

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1188555

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-03-16

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 81 Wallace Road
Keresley
Keresley
Coventry
West Midlands

Phone 02476678587

Email churchsecretary@hearsallbaptist.org

Website www.hearsallbaptist.org

Activities

Objects: THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH ARE:- 3.1.1 THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION. 3.1.2 THE CHURCH MAY ALSO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND CARRY OUT OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND/OR OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Activities: The advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination, by providing buildings for worship, religious education, conducting religious ceremonies, pastoral care and outreach. Our buildings are used by the community and our charity operates in Chapelfields in Coventry.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Coventry City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£23,308	£65,661	-	-
2024-03-31	£54,609	£62,382	-	-
2023-03-31	£59,674	£70,731	-	-
2022-03-31	£53,663	£62,857	-	-
2021-03-31	£45,767	£65,654	-	-

Trustees

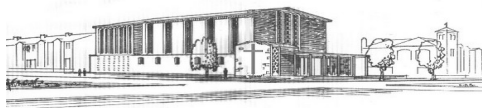
Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Thompson		2017-01-01
Eric Bremner		2023-12-31
JULIA ELIZABETH LEPOIDEVIN		2017-01-01
Nicholas Leonard		2023-12-31

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1188555

Accounts

To make known the love of Jesus



Hearsall Baptist Church

*Churches Together in Earlsdon
and Chapelfields*

Contact:

MINISTER

Vacant
Thompson

TREASURER

Mrs Julia LePoidevin

SECRETARY

Mrs Anne

www.hearsallbaptist.org

2025 Trustee Report for Hearsall Baptist Church Charity No. 1188555 Queensland Avenue, Coventry, CV5 8FE.

Administrative Information:-

Queensland Avenue, Chapelfields, Coventry, CV5 8FE. Registered with the Charity Commission on the 16th March 2020. We adopted the Governing Document provided to the Baptist Union by their solicitors, on the 2nd of October 2019 at a church member's meeting.

Minister:- Reverend David Sutcliffe, (only paid member of staff), left in September 2023.

Elected Trustees:- Nick Leonard and Eric Bremner.

Ex-Officio members Anne Thompson (secretary) and Julia LePoidevin (treasurer)

Since selling our buildings in April 2024, we have formed a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP), with Holyhead URC Church and this is now called Sherbourne Community Church. In order to fulfil this partnership and have sharing agreements for the Baptist Manse and the URC building in which we worship, we have to become un-incorporated again. A resolution to do this was taken on the 2nd June 2024. An election of trustees for the unincorporated organisation was held on Sunday 27th July 2025. We are waiting for the Baptist Union Solicitors, Anthony Collins to proceed with this and then produce paperwork to get the trustees of the CIO and unincorporated organisation to sign.

Aim and Purposes

The Church Trustees, have the responsibility of promoting worship, the mission of the church, the practical aspects of managing the buildings and activities taking place on our premises, and as such have six main duties:-

A Ensuring our charity is carrying out its purpose for public benefit.

B Complying with the charity's governing documents and the law.

C Acting in our charity's best interests.

D Managing the charity's resources responsibly.

E Acting with reasonable care and skill.



Baptist Union
of Great Britain
Encouraging Missionary Disciples



Registered Charity 1188555 operating as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.



F Ensuring our charity is accountable.

The Trustees are nominated by the church members and voted for at church meetings, by all members who have at least six months standing. Church members can only stand for election after they have been members for at least 12 months. The trustees serve for a minimum of three years, then can be re-elected for another three year period, but after that must stand down for at least a year.

There are various specialisms within the group at present, and one of the trustees is also the safeguarding trustee. The Trustees meet several times a year.

At present we have 21 previously Baptist members, but they are considered as members of the LEP, along with the previous members of the URC Church. The elders of the URC Church and previous Hearsall Trustees are automatically trustees of the LEP. Our congregation is more on the upper age group side, with no young families.

The Baptist Union offer resources and advice for all the various facets of the functions we are responsible for and issue guidelines to us and have solicitors which are recommended by them.

The Baptist Union hold the deeds for the church property and have invested the money from the sale of the Hearsall Church buildings and the Heart of England Baptist Association hold the deeds for the Manse, which is a separate property a few streets from the church. We have invested in redecorating the manse in preparation for renting it out to provide some income for the church as we are not calling a new Minister at this time. All certificates and checks were done in preparation for this and we now have some tenants, with the proviso that if we need the manse for a Minister we can get them to vacate it. The trustees are also responsible for the upkeep of this terraced property.

Ecumenical Relationships

The LEP is a member of Churches together in Earlsdon and Chapelfields (CTEC). There are five churches in this group, two Anglican, one Methodist and one Roman Catholic and ourselves.

The Ministers of these churches attend meetings with the CTEC committee. There are joint initiatives which have been undertaken, such as providing finance for a Christians against Poverty worker who provides finance and debt advice to people. Another one is the Good Neighbours Project, which started with CTEC and is now under the auspices of Hope Coventry, who pay the wages of the workers and they provide legal help and support. This has spread to other areas and Coventry City Council have financed the workers in some of the areas. The churches provide premises for certain events such as afternoon teas and socials. Volunteers visit elderly and lonely housebound folk for company.

There are also joint services run with all the churches taking turns and also Lent Lunches and a joint meal for fellowship during the week of prayer for Christian Unity in January. The proceeds from the Lent lunches are split between Cafod and Christian Aid. Most months there is also a prayer breakfast, hosted by each church in turn. The Charity supported by CTEC last year was called Coventry Haven, a charity

which supports women who suffer from domestic abuse and violence. This year the charity is Friends of the Holy Land.

Public Benefit

The community rooms adjoining to the church are used by many community groups, these include, AI - Anon and Alcoholics Anonymous, Youth Organisations such as Rainbows, Brownies, Rangers and Girls Brigade also meet here. Various other community events may be held here throughout the year.

Other groups which are considered as part of the church outreach are a Song and Storytime Group for pre-school children and a lunch club for older people.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need demonstrates our faith. We collect items for the food bank on the first Sunday of the month. At Christmas we managed to support Coventry City Mission in their gift giving appeal, by either collecting money for them to buy presents or people ordering them to go direct using an Amazon Wish List Facility.

The LEP is involved in the River Sherbourne Project with other churches and organisations such as Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. Now that the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust have gained their grant to open up our local river, the River Sherbourne, there are practical projects people can also be involved in and community activities held in some of the areas.

Church Services

All are welcome to attend our services and we like to think we are very inclusive and welcoming. Our average weekly attendance is about 40-50 normally. We normally have several parade services in the year when the youth organisations are encouraged to join us and join in. A very popular event is our harvest festival service, followed by coffee and cake and an auction of the fresh fruit and vegetables, with the funds going to an aid charity, such as Operation Agri or similar.

We were able to have a Christingle Service and a Carol service at Christmas.

One of our Bible Study home groups has continued to meet on Zoom and a new in person one has started once a month.

Hearsall was famous for a five-pointed star, which is lined with LED lights and placed at the top of the church tower every Christmas, and can be seen from quite a long distance away. With energy prices spiralling, we put this on a timer so it only comes on when it is dark. The new church that took over the buildings at Hearsall put the star up under the direction of the group from Hearsall and we hope they will continue to do so.

Financial Review

Hearsall Baptist Church is maintaining a bank account to cover income and expenditure that is occurring whilst the legal teams make the necessary

change to close the bank account completely. During the year expenditure has been incurred in preparing the manse to let out all final bills to do with the sale of the church.

Income has come in from refunds due to the church from other bodies, final covenant income and rent from the manse.

Further details will be supplied with the audited accounts.

Sale of Hearsall and formation of Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP).

At the September 2023 Church meeting the members voted to explore in principle joining with Holyhead Road United Reformed Church to become a local ecumenical partnership (LEP) and to put the buildings up for sale on the open market.

On 6th March at Hearsall Member's meeting the vote was carried 19 to 2 to formally form an LEP with Holyhead Road United Church. The name of the new Church will be Sherbourne Community Church.

Hearsall Buildings were put up for sale with Holt Commercial in January 2024 and on the 6th March the Church resolved to authorise the Deacons to sell Hearsall Baptist Church for no less than £750,000 at their discretion, having regard to advice from Ross Bendall at Holt Commercial.

Although only obliged to give one month's notice, our room users had been given six months to vacate the building by 31st March 2024. Many of them have been accommodated at the new Church. This has been a difficult transition period. Our last service was on 31st March, Easter Sunday, followed by a buffet lunch. Many of our past congregation attended this. We deregistered Hearsall as a place of worship by signing a form 77, at Coventry Register Office on Friday 5th April. We think about half our congregation will attend the new church. Two of our Trustees have become part of the leadership team of the new Church. elation to section 117-121 of the Charities Act 2011.

On the 15th April 2024 the Deacons met to sign a resolution to accept the Valuation Report for the Charities Act. On the 25th April the incoming church and Hearsall Trustees signed the contract and contracts were exchanged on the 30th April. The Faith Group who bought the building are Genesis International Church who work under the name MARPE. They have decorated the building and are doing repairs and hope to be worshipping there from the 7th July. They then invited people from Hearsall to attend one of their services and have a look at the work they have done on the building. They had a grand opening ceremony and invited the Lord Mayor to open the buildings and the trustees of Hearsall were invited to attend.

We have been an LEP now for over a year and things are settling down and becoming one united church. We have been advertising for a Baptist Minister to work alongside the URC one, but have only received one register of interest and they decided not to go forward with their application.

The church has managed to find some Baptist Ministers and Pastors to lead services to balance out the URC input.

The task now is to get Hearsall to become un-incorporated again so we can move forward on the sharing agreements on the manse and the buildings and get them completed and signed. The task of the treasurer is to try and get higher interest on the funds from the sale of Hearsall to help finance a Baptist Minister to help the URC one, who is having to take on extra responsibilities.

