

Abergavenny Baptist Church

Accounts

31 December 2023

Abergavenny Baptist Church

Independent Examiners Report to The Trustees and Members of Abergavenny Baptist Church

We report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31st December 2023 which which are set out on pages 2 to 7

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiners

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the church accounts. the church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 act;

to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and

to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiners' report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. 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 Examiners' statement

In connection with our examination no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

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Clare Lines

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Abergavenny Baptist Church
Trustees Report
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Number **1194889**

Address Frogmore Street
Abergavenny
Monmouthshire
NP7 7AL

Trustees

Rev M Orsmond	Minister
B Watkins	Children's Worker
A O'Gorman	Youth and Family Worker
J H C Morgan	Resigned 22/03/23
M Anderson	Treasurer
L W Anderson	
P Martin	Resigned 22/03/23
M Morgan	
A I Wilde	Secretary
I Gilbertson	

Trustees for a Charity Baptist Union Corporation

Structure, Governance and Management

Abergavenny Baptist Church is an unincorporated charitable association. It is governed by constitution. Charity Trustees are appointed by church members. Any person qualified to be a member of the church is eligible for election as a Charity Trustee (unless disqualified by statute), provided that they have been a member for at least 6 months and provided that, at all times at least 66% of the elected Charity Trustees shall be persons who have been baptised in accordance with the beliefs of the Baptist Union.

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 and/or other parts of the world.

The Activities may include but are not restricted to:

- regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching;
- baptism, as defined in the 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.

Our weekly Sunday morning service has been well attended with many people of all age groups. Most people attend in-person but some attend via Zoom. The church also continues to hold a weekly women's fellowship meeting, a monthly prayer meeting, and many of the church's Life Groups meet fortnightly, either in-person, or a hybrid of both online and in-person. During the year, we had one Mayor's Civic Service, one wedding service, one dedication service, and three funerals. There were no baptisms.

During the year the youth group has successfully maintained contact with an average of 10 young people attending in person, and two via zoom. This year we explored the Alpha series, studied Loved by Johnny Gumble and looked at the Scripture Union series on David. The youth assisted the foodbank on 3 occasions, sorting, weighing, and dating stock. In May, a group from the church attended The big Church festival, five people were from the youth group. It was a huge success so this is something we will encourage every year. We held our annual youth camp weekend in mid July and included a Kayaking activity for the first time which was a huge success. We continue to promote the Urban Saints House Camp, Bethany House Party and supported 5 young people from the church to attend this week away. We held a fundraising event in September to help assist families financially to attend camp. At Christmas the youth helped to decorate the church, lead the worship in the nativity service and joined in the choir at the Carol service.

ABC Toddlers continues to run as a Faith based Toddler group and has grown continually throughout the year. We now average 25 people weekly, with 30 attending most weeks. We have seen numbers around 34 on 6 occasions towards the end of 2023. Relationships are growing within the group we have been able to pray into situations or with mums many times.

Abergavenny Baptist children's' ministries have had another busy year during 2023. Our Sunday morning groups (ABC Kids) have regular attendance of up to 25 children ranging in age from 3-11 with new helpers/leaders joining during the year. It has been lovely to welcome some new families into the church and their children regularly attending on a Sunday morning. The Christmas period was our best ever with an average of 30 children taking part in each service. During the week our after school club of Dodgeball and Donuts is still proving popular with primary aged children. Numbers usually into the twenties. Our seasonal events continue to be well attended. We held an Easter Eggstravaganza Hunt in a local park for the first time, along with our annual Summer Holiday Club, Super Heroes Light Party and No rehearsal Nativity. More than 30 children took part in each of these events and we are looking forward with excitement to see what God has got planned for us in 2024.

2023 was another busy year at the Foodbank in Abergavenny where we witnessed an 18% increase in the number of referrals. 1114 parcels were given out to our clients, helping to feed 1674 adults and 922 children.

Given the current cost of living, the level of need has risen, and the increase in people needing help often outstrips donations, and we are now having to purchase a great deal more than normal at a higher price. In 2022, we purchased 20% of our total stock, whereas in 2023 that percentage increased to 50%. Thankfully we can cope with this increase at the present time because of a healthy bank balance and the financial support of the local community, but we are mindful of the need to monitor the situation carefully, given a highly challenging and rapidly changing environment where inflation rates remain higher than anticipated and social security payments fall short of the cost of the essentials we all rely on.

In January 2023, Abergavenny Foodbank was awarded a one year grant of Financial Inclusion funding from Trussell Trust with potential for further funding for another two years. As a result of this funding, we now have on site an excellent Citizens Advice Adviser who advises clients on a whole range of issues such as benefits, charitable support, debt, employment, housing, tax and utilities. This vital service is helping clients access the support they need by unlocking grants and money they may be eligible for, thus enabling them to resolve the crisis that brought them to the foodbank in the first place.

As a result of the generosity of the local community, we continue to offer our clients a range of fresh food, including fruit and vegetables, cheese and eggs, and we were able to give out Christmas hampers as well as food gift vouchers all through December.

Difficult times may lie ahead, but with the support of the local community, we will do our best to support individuals and families who turn to us for help.

Policy on reserves

The Church endeavours to keep reserves sufficient to meeting 12 months running costs and also complete any repairs recommended in the quinquennial architects report.

The Foodbank endeavours to keep a minimum of 6m running costs plus a contingency for other potential costs that may arise.

