



Oakridge Baptist Church

Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Tel: 01494 537478 (Answerphone)

www.oakridgebaptist.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

Mr J Sinclair

Mrs A Sinclair

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.church

Treasurer: Mr Philip Rackstraw philip@dashwoods.co.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 2024

The Trustees present their Annual Report for 2024

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.church

The Church continued to be blessed throughout 2024 by the weekly ministry of members and many other friends during our 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 on 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 is held on alternate Tuesdays, providing 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 CIC (WCA) and hosted at the Church, providing additional surplus food to the local community. Each week food parcels and hot meals are provided to people as well as seasonal community meals throughout the year. The WCA also runs a Saturday allotment growers breakfast club/social prescribing service from the Church premises.

FoodCycle continues to be 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 continues to increase 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.

Other Christian groups continue to 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 in numbers, including financial numbers, but in less tangible areas like fellowship, encouragement and participation. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure but believe that 2024 was a positive year in the life of the Church, and that it will be able to continue its mission purposes in 2025.

At the beginning of the year the membership number was 35, at the end of the year the number was 34, 2 having died and 1 new member having been received into the fellowship.

Average attendance at worship services declined slightly during the year due to ill health and mobility issues. Attendance at the Bible study group held at the church increased. There are still spaces in some sections of the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association and active advertising is still 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 2024 was £40391.33.

The Church continued its financial commitment to the life of the wider church by making gifts of approximately £7500 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 were carried out mindful of the proposed plans for the site.

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 - update

Following the initial pre-planning application phase of the proposed re-development project, and despite the fact that the project was much needed and lauded; it was clear from Buckinghamshire Council planning department that a further set of plans was required for any future planning application to be successful.

A revised scheme was drafted, agreed and approved by the Church Members; and the full planning application process was started.

Most issues surrounding the project moving forward related to lack of funding and a 'vision' document was drafted for use as a discussion document for potential funders and other interested parties.

In a spirit of neighbourliness, the Leadership Team met with members of the Jubilee Road Mosque committee to share the Church's vision which was well received and appreciated by them.

Many meetings and discussions have taken place during 2024 not least with Homes England (the redevelopment project's primary funder) and the Local Authority; however, a previous commitment to funding from Buckinghamshire Council was withdrawn due to budget constraints on long-term projects such as this which was disappointing.

The Church's position regarding the redevelopment project moving forward was therefore reviewed and, as funding still remained the biggest hurdle, it was decided by the Development/Leadership Teams, and agreed by the Church Members, to put the project on hold until capital funding streams

could be identified and secured in order to render the scheme viable in terms of being able to move forward with the planning application process.

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 2024, the church had a working balance of approximately £4,000 none of which is restricted or designated.

The Church has on deposit with the Baptist Union £700,000 (£500,000 being from the sale of the manse in 2022 held against the new build). The balance is from interest accrued and from a previous legacy. The legacy has no restrictions as to its use and some has been used to offset initial expenses related to the new build, mainly surveys and professional fees and to augment the income of the Church.

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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 2024.

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 19/12/25

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
DETAILED TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		2024		2023
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Offeratories		20,875		21,111
Donations		5,840		770
Hall hire		7,965		8,380
Gift Aid reclaim		5,712		5,586
Food bank donation		-		200
		<u>40,392</u>		<u>36,047</u>
Cost of sales				
Resource material		-	45	
Kitchen purchases	235		98	
	<u>235</u>		<u>143</u>	
		(235)		(143)
Gross profit	99.42%	<u>40,157</u>	99.60%	<u>35,904</u>
Expenses				
Training	-		40	
Rates and water	886		454	
Preaching expenses	910		800	
Insurance	2,706		2,621	
Light and heat	6,412		6,860	
Cleaning	4,534		2,981	
Repairs and maintenance	3,539		4,304	
Printing, postage and stationery	21		232	
Telephone	341		301	
Computer running costs	180		324	
Equipment purchased	682		57	
Website maintenance	226		-	
Missionary support	2,520		2,560	
Travelling expenses	-		58	
Legal and prof fees - allowable	52,864		1,520	
Bad and doubtful debts	-		400	
CCLI Licence	826		778	
CBA donation	1,800		1,800	
BMS	2,200		2,200	
Sundry expenses	130		247	
Other donations	980		880	
Subscriptions	503		231	
		<u>(82,260)</u>		<u>(29,648)</u>
Surplus/Deficit		<u>(42,103)</u>		<u>6,256</u>
Other Income				
Bank interest received		45,755		8,787
Net Deficit/Surplus for the year	9.04%	<u>3,652</u>	41.73%	<u>15,043</u>

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Current assets					
Current Account		4,178		16,281	
Baptist Union deposit		700,092		684,337	
Net current assets			<u>704,270</u>		<u>700,618</u>
Capital account					
At 1 January 2024			700,618		685,575
Surplus/Deficit			<u>3,652</u>		<u>15,043</u>
			<u>704,270</u>		<u>700,618</u>

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £
Cost	
At 1 January 2024 & at 31 December 2024	68,963
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2024 & at 31 December 2024	68,963
Net book value	
At 31 December 2024	0



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Oakridge Baptist Church CIO

119740

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

01/01/2024

To

31/12/2024

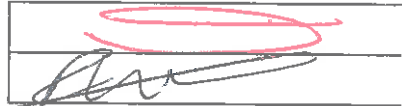
Section A Receipts and payments

	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	20,875	-	-	20,875	21,111
Room Hire	7,965	-	-	7,965	8,380
Donations	840	5,000	-	5,840	770
Fund Raising	-	-	-	-	200
Interest Received	45,755	-	-	45,755	8,787
Gift Aid reclaim	5,712	-	-	5,712	5,586
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	81,147	5,000	-	86,147	44,834
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	81,147	5,000	-	86,147	44,834
A3 Payments					
Training	-	-	-	-	40
Rates and water	886	-	-	886	454
Preaching expenses	910	-	-	910	800
Insurance	2,706	-	-	2,706	2,621
Light and Heat	6,412	-	-	6,412	6,860
Cleaning	4,534	-	-	4,534	2,981
Repairs and Maintenance	3,539	-	-	3,539	4,304
Printing, postage and stationery	21	-	-	21	232
Telephone	341	-	-	341	301
Computer running costs	180	-	-	180	324
Equipment purchases	682	-	-	682	57
Missionary support	2,520	-	-	2,520	2,560
Travel	-	-	-	-	58
Legal and Professional	52,864	-	-	52,864	1,520
Bad debt	-	-	-	-	400
CCLI	826	-	-	826	778
CBA donation	1,800	-	-	1,800	1,800
BMS donation	2,200	-	-	2,200	2,200
Other donations	980	-	-	980	880
Subscriptions	503	-	-	503	231
Sundry expenses	591	-	-	591	390
Sub total	82,495	-	-	82,495	29,791
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	82,495	-	-	82,495	29,791
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,348	5,000	-	3,652	15,043
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 1,348	5,000	-	3,652	15,043

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	Metrobank	4178	-	-
	Baptist Union deposits	695092	5,000	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	699,270	5,000	-
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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		699,270	5,000	
D1 Capital account	Opening Balance	700,618	0	
	Assets introduced		0	
	Surplus for year	-1,348	5,000	
	Total	699,270	5,000	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Alison Irwin	24.3.2025
	Philip Rackstraw	24/3/2025