

ELTHAM PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Charity No 1190789

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

ELTHAM PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

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ELTHAM PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name	Eltham Park Baptist Church
Charity Registration Number	1190789
Registered and Administrative Office	32a Westmount Road London SE9 1JE
Trustees	Patricia Mary Bailey-Barclay Alfred Bassah Andrew Goldsworthy Heather Goldsworthy Mark McLeish Kathleen Nobbs Rachel Priddle Jill Rackley Arnold Tarling Thomas Tarling
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc 25 Gresham Street London EC2V 7HN
Independent Examiners	Field Sullivan 9 Hare & Billet Road Blackheath London SE3 0RB

Trustees' Annual Report for the period from 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

Charity name: Eltham Park Baptist Church

Charity registration number: 1190789

Objectives and Activities

<i>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</i>
The principal purpose of the Church is 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.
<i>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</i>
<p>The Activities may include but are not restricted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching.• Baptism, as defined in the Baptist Union's Declaration of Principle.• The Communion of the Lord's Supper which shall normally be observed at least once a month.• Evangelism and mission, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.• The teaching, encouragement, welcome and inclusion of young people.• Nurture and growth of Christian disciples.• Education and training for Christian and community service.• Giving and encouraging pastoral care.• Supporting and encouraging charitable social action in the United Kingdom and abroad.• Encouraging relationships with and supporting Baptists and other Christians.
<i>Statement confirming whether the Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</i>
The Trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

<i>Working out our purpose through our vision</i>
<p>Our objectives remain the same as in previous years and reflect the vision statement we wrote as a church family in 2019.</p> <p><i>To love people as Jesus loves them, we have focused on the following three areas:</i></p>

Our relationship with God. We will seek to grow in dependency upon God and go deeper in our faith. We seek to do this so that we are strengthened to live a life that reflects Jesus. We shall listen to God and be transformed by Him through the following ways:

- Worship and prayer
- Reading scripture
- Preaching and teaching God's Word

Our relationships with each other. We will seek to take an interest in all people, encouraging people to use their gifts and feel appreciated. We will seek to support and care for one another as we live out our faith through the following ways:

- Encouraging deeper relationships through small groups/homegroups
- Practical care for all
- Intergenerational activities

Our relationship with the world/community around us. We will seek to support each other to live and share who Jesus is through the whole of our lives both within the community of Eltham and the world around us. We will seek to do this in the following ways:

- Be a positive presence in the community
- Share our faith
- Be concerned for our environment and issues of justice

These objectives continue to be the basis from which we determine our activities and ministries across the church.

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

Worship and Prayer:

We have continued to value the importance of prayer and sought to find ways to engage with more people. The prayers at 10am on a Sunday morning, led by one of the deacons, continued to grow in numbers. Monthly prayer meetings were held at the end of each month, alternating between Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Although numbers did increase a little, these were still not well attended. In August, we held a Prayer Walk in the local area, instead of a Sunday morning service, when we prayed for the community of Eltham, especially the shops, schools and other churches.

In March, the decision was made to invite the church family children to stay in for communion – partly to enable the leaders of the children's work to participate. This was a popular move, so we decided to make it a permanent change. We maintained an all-age service every month, where the children and young people remained in the service for the whole time. These often involved creating different crafts to help everyone remember the key points of a story from the Bible. Many of these crafts were displayed on or around the wooden cross in the sanctuary and helped to map the learning journey of the church's teaching.

Unfortunately, during the year, one of our daytime homegroups closed as we could find no one suitable and available to carry on the leadership. Some members were able to join other evening groups, but others were not.

Over the year we participated a series of special services and events. These included inviting a representative from Jews for Jesus to explain the aspects of the Easter story from a Messianic Jewish perspective, helping us to gain a deeper understanding of this key event. We held a Good Friday contemplative service, followed by a fish and chips meal hosted in the Friendship Centre. This helped us to come together as a church family to remember the events of Easter and deepen our relationships with each other.

