

Belper Baptist Church
(Registered charity, number 1190792)
Financial statements
for the year ended 5 April 2024

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**Belper Baptist Church
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 5 April 2024**

Full name Belper Baptist Church

Organisation type Charitable incorporated organisation

Registered charity number 1190792

Principal address

c/o Rev Dr Robert Foster, Minister, 16 Hillcrest, Belper DE56 0JF

Trustees

Rev Dr Robert Foster, Minister & Chair
Adriaan van Wyk, Treasurer, from 18.10.23
Raymond Lesley
Jonathan White

Lorraine Bolger
Joanna Lambourne
Rev David Harvey, until 18.10.23

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2 North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 10 June 2020 at a Special Church Meeting.

From 1 September 2022 Rev Robert Foster became the part-time Minister of the church. He is remunerated at 75% of the Baptist Union standard stipend together with a housing allowance and agreed reimbursements to cover operating expenses, Council Tax and Water charges. Robert is Chair of the Charity trustees.

Ministers are appointed by the Church members. Trustees including the Secretary and Treasurer are appointed by the Church members to serve for fixed periods.

Objectives and activities

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 or other parts of the world. Some of our activities include;

- Weekly Sunday services with worship, prayer, preaching, teaching and fellowship;
- Pastoral support to individuals;
- Mid-week meetings for bible study, prayer and fellowship;
- Children's and youth work;
- Support to local charitable causes including Hope for Belper who run a food bank and a community hub;
- Support to mission activities in the UK (Home Mission) and overseas (Baptist Missionary Society - BMS) and direct support to churches in Uganda and Ghana. The church responds to Emergency Appeals;

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- Making the church building available for use by local organisations where their activities are compatible with the church's declaration of faith.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

All Church activities with exception of Trustees' and Members' meetings are open to the public. The Church website encourages people to visit and attend activities of the Church. The Minister and other members of the church aim to provide appropriate pastoral care and practical support to any member of the community who seeks it. The Church holds regular open drop in sessions. Advancement of the Christian faith has educational and social benefits as well as spiritual to individuals and local communities.

Summary of the main achievements during the period

The church continues to arrange weekly Sunday worship and mid-week activities. Fellowship Link Teams ensure that every family within the fellowship is contacted regularly and is offered practical care and spiritual support. The Inspire magazine continues to be published monthly electronically and in print for those without access to the internet. Daily prayer meetings and a weekly house group for study and prayer meet online. The in-person house group has continued to meet and a new monthly prayer meeting has begun. There are activities for children and young people on Sundays, along with regular all-age worship.

In the wider community, members of the fellowship participate in a prayer ministry for Belper supported by a number of churches and individuals. Some of our young people attend a weekly Young People's Fellowship organised by another church and some are involved in the local secondary school's Christian Union.

The Church continues to host the Hope for Belper Community Hub and Food Bank. Demand for support from the Food Bank continues to increase. Supportive relationships are being built through these activities.

During this financial year, the church has invested further in upgrades to our audio visual systems to enhance our worship experience for those in the building and on-line. There have also been repairs to the kitchen area, which are expected to continue into the next financial year.

Financial review & risk

Over the course of the period 6 April 2023 to 5 April 2024 receipts exceeded payments by £51,387. This surplus resulted primarily due to a legacy gift left to the church in a previous member's will to the amount of £48,284. The manse previously occupied by the Minister generates a net rental of £726 per month. Receipts from Sunday loose offerings as well as Regular Gift Aid Donations and Deposit Account Interest have increased in the year. Income from Solar Panels installed on the Manse as well as receipts for Rents & Use of the Building remain at similar levels to last year. We also

Belper Baptist Church

raised an additional £600 for specific other causes, which have since been distributed to said causes.

We made additional investment of £1,830 in computer and audio visual equipment, spent £3,530 on a replacement boiler for the Manse whilst delivering a modest operating surplus over the period of £3,139 (excluding the legacy gift). This included making £9,282 in Charitable donations.

