



The Family Fellowship

Oakridge Baptist Church

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

43, Oakridge Road, High Wycombe HP11 2PH

Tel: 01494 537478 (Answerphone)

www.oakridgebaptist.org.uk

Oakridge Baptist Church

Charity Registration Number: 1197400

Registered Address: 43 Oakridge Road, High Wycombe HP11 2PH

Trustees

Mrs A Irwin (Secretary)

Mr P Rackstraw (Treasurer)

Mrs M A Rose (Pastoral care co-ordinator)

Mr J Hollman

Mrs P Hollman

Mr J Morgan

Mrs S Rackstraw

Dr D Reynold

Mrs S Dodson (Life Deacon)

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

Bankers

Metro Bank, High Wycombe

Independent Examiner

Mr C Hanks

Secretary: Mrs Alison Irwin secretary@oakridgebaptist.org.uk

Treasurer: Mr Philip Rackstraw treasurer@oakridgebaptist.org.uk

Registered Charity No: 1197400 and Office: 43, Oakridge Road, High Wycombe HP11 2PH

Members of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, The Central Baptist Association and The Evangelical Alliance

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

The Trustees present their Annual Report for 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

The Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is governed by a constitution based on the Approved Governing Document for Baptist Churches. Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the constitution which requires them to be or to have been publicly baptised on the profession of faith in Jesus Christ or following other modes of baptism to renew their public profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

The members' meeting normally takes place six times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church. In accordance with the constitution, the members appoint Trustees, who together with the Minister (when in post), Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, Church Secretary and Treasurer (who are also appointed by the members), are responsible for the day to day running of the Church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity. All members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church meeting by the Trustees for guidance or may be raised by members in Church meetings for further consideration by the Trustees. Though the constitution permits decisions to be made at Church meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education, community service and such other general charitable purposes in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Church shall determine.

To achieve the principal objective, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as living Lord.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. These services take place each Sunday at 10.30am with Communion being held one Sunday each month. There is a children's programme during the morning services.

There are also occasional services at other times which are advertised via Church notices, email, or text. The Church also has a website www.oakridgebaptist.org.uk

The Church has been blessed throughout 2023 through the weekly ministry of members and many other friends during a period of interregnum.

The Church seeks to be a friendly community, and anybody is welcome to attend any of these services.

The Church runs a series of Bible study groups for the growth of faith and discipleship; these are held at the Church and via Zoom. Further details can be obtained from the Trustees on request, or at the Sunday services of worship.

The Church holds a Boys' Brigade/Girls' Association which meets in the Church premises on a Thursday evening during school term times. These sessions provide opportunity for young people aged between 5 – 18 to enjoy time together and to receive Christian teaching on a regular basis.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

A coffee morning meets alternate Tuesdays and is a time for the members and regular attenders of the Church to meet and share a time of fellowship.

The Church is an approved centre for the collection and distribution of surplus food via the Fare Share charity network. The 'Community Friendly Fridge Project' (CFF) runs parallel with this and is run by the Women's Cultural Arena charity and hosted at the Church, providing additional surplus food to the local community. Each week food parcels and hot meals are provided to 60+ people as well as seasonal community meals throughout the year (500+ people in total).

FoodCycle is also hosted at the Church and links into the Fare Share network. FoodCycle's vision is to make food poverty, loneliness and food waste a thing of the past for every community by creating welcoming spaces for people from all walks of life to meet, eat and have conversations; which in turn supports people's health and mental wellbeing. FoodCycle prepares, cooks and serves vegetarian 3-course meals using surplus ingredients; and in doing so promotes healthy, sustainable attitudes towards food and its impact on the environment and helps people to learn more about healthy eating options (average attendance 30+ per week).

The need for these food services has increased dramatically since the cost of living crisis and the Church is a well-known and familiar venue for food outreach initiatives and considered a safe space to help those most in need within the community.

From June to November, the Church hosted a weekly 'Movers & Shakers' session run by the Wycombe Multicultural Organisation which is a health and wellbeing initiative for people age 60+ to stay fitter for longer.

