

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:- 251436

WEBSITE:- www.hagleyfreechurch.org.uk

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

31 DECEMBER 2022

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

ADDRESS	95, Worcester Road, West Hagley, Stourbridge, DY9 0NG
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	251436
BANKERS	The Co-operative Bank plc, P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT
BROKERS	Canaccord Genuity Wealth Management, Slip House, Princes Drive, Worcester, WR1 2AB
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	N Webb FCA of Azets, 1 st Floor Copthall House 1 New Road, Stourbridge, DY8 1PH

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HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

NOTICE OF MEETING

Hopefully, the problems caused by Covid-19 are now over, so the AGM will be held in the church on Wednesday 24 May at 7.00 p.m. The accounts in draft are now with the accounts examiner and we hope to have copies for worshippers to study shortly.

Members are reminded that, since 2014, persons have been elected to the committee for a three-year period at the end of which they can agree to stand for a further three-year period: after this they will have to stand down for at least one year. In addition, the minister, general secretary and treasurer are ex officio. It may be that Rev Tim Mullings, our new minister, will suggest some changes for members to discuss in the future. Finding new committee members is difficult as a result of our aging congregation but all current members are willing to stand for re-election. Martin Heathcock informed members at the 2019 AGM that he would not be standing for re-election as treasurer: however, he has continued in office during these very difficult years. The good news is that Alun Nicholas has agreed to take on the treasurer's job. This means there are now four committee vacancies!

Alun has agreed to take on the job of treasurer, knowing that we now have bookkeeping and accounts preparation assistance from someone Martin has known for many years. As she was a former colleague of our accounts examiners, she has worked on the HFC accounts in recent years. Martin has also agreed to stand as a committee member to help the new treasurer into office if needed.

Nominations for committee members are invited, please ask me for a form which will require the signatures of proposer, seconder, and nominee – all of whom must be members of this church. Completed forms should be handed to me as soon as possible and by the Sunday before the AGM at the latest.

By order of the committee

22 May 2023

Mr C Millington

General Secretary

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

CONSTITUTION

Although the Church, which is inter-denominational, opened for worship in 1905, the charity which governs it is constituted by a Deed of Trust dated 13 March 1912. That Trust Deed stipulates that Trustees have to be appointed, their prime responsibility being custodian. Day to day management and administration of the Church is in the hands of a committee, up to twelve in number, including the minister, general secretary and treasurer who are ex officio, all of whom are elected by the membership. Charity legislation deems committee members to be trustees in respect of the responsibilities they carry. Meetings are presently being chaired by Martin Heathcock or another senior committee member if he is unavailable.

OBJECTS

To promote the Christian Gospel through regular Sunday worship, weekday activities and other means of outreach. Reference to the accounts will reveal that the membership endeavours to do this within the immediate neighbourhood of Hagley and by supporting missionary and other charitable causes in the Midlands, nationally and overseas.

TRUSTEES

The custodian trustees, in whose names the freehold land (on part of which the church buildings stand) and investments are held, are all senior members of the fellowship whose views and experience are highly valued. They are: -

Margaret Tubb	Barbara Harris	Bryn Perrins *
Martin Heathcock *	Joan Ellis	Bob Green
Peter Davies **	Peter Longden	Alun Nicholas

* These trustees liaise with Canaccord Genuity Wealth Management concerning Investments.

** Resigned 24 January 2022

COMMITTEE

During the last year the committee has comprised: -

Rev Tim Mullings – from his appointment, but before his inauguration (04.03.23)

Christopher Millington General Secretary ex officio

Martin Heathcock Treasurer also deputy chair ex officio

Alun Nicholas	Barbara Harris	Katharine Johnson
Peter Longden	Marjorie Fernihough	Nerys Dewhirst

Committee members meet monthly, except in August and December, to review matters and are available to receive ideas and comments about the life of the church for discussion within those meetings. The committee is ably assisted by property stewards and the leaders of the various sub-groups which give vitality and outreach to the life of the Church throughout each week of the year.

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The committee presents its report together with the draft accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are presently being examined.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The names of committee members will be found on page 3.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR AND BEYOND

What a year, yet again! The search committee worked hard to find a replacement following Rev David Tennant's retirement. Three gentlemen preached with a view. The first did not appeal to the membership; the second one did but, in the end, felt the job was not for him. The final one, Rev Tim Mullings, appealed and he was inaugurated on 4 March 2023. Our worshippers are looking forward to his ministry. The church continues to support The Black Country Food Bank as well as helping a few other charities. Long may this practical way of putting the Gospel into practice continue.

