



Dronfield Baptist Church

Annual Report for 01 November 2023 – 31 October 2024

Registered Address

Stubley Lane, Dronfield, Derbyshire S18 1PE

Charity Registration Number

1184178

Trustees

The Revd A C Gore	(Minister)
Mr D Lax	(Secretary)
Mrs. T Jones	(Treasurer)
Mrs G Smith	
Mr C M Turk	
Mrs M E Cameron	
Mr. M S Pocock	
Mrs. R A Rattigan	

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Limited Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

Bankers

Co-Operative Bank plc, P O Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT
CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiners

Mr Simon Temple, Coniston Road, Dronfield Woodhouse S18 8PG
Mr Michael Herman, Birchen Close, Dronfield Woodhouse S18 8ZD

Dronfield Baptist Church Annual Report for 2024

Report of the Managing Deacons/Trustees for the year ended 31 October 2024

Introduction

The Managing Deacons/Trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 October 2024. The Deacons are also referred to as Trustees in this report.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by an Approved Governing Document. Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution which requires them to be or to have been publicly baptised on the profession of faith in Jesus Christ or following other modes of baptism to renew their public profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

The members Meeting normally takes place five times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church. In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint up to eleven Trustees, who together with the Minister, Church Secretary and Treasurer (who are also appointed by the Members), are responsible for the day to day running of the church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity. All members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church meeting by the Trustees for guidance, or may be raised by members in Church meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Though the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education, community service and such other general charitable purposes in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Church shall determine.

In order to achieve the principal objective, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as our living Lord.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. These services normally take place each Sunday at both 10.30 am and 4.00pm or 7.30 pm, and on the first and third Sunday evenings at the Churches Together Resonate Service hosted by St Philip's. There are also occasional services at other times which are advertised on the Church Notice Board and the website at www.dronfieldbaptist.co.uk There is a full children's programme during the morning services. The church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend any of these services.

The Church runs a series of fellowship groups for the growth of faith and discipleship in the homes of some members or on the church premises, and further details of these can be obtained from the Trustees on request, or at the Sunday services of worship.

From time to time, in conjunction with other local churches the Church runs courses for people interested in discovering more about Christianity, entitled 'Alpha'. Guidance on Church Membership and Believer's Baptism is also available throughout the year.

The Church normally runs various regular activities for Families, Children & Young People and for people in the Third Age.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted with regard to the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The church has read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and is satisfied that the activities outlined above clearly demonstrate that the charity is providing a benefit to the public.

Risk Assessment

The Church regularly reviews the risks to which it is exposed. It operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted with regard to the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Achievements and Performance

This has been a challenging year in the life of the church, and we want to give thanks to God for his goodness and faithfulness throughout this time and for how he has sustained and journeyed with us.

This year The Rev. Andy Gore took a three-month sabbatical, from April to July. He had been due to have a sabbatical in 2020 but due to the Covid pandemic he chose to defer it until a later time. Andy informed the leadership in December 2023 that he needed to have a sabbatical because he needed to go through a time of counselling as well as have a time to be both refreshed and renewed as he felt that he was not only running on empty but that he was not able to function properly as the Pastor of this church.

In his reflections he wrote about his sabbatical, he spoke about how these different elements were all different expressions of healing and renewal for him. These elements ranged from a number of long-distance walks to time spent in a monastery, guided reading, being a guest speaker in a secondary school in Okehampton and by reflecting on the 'Marks of Ministry' as set out by the Ministry Department of the Baptist Union. The three months he was away was also a time for renewal and fresh learning for the leadership team under the guidance of Rev Michael Glover who was very helpful in enabling them to work better together as a team.

The leadership team itself experienced the resignation of two of its members and the election of four new deacons. David Lax, our church secretary, announced his stepping down within the next year and we are grateful that he stayed until December 2024 and his successor, the Rev Simon Russell, was voted on at the church meeting in November 2024. We are very grateful for David's service to the church over the last four years. Zania Van Schalkwyk has overseen the establishing of a broader and more expansive worship team, which has been a great blessing to the church, and she will be focussing upon the expansion of the children's ministry. Joshua Douglass has had a good first year settling into his role, of building relationships with the youth and in the next year he will start his formal training at Cliff College.

After Andy Gore's return to ministry our focus as a church is now to see the development of the areas of ministry which came out of the 'Shape of Future Ministries'. These are the establishing of a worship team, a teaching team, a small group/triplet leader and a prayer ministry team. Alongside this, we will seek to develop a more coordinated evangelism focus as well as the ongoing growth of Women's and Men's ministries.

Statement of Public Benefit

The church aims to play a positive role in the life of the community of Dronfield, since in addition to activities formally linked to the church, members also served as volunteers in other local charities and organisations, including the minister taking an active role in a local school and other members serving as school governors. Members also volunteer with a local community project to protect and enhance specific areas of Dronfield.

