

RODBOURNE BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1200814

Details

Other names RODBOURNE CHENEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2022-10-25

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Baptist Church
Cheney Manor Road
Swindon
SN2 2PE

Phone 01793724158

Email rodbournebaptists@gmail.com

Website www.rcbc.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH ARE:- 3.1.1 THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION. 3.1.2 THE CHURCH MAY ALSO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND CARRY OUT OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND/OR OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Activities: Baptist Church

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Swindon

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£100,014	£106,279	-	-
2024-12-31	£100,805	£85,206	-	-
2023-12-31	£112,910	£103,797	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev JAMES REEVES	Chair	2022-09-01
Edmund Everest		2023-03-26
Eric Clark		2023-03-26
Eunice Akyereko adjei		2026-03-29
Harriet Bosomeae Bosu		2023-03-26
Janet Eileen Clark		2023-03-26
John Kwesi Bosu		2023-03-26
Owualata Egonu		2026-03-29
Philip Edgell		2023-03-26
Sarah Purnell		2024-11-24

RODBOURNE BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1200814

Accounts

Rodbourne Baptist Church



Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements Year Ended-31 December 2025

RCBC is a Registered Charity No 1200814

Trustees Annual Report
For the period
1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity Name **Rodbourne Baptist Church**
(locally known as Rodbourne Cheney Baptist Church)

Charity's principal address **Cheney Manor Road, Swindon, SN2 2PE**

Charity's postal address **c/o 15 Frome Road, Swindon SN25 3PQ**

Charity Number **1200814**

Names of the charity trustees (henceforth referred to as 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)
Mr James Reeves	Minister		Church Members
Mr John Bosu	Elder		Church Members
Mr Philip Edgell	Elder		Church Members
Mrs Janet Clark	Deacon/Treasurer		Church Members
Mr Eric Clark	Deacon/Secretary		Church Members
Mrs Harriett Bosu	Deacon/Pastoral		Church Members
Mr Edmund Everest	Deacon/Building Maintenance		Church Members
Mrs Sarah Purnell	Deacon/Safeguarding		Church Members

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
West of England Baptist Trust Company (East) Ltd., Charity No 1091251	

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent Examiner	Mr Hilton Holding (BCom)	60 Studland Park, Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 3HN
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc	82 Regent Street, Brunel Centre, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 1TZ
Solicitors	Wood, Awdry & Ford	3 St Mary Street, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 3JL

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (e.g. trust deed, constitution)	The Constitution (Approved Governing Document) is the governing document and this is reviewed and updated when necessary. Last updated in May 2021 at a special church members' meeting to allow for Electronic Meetings. The amendments were passed unanimously.
How the charity is constituted (e.g. trust, association, company)	The charity is constituted as a Baptist Church
Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by)	Nominated and elected by church members at church meetings
Additional governance issues (optional information)	<p>The Church employs James Reeves as our Minister. The Minister Elders and Deacons together with church members and regular attendees form the body of the church.</p> <p>Elders are nominated by the pastor/elders and elected by church members. They must be over the age of 21 and have been in church membership for at least two years. They serve on the Trustee Body for a period ideally not exceeding 3 years after which time they may stand for re-election.</p> <p>Deacons are nominated and elected by church members. They must be over the age of 16 and have been in church membership for at least one year. They serve on the Trustee Body for a period not exceeding 3 years, after which time they may stand for re-election.</p> <p>The Deacons and Elders attend Training Days held by the Baptist Union and the West of England Baptist Association (Webnet) when appropriate.</p> <p>The church is a member of the West of England Baptist Trust Company (East) Ltd and a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, both of whom are registered charities. The church does not receive grant funding from the West of England Baptist Trust Company but can apply for and may receive a grant from The Home Mission Section of the Baptist Union.</p> <p>The Trustees have examined the financial risks and the Health and Safety risks, and the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Adults at Risk and systems have been put in place to enable regular reports to be given to trustees and members at the bi-monthly and Annual General meetings, so that necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks. (See page 11). Safeguarding Training is also given to all those working with Children Young People and Adults at Risk.</p> <p>The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Charities Act (2011). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and must take reasonable steps to ensure the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.</p>

The Church became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and was granted a charity number in October 2022 (1200814) however we were not fully affiliated until the end of March 2023.

Summary of the objects of the Charity set out in its governing

The object of the church is to fulfil the great commission (Matthew 28 v 18 – 20 & Acts 2 v 42 – 47)

Document Summary Of the main activities in relation to these objects

The main activity of the church is to promote the Christian Gospel to the local community

Additional details of objectives and activities (optional information)

All the activities are run by volunteers, who attend or who are connected with the church. Also working together with churches in the area we help to meet the needs of the local community through friendships and support.

A typical week's activities at the church during 2025 were as follows:
Sundays – Morning Services held in person and live streamed from the church on You Tube and Facebook. Evening Services are mainly contemplative for people to attend in person. A Youth Service is held on the first Sunday of the month in the afternoon.

Church Members Meetings held bi-monthly in person at the church.

Tuesdays– Prayer Meeting (on Zoom)

Wednesday –The church is set up for the sale on Thursdays

Thursdays – Thursday Connect (am), Little Bookworms (pm) at the church (See reports Pages 5 and 6)

Prayer Meeting (on Zoom)

Trustees Meetings held monthly.

All Leaders Meetings held bi monthly

Fridays – Music Practice for the Sunday service

Home Groups also meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays either on Zoom or in person.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Church has continued with a membership of 43, comprising mainly of folk from the local area with approximately 40 - 50 people attending the morning service, including children and young people. In order to maintain contact with everyone at the church we have a list of 5 different fellowship groups based on all those who are connected with the church and within those 5 groups are Home groups (a smaller number of people) who meet regularly either in person or on Zoom.

MINISTER'S REPORT 2025/26

It is with great joy that I present the Minister's Report for the year 2025/26. This has been a year of growth, renewal, and deepening maturity for our church family at RCBC.

Prayer Ministry

As promised last year, we have established a dedicated Prayer Ministry Team under the capable leadership of Mary Adewusi. The team has made a strong start, benefiting from training sessions with Stephen & Christine Brookes and further equipping at the Harnhill Healing Centre. Their commitment is already bearing fruit in both the life of the church and our wider community.

Pastoral Care and Fellowship Group Leaders

The Pastoral Care Team has been relaunched, and our Fellowship Groups have been revised and revitalised to work alongside the Pastoral Care Team. Hattie leads both areas with passion and diligence, and Pastoral Care Training has been arranged with Tim Welch from Bristol Baptist College. Together, these initiatives are strengthening the care, support, and relational life of our congregation.

Listening Service at Nova

After a pause in 2025, the Listening Service in Nova was relaunched early in 2026. It has returned stronger than ever, supported by the new headmaster, and is making a meaningful impact in the lives of students.

Youth Ministry

We have also launched the Swindon Youth Gathering, a monthly youth church at RCBC every first Sunday from 4-6pm. This initiative, in partnership with Swindon Youth For Christ, brings together Christian youth from across the town for worship, fellowship, and leadership development. Through the Youth Gathering, we identify and equip potential young leaders, while involving our own youth in planning and leading, helping them grow in faith and responsibility.

Our **YAC Shack** project continues to develop. We are raising funds to move from the temporary portacabin into a permanent structure. To date, we have raised £2,000 toward the £30,000 target. While applying for grants has been a challenge due to time constraints, we have submitted a few applications and await responses.

Interns and Ministers

Brandon completed his internship this year after securing a new role as a teaching assistant. We have now welcomed Pastor Patrick Quianoo as our new ministerial intern as he discerns his calling in

Swindon. Albert remains as an intern, continuing to support the youth ministry at the YAC Shack, the Youth Gathering, and within RCBC.

We are also delighted to welcome back Pastor Paul, who has returned to RCBC as a retired minister, alongside his wife Katy. Their presence has already been a blessing, and they have settled in well. God seems to be sending pastors to us for a reason. I have received a prophetic word that God will use me to raise leaders and open doors for them. Currently, we have **four pastors actively involved in the life of our church**, which is a remarkable encouragement for all of us.

Church Growth and Wider Engagement

It has been inspiring to witness the church grow in both numbers and spiritual maturity through 2025. There is a greater sense of unity and maturity among us as a congregation. My prayer and vision for 2026 is that RCBC will see 50 salvations and baptisms, a goal achievable only through your prayers and active participation in the Lord's work.

On a wider scale, I have been appointed a trustee for Swindon Youth For Christ and am excited for the new season SYFC has entered (more to come on this later in 2026). I am also the coordinator for the Swindon Churches of WEBNET and am encouraged by how relationships are growing across our Baptist network and with Vine Church Swindon. These wider connections are strengthening our ability to serve the Kingdom locally and beyond.

Looking Ahead

2026 promises to be a year of growth, renewal, and revival. We trust that God is preparing us for the beginnings of a wider revival across the UK, and I encourage everyone to continue committing their gifts, time, and hearts to His service. May we continue to serve faithfully and witness God's hand at work in our midst.

Rev James D Reeves

RCBC

OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY WORK IN THE CHURCH

Thursday Connect Sale report for 2025.

We are getting a lot more people coming in to us just to ask for prayer support. We are building some really good relationships where we are contacted when people have problems because they know that they will be supported. It is great that one person, who has been coming for many years, is now going to be baptised and is inviting many to come and witness it!

I have counted 22 people sipping drinks at one time. It's not unusual for the kitchen to make 80 hot drinks in a morning. Visitors often come bearing gifts of cakes and biscuits to share.

Alongside the joys we of course have some challenging times for which we are very grateful for prayer support.

Each month we support three children through Compassion UK and once a year we send a gift to their families! All money that is left over is sent to different charities chosen by the workers.

In 2025 we have supported:- Prospect Hospice, Julia House Children's Hospice, Salvation Army, Fire fighters, STEPS, Wiltshire Air Ambulance, SYFC. Torch Trust. Asthma and Lung UK, Street Child and Alzheimer's research.

