ANNUAL REPORT
Year to 31st December 2025

Name of Charity – Honiton Family Church

Registered Charity Number – 1181655

Registered Address – High Street, Honiton, Devon, EX14 1LW

Trustees – The following individuals served as charity trustees:

- Danny Beaven – (Secretary) Appointed 24.01.24.
- Helen Beaven – (Treasurer) Appointed 15.12.24.
- Sarah Bird – Appointed 19.01.25, Resigned 11.06.26
- John Braithwaite – Appointed 24.11.24, Resigned 11.02.26
- Helen Charters – Appointed 25.01.21

Property Trustees – Baptist Union Corporation Ltd, Baptist House, PO Box 44, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 8RT.

Bankers – Lloyds, 82 High Street, Honiton, EX14 1JJ.

Independent Examiner – John Hilton of Vernon Accounting, Manor House, 143 High Street, Honiton, EX14 1LJ.

Organisational Structure and Decision-Making Processes

Honiton Family Church (HFC) is an unincorporated association with Managing (Charity) Trustees appointed by a meeting of Members. Members of the church are accepted in accordance with the constitution, which allows open membership, so that persons who have not been baptised in the manner described in the Baptist Union's Declaration of Principle may, at the discretion of the

members' meeting, be accepted for membership based on their own public profession of faith. All members are encouraged to take part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective.

Members meetings take place four times a year and have responsibility for the overall policy of the church. Additional meetings are held as required. In accordance with the constitution, the members appoint Trustees, who, together with the Minister, Church Secretary and Treasurer (who are also appointed by the members), are collectively known as the Diaconate. The Diaconate have overall responsibility for ensuring the successful day to day running of the church's work and witness, as well as the financial and legal aspects of the charity.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Members meeting by the Trustees for guidance or may be raised by Members in Members meetings for further consideration by the Trustees. HFC is governed by a church constitution. Though the constitution permits decisions to be made at church meetings by appropriate majorities, the church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives

HFC is a Baptist Church and is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain (Baptists Together). HFC is governed by a church constitution that is based on "20th March 2008 Approved Governing Document for BUGB churches." This document states that the principal purpose of our charity 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." HFC occupies premises which are held by the Baptist Union Trust Corporation on Trusts which are entirely compatible with the above objective.

As Honiton Family Church, we are oriented by a vision to "Seek God's kingdom in Devon as in heaven". This means that:

- Jesus Christ is the origin, means, and goal of all that

we are and do.

- We are family-friendly, committed to everyone; both young and old, rich and poor etc.
- We seek to be grounded, imaginative and relational in our life together.
- We aim to embody Christ both inside the church, and within the town and wider area.

We aim to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as the Living Lord. Moreover, we aim to be a church that welcomes people of all types and experiences into our church family, confident in the transforming power of Jesus in all our lives. In order to achieve this, HFC provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the wider community. HFC is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities. Many of these activities run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

Activities During the Year

2025 started with a largely new team of Deacons who had a lot to learn, but were keen to get stuck in. As a result, quite a bit of time and effort were spent on various necessary administrative changes. A Deacons day at Lyme Regis Baptist Church was held to help with team building.

A fish and chip meal was held early in the year as a "Thank you" to all those who volunteer in the Church.

We were joined by Sarah on the Diaconate team in January and she began looking after the Sunday service rota, including inviting in visiting preachers on occasion. We were well supported by the "in-house" team of leaders and preachers.

Sadly, a long time member of the congregation died during the year, but a very well attended and uplifting funeral service and celebration of life was held.

The Youth and Children's groups continued to meet on a Sunday for the first part of the year, but the Children's groups had to stop for a time in order to get a large enough team of trained and checked helpers in place. The Children's groups were restarted later in the year, but were stopped again around the end of the year due to a lack of children, although some special events for children are still being held. A group of the Youth had a weekend away to Spree in June, which was great fun and helped to build good relationships.

In the autumn we were joined by a trainee youth worker from SWYM on a one year placement. He was able to help with various Youth and Children's activities as well as supporting the work at Acorn Alternative Provision in Exeter. We also hosted a South West Baptist safeguarding training session.

We held several social events in the autumn, as mentioned below, with the added benefit of raising some funds for Tearfund. The new CIO charity was also registered during the year. A further piece of work to make it operational is now needed.

There is much to continue doing in the next year!

Regular Activities

Sunday Services: 2025 has brought further changes to those attending on Sunday and few children are now present, although the Youth group sessions continue. A variety of personal circumstances has largely been responsible for the changes. We have had some new people come and join the congregation though and they talk about finding it a friendly group and are joining in with all that is happening. We aim for our services to be accessible to seekers as well as both new and mature Christians by having a simple and fluid service structure.