The Deacons/Trustees have read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and is satisfied that the activities outlined above clearly demonstrate that the charity is providing a benefit to the public.

Financial Review

Total cash balances decreased by £6,971 during the year, largely as a result of planned extra spend on Families, Youth and Children plus the second phase of an upgrade to audio visual equipment. Cash balances at the year-end amounted to £63,291

As detailed in the accounts the Church contributed £16,003 for other causes including the denominational charities Home Mission Fund and the Baptist Missionary Society. - see note 9

The Church continues to raise funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its own membership and congregation. No wider public appeal was made for funds during the year.

The most significant expenses relate to the ongoing appointments of the Revd A Gore as Minister of the Church, Mrs Zania van Schalkwyk as Ministry Children & Worship Leader and Mr. Joshua Douglass as Youth Leader. Revd Gore's role is to lead and co-ordinate the church activities including the Sunday Services, to provide pastoral care for the congregation and other people, and to equip and encourage the membership in their life, Christian witness and service. Mrs Schalkwyk co-ordinates and leads activities for young families, children and enables contacts to be made that encourage a sense of community.

Mr Douglass is responsible for all our Youth programmes

The Church is very grateful for those within its membership, and to non-members, who as volunteers enable all of the aspects of the church's activities many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted are set out in the accompanying financial statements.

The church is a participating employer within the Defined Benefit section of the Baptist Pension scheme and has been making ongoing deficit payments to cover the cost of past service of its employees within the scheme under a recovery plan. The church understands that if it had left the scheme at the year end, it would have to have made a one-off payment estimated to be £15,900 to meet its statutory obligations to the scheme. The church has no plan to leave the scheme and expects to continue to make payments to the scheme in line with the recovery plan through to June 2026.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have established a Reserve Policy to enable the church to function effectively and meet its obligations in the event of a significant decline in our income or a major cost.

The Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church by making donations to national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the church's own charitable purpose.

Having considered the relevant risks of changes in income and expenditure, the Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of reserves is in the range £30,000 to £35,000. As of 31st October 2024, the church held total cash funds of £63,291.

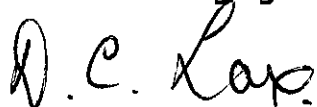
The Church strives to remain a force for good in the community in the longer term in its own right. It follows that as all of its reserves were given towards this, its primary purpose and are retained in accordance with its objects.

Independent Examiner

A resolution to appoint S Temple and M Herman as Independent Examiners was put to the Annual General Meeting. And this has been agreed.

This report was approved by the Trustees

David Lax - Managing Trustee



Rev. A. C. Gore - Minister



Independent Examiner's Report to the Managing Trustees of the charity

We report to the managing trustees on our examination of the accounts of Dronfield Baptist Church (the Church) for the year ended 31 October 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 11.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

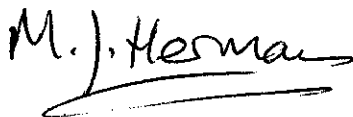
We have completed our examination. We confirm that no material matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination giving us cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act;
or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

We 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.



S Temple



M. Herman

Receipts & Payments Statement

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Prior Year
Receipts				
Donations & Legacies				
Appeals and Special Gifts	1,850	0	1,850	9,012
Donations	709	5,503	6,212	0
Grants	2,500	0	2,500	0
Income Tax recovered on gifts to 5 April	20,977	0	20,977	19,219
Weekly Offering	112,988	0	112,988	89,969
Charitable Activities				
Other Church groups	1,636	387	2,023	4,659
Youth Camp	387	0	387	2,854
Investments				
Interest received	1,059	0	1,059	1,072
Trading Activities				
Rental Income	0	0	0	0
Other				
Sundry	0	0	0	257
Total receipts	142,106	5,890	147,997	127,042
Payments				
Charitable Activities				
Bank Charges	0	0	0	0
Baptist Missionary Society	4,600	0	4,600	4,894
Disciple and training	0	0	0	1,145
Families, Youth and Children	50,653	0	50,653	46,343
Grants and donations	0	0	0	4,852
Home Mission	7,804	0	7,804	4,600
Other Church groups	4,673	270	4,943	4,318
Other Expenditure	0	0	0	0
Worship and Outreach	2,103	0	2,103	1,139
Youth Camp	0	0	0	4,612
Support				

