

Registered Charity no. 1212777



Clayton Baptist Church  
Trustees Annual Report and Accounts  
Year Ended 31 December 2025

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## **Legal and Administrative information**

### **Reference**

The Charity is called "Clayton Baptist Church" and is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales as an Unincorporated Association (1212777).

Clayton Baptist Church is located in Clayton, Bradford and is part of the Yorkshire Baptist Association and Baptist Union of Great Britain.

### **Registered Charity Number**

1212777

### **Registered Office**

Clayton Baptist Church,  
School Street,  
Clayton, Bradford,  
BD14 6AL

### **Website**

[www.claytonbaptistchurch.uk](http://www.claytonbaptistchurch.uk)

### **The Trustees**

The Charity Trustees are appointed by the members to be responsible for the governance of the church. The Trustees who served during the year and to the period to sign off of the financial statements are as follows

Revd Kenneth Brown

Mr Michael Hopkinson	Appointed March 2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
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Mrs Catherine Bellaby	Appointed March 2024 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
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Mr David Smart	Appointed March 2024 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
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Mrs Marva Ambrose	Appointed March 2025 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
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Mr James Sanford	Resigned March 2025
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### **Bank**

Virgin Money

### **Independent Examiner**

Elisa Brown Accountancy  
Central Pl, Clayton, Bradford  
BD14 6AZ

## Trustees Report

### Structure and Governance

The governing document of Clayton Baptist Church is the Church Constitution; the latest version being agreed by the church members in 2020. The Charity Trustees include a Minister and Deacons who are elected by members of the church at Ordinary Church Meetings (also known as Church Forums). The constitution states that a majority of the Charity Trustees must have been baptised by immersion. The Charity Trustees have delegated day-to-day responsibility for making decisions, but they are accountable to the church members who are responsible for making decisions at Ordinary Church Meetings.

The Charity Trustees met eleven times to discuss the business of the church in 2025. There were five Ordinary Church Meetings, one which included the Annual General Meeting.

### Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world.

The Charity Trustees along with the congregation are responsible for advancing the Christian faith and promoting the whole mission of the church including evangelism and Christian discipleship, education, pastoral, social charitable action and encouraging relationships with and supporting Baptists and other Christians.

The church agreed a 5 year vision in 2022 titled 'Forging for Fruitfulness' and under this title for 2025 three objectives were discerned:



### Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular advancement of the Christian faith.

## **Ministry**

The paid ministry team comprises of Revd Kenny Brown, Minister (Part-time 0.8 whole time equivalent) and Lucy Brown, Children's and Families worker (Part-time 0.4 whole time equivalent).

## **Membership**

As of 31 December 2025, CBC had 42 members, but many more people attend services and the wider midweek activities the church provides.

## **Church services**

Sunday morning services continue to be the primary gathering point of the congregation each week. There has been an increase in average attendance this year including in the number of children and young people attending for which we are thankful to God. There was one child dedication this year which was the first in over two years. Many congregants use their gifts during services for the benefit of everyone. Some examples are preaching, leading prayers and services, operating the sound and vision equipment and playing musical instruments. Specific support was given to musicians who are part of the church to encourage and equip them to lead sung worship in services which has been greatly encouraging to the congregation.

In February we continued our practice to mark Racial Justice Sunday using some of the resources from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and in November for the first time CBC marked Disability Awareness Sunday where feedback from the congregation was sought leading to some changes being made related to the readability of our visual resources.

The cycle of Sunday services changed to include a monthly interactive 'Discovery Sunday' which involves Lego, Art and a Discovery Bible Study that the whole congregation get involved in together and it has been so encouraging to see the creative talents of all ages.

Congregants were encouraged to engage with the CBC Big Read which involved reading through the New Testament in one year through 2025.

## **Children's, Youth and Families work**

Lucy Brown, CBC Children's and Families worker alongside committed volunteers facilitates 'mainly music' and 'Explore & Play' groups for 0-5's and parents/carers, and a youth group for 11-16's. Lucy has continued to provide wonderful support to Clayton St John's primary school by delivering regular collective worship, relational support and being a School Governor.

## **Other activities**

Notable other events during the year was the Good Friday Tenebrae service, summer café, Carnival of Light and the CBC Nativity service. A number of life-groups met in homes and online. In 2022 the church started Thrive in the Thornaby area of Clayton with a vision to eventually establish a worshipping community there. Unfortunately, that vision has been unable to come to fruition due to circumstances outwith our control. This has resulted in the church no longer providing volunteers but we are thankful for what we learned and the relationships formed.



## **Church building**

The church building continues to be used for the wider public benefit through pre-school groups (mainly music, Explore & Play) operated by the church whose attendees come from Clayton and surrounding communities and through hiring the space to community groups such as a Scouting group, the Zion congregation who do not own a building, and a weight loss business.

## **Wider Baptist life**

We have been involved in the Yorkshire Baptist Association (YBA) Inter-ethnic learning community this year and in late 2025 Kenny participated in the first YBA Church Planting collective. CBC has also actively supported the YBA by continuing to release Kenny to be a Trustee and an active member of the YBA Ministries group.

