

# BLAKELAW COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1203668

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2023-06-21

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

## Contact

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**Address** Blakelaw Community Church  
Cragston Way  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
NE5 3SW

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**Email** [blakelawcommunitychurch@gmail.com](mailto:blakelawcommunitychurch@gmail.com)

**Website** [www.blakelawcommunitychurch.uk](http://www.blakelawcommunitychurch.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** 3.1 THE PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH ARE: 3.1.1 THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BASIS OF FAITH PRIMARILY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY WITHIN BLAKELAW AND THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBOURHOOD; AND 3.1.2 SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES AS SHALL, IN THE OPINION OF THE CHARITY TRUSTEES, PUT INTO PRACTICE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BASIS OF FAITH, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: THE PREVENTION AND RELIEF OF NEED, HARDSHIP AND SICKNESS; THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION; AND THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABILITY, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE; PROVIDED THAT THE ADVANCEMENT OF SUCH PURPOSES MUST BE UNDERTAKEN IN A MANNER THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE DOCTRINAL DISTINCTIVES AND ETHICAL STATEMENTS AS MAY BE ADOPTED AND AMENDED BY THE CHURCH FROM TIME TO TIME IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHURCH HANDBOOK.

**Activities:** Blakelaw Community Church exists to communicate the good news about Jesus Christ, and the salvation that has been effected through him to Blakelaw and the surrounding area. We meet together each Sunday for worship and teaching, and midweek for prayer and Bible study. People who attend live locally or in other parts of Newcastle. We organise some community events and host a fortnightly Warm Space.

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Newcastle Upon Tyne City

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£13,964	£18,343	-	-
2023-12-31	£6,495	£12,474	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Abolaji Ismail</b>	Chair	2023-06-21
Henry John Lisgo		2023-06-21
Jonathan Aiah Komba-Kpakoi		2023-06-21
KENNETH IAN MCKENZIE		2023-06-21
Rev MARK SHARMAN		2023-06-21
Sandra Ann Sharman		2023-06-21
Theodora Ismail		2023-06-21

**BLAKELAW COMMUNITY CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1203668

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# Accounts

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**Annual Report for Blakelaw  
Community Church presented at  
the Annual General Meeting held  
on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025 - Charity  
registration number 1203668**

**Address:  
Blakelaw Community Church  
Cragston Way  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE5 3SW**

# Blakelaw Community Church AGM - 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## Secretary's Report

The leadership team meets on Zoom regularly for fellowship and to conduct church business. We have held a retreat morning at the Shepherds Dene centre.

The final documentation for Blakelaw Community Church to become a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) was completed in October 2024.

### Leadership Team

#### **Elders:**

Bolaji Ismail	Trustee
Mark Sharman	Trustee
Ken McKenzie	Trustee & Church Secretary

#### **Deacons:**

Theodora Ismail	Trustee
Jonathan Komba-Kpakoi	Trustee & Safeguarding Officer
Harry Lisgo	Trustee
Norma Lisgo	
Sandra Sharman	Trustee & Treasurer

In January 2025 we appointed Norma Lisgo as a Deacon.

### Pastoral

Elderly or unwell members are visited. Although we do not have house groups each member of the leadership team maintains contact with a group of members.

We ensure that those who need it, have transport to and from church.

On the second and fourth Friday mornings of each month we have 'Warm Space' where anyone may come for refreshments and chat; this concludes with a short Bible study and prayer.

### Worship and Preaching

Blakelaw Community Church continues to meet for Bible centred worship every Sunday at 11.00 am. Attendance varies between 20-30 adults and children. Bible teaching is planned and delivered by the Elders, with Deacons doing some preaching. Members of the leadership team and others assist in the leading of services.

During the past year we have welcomed guest preachers including Glenn Wanless a former pastor of Blakelaw Community Church, David and Wilma Lyttle - Mizpah Trust missionaries in Greece, Michael Bushby and Paul Gask from Christian Vision for Men.

We have had three baptisms in September 2024 and regularly welcome visitors.

In the future the Elders will continue prayerfully to prepare the content of teaching as they guide the spiritual direction of the church fellowship.

Music for services is led by a small team of musicians and singers. We use traditional hymns and contemporary songs, some composed specially for the church.

Holy Communion is held monthly, ministered by an Elder.

### **Children's Work**

We are really blessed by the children in our church family. Numbers may be small, but we have a few teenagers and a Sunday school for mainly under-teens. They are a blessing to us in many services, singing songs and reading poems as well as sometimes helping to take the offering.

### **Prayer**

Blakelaw Community Church continues to have a focus on prayer. Meetings are held midweek taking the form of a Bible study or prayer meeting.

There are also regular monthly evening prayer meetings on Zoom.