Sadly, some members died during the year, including Liz Hipkiss (died December 2021 but funeral January 2022) who led the Sunday School for many years, and also Ivy Adams at the age of 106! The total membership of 78 includes about 55 who are active within the life of the Church, while some of the remainder live in other parts of the country but still consider Hagley Free Church their spiritual home. Additionally, around 40 friends, some of whom have started to attend during recent months, regularly worship with us thereby enriching the life of the fellowship. Thanks are due to Rev David Tennant and the pastoral team for regular contacts with the housebound and those in care homes and hospital.

The attached financial statements set out the financial performance of the Church, and show total fund balances at 31 December 2022 of £599,125 (2021 - £720,304). Total realised and unrealised losses on investments were £106,455 (2021 - £30,091 gain), and the performance of the investment portfolio will be reviewed going forward.

The reserves policy of the Church is to hold unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific purpose at a level equivalent to one years expenditure. Reserves at this level will ensure that in the event of a significant drop in funding the current activities of the Church can continue, whilst consideration is given to ways in which additional funding can be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

The Committee have referred to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives of the Church and in planning future activities.

INTANGIBLE INCOME

Much of the work of the church, in all its facets, is carried out voluntarily by members and friends. Vestry, door and communion stewards, together with pastoral work and catering are just some of the areas where that help is much appreciated. Each Sunday we enjoy voluntaries before and after the service and accompaniment for hymns, for which we have Jean Stokes and Margery Davies to thank. We also enjoy the gardens at the front of the church, thanks to Joy Sawyer.

ACCOUNTS EXAMINER

Nick Webb FCA of Azets fulfils this office and is willing to continue in that office.

Hagley
24 May 2023

By order of the committee
Martin Heathcock – Acting chair of committee

REPORT OF THE CUSTODIAN TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Interest rates on invested funds remained very low but our investments are mainly equity based. We had expected to see a significant reduction in investment income, due to Covid-19, but this did not materialise. The church's finances are, therefore, still very strong, although projections suggest that we shall have to sell some of our investments from time to time during the coming years unless there is a significant increase in monthly standing orders and weekly offerings.

Hagley
24 May 2023

On behalf of the Trustees
Barbara Harris – Chair

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<u>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:- (Note 5)</u>					
Regular giving by worshippers	19,225			19,225	20,544
Donations and legacies	2,050	2,041		4,091	1,924
Use of facilities by church groups	5,304			5,304	1,675
Use of facilities by outside groups	8,957			8,957	5,733
Other trading activities	1,760			1,760	340
Investments	16,566		1,163	17,729	16,711
Other - including Gift Aid tax recoverable	6,516			6,516	4,689
Total	60,378	2,041	1,163	63,582	51,616
<u>EXPENDITURE ON:- (Note 6)</u>					
Worship, witness and teaching	4,879			4,879	9,414
Cultural, social and recreational	8,593			8,593	4,626
Property costs	27,808		1,163	28,971	19,229
Management and administration	22,342			22,342	23,482
Donations					
General donations	2,650			2,650	100
Ex Harvest & Investment Income	8,590			8,590	8,000
Christian Aid	250	1,251		1,501	987
Black Country Food Bank				-	260
European Christian Mission		685		685	-
Sunfield Children's Home		105		105	-
Total	75,112	2,041	1,163	78,316	66,098
Realised gains/(losses) on investments	-4,271	-7,230	-	-11,501	2,895
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	-58,123	-15,207	-21,614	-94,944	27,196
Net income/(expenditure)	-77,128	-22,437	-21,614	-121,179	15,609
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	-77,128	-22,437	-21,614	-121,179	15,609
Total funds brought forward	497,470	153,000	69,834	720,304	704,695
Total funds carried forward	420,342	130,563	48,220	599,125	720,304

