



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Report for the period

From 13.09.2022 Period start date

To 31.12.2023 Period end date

Charity name: LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH

Charity registration number: 1200361

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The principal purposes of the Church are:- 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.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The activities may include but are not restricted to: - regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching; - baptism, as defined in the Baptist 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.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees confirm that have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The Church classifies its giving as gifts or donations rather than grants.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	As stated in the summary of the purposes of the Charity
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	This is essential to the Charity's effectiveness and is carried out by members of the Church, the wider fellowship and supporters from the community.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The regular weekly activities, include Sunday worship services and Bible Studies. There are two cafés on church premises: Working for Wellbeing (Thursdays) and Beans Saturday café. Both are open to the public. The premises are used by a local choir, Alcoholics Anonymous and a Women's institute Reading Group. Special events last year including a Coronation Tea Party. Occasionally there are visiting speakers who take meetings on Friday mornings, e.g. Educacion Plus Work in Costa Rica, The Society for the Distribution of Hebrew Scriptures, Open Doors. Gifts were made to a wide variety of Christian activities including Barnabas Fund, Open Doors, Tearfund, Samaritan's Purse, SDHS, as well as to responses for humanitarian Aid (e.g. the Turkish earthquake in February) .

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	A quinquennial Report was completed and recommendations activated. The church garden was successfully landscaped. Overgrown trees were substantially reduced.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	The Church does not fundraise. All finances received were gifts plus Gift Aid. Also rent on the church manse.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Accounts for the period are attached.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We endeavour to hold a balance of six months expected expenditure
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£14,846 at 31 December 2023.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Static membership

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	All finances received were gifts plus Gift Aid. Also rent on the church manse.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The fact that the church building is listed Grade II means that its upkeep at times is expensive. That for 2023 was effectively met by income from the Manse and 2024 will be similar
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Church Constitution Document
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The Charity Trustees are appointed in accordance with the directions of the Church Members' Meeting and the provisions of the Church Constitution

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Lechlade Baptist Church is a Member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB)
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Lechlade Baptist Church
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1200361
Charity's principal address	Lechlade Baptist Church Sherborne Street Lechlade GL7 3AH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	David Hopkins	Church Secretary	2023	
2	Michael Stone	Church Treasurer	2023	
3	David Chandler	Trustee	2023	
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
Robert J. English	2023	CHURCH PREMISES CHURCH MANSE
TRUST COMPANY MANAGER WEST OF ENGLAND BAPTIST TRUST MANAGER		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details
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Other optional information

As indicated in the Declaration attached to the Accounts, while The Charity Commission issued its authorisation of Lechlade Baptist Church as a CIO on 13 September 2022, it subsequently confirmed that the merger of LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH (UNINCORPORATED) with LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH – 1200361 was registered on 23 January 2023 with an effective asset transfer date of 1 January 2023.

It should therefore be noted that until the transfer of assets took place on 1 January 2023, all transactions continued to belong to the UNINCORPORATED entity. Therefore, while the period covered is shown as beginning on 13 September 2022, there were no financial transactions in respect of it prior to 1 January 2023. All transactions in 2022 concerned only the UNINCORPORATED entity.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.

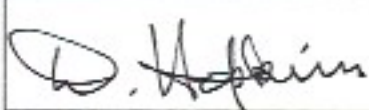
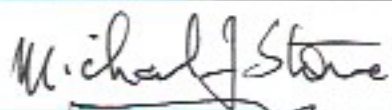
Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	David Hopkins	Michael Stone
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	
Date	14 October 2024	

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	David Hopkins	Michael Stone
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	TREASURER
Date	14 October 2024	

Lechlade Baptist Church CIO

Registered Charity No. 1200361

Accounts for Period
13 September 2022
to
31 December 2023

Declaration

Accounts for the period 13 September 2022 to 31 December 2023

Early in 2022, the leaders of Lechlade Baptist Church (LBC) applied to The Charity Commission to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), having first consulted with the church members.

This decision had been reached in light of anticipated changes to relevant legislation as LBC was at that time functioning as an 'excepted charity' through its membership of Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB), and prepared its annual reports accordingly without reference to The Charity Commission.

