

**Trustees' Annual Report for the period
from 1st May 2021 to 31st December 2021**
Charity name: CAREY BAPTIST CHURCH HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
Charity registration number: 1188844
FIRST ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE CIO

INTRODUCTION

Carey Baptist Church has existed as a charity for over 40 years since the amalgamation of Boxmoor and Marlowes Baptist Churches as an unincorporated association, affiliated to the Baptist Union of GB and Ireland which permitted us to act independently according to guidelines provided by the BU. In respect of the Charities Act, we were permitted to be excepted from individual registration, through the affiliation with BU, while our income was less than £100,000 per annum. This option is not open to us under the new legislation as our income exceeds the new £5,000 limit.

In response to UK government legislation requiring small Church charities to register with the Charity Commission, the unincorporated church agreed at a special Church Members' Meeting in July 2019 to establish a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for itself. The unincorporated association of members Church transferred all its assets, debts and liabilities across to the CIO on the 1st May 2021 and Carey Baptist Church Hemel Hempstead CIO became fully functional as of 1st May 2021. The CIO held a number of short Trustee and Church meetings between July 2019 and 1st May 2021, but all substantial decisions and all financial matters were handled by the unincorporated association of members Church until 1st May 2021.

This is the first Annual report by the CIO to the Charity Commission and the audited accounts only cover the period 1st May 2021 (when the assets of the UAM were transferred to the CIO) to 31st December 2021, which is the end of the Church's financial year. Future reports will cover a full 12-month period from 1st January to 31st December.

AIM

The Church aims "TO KNOW JESUS BETTER AND TO MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN" It does this by being open to all members of the local community joining the activities on the Church premises in Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1LD, elsewhere in the town and online.

Our Mission Statements are: -

Nurture faith - provide scripture-led, Christ-centred ministry for all members and generations of the church family, supporting growth in our faith and encouraging one another to live as Jesus would, in peaceful relation to God, to our community and to the whole of creation.

Outreach - identify opportunities within Hemel to reach out and build relationships with young adults (25-45), showing the message of Jesus is relevant to them today, through prayer and action, including prayer and action in response to our global environmental emergency.

Children & Young People - share knowledge of the love of Jesus and bring them to know Jesus personally, helping them to feel valued within God's family and the church family at Carey and encouraging them to play their part in God's purposes for all creation.

OBJECTIVES

Our objectives are: -

- to promote the pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical mission of the Church
- to enable as many people as possible to worship at our Church and encourage membership
- refurbishment/redevelopment our building for benefit of congregation and community
- have due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance

ACTIVITIES

Evangelistic/Pastoral

To ensure the continued promotion of our whole mission during Covid lockdowns, Carey used Zoom to hold church meetings, deacons' meetings, and provide spiritual support and teaching through virtual prayer meetings, bible studies, coffee mornings, and Book Club meetings. This was coupled with individual visiting as appropriate, sometimes in people's gardens, on the doorstep, whilst following Covid regulations regarding mask wearing, hand-washing, etc. Our approach helped to relieve social isolation.

Additionally, a system of regular phone calls to the more isolated and vulnerable in the fellowship was put in place in 2020, which continued during the lockdown early in 2021. During periods of easing Covid restrictions, Carey organised short social walks in the park, limited to bubbles of six people, with the groups of six following different routes. This helped ease social isolation, but encouraged exercise and time appreciating God's creation. Similarly, the resumption of our monthly Hymn Café, since September 2021, has been widely appreciated by people within and beyond our church. The Ladies' Group also resumed in September with occasional lunchtime meetings at the church.

Carey runs a Junior church/Youth church to share knowledge of the love of Jesus and to lead them into a growing relationship with Him. Separate Zoom sessions were run during Lockdowns. With more families attending the church, it is intended to start another group for young children after Easter.

In 2021, Carey was pleased to be able to celebrate two Baptisms, one in September and one in December. We also organised carol singing outside the church, in keeping with our mission statement objective of sharing the good news of the Christian message with our community. Over Advent, Sunday worship was conducted mostly in-person: the all-age Christmas service included Carey's Youth Church doing a drama sketch about the Shepherds, as well as a communion service celebrating Christmas around the world.

Carey actively supports both local and global charities through donations and dedication of communion offerings. We also support the BMS World Mission and currently partner with mission workers in Bangladesh.

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. To this end, Carey supports Christian Aid, Operation Agri, Christians Against Poverty amongst others.