Altogether this year we have raised £10,590.57

From this amount £600 has been given to the church to help with refreshments, £1,152 has gone to Compassion UK and £8,838.57 has gone to the separate charities.

We are a fantastic team, of probably around 15 people, who work really well together. If anything needs doing someone will step in and do it without being asked.

Since I was hospitalised a year ago Hilary and Paul Entwistle have very kindly taken over doing all of the physical work, which is not limited to Thursdays. They take unwanted items to charity shops, sell clothes to "Cash for clothes", scan books and sell them and keep the store room as tidy as possible. Very little is taken to the tip. They seem to be able to find homes for most things. This all takes time and I am very grateful to them.

Ann Kemp

Bookworms Report – Shirley Adams

Bookworms runs every Thursday from 12-2.30 normally term time only we try and meet up a few times in the summer break at a local park and enjoy a picnic together.

We have parents and grandparents who bring their children along to play and make friends.
At one o'clock we stop to enjoy our lunch that we bring with us

Over the last year our numbers have increased to an average of 10 children per week these are mostly 1-2 year olds.

After lunch we enjoy a craft event followed by a story and action. Songs

All are welcome to bring a lunch and meet our families

Extra help is always welcome see Shirley for more information

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The church hall is available to hire for private parties etc.,
Please contact Dave Ayliffe via the church to hire the hall.



House Group Reports

RCBC is currently operating four House groups and they either meet via Zoom or in person. Information is printed in the church monthly bulletin.



Prayer

As a church we have continued with weekly prayer meetings via Zoom and these have been attended by an average of 8 people. They are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. If there is a special requirement for prayer then the time can be extended. There is also a morning prayer meeting held on a Tuesday morning in a church members home. The prayer life of the church has certainly been of benefit to all concerned. A few people now meet for a short time before the morning service and the Sunday evening services are also a time for prayer and reflection. We also have a church prayer chain headed up by Nigel Adams where any items for prayer can be emailed out to those on the prayer chain. These prayers must always have the agreement of the person who is being prayed for in order to maintain the strictest confidence or anonymity.

RCBC Bible School report 2025 - Lata Egonu - Youth and Children's Co-ordinator

In 2025/26 the Bible School has undergone several positive changes, while continuing to deliver two monthly sessions for all three classes.

On 11 January 2026, we met to discuss and agree on the future direction of Sunday School. The meeting produced several helpful suggestions, which I have since shared with the pastor.

Ages 3-5

Shirley continues to lead this class, supported by three new team members—Mary, Kathryn, and Katie—joining in February 2026. Their involvement has significantly strengthened the team, allowing us to move from twice-monthly sessions to weekly classes. This has been a tremendous blessing. The team has bonded well and works effectively together.

We have also seen encouraging growth in attendance, increasing from one regular child last year to four regulars, along with occasional visitors. This marks a significant improvement from where we were previously.

Ages 5–11

Sarah and Sue serve faithfully as the teacher and teaching assistant for this class. Attendance has remained steady compared to last year, with visitors joining from time to time. I had the opportunity to cover one Sunday and witnessed firsthand how much the children enjoy their lessons while receiving biblical teaching. The children are curious, confident, and actively engaged—asking and answering questions with enthusiasm.

Ages 11–17

The teaching team for this class includes Carl, Albert, and the newest member, Patrick, with Denise and Jean supporting as teaching assistants. Peter stepped down at the end of March 2025, and we would like to extend our sincere thanks for his dedicated service to this age group.

The youth group continues to grow, with more young people attending each fortnight. Engagement has deepened, and many are opening up more during the sessions. Some even express disappointment when a class is cancelled—an encouraging sign of the value they place on the time spent together.

Carl Egonu Youth report 2025

The Youth Gathering is held on the first Sunday of the month and started in 2025. The number of youths attending at first was more than expected with us sometimes having 30+ young adults. The amount attending now has reduced but settled to around 15 – 20. During the services we have an ice breaker game followed by worship, prayer, a sermon, worship, then we eat pizza and socialize before the youth return home.

The Youth Gathering has noticeably been a great time for the youth to participate and grow in their confidence and abilities. Key stand outs are Bess who has been doing the ice breakers for a few months now. She enjoys running them and has excelled in the role. Eunice enjoys leading worship during the Youth Gathering,

even leading alone on occasion. Emma recently gave a sermon where she gave a testimony and teaching based on the book of Daniel.

We plan to open participation during the Youth Gathering to external young adults that regularly attend, hopefully encouraging them to take control of the Youth Gathering and make it their own.

Sunday school for the youth is still on going. At the start of last year, it seemed Sunday school for the youth might end because of low numbers but thank God we have a full class regularly now. During sessions the youth engage and ask questions which is another answer to prayer as before they could be very quiet. Uncle Albert and Uncle Patrick are great additions to the team mentoring myself and the youth. Along with teaching the youth during Sunday school and the Youth Gathering.

I am hopeful with the provision The Lord has given us in terms of growth that the youth will continue to grow in RCBC and Lord willing, come to know The Lord Jesus individually on a personal level.

Accounts



The accounts are independently examined each February and are adopted by the Members at the Church's Annual General Meeting held in March. An Independent Examiner is appointed each year at this meeting. We would like to thank Mr Hilton Holding for the time he has given to examining these accounts. (See his report on Page 15). The church now has a card pay system in place so that people can pay direct on their credit/debit cards into the church bank account and a QR Code is shown during the morning service.

Brief statement of the Charity's policy on reserves

It is the policy of the church to try and maintain around £10,000 the current Account as an operating amount and a minimum of £20,000 in the Business Reserve Account. The current account is topped up as necessary from the reserve account to maintain a viable amount to enable all bills to be paid. We have managed to exceed both these amounts over the last year. The reserve account is funded mainly by rental of our Church Manse, Gift Aids and Gift Aid Small Donations. Any Grants received are also paid into the Reserve Account. In the reserve account we have several designated amounts e.g. £16,000 for the kitchen refurbishment, £30,000 for Pembroke Gardens interns and future removal of the portacabin when necessary and at least £20,000 should our minister give us 6 months' notice. Designated funds are transferred

over to the current account as and when necessary. We also have a new card payment system in place in the church to enable those who wish to pay by card on a Sunday to do so. The Trustees would like to thank all those who contribute to the church finances either through the bank or in the weekly offering

Section F

Other optional information

The church continues to remain a place of worship within the community and maintains strong links with other churches in the surrounding area and throughout Swindon as well as links with our Baptist Family.

The churches in the local area meet up together for an annual service during the week of prayer for Christian Unity which is held in January. This gives an opportunity for people from different churches to see each other and helps maintain our local links.

The church maintains its links with WEBNET (West of England Baptist Association) not only with regards to informing them of our finances, but also through any training days held for trustees of the Baptist churches in the area.

Several people in the church deliver the Good News Newspapers to residents in and around the local area.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature

Full Name(s) James Reeves

Eric Clark

Chair

Secretary

Date

Date

Risk Management Policies

Finance Policy *Controls to prevent Loss of Funds Implemented by the church in May 1994.*
Updated 26th March 2023

This Policy has been reviewed in the light of moving from an unincorporated organisation to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) . The policy remains the same with one exception to allow for online banking and the use of a church debit card. As of 26th March 2023 this policy will continue to be enforced

The opening and closing of any bank accounts must be witnessed by two authorised signatories together with the pastor's signature. In the absence of a pastor the secretary will sign in their place. Two authorised signatures must be on all cheques. Signatories must be made fully aware what they are paying for prior to purchase and a receipt/bill must be produced at the time of signing a cheque.

If any signatory or anyone in their family is to benefit from a cheque issued by the church they cannot be a signatory to that particular cheque.

All offerings, tithes, gift aids, gifts and any monies given to the church will be counted and recorded in the book provided for that purpose on a Sunday. This action will be carried out by at least two people one of whom should be a trustee. No money will leave the main sanctuary to be counted until the two persons counting the said money have collected the offering bags. They will sign the book when they are satisfied that all the money is accounted for.

The book will then become part of the annual Independent examination of the accounts by the designated accountant. The accounts are independently examined by a qualified accountant and are adopted by the church members at the Annual General Meeting.

Two persons (one of whom must be a managing trustee) are to complete the computerized accounts monthly and ensure that bank balances are reconciled. A yearly budget is prepared by the management trustees in September for approval by church members in November.

To adopt modern banking practices, RCBC will follow online banking processes in accordance with good practice supported by an agreed internal process in line with the requirements of this policy. Where a debit card is used the expenditure will be agreed by two trustees.

Safeguarding Policy

The church adheres to the current Baptist Unions Safeguarding Policy to protect children, young people and adults at risk. These Baptist Union Publications give guidelines on protection for the local church and its youth leaders. All those with a responsibility for looking after children, young persons or adults at risk in the church have seen a copy of the New Safeguarding Policy and systems are in place so that any child, young person or adult at risk will be protected should the need arise. All those involved in children's and young persons' work and who work with adults at risk attended Safeguarding training courses during 2022 to Grade 2 level. Management trustees and the children's co-ordinator had training to Grade 3.

A risk register is in the process of being prepared and reviewed in relation to Health and Safety, Finance, and Safeguarding Policies.