The Church is pleased to welcome fellow Christian groups, who use the building on a Sunday for their services of worship namely El-Bethel Tamil Ministry and a Bulgarian Church.

The Church has read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and is satisfied that the activities outlined above clearly demonstrate that the charity is providing a benefit to the public.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes only in numbers, including financial numbers, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship, encouragement and participation. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure but believe that 2023 was a positive year in the life of the Church, and that it will be able to continue its mission purposes in 2024.

At the beginning of the year the membership number was 38 but this had reduced to 35 by the end of the year as 1 member had died, 1 transferred membership and 1 resigned.

Average attendance at worship services remained steady during the year as did attendance at the Bible study groups. There were spaces in some sections of the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association at the end of year, but advertising was taking place to try and fill these.

The Church has been encouraged by comments made by members of the community about the positive part the church plays in their lives and particularly in relation to the food provision programmes that run. The church is also seen as a reassuring beacon of light to many in the community in a very multicultural, multi-ethnic and multifaith area.

Financial Review

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its members and congregation. No wider public appeal was made for funds during the year. The basic income for 2023 was £44,433.52 which was slightly higher than the previous year, due to increased room hire income.

The Church continued its financial commitment to the life of the wider church by making gifts of approximately £7,635.70 to national and international organisations, societies and individuals, with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purposes.

The Church is heavily dependent on its members and congregation working as volunteers and providing resources in all aspects of its activities, many of which run with little or no impact on Church expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the objectives.

The increase in utility costs continued and the church reviewed the situation on a regular basis to ensure we were signed up to the best tariffs; essential repairs to the Church heating system were also carried out.

The full financial situation for the year is set out in annual accounts and balance sheets for the year.

Future: The Church's plans to redevelop the site

The pre-planning application phase of the proposed re-development of Church space and specialist accommodation for homeless and refugees was completed and areas for action/clarification identified. The partnership of J49 (the registered provider) and Oakridge Baptist Church (the freeholder) is an impressive combination of vision and ideals for the site in addressing the needs of vulnerable adults within the community. The Church and J49, intend the residential apartments to be an empowering and enabling experience for all residents. J49 is committed to social housing but also to what it terms, 'creative community living' – that is, a place where people thrive, where there are opportunities to network, grow skills and be resident in a community context with individual living space.

The new accommodation will become part of a local network of existing relationships that will give residents the chance to engage with the community if they want to. This will also provide access to services and opportunities around employment, local management and community project involvement that embeds a sense of co-operative living, responsibility and identity.

The apartments will have pre-arranged access to the Church community facilities on the site. It is intended that the indoor spaces will encourage positive relationships between the residents and users of the community space, and that outdoor spaces, including the community garden, will further the ambitions of J49 for a greener, kinder and more mindful world. The Church are working with J49 to ensure that the living accommodation is of high quality, safe, affordable and contributing to the environmental, social and economic well-being of the local area.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy to enable the Church to function effectively and meet its obligations in the event of a decline in our income or a major cost, however this may be set aside if the planned rebuild goes ahead. At present having considered the relevant risks of changes in income and expenditure the Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of reserves should be around £10,000. At the end of December 2023, the church had a working balance of approximately £16,000 none of which is restricted or designated.

The Church has on deposit with the Baptist Union £683,935.83 (£500,000 being from the sale of the manse in 2022 held against the new build). The balance is from a previous legacy which will be used to offset the expenses of the new build. The legacy has no restrictions as to its use.

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE PROPRIETOR
ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO

I report on the accounts of Oakridge Baptist Church CIO for the year ended 31 December 2023

Responsibilities of Trustee and Examiners

As the church's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that the audit requirements of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) as amended by s.28 of the Charities Act 2006 do not apply. It is my responsibility to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charities Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Church 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 explanation from trustees concerning such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given in the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention,

- Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act, as amended; to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; have been met or
- To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Calvin Hanks