## **Alleviating the impact of poverty**

We had one appeal this year at Harvest to raise money for the Bradford Baby Bank and Zarach ([www.zarach.org](http://www.zarach.org)) charities who are seeking to alleviate the suffering of those in poverty. The church agreed to continue to raise money for Zarach through 2026 who serve to alleviate bed poverty.

A communion offering is taken up each month during a Sunday service and monies that are donated are used for needs amongst our congregants and wider communities when those needs are reported to the Minister/Trustees.

## **Pastoral Care Team**

There are a team of church members who proactively and reactively provide care to congregants but caring for each other is everyone's responsibility and care happens through midweek groups, friendships and in other ways.

The team facilitated 3 lunches in 2025 aimed at people who felt new to CBC. We felt this was needed due to the numerical growth we experienced in our Sunday congregation. 27 people attended which was a testimony to the growth that we have had, and there were others who were unable to attend.

## **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk is important to us and our policy and procedure is publicly available on our website and in the church building with further copies available on request. Volunteers and paid staff undergo a Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check and receive safeguarding training. We have a Safeguarding Trustee and Designated Person for Safeguarding (DPS) in place.

## **Discovering Jesus *and* helping other people discover who Jesus is**

Early in 2025 two church members travelled to India with the YBA to experience Disciple Making Movement principles in real life. The impact of this experience has seen a significantly positive and exciting change in the life of the church with the development of four discovery bible study groups where Christians and non-Christians are exploring faith and growing in faith.

In late 2025 we held 'Exploring Baptism' sessions and also launched our 1-1-1 Prayer initiative which encouraged congregants to pray for 1 person for 1 minute at 1pm each day, praying for people to come to faith and opportunities to discuss faith and read the Bible together.

## Going forwards - 2026

Due to the growth that we have blessed with, we are reviewing our church structures and operations under the banner of 'Shared Stewardship' to enable us to build and support everyone well in growing in faith. We are also praying and reflecting on what it means to multiply; being disciples who make disciples; and will be exploring developing Discovery Bible Study groups in other locations where congregants have existing relationships. A team of coaches trained by TLG will be starting Early Intervention coaching in the school once they have been trained by TLG and safeguarding processes have been completed.

## Financial review

All assets of Clayton Baptist Church are used for the direct charitable purposes of the Church. The trustees consider that the financial position at the Balance Sheet date is satisfactory, and the Church is able to meet future obligations. During the year Clayton Baptist Church had total receipts of £76457.79 and payments of £69265.81, resulting in a net surplus of £7191.98

## Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider it prudent to hold in reserve an amount equivalent to 3-4 months of the running costs of Clayton Baptist church in order to be able to adapt to any changes in the income and expenditure of the church. As of 31 December 2025, the unrestricted free reserves are: £24730.97

## TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue its operations.

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 the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees' annual report was approved and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

## Approved by the Trustees

Name of Trustee: Michael T Hopkinson

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Date of approval:

29.3.2026



## Independent Examiners' Report

### Report of the Independent Examiner(s) of the Trustees of Clayton Baptist Church

On the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

#### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Church's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5) of the Charities Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

#### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts present with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records
- The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as apart of an independent examination. (If accounts prepared on accruals basis\*)

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

*\*delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply*

Signed by or on behalf of the Examiner:  Date: 11/03/2026

Name: Elisa Brown FCCA, MAAT of E Brown Limited

Relevant Professional Qualification(s) or body (if any): ACCA, AAT

Address: Central Place, Clayton, Bradford, BD14 6AZ



2025

	2,025	2024
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Freewill offerings	8330.34	4817.85
Gift aided offerings	38818.4	40599.40
Tax refund	9949.45	10216.46
YBA Dividend	88.76	156.58
Donations/hire of premises	9358.5	5447.13
Communion	319.23	122.30
BMS Home Mission	0	24.00
BMS World Mission	0	24.00
Events	62.2	122.31
Baby and Toddler Group	1544.83	1892.73
Mainly Music	1936.02	1713.67
CBC Café	607.68	1148.95
Grants	0	14915.68
Other income	4350.53	1773.36
Interest received on Saver Accounts	4668.59	853.68
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>80034.53</b>	<b>83828.10</b>

**EXPENDITURE**

Salaries (net)	29968.27	35586.25
Pension	5652.24	5767.75
NICs/Income Tax	7341.21	6599.17
Travel	9.2	21.69
Manse	3112.16	2544.82
Manse maintenance & insurance	1087.02	632.96
Church maintenance & insurance	3287.9	3977.70
Electricity	1917.26	2405.25
Gas	2031.02	1380.36
Water	2129.4	1477.20
Church phone	1134.18	940.08
Church sundries	177.16	121.43
Catering	1332.82	1338.36
Cleaning	1698	1397.00
BMS Home Mission	2220	2405.00
BMS World Mission	0	0.00
Junior/youth	378.48	318.72
Visiting Speakers	70.7	100.00
Stationery	66.62	7.68
Books/courses	101.88	652.78
Music/Audio	945.22	567.34
Printing/website	1312.83	1084.28
Communion	0	500.00
Data Protection	0	0.00
Subscriptions	651	255.00
Mainly Music	525.53	398.46
Explore and Play	175.34	185.30

