                  |
| <b>Balance carried forward</b> | <b>860,000</b>     | <b>860,000</b>     |

## Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

|                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Signature(s)                        |  Recoverable Signature<br><br><hr/> John Lipp<br>Chair<br>Signed by: b31bb841-9fbb-45f8-ac8d-216fd1386528 |  Recoverable Signature<br><br><hr/> Peter Akrill<br>Trustee<br>Signed by: Peter Akrill Signature |
|                                     | Full name(s)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | John David Lipp                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) | Chair                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Trustee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Date                                | <u>3-Jan-2022</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |



Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
Abbey Baptist Church

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Charity no  
(if any)

1176927

Set out on pages

6-7

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2021.

Responsibilities and basis  
of report

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

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

Independent examiner's  
statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

Date:

06/12/2021

Name:

ANDREW WOODS

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body (if  
any):

Address:

23 BLENHEIM GARDENS

GROVE, WANTAGE, OX12 0NP