



Report and Accounts

Year ending 31 December 2023

Charity No: 1177702

STATUS	The church is a registered charity Charity Registration No: 1177702
TRUSTEES	Jeff Bryan (Deacon, Secretary) Loveday Cole (Treasurer) Dimitrios Fragkiskatos
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution of Downham Baptist Church dated 2018
REGISTERED ADDRESS	31 Oakshade Road Bromley BR1 5QB
BANKERS	Barclays Bank Plc
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Brenda Peers-Ross 29 Drift Road, Selsey. West Sussex PO20 0PW

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Structure, Governance, and Management

Downham Baptist Church is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) that is governed by an approved Constitution and Bylaws which states that: 'Under the authority of Jesus Christ and the Word of God, the Membership of the Church is the final authority within this local Church'.

Membership of the church is open to anyone who professes the Christian faith in accordance with the church's Basis of Faith, has been baptised by immersion after salvation and satisfies such other requirements as have been specified by the Church Constitution and Bylaws.

The authority of the membership is normally exercised through the election of officers to govern the church. The Officers of the church are the Pastor, any Assistant Pastor(s) and Deacon(s) as well as the Secretary and the Treasurer (in the event that the Secretary and Treasurer are not Deacons). The charity trustees of the church are the persons appointed to the offices of Pastor, Deacons, Secretary and Treasurer.

The members of the church must meet at least every 15 months for an annual general meeting (AGM) but normally meet every quarter. The charity trustees must meet every quarter to manage the administration of the church.

Further explanation of the church's structure and governance can be found in the **Church Constitution and Bylaws**.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the church are the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith primarily but not exclusively within Downham, London and the surrounding neighbourhood; and such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the charity trustees, put into practice the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith 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 Bylaws.

The main activities of the church are providing a place of worship, advancing the Christian faith, educating people about the Christian faith, providing pastoral care and outreach, as well as supporting evangelical missionaries.

The church provides a place of worship at Mottingham Community Centre 34 Kimmeridge Road Mottingham SE9 4EB (previously met at 60 Churchdown, Bromley, BR1 5PQ). Worship services are advertised to the general public through signage, leaflets, websites, social media and word of mouth.

The church advances the Christian faith by preaching the Gospel, through public worship services, small group and individual Bible studies, personal discipleship, and various outreach



events and efforts in the community. Every week, the church also educates people about the Christian faith at Sunday services, and in small group Bible studies.

The church provides pastoral care and outreach by teaching God's Word appropriate to the needs of the members and attendees and equipping the members to be actively involved in pastoral care and outreach as a demonstration of their Christian faith.

The church endeavors to train and support missionaries to carry the gospel to other parts of the United Kingdom and overseas. Those trained as missionaries will then go out to other parts of the world with the gospel message. Financial support for missionaries is given by the church members to a missionary fund and then paid directly to the individual or the charity the individual works with.

The church benefits the general public by providing worship services that are open to the general public, providing information about the Christian faith through various outreach events and efforts and by providing training and mentoring for those who desire to serve as Christian workers.

The worship services, small group Bible studies, and other events and clubs are open to anyone who wishes to attend. Personal discipleship and further training and mentoring are more selective, giving priority to those who have become members, have attended faithfully, and who have the potential to go and teach and train others. This is always done with the long-term aim of trying to benefit people from all backgrounds. Such decisions are made in accordance with the procedures set out in the constitution, taking into account the principles set out in the Bible and the context in which those principles are applied today.

Achievements and Performance

The church, under the leadership of our relatively new pastor, continued to progress with a main focus of laying a solid foundation of Christian knowledge and growth of it's members and attenders.

One of our trustees attended a webinar in June, hosted by the Charity Commission, to help trustees gain a better understanding of their role within the organisation. This information was later shared with the other trustees.

Support was given to several families dealing with health, finances and bereavement

Downham Baptist Church worked with Prophetic Witness Movement International (PWMI) to host a Bible Basics Conference. The goal of the conference and the PWMI ministry is to motivate Christians to live godly lives dedicated to prayer and evangelism.

Throughout 2023, activities were held for men in the church, and local area, to encourage and equip them in maintaining good relationships with their families, work colleagues and neighbours. This function also benefitted the men in solidifying their relationship with each other.




Events were held for church and local area teens where they engaged in wholesome activities in a safe environment, and learnt more about their role in family, church, and society.

The Church was privileged to witness a local Christian follow in baptism which was conducted by our pastor.

Throughout 2023, as in previous years, the church maintained its ministry of advancing the Christian Faith through regular outreach, Bible studies, and worship services, and the church continues to support two Evangelical Missionaries: one in Honduras, and another one in Northern Ireland.

Presented and above by the board of trustees on 26th November 2024 and signed on their behalf.