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year

All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities

The attached notes form part of these accounts

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Income Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets					
Freehold land and buildings (Note 9)	67,313			67,313	67,313
Organ, furnishings and equipment (Note 10)	71,200			71,200	71,200
Investments (Note 11)					
Trustees		130,563	48,220	178,783	222,834
General	265,471			265,471	332,127
Organ	1,877			1,877	1,680
Total fixed assets	405,861	130,563	48,220	584,644	695,154
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors (Note 12)	10,036			10,036	6,842
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 13)	13,986			13,986	24,916
Total current assets	24,022	-	-	24,022	31,758
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 14)	9,541			9,541	6,608
Net current assets	14,481	-	-	14,481	25,150
Total net assets	420,342	130,563	48,220	599,125	720,304
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY (Note 15)					
Unrestricted funds	418,465			418,465	495,790
Unrestricted funds-designated Organ fund	1,877			1,877	1,680
Restricted income funds		130,563		130,563	153,000
Endowment funds			48,220	48,220	69,834
Total funds	420,342	130,563	48,220	599,125	720,304

The attached notes form part of these accounts

APPROVAL The accounts set out on pages 5 to 14 were approved by representatives of both the church committee and the custodian trustees on 24 May 2023

Signed on behalf of the committee:-

Martin Heathcock - Hon. Treasurer and Deputy Chair

Signed on behalf of the custodian trustees:-

Barbara Harris - Chair

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:-

- a) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with “Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)” (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.
The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.
The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.
Assets and liabilities are recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.
- b) In preparing the accounts, the trustees considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of any comparative items was required. No such adjustments are considered necessary at the date of transition, 1 January 2015.
- c) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis
Considering the strength of the balance sheet and the surplus for the year, before investment write-down, the committee sees no reason to prepare the accounts other than on a going concern basis.
- d) Departure from Accounting Standards
The committee considers it inappropriate to provide any depreciation as the majority of tangible fixed assets are included at a very low historical cost, with the freehold premises and organ, furnishings and equipment being maintained in good condition. With the exception of the change from pews to chairs in the worship area in 2008 (where all but one of the old oak pews have been sold) all repairs and replacements are charged to expenditure as incurred. All assets are insured at full estimated replacement cost for a total of £2,159,765.
- e) Income - General
Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds; any conditions attached have been met and the amount can be reliably measured.
For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been received that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the charity has been notified of the executors’ intention to make a distribution and the amount can be reliably measured.
Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate. On certain Sundays in each year all the collections are earmarked for a specific cause. On those Sundays preaching fees are paid out of the general fund. When disasters and other specific appeals are made, retiring collections are held to enable members and friends to associate themselves with the appropriate needs.
Over the years the church has received a number of gifts in kind, many of them modest in value. None of these are reflected in the accounts although substantial items of furnishings, stained glass windows etc. are appropriately insured.
- f) Investment income
Dividends are accounted for when due and payable, and interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.
- g) Investment gains and losses
This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.
- h) Volunteer help
The Charity benefits greatly from the involvement and enthusiastic support of its many volunteers. Mention of this is made in the Review of the year on page 4. In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.
- i) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT
Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be reliably measured. As the church is unable to recover VAT that element of each cost is added to the cost of the goods or services concerned. Costs are allocated as per the analysis in note 6.

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Accounting policies continued

- j) Operating leases
Hand driers and associated costs are leased over a five year period; the rentals being charged on a straight line basis.
- k) Tangible fixed assets
These are capitalised where they can be used for more than one year and where the life is considered to be at least four years.
- l) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.
- m) Cash at bank and in hand
This comprises bank and building society balances held by the church itself and the various sub-groups that have their own accounts. Cash in hand is minimal.
- n) Creditors and provisions
These are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be reliably measured or estimated.
- o) Payments out of income arising from Trustees' and other investments
Following the sale of part of its Chapel Street land in 1978 various investments were made, being held in the names of the church's custodian trustees. Although the committee has control of the income from the investments, the capital can only be accessed with approval from the Charity Commissioners. In order to maintain the real value of those investments, part of the annual income arising was reinvested. In latter years this portion of investment income has been added to General Investments giving the church greater flexibility in using those assets should the need arise. The balance of the investment income from both sources is distributed, as agreed by the members, to various charities, locally, nationally and abroad. During recent years the trustees, in consultation with the brokers, have broadened the range of investments in an endeavour to ensure a balance between income and capital appreciation.
- p) Church Sub-groups
Most of these manage their own finances and have their own bank and/or building society accounts. To comply with the Charity SORP, figures from those groups are included in these accounts.
- q) Investment policy
A broad spread of investments is adopted, excluding holdings with significant trading in tobacco, armaments, gambling and pornography. Three of the custodian trustees receive quarterly valuations from the brokers, together with a covering letter commenting on the economic climate, both past and future. Investments are made on an advisory basis and amendments to the holdings are recommended by the brokers from time to time, particularly when takeovers occur.
- r) Organ fund
The church is fortunate in having had voluntary organists/pianist for many years. In recognition of this an annual transfer is made from the general fund to the organ fund to provide for future major repair and improvements to the instrument.