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT for Year ended 31st March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024/25	Total 2023/24
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary giving		4,681		4,681	28,212
Collections		-		-	485
Room Hire		1,199		1,199	
Manse rent		10,184		10,184	
Baptist insurance refund		3,298		3,298	
Bugb Reimbursement		1,986		1,986	
All other voluntary receipts		52		52	19,089
Gift Aid recovered		-		-	5,519
Refund utilities re Manse		404		404	
Investment income		1,504		1,504	1,304
Total Receipts		23,308		23,308	54,609
PAYMENTS					
Clergy and staffing costs		-		-	19,102
Preparation Manse Rental		1,738		1,738	7,225
Hall and Church running costs combined		11,401		11,401	20,658
Church running costs		2,818		2,818	-
Hall running costs		-		-	-
Mission giving and donations		-		-	5,538
Legal/accountancy /other one off fees		1,944		1,944	2,452
Licences		-		-	-
Subscriptions		-		-	617
Administration and Printing		36		36	1,268
Miscellaneous		845		845	4,544
IT/Telephone		141		141	978
Catering		234		234	-
Transfer to SCC plus interest		46,504		46,504	-
		65,661		65,661	62,382
Excess of receipts over payments	-	42,353	-	42,353	7,773
Transfers between funds					
Cash at bank and in hand at 31st March 2025		11,906			

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF BALANCES as at 31st March 2025

	2024/2025			2023/2024		
	Opening balance	Deficit for year	Closing balance	Opening balance	Deficit for year	Closing balance
Reserves B/fwd	54,259	- 42,353	11,906	62,034	7,775	54,259
	54,259	- 42,353	11,906	62,034	7,775	54,259
			11,906			
Represented by:						
Unrestricted funds						
General fund			11,906			54,259
Social committee			-			-
Star			-			-
			11,906			54,259
Balance carried forward			11,906			54,259

NOTES

Bank & Investment

Current Account	11,906	24,259
Bonds	-	30,000
	11,906	54,259

Current Assets

Debtors and prepayments		
HMRC Gift Aid Claim Due	4,770	4,770

Current liabilities

	600	600
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The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on the 24th October 2025

Anne Thompson

Anne Thompson
Secretary/Trustee

Julia Lepoidevin

Julia Lepoidevin
Treasurer/Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hearsall Baptist Church

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025 which are set out on pages 1 and 2

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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.

Signed:



M D Spafford FCA FCCA

Luckmans Duckett Parker Limited

1110 Elliott Court

Herald Avenue

Coventry

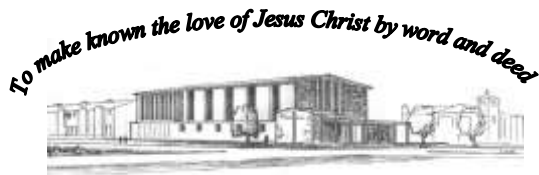
CV5 6UB

24th October 2025

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1188555

Accounts



Hearsall Baptist Church
Churches Together in Earlsdon
and Chapelfields

Contact:

MINISTER

Vacant

TREASURER

Mrs Julia LePoidevin

SECRETARY

Mrs Anne Thompson

www.hearsallbaptist.org

Queensland Avenue, Coventry. CV5 8FE.

2024 Trustee Report for Hearsall Baptist Church Charity No. 1188555

Administrative Information:-

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Minister:- Reverend David Sutcliffe, (only paid member of staff), left in September 2023.

Elected Trustees:- Martin Prue, Nick Leonard and Eric Bremner.

Ex-Officio members Anne Thompson (secretary) and Julia LePoidevin (treasurer)

Aim and Purposes

Hearsall Baptist Church Trustees, have the responsibility of promoting worship, the mission of the church, the practical aspects of managing the buildings and activities taking place on our premises, and as such have six main duties:-

A Ensuring our charity is carrying out its purpose for public benefit.

B Complying with the charity's governing documents and the law.

C Acting in our charity's best interests.

D Managing the charity's resources responsibly.

E Acting with reasonable care and skill.

F Ensuring our charity is accountable.

The Trustees are nominated by the church members and voted for at church meetings, by all members who have at least six months standing. Church members can only stand for election after they have been members for at least 12 months. The trustees serve for a minimum of three years, then can be re-elected for another three year period, but after that must stand down for at least a year.



Registered Charity 1188555 operating as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

There are various specialisms within the group at present, and one of the trustees is also the safeguarding trustee.

At present we have forty-four members. Our congregation is more on the upper age group side, with one or two young families. There was a Sunday school (except during the Covid lockdown), although the facility continued online. However it has been difficult to get this started again regularly and we have had an all-age service once a month and with Parade Services and occasional different services, this seems to be all we can manage with the volunteer leaders we have.

The trustees meet monthly except for Easter and Christmas. The average level of attendance is 80%. The trustees discuss actions and take recommendations to the church members to vote on the outcomes. The meetings of the church members are held nine times a year. Our AGM is held in July and includes all the organisations using our rooms and our own groups and post holders are invited to submit a written report to be included in a booklet, which is available in print and online before the AGM. The Baptist Union offer resources and advice for all the various facets of the functions we are responsible for and issue guidelines to us and have solicitors which are recommended by them.

The Baptist Union hold the deeds for the church property and the Heart of England Baptist Association hold the deeds for the Manse, which is a separate property a few streets from the church. We have invested in redecorating the manse in preparation for renting it out to provide some income for the church as we are not calling a new Minister at this time. All certificates and checks were done in preparation for this and we are awaiting some tenants, with the proviso that if we need the manse for a Minister we can get them to vacate it. The trustees are also responsible for the upkeep of this terraced property. At the church we are having to replace the main heating boiler in the church at a cost of around £7,000.

Ecumenical Relationships

Hearsall Baptist Church is a member of Churches together in Earlsdon and Chapelfields (CTEC). There are five churches in this group, two Anglican, one Methodist and one Roman Catholic and ourselves.

The Ministers of these churches meet together regularly to discuss joint activities and to offer each other support. They also have joint meetings with the CTEC committee. There are joint initiatives which have been undertaken, such as providing finance for a Christians against Poverty worker who provides finance and debt advice to people. Another one is the Good Neighbours Project, which started with CTEC and is now under the auspices of Hope Coventry, who pay the wages of the workers and provide legal help and support. This has spread to other areas and Coventry City Council have financed the workers in some of the areas. The churches provide premises for certain events such as afternoon teas and socials. Volunteers visit elderly and lonely housebound folk for company.

There are also joint services run with all the churches taking turns and also Lent Lunches and a joint meal for fellowship during the week of prayer for Christian Unity in January. The proceeds from the Lent lunches are split between Cafod and Christian Aid. Most months there is also a prayer breakfast, hosted by each church in

turn. The Charity supported by CTEC this year is called Coventry Haven, a charity which supports women who suffer from domestic abuse and violence. Last year it was Wildtracks, which is an environmental charity saving areas of rainforest and rehabilitating monkeys and other wildlife into the wild in Belize.

Public Benefit

The community rooms adjoining to the church are used by many community groups, these include, Al Anon and Alcoholics Anonymous, Youth Organisations such as Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Beavers and Scouts. There is also a dance group, a stamp and coin club, local Morris Men, a choir and a School reunion group. We now also have a children's art group once a month on a Saturday morning. Various other community events may be held here throughout the year. There is also a branch of Sureway Assembly of God Church meeting in our hall on Sundays. We have lost a couple of groups since the pandemic.

Other groups which are considered as part of the church outreach are a Song and Storytime Group for pre-school children, a lunch club for the elderly and a conversation group called Talking English, for people whose first language is not English. During the Covid restrictions this Conversation group has kept in touch by WhatsApp. This group has now however finished meeting in person.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need demonstrates our faith. We collect items for the food bank on the first Sunday of the month. At Christmas we managed to support Coventry City Mission in their gift giving appeal, by either collecting money for them to buy presents or people ordering them to go direct using an Amazon Wish List Facility. During Christian Aid Week we had a monetary collection, and people in the church took envelopes just to their own neighbours and then had them dropped back.

At Christmas the members vote for a few charities to support as part of our giving. Also there are collections at various times, when there is a particular need, such as floods in Bangladesh or similar. Some members have also volunteered at foodbanks or other Charity initiatives. We managed to obtain our silver environmental award with A Rocha after great efforts by our eco-trustee. Having services about the environment and being involved in the River Sherbourne Project with other churches and organisations such as Warwickshire Wildlife Trust had managed to gain us this. Now that the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust have gained their grant to open up our local river, the River Sherbourne, there are practical projects people can also be involved in and community activities held in some of the areas.

Church Services

All are welcome to attend our services and we like to think we are very inclusive and welcoming. Our average weekly attendance is about 40-50 normally. This number increases at festivals and often numbers are swelled by visiting family and grandchildren. At Christmas we like to try and include them in our nativity service. We normally have four parade services in the year when the youth organisations are encouraged to join us and join in. A very popular event is our harvest festival service, followed by coffee and cake and an auction of the fresh fruit and vegetables, with the

funds going to an aid charity, such as Operation Agri or similar. In 2023 the proceeds went to the Coventry Food Bank.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate the events of life. There were three Baptisms planned for last year, but these had to be postponed due to the Coronavirus lockdown. We have since been able to conduct these and gained new church members.

Our energy costs are still very high. We started new contracts in February this year, after having horrendous quotes from several utility bidders. Our electricity bills for each of the winter months were over £1,000 and gas about £250.00 per month.

We were able to have a Nativity Service and a Carol service at Christmas and serve refreshments, as we would have done before Covid, so that was wonderful.

Our congregation is mostly elderly, and only two of them have not returned after Covid, but throughout the time the services have been available as an audio format online through our website or latterly as a podcast. For those not able to access that we have provided printed and CD copies. We found this to be a good way of doing things with a high quality. We were producing a podcast titled "Knowing You Jesus", with a more shortened format now with a message and readings and some music. There are far less people who access it now, but it is still valuable to those who are not able to attend. After our Minister left at the end of September we were not able to offer these podcasts and have had to find preachers to fill the pulpit.

