NEW RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

Charity Number: 1161039

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER 2025

New River Baptist Church
Legal and Administration

Current Trustees:	D Watson	Chair until 31 Mar 26	Treasurer from 01 Apr 26
	R Plummer	Chair from 01 Apr 26	
	S Hulcoop		
	G Edward Senior	Treasurer until 31 Mar 26	resigned on 31 Mar 26
	L Restrepo		appointed 7 Jun 26
	J Evans		appointed 7 Jun 26
	E C Plummer		appointed 7 Jun 26

Governing document: Constitution of an unincorporated association dated 10 Jul 2011 as amended 23 Oct 2014

Principal Address:
New River Baptist Church
80 Arran Walk
Islington
London N1 2TL

Independent Examiner:
Accounting Without Borders
St Mary's Court
The Broadway
Amersham HP7 0UT
United Kingdom

Bankers:
The Co-operative Bank
P O Box 250
Delf House
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

New River Baptist Church
Trustees Report
For the year ended 31st December 2025

The trustees present their report and 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). The trustees are satisfied with the performance of the charity during the year and consider that the charity is able to continue its activities in the coming year. Free reserves are below the level set by the reserves policy, as explained in the Financial review.

The charity is entered on the Register of Charities with the Registered Charity Number 1161039 and is governed by a constitution. The Charity's Purpose is defined as follows:

The principle 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.

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers

This is set out on page 2.

Structure, governance and management
The Charity is governed by its trustees, who meet regularly to manage its affairs. The trustees are subject to the directions of, and are appointed by vote by, the Church Members Meeting in relation to decisions concerning church property, the appointment and removal of a Minister or other member of staff, the administration of the membership list, and the closure of the Church and any other decision with a direct financial impact of greater than £3,000 or which might otherwise have a major impact on the operation of the charity. The charity employed the Minister during the year ended 31 December 2025, together with two part-time staff who were engaged in charitable activities, finance and day to day administration. Day to day management is delegated to the church eldership which makes the day to day decisions.

Governing Document
The organisation is an Unincorporated Association, constituted on 10 July 2011 and restated on 23 October 2014. The charity is governed in accordance with the terms of the Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees
The trustees are appointed for an initial three-year term with the opportunity to be nominated for reappointment at the end of each three- year term. The Church Members' Meeting appoints Charity Trustees, via vote, in accordance with the articles of the Constitution.

On 7 June 2026 the Church Members' Meeting approved a change to the leadership structure so that the church elders, Cecilia Plummer, Jane Evans and Luis Restrepo, became charity trustees. This increased the number of trustees from three to six.
Current Trustees at the time of signing:
Robin Plummer, Sarah Hulcoop, Daniel Watson, Luis Restrepo, Jane Evans and Cecilia Plummer

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees have:
• selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
• made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
• stated whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
• prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper 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 Charity SORP. 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.

Induction and training
New trustees are briefed on their duties and given a copy of the Constitution and the Charity Commission's guidance for trustees.

New River Baptist Church
Trustees Report
For the year ended 31st December 2025

Pay of key management personnel
The trustees and elders are the key management personnel. Pay for the Minister (a trustee) and for the other employed church leader (also a trustee) is set with reference to Baptist Union guidance. The Minister's remuneration is authorised by clause 23 of the Constitution. Clause 20.2 permits the employment of a trustee, or of a person connected to a trustee, only with the approval of the Church Members' Meeting and a minuted decision by the trustees who do not benefit. Cecilia Plummer, the wife of the Minister, has been employed by the church and became a trustee on 7 June 2026. The Church Members' Meeting approved her employment and the trustees who do not benefit recorded their decision in the minutes.

Investment performance
The Constitution permits the trustees to hold investments using the general funds of the charity. The charity holds £9,000 of unsecured loan stock in Green Pastures, which uses the proceeds to buy properties to house homeless people. The trustees regard this as a social investment. Surplus cash is held on deposit with the bank. The trustees review the investment annually.

Risk Management
The Trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Where appropriate, systems or procedures are being established to mitigate the risks the charity faces, including insurance arrangements. The trustees do not envisage any significant external risks to funding which will not be met by church member donations. Internal control risks are being minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are being put in place to ensure the compliance with health and safety of staff, church members, volunteers, and visitors.

