

LOVE PURFLEET

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/2023

Love Purfleet is a registered charity No 1193961

Its registered address is c/o Socketts Heath Baptist Church, Premier Avenue, Grays, Essex RM16 2SB.

The trustees during 2023 were: Andrew Wade (Chair), Claire Blatchford, and Alison Shorter.

Structure and Management

Love Purfleet is a CIO. 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 Love Purfleet trustees and Steering Group met on alternate months during 2023.

The trustees are also representatives of other organisations:

Andrew Wade, Socketts Heath Baptist Church.

Rev Claire Blatchford, Eastern Baptist Association.

Alison Shorter, Upminster Baptist Church and Urban Expression.

There is also a wider Steering Group to support the trustees and provide resource and other support. The Steering Group are:

Malcolm Dunk, Upminster Baptist Church.

Rev Tara Frankland, Anglican Team Leader for Mardyke Team Ministry.

Sandie Edwards, Cranham Baptist Church.

None of the trustees or the steering group receive any payment for their work.

Activity in year

Love Purfleet purchased a flat at 31 Windermere Avenue, Purfleet-on-Thames, RM19 1PZ in November 2021 to provide accommodation for the church minister to live in and to be based within the Purfleet-on-Thames community. Love Purfleet is the beneficial owner of this property whose ultimate trustees are the Baptist Union Corporation. It was purchased mainly using designated funds held by BUC resulting from the sale of the former Purfleet Baptist Church in 2009.

Rev Erica Bowler resigned as missional listener at Love Purfleet and left on 31st August 2022. The trustees prepared a new ministerial profile vacancy statement for the pioneer role and

this was advertised on the Baptist Pastoral Vacancy List in order to recruit someone new. However there was no response to the job advertisement.

The trustees decided to commercially let out the vacant apartment to generate income whilst we were without a pastor to live in the flat. The flat was let to tenants from 1st September 2022 through agents William H Brown and the tenants also directly cover the costs of utilities and council tax themselves. The tenants remained in the property throughout 2023 paying monthly rent and covering the other costs as appropriate.

The search for a new pastor continued throughout 2023 and there was one response. The potential candidate sent us details in August and after several visits and interviews was formally interviewed by all the trustees and steering group on 7th November 2023, but it was unanimously agreed that the candidate was not the right person for this post. So the job vacancy statement was rewritten and updated. There had been no further response by 31st December 2023 so the search continued into 2024.

Because we were unable to recruit anyone to the vacant post the planned mission work at Purfleet has stalled and at the 2023 year-end we have no person in place to take the work forward in Purfleet-on-Thames.

A Home Mission grant for 2023 was available but this can only be drawn down when the Minister is in post, so we were not able to access this. A Ministry and Missions Grant (formerly known as Home Mission) has been awarded for 2024 so will be able to help fund anyone once they are appointed in 2024. The Ministry and Mission grants are awarded by the Eastern Baptist Association on behalf of Baptists Together nationally.

From April 2023 the trustees agreed to move some funds accruing in the bank account to the Baptist Union Corporation to take advantage of the higher interest rates available there.

The charity has a bookkeeper to manage and prepare accounts. Love Purfleet is registered with HMRC for Gift Aid (Ref No ZD14689) and with Stewardship for giving to be made through them.

Love Purfleet has a written Safeguarding Policy in place (based on the Baptists Together template) and the Safeguarding lead is Alison Shorter.

Financial Report

A financial statement and accounts is attached separately. This has been independently examined.

Love Purfleet does not currently have a reserves policy.

Further Details

You can find out more about Love Purfleet on our website <https://lovepurfleet.org.uk/> or In the five-minute introductory video at What is Love Purfleet? - Bing video

LOVE PURFLEET

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR YEAR ENDED
31/12/2023**

Receipts and payments accounts

Registered Charity No 1193961

LOVE PURFLEET
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/2023

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Incoming Resources</u>		
Voluntary income		
Donations	1,330	5,019
Grants	-	16,419
Other	-	-
	1,330	21,438
Bank interest	431	-
Manse rental	14,400	4,800
Total Incoming Resources	16,161	26,238
<u>Resources Expended</u>		
Charitable activities		
Ministry	-	10,560
Manse	5,739	5,533
Operational Costs	412	370
Other	-	-
	6,152	16,463
Total Resources Used	6,152	16,463
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources	10,010	9,775
Fund Balance at 31 December 2022	12,973	3,198
Fund Balance at 31 December 2023	22,982	12,973

LOVE PURFLEET
STATEMENT OF ASSET AND LIABILITIES
FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/2023

	Total 2023	Total 2022
CASH FUNDS	£	£
Barclays Bank	2,551	12,972
BUGB Deposit account	20,431	-
	22,982	12,972

REPRESENTED BY	2023	2022
Unrestricted		
General Fund	22,982	12,972

Assets retained for the charity's own use	Cost
	£
Winderemere Avenue - Manse	222,834
<i>(Purchase cost November 2021)</i>	

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Trustee

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Trustee

Date: