Moordown Baptist Church Trustees report for year ending 31st December 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Charities Commission present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's purposes as set out in the objects in the Charities Constitution are to advance the Christian faith primarily but not exclusively within Bournemouth and the surrounding neighbourhood; and such other charitable purposes as shall, in the opinion of the Trustees or the Church Fellowship in a Church Members' Meeting, further the work of the Charity.

We regularly review our aims, objectives and activities to ensure that we are being the most effective that we can. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities.

Significant activities

Activities and public benefit

The Church provides a welcoming environment for those wanting to know more about the Christian faith and for followers of Jesus Christ. We are a people with real purpose in our lives. We enjoy life because we have been given new life in Jesus Christ and know God in a personal way.

Our aim is to please God and serve him. We try to show God's love and care to those around us in a variety of ways - not least, in trying to introduce them to a relationship with God too. Moordown Baptist Church is not an exclusive club; all are welcome to come.

Services are held twice on a Sunday and efforts are made to ensure that they are 'user friendly' for those with little regular experience of church. For those who show an interest, small group courses are run to provide further teaching.

In addition to Sunday activities, the church has a programme of meetings and events

for the benefit of the community, including but not exclusively
- a Drop in Coffee Morning on a Thursday Morning which has shown an increasing attendance over the year from people not normally associated with the Church.
- a specific ladies Bible Study Group
- a parent and toddler group that meets on a Tuesday morning.
Children and young people are well catered for as well, with toddler groups and crèche facilities through to action packed children and youth programmes on Sundays and Fridays. We aim to provide children entrusted to our care with a healthy balance of physical activities (games, quizzes and craft) and structured Bible teaching (stories, songs, studies and memory verses), providing nurture for body, mind and soul.

There are a number of practical activities undertaken by the church including collecting food for the local Foodbank. With specific collections for the Christmas Hamper appeal. The Church also acted as a conduit for the **Blythswood** Christmas shoebox appeal and donated over 70 personalised Christmas shoeboxes for Children and Adults in deprived areas of Eastern Europe.

~~**In Addition over the year we have had a number of days designated as "Warm Spaces" where the local community have been able to spend time in a warm and inviting atmosphere during the worst of the weather.**~~

We have also installed a Cardiac defibrillator on the approach to the main building and this is registered with the NHS.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Volunteers

Volunteers are involved in most activities of the Church and are a very important resource to us. We encourage all members of the Church to be actively involved in its work and are grateful for their time freely given. Volunteers working with children or vulnerable adults are DBS checked in accordance with our Safeguarding Policy which ~~hs~~ been reviewed and enhanced over the year.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

As reported last year ~~the~~ some of the changes that were introduced following the global pandemic that have proved to be beneficial to the Church have continued to be developed throughout 2025 aimed at meeting the needs of the membership and

wider community have continued to operate and form a vital link to the wider community both locally, nationally and internationally.

All services are now available in real time via YouTube and other social media platforms can be accessed at any time. In addition there has continued to be innovation in making these resource**s** both more professional in appearance and easily accessible with things such as YouTube shorts and Instagram and **Tiktok** posts.
These when taken together have been viewed in excess of 200,000 times in 2025, with an additional 506 Subscribers in 2025. These
figures include Seasonal Messages and personal stories and an introduction to the Church. This is a continued development to that recorded in the 2024 report.
In addition to the above Jimmy Hill now published on YouTube a daily six minute sermon that has been trialled within the Church congregation throughout 2023/24/25 working through each chapter of the Bible. This went on general release on YouTube from 1 January 2024. And has over 110,000 Subscribers and the studies have been viewed in excess of 1M times. It is worthy of note that the duration of each viewing has on average increased by 50%

In person attendance has gradually increased over 2025, especially for the Sunday morning services. In addition there has been a consistent number of members and non-members in attendance for the Tuesday evening prayer and bible study meeting.

Over the year the membership has numerically increased slightly from 126 **to**130 members, throughout the year several people have been Baptised and come into membership and others have come into membership from other Churches etc. Throughout the year there have been a similar number of members transferring their membership to glory or moving to other fellowships due to moving away or other personal reasons. This relatively static membership does not reflect the increase in attendance at Church services especially on a Sunday Morning.

There has continued to be an upgrading of the Church Premises that was commenced towards the end of 2023 with the installation of insulation in the lounge area and hall. This is in line with the long term plans for the church to become carbon neutral by 2030. During 2025 Air Source heat pumps were installed in the Kitchen, Lounge and Hall areas in addition to the existing one in the Crèche area this has had the impact of offsetting the costs of Gas heating to these areas to potentially renewable electricity. The plans to install solar panels into the roof of the Church have been put on hold due to the developing plans to redevelop the areas mentioned above. To this end a consultation with local specialised architects have taken place and provisional work has commenced of drawing up plans to make the premises more appropriate for the needs of today.
In addition the elders have been aware of the needs of our **Safeguarding** Policy and as such have started the development of a small servery area at the rear of the main church building to facilitate the serving of drinks after the morning service. ~~**with the area**~~ The Children's classes ~~**are**~~ held in the lounge are now more ~~**remaining**~~ secure for the Children, with only access to parents and team. ~~**etc**~~

Some of the ~~**Care**~~ **Growth** groups have continued to flourish with the monthly

meeting focusing of developing the theme from the Sunday service and how this can be applied to our lives. Over the year there has been an increased demand for an additional afternoon group and this has been facilitated

The Moordown Men's Groups which commenced in 2023 and has continued enabling the men of the Church to meet in small groups every month to build friendships with each other and deepen their understanding of God. The groups continue to be well attended and enjoyed.

