



Annual Report and Accounts

2021

Charity Registration Number 1187674

HOMELANDS FREE CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Administrative information

Homelands Free Church is situated on the Homelands Estate, on the borders of Frinton and Walton. The church belongs to the Baptist tradition and is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

The correspondence address is *Homelands Free Church, Garden Road, Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex, CO14 8SJ*. The Church, Elders and Deacons constitute a charity registered, with the Charity Commission, as a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organization) and our registration number is 1187674.

The Elders and Deacons (trustees) who have served from 1 January 2021 until the date this report was approved are:

Mrs. Janet Bradshaw (Retired 31 December 2021)

Mr. Brian Davis

Mr. Eric Jones

Mr. Charles McCarthy

Rev Andrew Openshaw

Mr. John Stacey (Re-appointed 1 January 2022)

Mrs. Pam Tuffnell

Mr. Arthur Wells-Garrett (Treasurer – re-appointed 1 January 2022)

Mr. Allen Wolton (Retired 31 December 2021)

Mrs. Gill Wolton (Retired 31 December 2021)

Mr. Brian Wood (Secretary - re-appointed 1 January 2022)

Structure, governance, and management

The trustees are appointed by the Church Meeting as set out in the Constitution and rules. All Church attendees are encouraged to become members and thereby become eligible to vote and stand for election as trustees.

Objectives and activities

Statements of objectives are set out in the governing document (Church Constitution). The trustees along with the minister have responsibility in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, and social. The trustees also have maintenance responsibilities for the Church Building complex of Homelands Free Church, Garden Road, and the Church Manse.

Achievements and performance

As on 31/12/21 there are 84 Members: 1 name was added during the year and 8 were removed either through death or because they moved away from the area. The year continued to be disrupted by the Covid19 virus. It has still not been possible to use the church building in the ways we were accustomed to using it. Therefore, at the beginning of the year we maintained the use of technology to contact and provide a high level of support to attendees. We were able to provide a weekly service of Christian worship via Facebook and YouTube. These have remained on-line for folk to access at any time that suits them. As the country came out of lockdown, we were able to use the building for the congregation to meet in for services. Linked to this we have returned our minibus to service and are able to provide transport to our services on Sundays. We continued with our online presence. For those who have no access to the internet we continue to provide DVD recordings of the services that are delivered direct to their homes. These DVDs are returned for reuse and are proving a valuable resource.

Review of the year

The trustees met 11 times during the year for formal minuted meetings, with an average level of attendance of 90%. It was not possible to hold formal church meetings due to lockdown until the latter part of the year. Attendance was 35% of membership. Elections for trustees and officers took place in line with our constitution and were ratified by the AGM. The weekly Zoom meetings were less well attended since the church building opened and from 24 November it was decided not to hold them for the foreseeable future.

The church continues to provide office space on weekday mornings for Frinton Christian Community Care as part of our commitment to the wider community.

During the Autumn of 2021 we completed the Electric Portable Appliance Program of tests. The church building was the subject of a quinquennial building and environmental impact inspections. The trustees will be preparing a plan of action, in 2022, to deal with issues raised.

The Community Lunch team were able to organize several lunch projects and a plan for 'Friendship Fridays' was put in place to commence in the new year (Covid permitting).

Hobby Pop-In and Line Dancing recommenced in September. Jazzercise also was able to restart in the Autumn.

We were able to restart Chatterbox by moving into the worship area and implementing Covid secure protocols.

As we were not able to restart Brickyard or Brickyard Xtreme we were able to accommodate the 2nd Frinton Girl Guides, Rangers, Brownies, and Rainbow sections for their weekly activities.

The music group Free Jazz have been using the premises for rehearsal and were able to give a concert, in the church, marking Remembrance Day. This was well attended and introduced a number of folks to the church.