Health and Safety Policy

9					
General Outreach 10	204			204	
Nova Hreod Outreach 11			534	534	0
Hospitality/Welfare 12	1,618			1,618	2,171
Thursday Connect 13			10,010	10,010	9,220
Pension Deficit Payments 14	0			0	10
Sub total	84,963	2,299	19,016	106,278	85,207
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
Total payments	84,963	2,299	19,016	106,278	85,207
Net of receipts (payments)	-3,304	-1,354	-1,606	-6,264	15,598
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end				97,866	82,268
Cash funds this year end				91,602	97,866

For a more detailed explanation of the accounts see over the page

A. General Receipts incl: Jan 01 2024 - 31 Dec 2025

1. Gift Aids	£	32,934.54
Tax Refunds,	£	10,429.91
Sum up Donations	£	1,587.34
2. Loose Plate, Non Gift Aid		
Love Gifts, Other Income, Bank Int	£	23,395.51
3. Gift Day (Not Gift aided) Kitchen	£	150.00
4. Manse Rental	£	12,387.00
5. Hospitality/Refreshment	£	758.61
6. Hire of Halls	£	136.00
7. Pembroke General Designated	£	600.00
8. Pembroke/Interns Restricted	£	345.00
9. General Outreach	£	30.00
10. Nova Hreod Outreach	£	4,500.00
11. Pembroke New Build	£	2,750.00
12. Youth Work Donations	£	0.00
13 Small equipment /Prop Donations	£	0.00
14 Thursday Connect Donations	£	10,010.31

Total Receipts for the whole year = £100,014.22

B. Payments incl: Jan 01 2024 - 31 Dec 2024

1. Pastor's Salary	£	39,474.96
2. Pastor's Expenses (Pension, NI PAYE etc)	£	6,204.35
3. Church Exp (Elec/Gas/Water/Ins)	£	6,674.47
4. General Expenses includes		
Subscriptions/Copyright	£	2,191.78
Office Expenses	£	517.02

Small Equipment	£	3,623.36
Training Courses	£	1,785.55
Love Gifts	£	116.46
Legal Expenses	£	2,950.00
Other Expenses includes (Flowers, Communion,, Speakers etc.)	£	691.41
Books/Literature	£	494.70
Live Streaming Equip	£	220.00
Sum Up	£	108.00
5. Property – Church	£	7,825.16
6. Missionary Giving	£	9,104.00
6. Youth Work	£	479.12
7. 27 Alder Close	£	680.87
8. Pembroke Gen Designated	£	2,298.88
9. Pembroke/Interns	£	8,472.39
10. General Outreach	£	204.07
11 Nova Hreod Outreach	£	534.37
12. Hospitality/Welfare	£	1,617.91
13. Thursday Connect	£	10,009.81

Total Payments Jan to Dec £ 106,278.64

Receipts – Payments = (£6,264.42)

Section B	Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period
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B1 Cash Funds

Details	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	
Current a/c	10,647		10,647
Reserve a/c	63,199	17,755	80,954
Total Cash Funds	73,846	17,755	91,601

Agree balances with receipts and payments accounts

B2 Other Monetary Assets

Details	Unrestricted Funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £

B3 Investment Assets

Details	Funds to which asset belongs	Cost (Optional)	Current value (optional)

B4 Assets Retained for the Charity's own use

Details	

Manse – 27 Alder Close Insured Value – January 2025	£ 348,401
Church – Cheney Manor Road Insured Value – January 2025	£ 1,455,849

The amount in the restricted funds in the Reserve account are made up of £14,755 for the new church kitchen and £3000 for the new building at Pembroke Gardens. These funds have been raised by the church members for these projects. The remainder of the money in the reserve account is used as monies to top up the main account in order to pay the bills and £20,000 to pay 6th month wages to the minister should he choose to move on from the church and £2000 to help move the YAC shack temporary building once the new building has been completed by the Council.

Signature - _____ Print Name James Reeves

Signature - _____ Philip Edgell

Signed by one or two Trustees
On behalf of all Trustees

Date of Approval 12th March 2026

“The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practices: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP2005) issued in March 2005, UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011”

The charity is an excepted charity under Section 30 (2)(b) of Charities Act 2011 and the power not to produce an Annual Report is now in Section 168(2) of the Charities Act 2011 .

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE MANAGING TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF

RODBOURNE CHENEY BAPTIST CHURCH – CHARITY NO. 1200814

On the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Respective responsibilities of managing trustees and independent examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 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 by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met.

In my opinion no other matter needs attention to be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H A Holding', with a long, sweeping underline.

H A Holding

60 Studland Park

Westbury

Wiltshire

BA13 3HN

Dated: 12 March 2026

RODBOURNE BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1200814

Accounts

Rodbourne Baptist Church



Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements Year Ended-31 December 2024

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(locally known as Rodbourne Cheney Baptist Church)

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Charity's postal address **c/o 15 Frome Road, Swindon SN25 3PQ**

Charity Number **1200814**

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Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Mr James Reeves	Minister		Church Members
Mr John Bosu	Elder		Church Members
Mr Philip Edgell	Elder		Church Members
Mrs Janet Clark	Deacon/Treasurer		Church Members
Mr Eric Clark	Deacon/Secretary		Church Members
Mrs Harriett Bosu	Deacon/Pastoral		Church Members
Mr Edmund Everest	Deacon/Building Maintenance		Church Members
Mrs Sarah Purnell	Deacon/Safeguarding	From November 2024	Church Members

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
West of England Baptist Trust Company (East) Ltd., Charity No 1091251	

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent Examiner	Mr Hilton Holding (BCom)	60 Studland Park, Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 3HN
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc	82 Regent Street, Brunel Centre, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 1TZ
Solicitors	Wood, Awdry & Ford	3 St Mary Street, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 3JL

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(e.g. trust deed, constitution)

The Constitution (Approved Governing Document) is the governing document and this is reviewed and updated when necessary. Last updated in May 2021 at a special church members' meeting to allow for Electronic Meetings. The amendments were passed unanimously.

How the charity is constituted
(e.g. trust, association, company)

The charity is constituted as a Baptist Church

Trustee selection methods
(e.g. appointed by, elected by)

Nominated and elected by church members at church meetings

Additional governance issues
(optional information)

The Church employs James Reeves as our Minister. The Minister Elders and Deacons together with church members and regular attendees form the body of the church.

Elders are nominated by the pastor/elders and elected by church members. They must be over the age of 21 and have been in church membership for at least two years. They serve on the Trustee Body for a period ideally not exceeding 3 years after which time they may stand for re-election.

Deacons are nominated and elected by church members. They must be over the age of 16 and have been in church membership for at least one year. They serve on the Trustee Body for a period not exceeding 3 years, after which time they may stand for re-election.

The Deacons and Elders attend Training Days held by the Baptist Union and the West of England Baptist Association when appropriate.

The church is a member of the West of England Baptist Trust Company (East) Ltd and a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, both of whom are registered charities. The church does not receive grant funding from the West of England Baptist Trust Company but can apply for and may receive a grant from The Home Mission Section of the Baptist Union.

The Trustees have examined the financial risks and the Health and Safety risks, and the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Adults at Risk and systems have been put in place to enable regular reports to be given to trustees and members at the bi-monthly and Annual General meetings, so that necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks. (See page 11). Safeguarding Training is also given to all those working with Children Young People and Adults at Risk.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Charities Act (2011). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and must take reasonable steps to ensure the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Church became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and

was granted a charity number in October 2022 (1200814) however we were not fully affiliated until the end of March 2023.

Summary of the objects of the Charity set out in its governing

The object of the church is to fulfil the great commission (Matthew 28 v 18 – 20 & Acts 2 v 42 – 47)

Document Summary Of the main activities in relation to these objects

The main activity of the church is to promote the Christian Gospel to the local community

Additional details of objectives and activities (optional information)

All the activities are run by volunteers, who attend or who are connected with the church. Also working together with churches in the area we help to meet the needs of the local community through friendships and support.

A typical week's activities at the church during 2024 were as follows:
Sundays – Morning Services held in person and also live streamed from the church on You Tube and Facebook. Evening Services are mainly contemplative for people to attend in person.
Church Members Meetings held bi-monthly in person at the church.
Tuesdays– Prayer Meeting (on Zoom)
Wednesday – Evening youth meeting at the church
Thursdays – Thursday Connect (am), Little Bookworms (pm) at the church (See reports Pages 6 and 7)
Prayer Meeting (on Zoom)
Trustees Meetings held monthly.
Fridays – Music Practice for the Sunday service

Home Groups also meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays either on Zoom or in person.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Church has continued with a membership of 43, comprising mainly of folk from the local area with approximately 40 - 50 people attending the morning service, including children and young people. In order to maintain contact with everyone at the church we have a list of 5 different fellowship groups based on all those who are connected with the church and within those 5 groups are Home groups (a smaller number of people) who meet regularly either in person or on Zoom.

REPORT FROM OUR MINISTER – Rev'd James Reeves

Dear Church Family,
As I reflect on the past year, it has been a time of both challenges and opportunities. Many in our fellowship and community have faced trials, navigating sickness, mental health struggles, and life's many pressures. It often feels like we are surviving rather than thriving. Yet, in the midst of it all, I am reminded of God's unwavering faithfulness.
Jesus promises in Hebrews 13:5, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." And Psalm 23 reminds us that even in the valley of the shadow of death, we need not fear, for God is with

us, guiding and comforting us. No matter our circumstances, I encourage you to draw near to Him. God is at work, writing His redemption story in each of our lives through Christ Jesus.

The YAC (Youth and Community) Shack at Pembroke Gardens

This year has been significant for our ministry at the YAC Shack. Through the generous support of the Baptist Insurance Group, we were able to recruit two interns, Albert and Brandon. Albert brings a wealth of experience in youth ministry, while Brandon has started exploring Christianity as a direct result of our outreach. Their involvement has been a great encouragement, and we're excited about the impact they will have.

We remain in active discussions with the Parish Council, who are planning to rebuild the current brick built changing rooms into a permanent youth and community hub. This is a direct result of the work we have been doing on Pembroke Gardens. As a church, we are committed to supporting their fundraising efforts in 2025 and hope to secure a service-level agreement that will allow us regular access to this facility for ministry use.

The summer project at the YAC Shack was a resounding success, with an average of 30-50 children and young people attending each session. The gospel was faithfully preached, and we witnessed many responding to the message of Jesus. While this has not yet translated into regular attendance at RCBC, seeds have been planted, and we are prayerfully exploring what church might look like for children and young people who encounter Jesus through our outreach.

