

MILL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, WELLINGBOROUGH

England & Wales · Charity number 1188656

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-03-19

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

Contact

Address Mill Road Baptist Church
Mill Road
Wellingborough
Northamptonshire
NN8 1PF

Phone 01933276631

Email admin@millroadbaptistwellingborough.com

Website www.millroadbaptistwellingborough.com

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: Promoting the Christian faith principles through regular Sunday services, bible study groups and Friday evening social gatherings

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Northamptonshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£80,381	£128,593	-	-
2023-12-31	£114,243	£78,097	-	-
2022-12-31	£77,262	£66,412	-	-
2021-12-31	£66,293	£59,081	-	-
2020-12-31	£0	£0	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Abigail Elizabeth Squires		2024-08-01
Arooj Cecil		2021-11-28
Ian John Parker		2024-08-01
Ian Leonard Sansom		2025-12-01
Ian Wilson		2025-12-01
James Buba Mshelia		2024-08-01
SHASHI PATEL		2025-12-01
Stephen Robinson		1978-01-22

MILL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, WELLINGBOROUGH

England & Wales - Charity number 1188656

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report **1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024**

Charity Name-

Mill Road Baptist Church, Wellingborough

Charity registration number-

1188656

Charity's principal address

Mill Road, Wellingborough, NN8 1PF

Church contact details

Tel: 01933 276631

email: admin@millroadbaptistwellingborough.com

Trustees

Duncan Wright (Minister)
Rahila Isaac (term of office concluded November 2024)
Arooj Cecil
Shashi Patel (term of office concluded November 2024)
Joby Pappu (term of office concluded November 2024)
Ian Wilson (term of office concluded November 2024)
James Mshelia- Appointed 01 August 2024
Bernard Agyemang – Appointed 01 August 2024
Ian Parker - Appointed 01 August 2024
Steve Robinson - Appointed 01 August 2024
Abbie Squires - Appointed 01 August 2024

Structure of the Charity

The organisation is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) which was registered on the 19th March 2020 and is governed by the Constitution “registered 19/3/20 as amended on the 6th September 2021” which established the objects and powers of the CIO. In the event of the CIO having to be wound up the Church Members are not required to contribute an amount.

Charity Trustees are selected from the Church Membership with the Minister being automatically appointed. A prospective Charity Trustee needs to have been a member for at least 1 year and (agreeing for their name to be considered), shall have their name submitted to the Church Membership and voted on at the appropriate meeting. They will normally serve for an initial period of 3 years. Existing Trustees can be reappointed after their initial term based in the Approved Governing Document (AGD) requirements.

Once the selection process has been completed the Trustees and the Minister become the Leadership Team of the Church responsible for managing Church affairs under the authority of the Church Members' Meetings which are open to all but only Church Members can vote.

Trustee meetings were held monthly with an average attendance of 85% during 2024. At the end of the year there were 7 Trustees. Church Members' Meetings were held 5 times during 2024 with the AGM included in the meeting of 28/7/24 when Church Members approved the 2023 Financial and Trustees' Reports.

Purposes-

The principal purposes of the Church are the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

The Church Members/Leadership Team are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in person or online, through YouTube, in a welcoming, open and safe environment through Sunday worship, prayer, faith, bible study, music, Sunday School, table tennis and chess group, monthly breakfast get together and Friday Party night.

To accommodate the above activities the School Room has been used extensively due to the floor repair works needed in the main Church building and further information is provided on this topic under the Achievements and Performance section below.

Maintenance and repairs to the Church and Manse have also been actioned and we remain aware of the future need to repair the School Room roof. During this time of not being able to occupy the main Church building, Health and Safety matters were met as we responded to the challenge of using other parts of the premises for worship.

Achievements and Performance-

Sunday worship has continued to be in person and online via YouTube throughout 2024. YouTube provides a media for worshippers who remain unsure about returning to Church in person due to their own circumstances. Bible Study groups continued to meet weekly via Zoom and in person. Our Minister also made available studies via YouTube on biblical topics to help people grow in faith and increase their understanding of the bible.

Friday Night Party for the local community and Church Members/regular attendees continues to grow with new families coming along to enjoy snacks, chats and various games/crafts for all ages. External community groups for adults with learning difficulties, Gilbert and Sullivan Society and a local amateur drama group continue to use our facilities.

Insurance claim/Building maintenance

Following the flood and some damage to the floor in the church, a claim for repair was agreed with our insurers, the Baptist Insurance Company. The works were completed within budget with Sunday services returning to the church in April 2024. Further repairs and maintenance (including redecoration) was undertaken before these services recommenced.

We are also aware that the School Room roof will need repairs/replacing at some point and donations for this work have been received from the congregation. We continue to make contributions to the building fund and are earning interest through the Baptist Union savings account.

Membership

Church Membership increased to 72 as a result of 9 new members and 5 resignations/deaths. Two funerals were held for long standing members of the congregation in August 2024 and September 2024. Three baptismal services took place in April 2024 and Oct 2024 respectively.

Attendance at Sunday services continues to grow, attracting people from many different church and cultural backgrounds. MRBC is a fellowship that is representative of the local community and attractive to people from all walks of life and backgrounds.

Children and Young People

Junior Church has continued to grow. Our return to using the church means that Junior Church is now able to meet in the Hall.

Our group of young people (aged 11 to 16) now remain in the services. They sit at the back during the sermon, working through a list of questions and reflections put together by their leaders. These questions provide a springboard for open discussion across the whole congregation at the end of each message.

Ministry at MRBC

A small pool of Church Members is involved in leading the Sunday Services. The monthly prayer meetings have continued throughout the year as have the breakfast get togethers.

Two bible study groups meet regularly throughout the year.

