

Cornton Baptist Church
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 December 2023

Cornton Baptist Church

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Cornton Baptist Church

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the church for the year to 31 December 2023.

Registered office

Achray Drive
Cornton
Stirling
FK9 5DR

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
1 Munro Road
Stirling
FK7 7SY

Solicitors

Kerr & Co
10 Albert Place
Stirling
FK8 2QL

Status of Charity and governing document

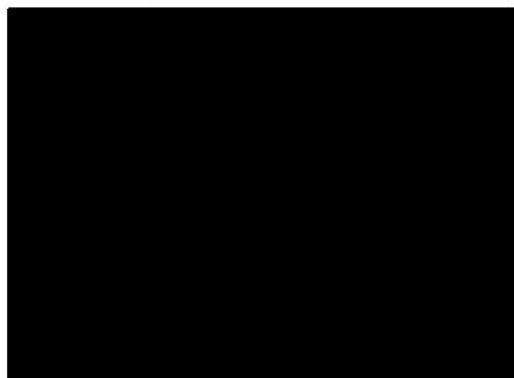
Cornton Baptist Church is established by Constitution and is a registered charity with OSCR (SC019740). A new charity, Cornton Baptist Church SCIO (SC053082) has been set up to replace Cornton Baptist Church, SC019740. The charity intends to wind up and transfer the assets and liabilities to Cornton Baptist Church SCIO on 31 March 2024.

Aims and affiliation

The aims of the church are “the advancement of the Christian faith, primarily in the Cornton area of Stirling and also throughout Scotland and the rest of the world by all means consistent with the teachings of the Christian Bible”. The church is affiliated to the Baptist Union of Scotland.

Trustees and Office Bearers

The church is congregational in policy and its day to day running is undertaken by the Office Bearers (the Trustees). The Office Bearers who served during the year and to date are as follows:



appointed 28 May 2023

These Trustees hold the title deeds to the property noted on page 6.

Appointment of Trustees

New trustees are nominated for appointment by church members and confirmed in that appointment by a meeting of church members. Prior to church meetings, the nominee is interviewed by the Pastor and gives public testimony to their faith. New Trustees would be familiar with the church's values, its aims and objectives as well as its day-to-day operations. As part of their induction programme, new Trustees are required to understand their statutory responsibilities.

Cornton Baptist Church

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

Achievements and performance

During 2023, the church saw some significant changes in its operations. As church membership continues to grow, an Associate Pastor was appointed. In addition, the church is in the process of converting to a SCIO, with all activity and assets transferring to the new SCIO (Cornton Baptist Church SCIO) on 31 March 2024.

Significant highlights, events and developments of note in the year include the following:

In relation to activities:

- The church's livestream equipment continues to be utilised each week allowing us to broadcast our services via the internet thus enabling us to reach not only our own members but also a wider audience. A hybrid model continues to remain in place, with a live broadcast continuing for those unable to attend in person.
- Our prayer meetings take place each week; one prayer meeting is run online and a second in person.
- At the start of 2023, small groups were re-introduced. There are currently 5 small groups meeting each fortnight, with 65 individuals signed-up to attend.
- The ongoing activities of the church, namely Sunday School, young people groups, kids' clubs, and monthly ladies' meetings all continue to operate and meet the needs of the local community. A monthly men's meeting was introduced in the final quarter of the year.
- The needs of the community are always under consideration and various families were supported. The community larder continues to operate from the church and continues to be well used.
- The church continued to support missionaries at home and abroad through the Baptist Missionary Society.
- The church is delighted to provide chaplaincy support at Cornton Primary School and Cornton Nursery. We also participated in the joint chaplaincy arrangement at Stirling University.
- As noted last year, youth and community programmes continue to be, staffed by volunteers rather than a member of church staff.

In relation to funding:

- Giving to the General fund of the church continued to be healthy under the Gift Aid scheme.

Financial review

Principal sources of funding

The church receives its funding from church members by way of regular offerings and gift aid donations.

Results for the year

As a result of an overall surplus for the year of £24,186 (2022: deficit of £3,465), the church held total funds amounting to £123,923 (2022: £99,737) at the year end, split between the general fund of £123,724 (2022: £99,313) and the restricted funds of £199 (2022: £424).

Reserves

It is the policy of the church to maintain unrestricted funds, that is, funds not committed or invested in fixed assets, at a level which equates to approximately three months' unrestricted expenditure. This allows sufficient funds to enable the ongoing work of the church to be maintained. The unrestricted General Fund on page 6 and note 5 at 31 December 2023 amounted to £123,724 (2022: £99,313) and was above the required level.

Donations

The church makes donations from its gift income to individuals and organisations that are generally known to the Trustees and the church. The beneficiaries are involved in activities or ministries compatible with the church's objectives.

Cornton Baptist Church

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

Approved by the Trustees on 2 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Trustee/Treasurer

Cornton Baptist Church

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

I report on the accounts of the congregation for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The Charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 seeks explanations from the 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 the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended), and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended)have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.


