

# **Bonny Downs Baptist Church CIO**

Charity Registration No. : 1197719

## **Report and Accounts**

**For the period ended 31 March 2024**

# Bonny Downs Baptist Church CIO

## Charity Information

For the period ended 31 March 2024

Address for correspondence	Bonny Downs Baptist Church 18 Darwell Close East Ham London E6 6BT
Charity Registration No. :	1197719
Governing Document	Registered as a CIO -Association model on 31 January 2022.
Status	The church is a Registered Charity and a member of the Baptist Union
Ministers	David Hudson Mann Rev Dr Sally Mann
Trustees	David Hudson Mann Rev Dr Sally Mann (Chair) Stacey Cordery Angela Allgood Philippa King Sarah Louise Laing Mary Louise Smith
Custodian Trustee	London Baptist Property Board Ltd
Bankers	London Baptist Property Board Ltd The Co-operative Bank Plc
Independent Examiner	Brian Dexter 172 Sandford Road East Ham London E6 3PX

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## BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2024

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting their Report and Accounts for the year.

#### Objects of the charity

Bonny Downs Mission was formed in 1908. In 1952 all deeds and conveyances were transferred to the London Baptist Property Board and the church became and remains Bonny Downs Baptist Church affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain. The policy and operating decisions of the church rest with the Trustees (Leadership Team) who are nominated and appointed by members of the church. The motivation of the church is to see 'Jesus changing lives and transforming our community.'

We have a team of 5 co-vocational ministers sharing 1 stipend. A further 4 members of our Church serve as part of our Leadership Team.

In 1998 Bonny Downs Baptist Church (BDBC) set up a separate charitable company called Bonny Downs Community Association (BDCA) to work in collaboration with the church to fulfil more effectively its vision, both spiritual and practical. BDCA took on the lease from Newham Council of a shabby, neglected Community Centre close to the church. Church members worked hard to renovate the building now known as The Well Community Centre.

As a church we are proud of the work of this charity and the opportunities it affords for Christian witness and service. Many of our members remain involved on a day-to-day basis either as volunteers or in paid posts, one of our ministers is the chair and another is the CEO.

In 2002, BDCA, through the inspiration and vision of church members, took over responsibility for an overgrown nine-acre playing field locally. This is now a thriving Sports and Community centre with an excellent Pavilion facility. An area of the field has been nurtured into a Community Garden which provides opportunity for local people of many ethnic groups to come together to learn gardening skills, share recipes and grow produce as well as providing a space to organise and celebrate Interfaith events.

'The Bonny Downs Mission' was originally started at the beginning of the 20th century through Christian vision in response to the grim poverty that was evident in the area known as Bonny Downs. In this respect, the church, in conjunction with BDCA has come full circle and in June 2013 we saw the establishment within the church building of a Food Bank and community lunch which provides hot meals for vulnerable local residents each week during the foodbank hours. Church members and those from the local community volunteer their time and donate food and money in supporting this valuable service. During these sessions we hold reflective discussions which provide opportunities for people to share in a safe, non-judgemental environment.

In 2013, some of our Bonny Downs Church members played a key role in bringing together local Christian leaders across the borough to form the NEWway Project which was in response to the rising levels of homelessness in our area.

## BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2024

By working together across denominational divides they launched an interchurch night shelter and advocacy service to support local rough sleepers throughout the coldest months of the year. Bonny Downs Church signed up to become one of the initial 7 host church venues during the pilot circuit. A team of volunteers open up the old church hall for one night per week and provide a safe welcoming place to sleep, a nutritious meal and friendly conversation for our 15 homeless guests.

The night shelter is also linked to NEWday, a project which meets for 5 days throughout the week to help the guests to move on. They offer a range of free daytime services (including free showers, laundry facilities, life skills workshops and employment support) to help their guests increase their resilience, health, independence and wellbeing.

One of our ministers leads a social enterprise business called NewLife which provides an opportunity for some of the most marginalised people to re-enter the workplace, gaining skills, experience and responsibility in real work environments.

We also spend time during the week at 'Family Hub', a support group for families encountered during the pandemic who have NRPF. Each week families meet together within The Well - a safe place for them to get advice, participate in craft activities, prepare and cook lunch together and to generally 'share life'.

Bonny Downs is proud to be an officially inclusive Church and in February 2019 we became part of the 'Inclusive Church' which is a network of churches, groups and individuals uniting around a shared vision:

"We believe in inclusive Church - church which does not discriminate, on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."

One of our ministers helps to lead Two:23, a network of Christians, connected by LGBT (Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) issues. Their vision is to create a space where absolutely everyone is welcome, whoever you are and wherever you're at in terms of church or issues of sexuality and sexual identity.

Bonny Downs Church is also part of Red Letter Christians UK, finding ways to live out the words of Jesus. Staying true to the foundation of combining Jesus and justice, Red Letter Christians mobilises people into a movement of believers who live out Jesus' counter-cultural teachings. Two of our ministers are Co-Directors and founding trustees of RLC UK and are passionate about raising the voices of grassroots leaders and the work they're doing to live out God's kingdom in tangible ways.

In 2018 one of our ministers published a book called 'Looking for Lydia' this includes memoirs of over 20 years of church ministry in the East End of London and it recalls encounters with people who shaped how they began to understand the reach of the Gospel, the mission of the Church, and their own call as ministers. This book makes for an inspiring read and is available to buy on Amazon.

## BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2024

#### BONNY DOWNS CHURCH

Lockdown saw the introduction of our Church Prayer Walk's and Creative Worship within the community garden following which we decided as a Church to continue to meet in the Community Garden between the months of April and September and then return indoors for the winter months.

We were delighted when 'Songs of Praise' visited to film both our walking Church and walking football, as part of this they interviewed some of those within our community who had started to attend and engage with us as a result of some of our midweek ministries.

The original Bonny Downs Church building is used for Sunday worship by two churches: The Redeemed Church of God (African), the Bonny Downs Portuguese Fellowship. A discretionary rent is charged where appropriate.

The church supports BDCA's three week Summer Holiday Scheme catering for up to 180 children per day for children aged 4 ½ to 14 which provides an opportunity for our young people to take up work and training opportunities. This includes us helping to lead start of the day talks to encourage and support our young leaders to be the best versions of themselves whilst at the same time providing opportunities for them to reflect, some of these young leaders have then gone on to help lead our Sunday School classes.

To nurture faith during the week, there are fellowship and support groups that meet regularly to discuss the word of God, provide opportunities for connection & friendship and to support mental health & wellbeing, this includes The Life Support Group, bible study groups, evenings of music & worship and the sharing of food. There are also a variety of online activities to help people connect and reflect, including our Virtual worship Face Book page and morning Reflections which include weekly daily contemplative prayer on our virtual church Facebook page.

Bonny Downs also host a monthly choir 'East Ham Voices' that meet monthly in the original Bonny Downs Church Building. The multicultural community choir was set up in order to bring people together to learn songs from around the world in a variety of languages in order to celebrate the unique diversity in the borough of Newham and encourage cross-cultural friendships.

Bonny Downs Church and BDCA work closely together in supporting the elderly within our community. Some of our members also volunteer as befrienders offering companionship and support to Elders within our community who would otherwise be socially isolated. There are a number within Bonny Downs Church who are committed to pastoral visiting which includes anyone living locally with a need.

We are always pleased to see people whom we visit in the community coming to join us for worship on a Sunday and it is always an added joy when they come to faith.

## BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2024

#### **Bonny Downs Abbey**

Bonny Downs Baptist Church is working with Bonny Downs Community Association and NEWway project to redevelop the old Bonny Downs Church Hall which although well used and much loved by local people is in an extremely poor state of repair. We want to redevelop it to create a useful and beautiful building 'Bonny Downs Abbey' that will benefit the community for years to come.

The new building will provide a small number of housing units for community living above a ground floor community space. This will be used in the daytime for services to those facing homelessness or food poverty.

As part of this redevelopment we **Bonny Downs Baptist Church (Newham London)** became a CIO. Our new legal name became **Bonny Downs Baptist Church** and the Charity Commission registered the CIO under Charity Number **1197719**. The date of the transfer was **31 May 2022**.

Our vision is for Bonny Downs Abbey to be an intentional community bringing together people from different backgrounds who are committed to sharing life with and supporting one another, united by a common goal of tackling poverty. The residents will be a mix of community workers and people moving on from homelessness who have low support needs and would benefit greatly from a peaceful place to stay for 2-3 years so they can rebuild a new life.

This project has been led by one of our Trustees who has raised significant funds to develop this project. We will partner with a small housing association that shares our vision, called J49, to develop this project and manage the affordable rented accommodation. Plans are in place for the building to be demolished in December 2024. We are looking forward to seeing our vision become reality!

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The church set aside 10% of its total receipts in a 'Giving Fund' to support other charitable organisations and to contribute to meeting other needs both locally and abroad.

We don't hold weekly money collections during the Sunday service, instead we encourage donors to make regular contributions through Stewardship.

Income on our General Fund for the year amounted to £75,925. Payments made from the Giving Fund in the year amounted to £7,859. There was an overall surplus for the year on the General Fund of £3,052 leaving a balance on General Fund at the end of the year of £116,383 to be carried forward. The trustees consider that this is a satisfactory position although recognise that the church needs to be looking for an increase in giving in the following year.

The Building Futures project, aiming to renew the old church building has received nearly £33,609, including a grant from GLA of £17,500 during this year and continues to progress spending £6,617 in the year on consultants and project management. Funds received for this project and held in separate bank and deposit accounts amounted to £138,830 at the end of the year.

The total income of the church for the year from all sources amounted to £109,535

## BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2024

#### RESERVES POLICY

The trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £18,000 (which equates to about 3 months' of unrestricted expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £121,236 and the charity is complying with its reserves policy.

#### TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

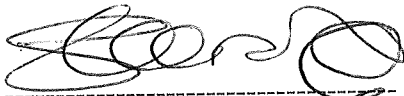
Charity Law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or other irregularities and to provide reasonable assurances that:

- 1 The church is operating efficiently and effectively
- 2 Its assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition
- 3 Financial information used within the church or for publication is reliable
- 4 The church complies with relevant laws and regulations

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on the 28/1/25 2025 by:



Stacey Cordery

Trustee

**BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH**

Charity Registration No. : 1197719

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2024

Independent Examiner's Report  
To the Trustees of  
Bonny Downs Baptist Church CIO

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the CIO") for the year ended 31 March 2024.

As the charity trustees of the CIO, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*BJ Dexter*

Brian Dexter ACMA

28th

January 2025

A Thousand Hills Ltd  
172 Sandford Road  
LONDON  
E6 3PX



# **BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH**

Charity Registration No. : 1197719

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2024

	Notes	2024			2023		
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023
Receipts							
Transfer from BDBC(Newham)		0	-	0	118,254	102,203	220,457
Giving to the Church	2	47,105	13,183	60,288	592	-	592
Bank Interest		431	1,148	1,578	-	-	-
Hall Lettings		28,390		28,390	-	-	-
Other Receipts		-	1,606	1,606	-	-	-
Grants Received		-	17,673	17,673	-	74,000	74,000
Total Income		75,925	33,609	109,535	118,846	176,203	295,049
Payments							
Charitable Activities							
Church Costs		64,595	6,617	71,212	4,874	61,833	66,707
Grants paid		8,279	-	8,279	640	-	640
Total Payments		72,875	6,617	79,492	5,514	61,833	67,347
Net receipts/(Payments) before Transfers		3,051	26,992	30,043	113,332	114,370	227,702
Transfers between Funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Movement In Funds		3,051	26,992	30,043	113,332	114,370	227,702
Balances 1st April 2023		113,332	114,370	227,702	-	-	-
Balances 31st March 2024		116,383	141,362	257,745	113,332	114,370	227,702

The notes on pages 11-13 form part of these accounts

**BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH**

Charity Registration No. : 1197719

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities 31st March 2024****1 Fixed Assets**

The insurance re-instatement values of the assets owned by the church in 2024 were:

	£	
	Church Building	Other Equipment
As at 1 april 2023	487,495	38,778
Adjustments	0	-
Balance 31 March 2024	487,495	38,778

For the year ended 31 March 2024

**2024****2023**

£

£

**2 Debtors**

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid

-

-

Other debtors and prepayments

-

-

-

-

**3 Bank balances**

Bank operating accounts

139,212

104,229

Deposits

123,319

123,319

Petty cash

55

55

262,586

227,603

**4 Liabilities**

Creditors- from general funds

1,827

1,455

Creditors- from restricted Funds

4,287

1,625

Accruals

800

400

6,914

3,480

The notes on pages 11-13 form part of these accounts

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on the

of 28/1/25 by:



Stacey Cordery

**BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH**

Charity Registration No. :

1197719

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2024.