Based on current levels of giving, budget estimates for 2024-25 indicate that with a 75% part-time minister in post, there may be a modest operating shortfall of circa £7,900. This does not include the major improvements mentioned above. Costs beyond April 2025 are anticipated to increase depending on inflation and coming off fixed price contracts for gas and electricity. During the pastoral vacancy, funds have been accumulated in a Future Ministry Fund which will be used to cover any funding gap in the short term with an expectation that the church will grow and giving will increase. This fund will only last a few years.

The Church's debts to the Baptist Union Defined Benefit Pension Scheme has now been eliminated. As a result of national initiatives by the Baptist Union, the monthly pension deficit payments were reduced to a nominal £1 during this financial period, and it is expected to cease at some point during the current year.


The charity's policy on reserves

The Church relies on voluntary donations from those attending to fund all of its activities including the employment of a Minister. Additional receipts come from rents for the use of church properties which can be planned for. One-off donations are received on an ad hoc basis.

In the event the Church ceased to function or attract people expenditure would end very quickly other than outstanding utility bills and any payments due to any employed Minister under their terms of employment. It may then be necessary to pay and house the Minister for a 6 month notice period. In cash flow terms a reserve of around £15,000 is deemed sufficient.

We intend to use some of our reserves in the coming year to fund a number of projects. These include addressing emergency access to the back garden of the Church building for evacuation purposes, further repairs to the kitchen and improving the building's carbon footprint through the installation of solar panels. We also intend to make additional Charitable donations from designated funds and therefore expect our reserves to reduce by approximately £48,000 during the year.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed  Date 29/7/24
Rev Dr Robert Foster, Trustee

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
Belper Baptist Church
for the year ended 5 April 2024**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Belper Baptist Church (the charity) for the year ended 5 April 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

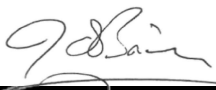
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Signed  Date 01/08/2024
John O'Brien MSc, FCCA, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

Belper Baptist Church
Receipts & payments account
for the year ended 5 April 2024

2023			2024
£		Note	£
	Receipts		
7540	Weekly loose offerings		11983
31400	Covenanted Gift Aid offerings		34315
2667	Donations and other income	2	50800
7510	Income tax recovered on Gift Aid offerings	3	8681
11067	Rents and contributions for use of premises	4	10952
251	Raised for other causes		600
308	Bank interest		898
<u>60743</u>	Total receipts		<u>118229</u>
	Payments		
21004	Ministry		36185
11434	Major church improvements		-
1721	Leadership team expenses		183
4469	Fees & insurances	5	5186
7746	Mission - support to outside bodies	6	9282
3910	Utility bills		4340
5131	Upkeep of Church premises		7731
918	Light company (Junior Church)		334
1258	Baptist pension deficit		-
771	Miscellaneous, Magazines & printing		3074
-	Gifts and donations paid		527
<u>58362</u>	Total payments		<u>66842</u>
2381	Net receipts/(payments)		51387
<u>90359</u>	Cash funds at start of this period		<u>92740</u>
<u>92740</u>	Cash funds at end of this period		<u>144127</u>

Belper Baptist Church
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 5 April 2024

2023		2024
£		£
	Cash assets	
22347	Current account (general)	23588
70393	Capital reserve account	40496
-	Baptist Union Deposit account	80043
<u>92740</u>		<u>144127</u>
	Other monetary assets	
8618	Debtors - Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid offerings	9332
2374	Prepayments - Fees and insurances	2553
<u>10992</u>		<u>11885</u>
	Assets retained for the charity's own use	
2076491	Insured value of church buildings	2325670
245000	Market value of Blackden Manse	319000
	General equipment	
	Audio visual equipment, purchased March 2024, cost £626	
	Audio visual equipment, purchased January 2023, cost £9,005	
	Kitchen appliances, purchased October 2017, cost £1,709	
	Liabilities	
<u>(516)</u>	Creditors - Fees and insurances	<u>(570)</u>
<u>(516)</u>		<u>(570)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed  _____
Adriaan van Wyk, Trustee

Dated 29/07/2024

Belper Baptist Church
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 5 April 2024

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Donations & other income

	£
Legacy	48284
Donations	2516
	<u>50800</u>

3. Income tax recovered on Gift Aid offerings

HMRC tax rebate for the period to April 2023.