Objectives and activities:
The main purpose of the charity is the promotion and advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination. The charity's secondary purposes are the advancement of education and the carrying out of other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world. The charity expresses these purposes through the activity of the church, whose objec-tives include evangelism; pastoral care and community building; and worship and instruction in the Christian faith. The church is involved in a number of community projects, including: the provision of free English Classes; the running of a local football club; providing care and opportunities for children and young families; and undertaking events and outreach within the local community and particularly the residents of two nearby housing estates. Moreover, our venue and our church members help to host a weekly community meal that is organised by the charity Foodcycle and we continue to facili-tate events for Over 55s through the work of Arsenal Futures. Much of this activity takes place with-in our venue in Canonbury called The Bridge, a multi-use space that provides a worship space, an industrial kitchen, a dining area and on the first floor further mixed-use rooms, accommodation for church workers and an office. The church also supports international mission work in diverse areas of the world. There are currently up to 40 adults and 20 children and teens attending the Sunday morn-ing services. Our Sunday talks are also recorded and made available for viewing on YouTube.

Reasons to be thankful:
2025 has been a mixed year of, on the one hand, thoughtful, honest and sometimes painful reflection concerning our church's calling and approach to ministry, and on the other hand, the pleasure of spending time together in worship and community, welcoming newcomers, enabling enquirers to pursue and grow in faith, witnessing a growth in numbers across the generations and observing new initiatives starting to take shape. Further mixed emotions were experienced by our church family as we sent out two of our cherished members to plant a new church in NW London. As is so often the case in Islington, the pain of saying farewell to some is frequently accompanied by the pleasure of welcoming others and in 2025 this included the pleasure of welcoming back some old friends into fellowship.

The year started with time spent in prayer and seeking God for direction. Out of this time, the joint leaders of elders and trustees discerned four priorities for the year ahead which were discussed and worked on with the church partners:

1. Developing our capacity to serve;

2. Developing The Bridge as a 3rd Space;

3. Making more connections with Kids and Families;

4. Observing shoots - paying attention to what God is doing and nurturing it.

The first point drew from the conviction that our church is creating some great opportunities but posed the question of whether we are able to make the most of these opportunities? The second point related to our plans to apply for London Baptist Mission Project Funding. The project would seek to create the best possible opportunities for younger generations through the use of our church venue as a space for connection, for leisure and for personal and spiritual development. We

were excited to receive notification near the year's end that we had been approved for this funding for three years, commencing in January 2026. The third focus point continued to acknowledge our awareness that a sizeable group of children in our church have now become teenagers. This forced us to consider not only how we undertake the best possible work with our teenagers, but also how new discipleship connections with particularly Primary and pre-School children and their families might become possible. We have a history of running family friendly events and activities - what have we learnt and how might this work best in the next season. The final focus point was open ended but sought to be flexible in working back from the life we are observing towards the structures and activity needed to support it. It was reflected in many ways, including the following: craft work to build community and support orphans in Myanmar, a new connection with an Ethiopian church called Emmanuel who have started to rent space at The Bridge on Sundays, a fourth home group seeking to integrate and disciple new parents and teenagers, a strengthened English Class team intentionally befriending a smaller group of guests, new possibilities emerging at Foodcycle meals on Wednesdays, young adults starting to meet up to worship together on Friday evenings, Dover Soul as a family activities week in the summer.

Our church continues to value God's call to be a family together, drawn from diverse backgrounds but united in the Spirit of Jesus. We experience the frustrations and elations of family life together, yet it is in this context, this soil, that people grow as disciples of Jesus. It is our hope and intention that by the grace of Jesus, and by the in-dwelling of His Spirit in us, we shall learn how to do this better and better. We all want to make our contribution to what God is doing in North London and we look forward to what lies ahead for New River Baptist Church in 2026 and beyond.

What did we manage to do together in 2025?