Care for the growing fellowship cannot be addressed by the Minister alone. The church fellowship has been divided into 4 groups – based geographically across the town and surrounding areas – with a view to cascading support through the church community.

In July 2024, Duncan Wright – MRBC's Minister – indicated his intention to step down from Ministry no later than July 2025. The church has begun to consider the future and will appoint a Moderator to support us in this process. Contact has also been made with the Central Baptist Association who will provide additional guidance in assessing God's vision for MRBC.

Missions Support

The provision of frozen food parcels to the community has also continued, albeit to a reduced level as the requests have reduced. The Music and Media Groups also have new members which has benefitted their groups and the whole Church.

During 2024 we continued to support the Daylight Centre with food donations and financial support to Somalia and Sudan through UK Christian organisations. BMS Home Mission and World Mission also received regular donations with 5% and 2.5% of offerings being donated respectively, plus an additional £100 per month to each organisation.

We "set aside" £100 every month from the pension deficit contributions savings for the Fellowship and Outreach. We have been able to help a number of people who have found themselves in difficult circumstances. As food is an important part of Friday Party, some of this money also helps with the cost of supplying this and any craft supplies.

Safeguarding

There were no Safeguarding issues to report in 2024. Safeguarding training was also provided for those working with children and vulnerable adults.

All new Trustees attended a day course run by the Central Baptist Association ensuring that they are now accredited at levels 2 & 3 of the BUGB Safeguarding protocols.

Public benefit

As a small charity below the Charities Act audit threshold this report focuses on the above Achievements and Performance section. Our main activities are described above. All our charitable activities focus on the advancement of the Christian faith, in accordance with the Baptist denomination and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

The Trustees believe that the benefits evident from the detailed explanations above satisfy the benefit and public aspects of the statutory requirements.

Finance

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with S.41 (3) 3 of the Charities Act 1993.

The figures in the accounts are impacted by a significant insurance claim, agreed and, with funds released to the church, in the year to 31/12/2023. The majority of invoices for remedial work were paid in the 2024 Financial Year and are included in that year's accounts. The key points in the account are:

- A net deficit of £48,211.69 with expenditure exceeding income. This the deficit represents a decrease in monthly offerings, together with costs associated with the repairs covered by the Insurance claim noted above
- Total income increased to £80,381.33 (+2.23%) compared to 2023 (insurance claim funds excepted)
- The main sources of income were generated from Church Members' and regular attendees' offerings, rental income from the Manse and the claiming of Gift Aid. We were able to claim £9,073.06 in Gift Aid refunds from HMRC in November.
- Offerings decreased by 12.54% down to £51,179.10 compared to 2023. Manse income was 1% higher at £8,976. Gift Aid increased as the balance of claim from 2023 was included in the current year.
- Total expenditure for the period was £128,593.02 which includes transfers to the savings account of £11,475. Giving to Baptists causes decreased by £419.59 (5.9%).
- The balance in the Deposit/savings account has increased by £11,792.35 (+95%) to £24,195.73. The year ended with a current account balance of £8,773.87 and total balances of £32,969.60..
- Premises costs were 194% higher than in 2023 with the above drainage/roof costs accounting for the majority of the increase. Energy costs decreased by £682.54 (9.8%) MRBC

The Church's financial position remains that we are below the audit threshold and eligible for independent examination which was completed on 20/8/25 by Jill Clark.

The Church has 1 full time employee and ministry costs (including Manse expenses) were £39659.19 in 2024 compared with £35508.76 in previous year. This represents an increase of 11.69%

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report for 2024.
Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Signature:

Full name:

Position:

Date:

STEPHEN ROBINSON

Trustee & Secy

19/x/2025

MILL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, WELLINGBOROUGH**FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (AND 31ST DECEMBER 2023)****GENERAL RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
1 Offerings		£ 51,179.10	£ 58,514.47
2 Use of premises		£ 1,755.50	£ 2,029.50
3 Gifts & Donations		£ 500.00	£ 500.00
4 Special Funds		£ 3,180.00	£ 39,645.84
5 Manse Rent (Before maintenance costs)		£ 8,976.00	£ 8,859.40
6 Sundries		£ 5,717.67	£ 362.69
7 Gift Aid		£ 9,073.06	£ 4,330.63
	Total	£ 80,381.33	£ 114,242.53

	<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
8 Ministry		£ 38,331.67	£ 34,416.24
9 Manses expenses and repairs		£ 1,327.42	£ 1,092.52
10 Church premises expenses, repairs and renewals		£ 61,713.49	£ 20,987.65
11 Church Utilities		£ 6,230.10	£ 6,912.64
12 Baptist causes		£ 6,688.64	£ 7,108.23
13 Special Funds		£ 1,358.54	£ 2,129.87
14 Fellowship/Outreach		£ 1,451.97	£ 1,396.52
15 Sundries		£ 16.19	£ 53.08
16 To Deposit Account		£ 11,475.00	£ 4,000.00
	Total	£ 128,593.02	£ 78,096.75

Surplus/Defecit for the year	-£ 48,211.69	£ 36,145.78
Balance brought forward	£ 56,985.56	£ 20,839.78
Balance carried forward	£ 8,773.87	£ 56,985.56

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Balance Brought Forward	£ 12,403.38	£ 8,080.05
Receipts	£ 11,475.00	£ 4,000.00
Interest	£ 317.35	£ 323.33
Balance carried forward	£ 24,195.73	£ 12,403.38

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	<u>31/13/2024</u>	<u>12/31/2023</u>
17 Monetry Assets/Liabilities		
Current Account	£ 8,773.87	£ 56,985.56
Deposit Account	£ 24,195.73	£ 12,484.23
18 Non-monetary assets:		
Church Buildings, Contents & Manse Insurance Values	£ 3,906,298.00	£ 3,709,521.00
External Liabilities (HMRC PAYE & NI)	£ 1,396.69	£ 1,459.12

**Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Mill Road Baptist
Church Wellingborough**
On the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed by/~~on behalf of~~ the Examiner G. S. Clark Date 20/08/2025

Name GILLIAN SPENCER CLARK

Address 16, ROCKLEIGH CLOSE,
FINE DON, NORTHANTS. NN9 5DT.