Nova Hreod Academy

The Listening Service at Nova Hreod Academy has continued to thrive, with the addition of Naomi Ackland, Director of Swindon Youth for Christ, to our team. Naomi is not only expanding the Listening Service to other schools but is also setting up group sessions at Nova to support students in mental wellbeing and character development.

Another exciting development has been the launch of "Come & See," an afterschool club inviting students to explore Jesus through *The Chosen* series. In partnership with Christian art teacher Joanna Vandervalk, this club has seen students engage deeply with the gospel message, ask questions, and continue their journey of discovery.

Prayer Ministry

I firmly believe that prayer is foundational to our life as a church. In 2025, I will focus on establishing a dedicated prayer ministry team, available weekly during our morning services, to ensure prayer is accessible for all who seek it.

Additionally, as a church, we are dedicating 2025 as a year of prayer. We will intentionally seek God's guidance, power, and provision for our lives, our church, and our community. Through prayer, we anticipate breakthroughs in spiritual growth, unity, and kingdom impact.

2025: A Year of Breakthroughs

As we look to the future, I believe 2025 will be a year of breakthroughs for RCBC. Whether through our ministries, our community outreach, or our personal faith journeys, I am confident that God is preparing us for something greater. He is calling us to step out in faith, trust in His promises, and believe that He can do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20).

Community Outreach and Events

In 2024, we continued to prioritize outreach, demonstrating God's love in practical ways. Key highlights included:

- **The Open-Air Carol Service at Pembroke Gardens:** Supported by Asda's generous £400 donation, this event brought the community together to celebrate the birth of Jesus.
- **The Good Friday Walk of Witness:** A powerful public declaration of faith, uniting believers across Swindon to share the gospel.

Challenges and Encouragement

While we celebrate these achievements, we also recognize the challenges we face as a church and as individuals. Yet, we take heart in Jesus' words: *"In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world"* (John 16:33).

Even in difficulty, I have been encouraged by the faithfulness of our congregation and the evidence of God's work in our midst. I encourage us all to continue trusting in His plans, knowing that He is with us every step of the way.

Looking Ahead

As we approached our 60th anniversary on December 8th 2024, I am still filled with hope and excitement for what lies ahead. Our vision remains to be a beacon of light in our community, proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ and serving with love, humility, and faith.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and dedication this past year. I am honoured to serve alongside you, and I look forward to seeing the breakthroughs God will bring in 2025.

With every blessing,
Rev James Reeves
Minister, Rodbourne Cheney Baptist Church

OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY WORK IN THE CHURCH

Thursday Connect Annual report from Ann Kemp

Thursday Connect is a way of connecting the church to the local community in a variety of ways.

For the last 20 years Rodbourne Cheney Baptist Church has been open every Thursday morning, unless of course it is Christmas Day in which case we have moved to a different day. In 2024 the church was opened on Boxing Day and was greatly appreciated by those who would otherwise have had a very lonely time! Refreshments are served and a place is provided for friends to talk and share each other's company.

There are always people who are available to talk and share problems with and help is given wherever it is possible. Prayer is available all the time and is usually accepted when offered.

Tea, coffee and soft drinks are available along with toast and biscuits.

We are very grateful to members of the community who have donated their "no longer needed" belongings. We have sold them, very cheaply, and raised money for a lot of different charities. We support three children in Africa through Compassion UK providing for their education and healthcare. All money left over goes to different charities.

During 2024 we have sent donations to: Mercy Ships; Guide dogs for the blind; Headways; MND; Homes for Good; Mind; Prospect Hospice; Owens World; Street Pastors; Compassion Children's families; Prospect Hospice and Julia House Children's Hospice.

We have a very good team of faithful people working well together. I haven't been able to attend for at least the last eight weeks during which time the wheels were kept running smoothly overseen by Paul and Hilary Entwistle. All prayer requests or problems are sent to me during the morning.

Many people come into the sale saying that they love to come because it is so peaceful!!!! They are obviously sensing the presence of God as physically it is anything but!!!!

Ruth Edgell visits us every Thursday during school holidays and provides a craft table for children. It's quite amazing how many adults like to sit and join in with the crafts she brings along!

Please continue to pray for all who come into the sale. To run this is very hard work and is not something that we do just to raise money. The main purpose is to introduce people to Jesus and to lead them to Salvation and form a deep relationship with God that will develop during the rest of their lives.

We are very grateful to Carl, Peter and the youth group for helping with the set up most weeks. It is also good to have our two interns helping on Thursday mornings, Albert and Brandon.

Little Bookworms from Shirley Adams

Little Bookworms runs on Thursday afternoons from 12 to 2.30 and is for parents with children from 0 - 5 years of age. All those adults who volunteer to help with Little Bookworms have attended Safeguarding Training.

We meet at 12 o'clock starting with a time of free play and craft which gives us time to come alongside both parents and carers. At 1 o'clock we stop and have lunch together sitting around the tables. Parents and carers bring their own packed lunches and we provide crisps, cakes and a drink. Then we have another half an

hour of free play. At 2 o'clock we tidy up and play board games or do a big puzzle together then we have fun with the parachute, a story and songs.

We unfortunately lost 4 families to school and nursery places so at present we need to encourage more families to attend. Leaflets are available so please feel free to hand them to any families you know, this would be very helpful. If You know of any local shops, doctors surgeries or libraries that could put posters up about bookworms this would also be useful. Leaflets are on the desk by the door of the church.

We currently have 7 children attending most weeks.

We are also recruiting more staff. This is due to most of our team working all day on a Thursday so if you would like to join us please talk to Shirley

Thanks for your support

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The church hall is available to hire for private parties etc.,
Please contact Dave Ayliffe via the church to hire the hall.



House Group Reports

RCBC is currently operating four House groups and they either meet via Zoom or in person. Information is printed in the church monthly bulletin.



Prayer

As a church we have continued with weekly prayer meetings via Zoom and these have been attended by an average of 8 people. They are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. If there is a special requirement for prayer then the time can be extended. There is also a morning prayer meeting held on a Tuesday morning in a church members home The prayer life of the church has certainly been of benefit to all concerned. A few people now meet for a short time before the morning service and the Sunday evening services are also a time for prayer and reflection. We also have a church prayer chain headed up by Nigel Adams where any items for prayer can be emailed out to those on the prayer chain. These prayers must always have the agreement of the person who is being prayed for in order to maintain the strictest confidence or anonymity.

RCBC Bible School report 2024 - Lata Egonu - Youth and Children's Co-ordinator

Bible School has been relatively stable this year as we have maintained the 2 monthly sessions each month for all three classes we cater to.

There were two Children and Youth led services in 2024 (March and June). These have been put on hold while the church decides on the future of this activity.

We held a Children's themed Christmas service in December, it was a really enjoyable and blessed time shared by all.

3 to 5 year olds

Shirley continues to lead this class with support from different people, all depending on availability. Her classes have not been as regular because the main attendee hasn't been coming as regularly. A new family has started attending and they have a daughter that is within this age group.

5 to 11 year olds

Sarah and Sue are still Teacher and TA in this class. Their attendees have increased to 4 which is a 75% increase on numbers from last year. It continues to be a lively and fun class which the children enjoy.

11 to 17 year olds

Carl and Peter continue to teach on alternate Sundays with Denise and Jean as TA's. They have had two new support members join, Albert and Brandon. The latter two will also get involved in teaching and supporting Sunday school as scheduled in the Rota. A few of the regular attendees, aged out and have since gone to university.

Senior Youth Group led by Carl Egonu

Senior youth activities were scaled back in 2024. The Wednesday evening group was discontinued as quite a few of our youth have gone to university leaving only a few remaining for the Wednesday group.

Sunday school for the older youth has carried on. It happens every two weeks with either Peter Dabbs or myself leading. Albert Ocran and Brandon Harris our two new interns have been observing the sessions to see how they run. Albert and Brandon are officially joining the Sunday school rota for the older youth starting on the 2nd of March.

We had one youth outing last year to go ice skating and have lunch at Nando's. It would be good to have more outings especially when youth return from university during the holidays. It would be a good encouragement to the ones who are still in education in Swindon.

Accounts



The accounts are independently examined each February and are adopted by the Members at the Church's Annual General Meeting held in March. An Independent Examiner is appointed each year at this meeting. We would like to thank Mr Hilton Holding for the time he has given to examining these accounts. (See his report on Page 15). The church now has a card pay system in place so that people can pay direct on their credit/debit cards into the church bank account.

Brief statement of the Charity's policy on reserves

It is the policy of the church to try and maintain around £10,000 in the current Account as an operating amount and a minimum of £20,000 in the Business Reserve Account. The current account is topped up as necessary from the reserve account to maintain a viable amount to enable all bills to be paid. We have managed to exceed both these amounts over the last year. The reserve account is funded mainly by rental of our Church Manse, Gift Aids and Gift Aid Small Donations. Any Grants received are also paid into the Reserve Account. In the reserve account we have several designated amounts e.g. £16,000 for the kitchen refurbishment, £20,000 for Pembroke Gardens interns and future removal of the portacabin when necessary and at least £20,000 should our minister give us 6 months' notice. Designated funds are transferred over to the current account as and when necessary. We also have a new card payment system in place in the church to enable those who wish to pay by card on a Sunday to do so. The Trustees would like to thank all those who contribute to the church finances either through the bank or in the weekly offering

Section F

Other optional information

The church continues to remain a place of worship within the community and maintains strong links with other churches in the surrounding area and throughout Swindon as well as links with our Baptist Family.

The churches in the local area meet up together for an annual service during the week of prayer for Christian Unity which is held in January. This gives an opportunity for people from different churches to see each other and helps maintain our local links.

The church maintains its links with WEBNET (West of England Baptist Association) not only with regards to informing them of our finances, but also through any training days held for trustees of the Baptist churches in the area.

Several people in the church deliver the Good News Newspapers to residents in and around the local area.

PENSION DEFICIT PAYMENTS

**Notes to explain the pension payments (See Finance Section)*

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"). The Scheme is a separate legal entity which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). Our current Minister is part of the Baptist Pension Scheme under the Defined Contributions Scheme.