Administration	2,684	0	2,684	2,033
Other				
Minister and Manse	39,065	0	39,065	34,226
Money Invested	0	0	0	0
New fixtures, fittings and equipment	14,886	0	14,886	16,677
Other costs	5,161	0	5,161	5,322
Upkeep of Church Premises	23069	0	23069	14,547
Total payments	154,698	270	154,968	144,708
Net Receipts / Payments (before transfers)	-12,591	5,620	-6,971	-17,666
Net Movement of Cash Funds	-12,591	5,620	-6,971	-17,666
Total Cash Funds Brought Forward	69,400	862	70,262	87,927
Total Cash Funds Carried Forward	56,808	6,483	63,291	70,261

Represented By

General (Unrestricted)	48,574	0	48,574	62,802
Coffee Machine (Restricted)	0	5,503	5,503	0
BMS Birthday Scheme (Restricted)	0	342	342	225
Other Causes (Restricted)	0	20	20	20
Special Fund - restricted donations (Restricted)	0	617	617	617
Special Fund (Designated)	4,093	0	4,093	4,093
Coffee Pot & Light Lunches (Designated)	1,698	0	1,698	392
Extraordinary Women (Designated)	126	0	126	126
Friday Parent & Toddler (Designated)	496	0	496	496
Jolly Crafters (Designated)	77	0	77	77

Monday Parent & Toddler (Designated)	810	0	810	810
Feast Of Flowers (Designated)	380	0	380	380
Mens Events (Designated)	0	0	0	-330
School's Out Dad's About (Designated)	0	0	0	0
Who Let The Dads Out (Designated)	-55	0	-55	-55
Reconciliation balance on setup of Expense Plus (Designated)	225	0	225	225
Additional Cash Assets on setup of Expense Plus (Designated)	383	0	383	383

Asset & Liability Statement

Cash Assets

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Prior Year
General (Unrestricted)	48,574	0	48,574	62,802
Coffee Machine (Restricted)	0	5,503	5,503	0
BMS Birthday Scheme (Restricted)	0	342	342	225
Other Causes (Restricted)	0	20	20	20
Special Fund - restricted donations (Restricted)	0	617	617	617
Special Fund (Designated)	4,093	0	4,093	4,093
Coffee Pot & Light Lunches (Designated)	1,698	0	1,698	392
Extraordinary Women (Designated)	126	0	126	126
Friday Parent & Toddler (Designated)	496	0	496	496
Jolly Crafters (Designated)	77	0	77	77
Monday Parent & Toddler (Designated)	810	0	810	810
Feast Of Flowers (Designated)	380	0	380	380
Men's Events (Designated)	0	0	0	-330
School's Out Dad's About (Designated)	0	0	0	0
Who Let The Dads Out (Designated)	-55	0	-55	-55
Reconciliation balance on setup of Expense Plus (Designated)	225	0	225	225
Additional Cash Assets on setup of Expense Plus (Designated)	383	0	383	383

Liabilities

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Prior Year
Loans Outstanding		0	0	0	0
Pension Payment Owed		0	0	0	0
HMRC Payments Owed		0	0	0	0

Dronfield Baptist Church

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 October 2024

1. Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. The Managing Deacons/Trustees confirm that as far as they are aware, there is no relevant accounting information of which the examiner is unaware.

2. Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any financial assets, after satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated funds shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

3. Minister and Manse

	2024	2023
Stipend, PAYE and Pensions	33,548	30,018
Ministers Expenses	1,717	450
Manse Upkeep, Repairs	37,878	3,746
Baptist Pension Scheme Deficit	12	12
	39,065	34,226

4. Upkeep of Church Premises

	2024	2023
Cleaning	5,339	4,996
Insurance and Water	3,753	3,109
Lighting and Heat	6,904	3,571
Maintenance and Repairs	3,419	2,871
Equipment and Consumables:	2,620	0
Utilities BT Telecoms	1034	
	23069	14547

	2024	2023
5. Families, Youth and Children		
Salaries, PAYE and Pensions	46,744	42,774
Materials and Expenses, Holiday Club	3,526	3,408
Messy Church	352	161

	2024	2023
6. Other Costs		
Subscriptions	2,648	2,426
Sundry	608	379

	2024	2023
7. New Fixtures and equipment		
Audio Visual Equipment	8,361	16,677
Coffee Machine	5503	-

8. Designated Funds

Coffee Machine: £5503 was raised towards coffee machine which is to be purchased.

9. Donations to other causes

Baptist Missionary Society	4600
Life Dronfield	1532
Beauchief Baptist Church	800
Vineyard Church	250
YBA	3600
Spurgeon's	312
Ashgate Hospice	400
McMillan Cancer Research	250
Elm Foundation	100
St Wilfred's Centre	100
Yorkshire Air Ambulance	150
St Luke's Hospice	150
YBA Mission	3759
	<hr/>
	16003

9. Some church groups like Monday Toddlers hold small amounts of petty cash which total less than 1% of the turnover.