As part of our Pentecost celebration, we joined together with other local churches from Westmount Road for a sensory walk around Eltham Park South, where we engaged in a time of prayer and reflection, led by the new minister at St Luke's. We hope this link will be the start of a new relationship and collaboration with other local churches.

To commemorate Harvest this year, we invited one of our supported BMS missionary families to join us. We held a wonderful family celebration events full of food, dancing, quizzes and information on the Saturday, and discovered more about the work of BMS during our Sunday service to better support their work.

Our Girls' Brigade led the remembrance service this year, where we learned more of the essential role women played during wartime.

Christmas saw an interactive service where we made Christingles; a charming nativity led by our youth; and a beautiful Carols by Candlelight celebration. The Christmas morning family service was a wonderful way to complete the season. All these events were publicised to our local community through posters, the website and in SE9 magazine, and we had a good number of visitors attend.

Throughout the whole of this year, the multi-voice approach to leading our services has continued to grow. We have more people taking part and offering to help, including some of very youngest members of the church family, who so confidently led the birthday box celebration.

Leadership:

One of the Trustees, Alfred Bassah, was felt a call to ministry during the year and took on the role of Minister in Training (MiT), remaining part of the leadership team. Alfred's journey towards this role followed a successful application and recommendation for ministry by the church during February, and agreement for him to stay on at Eltham Park as our new MiT in April, for the following three years. We are able to fund this by using the last part of the legacy received in 2018 and designated for this purpose. Honesty Kachida, our Moderator throughout 2024, agreed to support Alfred in the absence of a minister. Alfred's formal induction service was held in September, just after he began his training at Spurgeon's college. We are very grateful to God for the stability and support Alfred has been able to offer during this time without a minister.

Our search for a new minister continued throughout 2024 (and into 2025). The Search Team and Trustees considered the ministerial profiles we were sent, meeting informally with some potential ministers and inviting one candidate to preach during the Spring. However, we recognised that God was not calling this person to Eltham Park. In the Autumn we informally met with two further individuals. One candidate dropped out as he accepted the position at another church, and the other visited the church to preach. We subsequently decided not to proceed with that person and at the time of writing are continuing to discern God's will in regard to the ministerial vacancy.

As far as the Trustee body was concerned, there was one change during the year, with Tracy Thomas stepping down for personal reasons.

Considering other leadership roles, the church unanimously agreed to John Baker taking on the responsibility as the new Boys' Brigade captain.

Buildings:

Early in the year we added a layer of insulation to the underside of the sanctuary roof and removed two huge vents which had allowed cold air to circulate in the main body of the church. This helped to reduce our heating bills, made the sanctuary a little warmer and showed responsibility towards our environmental impact.

Plans for upgrading the Manse were shared and agreed with the membership. The plans involved redesigning the kitchen and adding an accessible downstairs toilet and wet room. Structures were put in place to enable future work to extend the bathroom, should we wish to at some later date. The

hallway under the stairs was to be made wider to enable wheelchair users to access the kitchen and wet room. The remaining amount of money from the legacy (which had been allocated for premises redevelopment) along with several specific monetary gifts given for this work would cover the bulk of the estimated cost, of £95,000, with the remaining amount covered by the General Fund and money saved from not paying a minister during the ministerial vacancy.

To improve accessibility within the main church, handrails were added to the pulpit to support those climbing the stairs. A ramp was also moved to enable folk to walk or use a wheelchair to access the stage area. Further plans were suggested for adding a handrail to the ramp inside the sanctuary and the slope outside to help those walking or wheeling along that area.

In the autumn, it was decided to redevelop aspects of the lounge to make it child friendly and suitable for a creche. We needed to add usable, wipe clean mats to the floor, child-proof the cupboards and drawers, partition the stacked chairs and add a TV screen so that parents could easily watch the service on YouTube. The work commenced in the Autumn.