Upon the departure of the previous Minister from the church in 2007, the

Church had a cessation event under Section 75 of the Pensions Act 1995, from 2007 to Dec 2010. This made the Church liable for the proportion of the overall deficit (assessed by reference to the cost of securing benefits by the purchase of annuities) applicable to its previous Ministers who were members of the Scheme

What did this mean for future contributions? The Trustee and the Baptist Union agreed that DRCs would reduce to £1 per month for each employer from the August 2022 payment until June 2026. However, this was superseded in November 2024. The Trustees of the scheme entered into an agreement with the insurance company Just Retirement Limited ("Just").in 2022 to secure DB Plan members' benefits. In November 2024 the DB Plan benefits were transferred over to Just and therefore the Trustees of the Deficit Recovery Contributions (DRC's) ceased the collection of the £1 per month at the end of October 2024, The direct debits for these payments have been cancelled and DB Plan employers no longer have any further responsibility towards the DB Plan.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature

Full Name(s) James Reeves

Eric Clark

Chair

Secretary

Date

Date

Risk Management Policies

Finance Policy *Controls to prevent Loss of Funds Implemented by the church in May 1994.*
Updated 26th March 2023

This Policy has been reviewed in the light of moving from an unincorporated organisation to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) . The policy remains the same with one exception to allow for online banking and the use of a church debit card. As of 26th March 2023 this policy will continue to be enforced

The opening and closing of any bank accounts must be witnessed by two authorised signatories together with the pastor's signature. In the absence of a pastor the secretary will sign in their place. Two authorised signatures must be on all cheques. Signatories must be made fully aware what they are paying for prior to purchase and a receipt/bill must be produced at the time of signing a cheque.

If any signatory or anyone in their family is to benefit from a cheque issued by the church they cannot be a signatory to that particular cheque.

All offerings, tithes, gift aids, gifts and any monies given to the church will be counted and recorded in the book provided for that purpose on a Sunday. This action will be carried out by at least two people one of whom should be a trustee. No money will leave the main sanctuary to be counted until the two persons counting the said money have collected the offering bags. They will sign the book when they are satisfied that all the money is accounted for.

The book will then become part of the annual Independent examination of the accounts by the designated accountant. The accounts are independently examined by a qualified accountant and are adopted by the church members at the Annual General Meeting.

Two persons (one of whom must be a managing trustee) are to complete the computerized accounts monthly and ensure that bank balances are reconciled. A yearly budget is prepared by the management trustees in September for approval by church members in November.

To adopt modern banking practices, RCBC will follow online banking processes in accordance with good practice supported by an agreed internal process in line with the requirements of this policy. Where a debit card is used the expenditure will be agreed by two trustees.

Safeguarding Policy

The church adheres to the current Baptist Unions Safeguarding Policy to protect children, young people and adults at risk. These Baptist Union Publications give guidelines on protection for the local church and its youth leaders. All those with a responsibility for looking after children, young persons or adults at risk in the church have seen a copy of the New Safeguarding Policy and systems are in place so that any child, young person or adult at risk will be protected should the need arise. All those involved in children's and young persons' work and who work with adults at risk attended Safeguarding training courses during 2022 to Grade 2 level. Management trustees and the children's co-ordinator had training to Grade 3.

A risk register is in the process of being prepared and reviewed in relation to Health and Safety, Finance, and Safeguarding Policies.

Health and Safety Policy

A representative from the membership has agreed to be responsible for Health and Safety issues. Church attendees have been fully briefed as to what to do and where to assemble in the event of the fire alarm being raised, and church trustees have been given responsibilities for checking the fire panel and who rings the fire brigade etc. Appropriate notices are prominently displayed and the fire extinguishers and exit signs are maintained annually.

Those responsible for Food preparation have attended training courses and have obtained certificates in Food Hygiene. These are updated as and when necessary. Trained First Aiders make sure all accidents and incidents are recorded in a book specifically for that purpose. A First Aid box is kept fully stocked.

Smoking is not allowed on the premises, nor is the consumption of alcohol. The above policies are reviewed annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Church in March. A book is available in the church for any repairs to the fabric of the church to be noted down. The Trustees check this book on a regular basis and action any repairs necessary.

Receipts and Payments Accounts **Rodbourne Baptist Church** For the period **1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024**

Section A

Receipts and payments

A1 Receipts to nearest £	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds Jan - Dec	Total funds	Last year 2023
General Income less Gift Day 1,2	61,399			61,399	66,945
Gift Day (Gift Aided) 1,2			0	0	
Gift Day (Not Gift Aided) 3			100	100	125
Manse Rental 4	12,020			12,020	12,240
Hospitality/refreshments 5	595			595	600
Hire of Halls 6	50			50	100
Outreach/Evangelism Gen 7	153			153	1,441

Pembroke Gardens Portacabin 8		1,941	15,277	17,218	430
Youth Work Donations 9		0		0	0
Small Equip/Prop Donations 10		0		0	20
Thursday Connect 11			9,270	9,270	9,142
Sub total	74,217	1,941	24,647	100,805	91,043
A2 Asset and investment sales etc					
Total Receipts	74,217	1,941	24,647	100,805	91,043
A3 Payments to nearest £					
Pastor's Salary/Expenses * 8,9	43,779				42,128
27 Alder Close Expenses 10	665				689
Pension Deficit Payments 11	10				12
Thursday Connect 12			9,220		9,142
Church Expenses 13	5,832				5,179
General Expenses 14	6,520				12,434
Outreach/Youth/Mission 15	9,526				7,270
Pembroke Portacabin/Gen 16		1,433	1,807		2,095
Hospitality/Welfare 17	2,171				1,173
Property church 18	4,244				7,964
Sub total	72,747	1,433	11,027	85,207	88,086
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
Total payments	72,747	1,433	11,027	85,207	88,086
Net of receipts (payments)	1,470	508	13,620	15,598	2,957
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end				82,268	79,311
Cash funds this year end	1,470	508	13,620	97,866	82,268

For a more detailed explanation of the accounts see over the page

A. General Receipts incl: Jan 01 2024 - 31 Dec 2024

1. Gift Aids	£	29,007.00
Tax Refunds	£	9,335.41
2. Loose Plate, Non Gift Aid		
Love Gifts, Other Income, Bank Int	£	23,056.76
3. Gift Day (Not Gift aided)	£	100.00
4. Manse Rental	£	12,020.00
5. Hospitality/Refreshment	£	595.00
6. Hire of Halls	£	50.00

7. Outreach/Evangelism General	£	153.31
8. Designated Portacabin funds Gen	£	1,941.00
8 Portacabin/Intern Designated	£	15,277.00
9. Youth Work Donations	£	0.00
10. Small equipment /Prop Donations	£	0.00
11 Thursday Connect Donations	£	9,269.79

Total Receipts for the whole year = £ 100,805.27

B. Payments incl: Jan 01 2024 - 31 Dec 2024

8.Pastor's Salary	£	38,499.96
9. Pastor's Expenses (Pension, NI PAYE etc)	£	5,278.74
10. 27 Alder Close	£	665.24
11. Pension Deficit Payments*	£	10.00
12. Thursday Connect Gifts	£	9,219.60
13. . Church Expenses incl (Elec/Gas/Tel/Ins/Water/zoom)	£	5,832.32
14. General Expenses incl:		
Subscriptions/Copyright	£	1,992.26
Office Expenses	£	96.86
Small Equipment	£	970.69
Training Courses	£	167.60
Love Gifts	£	691.48
Legal Expenses	£	575.00
Other Expenses incl:	£	998.20
(Flowers,Communion,,Speakers etc.)		
Books/Literature	£	551.48
Independent Examiner	£	275.00
Live Streaming Equip	£	201.20
15. Outreach/Youth/Mission	£	9,525.69
16. Pembroke Portacabin Ge/Desig	£	3,240.05
17 Hospitality Welfare	£	2,171.41
18. Property	£	4,243.70

Total Payments Jan to Dec £ 85,206.48

Receipts – Payments = 15,598.79

***See note re pensions deficit pages 10**

Section B	Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period
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B1 Cash Funds

Details	Unrestrict ed funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	
Current a/c	11,403		11,403

Reserve a/c	29,843	56,620	86,463
Total Cash Funds	41,246	56,620	97,866

Agree balances with receipts and payments accounts

B2 Other Monetary Assets	Details	Unrestricted Funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £

B3 Investment Assets	Details	Funds to which asset belongs	Cost (Optional)	Current value (optional)

B4 Assets Retained for the Charity's own use

Details	
Manse - 27 Alder Close Insured Value - January 2023	272,189
Church - Cheney Manor Road Insured Value - January 2023	1,409,353

The restricted funds in the reserve account are £21,620 for the Portacabins ongoing costs and possible removal of same, £16,000 raised by church members for a new community kitchen, and £20,000 to be kept in reserve to pay for a minister.

Signature - James Reeves

Print Name James Reeves

Signature - Philip Edgell

Philip Edgell

Signed by one or two Trustees
On behalf of all Trustees

Date of Approval 13th March 2025

"The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practices: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP2005) issued in March 2005, UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011"

The charity is an excepted charity under Section 30 (2)(b) of Charities Act 2011 and the power not to produce an Annual Report is now in Section 168(2) of the Charities Act 2011 .

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE MANAGING TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF

RODBOURNE CHENEY BAPTIST CHURCH – CHARITY NO. 1200814

On the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Respective responsibilities of managing trustees and independent examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 does not apply. It is my responsibility to

state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 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 by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met.