2 Legal status of the charity

Hagley Free Church is governed by a Deed of Trust dated 13 March 1912. It is registered with the Charity Commission, No 251436, and HM Revenue and Customs to enable Gift Aid tax to be recovered.

3 Income from donations and legacies

Donations and legacies of £4,091 (2021 £1,924) may include sums received from Trustees (custodian and committee members), including their spouses. Precise figures cannot be given as not all donations are identifiable.

4 Investment income

This represents dividends and interest from quoted investments and monies held on deposit in banks and building societies.

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	£	Restricted Income Funds	£	Endowment Funds	£	Total 2022	£	Unrestricted Funds	£	Restricted Income Funds	£	Endowment Funds	£	Total 2021
5 Analysis of income and endowments															
Giving by regular worshippers and visitors															
Sunday collections and monthly standing orders - other than below	19,225						19,225		20,544						20,544
In memoriam							-								-
	19,225		-		-		19,225		20,544		-		-		20,544
Other donations, legacies etc	2,050		2,041				4,091		1,077		847				1,924
Use of facilities by church groups	5,304						5,304		1,675		-		-		1,675
Use of facilities by outside groups	8,957						8,957		5,733		-		-		5,733
Other trading activities	1,760						1,760		340						340
Sundry sales	1,760		-		-		1,760		340		-		-		340
Income from investments & bank deposits	16,566				1163		17,729		15,864		-		847		16,711
Other income	6,235						6,235		4,689						4,689
Income tax on Gift Aid	281						281								-
Sundry income	6,516		-		-		6,516		4,689		-		-		4,689
TOTALS	60,378		2,041		1,163		63,582		49,922		847		847		51,616

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

31 DECEMBER 2022

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

6 <u>Analysis of expenditure</u>	Unrestricted Funds	£	Restricted Income Funds	£	Endowment Funds	£	Total 2022	£	Unrestricted Funds	£	Restricted Income Funds	£	Endowment Funds	£	Total 2021
Worship, witness and teaching															
Fees and expenses – minister & visiting preachers	3,550						3,550		7,568						7,568
Advertising	751						751		1,846						1,846
Pastoral work, including flowers	578						578								
	4,879		-		-		4,879		9,414		-		-		9,414
Cultural, social and recreational															
Outings and refreshments	6,208						6,208		2,778						2,778
Social events	1,811						1,811		1,615						1,615
Toys, sports, gifts & prizes etc	574						574		233						233
	8,593		0		0		8,593		4,626		-		-		4,626
Property upkeep															
Insurance, rates and water	2,036						2,036		1,775						1,775
Gas and electricity	5,008						5,008		2,963						2,963
Cleaning	6,147						6,147		5,496						5,496
Repairs and maintenance	14,617				1163		15,780		8,148				847		8,995
	27,808		0		1,163		28,971		18,382		-		847		19,229
Management and Administration															
Admin assistant	10,576						10,576		9,580						9,580
General printing, stationery, postages etc	591						591		391						391
Telephone and broadband	875						875		864						864
Professional fees	9,200						9,200		11,632						11,632
Sundries	1,100						1,100		1,015						1,015
	22,342		-		-		22,342		23,482		-		-		23,482
Donations	11,490		2,041				13,531		8,500		847		-		9,347
TOTALS	75,112		2,041		1,163		78,316		64,404		847		847		66,098

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 DECEMBER 2022

2022 2021
£ £

7 Details of certain items of expenditure

7.1 Trustees expenses

Number of trustees who were paid expenses	1	2
Telephone and broadband	52	172
Mileage	11	139

7.2 With the exception of the two named committee members, no member received any remuneration from the Church.

During the year Mrs. K Johnson received £6,147 (2021: £5,080) for her duties as a cleaner, and Mrs. S Millington the wife of member C. Millington, received £10,576 (2021: £9,580) for her duties as an administrative assistant.