One of our Bible Study home groups has continued to meet on Zoom and the other has finished for a while.

Hearsall is famous for a five-pointed star, which is lined with LED lights and placed at the top of the church tower every Christmas, and can be seen from quite a long distance away. With energy prices spiralling, we put this on a timer so it only comes on when it is dark.

Financial Review

We ended our financial year with a deficit of £7773.00. The balance sheet reserve has closed at £54,609.00. The figure for the pension fund deficit was £6,000 but has now been revalued. Our monthly payment to this is now only £1 from August, after an agreement made with an insurance group. As our Minister has left and the pension schemes have changed, we have now opted out of the scheme and paid a discharge fee of £1,000 to do this. This does not affect the pensions of our previous Ministers in any way. Our principal source of income is voluntary giving. We re-negotiated our property insurances to reduce payments.

Vision for the Future

We have been trying to find a way of replacing our buildings. Our vision for the future is to try and reduce the footprint of our buildings, which are not economical or environmentally friendly to heat. This is to future-proof our existence in the community for another fifty years or so. The Community rooms are ninety years old and the church itself was built in the 1960's. We have been trying to find a way to do

this for several years and were waiting to go forward with a local developer, who is trying to make this financially possible for us, by having a profit from a project of their own on half of our site.

Last year we found out that we may not be able to do this as the latest plan involved two GP surgeries having a joint building on the site. There is not enough parking to make this viable, so there is no point going to pre-planning with this. It could only work if they had the whole site. We have now suspended talks with this developer.

We acknowledge that our energy bills are having an impact on our finances and that we have an ageing congregation who are not able to fulfil roles within the church and are also finding it difficult to find people to take on the responsibility of becoming trustees in this more legal world. The age of our buildings and the cost of repairs is also a worry

Our Regional Minister came to talk to the trustees in January to see if he could help us find a way forward and he had been talking to our Minister before he left. They had thought about forming a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) as a way to avoid closing our church altogether and splitting up the church family. We have also been approached by the local United Reformed Church that, we had some links with in the past, about whether we could form a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP), with them and we talked to our Regional Minister about this and had a meeting with the elders from this church. We have had four shared services at both churches over the last few months and both congregations were informed of the idea in March last year and the church members of each church voted to explore this option.

The Minister of the URC Church also had responsibilities for two other churches so the idea was that as Hearsall's Minister wanted to cut down his hours before retiring, he would be able to fill in the other hours. In the event he found a part-time post elsewhere and left at the end of September 2023.

We have had a questionnaire consultation over the hopes, concerns and questions about this and have fed back the answers we could give so far. We had a vision day last July to see what ideas both congregations had for the future. The next step was to form a group from both churches to explore further. We also had an anonymous straw poll to see how many people would be willing to attend this church as part of an LEP, before we proceeded further to take a formal vote.

The plan was for us to use their premises and sell ours. To that end we have had to consult the Baptist Union Solicitors to find out about our Ultimate Trusts and who would receive the proceeds if we sold up and what the terms of any limitations would be. We were advised by them that the best way forward would be to declare Baptist Model Trusts over the older schoolroom part of the building, which would widen the purposes that any proceeds from the land or building could be used for. We did this in November 2023.

At the September 2023 Church meeting the members voted to explore in principle joining with Holyhead Road United Reformed Church to become a local ecumenical partnership (LEP) and to put the buildings up for sale on the open market.

On 6th March at Hearsall Member's meeting the vote was carried 19 to 2 to formally form an LEP with Holyhead Road United Church. The name of the new Church will be Sherbourne Community Church.

The Church was put up for sale with Holt Commercial in January 2024 and on the 6th March the Church resolved to authorise the Deacons to sell Hearsall Baptist Church for no less than £750,000 at their discretion, having regard to advice from Ross Bendall at Holt Commercial in relation to section 117-121 of the Charities Act 2011.

We had a number of Faith Groups view the building and one developer. We experienced quite a lot of resistance from some people in the church and some members of the community as they had strong ties to the building and the community have got used to having the star lit up at Christmas. This led to a lot of publicity in the local community magazine and the Coventry Evening Telegraph and BBC CWR. However it is the members of the church who are legally responsible for making decisions about the building.

Unfortunately a local Labour Councillor decided to raise a petition to locally list the building, probably as part of an election campaign. This has affected a few of the groups who might have wanted to buy the building. The Conservation officer has visited and put together a report and the Council will meet to decide whether to go forward to the Consultation stage.

We had a deadline for interested parties to submit unconditional offers and after this three were at the head of the list. One stood out over the others and offered slightly more so that this satisfied conditions under section 119 of the Charities Act. They are a Christian Group and are happy to continue some of the traditions that we had, such as putting up the star at Christmas. We are therefore hopeful that the community and the protest group are happy with this solution. We know that keeping the building was their aim and although developers may have knocked it down and rebuilt had they succeeded in making a reasonable offer, it seems in today's climate, that would be a very expensive option, unless a larger area of land was available to build enough to make a profit.

On the 15th April the Deacons met to sign a resolution to accept the Valuation Report for the Charities Act. A sharing agreement is being drawn up to address the financial implications of forming the LEP. On the 25th April the incoming church and Hearsall Trustees signed the contract and contracts were exchanged on the 30th April. The Faith Group who bought the building are Genesis International Church who work under the name MARPE. They are decorating the building and doing repairs and hope to be worshipping there from the 7th July and then will invite people from Hearsall to attend one of their services and have a look at the work they have done on the building.

Although only obliged to give one months notice, our room users had been given six months to vacate the building by 31st March 2024. Many of them have been accommodated at the new Church. This has been a difficult transition period. Our last service was on 31st March, Easter Sunday, followed by a buffet lunch. Many of our past congregation attended this. We deregistered Hearsall as a place of worship by signing a form 77, at Coventry Register Office on Friday 5th April. We think about half

our congregation will attend the new church. Two of our Trustees have become part of the leadership team of the new Church.

It has been a difficult time and a sad one, but the decision had to be made. Many of our members had been involved in the church from when they were children attending the Sunday School and one of them is 100 this July. The schoolroom buildings themselves will be 100 years old in 2028.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hearsall Baptist Church

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024 which are set out on pages 1 and 2

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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.

Signed:



M D Spafford FCA FCCA

Luckmans Duckett Parker Limited

1110 Elliott Court

Herald Avenue

Coventry

CV5 6UB

11th July 2024

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT for Year ended 31st March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023/24	Total 2022/23
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary giving		28,212			34,363
Collections		485			2,342
All other voluntary receipts		19,089			17,225
Gift Aid recovered		5,519			5,289
Investment income		1,304			455
Total Receipts		54,609		0	59,674
PAYMENTS					
Clergy and staffing costs		19,102		19,102	33,924
Preparation Manse Rental		7,225		0	0
Hall and Church running costs combined		20,658		20,658	25,054
Church running costs		0		0	0
Hall running costs		0		0	0
Mission giving and donations		5,538		5,538	7,280
Legal/accountancy /other one off fees		2,452		2,452	405
Licences		0		0	0
Subscriptions		617		617	946
Administration and Printing		1,268		1,268	1,384
Miscellaneous		4,544		4,544	568
IT/Telephone		978		978	1,070
Catering		0		0	0
Cancelled cheques previous year		0		0	100
		62,382		55,157	70,731
Excess of receipts over payments		-7,773		55,157	-11,057
Transfers between funds					
Cash at bank and in hand at 31st March 2024		54,259			

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF BALANCES as at 31st March 2024

	2023/2024			2022/2023		
	Opening balance	Deficit for year	Closing balance	Opening balance	Deficit for year	Closing balance
Reserves B/fwd	61,934	7,775	54,259	72,991	11,057	61,934
Previous year adjustment	61,934	7,775	54,259	72,991	11,057	61,934
			<u>54,259</u>			
Represented by:						
Unrestricted funds						
General fund			54,259			58,922
Social committee			-			2,810
Star			-			302
			<u>54,259</u>			<u>62,034</u>
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments			600			
HMRC Gift Aid Claim Due			4,770			1,214
Current liabilities						3,301
Balance carried forward			<u>54,259</u>			<u>62,034</u>
Bank & Investment						
Current Account	24,259			24,047		
Bonds	30,000			40,075		
	<u>54,259</u>			<u>64,122</u>		

Out minister left in September 2023 and has not been replaced.
We have had additional costs in preparing the manse for rental of £7225.00,
We have paid out sale of church costs of £1986.00.
Auditors fee 600.00
Total receipts this year were £54609.00 with £5519.00 of this Gift Aid claimed.
We currently have £30000.00 invested in bonds.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on the

Anne Thompson

Anne Thompson
Secretary/Trustee

Julia Lepoidevin

Julia Lepoidevin
Treasurer/Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Hearsall Baptist Church

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024 which are set out on pages 1 and 2

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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.

Signed:



M D Spafford FCA FCCA

Luckmans Duckett Parker Limited

1110 Elliott Court

Herald Avenue

Coventry

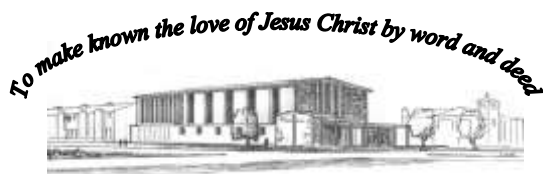
CV5 6UB

11th July 2024

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1188555

Accounts



Hearsall Baptist Church
Churches Together in Earlsdon
and Chapelfields

Contact:

MINISTER

Revd David Sutcliffe

TREASURER

Mrs Julia LePoidevin

SECRETARY

Mrs Anne Thompson

www.hearsallbaptist.org

Queensland Avenue, Coventry. CV5 8FE.