In my opinion no other matter needs attention to be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



H A Holding

60 Studland Park

Westbury

Wiltshire

BA13 3HN

Dated: 17 February 2025

RODBOURNE BAPTIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1200814

Accounts

Rodbourne Baptist Church



Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements Year Ended-31 December 2023

RCBC is a Registered Charity No 1200814

**Trustees Annual Report
For the period
1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023**

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity Name **Rodbourne Baptist Church
(locally known as Rodbourne Cheney Baptist Church)**

Charity's principal address **Cheney Manor Road, Swindon, SN2 2PE**

Charity Number **1200814**

Names of the charity trustees (henceforth referred to as 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)
Mr James Reeves	Minister		Church Members
Mr John Bosu	Elder		Church Members
Mr Philip Edgell	Elder		Church Members
Mrs Janet Clark	Deacon/Treasurer		Church Members
Mr Eric Clark	Deacon/Secretary		Church Members
Mrs Harriett Bosu	Deacon/Pastoral/Safeguarding		Church Members
Mr Edmund Everest	Deacon/Building Maintenance		Church Members

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
West of England Baptist Trust Company (East) Ltd., Charity No 1091251	

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent Examiner	Mr Hilton Holding (BCom)	60 Studland Park, Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 3HN
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc	82 Regent Street, Brunel Centre, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 1TZ
Solicitors	Wood, Awdry & Ford	3 St Mary Street, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 3JL

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (e.g. trust deed, constitution)	The Constitution (Approved Governing Document) is the governing document and this is reviewed and updated when necessary. Last updated in May 2021 at a special church members' meeting to allow for Electronic Meetings. The amendments were carried unanimously.
How the charity is constituted (e.g. trust, association, company)	The charity is constituted as a Baptist Church
Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by)	Nominated and elected by church members at church meetings
Additional governance issues (optional information)	<p>The Church employs James Reeves as our Minister. The Minister Elders and Deacons together with church members and regular attendees form the body of the church.</p> <p>Elders are nominated by the pastor/elders and elected by church members. They must be over the age of 21 and have been in church membership for at least two years. They serve on the Trustee Body for a period ideally not exceeding 3 years after which time they may stand for re-election.</p> <p>Deacons are nominated and elected by church members. They must be over the age of 16 and have been in church membership for at least one year. They serve on the Trustee Body for a period not exceeding 3 years, after which time they may stand for re-election.</p> <p>The Deacons and Elders attend Training Days held by the Baptist Union and the West of England Baptist Association when appropriate.</p> <p>The church is a member of the West of England Baptist Trust Company (East) Ltd and a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, both of whom are registered charities. The church does not receive grant funding from the West of England Baptist Trust Company but can apply for and may receive a grant from The Home Mission Section of the Baptist Union.</p> <p>The Trustees have examined the financial risks and the Health and Safety risks, and the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Adults at Risk and systems have been put in place to enable regular reports to be given to trustees and members at the bi-monthly and Annual General meetings, so that necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks. (See page 15). Safeguarding Training is also given to all those working with Children Young People and Adults at Risk.</p> <p>The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Charities Act (2011). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and must take reasonable steps to ensure the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.</p> <p>The Church became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and was granted a charity number in October 2022 (1200814) however we were not fully affiliated until the end of March 2023.</p>

Summary of the objects of the Charity set out in its governing

The object of the church is to fulfil the great commission (Matthew 28 v 18 – 20 & Acts 2 v 42 – 47)

Document Summary
Of the main activities
in relation to these objects

The main activity of the church is to promote the Christian Gospel to the local community

Additional details of objectives and activities
(optional information)

All the activities are run by volunteers, who attend or who are connected with the church. Also working together with churches in the area we help to meet the needs of the local community through friendships and support.

A typical week's activities at the church during 2023 were as follows:
Sundays – Morning Services held in person and also live streamed from the church on You Tube and Facebook. Evening Services are mainly contemplative for people to attend in person.
Church Members Meetings bi-monthly in person at the church.
Tuesdays– Prayer Meeting (on Zoom)
Wednesday – Evening youth meeting at the church
Thursdays – Thursday Connect (am) Little Bookworms (pm) at the church
(See reports Pages 6 and 7)
Prayer Meeting (on Zoom}
Trustees Meetings held monthly.

Home Groups also meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays either on Zoom or in person.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Church has continued with a membership of 45, comprising mainly of folk from the local area with approximately 40 - 50 people attending the morning service, including children and young people. In order to maintain contact with everyone at the church we have a list of 5 different fellowship groups based on all those who are connected with the church and within those 5 groups are Home groups (a smaller number of people) who meet regularly either in person or on Zoom.

REPORT FROM OUR MINISTER – Rev'd James Reeves

To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Rodbourne Cheney Baptist Church, grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray that the gift of God's perseverance will be at work in all of you so that you will continue to persevere in the faith and produce fruit to the glory of our Father in Heaven. We need to remain vigilant to ensure that we do not grieve the Holy Spirit and are in the will of Christ Jesus at all times. The world seems to be increasing in darkness, but the light of the world [Jesus] still shines in the world. A time of spiritual darkness is an opportunity for the church to be

the light of Christ. You are the light of the world [Matthew 5:14-16] because Jesus lives in every single one of you who are His. As the world gets increasingly darker, we need to be increasingly vigilant to shine our Jesus lights into the world. May it always be in the back of your mind that our actions have consequences for good or bad, so let's act in a way that will produce positive consequences in 2024 to the glory of our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

In 2023 we have endured a continued season of pruning and the pruning continues into 2024 with the understanding that Jesus is preparing RCBC for spiritual growth. If we remain faithful and steadfast in the Lord, RCBC will be blessed and will become a missional blessing to the community.

In 2023, we have faced challenges from the Baptist Union of Great Britain, who seek to change the ministerial rules concerning human sexuality. RCBC has affirmed a stance for Orthodox marriage and have called the BUGB (Baptist Union of Great Britain) to remain faithful to the Scriptural teaching of marriage and not change the ministerial rules. This battle continues into 2024 as the BUGB will decide to change or not change the ministerial rules. The leaders of the Evangelical Baptists group [group of evangelical Baptist ministers and churches] have pleaded with evangelical ministers and churches to remain together to bring renewal to our Union and not to abandon the Union. The leaders of the Evangelical Baptists are currently working with Evangelical Ministers and churches to strategically plan resolutions to act upon the decisions the BUGB may take in 2024. As a group of evangelical Baptists we are more concerned for evangelism and would prefer to be addressing the lack of evangelism within the UK. At RCBC we are active in mission and evangelism in varying degrees. We need to continue to have a focus on mission and evangelism if we wish to see the kingdom grow within our communities and within RCBC.

The chaplaincy work in Nova Hreod School has been an integral area of work in mission. We have continued to provide a listening & mentoring service to both children & staff, leading to many faith-based conversations and opportunities to minister Jesus to both staff and students. The chaplaincy team have again been called upon in 2023 to support major pastoral matters offering targeted specific support to students and staff as a result of trauma and tragedy. In 2024 I seek to strengthen the chaplaincy work and begin a new project with Naomi at Swindon Youth for Christ. The project is called 'Healthy Minds' which seeks to develop the listening and mentoring service with the inclusion of a mental health and emotional wellbeing plan.

The YAC Shack (Youth and Community Cabin) on Pembroke Gardens has again been a successful year. Through the summer holidays we saw a regular number of approximately 50-60 children and youth every Tuesday and Thursday during 2hr sessions. Every

session we have either delivered the gospel message or have taught scriptural values and beliefs. A new project had started in Aug 2023 called the Chat Shack for the elderly members of the community who are lonely. This got off to a good start but had to come to a pause during the winter months due to the cold and having no heating or lighting in the shack. I have recently met with the Parish Council and they have provisionally agreed to give permission to extend the planning permission for the cabin and to grant permission for the installation of an electrical cable. This is currently awaiting final authorisation from the next planning committee meeting. The Borough Council and the Parish Council have expressed that they have intentions on installing a new play park on Pembroke Gardens and would like to renew the changing rooms out building into a more suitable space for the community's use. The use of this building would replace the YAC Shack portacabin and would be offered for our use to further the community work. The grants office within the Parish Council has requested my support to provide information that will help them successfully receive a grant to cover the costs. Through the work on Pembroke Gardens we have been able to support residents on low incomes with food parcels and vouchers. Our presence on Pembroke Gardens has excitingly led an individual to RCBC who has now come to faith in Jesus and was recently baptised at RCBC. In 2024 we will be looking to recruit new volunteers for the work on Pembroke Gardens.

In 2023 we had the privilege to work with 2 Swindon Youth for Christ interns. Their internships have come to an end and both interns have moved on to new adventures. It is with sad news that National Youth for Christ has closed the internship programme which means we no longer receive new interns each year to work at Nova and on Pembroke Gardens. SYFC requires our prayers as it currently faces new challenges.

One of my focuses at RCBC in the year 2024 is to build a church for all nations. RCBC's International Day in Jan 2024 was the mark of a new beginning to build a church for all nations. I believe the embracing of all nations with their positive Christian cultures and heritage will determine our survival and growth at RCBC. Building a church for all nations means we need to learn from our own prejudices [unconsciously and consciously] and journey towards building a church where people from all nations know they belong, are loved [and embraced] and accepted.

It is also one of my focuses at RCBC in the year 2024 to strengthen and love what we have. May each of you join me in strengthening and loving one another. Please pray that God will raise new volunteers for various areas of work where there is need. Our current primary concern is to raise a new secretary and treasurer to replace these roles when the trustees current terms of office end.

We also require new volunteers for children & youth work at RCBC, Nova & Pembroke.

Finally, brothers and sisters, I call you to remain faithful in prayer and to be rooted in the Holy Scriptures. Root yourself in Jesus that Jesus may be rooted in you. Do nothing out of selfish ambition but do all things in love. Remember that our time is short and Jesus is coming back soon! Peace be with you!

OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY WORK IN THE CHURCH

Thursday Connect Annual report from Ann Kemp

Thursday Connect is a way of connecting the church to the local community in a variety of ways.

2023 has been a very difficult year for many of the workers on Thursday mornings. Many have suffered from pain, sickness, and family bereavement. Like a large family we have been there to support each other.

The sale is still very popular with many expressing their gratitude of having somewhere to go and enjoy company. Many have said how much they enjoy the peace in the church building.

Everybody is very generous often giving us a lot of money for charity.