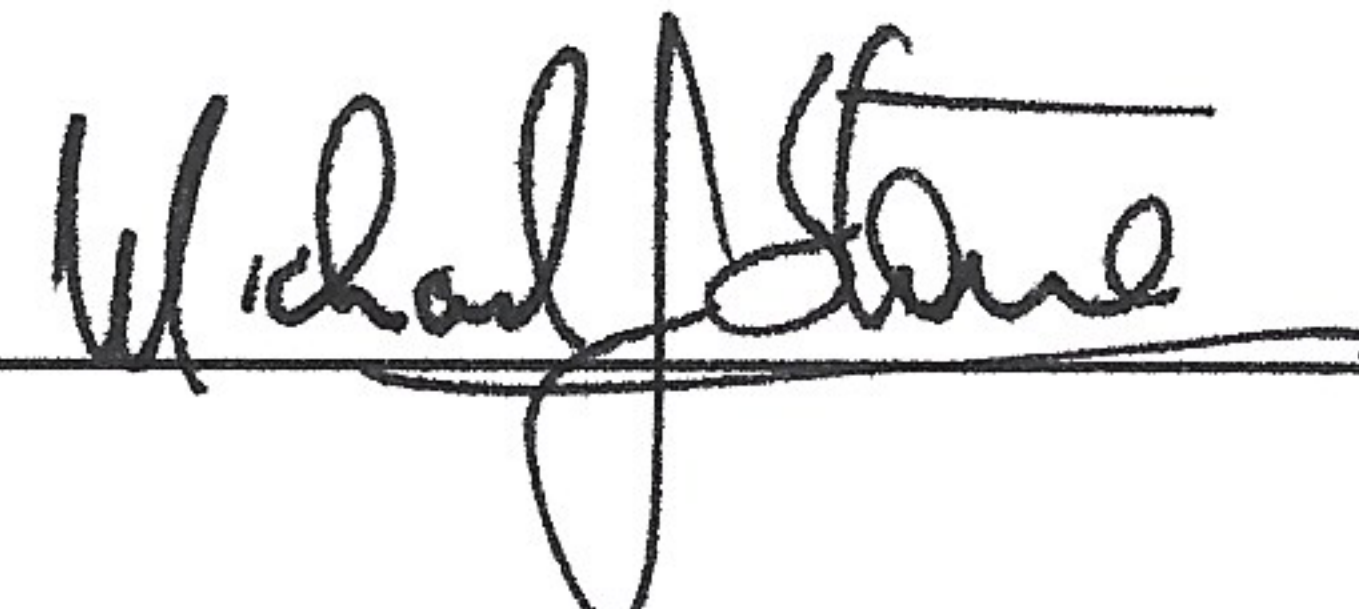
The necessary legal steps were carried out using Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP (ACS) who had been introduced by BUGB to inform and advise any Baptist Churches that wished to engage them. Following ACS's work, notification was received from The Charity Commission that Lechlade Baptist Church had been registered as a CIO on 13 September 2022.

ACS later advised that The Charity Commission had authorised the transfer of Assets and Liabilities on 23 November 2022, and subsequently confirmed that the merger of LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH (UNINCORPORATED) with LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH - 1200361 had been registered on 23 January 2023 with effective asset transfer date of 1 January 2023.

It also confirmed that LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH (UNINCORPORATED) had been removed from the Register of Charities.

In the accounting information which follows it must therefore be noted that until the transfer of assets took place on 1 January 2023, all transactions continued to belong to the UNINCORPORATED entity. Therefore, while the period covered in the attached statement in respect of the new CIO is designated as beginning on 13 September 2022, there were no financial transactions in respect of it prior to 1 January 2023. All transactions shown in the comparative 2022 information relate solely to the UNINCORPORATED entity.

Approved by Trustees of Lechlade Baptist Church CIO and signed on their behalf:

Signature:  Name: MICHAEL J. STONE Date: 1st Oct 2024

LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH CIO

Registered Charity 1200361

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees/Members of Lechlade Baptist Church for the year ended 31 December 2023

I report on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2023, and set out on pages 3 and 4 attached.

Respective responsibilities of the Church and the Independent Examiner

As charity trustees of the Trust, 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, having followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)b of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My 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 the appointed officers of the Church 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 Examiner's statement

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

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

Martyn Cook.....
26 St Phillip's Road, Upper Stratton, Swindon, SN2 7QH

March 19th..... 2024

Income & Expenditure Report for Lechlade Baptist Church

The notes on the next page form part of these accounts.