Date 2/3/24

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
DETAILED TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Income				
Offertories		21,111		26,608
Donations		770		2,819
Hall hire		8,380		2,979
Fundraising		-		352
Gift Aid reclaim		5,586		7,411
Food bank donation		200		200
Surplus on sale of Mance		-		75,000
		<u>36,047</u>		<u>115,369</u>
Cost of sales				
Resource material	45		63	
Kitchen purchases	98		11	
	<u>143</u>		<u>74</u>	
		(143)		(74)
Gross profit	99.60%	<u>35,904</u>	99.94%	<u>115,295</u>
Expenses				
Staff pension costs	-		(345)	
Training	40		10	
Rates and water	454		896	
Preaching expenses	800		620	
Insurance	2,621		2,267	
Light and heat	6,860		4,465	
Cleaning	2,981		928	
Repairs and maintenance	4,304		3,305	
Printing, postage and stationery	232		45	
Telephone	301		407	
Computer running costs	324		210	
Equipment purchased	57		203	
Missionary support	2,560		2,340	
Travelling expenses	58		-	
Legal and prof fees - allowable	1,520		8,319	
Bank charges	-		141	
Bad and doubtful debts	400		-	
CCLI Licence	778		720	
CBA donation	1,800		1,800	
BMS	2,200		2,200	
Sundry expenses	247		2,426	
Other donations	880		2,844	
Subscriptions	231		226	
		<u>(29,648)</u>		<u>(34,027)</u>
Surplus/Deficit		<u>6,256</u>		<u>81,268</u>
Other income				
Bank interest received		8,787		770

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
DETAILED TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Net Deficit/Surplus for the year	41.73%	15,043	71.11%	82,038
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OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Current assets					
Other debtors				400	
Current Account		16,281		19,625	
Baptist Union deposit		684,337		665,550	
		<u>700,618</u>		<u>685,575</u>	
Net current assets			<u>700,618</u>		<u>685,575</u>
Capital account					
At 1 January 2023			685,575		603,537
Surplus/Deficit			15,043		82,038
			<u>700,618</u>		<u>685,575</u>

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £
Cost	
At 1 January 2023 & at 31 December 2023	68,963
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2023 & at 31 December 2023	68,963
Net book value	
At 31 December 2023	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Oakridge Baptist Church CIO

119740

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

01/01/2023

To

31/12/2023


Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Offeratories	21,111	-	-	21,111	3,965
Room Hire	8,380	-	-	8,380	899
Donations	770	-	-	770	270
Fund Raising	200	-	-	200	125
Interest Received	8,787	-	-	8,787	151
Gift Aid reclaim	5,586	-	-	5,586	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	44,834	-	-	44,834	5,410
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	44,834	-	-	44,834	5,410
A3 Payments					
Training	40	-	-	40	-
Rates	454	-	-	454	-542
Preaching expenses	800	-	-	800	120
Insurance	2,621	-	-	2,621	-
Light and Heat	6,860	-	-	6,860	235
Cleaning	2,981	-	-	2,981	620
Repairs and Maintenance	4,304	-	-	4,304	945
Printing, postage and stationery	232	-	-	232	13
Telephone	301	-	-	301	39
Computer running costs	324	-	-	324	-
Equipment purchases	57	-	-	57	-
Missionary support	2,560	-	-	2,560	390
Travel	58	-	-	58	-
Legal and Professional	1,520	-	-	1,520	-
Bad debt	400	-	-	400	-
CCLI	778	-	-	778	-
CBA donation	1,800	-	-	1,800	451
BMS donation	2,200	-	-	2,200	550
Other donations	880	-	-	880	64
Subscriptions	231	-	-	231	-
Sundry expenses	390	-	-	390	-
Sub total	29,791	-	-	29,791	2,885
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	29,791	-	-	29,791	2,885
Net of receipts/(payments)	15,043	-	-	15,043	2,525
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	15,043	-	-	15,043	2,525

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Baptist Union	684,337	-	665,550
	Metrobank	16,281	-	19,625
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	700,618	-	685,175
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Loan	-	-	400
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Total assets less liabilities		700,618		685,575
D1 Capital account	Opening Balance	685,575	0	
	Assets introduced		0	683,050
	Surplus for year	15,043	0	2,525
	Total	700,618	0	685,575

Signed by one or two trustees on
behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Alison Irwin	8.4.24