People share problems, seek advice and are very grateful for both prayer and physical support. Many will contact us during the week to share problems and ask advice. We have the opportunity to share the Gospel with many.

Farm Foods have kindly donated food to us to pass on to those in need. There is sometimes so much that we have been able to share it with St. Mary's CofE and Little Bookworms.

Where there is the opportunity of something for nothing human nature rears its ugly head if boundaries are not set. Therefore we set a limit of two free items per person.

We are very grateful to the youth group for setting up the tables and goods after youth club on Wednesday evenings ready for Thursday mornings. We must also say a big thank you to the Entwistle family for setting everything up when the youth are not meeting.

This year we have been able to send donations to:

Julia's House Children's Hospice. The Prospect Hospice. British Red Cross Disaster fund. The Sponsor (Compassion) children's families. Breast Cancer Research. Rodbourne Cheney Residents Association. Pembroke Gardens work. St John's Ambulance Brigade. Persecuted Church. Swindon Night Shelter. Operation Christmas Child. SWIAS, University Christian Fellowship and others.

It has certainly been a record year for the amount we have been able to give which has amounted to over £8,000 to various charities as well as our support of three children through Compassion UK to the tune of £1,056.

There are many people who work together to make Thursday Connect happen and I would like to say a big thank you to you all.

Little Bookworms from Shirley Adams

Little Bookworms runs on Thursday afternoons from 12 to 2.30 and is for parents with children from 0 – 5 years of age. All those adults who volunteer to help with Little Bookworms have attended Safeguarding Training.

Little bookworms have had a good year although numbers have fluctuated over the year due to some children moving on to school or nursery. We have a mix of mums, dads and nans that join us.

We have a good range of resources for the children to access and we enjoy lunch together and enjoy singing and listening to a story.

We have several family fun teas where the families invite other family members and friends to join us. We usually have a theme with crafts and singing and the children entertain our visitors, then we enjoy tea together.

We have also taken part in the church youth services.

Please feel free to come and join us all are welcome.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The church hall is available to hire for private parties etc.,
Please contact Dave Ayliffe via the church to hire the hall.



House Group Reports

RCBC is currently operating four House groups and they either meet via Zoom or in person.



Prayer

As a church we have continued with weekly prayer meetings via Zoom and these have been attended by an average of 8 people. They are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. If there is a special requirement for prayer then the time can be extended. The prayer life of the church has certainly been of benefit to all concerned. A few people now meet for a short time before the morning service and the Sunday evening services are also a time for prayer and reflection.

Youth and Children's Co-ordinator

The bible school has seen some changes in the past year in terms of resources, attendance, and activities.

Anna Henson stepped down at the end of September 2023. She was pivotal in getting the Sunday school back up and running following the pandemic. I would like to thank her for her wise counsel hard work and dedication to the group over the years.

2023 saw the beginning of the Children and Youth led services. We had three of these last year, one in April, July and December. The children, youth and their leaders worked very hard to make each service a huge success. The children and youth were responsible for all the duties that would happen on a Sunday morning. The second of these services saw the introduction of a new song – "I speak Jesus" which has become a firm favourite with the congregation. We plan on continuing these services in 2024.

We will continue the two monthly sessions for the 5 to 11 year olds and 11 to 17 year olds but there are plans to have sessions every week for the 3 to 5 year olds starting in February 2024.

The team remain hard working and dedicated in their endeavours to share the good news of Jesus to our children and young people. I would like to acknowledge this and thank them.

We continue to put out notices asking for more volunteers, and will trust the Lord to bring the right people in to answer the call..

3 to 5 year olds

We have struggled again this year with staffing as all our classes have.

It is important that we are available each week for the little ones to help provide consistency for the families to build into their weekly routines. This has been agreed and will start after the February half term.

We have had one child who attends each Sunday school session regularly and we have the occasional visitors.

We use the Bubbles Red Compendium from Scripture Union to aid us in our planning & teaching.

Our class has joined with little bookworms to be part of the children and youth services which the children have enjoyed.

5 to 11 year olds

One child attends this class regularly. The children are taught using the scripture union bubbles material.

11 to 17 year olds

This class has 3 Sunday school teachers on rotation. There are between 5 – 8 in attendance on a given Sunday. Teaching material comes from Energize and some sessions are created using other Christian resources.

The youth are more willing to speak during Sunday school. It can be a challenge to get them to talk but over time they have opened up a bit more. I'm hoping with time and further discussions they will participate more. Sunday school lessons normally start with a light activity or thought provoking discussion to break the ice. Then we move into studying the bible. This can be accompanied by videos or printed out text that helps give youth a place to start or introduce a topic to them.

Senior Youth Group - Carl Egonu

We have continued running the Wednesday Youth group every week when two adults are available. It follows the format of about half an hour of games and chat, then an hour of bible study. We finish with prayer, then set up the church ready for Thursday connect. This group normally consists of 5 youths along with Peter Dabbs and myself. Victor Everest normally attends but is studying for his doctors exams. We've started having movie nights occasionally, the attendance for that is normally more, coming to about 9 youths on average.

The majority of last year we looked at the Bible Projects overview videos of each Old Testament book. We watch the video, which goes over the themes and key moments of a book in the bible, then we discuss it as a group, normally reading a chapter from the book we just watched the video on and discussing the chapter.

Last year we went to a Guvna B concert which the youth enjoyed a lot. I hope to make more of an effort to plan youth outings in Swindon this year, as it's a good way for the youth to bond, invite friends and as there are more youth in the church hopefully introduce them to the group and get them involved with church activities.

Accounts



The accounts are independently examined each February and are adopted by the Members at the Church's Annual General Meeting held in March. An Independent Examiner is appointed each year at this meeting. We would like to thank Mr Hilton Holding for the time he has given to examining these accounts. (See his report on Page 17).

Brief statement of the
Charity's policy on reserves

It is the policy of the church to try and maintain around £10,000 in the current Account as an operating amount and a minimum of £15,000 in the Business Reserve Account which enables us to have sufficient funds in reserve should we need to pay a minister if he/she chooses to give us

six months' notice of the termination of their contract. The current account is topped up as necessary from the reserve account to maintain a viable amount to enable all bills to be paid. We have managed to exceed both these amounts over the last year partly due to renting out our Church Manse, claiming Gift Aids and Gift Aid Small Donations and to the church congregants who are now paying regularly through the bank rather than paying into the church offering weekly. The Trustees would like to thank all those who contribute to the church finances either through the bank or in the weekly offering.

Section F

Other optional information

The church continues to remain a place of worship within the community and maintains strong links with other churches in the surrounding area and throughout Swindon as well as links with our Baptist Family.

The churches in the local area meet together for an annual service during the week of prayer for Christian Unity which is held in January. This gives an opportunity for people from different churches to see each other and helps maintain our local links.

The church maintains its links with WEBA (West of England Baptist Association) not only with regards to informing them of our finances, but also through training days held for trustees of the Baptist churches in the area.

Several people in the church deliver the Good News Newspapers to residents in and around the local area.

PENSION DEFICIT PAYMENTS

**Notes to explain the pension payments (See Finance Section)*

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"). The Scheme is a separate legal entity which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). Our current Minister is part of the Baptist Pension Scheme.

Since January 2012, pension provision has been made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Scheme. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income (or 3% if the employer is in the segregated DC Section) to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members, in the event that they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Aviva. Members of the Basic Section pay reduced contributions of 5% of Pensionable Income, and their employers also pay a total of 5%.

Benefits in respect of service prior to 1 January 2012 are provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan within the Scheme. The main benefits for pre-2012 service were a defined benefit pension of one eightieth of Final Minimum Pensionable Income for each year of Pensionable Service, together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31

December 2011.

A formal valuation of the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was performed at 31 December 2019 by a professionally qualified actuary using the Projected Unit Method. The market value of the DB Plan assets at the valuation date was £298 million.

The valuation of the DB Plan revealed a deficit of assets compared with the value of liabilities of £18 million (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%). As a result of the valuation, in addition to the contributions to the DC Plan set out above, it was agreed that the standard rate of deficiency contributions from churches and other employers involved in the DB Plan will remain at previously agreed levels, increasing each year in line with increases in the Minimum Pensionable Income. The deficiency contributions are broadly based on 12% of Pensionable Income/Minimum Pensionable Income, reflecting each employer's contributions in March 2015. Some employers that were involved in the DB Plan for a short period pay lower contributions.

In addition, the Baptist Union of Great Britain agreed to contribute a lump sum of £0.5 million by 31 December 2020. The current Recovery Plan dated 30 September 2020 envisages deficiency contributions continuing until 30 June 2026. Towards the end of 2022 the repayments were reduced to £1 per month.

What does this mean for future contributions? The Trustee and the Baptist Union have agreed that DRCs will reduce to £1 per month for each employer from the August 2022 payment until June 2026. Currently, we do not anticipate reinstating the requirement to pay full DRCs in the future, but we cannot rule that out at this stage. Participating employers remain responsible for providing a share of any additional funds that the DB Plan may require in future. That is why we are maintaining the direct debit deductions at £1 per month for the time being. As part of the agreement to reduce contributions in this way, the Baptist Union has agreed to put £3m aside in an escrow account which could be used to provide additional funds to meet the liabilities of the Scheme if required. This additional money helps to provide further security to the Scheme.

As there are a large number of contributing employers participating in the Scheme, the Church is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme. Accordingly, due to the nature of the Scheme, the profit and loss charge for the period represents the employer contributions payable.

The Church has been advised that the cost for the church to buy out their Pension Scheme liabilities as at 20 June 2022 was £6,800. However having calculated what has been paid from June 27th 2022 to December 2022 the amount owing still is £6168. See liability line at the end of the balance sheet.