Social and Community

Throughout the week the church is used by several groups including Baby & Toddler, Table Tennis, National Federation of Occupational Pensioners (NFOP), and Hemel Wargamers. Two valuable community services have restarted: Heather Club, which provides support to older people with memory problems, and Child Contact Centre, which offers opportunities for separated parents to meet their children, as well as providing access to legal advice to them from a visiting solicitor.

The Baby & Toddler Group had run in a small way on Zoom, which was appreciated by those parents and children who could regularly attend. In-person meetings resumed when permitted, initially with limited numbers, pre-booking, and measures to reduce virus transmission. The increasing numbers attending since September 2021 show that the group has been appreciated by the wider community. Its positive contribution was recognised with a Locality Budget grant from our Local Councillor in 2021.

Large developments of flats are being built opposite the church and Carey has been instrumental in reaching out to the community by including our church details in the developers' purchaser information packs.

Ecumenical

Carey is a member of Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead, who hold two forums per annum, engage in occasional events and have an Easter Walk of Witness.

Carey produces a monthly magazine in conjunction with two other churches; this is distributed to the congregations and visitors.

Worship

Initially, when the church was closed, weekly recordings of Sunday morning worship were put on our website. We progressed to home based zoom worship, including quarterly communion services.

This reached a larger audience, although those who were not able to access this technology were still sent printed copies of the Sunday talks and the weekly newsletter.

When Carey returned to meeting in person on 6th December 2020, we developed a hybrid form of worship which included on Zoom those unable or unwilling to meet in person. With a break due to the third Lockdown, this started again on Good Friday 2021, and this approach has since been significantly improved, thanks to our tech team and to people donating money and equipment to improve the Zoom experience.

This hybrid form of worship ensured our objective of providing spiritual and practical support to both those within and beyond the church.

ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

Our CIO had a membership at 31st December of 67 people, and we were in regular contact with up to 124 adults, 4 secondary school age young people and 26 children under 11, through our weekly activities and email circulation of newsletters etc. We had two Believers' Baptisms.

By the end of the year the typical attendance in the church at the main service of worship was 40-45, including 4 secondary school age and 2 children under 11, with up to 12 accessing the service via Zoom.

As part of his continuing ministerial development, our minister Colin Cartwright, was released by Carey for a time of sabbatical study, from May-August 2021. During this period, a number of local preachers and members of Carey led Sunday worship.

Eco friendly

In keeping with a vital aspect of one of our new Mission Statements, Creation care, Carey attained a Bronze Eco Church Award in June 2021, having registered as an Eco Church in September 2020.

To continue to remain as green as possible, and on our surveyor's recommendation, we have been running the Sanctuary heating continuously at a low level, raising the temperature for services.

When we have to replace lighting, we do so with more efficient light bulbs.

We strive to ensure that the building remains as energy efficient as possible. To that end we have had an energy audit undertaken and currently await the report.

Mission

Three groups were established to discuss how the church could further develop aspects of our new Mission Statement, under the headings of Nurture, Outreach, and Children's and Youth work.

Outcomes from these included the following.

- The launch of a new and improved website for our church, which is already seeing higher numbers of visitors to it.
- Greater involvement of our young people in Sunday worship, particularly the monthly all-age services.
- Increased input by members to Sunday worship, to ensure that the cultural diversity of our church is more recognised and celebrated.
- More prayer meetings organised on Zoom, to deepen the prayer life of our church, to encourage our spiritual growth in Christ and to develop deeper fellowship.
- Introducing prayers for help and healing at the end of monthly communion services).

Refurbishment/Redevelopment

We keep on top of the refurbishment of the church and have decorated and built cupboards in the Youth Church lounge.

We continue without an internet connection within the church premises, but our location provides an excellent mobile phone service, allowing creation of a Wi-Fi Hotspot for a laptop connected to the projector at the front of church.

We have been keeping expenditure on the buildings at a minimum. Fortunately, during lockdowns our cleaner was making regular visits to do necessary thorough cleans relating to Covid, which lowered our risk of break-ins and avoided insurance cost increases.

The number of organisations using our buildings has not returned to pre-Covid levels, which has substantially lowered our income and limits our budget for maintenance.

A necessary expenditure has been repairs to the street frontage retaining wall of our property, damaged by careless parking.

We also continued to maintain the Manse for our Minister, and at the retirement of Belmont Road Baptist Church's Minister, have taken back maintenance responsibility for its manse, which we own. Following some major work, it was re-let at the end of August.