Hebrews 10:24 'And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds'

The following list is compiled under the headings of our discipleship values: worship (love for God); community (love for one another) and mission (love for the world around us). We also include a further heading of resources used by us in pursuit of these values:

Worship

- We commenced the year with a week of prayer and worship in January
- We hosted a regular weekly Worship Service at 11am on Sundays - providing a space to grow together in worship and fellowship in person. The service included provision of a crèche, kids church, and Rooted teens activities to foster worship, Bible teaching, community and discipleship among the young.
- We held at least two worship evenings and we were pleased to see more teenagers and young adults growing as both worship team members and as AV team assistants. Training for these young worship leaders was supported by a refinery session with Luke Fellingham.
- Our teaching series in 2025 set out a challenge for our church membership to read through the gospels and Acts in one year: we ran a series called 'Living Word' which provided an overview of the Bible through Jesus tinted glasses; 'Next Steps' a series drawn from our church's focus for the year; 'Living God' a look at the Trinity, prayer and discipleship in Luke and Acts; 'Koinonia: Church as Family' from Acts; 'The Acts of the Holy Spirit' and an advent series called 'Small Wonder' where we partnered with material from LICC.
- 'Digging Deeper' zooms and in person discussions were offered for those wanting to undertake Bible study together
- 4 Home Groups met regularly either in person or on Zoom to help one another to follow Jesus. Some of these groups chose to continue the focus they had started to pursue in the autumn of 2024.
- Our church was represented by Robin in Islington church leaders meetings for prayer and mutual support and in the London Baptists Central District where Robin continued to provide a support role as a District Minister.
- As partners, we began to consider how we might define our church's approach to sexual ethics although this process was paused in order to provide further time for reflection
- Our AV team continued to preside over audio and visual content on Sundays. They have continued to welcome and train up new team members to the team, particularly teenagers, and they have uploaded our weekly message onto our YouTube channel. They are to be commended for the way that they have sought to navigate an upgrade in equipment, not an easy task, learning a new system and tackling teething issues with this
- Our Easter worship again incorporated a joint Good Friday service at Cross St, it also included a film showing of the Gospel of John and an Easter Sunday service with a bring & share lunch
- Our Christmas program again included a church choir, but also a Christmas Café; an all age carol service and a Christmas Day service and shared meal with games

- Corporate prayer was facilitated through a combination of weekday prayers, prayer texts during the prayer week, Sunday 10am prayers, prayers during Sunday services and home groups

Community

- A series of social events were scheduled by the Pastoral Care Team to foster connection and to provide a space for church members to be together. These events included a karaoke and various men's and women's events.
- We prayed, supported and congratulated those children and parents who took their exams in 2025 and all those who started new schools and colleges.
- Our youth ministries continued to develop. The Rooted group met every other week on Sundays. The teens also contributed greatly to the delivery of 2025's Dover Soul Family Activities Week. It has been wonderful to see them not only receive but also grow and give out at NRBC. A number of the teens went away for the weekend to Wales in May.
- Kids Church and Crèche continued to provide opportunities for primary and pre-school children and we give thanks to God for this and for the volunteers for these groups who often have to remain flexible concerning the range of ages and the numbers attending
- The Pastoral Care group continued to meet through the year helping the church and the eldership in the provision of care and connection for our church members. The PCG helped to organise a series of social activities to deepen community connection and helped the elders in keeping an eye out for the wellbeing of our church members
- The Bless U Fund continued to make it possible for the church membership to provide financial support to empower other church members in times of need.
- We celebrated the births of Maria Irene and Sienna
- We celebrated Felicia's 60th birthday!
- We observed weekly the beauty of a church family hanging around to catch up, laugh and care for each other over tea and coffee after our 11am services, over lunch at the cafe or a bring & share meal at The Bridge

Mission

- We were able to continue to offer free English Classes weekly on Saturday mornings from 10.30am-12pm at The Bridge. Further team members were added to the group. The team has capacity to welcome and connect with a larger number of students than those attending. However, a good level of relationship has developed with the guests and this has created opportunities for connection with church and faith for some.
- The Bridge Football Club met weekly on Sundays from 3.30-5pm at William Tyndale school pitch. and with an earlier start time of 3.30pm for a 4-5pm game weekly on Sundays. A short gospel message is delivered at the start and the group of children, teens and adults has included four or five teens from outside of NRBC
- A Pancake Party was held in February and proved popular, connecting families with the message of Lent in preparation for Easter
- We organised two Sunday service talks and two optional Sunday afternoon seminars aimed at helping church members to share their faith, with Matt Frost from City Gates Church and Martin from K180 attending. We also learnt from Dan Dupris and the team from Tek Ura as they shared how they approach sharing faith through the use of similar community/church spaces to The Bridge in Albania.
- A small outreach was undertaken at Halloween and was warmly received by families in the area. This indicated an appetite for future open air outreach activity in 2026.
- Robin continued to be on the advisory team for REACH: London and The Bridge was offered as a venue for a Relational Theology day in February. Robin continued to work to support missions throughout the LBA as a member of the London Baptists Missions Committee.
- We supported a local charity, Foodcycle, in the delivery of a weekly community lunch at The Bridge on Wednesdays. Attendance at this event continued to grow, with up to 70 people taking the opportunity for free meals and community connection. A team of about half a dozen NRBC members attend the meals and this has resulted in a number of cross-over opportunities for connection with church run events by Foodcycle guests.
- Our church missions tithe supported various internal and overseas mission projects. These included: Home Mission, Christians Against Poverty, Third Space Ministries, Tek Ura in Albania, iNet Missions, Noemi in Uganda, Orphan's Hope in Myanmar; Islington Green Carols; Colindale church plant; an orphan called Milo in Indonesia.
- We supported Noemi as she went as a missionary to Uganda