Mission and social giving during the year amounted to £9,530 spread between BMS World Mission (£1,250), Home Mission (£3,660), FACT Easter Care Homes Appeal (£200), Spurgeon's Childcare (£40), Missionary Aviation Fellowship (£300), FEBA (£300), Open Doors (£300), Frinton Mission (£350), Lupeni Orphanage (£2,882), Tear Fund (£200), Walton Food Bank (£30) with (£18) from the Minister's discretionary fund. The extra money given over that raised, was covered by the trustees using recovered income tax and monies from the General Fund to support the external organizations. The total for the Mission and Social Giving was in excess of 10% of unrestricted receipts.

From the funds raised by Line Dancing and Hobby Pop-In, £500 was sent to RNLI Walton & Frinton Branch.

The planned giving through envelopes and standing orders increased to 84% of the monthly giving.

There were two legacies gratefully received during the period, from the estate of Rhys Thomas (£5,000) and from the estate of Dorothy Kemp (£3,748.72).

Financial review

Total receipts on general and designated unrestricted funds were £79,671 and are detailed in the financial statements. The Minister's employment costs were £37,559. (The costs for 2020, £35,726.) This reflected the return to full deficit pension payments, for 2021 but offset by the continuing National Insurance relief through HMRC. There was a surplus of receipts over payments in the general fund of £17,353. After transferring £9,722 to deficit funds (to cover deficits and projected expenditure) and adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, balances carried forward at 31 December for unrestricted funds totalled £15,384.77 (2020 £7,753).

Pensions

The Church is a participating employer in the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is a separate legal entity administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011. Prior to this date the main benefit provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was a pension of one eightieth of final minimum pensionable income for each year of pensionable service together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. Since 1 January 2012, benefits have been provided through a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan.

A formal valuation of the DB Plan as at 31 December 2019 was undertaken by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. At the valuation date the market value of the DB Plan assets was £298 million, whilst the level of assets needed to pay benefits was £316m, giving a deficit of £18m (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%).

The Church and the other participating employers in the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit. The next actuarial valuation of the DB Plan within the Scheme is due to take place not later than as at 31 December 2022.

Under the Schedule of Contributions, the church makes a monthly payment in respect of the DB scheme deficit, currently £379, which will increase in line with increases in Minimum Pensionable Income. The Schedule of Contributions foresees these contributions continuing until June 2026. The pension scheme liability shown in the Statement of Assets and liabilities is calculated as the current rate per month multiplied by the number of months remaining in the current Schedule of Contributions, which amounted to £21,912 as of 31 December 2021.

The Church has been advised that the estimated cost for the church to buyout their Pension Scheme liabilities at 31 December 2021 was £36,500.

Reserves' policy

It is the trustees' policy to maintain a balance on general unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted payments, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The balance of £15,385 (2020 £7,753) in the unrestricted general funds represents, approximately, 75% of target. The trustees will continue to maintain a tight control on spending as they strive to reach the three-month target as soon as is practicable without reducing the church's program.

It is our policy to invest fund balances in deposit accounts to ensure the safety and accessibility of church funds. To this end we opened 12-month savings bonds with the Baptist Union as the first step to building the reserve. The current balance in the reserve bonds is £5,016.71.

Approved by the trustees of Homelands Free Church on 8 February 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed  Church Secretary.
Brian Wood