Pastoral Care:

Over the year, there have been a number of different activities and events aimed at developing the Pastoral Care of the church. Tuesday Lunch Club and Knit and Natter, continued to be very popular within our local community, providing both an opportunity to serve and reach out to our neighbours.

Two church members offered to take on the role of contacting new attendees to help ensure that all visitors were made to feel welcome.

We continued to take communion to members who could not leave their homes at this time with Alfred and Honesty's support.

'Boxes of Blessing' were provided at Easter and Christmas for those with whom we were in contact who were 80 years old or over. We know how much these were appreciated by the recipients.

Church family events, that were open to the wider community, were planned over the year. These included a shared meal in April, the Harvest celebration in October, and the Christmas meal for Tuesday Lunch Club. We noticed an increase in attendance at church family events from those people we had served through the Tuesday Lunch Club and Knit and Natter.

The plans for creche were another way to show loving concern for our families, by providing a warm, safe and comfortable space for children too young for Kingdom Kids.

Camp fees were paid for some families, enabling children and young people to access important Christian holidays and events that they otherwise may not have been able to.

Members:

During the year we welcomed five new people into membership and have said goodbye to one couple following their move out of the area.

Mission and Evangelism:

This year has seen a continuation of the events we run to support our missionaries. During the Harvest weekend, we raised over £8,000 for BMS World Mission, as well as spent time with our missionaries so that we could better understand their work and to pray for and support them.

We supported the work of Superkidz again this year by collecting Easter Eggs in spring and toys at Christmas. Superkidz used these to help local children and their families who are in need. The Manna Centre was also supplied with donated gifts at Harvest time to help them run their homeless shelter. In September, we again baked our way to raising over £500 for the MacMillan charity.

The youth camp attended by children and young people from the church during the summer was very much appreciated and our younger family members benefitted greatly from the teaching and experience. Our young leaders were praised by those organising the camp for their hard work and positive attitude. We were very proud of them!

As part of our evangelistic work, we ran several church family events aimed at holding a fun and safe event, where non-church folk could be welcomed into. These included the previously mentioned Harvest celebration, and events over Easter and Christmas. However, we also ran two Ladies Evenings where food was offered and fun activities and crafts were offered- or just a space to sit and chat. Many of our lunch club visitors were pleased to attend and expressed desires to be included in future events. Gently building of relationships is key to our evangelistic approach. A Men's breakfast was also held and more of these were planned for the following year. The aim is to bring the men and youth of our church together for mutual support and encouragement as they grow deeper in their relationship with God within a safe space.

Playwell expressed a desire to build links with the church, especially at Harvest and Christmas. This will most likely be through meeting with Lunch Club. These continued links with our community are very important, to share the love of Jesus in a very real way.

At Christmas, a copy of Luke's Gospel was given as a gift to all the members of Lunch Club.

Finally, we shared with the work of XLP through the donation of the money we received through the Scrappage Scheme of £9,000 when we scrapped our very old mini bus. This enabled XLP to use the money towards buying a new bus- fit for purpose- which is regularly parked outside the hall.

Volunteering including youth work:

The church only runs because of the huge number of volunteers who make this happen. (Flower rota, office team, welcome team, tea and coffee, tech team, children's work including the brigades, home group leaders, music group, Tuesday Lunch Club, Knit and Natter, deacons, fabric team and gardening and many others who have helped run one off events.)

We are a family who work together, share our time, skills and resources, just like any other family. It is wonderful, sometimes messy, a bit confusing as all families can be, but is absolutely beautiful. We are the body of Christ.

As an example, as the number of GB volunteers fell in 2024, church members offered to support in a rolling programme of one-off sessions.

The children and youth work across our church grew in numbers and participation. The children and youth add vibrancy and life to our family and challenged us to rethink how we had always done things.