- Dover Soul family activities week ran for a longer period of four afternoons in July around a café space at The Bridge and with a theme of 'Building Together'. Its aims were to develop connections with parents and children and with the assistance and development of teenage church helpers alongside the adult team that included a team from YWAM. The week provided connections with some new children and parents, as well as deepening connections for parents with children from NRBC. The project also provided a reconnect space through a picnic in September, although it was found that the gap over the summer limited the uptake for this event.
- The Bridge as a venue continued to host a weekly Over 55s bowls group run by Arsenal Futures, but the Art Group run by the Dorcas Project ceased to operate.

  * George and Isabella Senior advised the partners of their plan to plant a new church in Colindale from the start of 2026. The partners expressed their excitement for them and wished to support with the project as most helpful

Resources

- We continued to work on our safeguarding procedures and with leaders and those working with children receiving appropriate training. We have also ascertained the levels of First Aid trained members.
- Our finances held up well through the year and we finished with a small surplus before including depreciation for the year. This was in part due to church giving remaining strong and hire income exceeding budgets. We give thanks to God for this and we also recognise all those church members who give faithfully to enable our church to pursue its aims of making disciples.
- We continued to host our intern called Isaac at The Bridge. Isaac has helped to serve in a wide variety of ways, including with young adults, teens, AV, social media, English Classes. He completed his London Baptist internship training and he also undertook some media work for the LBA
- The leadership teams of trustees and elders met throughout the year. During 2025 the team of trustees comprised: Dan Watson (Chair); George Senior (Treasurer resigned 31 Mar 2026); Sarah Hulcoop and Robin Plummer. The team of elders comprised: Luis Restrepo; Jane Evans; Robin Plummer; Cecilia Plummer.
- Felicia continued to serve the church as our part-time administrator, a role that included finance processing. We were able to operate with more up to date reporting as the year progressed.
- Works were undertaken to keep The Bridge venue fit for purpose. The cafe area received a new kitchen island, AV equipment was ordered to utilise the new sound system introduced by Emmanuel Church. A Building committee meeting was held in June to oversee buildings matters inc. health and safety. Two Bridge Work Days were held with church members and members of the English Class joining together to clean and undertake work on the building.
- 4 Partners Meetings took place in person at The Bridge. The number of partners in Dec 2025 was 27.
- Work commenced on renewing the NRBC website
- LBA Mission Partnership Funding was applied for worth £14,300 per annum over 3 years. We were successful and this funding will commence from January 2026. Recruitment processes commenced in relation to the staffing for this project.
- Cecilia, Sue and Sarah served the church in a safeguarding capacity and we are grateful for their efforts and for the work they do to help us to be a responsible space for all concerned
- External support for NRBC in various areas was gratefully received from the London Baptists and Baptists Together, from the Evangelical Alliance; from iNet and from other local churches.
- Robin and Cecilia both attended the Baptist Assembly to receive their handshake from the BU Secretary as nationally recognised pastors
- Robin and Cecilia brought a co-pastoring proposal to the partners. It was put to a vote on 11 October 2026 and did not reach the two-thirds majority required.
- We continued to work towards our Reserves Policy. Free reserves rose from £4,760 to £14,057 but remain below target (see Financial review).
- Paulette retired from her cleaning work for The Bridge and the partners expressed their gratitude. A new cleaner was appointed.