Staffing :
In addition to the volunteers the Church has had two full time member of staff in post for the whole of 2025. In addition, the Church has a part time administrator who has worked two days per week and has focused on updating policy and procedures along side their general duties. This has improved the efficiency of the Church and reduce the administrative burden of the Elders. During 2025 work has commenced on developing the use of “Church Suite” to enable better administration, Communication and efficiency within the Church. A Part time Cleaner was also appointed from within the Church and this has proved very successful with an significant improvement I the environment. In September 2025 the Church appointed two ministry interns on a fixed contracts to work part time and develop their potential leadership skills alongside periods of theology study and practical work. The staff team along with the other Elders work harmoniously together in promoting the objectives of the Church.

Church properties:
Throughout the year there has been ongoing discussion with both the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the FIEC (Fellowship Property Trust) with regards to the deeds of the properties known as:

92 The Avenue, Moordown, (the Main Building)

Comber Road Moordown (Notice Board Plot of land)

66 West Way Moordown (Church Manse)

31 Vicarage Road Moordown (Church Manse)

Whilst this discussion was not fully concluded in 2025 considerable progress has been made and the transfer of the deeds to the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is due to be completed in early January 2026.

There continues to be a small portion of land that was purchased by the church I the 1980’s and placed in a deed of trust. However all the trustees have since passed away and the trust document has been lost. We are working with our solicitors to identify a legal pathway that will secure the trust deeds for this small portion of land. To also pass to the CIO.

In order to achieve the goal of gaining control of the deeds etc the church was unanimous in adopting a new constitution and handbook in 2025 and the status of the Church changed from a limited company to a Charitable Incorporated

Organisation and this was registered with the charity commission in 2025. At the same time the company was closed down and the assets all transferred to the Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

The property at 31 Vicarage Road has had a number of structural issues that the trustees were made aware of and these are to be actively managed in 2025. There is a requirement to significant expenditure on the roof of the property in 2026 and the membership agreed in principal to have a fund raising month in 2026 with a view to undertaking a full loft conversion that will make the property more appropriate to the need of the Pastor and his family.

The Church people carrier has continued to be used to facilitate some individuals getting to Church where there had been no realistic other option. It has also been used by Church members in conjunction with other activities, associated with the life and work of the Church and other associated Christian organisations such as Christian Camps etc.

The premises have also been made available to the community for the holding of local elections and by other organisations for meetings where we have a common cause and goal.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The church remains in a good and stable position financially. Other than the building expenses, the cost of running the church continued to be in line with expectations. The main variable being the cost of Heating and Lighting.
Maintenance figures were lower than expected.
The elders are confident that the church continues to be adequately funded through donations from those who attend.

Principal funding sources

Income is primarily generated by freewill gifts and offerings. Other sales are made as deemed appropriate by the trustees in accordance with the powers given to them by the Trust Deed.

Investment policy and objectives

The Church sometimes needs to react very quickly to particular emergencies and has a policy of keeping any surplus liquid funds in short-term deposits which can be accessed readily.
Surplus funds are held in the CAF Bank gold account.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The Board has examined the Church's requirements for reserves in light of its main risks and commitments. It has determined a policy to hold reserves which are readily accessible and not already committed to specific projects or activities of between 3 and 6 months of expenditure. Budgeted expenditure is approximately £160,000 and therefore the target is £40,000 to £80,000 in general funds. This means that if income drops significantly then the church will be able to continue its activities in the near term.

Free reserves held in bank and cash balances amounted to £108 at 31 December 2025 (2024: £104,159).
The Trustees are aware that the current available funds are outside of the target range but expenditure on the main building and manses in addition to the increase in the staffing from September will reduce effectively reduce the balance to an appropriate level

FUTURE PLANS
The church plans to continue with live streaming services and growing the online ministry. We are also very much looking forward to increasing the scope and range of youth activities and involvement in the community, for example: The ongoing ministry of the Toddlers Group that continues to be over subscribed. The weekly coffee morning has also seen a significant change in those attending with a large increase in attendees that initially have no other connection with the Church.
- the buildings were again scheduled for use as a polling station for the elections earlier in the year and any forthcoming elections.
The Church has also had a defibrillator installed outside the main entrance which is available for use by the public in emergencies.

