

Registered Charity number: 1194362

Village Church Emersons Green

Trustees' Report and Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2022

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Managing Trustees who have served since the 1st April 2021 are:

Elders:	J Byrne	J Herring (Pastor)
	J Taylor	B Jones
Treasurer:	M Latham	

Registered Charity number: 1194362

Registered Office: 11 OAKLANDS ROAD
MANGOTSFIELD
BRISTOL
BS16 9EY

Bankers: During this period, Village Church had not applied for a Bank Account.

Independent examiner: N/A for this period, as accounts we held/managed for this period as part of Kensington Baptist Church (Charity Number 1135272)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report, the accounts for the charity for the period of April 21 to 31st March 2022 were still managed as part of Kensington Baptist Church (Charity Number 1135272).

The Trustees confirm that they have regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the charity commission.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Documents/Constitution

Village Church, Emersons Green, is a registered charity (no. 1194362), registered in England and Wales. The Charity is governed by 2 main documents, which are the 'Village Church Constitution' and 'Village Church Handbook', both of which were adopted on 25/1/21 as part of the submission to become an independent charity. This constitutes as an incorporated charity.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees/Elders/Deacons

The Church's appointment of Elders and a Treasurer are the Managing Trustees of the Charity. The Managing Trustees are selected on their membership and position within the Church and are elected by a majority vote of members present at a Members' Meeting. (66% for Elders and Deacons). Elders and Deacons are elected for an indefinite period.

At Village Church the Managing Trustees are the Elders (including the Pastor) and the Treasurer (who is a Deacon) who have been appointed (Pastor) or elected (Elders/Treasurer) by those people who have been admitted into full membership of Village Church.

The Managing 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 over the year.

Deacon positions are appointed to support in overseeing the practical running of the Charity to support the Managing Trustees.

All those who can agree with our basis of faith and submit to the Church rules are encouraged to apply to become members of the Church.

The Elders retain spiritual oversight of the Church, in accordance with the Church handbook, and meet regularly during term times over the course of the year.

The Managing Trustees meet a minimum of 3 times a year together and in addition meet with the Deacons a minimum of 3 times a year. The Charity also hold a minimum of 3 Members' Meetings a year with the wider members of the Charity/Church.

Aim and Purpose

Village Church was started in April 2010 as a satellite congregation of Kensington Baptist Church (Charity Number 1135272). On 6th May 2021, Village Church was formed as a separate CIO Charity. We have been functioning independently but during this period Village Church accounts were still managed as part of Kensington Baptist Church (Charity Number 1135272).

Village Church (VC), Emersons Green exists to advance the Christian Faith, primarily but not exclusively, within the Bristol and surrounding neighbourhood and to undertake other charitable purposes that further the work of the Church.

Our aim is to know Jesus and make Him known in the community.

Objectives and activities

The objective of the Church is to know Jesus and make Him known through preaching, people and prayer.

In setting objectives and planning activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit.

Risk management

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- An annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the Charity faces;
- The establishment of policies, systems and procedures to mitigate those identified risks; and
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the Charity.

The risk management review has identified that financial sustainability is the major financial risk for the Charity. A key element in the management of financial risk is the regular review of reserves and the ability of liquid funds to settle debts as they fall due. [The Church through Kensington Baptist Church for this period, has a good level of reserves which mitigates this risk in the medium term.]

In addition, attention is also given to non-financial risks which includes governance and operational risks, external and environmental risks and compliance with law and regulations. The risk management review has identified safe recruitment, training and regular monitoring of all Children's and Youth workers and those working with adults where safeguarding is applicable.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Worship, Prayer and Community

Village Church offer a range of services during the week over the course of the year. At the beginning of the year meeting in person was limited due to Covid 19. As restrictions lifted, Village Church gradually started to meet initially with limited numbers and returned to normal meetings once restrictions were lifted and enabled us to meet safely.

Village Church hold services on Sunday mornings, where the congregation and visitors can sing, and hear the Bible being taught and have the opportunity to see how it can be applied to our day to day lives.

In addition, the Church places an important emphasis on prayer. There is opportunity on Friday mornings for people to pray online together, in addition the Church hold prayer meetings at least

once a month on a Sunday afternoon, and occasionally on Tuesday evenings through each term. During Covid 19, these were switched to being held over Zoom.

When we were not able to safely meet in person due to Covid 19, we held services online or met and chatted to people in the congregation over Zoom.

When we were able to meet in person safely, we re-commenced our programmes for Children and Youth. Our Youth meet both to explore the Bible and do social activities together.

Due to Covid 19, we have been limited to engagement within the community due to restrictions and not having our own building. As the Church begins to meet back in person and restrictions lifted, Village will continue to engage and explore ways we can support the community.

The Church Premises

Village Church, Emersons Green does not own our own premises and therefore we meet at our primary location, the local Mangotsfield Primary School.

At the start of the year, we continued to meet online and then held services for limited numbers up to July 2021 in a temporary location due to Covid 19. From August 2021, we were able to meet in our normal location at Mangotsfield Primary School.

Mission and Evangelism

During the year, we held special services around Christmas that proved popular, for example a Traditional Carol Service and a Family Carol Service.

In the local magazine we place an article usually at least once a quarter to advertise our services and events.

We also reached out to local schools to offer purchasing food vouchers for parents who were in need and they were taken up by a few parents.

Staffing

Village Church has one member of staff, the Pastor. For this period, he was funded from Kensington Baptist Church.

Outside relationships

Village Church is a member of the FIEC and adopts the Basis of Faith as its own. We are also part of the Southwest Gospel Partnership.

Volunteers

The practical running of the Church on a Sunday and other activities that are put on are supported by volunteers from within the Church. We would like to thank all our volunteers who serve in setting up each week, music, audio visual, refreshments, Children's work, and Youth Clubs to name a few.

Training

Child Safeguarding training is arranged for new volunteers supporting Children and Youth work and refresher training is run as required for existing volunteers.

Financial review

Income for this year was £77,892 and payments were £74,174. We had a surplus of £3,718 that went towards reserves for Village Church. We are thankful and grateful for the generous gifts of our members and congregation.

For this period, all income & expenditure was managed directly through Kensington Baptist Church and therefore the accounts for this period/financial year is part of their account submission.

The provisional plan during the period of April 2022 – March 2023 (Target 1st March 2023), to transfer the accounts, any assets and one paid member of staff from Kensington Baptist Church to Village Church.

Reserves policy

Village Church, Emersons Green has a policy which is to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds. This equates to a minimum of £30,000 to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.

Principal funding sources

The Charity is mainly dependent on the generosity of individuals and the associated Gift Aid to continue its work. For this period, the giving has still been through Kensington Baptist Church. On completion of setting up our own bank account, Village Church will register for Gift Aid.

Plans for the future

Village Church will take on managing our own accounts and become fully independent from Kensington Baptist Church.

We will register Village Church to claim Gift Aid from giving from the congregation who have completed the appropriate forms, once we are fully independent.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

John C. Byrne

M. L. Latham

Signed: John Byrne, Trustee (Chair)/Mark Latham, Trustee/Treasurer Date: 29/1/23

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

For this period, the accounts were managed as part of Kensington Baptist Church (Charity Number 1135272) and therefore part of their overall account submission for this period.

The provisional plan during the period of April 2022 – March 2023 (Target 1st March 2023), to transfer the accounts, any assets and one paid member of staff from Kensington Baptist Church to Village Church.