### **Evangelism**

Blakelaw Community Church took part in the Explore project, which aimed to put a copy of the Gospel of Luke into the hands of every householder in Newcastle. A small team of members delivered a copy of "Explore" to most of the houses in our district. Some doorstep conversations were enjoyed and because of the scheme, people from the community have visited the church.

Very few households rejected the booklets.

Every Tuesday a dedicated team preaches and sings in Newcastle City centre frequently having meaningful conversations with members of the public. "Explore" booklets are handed out.

### **Other events over the past year**

In December 2024 we held a Family Christmas Service followed by lunch and a traditional Carols by Candlelight Service followed by refreshments, which were both well attended.

Men's breakfast - In the Spring of 2025 we held a Men's breakfast with the guest speaker being Pastor John Webster of Vision Christian Fellowship based in Gateshead. It was a nice informal gathering.

Ladies lunch - A nice informal gathering was held in a member's home. We plan to continue this in the future.

Film night – This was for the children and young people in the church.

### **Future objectives**

We continue to be passionate about evangelism and prayer. We want to increase the congregation and engage with the community. We hope to begin some work with children and teenagers. One of our deacons is working to begin a Saturday children's activity.

We will invite more guest preachers.

We will continue to develop our Sunday worship and the city centre evangelism.

### **Finance report**

The following notes were used to explain the accounts.

Future expenses - We will need to repair the roof which will be expensive.  
Children's work will require funding.

## **NOTES ON UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR BLAKELAW COMMUNITY CHURCH (CHARITY NUMBER 1203668)**

**1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2024 – 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

1. Accounts were prepared using a receipts and payments system.

2. During the year we opened two new bank accounts for Blakelaw Community Church CIO, – one of which is a savings account - transferring funds from any account associated with Blakelaw Community Church CUO or Blakelaw Evangelical Church to these new accounts.
3. **Income** received (excluding transfers) increased from £11,599.27 to £13,252.97 (14%). The biggest increase shown in FPI and cheque income. Gift Aid was also claimed, amounting to £512.51. Bank interest received was £198.92
4. **Expenditure** overall was £18,342.66, (excluding bank transfers) compared to £23,560.52 in 2023 (23% decrease)
5. Overseas expenditure
  - a. **Missionary giving** decreased because we stopped supporting Pioneers from July and are yet to appoint a new Mission to support.
  - b. The **Christmas 2024 offering** was shared equally between Operation Mobilisation, YWAM and TearFund.
6. Other expenditure
  - a. **Publicity** funded our participation in delivering Explore Books in the Blakelaw area and printing the banner and cards advertising Christmas 2024 services.
  - b. £1,935.96 was paid in **legal fees** as we continued the process of becoming a CIO. In 2023 we paid £2,927.98.
  - c. The **footpath** was extended (£3,960), **chairs** were refurbished (£630) and **ethernet cable** (£510) was installed.
  - d. **Electricity** payments were still high due to paying for electricity used in 2023 but they decreased by 33%.
7. Total of our **bank assets** on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 was £17,985.71 compared to £22,366.07 on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

**BLAKELAW COMMUNITY CHURCH 2024 ACCOUNTS – CHARITY NO. 1203668**

<b>BCC Bank Balance b/fwd 31/12/23</b>	<b>£1,674.84</b>		<b>BEC Bank Balance b/fwd 31/12/23</b>	<b>£562.50</b>		<b>BEC Bus bank Instant b/fwd/31/12/23</b>	<b>£20,128.7 3</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>INCOME:</b>			<b>INCOME:</b>			<b>INCOME:</b>		
Cash Collections	6,469.12	6,440.94	Transfer from BEC Bus	10,000.00	0.00	Bank Interest	177.14	200.03
Cheques	3,054.85	1,622.30	Transfer from BEC Bus	1,040.87				
Standing Orders	1,200.00	1,200.00	HMRC Gift Aid	512.51				
FPI	1,223.60	657.15	Transfer from BEC Bus	3,197.90				
Rent	925.00	1,270.00						
Special Appeals	227.70	274.88						
Other	152.70	134.00						
Transfers into a/c	2,903.37	0.00						
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>16,156.34</b>	<b>11,599.27</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>14,751.28</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>177.14</b>	<b>200.03</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Missionary Giving	1,920.00	2,220.00	Transfer to BCC CIO a/c	562.50		Church: Improvements	3,960.00	2,640.00
FIEC	420.00	420.00	Transfer to BCC Savings a/c	10,000.00		Church: Publicity	0.00	240.00
Church: Insurance	1,007.57	989.02	Transfer to BCC CIO a/c	1,040.87		Church: PA	510.00	2,986.91
Church: Telephone	848.02	934.77	Transfer of Gift Aid	512.51		Legal Fees	895.09	0.00
Church: Electricity	4,440.92	6,669.00	Transfer to BCC Savings a/c	3,197.90		Transfer to BCC a/c electric	700.00	0.00
Church: Water	369.00	295.06	Legal Fees	0.00	450.00	Transfer to BEC a/c	10,000.00	0.00
Church: Housekeeping	600.00	680.00	Licences	0.00	169.00	Transfer to BEC a/c	4,238.77	0.00
Church: PA	0.00	0.00						
Church: Photocopier	0.00	0.00						
Church: Repairs	630.00	730.00	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>15,313.78</b>	<b>619.00</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE:</b>	20,303.86	5,866.91
Fire Extinguisher	237.07	212.95						
Legal Fees (CIO)	1,040.87	2,477.98	<b>BEC Balance at 31/10/24</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>BEC BBI Balance 11/11/24</b>	<b>2.01</b>	
Licences	181.00	0.00						
Miscellaneous	156.74	431.41						
Pastoral Gift	40.00	0.00						
Postage	2.80	0.00						
Preaching Fees	220.00	0.00	<b>INCOME:</b>			<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>		
Publicity	223.97	175.00	Transfers from BEC a/c	10,000.00		Transfer to BCC CIO a/c	600.00	
Safeguarding	150.00	381.50	Transfers from BEC a/c	3,197.90				
Shepherds Dene	10.00	0.00	Gift Aid	512.51				
			Bank Interest	21.78				

