



BOSTON
BAPTIST
CHURCH

Praising God. Following Christ. Bringing Hope.

References and Administrative Details

Registered Address

98 High Street Boston Pe21 8TA

Charity Registration Number 1185777

Trustees

The Revd Steve Holland (Pastor/Minister)

Mr Kevin Smithbone (elected November 2019)

Mr Pete Meller (elected Treasurer November 2019)

Mrs Gill Massey (elected November 2019)

Penny Hare (resigned 4th February 2022)

Property Trustees

Boston Baptist Trust, 98 High Street Boston PE21 8TA

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner

Mrs Carol Lidgett

Annual Report for 2021

The trustees present their Annual Report and financial statements for 2022

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 methods of baptism to renew their public profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

The members Meetings normally take place no less than four times per year with an AGM in March each year. Important decisions and policies of the church are discussed and approved at these meetings. In accordance with the Constitution, the members appoint Trustees, who together with the Minister (Pastor), 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.

The church has a Leadership Team comprising of trustees meets no less than six times a year. The Minister is responsible for the spiritual direction and oversight of the church. The other trustees (Deacons) take an active role in the practical running of the church. 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 meetings 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 living Lord.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. These services take place both in church and on-line (via YouTube) each Sunday at 10.30 am. There are also occasional services at other times which are advertised on the Church notices and the website at 'bostonbaptistchurch.co.uk'. There is a 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 bible study groups for the growth of faith and discipleship in addition the church holds regular prayer meetings to pray for the world, nation, community and the fellowship which, as for the bible study, for 2021 has been held electronically via 'Zoom' and details of these published on the church notice sheet and through the website and are available upon request.

From time to time the Church runs courses for people interested in discovering more about Christianity, entitled 'Christianity Explored' and 'Christianity explained'.

The church also works with young people through a local mobile youth project call RoadHog.

The church buildings are available to be used by local community groups including a mums and toddler group, and a bereavement counselling service.

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 trustees have read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the activities outlined above and below clearly demonstrate that the charity is providing a benefit to the public.

Achievements and Performance

Refer to the reports prepared below by the Minister and Secretary.

Financial Review

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

The most significant expenses relate to payments of the Pastor, and the running costs of the church buildings. The Church expressed its part in the life of the; local community and the wider church by making grants to national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the church's own charitable purpose. The Church is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities which contribute 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 financial statements below

Ministers Report 2021

So another year has passed and it has been a year that has been in many ways much the same way as the year before.

So what should I include in this Ministers report?

I could mention the challenges of the covid pandemic which have limited what have been able to do as we began the year with a lockdown that meant we continued to worship in the virtual world, via on-line You Tube Services and zoom meetings for prayer, bible study and even social gatherings over coffee.

I could talk about how blessed we are to be back worshipping in church, even if some of our mid week meetings continue on-line.

but I want to talk about the church which is more than a building, or dates in a calendar,

It is the people of God who come together for activities of fellowship and worship.

I am of course, truly thankful to those who keep our technology working making it possible for us to continue with the ministry of worship over the internet as well as in church.

And while I am saying thank you, I would also want to register my gratitude to all of you who serve the church in some way, whether it be leading prayers and readings or cleaning and making tea. Everyone of you brings glory to God as you serve with cheerful hearts.

I also thank all of you who have give each other pastoral support through a year when it has been so difficult for so many, and I pray that this vital ministry which has been carried out so well will continue to be a defining aspect of our church.

As a fellowship we have mourned the loss of Phyllis, who has been a powerful servant of the church especially in the ministry of music but also of Rita who gave herself in so many ways to the Lord's service in this place, someone we continue miss daily, and yet we are able to praise God that they are now in Glory with him. We also miss Fran who has moved to Derby but who was an important part of our pastoral team. These folk leave a hole in our church, but again we praise God for the new people who have joined us for regular worship.

I recently wrote to you about the importance of membership, of the importance of fellowshiping together and our responsibilities to meet together, encourage one another, to serve together and honour God by sharing in communion together. And recognising that we cannot do this on our own and that we need to take every opportunity to draw strength from God by joining together in worship and prayer

I thank God for all the activities that have continued, even while we were not able to meet together in person. But the challenge for us as we go forward is to continue to seek the will of God for us in our community.

- A community which finds us where we live – a community continues to grow with new houses being built and new families moving in.
- A community where we work – where in so many ways it is more and more un-cool to be a Christian and we need to dispel the misconceptions about our faith.
- and of course a community where we worship – where we are ever challenged to be the real thing sharing who we are with a God who gives and forgives.