MILL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, WELLINGBOROUGH

England & Wales - Charity number 1188656

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report

Period: -

1st January, 2023 to 31st December, 2023

Charity Name: -

Mill Road Baptist Church, Wellingborough

Charity registration number: -

1188656

Charity's principal address: -

Mill Road, Wellingborough, NN8 1PF

Church contact details: -

Tel: 01933 276631 email: admin@millroadbaptistwellingborough.com

Trustees: -

Duncan Wright (Minister)
Rahila Isaac
Arooj Cecil
Shashi Patel
Joby Pappu
Ian Wilson
Adam Peck resigned January, 2023

Structure of the Charity: -

The organisation is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) which was registered on the 19th March, 2020 and is governed by the Constitution "registered 19/3/20 as amended on the 6th September, 2021" which established the objects and powers of the CIO. In the event of the CIO having to be wound up the Church Members are not required to contribute an amount.

Charity Trustees are selected from the Church Membership with the Minister being automatically appointed. A prospective Charity Trustee needs to have been a member for at least 1 year and (is in agreement to be considered) shall have their name submitted to the Church Membership and voted on at the appropriate meeting and normally serve for an initial period of 3 years. Existing Trustees can be reappointed after their initial term based in the Approved Governing Document (AGD) requirements. Once the selection process has been completed the Trustees and the Minister become the Leadership Team of the Church responsible for managing Church affairs under the authority of the Church Members' Meetings which are open to all but only Church Members can vote.

Trustee meetings were held monthly with the exception of May '23 with an average attendance of 85% during 2023. At the end of the year 6 Trustees remained with 1 resignation as above. Church

Members' Meetings were held 4 times during 2023 with the AGM included in the meeting of 4/6/23 when Church Members approved the 2022 Financial and Trustees' Reports.

Purposes: -

The principal purposes of the Church are the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

The Church Members/Leadership Team are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in person or online, through YouTube, in a welcoming, open and safe environment through Sunday worship, prayer, faith, bible study, music, Sunday School, table tennis and chess group, monthly breakfast get together and Friday Party night.

To accommodate the above activities the School Room has been used extensively due to the floor repair works needed in the main Church building and further information is provided on this topic under the "Achievements and Performance" section. Maintenance improvements to the Church and Manse have also been actioned and we remain aware of the future need to repair the School Room roof. During this time of not being able to occupy the main Church building health and safety matters were met as we responded to the challenge of using other parts of the premises for worship.

Achievements and Performance: -

Sunday worship has continued to be in person and online via YouTube throughout 2023. YouTube provides a media for worshippers who remain unsure about returning to Church in person due to their own circumstances. Bible Study groups continued to meet weekly via Zoom and in person. Our Minister also made available studies via YouTube on biblical topics to help people grow in faith and increase their understanding of the bible.

Friday Night Party for the local community and Church Members/regular attendees continues to grow with new families coming along to enjoy snacks, chats and various games/crafts for all ages. External community groups for adults with learning difficulties, Gilbert and Sullivan Society and a local amateur drama group continue to use our facilities. The Senior Thursday group have continued to meet socially during the year.

Overseas visitors from St. Vincent visited Wellingborough and worshipped with us during the summer. MRBC financially supported one of the local Churches when the volcano erupted on the island.

The floor damage insurance claim which was rejected in 2022 by the Loss Adjusters was progressed further by the Fabric Team. The external areas of the tower were repaired. CCTV camera drain surveys were conducted over a period of time and revealed where underground pipe cracks and a build up of silt were evident. Further meetings took place with the Loss Adjusters along with an exchange of emails and with the evidence shown they finally agreed to accept our claim and the insurance money was received in December, 2023. Prior to this the 'old' floor was uplifted in September '23 and needed time for drying out before the new floor could be laid. This work commenced in January '24.

We are also aware that the School Room roof will need repairs/replacing at some point and donations for this work have been received from the congregation. We continue to make

contributions to the building fund and are earning interest through the Baptist Union savings account.

Church Membership increased to 68 as a result of 11 new members and 7 resignations. One funeral was held for a long standing member of the congregation in October '23 and a wedding celebration took place in June '23. A baptismal and dedication service took place in April '23 and May '23 respectively.

Junior Church has continued to grow with 3 new members assisting with the teaching. Due to health reasons the Junior Church leader has taken time-off from the role. A small pool of Church Members continue to be involved in leading the Sunday Services. The monthly prayer meetings have continued throughout the year as have the breakfast get togethers. The provision of frozen food parcels to the community has also continued, albeit to a reduced level as the requests have reduced. The Music and Media Groups also have new members which has benefitted their groups and the whole Church.

During 2023 we continued to support the Daylight Centre with food donations and financial support to Somalia and Sudan through UK Christian organisations. BMS Home Mission and World Mission also received regular donations with 5% and 2.5% of offerings being donated respectively, plus an additional £100 per month to each organisation. Our Harvest thanksgiving donation was made to Barnabas and we also assisted with an appeal for financial assistance for an organisation in India. Both donations were provided through the UK.

The MRBC Fellowship fund has also received £100 per month to help with any challenges faced by individuals. This fund was used to assist a Romanian person to return home because of domestic issues. The fund also provided the means for a tutor to teach English to a small group from the congregation. In both circumstances Trustees' approval was given.

The survey relating to the Baptist Union (BU) proposed changes to the Ministerial Rules was circulated and approved by Church Members on 29/10/23 and forwarded to the BU. The initial discussions on the topic were aired at the 25/9/22 Church Meeting.