**SAVINGS ACCOUNT – BLAKELAW COMMUNITY CHURCH CIO**

**BLAKELAW COMMUNITY CHURCH 2024 ACCOUNTS – CHARITY NO. 1203668**

Special Appeals	150.00	235.00					
Training	60.00	0.00					
Website	74.23	50.24					
Zoom	195.47	172.68					
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>12,977.66</b>	<b>17,074.61</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>13,732.19</b>		<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>600.00</b>
<b>BCC Bank Balance at 31/12/24</b>	<b>4,853.52</b>		<b>Savings – BCC Balance at 31/12/24</b>	<b>13,132.19</b>			
<b>TOTAL ASSETS 31/12/24</b>	<b>17,985.71</b>						

**BLAKELAW COMMUNITY CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1203668

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# Accounts

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## **Blakelaw Community Church Trustees' report as presented at the Church AGM 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

*Zechariah 4:6 This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts.*

Blakelaw Community Church continues to seek the will of God and endeavours to be led by the Holy Spirit.

Sunday attendance averages around 28 adults and some children. Midweek attendances continue to be poor.

Pastoral matters: the funeral of a member and visits and phone calls to incapacitated members.

We have commenced a Bible study in the building on the last Thursday of the month. On Sundays we have covered some themed areas in the preaching, including Matthew's Gospel and Psalms.

Christmas Carols and the family service were both well attended.

Worship is led by singers and musicians.

Mission on Tuesdays in the city centre continues and must become a regular topic for prayer support.

In the summer we held an outreach barbecue at the church which was very well supported by the community.

We have had both entrance paths replaced and installed an upgrade to the sound system, which still needs work.

A great deal of time has been devoted by the Elders to the process of moving from CUA status to CIO.

The future is positive but we must encourage people to attend midweek meetings. We are also aware that it is two years since we have had a baptismal service.

### **Financial report**

The accounts were presented. Cash offerings are up slightly. We are awaiting the opening of a new bank account before implementing the gift aid for offerings. Electricity bills are high because we are still paying off from the previous year. There have been legal fees. Other regular giving is continuing. Special offerings were made at Christmas. Rent from the Zimbabwean church has ceased.

Some expenditure made on safeguarding. The fellowship was encouraged to think about giving and using gift aid.

BLAKELAW COMMUNITY CHURCH 21 JUNE TO 31 DECEMBER 2023 ACCOUNTS

BCC a/c		BEC a/c		Bus Bank Instant	
<b>INCOME:</b>		<b>INCOME:</b>		<b>INCOME:</b>	
Cash collections	3477.89			Interest	118.99
Cheques	856.40				
On line Standing Orders	600.00				
On line Bank Transfers	492.15				
Rent	710.00				
Special Appeals	139.88				
Other	100.00				
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>6376.32</b>	<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>		<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>118.99</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>		<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>		<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>	
Missionary Giving	1110.00	Legal Fees (CIO)	450.00	Church: PA	2986.91
FIEC	210.00				
Church: Insurance	593.34				
Church: Telephone	450.48				
Church: Electricity	2319.00				
Church: Water	160.54				
Church: Housekeeping	380.00				
Church:PA					
Church: Photocopier					
Church: Repairs	730.00				
Fire Extinguisher					
Legal fees (CIO)	2477.98				
Licences CCLI					
Miscellaneous	251.41				
Pastoral Gift					
Preaching Fee					
Publicity	24.00				
Safeguarding	157.25				
Special Appeals					
Training	61.50				
Website	25.12				
Zoom	86.34				
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>9036.96</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>450.00</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>2986.91</b>