FUTURE PLANS

It is intended that we continue with refurbishment and increasing the energy efficiency of the church in order to make it more comfortable and appealing to both the congregation and community.

We will look to increase the use of the sanctuary by community groups and install new sound and vision systems.

We are working to improve our large Memorial Hall, specifically to replace the heating system and the parking area next to it.

These works will be financed by a combination of fund raising and grants for the larger projects.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total Income was £49,495 with Expenditure of £66,925 as detailed in the audited accounts for the period.

Donations were made as follows:

£2,000 to the Home Mission Fund (Central Baptist Association); £2,050 to the Baptist Missionary Society; £363 – Baptist World Relief Fund; £662 – Embrace Middle East (Gaza Appeal); £1,104 – Christian Aid (Annual Appeal); £756 - Operation Agri (Harvest Appeal); £409 – Spurgeons (Christmas Appeal).

The balances carried forward are:

General I&E Fund (unrestricted) - £-70.26

Designated:

Building Fund - £1,513. *Monies for urgent repair works, outside budgeted maintenance.*

Forward Steps Fund - £2,357. *Funds raised for use in supporting Refurbishment/ Redevelopment objective.*

Children & Families Worker - £24,000. *Gift from Trinity Church to support our aims with Youth ministry.*

Flower Fund - £3,143. *Legacy gift to be used to decorate the Church with fresh flowers.*

Restricted: Lord's Supper Fund - £1,505. *Monies used to support the needy in the town (Hemel Hempstead).*

Legacies & In Memoriam - £1,7370. *Funds can be used to improve the premises or services of the Church but not for regular maintenance.*

Total Balance carried forward: £49,867

VOLUNTEERS

We would like to thank all our volunteers who work so hard to make our Church the lively and vibrant community it is.

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Carey Baptist Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, and we adopted the Baptist Approved Governing Document as our Constitution.

The method of appointment for Trustees is set out in our Constitution. Each of the Trustees has been appointed by a vote of the membership at our Annual General Meeting. All those who attend our services are encouraged to become members of the Church.

The Trustees are responsible for making decisions on all matters of importance and general concern on behalf of the Church whilst ensuring that, where necessary, members' votes are required to carry important issues.

The Trustees have met on Zoom 8 times during the 8-month period of this Report, with an average level of attendance above 80%. Four Church members' meetings were held on Zoom during the same period.

All Trustees give their time freely with no remuneration being paid.

Administrative Information

The named Charity is Carey Baptist Church, Hemel Hempstead

Address; Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1LD, which is the correspondence address.

Charity Registration number 1188844.

The following members have served as elected Trustees through the reporting period:

Gill Blunden

Hilary Donovan

Raphael Femi-Ola

Colin Hughes

Aquila Leeniyagoda

Bhagya Leeniyagoda

Margaret Lye

Kathleen McLeod

Obed Sardar

Reverend Colin Cartwright (as Minister)

Approved by the Trustees on 9th March 2022 and signed on their behalf by (Chairman)



COLIN CARTWRIGHT

CAREY BAPTIST CHURCH - HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
CIO ACCOUNTS May - Dec 2021

General Fund

UAM Closing Balance		Actual May - Dec	BUDGET May - Dec
<i>BREAKDOWN</i>	RECEIPTS:	2021	2021
17190	Weekly and monthly offerings	31335	28000
0	Annual gifts	0	0
17190	TOTAL OFFERINGS	31335	28000
10340	Gift Aid Tax refunds	0	4000
270	Special Appeals (Pew Bibles)	1	270
370	Restricted Monies for C&F Worker	900	0
1860	Donations	3407	333
180	Lettings	3895	4667
0	Wedding and funeral fees	0	0
1	Interest on Current and Deposit Accounts	43	0
4500	Rent for 55 Newell Road (gross)	9325	10500
520	Miscellaneous	588	33
0	Transfer to General Fund	0	0
35231	TOTAL INCOME	49495	47803
	PAYMENTS:		
12757	Ministry and direct costs	27115	29333
0	Pulpit supply	565	1200
71	Office and Secretarial services	291	200
0	Junior Church and Youth Work	95	467
1300	Children and Families Worker	1625	2600
0	Organist	0	0
2740	Cleaning and Janitorial Supplies	5648	6281
-255	Water charges	140	120
979	Electricity	663	933
3250	Gas	5593	2667
237	Refuse disposal	482	833
2746	Repairs, Maintenance and Redecoration	4542	5333
0	Furniture and Equipment ...	354	333
163	Subscriptions	882	1000
1000	Baptist Missionary Society	2050	2000
1000	BU Home Mission Fund ...	2000	2000
0	Conference and Assembly fees	120	67
0	Insurances	4059	3000
44	Catering	0	67
48	Telephone	94	133
112	Miscellaneous	1001	233
0	World Development and Relief	713	475
3133	Donations to others / Newell Road Costs	8463	3200
176	Transfer Gift Aid tax refunds to other funds	428	333
0	Transfer to other funds	0	0
0	Transfer interest to other funds	0	0
29501	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	66925	62810
5730.50	Income (Deficit) for the period	-17429.77	-15007
12066.55	Balance brought forward 1 May 2021	17629.53	11899
168	<i>Balance C/fwd for Pew Bibles</i>	270.02	
17630	Balance carried forward end of period	-70	-3107