Consequent upon the departure of the previous Minister from the church in 2007, the Church had a cessation event under Section 75 of the Pensions Act 1995, from 2007 to Dec 2010. This makes the Church liable for the proportion of the overall deficit (assessed by reference to the cost of securing benefits by the purchase of annuities) applicable to its previous Ministers who were members of the Scheme. It is not possible to quantify this debt without an actuarial calculation. In order to avoid the cost of such a calculation and because the church may not be able to continue its charitable activities following payment of the employer debt which arises upon a cessation event, the Pension Scheme Trustee (after consulting the Pensions Regulator) is not currently pursuing the employer debt but is instead permitting the church to pay the ongoing deficiency contributions outlined above. However, the Pension Scheme Trustee has the right to

quantify and seek payment of the debt at any time at its discretion.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature

Full Name(s) James Reeves

Eric Clark

Chair

Secretary

Date

Date

Risk Management Policies

Finance Policy *Controls to prevent Loss of Funds Implemented by the church in May 1994.*
Updated 26th March 2023

This Policy has been reviewed in the light of moving from an unincorporated organisation to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) . The policy remains the same with one exception to allow for online banking and the use of a church debit card. As of 26th March 2023 this policy will continue to be enforced

The opening and closing of any bank accounts must be witnessed by two authorised signatories together with the pastor's signature. In the absence of a pastor the secretary will sign in their place. Two authorised signatures must be on all cheques. Signatories must be made fully aware what they are paying for prior to purchase and a receipt/bill must be produced at the time of signing a cheque.

If any signatory or anyone in their family is to benefit from a cheque issued by the church they cannot be a signatory to that particular cheque.

All offerings, tithes, gift aids, gifts and any monies given to the church will be counted and recorded in the book provided for that purpose on a Sunday. This action will be carried out by at least two people one of whom should be a trustee. No money will leave the main sanctuary to be counted until the two persons counting the said money have collected the offering bags. They will sign the book when they are satisfied that all the money is accounted for.

The book will then become part of the annual Independent examination of the accounts by the designated accountant. The accounts are independently examined by a qualified accountant and are adopted by the church members at the Annual General Meeting.

Two persons (one of whom must be a managing trustee) are to complete the computerized accounts monthly and ensure that bank balances are reconciled. A yearly budget is prepared by the management trustees in September for approval by church members in November.

To adopt modern banking practices, RCBC will follow online banking processes in accordance with good practice supported by an agreed internal process in line with the requirements of this policy. Where a debit card is used the expenditure will be agreed by two trustees.

Safeguarding Policy

The church adheres to the current Baptist Unions Safeguarding Policy to protect children, young people and adults at risk. These Baptist Union Publications give guidelines on protection for the local church and its youth leaders. All those with a responsibility for looking after children, young persons or adults at risk in the church have seen a copy of the New Safeguarding Policy and systems are in place so that any child, young person or adult at risk will be protected should the need arise. All those involved in children's and young persons' work and who work with adults at risk attended Safeguarding training courses during 2022 to Grade 2 level. Management trustees and the children's co-ordinator had training to Grade 3.

A risk register is in the process of being prepared and reviewed in relation to Health and Safety, Finance, and Safeguarding Policies.

Health and Safety Policy

A representative from the membership has agreed to be responsible for Health and Safety issues. Church attendees have been fully briefed as to what to do and where to assemble in the event of the fire alarm being raised, and church trustees have been given responsibilities for checking the fire panel and who rings the fire brigade etc. Appropriate notices are prominently displayed and the fire extinguishers and exit signs are maintained annually.

Those responsible for Food preparation have attended training courses and have obtained certificates in Food Hygiene. These are updated as and when necessary. Trained First Aiders make sure all accidents and incidents are recorded in a book specifically for that purpose. A First Aid box is kept fully stocked.

Smoking is not allowed on the premises, nor is the consumption of alcohol. The above policies are reviewed annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Church in March. A book is available in the church for any repairs to

the fabric of the church to be noted down. The Trustees check this book on a regular basis and action any repairs necessary.

Receipts and Payments Accounts
For the period

Rodbourne Baptist Church
1 January 2023 to 26 March 2023 and 27 March to 31 December 2023

Section A Receipts and payments					
A1 Receipts to nearest £	Unrestricted funds to 26/03	Unrestricted funds to 31/12	Restricted funds Jan - Dec	Total funds	Last year 2022
General Income less Gift Day 1,2	14,525	52,420		66,945	62,753
Gift Day (Gift Aided) 1,2					11,305
Gift Day (Not Gift Aided) 3			125	125	2,450
Manse Rental 4	3,060	9,180		12,240	4,738
Hospitality/refreshments 5	100	500		600	650
Hire of Halls 6	50	50		100	420
Outreach/Evangelism 7	56	1,385		1,441	1,886
Pembroke Gardens Portacabin 8			430	430	18,334
Youth Work Donations 9	0	0		0	0
Small Equip/Prop Donations 10	0	20		20	0
Thursday Connect 11			9,142	9,142	9,358
Sub total	17,791	63,555	9,697	91,043	111,894
A2 Asset and investment sales etc					
Total Receipts	17,791	63,555	9,697	91,043	111,894
A3 Payments to nearest £					
Pastor's Salary/Expenses * 8,9	10,389	31,739		42,128	26,462
27 Alder Close Expenses 10	8	681		689	35,659
Pension Deficit Payments 11	2	10		12	2,192
Thursday Connect 12			9,142	9,142	9,506
Church Expenses 13	933	4,246		5,179	4,531
General Expenses 14	1,703	10,731		12,434	7,864
Outreach/Youth/Mission 15	1,547	5,723		7,270	9,006
Pembroke Portacabin 16			2,095	2,095	8,131
Hospitality/Welfare 17	474	699		1,173	674
Property church 18	3,774	4,190		7,964	3,433
					16
Sub total	18,830	58,017	11,237	88,086	
A4 Asset and investment purchases					
Total payments	18,830	58,019	11,237	88,086	107,474
Net of receipts (payments)	-1,039	5,536	-1,540	2,957	4,420
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end				79,311	74,891
Cash funds this year end	-1,039	5,536	-1,540	82,268	79,311

For a more detailed explanation of the accounts see over the page

A. General Receipts incl:	Jan 01– Mar 26 2023	Mar 27 – 31 Dec 2023
1. Gift Aids	£ 5,601.38	£24,355.19
Tax Refunds	£ 3,030.45	£ 6,614.46
2. Other Income	£ 5,893.02	£21,450.09
3. Gift Day (Not Gift aided)	£ 0.00	£ 125.00
4. Manse Rental	£ 3,060.00	£ 9,180.00
5. Hospitality/Refreshment	£ 100.00	£ 500.00
6. Hire of Halls	£ 50.00	£ 50.00
7. Outreach/Evangelism	£ 55.59	£ 1,384.56
8. Designated Portacabin funds	£ 230.00	£ 200.00
9. Youth Work Donations	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
10. Small equipment /Prop Donations	£ 0.00	£ 20.00
11 Thursday Connect Donations	£ 2,093.86	£ 7,049.49

Total Receipts Jan to Mar 26 **£20,114.30** **Total Receipts Mar to Dec** **£ 70,928.79**

Total Receipts for the whole year = £ 91,043.09

B. Payments incl:	Jan 01 – Mar 26 2023	Mar 27 – 31 Dec 2023
8.Pastor's Salary	£ 8,124.99	£26,974.97
9. Pastor's Expenses (Pension, NI PAYE etc)	£ 2,263.86	£ 4,764.24
10. 27 Alder Close	£ 8 21	£ 681.18
11. Pension Deficit Payments*	£ 2.00	£ 10.00
12. Thursday Connect Gifts	£ 1,843.88	£ 7,299.27
13. . Church Expenses incl (Elec/Gas/Tel/Ins/Water/zoom)	£ 932.59	£ 4,246.10
14. General Expenses incl:		
Subscriptions/Copyright	£ 89.28	£ 2,529.50
Office Expenses	£ 103.43	£ 115.59
Small Equipment	£ 34.00	£ 748.68
Training Courses	£ 417.00	£ 1,677.00
Love Gifts	£ 110.00	£ 1,712.48
Legal Expenses	£ 747.60	£ 3,518.00
Other Expenses incl:	£ 12.30	£ 293.03
(Flowers,Communion,,Speakers etc.)		
Independent Examiner	£ 190.00	£ 135.00
15. Outreach/Youth/Mission	£ 1,546.71	£ 5,722.69
16. Pembroke Portacabin	£ 443.59	£ 1,651.10
17 Hospitality Welfare	£ 473.72	£ 699.38
18. Property	£ 3,774.28	£ 4,190.21

Total Payments Jan to Mar 26 **£ 21,117.44** **Total Payments Mar to Dec** **£ 66,968.42**

Total Payments for the whole year = 88,085.86

Receipts – Payments = £2,957.23

***See note re pensions deficit from the Baptists Together Website on Page 11/12**

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

B1 Cash Funds	Details	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	
	Current a/c	23,260		
	Reserve a/c	59,008		
	Total Cash Funds	82,268		

Agree balances with receipts and payments accounts

B2 Other Monetary Assets	Details	Unrestricted Funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £

B3 Investment Assets	Details	Funds to which asset belongs	Cost (Optional)	Current value (optional)

B4 Assets Retained for the Charity's own use

Details	
Manse - 27 Alder Close Insured Value - January 2022	258,980
Church - Cheney Manor Road Insured Value - January 2022	1,344,805

Signature _____ Print Name James Reeves

Signature _____ Philip Edgell

Signed by one or two Trustees
On behalf of all Trustees

Date of Approval 07/03/2024

"The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Accounting Practices: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP2005) issued in March 2005, UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011"

The charity is an excepted charity under Section 30 (2)(b) of Charities Act 2011 and the power not to produce an Annual Report is now in Section 168(2) of the Charities Act 2011 .

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE MANAGING TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF RODBOURNE CHENEY BAPTIST CHURCH

On the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of managing trustees and independent examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that the audit requirement of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 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 by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met.

In my opinion no other matter needs attention to be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



H A Holding

60 Studland Park

Westbury

Wiltshire

BA13 3HN

Dated: 20 February 2024