Plans for the Future

The excitement of seeing new shoots start to spring up in 2025 provides an air of anticipation for 2026. The challenges we faced and the changes we experienced in 2025 mean that we also need to pay attention to the relational glue of our love for one another and to an ongoing commitment to prayer in order to journey well in 2026. The potential for NRBC to create

wonderful missional and discipleship opportunities across the ages out of a 3rd space venue in The Bridge is tangible and we shall endeavour to work hard and pray hard in order to partner with God for this vision to be realised. We are under no pretence: such aspirations are only moved toward one step at a time and one person at a time, and hopefully, in step with our Lord. Our desire remains for the wonderful life that we share together in Jesus to also be shared with our neighbours, community and world. We entrust ourselves and these dreams to our Heavenly Father and His Kingdom as partners together for the gospel.

Our covenant prayer as partners of New River Baptist Church continues to be the following:

We thank you God for your commitment to us in Jesus and sealed by the Holy Spirit.
We have not deserved this commitment from you but we are grateful for your grace and for the life made available to us by your sacrifice.
We willingly and joyfully commit ourselves to you and welcome Christ as the head of our church, the true King of Kings of heaven and earth.
You place us as sons and daughters in your family and we commit ourselves to our fellow church partners in relationship, in care and to spur one another on as followers of Jesus.
Help us to partner together with you and with each other for the gospel.
Give us wisdom to use our time, money and resources wisely.
May we grow together this year in love for you, in love for one another and in love for the world you have created.
May the seed that you have sown in us grow to become a beautiful fruit bearing tree planted beside the waters.
For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever, Amen
An aspirational quotation from 1 Peter 2:4,5:

1Pet. 2:4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— [5] you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

May Jesus receive all the glory!

Financial review
During the year the charity received incoming resources of £125,769 and had outgoing resources of £147,075 (including Depreciation charge for the year £34,080) leaving total funds carried forward of £1,237,962.

Reserves Policy
The trustees have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. They have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be approximately £63,000. At the end of the financial year total general reserves were £14,057.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others
The members of New River Baptist Church give to specific projects, individuals or charities via earmarked gifts received during church services. These funds are banked by the charity and passed on to the specified project or charity. During the year 2025, £846 was received in this way and £906 was paid out during the year. The remaining balance of £411 will be paid out in the year 2026.

Public Benefit
The charity's commitment to promote the Christian faith creates an opportunity for all to hear the gospel, and respond to it. Historically there is much testimony as to the benefit of faith and the lifestyle that goes with it, as it produces those who are willing to love, serve and care for those who may have less opportunities than themselves. This is evidenced in the charity's commitment to work with the elderly, with young children and parents, with those who have English as a second language and those living locally in social housing. Our members are involved in a variety of work that gives rise to public benefit too numerous to mention, and the work of the church is to support them to persevere in it. As it says in Hebrews 10:24 "spur one another on to love and good deeds". The trustees have complied with their duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

Independent Examiner
Accounting Without Borders were appointed as the charity's independent examiners during the year.
This report has been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), second edition (effective 1 January 2019), and the Charities Act 2011.

This report was approved by the Trustees on Oct 24 2026

Robin Plummer

Robin Plummer
Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of New River Baptist Church

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 seeking explanations from you as 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 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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and with the methods and principles of the 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)

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.

Manish Panjabi

Manish Panjabi
St Mary's Court
The Broadway
Amersham HP7 0UT
United Kingdom

Oct 25 2026

New River Baptist Church
Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31st December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies					
Donations and collections at service		99,806	5,963	**105,769**	99,763
Other trading activities	5	17,576		**17,576**	11,906
Investment income	6	2,424		**2,424**	4,215
Income from charitable activities				**-**	-
Total income and endowments		119,806	5,963	**125,769**	115,884
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		1,140		**1,140**	916
Charitable activities	7	143,076	2,860	**145,936**	135,652
Total expenditure		144,215	2,860	**147,075**	136,567
Net Income/ (Expenditure) before gains and losses on investments		(24,409)	3,103	**(21,306)**	(20,683)
Net gains/(losses) on investments			-	-	-
Net Income/ (Expenditure) for the year		(24,409)	3,103	(21,306)	(20,683)
Transfers between funds		(374)	374	-	-
Net movement in funds		(24,783)	3,477	(21,306)	(20,683)
Reconciliation of Funds					
Fund balances brought forward at 1st January		1,254,504	4,764	**1,259,268**	1,279,951
Fund balances carried forward at 31st December		1,229,721	8,241	**1,237,962**	1,259,268

All transactions are derived from continuing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