7.3 Fees for the examination of the accounts

Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	3,300	3,120
Other fees - payroll costs and gift aid claim	939	1083

8 Paid Employees

8.1 Staff costs

Gross wages and salaries- admin and cleaning	16,723	14,660
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8.2 Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year

1	1
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9 Freehold land and buildings

At 1 January and 31 December 2022	67,313	67,313
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10 Organ, furnishings and equipment

At 1 January 2022	71,200	71,200
Additions	-	-
At 31 December 2022	71,200	71,200

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 DECEMBER 2022

11 Investments

11.1 In respect of Endowment Funds

	2022 £	2021 £
Quoted at valuation	48,350	69,964
Held by brokers	-187	-187
Balance at Co-operative Bank	57	57
	<u>48,220</u>	<u>69,834</u>

11.2 In respect of Restricted Income Funds

TRUSTEES INVESTMENTS (see note 1(o) on page 8)

Quoted at valuation	116,920	144,317
Held by brokers	13,619	8,659
Balance at Co-operative Bank	24	24
	<u>130,563</u>	<u>153,000</u>

11.3 In respect of General Unrestricted Funds

OTHER INVESTMENTS

Quoted at valuation	267,847	327,709
Held by brokers	-9,847	-3,053
Balance at Co-operative Bank	7,471	7,471
	<u>265,471</u>	<u>332,127</u>

11.4 In respect of General Unrestricted Funds

ORGAN FUND

Quoted at valuation	757	849
Balance at Co-operative Bank	1,120	831
	<u>1,877</u>	<u>1,680</u>

11.5

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total £
At 31 December 2021	333,807	153,000	69,834	556,641
Additions	53,317	3,984	-	57,301
Disposals	-55,147	-16,173	-	-71,320
Investment/Return of capital	-6,506	4,959	-	-1,547
Valuation changes	-58,123	-15,207	-21,614	-94,944
At 31 December 2022	<u>267,348</u>	<u>130,563</u>	<u>48,220</u>	<u>446,131</u>

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 DECEMBER 2022

12 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Income tax recoverable under Gift Aid	3,900	3,500
Payments in advance	2,688	2,091
Sundry debtors	3,448	1,251
	<u>10,036</u>	<u>6,842</u>

13 Cash at bank and in hand

13.1 This is made up as follows:-

HFC current account	-5,517	-2,336
cash in hand	40	14
Sub-Groups Bank & Building Society accounts	19,046	26,910
cash in hand	417	328
	<u>13,986</u>	<u>24,916</u>

13.2 Sub-Group balances relate to:-

Badminton Club	Shoppers Coffee
Mother & Toddlers Group	Sunday School
Hand of Friendship Centre	Tuesday Tea Club

14 Creditors: All due within one year

Trade creditors and accruals	<u>9,541</u>	<u>6,608</u>
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15 Funds of the Charity

15.1 Unrestricted funds are the general funds of the Church which may be used at the discretion of the committee/membership for furthering the mission and ministry of the Church. The money may be designated for particular projects for administration purposes only. Designated funds remain unrestricted and can be redesignated if the committee/membership so decides. A designated organ fund was established many years ago.

	2022 £	2021 £
Organ fund - part of General Fund but designated		
Balance at 1 January	1,680	1,108
Annual transfer from General fund	250	500
Year's dividends/interest	39	73
Change in value of investments	-92	-1
Transfer to General Fund re purchase of new organ	-	-
Balance at 31 December	<u>1,877</u>	<u>1,680</u>

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 DECEMBER 2022

- 15.2** Restricted income funds are those funds which have been restricted by the donor for a particular purpose. These funds cannot be used by the committee for any other purpose except with the agreement of the donor, or as determined by the court or the Charity Commission.
- 15.3** The endowment fund represents a 2003 legacy from the late C. G. Davies. The capital is to be retained in perpetuity, the income arising may be used for the repair, redecoration or adornment of the church or its fabric.

HAGLEY FREE CHURCH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 5 to 14.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) 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 part of an independent examination.

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

N Webb FCA 23 June 2023

Azets - Accountants
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