

WOODBERRY DOWN BAPTIST CHURCH

References and administrative details

Registered Address:

190 Vartry Road
South Tottenham
London
N15 6HA

Charity Registration Number: 1189018

Trustees		
Full Name	Position	Date appointed
Rev Charles Mugenyi	Chair	
Bryan Sycamore	Trustee	14-Apr-20
Trevor Davis	Trustee	14-Apr-20
Bienvenu Nsukisa	Trustee	24-Oct-24
Victor Fernando Riofrio Piedro	Trustee	24-Oct-24
Ernest Toquie	Trustee	24-Oct-24

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Limited, Baptist House

129 Broadway Didcot

Oxfordshire

OX11 8RT

Bankers

SANTANDER

Independent Examiner

Mr Teshale Joba

Members Meeting dated 27 April 2025

Annual Report for 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by a constitution approved by its members. Members of the Church are accepted by the constitution, which requires them to be or to have been publicly baptised on the profession of faith in Jesus Christ or following other modes of baptism to renew their public profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

The members' Meeting generally occurs twice a year and is responsible for setting the overall policy of the church. According to the Constitution, members appoint at least three Trustees who, along with the Minister, Church Secretary, and Treasurer (all appointed by the Members), oversee the day-to-day operations of the church's work and witness, as well as handle the financial and legal responsibilities of the charity. All members are encouraged to actively participate in both the spiritual and practical tasks needed to advance the charitable objectives.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church meeting by the Trustees for guidance or raised by members for further consideration by the Trustees. Although the Constitution allows decisions to be made at Church meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church aims to work by consensus whenever possible.

Objectives and Activities

The advancement of the Christian faith for the public benefit per the statement of faith set out in Appendix 1 of the constitution through the holding of prayer meetings, seminars, and public celebration of religious festivals, and charitable support for the needy.

To achieve the principal objective, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as living Lord.

The Church's primary purpose is to provide regular public services of Christian worship. These services are held each Sunday. The church notice board/website at woodberrydownchapel.org has a variety of public events, which are advertised on the church notice board or website. The church seeks to be a welcoming community, and anyone is free to attend any of these public services and events.

The Church runs a series of small group meetings for mutual aid, the growth of faith, and discipleship. Further details of these can be obtained from the Trustees by request or at public Sunday services of worship.

The Church has a number of systems in place to ensure that all individuals working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

The church has read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and is satisfied that the activities outlined above clearly demonstrate that the charity is providing a benefit to the public.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, including financial numbers, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship and encouragement. The Trustees recognise that these are complex to measure but believe that 2024 was a good year in the life of the church, and that it will be able to pursue its mission purposes in 2025 with renewed faith and passion.

The children's outreach was very successful last year and was, on some occasions, supported by the *Child Evangelism Fellowship*. The children's ministry ran clubs with up to 15-20 children in session. We saw new families come to the clubs. We hope to continue with this work and engage families who come to the clubs more. We recognise, though, that we need a younger group of volunteers to strengthen this work and run frequent clubs at term times as during half-term breaks.

The Recovery program continued to grow with the provision of three sessions each week on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. The Tuesday evening group is most popular, with about 8-12 participants weekly. We provided meals each week to all attendees. The Thursday group is not as well attended, with an average of four people in attendance. The Saturday groups are well attended most weeks, with more than six participants. Regular participants in any group are strengthened in their faith and abilities to overcome life-controlling habits and regain the ability to overcome substance dependence and restore their relationships with friends and family.

We give thanks to everyone who donates to this work, especially Jayne and Duncan as major donors, St Thomas's church, and other individuals who supply meals. Because of the generous income we received, which is restricted to this programme, we have two recovery workers. In total, the programme has seventeen volunteers in the recovery programme, including those who supply and prepare weekly meals and the mentors. Without the help of our dedicated and generous donors, volunteers, and the church's support and prayers, this work would not be possible. We thank all ministry groups for their dedication and service in offering their time, gifts and talents and giving funds to enable church ministry to continue in all its many facets including service to children, men, women and other groups that meet at church like the Karen and Turkish fellowships, Ebenezer Prayer, and community meetings.

Financial Review

The Church continues to raise funds to support its activities through its membership and congregation. No wider public appeal was made for funds during the year.

Income in 2024 increased by 34% to **159,027.61** from **118,494.58** in the previous year. This is mainly due to generous donations to the recovery work.

The most significant expenses related to the church's activities include the Sunday Services, and the Recovery programme to provide pastoral care for the congregation and participants, and to equip and encourage the membership in their life, Christian witness, and service.

The Church relies heavily on its membership working as volunteers in most aspects of the church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure but contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives and missions.

Total expenditure increased by 8% from **£86,832.62** to **£93,454.02** due to increases in Recovery Project costs and monthly subscribers.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted, are set out in the accompanying **financial statements**.

Reserves Policy

Our Reserves Policy enables the church to function effectively and meet its obligations in the event of a decline in our income or a major cost. Having considered the relevant risks of changes in income and expenditure, the policy indicates that the appropriate level of reserves is in the range £30,000 to £50,000.

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of Woodbury Down Baptist Church

On account for the year ended 31 December 2024

Basis of the examiner's statement

My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts prepared with those records. 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

As the trustees of the church, 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 church'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.

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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Signed:



Date: 24 May 2025

Name: Teshale Joba

Woodberry Down Baptist Church
Receipts and Payments Account
for the period ending 31 December 2024

	2024			2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
Incoming resources				
Tithes and Donations	81,841	33,000	114,842	67,335
Hall Hire	190		190	420
Recovery Projects		25,000	25,000	3,992
Gift Aid Refund	10,059		10,059	39,734
Other income	8,937	0	8,937	7,013
Totals	101,028	58,000	159,028	118,495
Outgoing resources				
Pastorate costs	33,935	0	33,935	33,405
Activities in relation to the work of WDBC	26,951	32,569	59,519	53,427
Totals	60,885	32,569	93,454	86,833
Net Incomings for the year	40,142	25,431	65,574	31,662
Adjustment to total bank balance	0	0	0	0
Balances as at 1 January	204,825	28,913	233,738	202,076
Balances as at 31 December	244,967	54,344	299,311	233,738

Assets as at 31/12/2024

	2024	2023
Current bank account balance	266,496	201,402
Deposit bank account balance	32,647	32,335
Total bank balances	299,144	233,738

Pettycash on hand (31/12/2025) 167.24

Fixed Assets

Church building (Insured Value)	5,106,396
Manse (Insured value)	249,132
Other assets (based on asset register)	29,501

Approved by

Name CHARLES MUGENYI

Designation: TRUSTEE

Date: 27/04/2025

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