New River Baptist Church
Statement of Financial Activities
(including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies				
Donations and collections at service		98,763	1,000	**99,763**
Other trading activities	5	11,906		**11,906**
Investment income	6	4,215		**4,215**
Income from charitable activities				**-**
Total income and endowments		114,884	1,000	**115,884**
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds		916		**916**
Charitable activities	7	132,731	2,921	**135,652**
Total expenditure		133,646	2,921	**136,567**
Net Income/ (Expenditure) before gains and losses on investments		(18,762)	(1,921)	**(20,683)**
Net gains/(losses) on investments			-	-
Net Income/ (Expenditure) for the year		(18,762)	(1,921)	(20,683)
Transfers between funds		(36)	36	-
Net movement in funds		(18,798)	(1,885)	(20,683)
Reconciliation of Funds				
Fund balances brought forward at 1st January		1,273,302	6,649	**1,279,951**
Fund balances carried forward at 31st December		1,254,504	4,764	**1,259,268**

All transactions are derived from continuing activities.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

New River Baptist Church
Balance Sheet at 31st December 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	8		1,215,664		1,249,744
Investments			9,000		9,000
Current Assets					
Debtors and prepayments	9	2,256		1,678	
Cash at bank and in hand		76,233		69,635	
		78,489		71,313	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	(4,320)		(7,918)	
Net Current Assets			74,169		63,395
Creditors: Amounts falling due in more than one year	11		(60,871)		(62,871)
Provisions for liabilities			-		-
Net Assets			1,237,962		1,259,268
Funds					
Restricted funds	12		8,241		4,764
Unrestricted Funds	13				
Designated Funds		1,215,664		1,249,744	
General Reserves		14,057	1,229,721	4,760	1,254,504
			1,237,962		1,259,268

Approved by the trustees on Oct 24 2026 and signed on their behalf by:-

Robin Plummer
Trustee

Daniel Watson
Trustee

New River Baptist Church
Statement of Cash Flow
for the year ended 31st December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income per Statement of Financial Activities	(21,306)	(20,683)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	34,080	33,907
Other gains/losses	-	-
Increase /Decrease in trade and other receivables	(578)	198
Increase / Decrease in trade and other payables	(5,598)	(3,954)
Net cash used in operating activities	6,598	9,467
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	-	(1,723)
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	-	-
Net cash from investing activities	-	(1,723)
Net cash from financing activities		
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	6,598	7,744
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	69,635	61,890
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	76,233	69,635
Components of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and bank balances	76,233	69,635
	76,233	69,635

New River Baptist Church
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31st December 2025

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), second edition (effective 1 January 2019), FRS 102, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The charity is a public benefit entity. The accounts are presented in pounds sterling, rounded to the nearest pound

Going Concern

The charitable activities are entirely dependent on continuing grant aid and voluntary donations as well as trading revenues. As a consequence, the going concern basis is dependent on the future flow of these uncertain funding streams. Accordingly, the Trustees have obtained forecasts and, after reviewing the financial forecasts for future periods to 31 December 2026, the Trustees are satisfied that, at the time of approving the financial statements, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Other than these matters, the Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainites about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds comprise accumulated surpluses and deficits on general funds. They are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general charitable objectives.

Designated funds are amounts which the Trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside for use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the charity for specific purpose. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged against the specific fund.

Where restricted expenditure exceeds the restricted income received for a purpose, the shortfall is met from unrestricted funds by a transfer between funds. Funds held as custodian for others, where the charity has no discretion over their use, are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities and disclosed in note 17.

Incoming recognition

Income represents the total income receivable during the year comprising grants, donations and gifts, merchandise and publications, and investment income. Income, whether from exchange or non exchange transactions, is recognised in the statement of financial activities (SOFA) on a receivable basis, when a transaction or other event results in an increase in the charity's assets or a reduction in its liabilities and only when the charity has legal entitlement, the income is probable and can be measured reliably.

Income subject to terms and conditions which must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources is not recognised until the conditions have been met.