Changes to the structure of the Safeguarding organisation was approved at the Church Members' meeting of 29/10/23. The necessary changes were as a result of a new Designated Person Safeguarding (DPS) being appointed due to the resignation of the previous DPS. A Trustee remains responsible for the overall responsibility of Safeguarding supported by an experienced Church Member and the new DPS. There were no Safeguarding issues to report in 2023. Safeguarding training was also provided and our actions are always to promote a safer culture for children and adults. Safeguarding is at the heart of our Christian faith.

Public benefit: -

As a small charity below the Charities Act audit threshold this report focuses on the above Achievements and Performance section. Our main activities and who we try to help are described above. All our charitable activities focus on the advancement of the Christian faith, in accordance with the Baptist denomination and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

The Trustees explain the benefits that are evident from the the detailed explanations above which, in our opinion, satisfy the benefit and public aspects of the requirements.

Finance: -

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with S.41 (3) 3 of the Charities Act 1993.

FY2023 end, showed a net surplus of £36,145.78 and with the positive balance of £20,839.78 carried forward from FY2021 accounts the year ended with a current account balance of £56,985.56. In addition to the current account balance the deposit/savings account shows a positive balance of £12,484.23. **Please note that the current account balance includes the payment from Insurers of £35,610.84 in settling our floor insurance claim.**

Total income increased to £78,631.69 (+1.8%) compared to FY2022 **excluding** the above insurance payment. Deposit/savings account has increased by £4,403.38 (+54%) to £12,484.23. Total expenditure for the period was £78,096.75 which includes transfers to the savings account of £4,000. A legacy of £1,000 was received in October, 2023.

Repair costs of £9,938.54 to the drainage systems and roof repairs accounted for 47% of the premises costs. Premises costs were 225% higher in FY23 compared to FY22 with the above drainage/roof costs accounting for the majority of the increase. Energy costs increased by £3,345.42. MRBC giving to Baptists causes increased by £2,187.83.

The main sources of income in FY2023 were generated from Church Members' and regular attendees' offerings, rental income from the Manse and the claiming of gift aid. Offerings increased by 12.78% to £58,514.47 compared to FY2022. Manse income was 9.7% higher at £8,859.40. Gift Aid was reduced due to timing.

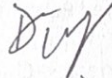
The Church's financial position remains that we are below the audit threshold and eligible for independent examination which was completed on 20/3/24 by Linda Freeman. The Church has 1 full time employee and ministry costs were £34.4k compared with £36.1k in previous year. Difference is due to pension changes.

Declaration: -

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report for 2023

Signed on behalf of the Trustees: -

Signature:



Full name:

D E WRIGHT

Position:

Minister

Date:

01/08/2024

MILL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, WELLINGBOROUGH**FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023 (AND 31ST DECEMBER 2022)****GENERAL RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
1 Offerings	£	58,514.47	£ 51,881.13
2 Use of premises	£	2,029.50	£ 1,376.00
3 Gifts & Donations	£	500.00	£ 300.00
4 Special Funds	£	39,645.84	£ 5,835.00
5 Manse Rent	£	8,859.40	£ 8,071.16
6 Sundries	£	362.69	£ 45.34
7 Gift Aid	£	4,330.63	£ 9,753.19
		-----	-----
Total	£	114,242.53	£ 77,261.82

	<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
8 Ministry	£	34,416.24	£ 36,065.36
9 Manses expenses and repairs	£	1,092.52	£ 1,480.70
10 Church premises expenses, repairs and renewals	£	20,987.65	£ 9,318.67
11 Church Utilities	£	6,912.64	£ 3,567.22
12 Baptist causes	£	7,108.23	£ 4,920.40
13 Special Funds	£	2,129.87	£ 2,675.34
14 Family Church	£	1,396.52	£ 286.58
15 Sundries	£	53.08	£ 87.44
16 To Deposit Account	£	4,000.00	£ 8,000.00
		-----	-----
Total	£	78,096.75	£ 66,401.71

Surplus/Defecit for the year	£	36,145.78	£ 10,860.11
Balance brought forward	£	20,839.78	£ 9,979.67
		-----	-----
Balance carried forward	£	56,985.56	£ 20,839.78

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Balance Brought Forward	£	8,080.85	£ -
Receipts	£	4,000.00	£ 8,000.00
Interest	£	403.38	£ 80.85
		-----	-----
Balance carried forward	£	12,484.23	£ 8,080.85

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**12/31/2023****12/31/2022**

17 Monetry Assets/Liabilities			
Current Account	£	56,985.56	£ 20,839.78
Deposit Account	£	12,484.23	£ 8,080.85
18 Non-monetary assets:			
Held for church's own use (Church & Manse Insurance Values)	£	3,709,521.00	£ 3,625,481.00
External Liabilities	£	1,459.12	£ 155.00

**Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Mill Road Baptist
Church Wellingborough**
On the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

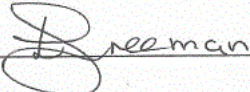
My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed by/on behalf of the Examiner  Date 20/03/24
Name MRS. LINDA FREEMAN
Address 7A KILBORN CLOSE
WELLINGBOROUGH NN8 5YA

MILL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, WELLINGBOROUGH

England & Wales - Charity number 1188656

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report

Period: - 1/1/22 to 31/12/22

Charity Name: Mill Road Baptist Church, Wellingborough

Charity registration number: 1188656

Charity's principal address: 64 Thomas Street, Wellingborough NN8 1DU

Church contact details: tel: 01933 276631 email: admin@millroadbaptistwellingborough.com

Trustees: -

Duncan Wright (Minister)
Rahila Isaac
Arooj Cecil
Shashi Patel
Joby Pappu
Adam Peck
Ian Wilson
Ezra Clarke (resigned 30/8/22)

Structure of the Charity: -

The organisation is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) registered on the 19th March, 2020 and is governed by the Constitution "registered 19/3/20 as amended on the 6th September, 2021" which established the objects and powers of the CIO. In the event of the CIO having to be wound up the Church Members are not required to contribute an amount.