Managing Director

Innes & Partners Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants

Innes House
18 Shairps Business Park
Houstoun Road
Livingston
EH54 5FD

Date: 12/6/2024

Cornton Baptist Church

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	General fund £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Receipts					
Gift Aid donations		75,001	1,710	76,711	65,136
Gift Aid reclaimed		16,284	428	16,712	16,756
Offerings and donations		27,806	1,747	29,553	18,966
Hall hire		1,735	-	1,735	-
Bank interest		2,058	-	2,058	281
Other income		-	-	-	207
Refunds		9,850	-	9,850	-
Total receipts		132,734	3,885	136,619	101,346
Payments					
<i>Payments for Charitable activities</i>					
Gross salaries	3	51,038	-	51,038	51,178
Employer NI and Pension	3	4,898	-	4,898	5,366
Pension deficit payments		1,011	-	1,011	2,444
Minister expenses		2,621	-	2,621	1,202
Youth work expenses		741	-	741	2,699
Church maintenance and equipment		14,280	-	14,280	11,126
Heat & Light		4,614	-	4,614	4,990
Manse council tax		3,095	-	3,095	2,923
Insurance		1,680	-	1,680	1,633
Licences		1,018	-	1,018	969
Telephone		408	-	408	362
Welfare		-	153	153	704
Affiliations		2,920	-	2,920	3,035
Gifts and donations	4	12,795	3,885	16,680	10,093
Hall hire		-	-	-	1,753
Professional fees		2,586	-	2,586	418
Independent examination		792	-	792	720
Sundry expenses		3,898	-	3,898	3,196
Total payments		108,395	4,038	112,433	104,811
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		24,339	(153)	24,186	(3,465)
Transfers		72	(72)	-	-
Net increase / (decrease) in cash for the year		24,411	(225)	24,186	(3,465)
Cash balances brought forward		99,313	424	99,737	103,202
Cash balances carried forward		123,724	199	123,923	99,737

Cornton Baptist Church

Statement of Balances

As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	Opening balance £	2023 Surplus for year £	Closing balance £	Opening balance £	2022 (Deficit) for year £	Closing balance £
Bank and cash balances		99,737	24,186	123,923	103,202	(3,465)	99,737
		<u>99,737</u>	<u>24,186</u>	<u>123,923</u>	<u>103,202</u>	<u>(3,465)</u>	<u>99,737</u>
Reserves							
Unrestricted fund:	5						
General				123,724			99,313
Restricted funds:	6						
Fellowship				199			352
Youth Worker				-			42
Coffee morning				-			30
				<u>121,785</u>			<u>99,737</u>

Statement of assets at 31 December 2023

Property and improvements (at cost)	437,000	437,000
Gift aid reclaim due	<u>18,593</u>	<u>16,284</u>

Statement of liabilities at 31 December 2023

Other taxation	989	518
Accrued expenses	870	792
Pension liability	63	-
	<u>1,922</u>	<u>1,310</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 2 Jan 2024 and signed on their behalf by the undernoted:

[Redacted Signature Area]

Trustee

Trustee

The notes on pages 7 and 8 form part of these financial statements.

Cornton Baptist Church

Notes to the accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

Receipts and Payments Account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments Account as shown on page 5, funds are defined as follows:

Unrestricted fund: comprise grants and other income received for the objects of the church without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted funds: comprise income which has been received for the objects of the church and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

2 Transactions with Trustees and reimbursement of expenses

Expenses of £6,214 (2022: £5,799) were reimbursed to 4 (2022: 4) Trustees during the year ending 31 December 2023. Gross salary payments to the Minister (who is also a Trustee) in the year were £35,002 (2022: £32,225) and employer pension payments were £4,069 (2022: £3,863).

3. Staff numbers

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross salaries	51,038	51,178
Employers pension contributions	4,898	5,366
	55,936	56,544

The average number of employees during the year was 2 (2022: 2).

4. Donations and gifts

Total donations and gifts in the year for the support of missionaries and other organisations:

	General fund	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
<i>Institutions:</i>				
Ukraine	1,115	3,885	5,000	-
Tek Ura (st'ip)	2,200	-	2,200	-
BMS	2,180	-	2,180	2,893
Navigators	1,600	-	1,600	2,400
CAP	1,100	-	1,100	1,200
Start Up Stirling	600	-	600	600
Friends International	550	-	550	600
Stirling Street Pastors	550	-	550	300
Mission International	500	-	500	-
Stirling Interfaith	300	-	300	300
Elgin Baptist Church	200	-	200	200
Navigators - Ukraine Appeal	-	-	-	500
Scottish Bible Society	-	-	-	350
Stirling University Christian Union	-	-	-	200
<i>Individuals:</i>				
Donations (2023: 1 individual); (2022: 2 individuals)	1,900	-	1,900	550
	12,795	3,885	16,680	10,093

Cornton Baptist Church

Notes to the accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2023

5. Unrestricted fund	Balance at 01.01.23 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.12.23 £
General fund	99,313	132,734	(108,395)	72	123,724
Total unrestricted fund	99,313	132,734	(108,395)	72	123,724

Explanation of funds

General fund encompasses all income and expenditure relating to the primary focus activities of the charity, other than those for which funding is designated or restricted.

6. Restricted funds	Balance at 01.01.23 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.12.23 £
Youth Worker fund	42	-	-	(42)	-
Fellowship fund	352	-	(153)	-	199
Third party donations	-	3,885	(3,885)	-	-
Coffee morning	30	-	-	(30)	-
Total restricted funds	424	3,885	(4,038)	(72)	199

Explanation of funds

Fellowship fund is used to help those in need in the congregation and local community.

Youth Worker fund has been set up to fund the Youth and Community Worker.

Third party donations fund is used for donations collected for third parties.

Coffee morning fund is used for a weekly community coffee morning, donations from which are distributed to various beneficiaries.