Structure, Governance and Management:

The appointment of trustees is made in accordance with the Baptist Union guidelines and confirmed by our Church constitution, ratified in 2013. Trustees must be members of the church, nominated by a minimum of two members and voted in by 2/3rds of the membership present at the election. The trustees are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the church including deciding on how the funds are to be spent but will bring all significant changes before the members of the church for final instruction.

Financial Review

<i>Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period</i>
<p>As at 31 December 2024, the charity had total funds carried forward of £4,198,894 (2023: £4,186,565). The funds were represented predominantly by tangible fixed assets, mainly the church building and the Manse which is available for occupation by our minister. Of these funds £Nil (2023: £Nil) were restricted and the balance unrestricted.</p> <p>When considering the financial position, the Trustees consider and monitor the cash and bank balances. At the end of the year, bank and cash balances amounted to £213,582 (2023: £162,686), an increase of £50,896 over the course of the year.</p> <p>The Trustees have concluded that the financial position of the charity at the end of the period was strong with sufficient assets available to support the planned activities in the future.</p>
<i>Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held</i>
<p>The charity's policy is to hold reserves in unrestricted funds sufficient to cover 5 months' expenditure. The main source of income for the charity is donations from members and others attending the church. The holding of reserves at this level enables the charity to plan activities and commit to expenditure in the knowledge that should there be a drop in the level of income, or an unavoidable unplanned expenditure requirement, the charity has sufficient time to respond without a serious adverse impact.</p> <p>In their assessment of reserves when applying this policy, the Trustees exclude Tangible Fixed Assets (which are not readily realisable).</p>
<i>Amount of reserves held</i>
<p>At the end of the year the charity held free reserves of £246,009 (2023: £189,492). This was significantly in excess of the amount required to be held under the reserves policy.</p> <p>The reason that significant excess funds were held is that the charity received a substantial legacy in 2018. The amount of the legacy was £220,165, and the legacy included no restrictions as to its use.</p> <p>During 2020 the church members decided to designate two thirds of the money received through the legacy to fund an additional church worker to support the minister, and the remaining one third to fund work required on the church property. During the year, considering the plan to undertake renovations on the church's Manse, additional amounts were received and designated to the Property Fund. At the end of the year the balance in the designated funds amounted to £120,643, leaving £125,366 within the General Fund.</p>
<i>Details of funds materially in deficit</i>
<p>At the end of the year there were no funds materially in deficit.</p>
<i>Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern</i>
<p>Having considered the financial position of the charity at the year end, the monthly accounts prepared for subsequent periods and the expected activities over the forthcoming 12 months, the Trustees have concluded that there is no material uncertainty over the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. They have therefore prepared the charity's accounts on a going concern basis.</p>

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Eltham Park Baptist Church
Registered charity number	1190789
Charity's principal address	32a Westmount Road Eltham London
	SE9 1JE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Alfred Bassah	Minister-in-Training (from Sep 2024)		Eltham Park Baptist Church members
Patricia Bailey-Barclay			
Andrew Goldsworthy	Treasurer		
Heather Goldsworthy			
Kathleen Nobbs			
Rachel Priddle	Secretary		
Jill Rackley			
Arnold Tarling			
Tracy Thomas		To Jan 2024	

Declarations

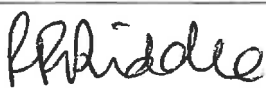
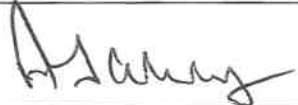
The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees on 26 April 2026 by:

Signature:

Name:

Position:

	
Rachel Priddle	Andrew Goldsworthy
Secretary	Treasurer

ELTHAM PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from							
Donations and legacies	2	133,484	9,527	143,011	80,786	2,830	83,616
Investment income	3	3,523	-	3,523	535	-	535
Other trading activities	4	44,102	-	44,102	47,684	-	47,684
Total income		181,109	9,527	190,636	129,005	2,830	131,835
Expenditure							
Charitable Activities							
Ministry	5	23,941	-	23,941	43,299	-	43,299
Mission	6	36,419	9,527	45,946	26,782	2,830	29,612
Establishment	7	108,420	-	108,420	104,385	-	104,385
Total Expenditure		168,780	9,527	178,307	174,466	2,830	177,296
Net Income / (Expenditure) for the year		12,329	-	12,329	(45,461)	-	(45,461)
Net Movement in Funds		12,329	-	12,329	(45,461)	-	(45,461)
Reconciliation of Funds:							
Total Funds brought forward		4,186,565	-	4,186,565	4,232,026	-	4,232,026
Total Funds carried forward		4,198,894	-	4,198,894	4,186,565	-	4,186,565


ELTHAM PARK BAPTIST CHURCH


BALANCE SHEET 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Fixed Assets	9		3,952,885		3,997,073
			<u>3,952,885</u>		<u>3,997,073</u>
Current Assets					
Debtors	10	54,877		36,421	
Bank and Cash		213,582		162,686	
		<u>268,459</u>		<u>199,107</u>	
Current Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(22,450)		(9,615)	
Net Current Assets			246,009		189,492
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>4,198,894</u>		<u>4,186,565</u>
Total net assets or liabilities			<u>4,198,894</u>		<u>4,186,565</u>
Charity Funds					
Restricted	12	-		-	
Unrestricted		4,198,894		4,186,565	
Total Charity Funds			<u>4,198,894</u>		<u>4,186,565</u>

The notes on pages 11-19 form an integral part of these accounts. These accounts were approved by the Trustees on..... and signed on their behalf by:

26 April 2025


Andrew Goldsworthy
Treasurer


Rachel Priddle
Church Secretary

ELTHAM PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP 2015), FRS102 and with the Charities Act 2011.

Eltham Park Baptist Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

b Income recognition

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

c Donations

Donations are accounted for gross when received. Fixed asset gifts in kind are recognized when receivable and are included at fair value.

d Legacies

Legacies are accounted for at the earlier of the Estate accounts being finalised and notified and the legacy being received.

e Investment Income

Investment income is included in the accounts in the year in which it is receivable.

f Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is recognized where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

g Costs of raising funds

The Church does not make formal appeals for funds, and expenditure on these items is therefore not material.

h Grants payable

The Church makes grants to other organisations whose charitable objects complement its work. They are accounted for when the recipient has been notified of the grant and payment is unconditional.

i Support costs

Support costs are those that assist the work of the church but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs and governance cost. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to the cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. This represents direct expenditure on the governance of the church. Most of the management is carried out without charge by volunteers. This intangible cost is not included in the Statement of Financial Activities since there is no measurable cost to the volunteers for their service.

j Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are initially recognised at cost or, for donated assets, at a reasonable estimate of their value on receipt.

There is no reliable information available for the cost of the church premises and so on first time adoption of FRS102, the insurance value used previously was adopted as deemed cost.

k Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all fixed assets, other than freehold land, to write off the cost on a straight-line basis over their expected useful life, at the following rates:

Freehold land	Nil
Buildings	1%
Furniture and fittings	10%
Computers and equipment	33%

l Investment Assets

Investments are initially stated at cost. Subsequently they are measured at fair value with changes recognized in the Statement of Financial Activities if the shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably. All other investment assets are shown at cost less impairment.

m Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for specific purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held permanently by the charity. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

n Employee benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its minister and minister-in-training. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the charity has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as an expense when they are due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the charity in an independently administered fund.

2 Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
Donations and Legacies				
Offerings	115,380	7,872	123,252	69,531
Tax refunds	18,023	607	18,630	13,054
Other donations	81	1,048	1,129	1,031
Total	133,484	9,527	143,011	83,616

In 2023 £2,830 of the donations and legacies income was attributable to restricted funds, with the remaining £80,786 being attributable to unrestricted funds.

