

Trustees' Annual Report for the period								
From		Period start date			To		Period end date	
		1 st	April	2021			31 st	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 st Dec 2021	
7	Stephen Mayo			
8	Daniel Bryant		From 1 st 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 (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	CIO
Trustee selection methods (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
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, 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. 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.

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 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. 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.

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 31st March 2022

Income and Expenditure	Notes	2020/21	2021/22
Income			
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
Total income		108,537	106,550
Designated giving paid out	2	800	4,920
Income for Church use		108,537	101,630
Expenditure			
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
Total Expenditure		78,479	107,986
Net income (expenditure)		29,258	-6,356

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
Fixed Assets			
Church buildings and properties	4	860,000	860,000
Current Assets			
Debtors		3,545	3,846
Cash at bank and in hand		58,081	51,581
Total current assets		61,626	55,427
Creditors		0	150
Total Assets less liabilities		921,626	915,277
Represented by			
Unrestricted funds		61,626	55,277
Restricted funds			
Capital funds		860,000	860,000
Funds at end of year		921,626	915,277

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
Total Giving	17902

Designated giving	£
Grace Baptist Mission	600
Relief needs arising from Ukraine conflict	4000
Other compassion ministry	320
Total	4920

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
Total	48,787	52,828

4. Church Buildings and Properties

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

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 X  John Lipp Chair Signed by: b31bb841-9fbb-45f8-ac8d-216fd1386528	 X Stephen Mayo
	Full name(s)	John David Lipp
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.