2023 Trustee Report for Hearsall Baptist Church Charity No. 1188555

Administrative Information:-

Queensland Avenue, Chapelfields, Coventry, CV5 8FE. Registered with the Charity Commission on the 16th March 2020. We adopted the Governing Document provided to the Baptist Union by their solicitors, on the 2nd of October 2019 at a church member's meeting.

Minister:- Reverend David Sutcliffe, (only paid member of staff).

Elected Trustees:- Martin Prue and Janice Clemons.

Ex-Officio members Anne Thompson (secretary) and Julia LePoidevin (treasurer)

Aim and Purposes

Hearsall Baptist Church Trustees, which include our Minister, the Reverend David Sutcliffe have the responsibility of promoting worship, the mission of the church, the practical aspects of managing the buildings and activities taking place on our premises, and as such have six main duties:-

A Ensuring our charity is carrying out its purpose for public benefit.

B Complying with the charity's governing documents and the law.

C Acting in our charity's best interests.

D Managing the charity's resources responsibly.

E Acting with reasonable care and skill.

F Ensuring our charity is accountable.

The Trustees are nominated by the church members and voted for at church meetings, by all members who have at least six months standing. Church members can only stand for election after they have been members for at least 12 months. The trustees serve for a minimum of three years, then can be re-elected for another three year period, but after that must stand down for at least a year.



There are various specialisms within the group at present, such as an eco- trustee and one of the trustees is also the safeguarding trustee.

At present we have fifty-six members. Our congregation is more on the upper age group side, with one or two young families. There was a Sunday school (except during the Covid lockdown), although the facility continued online. However it has been difficult to get this started again regularly and we now have an all-age service once a month and with Parade Services and occasional different services, this seems to be all we can manage with the volunteer leaders we have.

The trustees meet monthly except for Easter and Christmas. The average level of attendance is 80%. The trustees discuss actions and take recommendations to the church members to vote on the outcomes. The meetings of the church members are held nine times a year. Our AGM is held in July and includes all the organisations using our rooms and our own groups and post holders are invited to submit a written report to be included in a booklet, which is available in print and online before the AGM. The Baptist Union offer resources and advice for all the various facets of the functions we are responsible for and issue guidelines to us and have solicitors which are recommended by them.

The Baptist Union hold the deeds for the church property and the Heart of England Baptist Association hold the deeds for the Manse, which is a separate property a few streets from the church. The trustees are also responsible for the upkeep of this terraced property. At the church we have had to replace the boiler in the kitchen which supplies hot water and heating for radiators in the corridor, at a cost of £4,000.

Ecumenical Relationships

Hearsall Baptist Church is a member of Churches together in Earlsdon and Chapelfields (CTEC). There are five churches in this group, two Anglican, one Methodist and one Roman Catholic and ourselves.

The Ministers of these churches meet together regularly to discuss joint activities and to offer each other support. They also have joint meetings with the CTEC committee and sometimes preach in each other's churches on a pulpit swap where permitted. There are joint initiatives which have been undertaken, such as providing finance for a Christians against Poverty worker who provides finance and debt advice to people. Another one is the Good Neighbours Project, which started with CTEC and is now under the auspices of Hope Coventry, who pay the wages of the workers and provide legal help and support. This has spread to other areas and Coventry City Council have financed the workers in some of the areas. The churches provide premises for certain events such as afternoon teas and socials. Volunteers visit elderly and lonely housebound folk for company.

There are also joint services run with all the churches taking turns and also Lent Lunches and a joint meal for fellowship during the week of prayer for Christian Unity in January. The proceeds from the Lent lunches are split between Cafod and Christian Aid. Most months there is also a prayer breakfast, hosted by each church in turn. The Charity supported by CTEC this year is called Wildtracks which is an environmental charity saving areas of rainforest and rehabilitating monkeys and other wildlife into the wild. Last year it was the Torch Trust, which supplies materials and

support for churches to enable blind and partially sighted people to take as full a part as possible in worship. Hearsall has signed up to this initiative.

Public Benefit

The community rooms adjoining to the church are used by many community groups, these include, Al Anon and Alcoholics Anonymous, Youth Organisations such as Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Beavers and Scouts. There is also a dance group, a stamp and coin club, Morris Men, a choir and a School reunion group. We now also have an Art Venturers group once a month on a Saturday morning. Various other community events may be held here throughout the year. There is also a branch of Sureway Assembly of God Church meeting in our hall on Sundays. We have lost a couple of groups since the pandemic.

Other groups which are considered as part of the church outreach are a Song and Storytime Group for pre-school children, a lunch club for the elderly and a conversation group called Talking English, for people whose first language is not English. During the Covid restrictions this Conversation group has kept in touch by WhatsApp. The lunch club returned to meeting in person in July 2021. It is to the credit of the group leaders that ways have been found to keep in touch with all these groups during the pandemic. Most groups had returned by the end of 2021 and are still going.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need demonstrates our faith. We collect items for the food bank on the first Sunday of the month. At Christmas we managed to support Coventry City Mission in their gift giving appeal, by either collecting money for them to buy presents or people ordering them to go direct using an Amazon Wish List Facility. During Christian Aid Week we had a monetary collection, and people in the church took envelopes just to their own neighbours and then had them dropped back. We will be holding our Christian Aid meal this year for the first time since the pandemic. Our Harvest auction raised £428.51 for a charity called Practical Action. We had a wonderful concert called "Share the Joy" in November 2022 and raised £1233.23 to support refugees from the Ukraine. We also collected £350.00 to help after the earthquake in Bangladesh.

At Christmas the members vote for a few charities to support as part of our giving. Also there are collections at various times, when there is a particular need, such as floods in Bangladesh or similar. Some members have also volunteered at foodbanks or other Charity initiatives. We managed to obtain our silver environmental award with A Rocha after great efforts by our eco-trustee. Having services about the environment and being involved in the River Sherbourne Project with other churches and organisations such as Warwickshire Wildlife Trust had managed to gain us this. Now that the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust have gained their grant to open up our local river, the River Sherbourne, there are practical projects people can also be involved in and community activities held in some of the areas.

Church Services

All are welcome to attend our services and we like to think we are very inclusive and welcoming. Our average weekly attendance is about 40-50 normally. This number increases at festivals and often numbers are swelled by visiting family and grandchildren. At Christmas we like to try and include them in our nativity service. We normally have four parade services in the year when the youth organisations are encouraged to join us and join in. A very popular event is our harvest festival service, followed by coffee and cake and an auction of the fresh fruit and vegetables, with the funds going to an aid charity, such as Operation Agri or similar.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate the events of life. There were three Baptisms planned for last year, but these had to be postponed due to the Coronavirus lockdown. We have since been able to conduct these and gained new church members.

During Covid 19 lockdown we were very fortunate that our regular attendees had increased their giving, even though not attending every week. For this we are very thankful as we had lost £10,000 from income from our room hire the first year and £5,000 in 2021, although of course our utility bills were minimal. We started new contracts in February this year, after having horrendous quotes from several utility bidders. There is still great concern as to what the utility bills might be when we re-negotiate contracts. Our electricity bills for each of the winter months were over £1,000 and gas about £250.00 per month.

We were able to have a Nativity Service and a Carol service at Christmas and serve refreshments, as we would have done before Covid, so that was wonderful.

Our congregation is mostly elderly, and only two of them have not returned after Covid, but throughout the time the services have been available as an audio format online through our website or latterly as a podcast. For those not able to access that we have provided printed and CD copies. We found this to be a good way of doing things with a high quality. We still produce a podcast titled "Knowing You Jesus", but it is a more shortened format now with a message and readings and some music. There are far less people who access it now, but it is still valuable to those who are not able to attend and we still deliver CD's of the podcasts to those who need them.

One of our Bible Study home groups has continued to meet on Zoom and the other has resumed in person. We are hoping to be able to provide an evening one as well.

Hearsall is famous for a five-pointed star, which is lined with LED lights and placed at the top of the church tower every Christmas, and can be seen from quite a long distance away. With energy prices spiralling, we put this on a timer so it only comes on when it is dark.

Financial Review

We ended the year with a deficit of £11,132.00. The balance sheet reserve has closed at £61,959.00. The figure for the pension fund deficit was £6,000 but has now been revalued. Our monthly payment to this is now only £1 from August, after an

agreement made with an insurance group. Our principal source of income is voluntary giving. We re-negotiated our property insurances to reduce payments.

Vision for the Future

We have been trying to find a way of replacing our buildings. Our vision for the future is to try and reduce the footprint of our buildings, which are not economical or environmentally friendly to heat. This is to future-proof our existence in the community for another fifty years or so. The Community rooms are ninety years old and the church itself was built in the 1960's. We have been trying to find a way to do this for several years and were waiting to go forward with a local developer, who is trying to make this financially possible for us, by having a profit from a project of their own on half of our site.

We have recently found out that we may not be able to do this as the latest plan involved two GP surgeries having a joint building on the site. There is not enough parking to make this viable, so there is no point going to pre-planning with this. It could only work if they had the whole site. We have now suspended talks with this developer. We now need to talk to the Baptist Union to see what is to be done, also with the rise in energy prices, we will have to think again.

Our Regional Minister came to talk to the trustees in January to see if he could help us find a way forward. We have also been approached by a local United Reformed Church about whether we could form a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP), with them and we talked to our Regional Minister about this and had a meeting with the elders from this church. We have had four shared services at both churches over the last few months and both congregations were informed of the idea in March this year and the church members of each church voted to explore this option. We have had a questionnaire consultation over the hopes, concerns and questions about this and have fed back the answers we can give so far. The next step is to form a group from both churches to explore further. We are also having an anonymous straw poll to see how many people would be willing to attend this church as part of an LEP, before we proceed further and take a formal vote.

The plan would be for us to use their premises and sell ours. To that end we have had to consult the Baptist Union Solicitors to find out about our Ultimate Trusts and who would receive the proceeds if we sold up and what the terms of any limitations would be.