**UAM Closing
Balance
Apr-21**

CIO ACCOUNTS May-Dec 2021 - Other Funds

	Lord's Supper Fund		Dec-21
3055	Balance brought forward	2555	
0	Income during the period	250	
500	Expenses during the period	1300	
2555	Balance carried forward end of period		1505
	Flower Fund		
892	Balance brought forward	892	
0	Income during the period	0	
0	Expenses during the period	100	
892	Balance carried forward end of period		792
2351	Flower Investment Fund	2351	2351
	Children & Families Worker Fund		
0		24000	24000
	Legacies and In Memoriam Fund		
17820	Balance brought forward	17820	
0	Income during the period	0	
0	Expenses during the period	450	
17820	Balance carried forward end of period		17370
	Building Fund		
513	Balance brought forward	1513	
1000	Income during the period	0	
0	Expenses during the period	0	
1513	Balance carried forward end of period		1513
	Carey Forward Steps Fund		
7543	Balance brought forward	7543	
0	Income during the period	154	
0	Expenses during the period	5340	
7543	Balance carried forward end of period		2357
	Special Appeals	Collected	Sent
0	Christian Aid (2020 donation from WDF)	1104	1104
0	Bibles for Schools	0	0
0	Operation Agri	806	756
0	Spurgeons	409	409
	End-of-Year Balance		
4916	Assets: CAF Bank current account	1937	
24834	CAF Bank deposit account	27335	
20552	BU Corp Deposit	20594	
50302			49867
17629.53	Commitments: General Fund	-70	
0.00	Children and Families Worker Fund	24000	
2351.00	Flower Investment Fund	2351	
2554.92	Lord's Supper Fund	1505	
17819.63	Legacies & In Memoriam	17370	
1512.81	Buildings Fund	1513	
7542.68	Carey Forward Steps Fund	2357	
891.85	Flower Fund (money held)	792	
0.00	Appeals Balance c/fwd	50	
50302			49867

**CAREY BAPTIST CHURCH - HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
(CIO)**

ACCOUNTS May - Dec 2021

Balance Sheet at end of period

Opening Balance May-21		Closing Balance Dec-21	
ASSETS:			
<i>Funds</i>			
4,916	CAF Bank current account	1,937	
24,834	CAF Bank deposit account	27,335	
20,552	BU Deposit account	20,594	
<u>50,302</u>		<u>49,867</u>	
<i>Petty Cash Accounts</i>			
84	Weekly Flowers	132	£100 Tfr from Flower Fund
192	Catering Committee	192	No Catering Activity
<u>276</u>	Petty Cash sub total	<u>324</u>	
<i>Property</i>			
500,000	Church Premises	500,000	
400,000	Cemmaes Court Road Manse	400,000	
400,000	Newel Road Manse	400,000	
		<u>1,300,000</u>	
<u>1,350,302</u>	TOTAL	<u>1,349,867</u>	
LIABILITIES:			
0	Debtors	0	
35,400	Pension Deficit @ 20/12/21	27,200	
<u>35,400</u>	TOTAL	<u>27,200</u>	
<u>1,314,902</u>	Balance	<u>1,322,667</u>	

Independent examiners' statement

I have examined the accounts and relevant documents presented to me by the Trustees of Carey Baptist Church - Hemel Hempstead (CIO), together with clarifying explanations and, in my view, the accounts present a true and fair view of the financial affairs of said Church for the period 1 May to 31 December 2021.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the Trustees have not met the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 144 of the 2011 Charities Act: and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011

(b) or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Barbara Dye 6th March 2022

Barbara Dye
Independent Examiner