I believe we need to find new ways to release the gifts and resources that God has blessed us with, to engage in those places where we are. Recognising that we not alone when we share the good news of Christ, but that we partner with God who leads the way. We need to seek out the opportunities presented to us, to engage with a changing world that will sometimes seem hostile, which means we will also need to grow and mature together as Christians who support and care for one another encouraging one another and praying for one another.

As we look to the future, we cannot know what is around the corner. Somethings of course we do know, for example that at the end of 2022 the church we be seeking a new minister as I retire and this is something that even now the church should be praying about. But irrespective of the uncertainties the church might face we have one certainty that we can always hold fast to. God is with us to the very end of the age.

I close with a passage I would like to make ours for this coming year and beyond. It's from the letter to the Romans 12:9-13 and is entitled Love in Action

⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

I believe this is meant not only for within our own fellowship but is to be shared with all people, and if this is true then we need to find new ways to release the gifts and resources that God has blessed us with, to engage in those places where we are and those around us. Recognising that we not alone when we share the good news of Christ, but that we partner with God who leads the way. We need to seek out the opportunities presented to us, to engage with a changing world that will sometimes seem hostile, which means we will also need to grow and mature together as Christians who support and care for one another encouraging one another and praying for one another.

Steve Holland (Minister)

Secretary's Report 2021

I should like to start by paying tribute to Rita Corke, who wrote last year's secretary's report, and who sadly left us after a short illness to join Jesus in glory last November. In Rita we have lost a wise, compassionate, reliable friend who served her Lord in so many ways. Her gift for administration will be greatly missed. Let us

thank God that her gifts blessed our Church and so many individuals. Shortly before Rita died, we lost another faithful Christian, Phyllis Davy, who was also devoted to serve her Lord at Boston Baptist Church for many years.

The past year continued with lockdown and various restriction to our activities. We continue to thank Shane and Steve for maintaining the online provision on YouTube and Zoom, which has enabled us to keep in contact with each other. Matthew Lymer was also kind enough to update and improve our website.

As we now have fewer advised restrictions in meeting, we have been able to gather face-to-face, if we feel confident, and Sunday services are almost back to normal – to singing without masks, enjoying coffee, tea and biscuits after the service, etc. Several of the congregation meet for coffee on a Wednesday morning. Also, afternoon tea on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month has been reinstated.

Many were delighted to share fellowship in the Church again, and it is hoped that more will feel able to return over the coming weeks. We have been pleased to welcome several new folks into fellowship, and also some into membership recently.

At present, the Bible study on Monday evening and the prayer meeting on Thursday afternoon are still being held on Zoom.

We have continued to share the Church buildings with others. The Romanian Church meet on a Sunday evening, and Pastor Minko and his Bulgarian congregation meet on a Saturday evening. Rompers, the mother and toddler group (meeting on a Friday morning), will return after a two-year break after Easter. The music exams will also take place again this year.

We thank God that we have been able to continue supporting, among others, Centrepont, Roadhog and Churches Together in Boston.

Steve and Karen provided Christmas lunch for several of the congregation and friends, which was a very enjoyable occasion. We are now looking forward to celebrating Easter together: the joyful news of God's plan of salvation for anyone who will accept what Jesus achieved by his sacrifice and resurrection.

If you feel led to get more involved in the various goings-on at High Street, please speak to Steve or one of the deacons; there are several openings for service, e.g. the prayer chain, pastoral care and Church cleaning. If you have an idea of how we can start a new venture, please do not keep it to yourself.

We anticipate several adjustments in the coming months, including a change in our leadership as Steve's retirement and time as our pastor draws to a close. Steve and Karen have been a tremendous blessing during an unusual period of restrictions; we are thankful for their use of all their special gifts to serve the Lord, and we shall miss them greatly. We pray that they will enjoy this new phase of their life together and keep in contact with us.

Let us all rely on each other to commit to collective and individual prayer to seek God's will for our Church and its community.