We acknowledge that our energy bills are having an impact on our finances and that we have an ageing congregation who are not able to fulfil roles within the church and also we are finding it difficult to find people to take on the responsibility of becoming trustees in this more legal world. The age of our buildings and the cost of repairs is also a worry.

Although we had several options for the way forward, the number of these that are financially possible and viable are reducing and we pray earnestly for an answer

BAPTISTS TOGETHER END OF FIXED TERM FORM



Name of Church	HEARSALL BAPTIST
BUC Account Number	903H003
Church Address	QUEENSLAND AVE COVENTRY CV5 8HE

Name and contact details of Church Treasurer	
Name	JULIA LEPOIDEVIN
Email address	julia.lepoidevin@gmail.com
Daytime phone number	01766 102590

Please indicate which action you would like to take-

Account	Interest*	Minimum deposit	Tick
Transfer to 7 day notice account	2.50%	£1,000	
Transfer to 1 month notice account	3.75%	£1,000	
Transfer to 3 month notice account	4.50%	£1,000	
Re-invest in 1 year fixed interest account (including Interest)	5.00%	£1,000	
Re-invest in 1 year fixed interest account (excluding Interest)	5.00%	£1,000	
Interest to be returned to Church			Y / N
Interest to be added to an existing Account		Account No	
Extra Funds to be added to investment**		Amount	£
Return Funds to Church***		10,075.01	✓

* Interest rates are as at 01.08.2023 For current rates please see www.baptist.org.uk/depositaccounts

** New funds to be added to investment must reach us by maturity date. The extra funds will be held in a 7-day notice account until the 1st of the month, following maturity date, when they will be transferred to the 1 year fixed account.

Baptist Union Corporation Limited

Registered office Baptist House PO Box 44 129 Broadway Didcot Oxon OX11 8RT

telephone 01235 517700 email buc.corp@baptist.org.uk DX 40852 Didcot

A Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England 32743 Registered Charity Number 249635

***If you have indicated that you want your funds returned, the funds will be returned to the designated Bank Account.

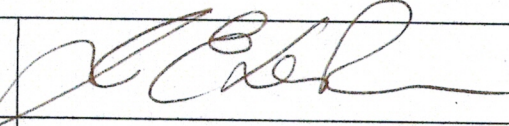
Due to increased scams and fraud, we have changed our processes and we will now need evidence of your registered bank account for all withdrawals. This may be in the form of either a bank statement or cancelled cheque/copy of deposit paying-in book. The evidence may be scanned and emailed direct to jisherwood@baptist.org.uk. These details will be saved securely against your bank account file, to be used and referred to for future withdrawals. Please remember if you change your bank account, you will be required to send similar evidence of new bank account details.

If you are re-investing, please list the three people who are authorising this new account and will be requesting withdrawals from this account. One of them must be the person whose contact details are given overleaf. They will all need to sign below.

	Name	Role	Email
1	JULIA LEPOIDEVIN	Church Treasurer	julia.lepoidevin@gmail.com
2	GRAHAM WALKER	MEMBER	grahamwalker27@btinternet.com
3	ANNE THOMPSON	SECRETARY	churchsecretary@heavallbaptist.org

Signatures

Date

1		20.1.24
2	G.M. Walker	20-1-24
3	A. Thompson	20.1.24

Please arrange for the three signatories listed to sign and date it.

You should then either

a) Send the completed form by post

OR

b) Scan and email the form to jisherwood@baptist.org.uk

You should also keep a copy of this form for your own records.

Withdrawing money

Requests for withdrawing money from your account should be signed by two of the three people listed above and sent by post (to the address overleaf) or by email to jisherwood@baptist.org.uk

Important

Information about a change of signatories should be sent on a church letter headed signed by two of the people listed above by post (to the address overleaf) or by email to jisherwood@baptist.org.uk

Please ensure you have read the terms and conditions relating to these accounts which can be found at www.baptist.org.uk/depositaccounts

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF BALANCES as at 31st March 2023

	Opening balance	2022/2023 Deficit for year	Closing balance	Opening balance	2021/2022 Deficit for year	Closing balance
Reserves B/fwd	72991.00	11057.00	61934.00	81908.00	9194.00	72991.00
Previous year adjustment	<u>72991.00</u>	11057.00	<u>61934.00</u>	<u>81908.00</u>	<u>9194.00</u>	<u>72991.00</u>
			<u>100.00</u>			
			<u>62034.00</u>			
Represented by:						
Unrestricted funds						
General fund			58922.00			67399.00
Social committee			2810.00			6933.00
Star			302.00			302.00
			<u>62034.00</u>			<u>74634.00</u>
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments						
Inland Revenue Refund Due			1214.00			0.00
Current liabilities			3301			1644
Balance carried forward			<u>62034.00</u>			<u>72990.00</u>
Bank & Investment						
Current Account	24047.00			34634.00		
Bonds	40075.00			46000.00		
	<u>64122.00</u>			<u>80634.00</u>		

Our rental income increased by £11423.00.

We have had additional costs this year, £4175.00 replacement of the kitchen boiler which the social committee paid for,

In addition we incurred additional costs of £4933.00 for the electrics and roofing.

Total receipts this year were £59599.00 with £5289.00 of this Gift Aid claimed.
 additional monies.

We currently have £40000.00 invested in bonds.

We no longer carry a liability to the pension fund. of £19600.00.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 7/6/2023

A. Thompson

Anne Thompson
 Secretary/Trustee

Julia Lepoidevin

Julia Lepoidevin
 Treasurer/Trustee

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT for Year ended 31st March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary giving		34363.00		34363.00	40467.00
Collections		2342.00		2342.00	1175.00
All other voluntary receipts		17225.00		17225.00	5624.00
Gift Aid recovered		5289.00		5289.00	6091.00
Investment income		455.00		455.00	306.00
Total Receipts		59674.00		59674.00	53663.00
PAYMENTS					
Clergy and staffing costs		33924		33924	39931
Hall and Church running costs combined		25054		25054	8098
Church running costs				0	
Hall running costs				0	
Mission giving and donations		7280.00		7280	6863.00
Legal/accountancy /other one off fees		405.00		405	1843.00
Licences				0	1603.00
Subscriptions		946.00		946	35.00
Administration and Printing		1384.00		1384	1834.00
Miscellaneous		568.00		568	840.00
IT/Telephone		1070.00		1070	1323.00
Catering				0	210.00
Cancelled cheques previous year		100.00		100	277.00
		70731.00		70731	62857.00
Excess of receipts over payments		-11057		70731	-9194
Transfers between funds					
Cash at bank and in hand at 31st March 2023		64122			

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Hearsall Baptist Church for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.

The charities trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 ("the act"). I report in respect of me examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act, and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

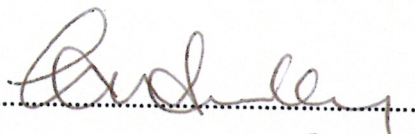
Basis of Independent examiners statement.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

The accounting records were not kept in accordance with 130 of the Charities Act: or the accounts did not accord with accounting records.

I have no concerns and have not come across no other matters in connection to the examination to which attention should be drawn in the report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed.....


17 May 2023.

.....G K Insley

68 Windy Arbour
Kenilworth
CV8 2BB

BAPTISTS TOGETHER END OF FIXED TERM FORM



Name of Church	HEARSALL BAPTIST
BUC Account Number	903H003
Church Address	QUEENSLAND AVE COVENTRY CV5 8HE

Name and contact details of Church Treasurer	
Name	JULIA LEPOIDEVIN
Email address	julia.lepoidevin@gmail.com
Daytime phone number	01766 102590

Please indicate which action you would like to take-

Account	Interest*	Minimum deposit	Tick
Transfer to 7 day notice account	2.50%	£1,000	
Transfer to 1 month notice account	3.75%	£1,000	
Transfer to 3 month notice account	4.50%	£1,000	
Re-invest in 1 year fixed interest account (including Interest)	5.00%	£1,000	
Re-invest in 1 year fixed interest account (excluding Interest)	5.00%	£1,000	
Interest to be returned to Church			Y / N
Interest to be added to an existing Account		Account No	
Extra Funds to be added to investment**		Amount	£
Return Funds to Church***		10,07501	✓

* Interest rates are as at 01.08.2023 For current rates please see www.baptist.org.uk/depositaccounts

** New funds to be added to investment must reach us by maturity date. The extra funds will be held in a 7-day notice account until the 1st of the month, following maturity date, when they will be transferred to the 1 year fixed account.

Baptist Union Corporation Limited

Registered office Baptist House PO Box 44 129 Broadway Didcot Oxon OX11 8RT

telephone 01235 517700 email buc.corp@baptist.org.uk DX 40852 Didcot

A Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England 32743 Registered Charity Number 249635

***If you have indicated that you want your funds returned, the funds will be returned to the designated Bank Account.

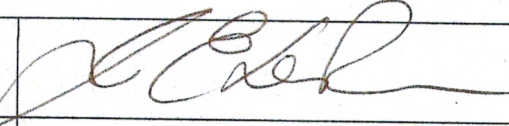
Due to increased scams and fraud, we have changed our processes and we will now need evidence of your registered bank account for all withdrawals. This may be in the form of either a bank statement or cancelled cheque/copy of deposit paying-in book. The evidence may be scanned and emailed direct to jisherwood@baptist.org.uk. These details will be saved securely against your bank account file, to be used and referred to for future withdrawals. Please remember if you change your bank account, you will be required to send similar evidence of new bank account details.

If you are re-investing, please list the three people who are authorising this new account and will be requesting withdrawals from this account. One of them must be the person whose contact details are given overleaf. They will all need to sign below.

	Name	Role	Email
1	JULIA LEPOIDEVIN	Church Treasurer	julia.lepoidevin@gmail.com
2	GRAHAM WALKER	MEMBER	grahamwalker27@btinternet.com
3	ANNE THOMPSON	SECRETARY	churchsecretary@heavallbaptist.org

Signatures

Date

1		20.1.24
2	G.M. Walker	20-1-24
3	A. Thompson	20.1.24

Please arrange for the three signatories listed to sign and date it.