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Incoming Resources					
Collections, donations & other gifts		580	-	580	3,130
Grants Received	1	0	-	0	6,569
Planned Giving		7,480	-	7,480	7,590
Loose Collections		1,149	-	1,149	2,164
Tax Refunds		1,519	-	1,519	3,279
	Gift Aid		-		
	GASDS	373	-	373	599
Use of Church		930	-	930	680
Beans Café		1,656	-	1,656	1,161
Manse Rent	2	12,000	-	12,000	13,000
Total incoming resources		25,687	0	25,687	38,172
Less Resources Expended					
<i>Mission Support</i>					
Baptist Union Home Mission		1,800	-	1,800	1,800
BMS - World Mission		1,440	-	1,440	2,440
Other Missionary Agencies	3	7,040	-	7,040	6,740
Pastoral Support		1,273	-	1,273	0
Total Gifts & Tithes		11,553	0	11,553	10,980
<i>Church Costs</i>					
Heat, Light & Water		1,569	-	1,569	919
Maintenance	4	11,895	-	11,895	1,409
New Fixtures & Fittings	5	214	-	214	2,366
Insurance		783	-	783	679
CCLI Licences / IT		770	-	770	874
Cleaning & Flowers & Stationery		1,292	-	1,292	1,071
Total Church Costs		16,523	0	16,523	7,317
<i>Other Expenses</i>					
Leadership Assistance	6	0	-	0	4,867
Visiting preacher / musician expenses		880	-	880	1,268
Baptist Union Subscription	7	170	-	170	0
Beans & Meet and Eat / Social Events		526	-	526	329
Legal Costs	8	1,280	-	1,280	1,853
Other expenses		407	-	407	1,476
Auditor's honorarium		0	-	0	150
Total Other Expenses		3,262	0	3,262	9,943
<i>Manse Costs</i>					
Insurance		331	-	331	288
Refurbishment / Maintenance		1,485	-	1,485	372
Ridgeway Fees		1,440	-	1,440	1,560
Total Manse Costs		3,257	0	3,257	2,219
Total - All Expenses		34,595	0	34,595	30,459
Total Income less Expenditure		(8,908)	0	(8,908)	7,713
Cash Balance at 1 January				23,754	16,042
Cash Balance at 31 December				14,846	23,754

LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
Financial Statements year ended 31 December 2023

Registered Charity 1200361

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	31-Dec-23	31-Dec-22
	£	£
Bank Accounts		
Barclays Bank	14,846	23,754
	<u>14,846</u>	<u>23,754</u>
Debtors		
Working4Wellbeing	60	0
HMRC re Gift Aid	2,571	1,892
	<u>2,631</u>	<u>1,892</u>
Liabilities		
Chaplaincy to Swindon Crown Court	150	0
	<u>150</u>	<u>0</u>

Other Assets include:

Freehold Church premises at Sherborne Street, Lechlade
Freehold Manse, at 3 The Close, Hambidge Lane, Lechlade
Church Organ and Piano
Photocopier, Desktop PC and Audio Visual Equipment
Church Fixtures and Fittings
Manse Fixtures and Fittings

Notes

- 1 The church building is over 200 years old. It is Grade 2 listed and it became necessary to repair/replace the windows while retaining the original glass. This was done in 2021 and grant monies were received in that year, but some were received early in 2022 along with VAT recovery from the DCMS.
- 2 Disparity due to a timing difference in 2022.
- 3 Includes Educacion Plus, Tools With a Mission, Open Doors, Barnabas Aid, Tear Fund.
- 4 External works including gutter repairs, tree lopping and substantial frontage improvement.
- 5 The 2022 figure included new audio/visual equipment.
- 6 Our part-time pastor left in 2022 for personal reasons.
- 7 Current year includes 2022 which was overlooked at the time.
- 8 These relate to the formation of the new CIO.

Approved by Trustees of Lechlade Baptist Church CIO and signed on their behalf:

Signature: Michael Stone Name: MICHAEL J. STONE Date: 14 Oct 2024

Martyn Cook, J.P., B.SC., Dip I.A.
26 St Philip's Road
Upper Stratton
Swindon, SN2 7QH

Tele : 01793 825535
07802 486448
e-mail : martyn@thecookhouse.org

October 14th, 2024

Mr M Stone,
Treasurer, Lechlade Baptist Church

By email to : stone.michaelz@gmail.com

Dear Michael.

LECHLADE BAPTIST CHURCH ACCOUNTS
YEARS ENDING : DECEMBER 31st, 2022 AND DECEMBER 31st, 2023.

Thank for the declaration setting out the situation regarding the Church accounts relating to the change of Lechlade Baptist Church from an Unincorporated Association to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

I am writing to confirm the declaration, made by the Church Trustees and signed on their behalf by yourself, that the accounts for the period January 1st, 2022 to December 31st, 2022, for which I carried out the Independent Examination in March 2023, were for the Church as an Unincorporated Association. Therefore, there were no financial transactions or financial assets held by the Church as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in the period 13th September 2022 to 31st December 2022.

Consequently, with the church becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation from January 1st, 2023, the accounts for year January 1st to December 31st, 2023, for which I carried out the Independent Examination in April 2024, were for the Church as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Martyn Cook', with a faint circular stamp or watermark visible behind it.

Martyn Cook