Charity Trustees are selected from the Church Membership with the Minister being automatically appointed. Prospective Charity Trustees (who are in agreement to be considered) shall be submitted to the Church Membership and voted on at the appropriate meeting and normally serve for an initial period of three years. Existing Trustees can be reappointed after their initial term based on the Approved Governing Document (AGD) requirements. Once the selection process has been completed the Trustees and the Minister become the Leadership Team of the Church responsible for managing Church affairs under the authority of the Church Members' Meetings which are open to all Church Members.

Trustee meetings were held monthly with an average attendance of 85% during 2022. At the end of the year 7 trustees remained with 1 resignation as above. Church meetings were held 7 times during 2022 with the AGM included in the meeting of 21/8/22 when Church Members approved the 2021 Financial and Trustees' Reports.

Statement in relation to Covid 19: -

Church activities returned to normal pre pandemic levels at various times through 2022.

Purposes: -

The principal purposes of the Church are the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

The Church Membership/Leadership Team are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in person or online in a welcoming, open and safe environment through Sunday worship, prayer, faith, bible study and music.

To facilitate the above, a number of building repairs/improvements have been made to the Church fabric/Manse whilst ensuring that health and safety matters were met. We are aware of the ongoing repairs and investment needed for the school room roof and the main church floor which will be covered in more detail under Achievements and Performance section.

Achievements and Performance: -

Sunday worship has continued to be in person and online via YouTube. DVDs have been produced and distributed to those unable to worship in person and are unable to view online. Bible Study groups continued to meet weekly throughout the year with one group meeting in person and another using Zoom.

Friday Night Party for the local community and Church Members/regular attendees has seen a steady increase in numbers with new families coming along to enjoy snacks, chats and various games for all ages. Also external community groups for adults with learning difficulties, Gilbert and Sullivan Society and a local amateur drama group have been able to use our facilities.

As a result of discovering 'water' damage to the church floor in early September '22 the Leadership Team decided that from 25/9/22 we should worship in the school room until the issue was resolved. This meant that a claim was initiated with the Baptist Insurance(BI) with loss adjusters being appointed by BI. Loss Adjusters inspected the damaged floor area and after numerous telephone calls and email exchanges the Loss Adjusters refused our claim which was disappointing. We also sought building advice from a local building consultancy company to assist us with our claim but we were unsuccessful in changing the BIs decision as the water damage has been caused over a period of time which cannot be defined. We will now progress in 2023 how to repair the floor and return to the main Church building.

We are also aware that the school room roof will need to be repaired/replaced at some time and we have continued in the short term to make good repairs as deemed necessary. A building fund has been set-up with donations being regularly made by the congregation. To help with these projects, we have opened savings accounts through the Baptist Union to earn interest for these projects.

Despite these issues the church continues to grow and we welcomed 7 new members during 2022 which included 1 baptism. One existing member left at the beginning of 2022.

As a result of society continuing to return to normal after Covid the serving of tea/coffee after church services restarted in January '22 and this facility was also taken up by the external groups. A bring and share lunch was also enjoyed after the Harvest Thanksgiving service in September '22. Two funerals were held in April '22 and September '22 the latter for a Church Member of over 65 years.

Junior Church have also returned to normal with attendances increasing. The senior Thursday group have also met socially again during the year. A small group of members are also involved in leading the services at times. The daily Zoom prayer meetings ended July '22 and were replaced by in

persons meeting at the Church on the first Saturday of every month. There remains a facility for anyone who needs to have a private Zoom prayer time with the Minister. Once a month informal Breakfast get Togethers also restarted in late 2022. In late 2022 the Church was in a position to be able to provide frozen food parcels to members of the community and congregation. This service is to be continued in 2023.

During 2022 we continued to support orphanages in Nepal and India through gifting to UK contacts. Early in 2022 the Trustees decided to change from the orphanage donations to give regularly to Afghanistan through DEC, Tearfund and UNICEF. Later in the year the Trustees felt that regular giving should now be diverted to Somalia and Sudan through Tearfund. Donations were also gifted to Ukraine and Pakistan. The local Daylight Centre Fellowship charity also received regularly donations of non perishable foods.

BMS Home Mission and BMS World Mission also received regular donations throughout 2022 (with Home Mission receiving 5% of offerings plus £100 per month and World Mission receiving 2.5% plus £100 per month). A Fellowship fund was also set-up and receives £100 per month. A donation of £300 was received from the Timson Trust.

During April 2022 formal Safeguarding Training took place which involved 4 Trustees. There were no Safeguarding issues reported during the year. Safeguarding is at the heart of our Christian faith. In the past year, every action taken by the Church has been to promote a safer culture to keep children and adults safe.

Public benefit: -

As a small charity below the Charities Act audit threshold this report focuses on the above Achievements and Performance section. Our main activities and who we try to help are described above. All our charitable activities focus on the advancement of the Christian faith, in accordance with the Baptist denomination and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

The Trustees explain the benefits that are evident from the detailed explanations above which, in our opinion, satisfy the benefit and public aspects of the requirements.

Finance: -

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with S.42(3)3 of the Charities Act 1993.

FY2022 end, showed a net surplus of £10,860.11 and with the positive balance of £9,979.67 carried forward from the FY2021 accounts the year ended with a current account bank balance of £20,839.78. In addition to the current account balance the deposit/savings account shows a positive balance of £8,080.85.