You should then either

a) Send the completed form by post

OR

b) Scan and email the form to jisherwood@baptist.org.uk

You should also keep a copy of this form for your own records.

Withdrawing money

Requests for withdrawing money from your account should be signed by two of the three people listed above and sent by post (to the address overleaf) or by email to jisherwood@baptist.org.uk

Important

Information about a change of signatories should be sent on a church letter headed signed by two of the people listed above by post (to the address overleaf) or by email to jisherwood@baptist.org.uk

Please ensure you have read the terms and conditions relating to these accounts which can be found at www.baptist.org.uk/depositaccounts

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF BALANCES as at 31st March 2023

	Opening balance	2022/2023 Deficit for year	Closing balance	Opening balance	2021/2022 Deficit for year	Closing balance
Reserves B/fwd	72991.00	11057.00	61934.00	81908.00	9194.00	72991.00
Previous year adjustment	<u>72991.00</u>	11057.00	<u>61934.00</u>	<u>81908.00</u>	<u>9194.00</u>	<u>72991.00</u>
			<u>100.00</u>			
			<u>62034.00</u>			
Represented by:						
Unrestricted funds						
General fund			58922.00			67399.00
Social committee			2810.00			6933.00
Star			302.00			302.00
			<u>62034.00</u>			<u>74634.00</u>
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments						
Inland Revenue Refund Due			1214.00			0.00
Current liabilities			3301			1644
Balance carried forward			<u>62034.00</u>			<u>72990.00</u>
Bank & Investment						
Current Account	24047.00			34634.00		
Bonds	40075.00			46000.00		
	<u>64122.00</u>			<u>80634.00</u>		

Our rental income increased by £11423.00.

We have had additional costs this year, £4175.00 replacement of the kitchen boiler which the social committee paid for,

In addition we incurred additional costs of £4933.00 for the electrics and roofing.

Total receipts this year were £59599.00 with £5289.00 of this Gift Aid claimed.
 additional monies.

We currently have £40000.00 invested in bonds.

We no longer carry a liability to the pension fund. of £19600.00.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 7/6/2023

A. Thompson

Anne Thompson
 Secretary/Trustee

Julia Lepoidevin

Julia Lepoidevin
 Treasurer/Trustee

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT for Year ended 31st March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
RECEIPTS					
Voluntary giving		34363.00		34363.00	40467.00
Collections		2342.00		2342.00	1175.00
All other voluntary receipts		17225.00		17225.00	5624.00
Gift Aid recovered		5289.00		5289.00	6091.00
Investment income		455.00		455.00	306.00
Total Receipts		59674.00		59674.00	53663.00
PAYMENTS					
Clergy and staffing costs		33924		33924	39931
Hall and Church running costs combined		25054		25054	8098
Church running costs				0	
Hall running costs				0	
Mission giving and donations		7280.00		7280	6863.00
Legal/accountancy /other one off fees		405.00		405	1843.00
Licences				0	1603.00
Subscriptions		946.00		946	35.00
Administration and Printing		1384.00		1384	1834.00
Miscellaneous		568.00		568	840.00
IT/Telephone		1070.00		1070	1323.00
Catering				0	210.00
Cancelled cheques previous year		100.00		100	277.00
		70731.00		70731	62857.00
Excess of receipts over payments		-11057		70731	-9194
Transfers between funds					
Cash at bank and in hand at 31st March 2023		64122			

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Hearsall Baptist Church for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.

The charities trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 ("the act"). I report in respect of me examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act, and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

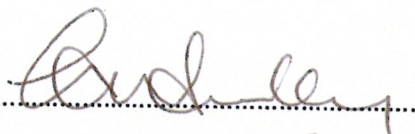
Basis of Independent examiners statement.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

The accounting records were not kept in accordance with 130 of the Charities Act: or the accounts did not accord with accounting records.

I have no concerns and have not come across no other matters in connection to the examination to which attention should be drawn in the report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed.....


17 May 2023.

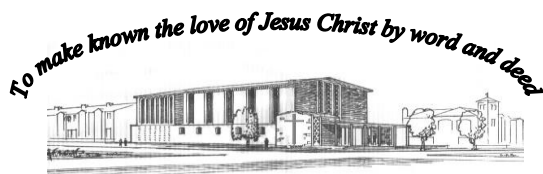
.....G K Insley

68 Windy Arbour
Kenilworth
CV8 2BB

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1188555

Accounts



Hearsall Baptist Church
Churches Together in Earlsdon
and Chapelfields

Contact:

MINISTER

Revd David Sutcliffe

TREASURER

Mrs Julia LePoidevin

SECRETARY

Mrs Anne Thompson

www.hearsallbaptist.org

Queensland Avenue, Coventry. CV5 8FE.

2022 Trustee Report for Hearsall Baptist Church Charity No. 1188555

Administrative Information:-

Queensland Avenue, Chapelfields, Coventry, CV5 8FE. Registered with the Charity Commission on the 16th March 2020. We adopted the Governing Document provided to the Baptist Union by their solicitors, on the 2nd of October 2019 at a church member's meeting.

Minister:- Reverend David Sutcliffe, (only paid member of staff).

Elected Trustees:- Nicholas Leonard, Sarah Lewis and Janice Clemons.

Ex-Officio members Anne Thompson (secretary) and Julia LePoidevin (treasurer)

Aim and Purposes

Hearsall Baptist Church Trustees, which include our Minister, the Reverend David Sutcliffe have the responsibility of promoting worship, the mission of the church, the practical aspects of managing the buildings and activities taking place on our premises, and as such have six main duties:-

A Ensuring our charity is carrying out its purpose for public benefit.

B Complying with the charity's governing documents and the law.

C Acting in our charity's best interests.

D Managing the charity's resources responsibly.

E Acting with reasonable care and skill.

F Ensuring our charity is accountable.

The Trustees are nominated by the church members and voted for at church meetings, by all members who have at least six months standing. Church members can only stand for election after they have been members for at least 12 months. The trustees serve for a minimum of three years, then can be re-elected for another three year period, but after that must stand down for at least a year.



Registered Charity 1188555 operating as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

There are various specialisms within the group at present, such as an eco- trustee and a “flying trustee”, whose function is to be a first point of contact if people contact the church and to find appropriate people to help. One of the trustees is also the safeguarding trustee.

At present we have fifty-two members. Our congregation is more on the upper age group side, with one or two young families. There was a Sunday school (except during the Covid lockdown), although the facility continued online. However it has been difficult to get this started again regularly and we now have an all-age service once a month and with Parade Services and occasional different services, this seems to be all we can manage with the volunteer leaders we have.

The trustees meet monthly except for Easter and December. The average level of attendance is 80%. The trustees discuss actions and take recommendations to the church members to vote on the outcomes. The meetings of the church members are held nine times a year. Our AGM is held in July and includes all the organisations using our rooms and our own groups and post holders are invited to submit a written report to be included in a booklet, which is available in print and online before the AGM. The Baptist Union offer resources and advice for all the various facets of the functions we are responsible for and issue guidelines to us and have solicitors which are recommended by them.

The Baptist Union hold the deeds for the church property and the Heart of England Baptist Association hold the deeds for the Manse, which is a separate property a few streets from the church. The trustees are also responsible for the upkeep of this terraced property and we have spent some money last year on replacing the kitchen there and enclosing the downstairs toilet inside the building.

Ecumenical Relationships

Hearsall Baptist Church is a member of Churches together in Earlsdon and Chapelfields (CTEC). There are five churches in this group, two Anglican, one Methodist and one Roman Catholic and ourselves.

The Ministers of these churches meet together regularly to discuss joint activities and to offer each other support. They also have joint meetings with the CTEC committee and sometimes preach in each other's churches on a pulpit swap where permitted. There are joint initiatives which have been undertaken, such as providing finance for a Christians against Poverty worker who provides finance and debt advice to people. Another one is the Good Neighbours Project, which started with CTEC and is now under the auspices of Hope Coventry, who pay the wages of the workers and provide the legal help and support. This has spread to other areas and Coventry City Council have financed the workers in some of the areas. The churches provide premises for certain events such as afternoon teas and socials. Volunteers visit elderly and lonely housebound folk for company.

There are also joint services run with all the churches taking turns and also Lent Lunches and a joint meal for fellowship during the week of prayer for Christian Unity in January. The proceeds from the Lent lunches are split between Cafod and Christian Aid. Most months there is also a prayer breakfast, hosted by each church in turn. The Charity supported by CTEC this year was the Torch Trust, which supplies

materials and support for churches to enable blind and partially sighted people to take as full a part as possible in worship. Hearsall has signed up to this initiative.

Public Benefit

The community rooms adjoining to the church are used by many community groups, these include, Al Anon and Alcoholics Anonymous, Youth Organisations such as Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Beavers and Scouts. There is also a dance group, a stamp and coin club, Morris Men and a School reunion group. We now also have an Art Venturers group once a month on a Saturday morning. Various other community events may be held here throughout the year. There is also a branch of Sureway Assembly of God Church meeting in our hall on Sundays. We have lost a couple of groups since the pandemic.

Other groups which are considered as part of the church outreach are a Song and Storytime Group for pre-school children, a lunch club for the elderly and a conversation group called Talking English, for people whose first language is not English. During the Covid restrictions this Conversation group has kept in touch by WhatsApp. The lunch club returned to meeting in person in July 2021. It is to the credit of the group leaders that ways have been found to keep in touch with all these groups during the pandemic. Most groups had returned by the end of 2021.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need demonstrates our faith. We collect items for the food bank on the first Sunday of the month. At Christmas we managed to support Coventry City Mission in their gift giving appeal, by either collecting money for them to buy presents or people ordering them to go direct using an Amazon Wish List Facility. During Christian Aid Week we had a monetary collection, and people in the church took envelopes just to their own neighbours and then had them dropped back. Our Harvest auction raised £428.51 for a charity called Practical Action.