Donations, grants and gifts are recognised when receivable. In the event that a donation is subject to fulfilling performance conditions before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until it is probably that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Donated goods that are not fixed assets are accounted for at a fair value, unless it is impractical to reliably measure the value of the donated items.
In the absence of any direct evidence of fair value of donated goods, then a value is derived from the cost of the item to the donor or, in the case of goods that are expected to be sold, the estimated resale value after deducting any anticipated costs of sales.
If it is impracticable to measure the fair value of goods donated for resale, or the costs of valuation outweigh the benefits, the donated goods are recognised as income when sold, with an equivalent amount being recognised as an expense.
The costs of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those goods upon receipt. When the goods are distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is adjusted at the time of sale, to the value at the point of distribution and the adjustment is shown as a cost of donations made.
The carrying amount of any stock held for distribution is assessed for impairment at the reporting date. All donated goods are recognised as donation income, and debited to trading stock.When trading stock is subsequently sold, or appropriated to meet an expense, then the carrying value of the stock is recognised as an expense. In accordance with the SORP, goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries, or for consumption by the charity are included in 'legacies and donations'. Goods donated for resale are included in 'Income from other trading activities'
The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt. If the goods held are to be distributed freely or for a nominal consideration, then the carrying amount is subsequently adjusted to reflect the lower of deemed cost adjusted for any loss of service potential and replacement cost. Replacement cost is the economic cost incurred if the charity was to replace the service potential of the donated goods at its own expense in the most economic manner.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probably that a settlement is required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Costs of raising funds comprise the fundraising costs and publicity activities incurred seeking donations and grants for the charity and their associated support costs.
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activity. It includes donations made to organisations and costs incurred in the operation of projects and programmes together with their associated support costs.
Support costs comprise those costs which are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include governance, premises, marketing and general office costs. Governance costs are those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Investments
The loan stock is held at cost less any impairment, and interest is recognised when receivable.

Employee benefits
Short-term employee benefits are recognised in the period the service is provided.

Tax
As a registered charity, the charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities. Irrecoverable VAT is included in expenditure.

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised.
Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives using the following rates:

Land	Not Depreciated
Freehold and long lease hold building	over 50 years
Office equipment & fittings	20% per annum straight line

Leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

Pension Costs
The charity currently makes payments to personal pension plans of certain employees. The costs are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities for the period to which they relate.
The Church is also an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The Scheme is a separate legal entity and the assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers

Consequent upon the departure of the Minister from the Church in 2011, the Church had a cessation event under Section 75 of the Pensions Act 1995. This makes the Church liable for the proportion of the overall deficit (assessed by reference to the cost of securing benefits by the purchase of annuities) applicable to its previous Ministers who were members of the Scheme. In 2019 the Church entered into a "Deferred Debt Arrangement". Under this arrangement the Church is no longer liable for this debt, but the Church continues to pay the ongoing deficiency contributions as outlined above. There are limited circumstances under the Deferred Debt Arrangement where the Church would become responsible for a debt equal to its share of the current BPS deficit (assessed by reference to the up to date cost of securing benefits by the purchase of annuities)

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits with a maturity date of three months or less.

Debtors and creditors
Debtors and creditors receivable or payable within one year of the reporting date are carried at their transaction price. Debtors and creditors that are receivable or payable in more than one year and not subject to a market rate of interest are measured at the represent value of the expected future receipts or payment discounted as a market rate of interest.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement
In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements.
In the view of the trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

2 Net Movement in Funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	34,080	33,907
Independent Examiner's fees	1,296	1,080
Other accounting work	300	600

3 Employees and Staff Costs

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
In aggregate the number of full and part time persons employed during the year was:		
Staff members - Operations	3	3

Staff costs were as follows:	£	£
Salaries and wages	53,978	51,998
National insurance	-	-
Pension scheme	2,110	1,596
	56,088	53,594

No employee received in excess of £60,000 during the year (2024-£nil).

The key management personnel are the trustees.

4 Trustees Remuneration and Reimbursed Expenses

Robin Plummer, a trustee, is employed as Minister and was paid £30,544 (2024: £29,544) plus employer pension contributions of £2,110. His remuneration is authorised by clause 23 of the Constitution. Cecilia Plummer, his wife, was employed by the charity throughout 2025 and was paid £14,791 as a person connected to a trustee. She became a trustee on 7 June 2026 and her employment is authorised by clause 20.2 of the Constitution following approval by the Church Members' Meeting. No other trustee received remuneration or reimbursed expenses (2024: nil).