Total income was £77,261.82 (+16.5% on FY'21) against a total expenditure of £66,411.71 (of which £8,000 was transferred to the deposit/savings account – total expenditure increased by 12.4%. By excluding the above £8,000.00 transfer, expenditure slightly declined by 1.1% as compared to FY'21).

The main sources of income in FY2022 were generated from Church Members' and regular attendees' offerings, rental income from the Manse and the claiming of gift aid. Offerings increased by 7% to £51.9k and gift aid by 217% to £9.8k compared with the previous year.

Expenditure on the Church/Manse for repairs and renewals increased by 39% to £10.8k whilst gifting to baptist causes and special funds fell by 13% to £7.9k from £9k in FY'21.
The church has 1 full time employee and ministry costs were £36.1k compared to £37.3k in FY '21.
No individual receives in excess of £60k per annum.

The Church's financial position remains that we are below the audit threshold and eligible for independent examination which was completed on 29th March, 2023 by Linda Freeman.

Declaration: -

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report for 2022.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees: -

Signature:



Full name: Duncan Eric Wright

Position: Minister

Date: 04/06/2023

**MILL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022 (AND 31ST DE**

GENERAL RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	<u>RECEIPTS</u>		2022
1 Offerings		£	51,881.13
2 Use of premises		£	1,376.00
3 Gifts & Donations		£	300.00
4 Special Funds		£	5,835.00
5 Manse Rent		£	8,071.16
6 Sundries		£	45.34
7 Gift Aid		£	9,753.19

Total		£	77,261.82

	<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
8 Ministry		£	36,065.36
9 Manses expenses and repairs		£	1,480.70
10 Church premises expenses, repairs and renewals		£	9,318.67
11 Church Utilities		£	3,567.22
12 Baptist causes		£	4,920.40
13 Special Funds		£	2,675.34
14 Family Church		£	286.58
15 Sundries		£	87.44
16 To Deposit Account		£	8,000.00

Total		£	66,401.71

Surplus/Defecit for the year		£	10,860.11
Balance brought forward		£	9,979.67

Balance carried forward		£	20,839.78

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Receipts		£	8,000.00
Interest		£	80.85

Balance carried forward		£	8,080.85

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

12/31/2022

17 Monetary Assets/Liabilities			
Current Account		£	20,839.78
Deposit Account		£	8,080.85
18 Non-monetary assets:			
Held for church's own use (Insurance values)		£	3,625,481.00

External Liabilities

£

155.00

CEMBER 2021)

2021

£ 48,444.90
£ 186.00
£ 300.00
£ 4,867.13
£ 7,920.00
£ 79.50
£ 4,495.50

£ 66,293.03

£ 37,273.39
£ 1,006.77
£ 6,745.92
£ 4,292.95
£ 5,303.44
£ 3,743.33
£ 41.19
£ 673.59

£ 59,080.58

£ 7,212.45
£ 2,767.22

£ 9,979.67

£ -

£ -

12/31/2021

£ 9,979.67
£ -

£ 3,242,725.00

£ 755.42

MILL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, WELLINGBOROUGH

England & Wales - Charity number 1188656

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report

From: - 1/1/21 To: - 31/12/21

Charity name: Mill Road Baptist Church, Wellingborough

Charity registration number: 1188656

Charity's principal address: 64 Thomas Street, Wellingborough, NN8 1DU

Church contact details: tel. 01933 276631 email - admin@millroadbaptistwellingborough.com

Trustees: -

Duncan Wright (Minister)
Gillian Cotton - resigned 28/11/21
Mary Roka Magar - resigned 28/11/21
Peter Clark - resigned 28/11/21
Rahila Isaac - reappointed
Shashi Patel - reappointed
Ian Wilson - reappointed

Arooj Cecil - elected from 28/11/21
Adam Peck - elected from 28/11/21
Joby Pappu - elected from 28/11/21
Ezra Clarke - elected from 28/11/21

The 4 elected trustees were elected by the church members through a secret ballot and verified by 2 scrutineers.

Structure of the Charity: -

The organisation is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) registered on the 19th March 2020 and is governed by the Constitution "registered 19 March 2020 as amended on 6 September 2021" which established the objects and powers of the CIO. In the event of the CIO being wound up the Members are not required to contribute an amount.

Charity Trustees are selected from the Church Membership with the Minister being automatically appointed. Prospective Charity Trustees (who are in agreement to be considered) shall be submitted to the Church Membership and voted on at the appropriate meeting and normally serve for an initial period of three years. Existing Trustees can be reappointed after their initial term based on the approved governing document requirements. The selection process for new Trustees was implemented in 2021. Once the selection process has been completed the Trustees and the Minister become the Leadership Team of the Church responsible for managing the affairs of the Church under the authority of the Church Members' Meetings which are open to all Church Members.

Trustee meetings are normally held monthly with the exception of August. During the period of the report 11 Trustee meetings were held with an average attendance of 96%.

Statement in relation to Covid 19: -

Again, the church activities were affected by the above pandemic and the church reopened for normal Sunday services and Junior Church on 25th July 2021 following a number of risk assessments to ensure that it was safe to do so for all attendees. A number of Covid protocols were put in place for the reopening with details communicated prior to the 25th to members and regular attendees on 'what to expect'.

Reopening the church buildings were delayed for external community groups until September 2021 and again after the completion of risk assessments by the church and the individual groups.

Purposes: -

The principal purposes of the Church are the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

The church membership/leadership team are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church in a welcoming, open and safe environment through prayer, faith, bible study and music.

To facilitate the above, we were aware of the importance on maintaining the fabric of the Church buildings/manse and ensuring that health/safety matters were met. During 2021, a number of building repairs were completed when the Leadership Team felt that it was safe to take place due to any Covid restrictions.