At Christmas the members vote for a few charities to support as part of our giving. Also there are collections at various times, when there is a particular need, eg. Floods in Bangladesh or similar. Some members have also volunteered at foodbanks or other Charity initiatives. We managed to obtain our silver environmental award with A Rocha after great efforts by our eco-trustee. Having services about the environment and being involved in the River Sherbourne Project with other churches and organisations such as Warwickshire Wildlife Trust had managed to gain us this.

Church Services

All are welcome to attend our services and we like to think we are very inclusive and welcoming. Our average weekly attendance is about 40-50 normally. This number increases at festivals and often numbers are swelled by visiting family and grandchildren. At Christmas we like to try and include them in our nativity service. We normally have four parade services in the year when the youth organisations are encouraged to join us and join in. A very popular event is our harvest festival service, followed by coffee and cake and an auction of the fresh fruit and vegetables, with the funds going to an aid charity, such as Operation Agri or similar. Our Palm Sunday

Parade this year was the first since the pandemic and was a very joyous occasion and the children from the youth organisations were given Easter eggs.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate the events of life. There were three Baptisms planned for last year, but these had to be postponed due to the Coronavirus lockdown. We were able to have an in-person funeral for one of our congregation earlier this year. Before lockdown we were able to open up our chapel, which leads off from the church foyer, for private prayer on certain days of the week.

During lockdown we have been very fortunate that our regular attendees have increased their giving, even though not attending every week. For this we are very thankful as we had lost £10,000 from income from our room hire, although of course our utility bills were minimal. This year we have still lost about £5,000 from room hire and we have had some electrical work done which has cost about £6,000. There is great concern as to what the utility bills might be after February as we have been on a fixed contract which ends then. Some of the quotes we have had from providers and utility bidding companies have been astronomical. We would like to still have green energy as much as possible.

Our regular in person services resumed at the end of June 2021 and we did have a shortened Nativity Service and a Carol Service at Christmas. We continued to ask people to carry on wearing face masks till June 2022 and only resumed tea and coffee after the service then as well.

Our congregation is mostly elderly, and only one of them has not returned after Covid, but throughout the time the services have been available as an audio format online through our website or latterly as a podcast. For those not able to access that we have provided printed and CD copies. We found this to be a good way of doing things with a high quality. Bible readers, people doing prayers and the minister, all recording their pieces and sending them to our technical person for production and the text sent to another person who put this together. We had visual services at Christmas and both Easters hosted on our YouTube channel, with DVD's being taken to those who could not view them on computer.

We have had a good response from this and some people from the USA, Australia and other parts of the UK accessing the podcasts. Now though numbers accessing the podcast have dropped, but we will probably continue it in a shortened format, as our Minister finds it helpful in preparing his in person sermon and we want it to be a form of outreach.

One of our Bible Study home groups has continued to meet on Zoom and the other has resumed in person. We are hoping to be able to provide an evening one as well.

Hearsall is famous for a five-pointed star, which is lined with LED lights and placed at the top of the church tower every Christmas, and can be seen from quite a long distance away. It has been a feature for over fifty years. During the post-Christmas lockdown we decided to leave the star up as a beacon of hope. With energy prices spiralling, we will probably put this on a timer so it only comes on when it is dark.

Financial Review

We ended the year with a deficit of £9194.00. The balance sheet reserve has closed at £72,990.00. The figure for the pension fund was £6,000 but has now been revalued. Our monthly payment to this is now only £1 from August, after an agreement made with an insurance group. Our principal source of income is voluntary giving.

Vision for the Future

We have been trying to find a way of replacing our buildings. Our vision for the future is to try and reduce the footprint of our buildings, which are not economical or environmentally friendly to heat. This is to future-proof our existence in the community for another fifty years or so. The Community rooms are ninety years old and the church itself was built in the 1960's. We have been trying to find a way to do this for several years and are waiting to go forward with a local developer, who is trying to make this financially possible for us, by having a profit from a project of their own on half of our site.

We have recently found out that we may not be able to do this as the latest plan involved two GP surgeries having a joint building on the site. There is not enough parking to make this viable, so there is no point going to pre-planning with this. It could only work if they had the whole site. We now need to talk to the Baptist Union to see what is to be done, also with the rise in energy prices, we will have to think again.

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF BALANCES as at 31st March 2022

	2021/2022		2020/2021	
	Opening balance	Deficit for year	Closing balance	Opening balance
Reserves B/fwd	81908.00	9194.00	72990.00	101796.00
				19888.00
				81908.00

Represented by:
Unrestricted funds
General fund
Social committee
Star

67399.00	75638.00
6933.00	6933.00
302.00	302.00
<u>74634.00</u>	<u>82873.00</u>

Current Assets
Debtors and prepayments

1644.00	965.00
<u>1644.00</u>	<u>965.00</u>

Current liabilities

0	0
---	---

Balance carried forward

<u>72990.00</u>	<u>81908.00</u>
-----------------	-----------------

Bank & Investment
Current Account
Deposit Account
Bonds

34634.00	36873.00
40000.00	30000.00
	16000
<u>74634.00</u>	<u>82873.00</u>

I had been forecasting a deficit of 8000.00, our deficit increase at 9194.00 is due to our electricity supplier estimating bills.
Rental income is significantly down at 5308.00.
Total receipts this year were £53664 with £6091.00 of this Gift Aid claimed to £62858.
additional monies.

We currently have £40000.00 invested in bonds.
We carry a unrealised liability to the pension fund of £10600. This figure changes with revaluation of pension funds.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

15/5/2022

A. Thompson
Anne Thompson
Secretary/Trustee

Julia Lepoidevin
Julia Lepoidevin
Treasurer/Trustee

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Hearsall Baptist Church for the year ended
31st March 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charities trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 ("the act"). I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act, and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

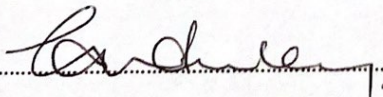
Basis of Independent examiners statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

The accounting records were not kept in accordance with 130 of the Charities Act: or the accounts did not accord with accounting records.

I have no concerns and have across no other matters in connection to the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed.....

 8/5/22 G K Insley

68 Windy Arbour

Kenilworth

CV8 2BB

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Hearsall Baptist Church for the year ended
31st March 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charities trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 ("the act"). I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act, and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

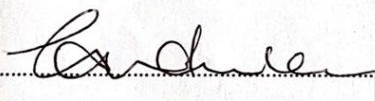
Basis of Independent examiners statement

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Signed.....

 8/5/22 G K Insley

68 Windy Arbour

Kenilworth

CV8 2BB

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1188555

Accounts

Trustee Report for Hearsall Baptist Church Charity No. 1188555

Administrative Information:-

Queensland Avenue, Chapelfields, Coventry, CV5 8FE. Registered with the Charity Commission on the 16th March 2020. We adopted the Governing Document provided to the Baptist Union by their solicitors, on the 2nd of October 2019 at a church member's meeting.

Minister:- Reverend David Sutcliffe, (only paid member of staff).

Elected Trustees:- Nicholas Leonard, Andrew Brendon-Penn, Sarah Lewis, Jan Clemons and Eric Bremner.

Ex-Officio members Anne Thompson (secretary) and Julia LePoidevin (treasurer)

Aim and Purposes

Hearsall Baptist Church Trustees, which include our Minister, the Reverend David Sutcliffe have the responsibility of promoting worship, the mission of the church, the practical aspects of managing the buildings and activities taking place on our premises, and as such have six main duties:-

A Ensuring our charity is carrying out its purpose for public benefit.

B Complying with the charity's governing documents and the law.

C Acting in our charity's best interests.

D Managing the charity's resources responsibly.

E Acting with reasonable care and skill.

F Ensuring our charity is accountable.

The Trustees are nominated by the church members and voted for at church meetings, by all members who have at least six months standing. Church members can only stand for election after they have been members for a year. The trustees serve for a minimum of three years, then can be re-elected for another three year period, but after that must stand down for at least a year.

There are various specialisms within the group at present, such as an eco- trustee and a "flying trustee", whose function is to be a first point of contact if people contact the church and to find appropriate people to help. One of the trustees is also the safeguarding trustee.

At present we have fifty-two members, three of these have been admitted to membership in the last year. Our congregation is more on the upper age group side, with one or two young families. There is a Sunday school (except during the Covid lockdown), although the facility has continued online.

The trustees meet monthly except for Easter and December. The average level of attendance is 80%. The trustees discuss actions and take recommendations to the church members to vote on the outcomes. The meetings of the church members are held ten times a year. Our AGM is held in June or July and includes all the organisations using our rooms and our own groups and post holders are invited to submit a written report to be included in

a booklet, which is available in print and online before the AGM. The Baptist Union offer resources and advice for all the various facets of the functions we are responsible for and issue guidelines to us and have solicitors which are recommended by them.

The Baptist Union hold the deeds for the church property and the Heart of England Baptist Association hold the deeds for the Manse, which is a separate property a few streets from the church. The trustees are also responsible for the upkeep of this and we have spent some money last year on replacing the kitchen there and enclosing the downstairs toilet inside the building.

Ecumenical Relationships

Hearsall Baptist Church is a member of Churches together in Earlsdon and Chapelfields (CTEC). There are five churches in this group, two Anglican, one Methodist and one Roman Catholic and ourselves.

The Ministers of these churches meet together regularly to discuss joint activities and to offer each other support. They also have joint meetings with the CTEC committee. There are joint initiatives which have been undertaken, such as providing finance for a Christians against Poverty worker who provides finance and debt advice to people. Another one is the Good Neighbours Project, which started with CTEC and is now under the auspices of Hope Coventry, who pay the wages of the workers and provide the legal help and support. This has spread to other areas and Coventry Council have financed the workers in some of the areas. The churches provide premises for certain events such as afternoon teas and socials. Volunteers visit elderly and lonely housebound folk for company.