3 Investment Income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
Investment Income				
Interest received	3,523	-	3,523	535
Total	3,523	-	3,523	535

In 2023 all investment income was attributable to unrestricted funds.

4 Other activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
Income from other activities				
Premises and minibus hire fees	28,993	-	28,993	41,197
Surplus on scrappage of minibus	8,880	-	8,880	-
Lunch club	6,229	-	6,229	6,487
Total	44,102	-	44,102	47,684

In 2023 all income from other activities was attributable to unrestricted funds.

5 Ministry

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
Minister's stipend, pension and NI	-	-	-	11,236
Minister in Training's stipend, pension and NI	9,452	-	9,452	16,659
Visiting speakers	960	-	960	720
Conferences and training	160	-	160	235
Church minibus	1,092	-	1,092	2,235
Other ministry costs	2,289	-	2,289	2,702
Office staffing	5,345	-	5,345	4,720
Subscriptions	1,645	-	1,645	1,653
Printing, postage and stationery	607	-	607	1,079
Independent examination	2,280	-	2,280	1,860
Other administrative cost	111	-	111	200
Total	23,941	-	23,941	43,299

6 Mission

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
Grants payable	28,600	9,527	38,127	22,500
Children and youth work	2,304	-	2,304	2,429
Catering Costs	5,158	-	5,158	4,552
Outreach	357	-	357	131
Total	36,419	9,527	45,946	29,612

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
Grants payable				
BUGB Home Mission	6,000	-	6,000	6,000
BMS World Mission	5,000	8,479	13,479	7,830
XLP	9,000	-	9,000	-
Other missionaries	7,800	-	7,800	7,800
Other charitable organisations	800	1,048	1,848	870
Total	28,600	9,527	38,127	22,500

7 Establishment

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
Manse expenses	4,651	-	4,651	4,368
Manse refurbishment	7,240	-	7,240	-
Cleaners	11,223	-	11,223	10,544
Cleaning materials	1,550	-	1,550	1,592
Insurance	4,647	-	4,647	4,811
Light and heat	15,727	-	15,727	20,031
Rates and waste	4,405	-	4,405	4,457
Sundries	459	-	459	203
Telephone and internet	927	-	927	812
Repairs and maintenance	12,522	-	12,522	10,756
Small equipment	1,001	-	1,001	778
Depreciation	44,068	-	44,068	46,033
Total	108,420	-	108,420	104,385

8 Staff costs and Trustees expenses

		2024	2023
Staff costs			
Salaries	Gross salary	25,066	39,969
Social security costs	Employer's national insurance	-	594
Pension costs	Employer's pension contributions	700	2,516
Other costs	Council tax, water rates etc	-	696
Total		25,766	43,775

The average number of employees during the year was: 3 4

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 during the year.

Our Minister-in-training, who was in office from September 2024, acted as one of the church's trustees in accordance with the Trust Deed and received remuneration of £8,752 in respect of his services as Minister-in-training.

Our Minister, who was in office until mid-April 2023, acted as one of the church's trustees in accordance with the Trust Deed and received remuneration of £9,855 and other benefits during 2023 in respect of her services as Minister, including the provision of manse accommodation owned by the church.

Our previous Minister-in-training, who was in office until the end of July 2023, acted as one of the church's trustees in accordance with the Trust Deed and received remuneration of £14,931 during 2023 in respect of her services as Minister-in-training.

The Church pays pension contributions for its Minister and Minister-in-training to the Defined Contribution Plan within the Baptist Pension Scheme, which is administered by the Pension Trustee, Baptist Pension Trust Limited. Further details of the scheme are set out in Note 14 below.

£Nil in total was reimbursed to the Trustees in respect of expenses incurred as Trustees (2023: £Nil).