Achievements and performance: -

As previously stated Covid 19 had an impact in many of the activities with Sunday Services being conducted on YouTube until we were allowed to worship in person. Bible study groups continued using Zoom and in person when allowed. For those individuals who had no internet services a DVD was produced and distributed. Daily prayer meetings continued online using Zoom throughout 2021. Communion services were again restarted in July with Covid safeguards in place. Before July '21 communion service was conducted in each home during the YouTube live Sunday streaming services.

Trustees' meetings were conducted online via Zoom and external community groups were allowed to use the church facilities again from September '21. The external community groups include adults with learning difficulties and a local amateur dramatic group. Friday Party Nights for the local community and those attending the church began in December '21 after risk assessments were completed and it was considered safe to reopen. An outdoor Friday Party Night did take place in August '21. The gradual reopening phases were part of the churches strategy to reopen facilities in a phased approach. Regular updates to the Church website kept visitors and members informed of what was happening. Junior Church continued to use Zoom from May 2020 until August 2021.

Tea/coffee serving and lunches after the Sunday service were not reopened in 2021. Jumping Beans for children under school age and accompanied by a parent/guardian did not resume during 2021. During 2021 the YouTube Sunday services were visited regularly by individuals from USA, Spain and France. The senior Thursday group returned to meeting with one another socially in the church during the autumn.

Church Members' meetings were held during the year with a Special Church Members' Meeting being held in August '21 to consider changes to our Approved Governing Document (AGD) for

holding online Church Members' meeting. Church Members attending the meeting approved the changes unanimously for the church to have the flexibility to hold meetings either online or a combination of online and a physical meeting. Minutes of these meetings were distributed to Church Members. This change was communicated to the Charity Commission. A church directory for members was published and circulated in April '22.

The MRBC AGM was held in October '21 with Church Members approving the 2021 Financial and Trustees' Reports and the election and re-election of Trustees.

During 2021 we continued to support orphanages in Nepal and India through gifting to U.K. contacts. Local charities were also supported in 2021, namely the Daylight Centre Fellowship and Spurgeon's Childcare. Also, the La Soufriere volcano eruption on St Vincent, the church was able to support the local people through donations. Church Members with family connections in St Vincent assisted with the financial arrangements and we received updates from the St Vincent contacts on how our donations were used, for example, providing fresh bottled water. BMS Home and World Mission gifting was maintained at 5% and 2.5% respectively of offerings. Tearfund also received a donation from our Harvest Thanksgiving service.

Public services continued to be conducted with Covid precautions in place. One marriage, 1 funeral and another local church used our facilities for a baptismal service. A legacy of £1000 was received from a Church Member and a further gift was received of £100. In February '21 we received £300 from the Timson Trust.

No Safeguarding issues were reported during the year. Gillian Cotton served until 28/11/21 with Arooj Cecil replacing Gillian as the Safeguarding Trustee.

Public benefit: -

As a small charity below the Charities Act audit threshold this report focuses on the above Achievements and Performance section. Our main activities and who we try to help are described above. All our charitable activities focus on the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Baptist denomination and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

The Trustees explain the benefits that are evident from the detailed explanations above which, in our opinion, satisfy the benefit and public aspects of the requirements. Covid 19 has also restricted our activities but since July '22 we have been focussed on a return to 'normal'.

Finance: -

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payment basis in accordance with S.42(3) of the Charities Act 1993.

FY2021 showed a net surplus of £7212.44 and with the positive balance carried forward from the FY2020 accounts the year ended with a current account bank balance of £9980. Total income was £66,293.03 as against an overall expenditure of £59,080.58. Overall offerings increased in 2021 by 16% compared to 2020 with the move away from cash offerings as opposed to the increase in online giving as a result of Covid.

The Church's financial position remains that we are below the audit threshold and eligible for independent examination which was completed on 26/3/2022 by Linda Freeman.

Repair costs for the general maintenance of the Church buildings and the manse were 24% lower than 2020 at £7.8k. Church gifting for Baptist Causes and Special funds increased by 25% compared with 2020 to just over £9k. Solicitor's cost for advising the Church on becoming a CIO were considerably lowered than 2020.

The main sources of income in FY2021 were generated from Church Members' and regular attendees' donations, rental income from the manse and claiming gift aid. The Church has 1 full time employee with ministry costs of £37.3k in 2021 compared to £37.1k in 2020. No individual receives in excess of £60k per annum.

Declarations: -

The Trustees declare that they have approved the above Trustees' report.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees: -

Signature:



Full name: Duncan Eric Wright

Position: Minister

Date: 21st August 2022

MILL ROAD I

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021 (AND 31ST DECEMBER 2020)

1 GENERAL RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	<u>RECEIPTS</u>		2021
2	Offerings	£	48,444.90
3	Use of premises	£	186.00
4	Gifts & Donations	£	300.00
5	Special Funds	£	4,867.13
6	Manse Rent	£	7,920.00
7	Sundries	£	79.50
8	Gift Aid	£	4,495.50

	Total	£	66,293.03
	<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
9	Ministry	£	37,273.39
10	Manses expenses and repairs	£	1,006.77
11	Church premises expenses, repairs and renewals	£	6,745.92
12	Church Utilities	£	4,292.95
13	Baptist causes	£	5,303.44
14	Special Funds	£	3,743.33
15	Family Church	£	41.19
16	Sundries/Outreach	£	673.59

	Total	£	59,080.58
	Surplus/Defecit for the year	£	7,212.45
	Balance brought forward	£	2,767.22

	Balance carried forward	£	9,979.67

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

31/12/2021

17 Monetry Assets/Liabilities

Bank and other cash balances
Current Account

£ 9,979.67

18 Non-monetary assets:

Held for church's own use (Insurance values)