**Notes to the accounts**
**1 Accounting Policies**

The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis with a Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

	2024			2023		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023
<b>2 Giving to the Church</b>						
Gift Aided Donations	25,480		25,480	-		-
Tax Recovered	8,830		8,830	-		-
Weekly offerings	10,170	2,726	12,896	592		592
Other regular Giving	2,375	9,652	12,027	-		-
Other gifts and donations	250	805	1,055	-	-	-
Grants	-	17,673	17,673	-	74,000	74,000
	47,105	30,856	77,961	592	74,000	74,592

Grant is 1st tranche (2023) and second tranche (2024) of revenue funding agreement from GLA

**3 Church Costs**

Staff Costs	40,773	-	40,773	3,171	-	3,171
Secondment costs	-		-	49		49
Ministers Expenses & Training	393		393	-		-
Teaching Aids	86		86	-		-
Youth and Childrens' Work	412	-	412	-	-	-
Events	261		261	-		-
Training and conference costs	4,627		4,627			
Professional Fees	-	6,617	6,617	-	61,833	61,833
Subscriptions	427		427	603		603
Church Activities	109	-	109	-	-	-
Cleaning	184		184			
Other Expenses	873		873	-		-
Light, heat, water	6,364		6,364	403		403
Insurances	1,455		1,455	-		-
Bank Charges	-		-	-		-
Repairs and Maintenance	977		977	-		-
Equipment repairs and purchases	338		338	-		-
Hire of rooms	6,331		6,331	648		648
Telephone	198		198			
Computer costs	429		429	-		-
Post and Stationery	357		357	-		-
Governance costs	-		-	-		-
	64,595	6,617	71,212	4,874	61,833	66,707

**4 Grants Paid**

Open Doors	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forgotten People project	1,300		1,300	60		60
Casa Haralul, Romania	1,120		1,120	80		80
GIV United WO	-		-	-		-
Ukrainian Evangelical support	-		-	-	-	-
Other < £500	5,859		5,859	500	-	500
	8,279	-	8,279	640	-	640

**BONNY DOWNS BAPTIST CHURCH**

Charity Registration No. :

1197719

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2024.

**Notes to the accounts****6 Staff & Trustees**

The number of staff employed by the charity in the year was transferred was nil full time equivalent employed staff and 4 part time employed staff.

Its activities are generally carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

<b>7 Funds 2024</b>	Opening balance £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers in the year £		Closing balance £
<b>Restricted funds:</b>						
Building Futures Fund	111,837	33,609	-6,617			138,830
Bursary Fund	38	0	0			38
Special Collection Fund	2,495	0	0			2,495
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>114,370</b>	<b>33,609</b>	<b>-6,617</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>141,363</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>						
General fund	113,332	75,925	-65,015	-7,859	0	116,383
Giving fund	0	0	-7,859	7,859		0
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>113,332</b>	<b>75,925</b>	<b>-72,874</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>116,383</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>227,702</b>	<b>109,535</b>	<b>-79,491</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>257,745</b>

Incoming Resources in the year include £10,001 transfer from ol Bonny Downs Baptist church [Newham London]

<b>Funds 2023</b>	Opening balance £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers in the year £		Closing balance £
<b>Restricted funds:</b>						
Building Futures Fund	0	173,670	-61,833			111,837
Bursary Fund	0	38				38
Special Collection Fund	0	2,495	0			2,495
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>176,203</b>	<b>-61,833</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>114,370</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds:</b>						
General fund	0	118,846	-4,874	-640	0	113,332
Giving fund	0		-640	640		0
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>118,846</b>	<b>-5,514</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>113,332</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>295,049</b>	<b>-67,347</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>227,702</b>

Incoming Resources in the year include £220,457 transfer from ol Bonny Downs Baptist church [Newham London]

**Details of Funds.**

The Building Futures fund is set aside for the renewal of our ageing church building. The fund is also used to pay for support work and fundraising essential to this project.

The Bursary fund was set up to help young people to fund long term training (over six months) in Christian ministry or

The Special Collections fund is for special offerings dedicated to support chosen charities or organisations selected by the trustees and membership.