Gill Massey (Secretary)

BOSTON BAPTIST CHURCH
GENERAL PURPOSE FUND
INCOME / EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

	2020	2021	VARIANCE
INCOME			
Offerings	8,631.82	11,008.54	2,376.72
Covenants CAF Gift Aid	26,185.00	23,757.00	-2,428.00
Baptist Trust	16,800.00	19,800.00	3,000.00
Gift aid claim	8,292.50	8,450.00	157.50
Hire of Buildings	165.00	1,000.00	835.00
Donations	350.00	342.76	-7.24
Bank interest received	5.34	0.44	-4.90
	<u>60,429.66</u>	<u>64,358.74</u>	<u>3,929.08</u>
EXPENDITURE			
MINISTRY			
Stipend PAYE & NIC	21,990.53	22,540.00	549.47
Pension	8,198.01	9,395.88	1,197.87
Rent	7,800.00	7,800.00	0.00
Manse Expenses	3,926.63	0.00	-3,926.63
Ministers Expenses	1,045.39	5,596.25	4,550.86
Preachers Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>42,960.56</u>	<u>45,332.13</u>	<u>2,371.57</u>
EXPENSES			
Church Utilities	4,054.29	3,521.64	-532.65
Church Insurance	3,162.45	3,453.69	291.24
Church Maintenance	1,127.42	299.98	-827.44
Church Cleaning	0.00	45.00	45.00
Entrance costs	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>8,344.16</u>	<u>7,320.31</u>	<u>-1,023.85</u>
FELLOWSHIP			
Fellowship	316.40	593.39	276.99
Photocopier & stationery	315.88	308.62	-7.26
Tithe	4,700.00	5,850.00	1,150.00
Donations	290.00	200.00	-90.00
Charges	60.00	96.00	36.00
Legal fees	356.40	0.00	-356.40
CIO Application	0.00	1,564.20	1,564.20
CCLI Licence	0.00	213.72	213.72
Baptist Union sub	0.00	212.65	212.65
	<u>6,038.68</u>	<u>9,038.58</u>	<u>2,999.90</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>57,343.40</u>	<u>61,691.02</u>	<u>4,347.62</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	<u>3,086.26</u>	<u>2,667.72</u>	<u>-418.54</u>

BOSTON BAPTIST CHURCH

GENERAL PURPOSE FUND

INCOME / EXPENDITURE STATEMENT 31st DECEMBER 2021

SUMMARY		
	2020	2021
INCOME	60,429.66	64,358.74
EXPENDITURE	57,343.40	61,691.02
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	<u>3,086.26</u>	<u>2,667.72</u>
 BALANCES BFWD	19,555.84	22,642.10
BALANCES CFWD	<u>22,642.10</u>	<u>25,309.82</u>
MOVEMENT IN THE YEAR	<u>3,086.26</u>	<u>2,667.72</u>
 MOVEMENT ON GENERAL FUND	<u>3,086.26</u>	<u>2,667.72</u>
BALANCES CFWD REPRESENTED BY		
Cash at bank		
Current Account	18,241.99	20,909.27
Deposit Account	<u>4,400.11</u>	<u>4,400.55</u>
	<u>22,642.10</u>	<u>25,309.82</u>

Accounts approved on 24th March 2022
and signed on the Church's behalf

Steve Holland

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SH', is written over a horizontal line.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	BOSTON BAPTIST CHURCH		
On accounts for the year ended	31 ST DECEMBER 2021	Charity no (if any)	
Set out on pages	3 AND 4 <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>		
	I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021.		
Responsibilities and basis of report	<p>As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").</p> <p>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.</p>		
Independent examiner's statement	<p>[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.</p> <p>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,:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 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. <p>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.</p> <p><i>* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.</i></p>		
Signed:		Date:	18/03/2022
Name:	Carol Lidgett		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FCCA retired No fee charged for this examination		

Address:

11 Hemington Way
Kirton
Boston
Lincolnshire PE20 1EA

Section B

Disclosure

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 details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

As with other charities and churches who are banking with HSBC there has been a problem banking cash as HSBC no longer accept cash at their branch in Boston and this is the bank that handles bankings for CAF Bank.

This has meant that a trustee has used their own personal bank account to bank the cash offerings but has transferred the amounts by bank transfer to CAF bank

I have been unable to follow this audit trail as a further complication arose due to the Covid19 restrictions leading to the closure of the church building during 2 lengthy lockdowns.

I have checked the amount of cash transfers against the cash offering book but was unable to reconcile the two as more had been banked than the cash offering book recorded. As the church was closed for many weeks the offering book only records the weeks when the church was open when a proper count was carried out with 2 people doing this.

HSBC has not changed its policy but steps are being put in place to have a special bank account for this cash and a fully restored audit trail will then be put in place.

I am confident that cash offerings have been banked eventually and so this doesn't affect the accounts annexed to this report. Many donors are now using bank transfers themselves to facilitate their giving lowering the amount of cash handling required which is a positive outcome in a turbulent and uncertain year.