£ 3,242,725.00

External Liabilities

£

755.42

**BAPTIST CHURCH
ER 2020)**

2020

£ 41,840.62
£ 920.00
£ 660.00
£ 4,956.28
£ 7,920.00
£ 175.20
£ 4,607.96

£ 61,080.06

£ 37,101.68
£ 2,788.03
£ 7,460.31
£ 3,657.21
£ 2,974.14
£ 4,274.00
£ 15.00
£ 2,852.50

£ 61,122.87

-£ 42.81
£ 2,810.03

£ 2,767.22

31/12/2020

£ 2,767.22

£ 3,096,592.00

£ 1,330.18

**Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Mill Road Baptist
Church Wellingborough**
On the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed by/on behalf of the Examiner  Date 26/3/2022

Name MRS LINDA FREEMAN

Address 7A KILBORN CLOSE

WELLINGBOROUGH NN8 5YA

MILL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, WELLINGBOROUGH

England & Wales - Charity number 1188656

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report

From: 19/3/20 (date CIO was established) To: 31/12/20

Charity name : Mill Road Baptist Church, Wellingborough

Charity registration number: 1188656

Charity's principal address: -

64 Thomas Street, Wellingborough, NN8 1DU

Trustees: -

Duncan Wright (Minister)

Cecil John (fyi fixed term ended and Cecil John resigned 1/1/21)

Gillian Cotton

Rahila Isaac

Mary Roka Magar

Shashi Patel

Peter Clark

Ian Wilson

Structure of the Charity: -

The organisation is a charitable incorporated organisation registered on the 19th March, 2020 and is governed by the Constitution "registered 19 March 2020 as amended on 06 September 2021" which established the objects and powers of the CIO. In the event of the CIO being wound up the members are not required to contribute an amount.

Charity Trustees are selected from the Church Membership with the Minister being automatically appointed. Prospective Charity Trustees (who are in agreement to be considered) shall be submitted to the Church Membership and voted on at the appropriate meeting and normally serve for an initial period of three years. Existing Trustees can be reappointed after their initial term based on the governing document requirements. Once the above process has been completed the Trustees and the Minister become the Leadership Team of the church responsible for managing the affairs of the Church.

Trustee meetings are normally held monthly with the exception of August and December. During the period of the report 8 Meetings were held with an average attendance of 92%.

Statement in relation to Covid 19: -

The church activities have been affected due to the above and we have been unable to meet as a congregation in person. We have had to introduce the use of online services and other meeting platforms more than ever before.

Covid 19 has also increased the need for pastoral care and has been challenging for those involved.

Purposes: -

The principal purposes of the Church are the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and /or other parts of the world.

The church membership/leadership team are committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church in a welcoming, open and safe environment through prayer, faith, bible study and music.

To facilitate the above we are aware of the importance on maintaining the fabric of the Church buildings and manse. During the year and when safe to do so building repairs have taken place.

Achievements and performance: -

As previously stated Covid 19 has had an impact in all the activities and has resulted in the Church having to hold church meetings by Zoom and live streaming services. For those individuals who have no internet means a weekly DVD has been produced and distributed showing the Sunday service. Ad hoc telephone contact has also been evident for keeping in touch and when possible and safe to do so personal visits were made to those who were house bound.

The above forms of media have been vital for staying connected to members/regular attendees and general public and being able to continue in ministry whilst not being able to meet in person.

Weekly bible study groups moved online and a communion service was held every month. Deacons'/Trustees' meetings were also held online. A daily online prayer meeting has been established and still continues. Junior Church has also managed to operate online where possible and at times has been challenging. It has not been possible to operate Friday Party nights and Jumping Beans (under school age and accompanied by parent/guardian) due to the restrictions. The Church lunches on Sundays have not be able to operate and tea/coffee serving after the Sunday service has also ceased until it is safe to introduce again. Community groups, for example, adults with learning/other disabilities and a local amateur dramatic group making use of our premises during the period have not been able to meet and this situation will be in place until it is safe to operate. Our church is open to all and currently in excess of 16 different nationalities regularly worship on Sundays and are involved in the other activities.

We regularly have visitors from overseas and the UK using the live streaming services on Sundays. Two overseas (India and Nepal) orphanages have received regular financial donations and we continue to support local charities with food donations and financial support. We were able to give to the BMS Home and World Mission 5% and 2.5% of offerings. Support was also given to help those in need due to the Beirut port explosion. We will continue to consider donating to 'where the need is'.

Church Members' meetings have been conducted twice during the period of the report via Zoom and a special Deacons'/Trustees' meeting was held again via Zoom in October. Minutes from all Church Members' meetings are distributed to those recorded in the membership list. After the Sunday streaming services informal meetings among the congregation have also taken place via Zoom. This helped individuals to keep in touch with one another. Two people became Church Members in June 2020 and 4 funeral services were conducted during 2020.

Public benefit: -

As a small charity below the Charities Act audit threshold this report focuses on the above Achievements and Performance section. Our main activities and who we try to help are described above. All our charitable activities focus on the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Baptist denomination and are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

The Trustees explain the benefits that are evident from the detailed explanations above which, in our opinion, satisfy the benefit and public aspects of the requirements. Covid 19 has also restricted our activities in this area.

Finance: -

Please note that the transfer of assets/liabilities from the 'old church' to the CIO was completed after the year end, therefore, to summarise our financial position we are below the audit threshold and eligible for independent examination. A FY2020 income of £61,080 with expenditure of £61,123 resulted in a shortfall of £43. For FY2019 a positive balance of £2,810 was carried over to FY2020 resulting in a positive balance of £2,767 being carried over at the end of FY2020. The Trustees are aware that for FY21 a more detailed report will be required. The church has 1 full time employee.

Our main source of income comes from donations from the Church Membership, regular attendees, manse rent and hall hire. Gift Aid is also another form of income.

Declarations: -

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the trustees: -

Signature:



Full name: Duncan Eric Wright

Position: Minister

Date: 3/10/21