Date 28/4/2022

Financial Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Receipts	Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowment	Total 2021	Total 2020
	General	Designated				
Offerings and Gift Aid (less recovered tax)	£ 52,875.04				£ 52,875.04	£ 52,918.85
Interest	£ 2.10				£ 2.10	£ 12.28
Donations (Missionary & Others)			£ 4,997.60		£ 4,997.60	£ 8,970.55
HMRC (recovered tax)	£ 10,543.63				£ 10,543.63	£ 10,836.58
Building Fund		£ -			£ -	£ 2,000.00
Building Bricks		£ -			£ -	£ -
Community Lunch		£ 390.21			£ 390.21	£ 197.54
Garden Maintenance		£ -			£ -	£ -
Chat 'N' Play			£ -		£ -	£ 100.00
Messy Church			£ -		£ -	£ 25.26
Camp/Rom			£ -		£ -	£ -
MG2			£ -		£ -	£ 15.35
Chatterbox			£ 101.15		£ 101.15	£ -
Explorers			£ -		£ -	£ -
Brick Yard Xtreme			£ -		£ -	£ -
Brick Yard			£ -		£ -	£ 108.31
Line Dancing Hobby Pop-in			£ 579.03		£ 579.03	£ 507.67
Women's Fellowship			£ -		£ -	£ -
Flower Fund			£ -		£ -	£ -
Triangle Bookstall			£ 150.00		£ 150.00	£ -
Mini Bus		£ 1,250.00			£ 1,250.00	£ 410.45
Hobby Pop-in			£ -		£ -	£ -
Misc. & Legacies	£ 14,609.74				£ 14,609.74	£ 2,059.96
Total	£ 78,030.51	£ 1,640.21	£ 5,827.78	£ -	£ 85,498.50	£ 78,162.80

Payments	Note	Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowment	Total 2021	Total 2020
		General	Designated				
Church Admin. & Maintenance	2	£ 15,384.11				£ 15,384.11	£ 15,703.94
Ministry	3	£ 37,634.54				£ 37,634.54	£ 35,975.64
Community Lunch	4		£ 697.35			£ 697.35	£ 487.93
Miscellaneous	5	£ 1,615.32				£ 1,615.32	£ 1,429.00
Outreach	6	£ 2,232.15				£ 2,232.15	£ 1,335.90
Donations (Missionary & Others)	7			£ 9,530.00		£ 9,530.00	£ 13,503.00
Manse	8	£ 3,810.77				£ 3,810.77	£ 3,799.89
Building Fund	9		£ 1,656.76			£ 1,656.76	£ 609.98
Building Projects	10		£ 1,491.36			£ 1,491.36	£ 6,379.40
Garden Maintenance	11		£ 100.00			£ 100.00	£ 200.00
Messy Church	12			£ -		£ -	£ 211.85
Chat 'N' Play	12A			£ -		£ -	£ 59.85
Camp/Rom	13			£ -		£ -	£ -
MG2	14			£ -		£ -	£ -
Chatterbox	15			£ 283.85		£ 283.85	£ -
Explorers	16			£ -		£ -	£ -
Women's Fellowship	17			£ -		£ -	£ -
Flower Fund	18			£ -		£ -	£ -
Brick Yard Xtreme	19			£ -		£ -	£ 60.00
Brick Yard	20			£ -		£ -	£ 130.86
Triangle Bookstall	21			£ 1,003.90		£ 1,003.90	£ 99.15
Line Dancing Hobby Pop-in	22			£ 540.00		£ 540.00	£ 414.00
Minibus	23		£ 2,089.22			£ 2,089.22	£ 1,210.59
Hobby Pop-in	24			£ -		£ -	£ -
Total		£ 60,676.89	£ 6,034.69	£ 11,357.75	£ -	£ 78,069.33	£ 81,610.98

Net Receipts/(Payments)	£ 17,353.62	-£ 4,394.48	-£ 5,529.97	£ -	£ 7,429.17	-£ 3,448.18
Transfers Between Funds	-£9,722.31	£ 4,394.48	£ 5,327.83		£ -	£ -
Balance brought forward	£ 7,753.46	£ -	£ 3,648.65	£ -	£ 11,402.11	£ 14,850.29
Balance Carried Forward	£ 15,384.77	£ -	£ 3,446.51	£ -	£ 18,831.28	£ 11,402.11

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2021

Assets:

Bank and other Cash balances

Representing Balances on the following Accounts

	Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowment	Total 2021	Total 2020
	General	Designated				
General Fund	£ 15,384.77				£ 15,384.77	£ 7,753.46
Building Fund		£ -			£ -	£ -
Building Bricks/ Projects		£ -			£ -	£ -
Community Lunch		£ -			£ -	£ -
Manse Project		£ -			£ -	£ -
Garden Maintenance		£ -			£ -	£ -
Birthday Scheme			£ -		£ -	£ -
Mission			£ -		£ -	£ 10.00
Messy Church			£ -		£ -	£ -
Chat 'N' Play			£ 215.69		£ 215.69	£ 215.69
Camp/Rom			£ 550.00		£ 550.00	£ 550.00
MG2			£ 72.22		£ 72.22	£ 72.22
Chatterbox			£ 1,370.08		£ 1,370.08	£ 1,552.78
Explorers			£ -		£ -	£ -
Hobby pop in / Line Dancing			£ 470.76		£ 470.76	£ 431.73
Women's Fellowship			£ 276.36		£ 276.36	£ 276.36
Flower Fund			£ 115.00		£ 115.00	£ 115.00
Brick Yard Xtreme			£ 65.71		£ 65.71	£ 65.71
Brick Yard			£ 191.29		£ 191.29	£ 191.29
Triangle Bookstall			£ -		£ -	£ 48.47
Hobby Pop-in			£ 119.40		£ 119.40	£ 119.40
Mini Bus Replacement		£ -			£ -	£ -
Mini Bus		£ 0.00			£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Total	£ 15,384.77	£ 0.00	£ 3,446.51	£ -	£ 18,831.28	£ 11,402.11

Notes

Non Monetary Assets Held for Church's Use

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*The church is the beneficial owner (subject to relevant trusts) of the following assets, the legal title to which is held by the Baptist Union Corporation Ltd:

Church Premises at Garden Rd. Walton-on-Naze (Insurance Value)*	£ 1,500,000.00	£1,250,000.00
19 Blaine Drive, Frinton*	£ 399,709.01	£ 388,067.00
Church Contents (Insurance Value)	£ 111,523.24	£ 110,419.05
Mini Bus	£ 15,390.00	£ 16,200.00

Liabilities:

Short Term

HMRC Income Tax and National Insurance (January Payment)	£ 1,397.68	£ 1,118.60
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Long Term (Changed this year to reflect the remaining payments to discharge liability not buy-out cost)

Pension Deficit (Target for Zero Deficit - mid 2026)	£ 21,837.71	£ 55,000.00
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Notes

(1) Basis of Accounts:

These accounts have been prepared on a 'receipts and payments' basis in accord with S42(3) Charities Act 1993 amended 2006

	2021	2020
(2) Church Admin. & Maintenance		
Printing Stationery Post & Phone	£ 3,074.63	£ 1,927.05
Cleaning	£ 5,847.42	£ 5,810.47
Utilities	£ 3,177.83	£ 3,098.55
Bank Charges	£ -	£ -
Insurance	£ 2,030.24	£ 1,912.54
Travelling	£ 168.70	£ 441.80
Training	£ 321.50	£ 120.00
Other*	£ 763.79	£ 2,393.53
Total	£ 15,384.11	£ 15,703.94

(3) Ministry		
Stipend, Tax & NI	£ 29,213.78	£ 28,635.62
Pension (Church)	£ 8,345.76	£ 7,090.02
Visiting Preachers	£ 75.00	£ 250.00
Total	£ 37,634.54	£ 35,975.64

(4) Community Lunch		
Payments	£ 697.35	£ 487.93
Total	£ 697.35	£ 487.93

(5) Miscellaneous		
Annual Subs BUGB	£ 432.25	£ 423.00
Annual Subs EA	£ 190.00	£ -
Bookstall	£ -	£ 50.00
Copyright	£ 924.07	£ 617.56
Fact	£ -	£ -
Catering	£ 69.00	£ 338.44
Com Wine	£ -	£ -
Minibus Hire	£ -	£ -
Total	£ 1,615.32	£ 1,429.00