In addition to the above the Church has been in consultation with a firm of architects to redevelop the original Church and Lounge area to be more appropriate to the needs of the 21st Century. The development if it proceeds with ensure a designated youth area and establish easier access to all areas for people with mobility issues. We hope to be able to repost of progress in the 2026 report.

The strategy of the church is under regular review to ensure that the aims and objectives of the church are being met and new initiatives and events will be developed to keep our vision fresh.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Governing document
The organisation was a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum of Association dated 12 December 2013. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £10. Over the past year the company was disbanded and a Charitable incorporated organisation was established and registered with the Charity commission.

Organisational structure
The directors of the disbanded company were also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. They consist of the Elders of Moordown Baptist Church (the Church) and other church members as considered appropriate by the Elders and the Church. Elders are appointed by the Church. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association a third of the directors retire by rotation each year.
The Memorandum and Articles of Association allow Trustees to be employed by the church or have a business relationship provided that:
This requirement has remained in situ under the new constitution and rules adopted earlier during the year
- The remuneration or other sums paid to the trustee does not exceed an amount

that is reasonable
- The trustee is absent from the part of any meeting at which their salary, performance in employment or benefits are discussed
- A majority of the trustees in office have no such benefits

A trustee cannot receive remuneration for acting as a trustee.
As trustees of a charity, the directors/Elders are given training on appointment and ongoing support and training as required.
During 2024 a comprehensive review of the Safeguarding Policy has been completed and implemented with the guidance of a organisation with specialist knowledge. This has continued throughout 2025, All youth and Children's volunteers are subject to routine DBS checks and ongoing training programme is in place.
The appointment of the administrator in 2024 enabled the trustees to have the capacity to start to update the risk register and ensure health and safety policies are appropriate to the current situation. The policies and procedures required have been priorities in line with legislation and good practice guidelines.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The Elders actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining our free reserves at the levels stated above, combined with our annual review of the controls over key financial activities, appropriately manage the key financial risks.
The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the church and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.
The most significant risk is the church's reliance on the continued financial support from the committed members of the Church. Church members are regularly informed of the financial position compared to budget and have always responded well to any financial needs.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
Registered Company number
08813067 (England and Wales) Note Deregistered in 2025 on the setting up and approval of the CIO
Registered Charity number
1156083
Registered office
92 The Avenue
Moordown
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH9 2UU
Trustees
W E Rowley (appointed 11/7/2024)
S J Fisher (Retired July 2025)
N Manning
R L Heal
S Coombes (Appointed September 2025)
J W Hill

J G Pearse
Independent Examiner
J M Palin
Chapelgate
Chittlehamholt
Umberleigh
Devon
EX37 9NS

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006
relating to small companies.
Approved by order of the board of trustees on .....
and signed on its behalf by:

.....
R L Heal - Trustee

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Moordown Baptist Church	1156083

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/01/2025	To	31/12/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Offerings	176,303	-	-	176,303	161,510
Missionary donations	-	4,679	-	4,679	6,886
Bank interest	2,220	-	-	2,220	2,872
Misc	96	-	-	96	378
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	178,619	4,679	-	183,298	171,646
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	178,619	4,679	-	183,298	171,646
A3 Payments					
Salaries (incl pensions)	97,486	-	-	97,486	78,349
Utilities - main church	8,371	-	-	8,371	16,801
Repairs and maintenance	3,856	-	-	3,856	4,435
Missionaries	14,725	3,175	-	17,900	25,050
Pastoral costs	4,518			4,518	3,740
Refreshments	1,662			1,662	1,359
FIEC membership	4,572			4,572	4,680
Cleaning	2,659			2,659	5,660
Manses - maintenance and utilities	14,176	-	-	14,176	6,427
Insurance	4,665	-	-	4,665	4,075
Minibus	2,136	-	-	2,136	2,044
Legal and professional	10,235			10,235	7,487
Administration	6,333	727		7,060	5,130
				-	2,652
				-	-
				-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	175,394	3,902	-	179,296	167,889
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
Heaters	6,422	-	-	6,422	
Fixturs and fittings	-	-	-	-	2,270
Sub total	6,422	-	-	6,422	2,270
Total payments	181,816	3,902	-	185,718	170,159
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,197	777	-	- 2,420	1,487
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	105,976	2,602	-	108,578	107,091
Cash funds this year end	102,779	3,379	-	106,158	108,578

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

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	CAF Bank	102,579	3,379	-
	Cash	200	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	102,779	3,379	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
92 The Avenue, Bournemouth	Unrestricted	-	-
66 West Way, Bournemouth	Unrestricted	-	-
31 Vicarage Road, Bournemouth	Unrestricted	-	-
Land at corner Comber Road, Bournemouth	Unrestricted	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Moordown Baptist Church

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Moordown Baptist Church (the CIO) for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

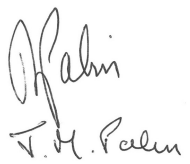
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(B) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I can 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 CIO as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or

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.



Name: J M Palin
Address: 29 Raleigh Park, South Molton, Devon EX36 4DR
Date: 21 August 2026