4. Rent and contributions for use of premises

Rent for use of building by H4B = £1,800 plus £8,712 (which represents the net rental income for the manse, after management fees of £1,188 were deducted) plus other rents of £440.

5. Fees & insurances

£4,454 Fees & insurances plus £732 professional fees.

6. Mission – Support to outside bodies

Charitable giving including to BMS, Home Mission, HOPE Belper & Emergency appeals.

7. Fund Analysis

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	(Payments) £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
Unrestricted funds					
General	21723	62411	(54104)	(2837)	27193
Benevolent Fund	2318	-	(400)	-	1918
Local Causes	1043	-	(172)	2957	3828
Manse Repair Fund	3278	-	(3530)	1500	1248
Tithe	2757	11759	-	(10000)	4516
BMS	-	100	(2100)	2000	-
Emergency Appeals	215	-	(2000)	3785	2000
Future ministry	61406	-	-	(1405)	60001
Home Mission	-	-	(2000)	2000	-
Hope Belper	-	500	(2500)	2000	-
Legacy	-	43459	(36)		43423
	<u>92740</u>	<u>118229</u>	<u>(66842)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>144127</u>

Belper Baptist Church
Notes to the accounts (continued)
for the year ended 5 April 2024

Active Designated Funds:

Benevolent Fund: Balance £1,918. Purpose: To enable the Minister to distribute funds at their discretion to meet individual needs within the fellowship or wider community.

Local Causes: Balance £3,828 Purpose: To support projects in the local community. The funds are currently committed to supporting the Hope for Belper Community Hub and Food Bank.

Manse Repair Fund: Balance £1,248 Purpose: To fund any repairs or upgrades to the Manse.

Tithe: Balance £4,516. Purpose: To build up a fund to distribute as Charitable Giving. 10% of donations and other income is set aside in this fund. It is distributed once a year by the Church Members usually based on the recommendations of the trustees.

BMS: Balance £0. Purpose: To support the work of the Baptist World Wide Mission. Any balance results from the annual distribution of funds accumulated in the Tithe Designated Fund. Contributions are made each year from a distribution of the tithe on receipts.

Emergency Appeals: Balance £2,000. Purpose: To enable the Church trustees to respond quickly to world wide emergency appeals. The fund is topped up from general funds.

Future Ministry: Balance £60,001. Purpose: To build up funds to cover any shortfall between the future costs of employing a Minister and receipts. During the pastoral vacancy, a sum was added to this fund equivalent to the monthly costs of employing a 3/4 time Minister together with some post tithe Manse rental and solar panel receipts. Funds may be reallocated for other ministry and missional purposes.

Home Mission: Balance £0. Purpose: To support the wider Baptist Family through the provision of Regional ministry and grants to churches. Contributions are made each year from a distribution of the tithe on receipts.

Legacy: Balance £43,423. Purpose: Funds donated to the Church in wills, intended to be used for major projects and/or initiatives in memory of those who made the donations. 10% of the legacy received this year was allocated to the Tithe designated fund.

8. Related party transactions

We have a Trustee member called Jo Lambourne who is employed by Hope For Belper, a charity we actively support. Her salary is **not** linked to our donations to the charity. We donated a total of £2,900 to Hope For Belper in the year.

9. Trustees' remuneration

During this period, a gross pay of £28,978 plus employer pension contributions of £3,039 were paid in respect of Rev'd Dr Robert Foster.

10. Glossary of terms

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

Debtors: These are amounts owed to the charity, but not received in the accounting period.

Prepayments: These are services that the charity has paid for in advance, but not used during the accounting period.