5 Other trading income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Rental Income	17,576	11,906
	17,576	11,906

6 Investment income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank Interest received	2,424	4,215
	2,424	4,215

7 Analysis of charitable activities

	Direct costs	Governance costs	Support costs	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Mission / Social Action	58,034	932	24,536	83,502	55,029
Pastoral	4,467	932	21,229	26,627	36,958
Public Worship / Teaching	10,360	932	24,514	35,806	43,665
	72,861	2,796	70,279	145,936	135,652

8 Tangible Assets

	Freehold Building	Office Equipment and Fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1st January 2025	1,686,749	16,256	1,703,005
Additions			-
Disposals			-
At 31st December 2025	1,686,749	16,256	1,703,005
Depreciation			
At 1st January 2025	438,555	14,706	453,261
Charge for the year	33,735	345	34,080
At 31st December 2025	472,290	15,051	487,341
Net Book Value			
At 31st December 2025	1,214,459	1,205	1,215,664
At 31st December 2024	1,248,194	1,550	1,249,744

9 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Sundry debtors	395	137
Prepayments	1,861	1,542
	2,256	1,678

10 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	2025 £	2024 £
Sundry creditors	2,320	4,407
Accruals and deferred income	2,000	3,511
	4,320	7,918

11 Creditors: Amounts falling due in more than one year	2025 £	2024 £
T.W.Philpot Trust - Loan	60,871	62,871
	60,871	62,871

The church entered a loan agreement with the trustees of the T.W. Philpot trust for a free of interest loan of £108,685 on its incubation. Repayments are normally arranged to be in equal installments over 15years. Should the church leave the LBA or close, then the loan would be immediately repayable.

12 Analysis of Restricted Funds

	Balance at 01st Jan. 2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31st Dec. 2025 £
Bless You Fund	3,449	750	-	-	4,199
Gift Fund	420	250	(11)	-	659
Philpot Fund	-	1,488	-	-	1,488
Mission Trip	895	-	-	-	895
Dover Soul	-	730	(796)	66	-
JustSow - student life skills	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Bibles	-	200	(257)	57	-
Feather flag	-	235	(283)	48	-
Youth Ministry	-	1,310	(1,513)	203	-
	4,764	5,963	(2,860)	374	8,241

Bless You Fund: gifts to help members in times of need.
Gift Fund: gifts to members
Philpot Fund: gifts towards repaying the Philpot loan.
Mission Trip: raised for a trip to Japan.
Dover Soul: grant and gifts for the Dover Soul family activities week.
JustSow: grant for a student life skills course.
Bibles and Feather flag: gifts for those purchases.
Youth Ministry: gifts, including Gift Aid, for youth work.
Transfers of £374 from unrestricted funds met spending above the restricted income received for Dover Soul (£66), Bibles (£57), Feather flag (£48) and Youth Ministry (£203).

New River Baptist Church
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31st December 2025 (Continued)

13 Unrestricted Funds

	Balance at 01st Jan. 2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31st Dec. 2025 £
Fixed assets	1,249,744		(34,080)	-	1,215,664
Designated funds	1,249,744	-	(34,080)	-	1,215,664
General funds	4,760	119,806	(110,135)	(374)	14,057
Total Unrestricted funds	1,254,504	119,806	(144,215)	(374)	1,229,721

The fixed asset fund represents the net book value of the fixed assets - excluding those reflected in the Restricted Funds.

14 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible assets and investments	1,224,664		1,224,664
Net Current assets	65,928	8,241	74,169
Long term liabilities	(60,871)		(60,871)
Total net assets	1,229,721	8,241	1,237,962

15 Investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Green Pastures unsecured loan stock	9,000	9000
Additions		
Gains / (Losses) on investments		
Net book value as at 31 December	9,000	9,000

Green Pastures (GP) unsecured loan stock is a type of fixed income that is granted in exchange for a loan and does not offer collateral to gurantee that the loan will be repaid back. GP aims to use the proceeds of unsecured loan stock issues to buy properties to house the homeless.

16 Related Party Transactions

During 2025 a salary of £14,791 (2024: £14,248) was paid to Cecilia Plummer, the wife of Robin Plummer, a trustee and the Minister. Cecilia Plummer became a trustee on 7 June 2026.

17 Funds held as custodian

	01st Jan. 2025 £	Incoming Resources £	Expenditure £	31st Dec. 2025 £
Tek Ura	471	35	(506)	-
Isaac (personal gifts)	-	400	(400)	-
Foodcycle Islington	-	195	-	195
Orphans Hope	-	21	-	21
Gifts for two individuals	-	195	-	195
	471	**846**	**(906)**	**411**