Jeff Bryan Trustee

Brenda Peers-Ross
29 Drift Road
Selsey
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 0PW

To the Members:

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DOWNHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Registered Charity Incorporated (CIO) Number: 1177702

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

We have Independently Examined the Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities on Pages 6 to 9, for financial year ending 31st December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of Members and Examiner

As members you are responsible for the preparations of the Accounts; you have to consider that an audit does not apply. It is our responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures, whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general accounting practice. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the organisation and an examination of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you the Members concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently we do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the Accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep adequate accounting records
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with general accounting requirements

have not been met or

- (2) to which in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brenda Peers-Ross

Brenda Peers- Ross FMAAT ACIE

16th December 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For the Period 31st December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Total Income from:						
Donations and Legacies		34,695	16,759	1,060	52,514	35,526
Gift Aid		2,580	-	-	2,580	3,806
Income from events		-	-	-	-	100
Income from lettings of facilities		-	-	-	-	24,005
Interest		130	-	-	130	13
Total Income		37,405	16,759	1,060	55,224	63,450
Expenditure on:						
Charitable Activities	1	37,255	159	-	37,414	41,275
Charitable Activities - grants paid	2	-	-	840	840	960
Total Expenditure		37,255	159	840	38,254	42,235
Net Income/(Expenditure)		150	16,600	220	16,970	21,215
Transfer between funds		(9,834)	11,080	(1,246)	-	-
Net movement in funds	-	9,684	27,680	1,026	16,970	21,215
Total funds brought forward		20,957	16,495	1,384	38,836	17,621
Total funds carried forward		11,273	44,175	358	55,806	38,836

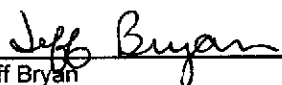
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

At 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Assets:					
Current Account	11,273	2,131	358	13,762	25,203
Business Premium Account	-	42,044	-	42,044	13,633
Debtors:	365	-	-	365	33
	11,638	44,175	358	56,171	38,869
Liabilities					
Creditors	(300)	-	-	(300)	(338)
	(300)	-	-	(300)	(338)
Net assets/(liabilities)	11,338	44,175	358	55,871	38,531

Charity Cash Funds		Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 31.12.23 £	Total 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted fund	3	11,273	-	-	11,273	20,957
Designated funds	3	-	44,175	-	44,175	16,495
Restricted Funds	4	-	-	358	358	1,384
		11,273	44,175	358	55,806	38,836

Presented and approved by the Trustees at a committee meeting held on 26th November 2024
and signed on their behalf.


Jeff Bryan Trustee

For the Period 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Note 1					
Charitable Activities					
Rent and utilities	5,820	-	-	5,820	6,000
Services and subscriptions	2,053	-	-	2,053	2,489
Pastoral stipend	28,050	-	-	28,050	27,728
Hospitality	250	-	-	250	738
Cleaning and maintenance	182	-	-	182	244
Supplies and equipment	276	-	-	276	164
Speakers expenses	-	-	-	-	1,910
Sundries	624	159	-	783	818
Benevolence	-	-	-	-	350
Hall hire costs	-	-	-	-	118
Events	-	-	-	-	716
	37,255	159	-	37,414	41,275

Note 2

Charitable Activities - Grants Made

Vision Baptist Mission for UK Mission	-	-	840	840	960
Grants to individuals	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	840	840	960

Unrestricted funds

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	Opening Balance 01.01.23 £	Movement In £	Movement Out £	Transfer Between Funds £	Closing Balance 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted General Reserve	20,957	37,405	(37,255)	(9,834)	11,273
Designated Fund:					
Mission fund	-	159	(159)	-	-
Building fund	12,995	16,600	-	11,080	40,675
Reserves fund	3,500	-	-	-	3,500
	37,452	54,164	(37,414)	1,246	55,448

Restricted funds

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	Opening Balance 01.01.23 £	Movement In £	Movement Out £	Transfer Between Funds £	Closing Balance 31.12.23 £
Building fund	839	-	-	(839)	-
Mission fund	345	1,060	(840)	(207)	358
Colchester mission fund	200	-	-	(200)	-
	1,384	1,060	(840)	(1,246)	358

For the Period 31st December 2023

Notes to the Accounts

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in January 2015, applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

Ultimate Controlling Party

The Registered Charity is controlled by the Trustees individually named in the Annual Report.

Income

Income is brought into account when received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is brought into account in the year it is spent.

Risk

The trustees do not believe the charity is subject to any substantial risk beyond the liabilities disclosed in its Annual Report and Accounts.

Format

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payment basis.

Unrestricted funds

Are funds which are available for use of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds

Comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds

Donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors: they include donations received from appeal for specific activities or projects.