M Orsmond

Abergavenny Baptist Church
Income and Expenditure account
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 General fund £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 £
Offering: Gift Aid	57,003		57,003	54,542
General Envelopes	5,159		5,159	8,095
Cash	4,400		4,400	4,115
Stewardship	3,430		3,430	2,357
	69,992	-	69,992	69,109
Other income				
Gift Aid tax refund	15,351	2,018	17,369	16,876
Interest: bank accounts	5,910		5,910	344
trust funds	1,043		1,043	741
Rent	50		50	50
Easyfundraising	16		16	-
Donations for Hm/BMS		1,560	1,560	1,100
Donations	495		495	169
Foodbank donations		54,746	54,746	69,362
Hire of Church hall	175		175	85
Grants		25,318	25,318	18,223
Donation Spurgeons etc	-	1,016	1,016	889
Womens fellowship	392		392	544
	93,424	84,658	178,082	177,492
Expenses				
Gross Stipend	26,500		26,500	25,988
Children and Youth workers wages	24,747		24,747	24,269
Employer's NI	27		27	25
Pension	3,363		3,363	3,247
Pension shortfall	12		12	1,755
Pension childrens worker	2,475		2,475	2,426
Ministers expenses	413		413	460
Childrens ministry	1,410	1,048	2,458	1,580
Manse costs including ins	5,341		5,341	5,393
Visiting ministers & speakers	400		400	200
Insurance	3,411		3,411	3,317
Light, heat and telephone	3,364		3,364	3,933
Cleaning	1,545		1,545	1,324
Major repairs (project costs)	9,560		9,560	106,993
Minor repairs	1,416		1,416	3,904
IT equipment	1,146	125	1,271	911
Donations to HM/BMS	2,040	1,635	3,675	3,820
Donations spurgeons etc	540	326	866	199
Donations miscellaneous	2,320	10	2,330	2,723
General administrative expenses	2,599		2,599	2,346
Courses	325		325	-
Other expenses	1,930	70	2,000	599
Womens Fellowship Expenses	668		668	468
Foodbank Costs		78,530	78,530	26,544
	95,552	81,744	177,296	222,424
Excess of receipts over payments	(2,128)	2,914	786	(44,932)
Trust fund income	3,811		3,811	80,134
Transfers between funds	3,600	(3,600)	-	-
Excess of receipts over payments	5,283	(686)	4,597	35,202
Balance brought forward	178,321	159,224	337,545	302,343
Balance carried forward	183,604	158,538	342,142	337,545

Abergavenny Baptist Church
Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Baptist Union 1yr Fixed	130,197	125,189	
Baptist Union 7 day notice	30,693	-	
Current a/c	4,130	4,364	
Deposit a/c	20,044	50,089	
Foodbank Current account and cash	154,107	154,642	
Foodbank Vouchers	2,625	2,770	
Womens Fellowship bank & cash	80	357	
Childrens and youth petty cash	74	2	
Cash in hand	192	132	
	<u>342,142</u>	<u>337,545</u>	
Net current assets		342,142	337,545
Net assets		<u>342,142</u>	<u>337,545</u>
Representing Balances on the following:			
General Fund			
Balance at start of period		178,321	190,885
Net deficit		(2,128)	(96,298)
Transfers		7,411	83,734
		<u>183,604</u>	<u>178,321</u>
Restricted Funds:			
Youth Fund		1,131	1,315
Spurgeons/LMRT		141	164
Foodbank		157,014	157,695
HM/BMS		252	50
		<u>158,538</u>	<u>159,224</u>
Total Funds		<u>342,142</u>	<u>337,545</u>
Other Monetary Assets			
HELD BY Baptist Union			
Hereford Rd Manse Trust Fund			3,811.30
Bethany Chapel Trust Fund		30,107.33	30,179.42
		<u>30,107.33</u>	<u>33,990.72</u>
Non Monetary Assets Held for Own Use			
Church at Insurance value	3,771,990		3,655,318
Pipe Organ at Insurance value	<u>233,847</u>	4,005,837	233,847
Manse at Insurance Value		412,352	393,841
Potential Liability			
Pension Fund Shortfall		-	-

Abergavenny Baptist Church
Abergavenny Foodbank
Profit And Loss Account
For the year ended 31 December 2023
Included in Restricted Funds

		2023	2022
		£	£
Income	Donations	49,295	65,417
	Donations Gift aided	5,441	3,805
	Gift Aid Tax Refunds	1,396	1,145
	Grants	25,318	7,688
	Reimbursed expenses	-	97
		81,450	78,152
Cost of sales	Purchases	36,835	8,036
	Vouchers	9,060	4,090
		45,895	12,126
Gross surplus		35,555	66,026
Expenses	Bank charges	113	99
	Financial Inclusion Officer	11,008	0
	Grant repaid	7,688	
	Legal and professional	35	35
	Pensions	650	2,111
	Postage	-	46
	Contribution to church overheads	3,600	3,600
	Staff training & welfare	77	
	Stationery and printing	-	5
	Sundry expenses		55
	Telephone and fax	144	144
	Travel and subsistence		115
	Wages and salaries	12,921	11,903
		36,236	18,113
Net (deficit) / surplus		(681)	47,913
Balance b/fwd		157,695	109,782
Balance c/fwd		157,014	157,695

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Clare Lines

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Clare Lines

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