There are also joint services run with all the churches taking turns and also Lent Lunches and a joint meal for fellowship during the week of prayer for Christian Unity in January. It has also been a practice during this week for the ministers of the churches carry out a pulpit swap. Most months there is also a prayer breakfast, hosted by each church in turn. These have been held on Zoom throughout the Covid lockdown. There were also services provided by each church on Zoom for Holy Week and Lent, due to the inability to hold the usual lunches. Funds were raised during these times for charities supported by CTEC.

Public Benefit

The community rooms adjoining to the church are used by many community groups, these include an Alzheimers Group, Al Anon and Alcoholics Anonymous, Youth Organisations such as Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, Beavers and Scouts. There is also a dance group, a stamp and coin club, Morris Men and a School reunion group. Also various other community events may be held here throughout the year.

Other groups which are considered as part of the church outreach are a Song and Storytime Group for pre-school children, a lunch club for the elderly and a conversation group called Talking English, for people whose first language is not English. During the Covid restrictions this Conversation group has kept in touch by WhatsApp. The lunch club, which consists of about thirty members, have been telephoned once a week and doorstep visits when this has been allowed. The Song and Storytime group have held Zoom sessions and are just starting up again outside where allowed. It is to the credit of the group leaders that ways have been found to keep in touch with all these groups.

Mission and Evangelism

Helping those in need demonstrates our faith. During lockdown we have still managed to collect items for the food bank at certain pre-booked times and at Christmas we managed to support Coventry City Mission in their gift giving appeal, by either collecting money for them to buy presents or people ordering them to go direct using an Amazon Wish List Facility. During Christian Aid Week we had a monetary collection, an online quiz and people in the church took envelopes just to their own neighbours and then had them dropped back.

At Christmas the members vote for a few charities to support as part of our giving. Also there are collections at various times, when there is a particular need, eg. Floods in Bangladesh or similar. Some members have also volunteered at foodbanks or other Charity initiatives.

We organised our attendees into groups to keep in touch with each other and help with shopping where needed.

Church Services

All are welcome to attend our services and we like to think we are very inclusive and welcoming. Our average weekly attendance is about 40-50 normally. This number increases at festivals and often numbers are swelled by visiting family and grandchildren. At Christmas we like to try and include them in our nativity service. We normally have four parade services in the year when the youth organisations are encouraged to join us and join in. A very popular event is our harvest festival service, followed by coffee and cake and an auction of the fresh fruit and vegetables, with the funds going to an aid charity, such as Operation Agri or similar.

As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate the events of life. There were three Baptisms planned for last year, but these had to be postponed due to the Coronavirus lockdown. One of the Memorial Services was held on Zoom and DVD's were made for some of the relatives. Before lockdown we were able to open up our chapel, which leads off from the church foyer, for private prayer on certain days of the week.

During lockdown we have been very fortunate that our regular attendees have increased their giving, even though not attending every week. For this we are very thankful as we had lost £10,000 from income from our room hire, although of course our utility bills were minimal.

During Covid the church has been closed and face to face services have not been happening. We are hoping we can go back soon, under whatever restrictions are allowed. The only face to face event we had, was a screening of the Christmas Carol Service DVD which was produced and was a booking only event, which was attended by about fifteen people.

As our congregation is mostly elderly, some of them may still not be happy to come back yet, but throughout the time the services have been available as an audio format online through our website or latterly as a podcast. For those not able to access that we have provided printed and CD copies. We found this to be a good way of doing things with a high quality. Bible readers, people doing prayers and the minister, all recording their pieces and sending them to our technical person for production and the text sent to another person

who put this together. We had visual services at Christmas and both Easters hosted on our YouTube channel, with DVD's being taken to those who could not view them on computer.

We have had a good response from this and some people from the USA, Australia and other parts of the UK accessing the podcasts. Also the word has spread and member's neighbours have also listened. As a result of this we want to try and still provide this facility, even if it is not a full length service, although this will take more time and work.

We have had virtual coffee sessions on Zoom after church and one morning in the week. We have had Bible Study sessions on Zoom and WhatsApp and socials and quizzes on Zoom. Hearsall is famous for a five-pointed star, which is lined with LED lights and placed at the top of the church tower every Christmas, and can be seen from quite a long distance away. It has been a feature for over fifty years. During the post-Christmas lockdown we decided to leave the star up as a beacon of hope. It was left up until Easter when things started to open up a bit. We have also decorated the foyer of the church for Christmas and Easter and Remembrance Day, for local people to see when they walk past and to remind them we are still here for them. We also took part in a Nativity Trail and an Easter Trail, with posters in the window with pictures or questions for people to do with or without their children. This was organised by one of the bigger churches in Coventry and there were goody bags given out by them for prizes.

Financial Review

We ended the year with a deficit of £19,887.00. The balance sheet reserve has closed at £81,908.00. We carry an unrealised liability to the pension fund of £19,600.00. This figure changes as the pension fund is revalued. Our principal source of income is voluntary giving.

Vision for the Future

We have been trying to find a way of replacing our buildings. Our vision for the future is to try and reduce the footprint of our buildings, which are not economical or environmentally friendly to heat. This is to future-proof our existence in the community for another fifty years or so. The Community rooms are ninety years old and the church itself was built in the 1960's. We have been trying to find a way to do this for several years and are waiting to go forward with a local developer, who is trying to make this financially possible for us, by having a profit from a project of their own on half of our site.

This is all dependant on approval by Council Planning, the Baptist Union and an independent survey by a Quantity Surveyor. If this cannot go forward then we will have to spend quite a large amount on refurbishing the buildings.

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
STATEMENT OF BALANCES as at 31st March 2021

	2020/2021			2019/2020		
	Opening balance	Deficit for year	Closing balance	Opening balance	Deficit for year	Closing balance
Reserves B/fwd	<u>101796.00</u>	<u>19888.00</u>	<u>81908.00</u>	<u>115016.00</u>	<u>13220.00</u>	<u>101796.00</u>
Represented by:						
Unrestricted funds						
General fund			75638.00			101634.00
Social committee			6933.00			6933.00
Star			302.00			302.00
			<u>82873.00</u>			<u>108869.00</u>
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments			965.00			7073.00
			<u>965.00</u>			<u>7073.00</u>
Current liabilities			0			0
Balance carried forward			<u>81908.00</u>			<u>101796.00</u>

Bank & Investment

Current Account	36873.00	52869.00
Deposit Account	30000.00	40000.00
Bonds	16000	16000
	<u>82873.00</u>	<u>108869.00</u>

Our rental income reduced by £10076.00.

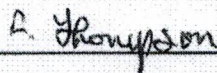
Printing costs increased by £363.00 and IT/telephone by £272.00 both due to moving to online services and producing paper copies of services. Total receipts this year were £45766.00 with £5300.00 of this Gift Aid claimed. Personal giving has increased this year as members have given additional monies.

The most significant difference in our deficits between years has been down to planned upgrading of the manse costing £11250.00.

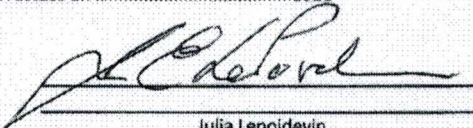
We currently have £46000.00 invested in bonds.

We carry a unrealised liability to the pension fund of £19600.00. This figure changes with revaluation of pension funds.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on2021



Anne Thompson
Secretary/Trustee



Julia Lepoidevin
Treasurer/Trustee

HEARSALL BAPTIST CHURCH
RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT for Yeay ended 31st March 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2020/21	Total 2019/20
RECEIPTS				
Voluntary giving	34702.00		34702.00	31642.00
Collections	240.00		240.00	
All other voluntary reciepts	4851.00		4851.00	17166.00
Gift Aid recovered	5300.00		5300.00	4709.00
Investment income	674.00		674.00	685.00
Total Reciepts	45767.00		45767.00	54202.00
PAYMENTS				
Clergy and staffing costs	43685			34060
Hall and Church running costs combined not open due to Covid	11006			
Church running costs				2402
Hall running costs				13611.00
Mission giving and donations	6293.00			6565.00
Legal/accountancy /other one off fees	783.00			6429.00
Licences	715.00			963.00
Subscriptions	35.00			
Administration and Printing	1630.00			1325.00
Miscellaneous	366.00			1071.00
IT/Telephone	1141.00			869.00
Catering				128.00
	65654.00			67423.00
Excess of reciepts over payments	-19887			-13221
Transfers between funds				
Cash at bank and in hand at 31st March 2021	81908			101796

Hearsall Baptist Church
Analysis
as at 31st March 2021

DONATIONS	
TOYS	460
STAR	20
BMS MEMBER DONATION	100
TOTAL	580

MISCELLANEOUS	
CCLI	50.44
FUNERAL	50
SONGTIME	123

TOTAL	223.44
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INTEREST	
N/S	133.54
BUGB	540

TOTAL	673.54
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EXPENDITURE	
HOPE	825
BMS	2268
HM	2700
TOYS	400
BMS MEMBER DONATION	100
TOTAL	6293

MISCELLANEOUS	
FIC	22
COVID19	195.94
WEEDKILLER/SALT	50.64
ROOTS	97

TOTAL	365.58
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MANSE

C/TAX	1272.58
INSURANCE	413.22
WATER	216.34
KITCHEN	11250

TOTAL	13152.14
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Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Hearsall Baptist Church for the year ended 31st March 2021.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2021, which are set out on pages 4 – 6.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charities trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act.

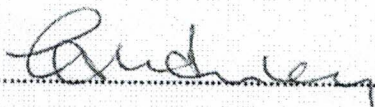
Basis of Independent examiners statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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 accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection to the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed.....



G K Insley

68 Windy Arbour
Kenilworth
CV8 2BB