(6) Outreach		
Outreach	£ 2,232.15	£ 1,335.90
Total	£ 2,232.15	£ 1,335.90

	2021 Raised	2020 Raised	Given	Given
(7) Donations (Missionary & Others)				
Designated Offerings	£ -	£ 104.25	£ -	£ -
B,day Scheme	£ 350.00	£ 10.00	£ 350.00	£ 400.00
FEBA	£ -	£ -	£ 300.00	£ 100.00
TEAR Fund	£ 174.40	£ 200.00	£ 200.00	£ 200.00
MAF	£ -	£ -	£ 300.00	£ 100.00
Lupeni Orphanage	£ 3,938.70	£ 7,176.30	£ 2,882.00	£ 7,344.00
Harvest Appeal	£ 334.50	£ 1,055.00	£ 400.00	£ 1,177.00
Spurgeon's Childcare	£ 70.00	£ 375.00	£ 40.00	£ 410.00
Other Causes	£ 130.00	£ 50.00	£ 530.00	£ -
Home Mission	£ -	£ -	£ 3,660.00	£ 3,552.00
BMS	£ -	£ -	£ 500.00	£ 200.00
Gift Day	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Frinton Mission	£ -	£ -	£ 350.00	£ 20.00
Pastors Discretion	£ -	£ -	£ 18.00	£ -
Total	£ 4,997.60	£ 8,970.55	£ 9,530.00	£ 13,503.00

(8) Manse		
Council Tax	£ 2,297.66	£ 2,246.89
Utilities	£ 669.00	£ 824.00
Insurance	£ 391.10	£ 374.00
Mortgage	£ -	£ -
Rent	£ -	£ -
Maintenance	£ 453.01	£ 355.00
Total	£ 3,810.77	£ 3,799.89

(9) Building Fund		
Repairs & Renewals	£ 1,656.76	£ 609.98
Loan Repayment	£ -	£ -

(10) Bricks		
Projects	£ 1,491.36	£ 6,379.40
Total	£ 1,491.36	£ 6,379.40

(11) Garden Maintenance		
Garden Costs	£ 100.00	£ 200.00
Total	£ 100.00	£ 200.00

(12) Messy Church		
Craft/Meals/Advertising	£ -	£ 211.85
Total	£ -	£ 211.85

(12a) Chat 'n' Play		
Annual Expenditure	£ -	£ 59.85
Total	£ -	£ 59.85

(13) Camp/Rom		
Camp	£ -	£ -
Total	£ -	£ -

(14) MG2		
MG2	£ -	£ -
Total	£ -	£ -

(15) Chatterbox		
Chatterbox	£ 283.85	£ -
Total	£ 283.85	£ -

(16) Explorers		
Explorers	£ -	£ -
Total	£ -	£ -

(17) Womens Fellowship		
Annual Expenditure	£ -	£ -
Total	£ -	£ -

(18) Flower Fund		
Annual Expenditure	£ -	£ -
Total	£ -	£ -

(19) Brickyard Xtreme		
Annual Expenditure	£ -	£ 60.00
Total	£ -	£ 60.00

(20) Brickyard		
Annual Expenditure	£ -	£ 130.86
Total	£ -	£ 130.86

(21) Triangle Bookstall		
Annual Expenditure	£ 1,003.90	£ 99.15
Total	£ 1,003.90	£ 99.15

(22) Line Dan/Hobby Donations		
Annual Expenditure	£ 540.00	£ 414.00
Total	£ 540.00	£ 414.00

(23) Minibus		
Tax & Insurance	£ 1,009.21	£ 609.00
Fuel & Oil	£ 50.01	£ 213.01
Repairs	£ 1,030.00	£ 388.58
Total	£ 2,089.22	£ 1,210.59

(24) Hobby Pop-in		
Payments	£ -	£ -
Total	£ -	£ -

Grand Total £ 78,069.33 £ 81,610.98

The accounts and statements of assets and liabilities set out on pages 4-6 relating to the year ending 31 December 2021 are as approved by the deacons.

Signed  (Treasurer)

Date 28/4/22

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE DEACONS AND MEMBERS OF HOMELANDS FREE CHURCH

**On accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021
Set out on Pages 1-6**

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission
(under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than those disclosed below):

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect the requirements :
 - to keep records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

 28/4/2022

Karen Bartlett, ACA
Axis Accounting and Bookkeeping Limited
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