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Church Premises	Manse	Motor vehicles	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	Total
Tangible Fixed Assets					
Cost					
1 January 2024	3,903,693	391,257	2,500	51,501	4,348,951
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	(2,500)	-	(2,500)
31 December 2024	3,903,693	391,257	-	51,501	4,346,451
Depreciation					
1 January 2024	273,259	27,391	2,380	48,848	351,878
Charge for the year	39,037	3,913	-	1,118	44,068
On disposals	-	-	(2,380)	-	(2,380)
31 December 2024	312,296	31,304	-	49,966	393,566
Net book value					
1 January 2024	3,630,434	363,866	120	2,653	3,997,073
31 December 2024	3,591,397	359,953	-	1,535	3,952,885

All of the fixed assets are used for direct charitable purposes.

10 Debtors

	2024	2023
Accrued income	17,950	17,178
Prepayment and other debtors	36,927	19,244
	54,877	36,421

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
Trade creditors	251	1,666
Accruals	22,199	7,949
	22,450	9,615

12 Restricted Funds

	1 January 2024	Incoming Resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	Transfers	31 December 2024
Unrestricted Funds						
<i>General Fund</i>	4,072,130	158,209	152,088	-	-	4,078,251
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
Additional worker	69,372	-	9,452	-	-	59,920
Property	45,063	22,900	7,240	-	-	60,723
Restricted Funds						
BMS World Mission	-	8,479	8,479	-	-	-
Other organisations	-	1,048	1,048	-	-	-
Total	4,186,565	190,636	178,307	-	-	4,198,894

Previous period

	1 January 2023	Incoming Resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	Transfers	31 December 2023
Unrestricted Funds						
<i>General Fund</i>	4,100,932	129,005	157,807	-	-	4,072,130
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
Additional worker	86,031	-	16,659	-	-	69,372
Property	45,063	-	-	-	-	45,063
Restricted Funds						
BMS World Mission	-	2,830	2,830	-	-	-
Other organisations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4,232,026	131,835	177,296	-	-	4,186,565

During 2020 the church members decided to designate two thirds of the money received through a legacy in 2018 to fund an additional church worker to support the Minister, and the remaining one third to fund work required on the church property.

During 2024, the fund for an additional worker was used to pay the costs of our Minister-in-Training. The property fund was used for a project to renovate and refurbish the church Manse, a project which continued into 2025.

During 2024, the church received money in support of a project run by BMS World Mission.

On occasions, the church receives money in support of other organisations. Any such amounts are accounted for within restricted funds. The funds are shown in aggregate above due to the immaterial amounts involved.

13 Analysis of net assets

	General funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	3,952,885	-	3,952,885
Current assets	265,964	2,495	268,459
Current liabilities	(19,955)	(2,495)	(22,450)
Pension liabilities	-	-	-
Net assets at 31 December 2024	<u>4,198,894</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,198,894</u>

Previous period

	General funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	3,997,073	-	3,997,073
Current assets	198,207	900	199,107
Current liabilities	(8,715)	(900)	(9,615)
Pension liabilities	-	-	-
Net assets at 31 December 2023	<u>4,186,565</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,186,565</u>

14 Pensions

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

Pension provision is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Scheme. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Broadstone Corporate Benefits Ltd. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members if they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Aviva Limited.

The Minister and the Minister-in-Training are eligible to join the Scheme.

15 Related parties

The custodian Trustee of the church is the Baptist Union Corporation Limited which is charity number 249635, and which is controlled by the Baptist Union Council. The church is also a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, and the London Baptist Association.

The church made a donation to the Baptist Union Home Mission Scheme as set out in note 6.

During the year, a total of £43,645 (2023: £26,584) was received as donations from the charity's trustees and parties connected to them. No conditions were attached to any of these donations.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Eltham Park Baptist Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Eltham Park Baptist Church (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the financial statements. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair' view and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements 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 no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Timothy Sullivan FCA
Field Sullivan Limited
Chartered Accountants
9 Hare and Billet Road
London
SE3 0RB

Date: 28/4/26

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