Little Stars Parent and Toddler Group: Little Stars runs every week during term time and is attended by, on average, twenty 0–5-year-olds and their carers. It has been encouraging to regularly see new parents attending. Little Stars is a great access point into church, and it is a great way for us to build relationships with our wider community. We have been able to invite the families in

attendance to other events including services and family and community events. We have themes, parties, and activity sessions during the school holidays which other primary aged siblings can also attend. At the end of the summer term we hold a "graduation ceremony" for those starting school.

Life Groups: HFC runs three life groups. These groups encourage social fellowship and growth of faith and discipleship. Although our life groups are attended mainly by church members, they are open to anyone who would like to contact a group and learn more about the Christian faith. In the last year, the groups have tended to develop their own resources and patterns, some focusing on Bible study, others on sharing food, others on relationships. The groups provide a great opportunity to encourage one another and to pray for those who are struggling or who have things to celebrate.

Prayer Meetings: This morning prayer was active on Wednesday from 9:30 to 10am every week. There have been a faithful core of people keeping it going, praying for the community and wider area, as well as the world. We read a Psalm, the Old Testament and New Testament and share the Lord's Prayer.

Other Activities

Pastoral Care: This year, pastoral care has primarily taken place through the Life Groups (see above). We are still trying to be mindful of those who are part of our community, or who are on the fringes, but who may not be invested in a Life Group. There are a few people who are heavily involved in the support of others, visiting regularly, especially the frail and unwell.

Repairing the building: Further work continued to the building during the year, although these were smaller items of maintenance and preparation for future works, as well as some final touches to the upstairs renovations. One of the most visible changes was to rearrange the Little Stars storage and to install a large, built-in cupboard in the rear hall, meaning that it could be kept more presentable for other hiring groups. The installation of the kitchen was started, but will need to be finished in 2026. A quinquennial survey was also commissioned, which

highlighted a few items for attention in 2026.

Light party: This was organised in conjunction with St Pauls as an alternative to the conventional Halloween celebrations that children otherwise become involved in. The children turned out to celebrate the light of the world, with lots of games and excitement. This was a great chance to offer something different to the wider community.

Social events: A murder mystery party was held at harvest time, alongside a meal which was enjoyed by all who attended. A quiz in aid of Tearfund was also held in Novmber.



Achievements, Performance and Public Benefit

We have continued to run our regular activities and services without the leadership of a minister, so this was a year of significant learning for the relatively new Trustee group. We were particularly pleased to be able to host a student youth worker from SWYM for a one year placement starting in the autumn. Our other achievements during the year are largely reflected in the activities described above.

As a Church, our objectives are for the public benefit and our activities are open to the whole of the local community. In addition, there are numerous community groups and other charities which hire the Church premises as their place of meeting, meaning that several hundred people visit the building each week. Towards the end of the year, discussions were started with Citizens Advice East Devon with a view to them relocating their Honiton office to the HFC premises and taking out a lease. The trustees had due regard to the commission's public benefit guidance.

Financial Review

Income was very similar in 2025 at £47,000. The vast majority of the Church's income came from donations by the congregation, supplemented by the letting of rooms and the Church manse.

Expenditure was reduced in 2025 and amounted to £37,000, including the first half of the payment to SWYM for the student youth worker.

The church did not hold any funds as a custodian trustee.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider it necessary to hold approximately £16,000 to cover the expenditure of the Church, should donation income cease for any reason or should the Church have to close. During 2025, this balance was held in a savings account to generate interest.

Signed

29/10/26.

Trustee Date

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Honiton Family Church	1181655

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 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					
Donations & Offerings	28,614	707	-	29,321	30,255
Tax refund on Gift Aid to be received					
Use of Church	8,505	-	-	8,505	7,428
Little Stars	43	-	-	43	263
Manse rent	9,000	-	-	9,000	9,000
Interest	204	-	-	204	190
Grant					3,000
	46,366	707	-	47,073	50,136
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	46,366	707	-	47,073	50,136
A3 Payments					
Salaries	1,722	-	-	1,722	9,039
SW Youth Mission	1,750			1,750	-
Manse Costs	1,004			1,004	266
Light, Heat & Power	7,464			7,464	3,186
Water Rates	871			871	717
Insurance	2,112			2,112	2,154
Church Building Repairs and Mnce	9,426	2,061		11,487	34,600
Administration expenses	2,885			2,885	2,398
Youth & Childrens (incl Spree)	278	374		652	-
Refreshments & Cleaning	796			796	710
CCLI License	892			892	866
Baptist Union Subscription	-			-	
Home Mission	5,000			5,000	
Ministry Costs	232			232	
Other Donations	210	-		210	
Outreach	313			313	543
Safeguarding	120			120	160
training	-	-	-	-	480
Professional Fees	588	-	-	588	630
Bookeeping Fees	180	-	-	180	2,160
Other	3	-	-	3	241
Sub total	35,846	2,435	-	38,281	58,150

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	35,846	2,435	-	38,281	58,150
Net of receipts/(payments)	10,520	- 1,728	-	8,792	- 8,013
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	40,556	5,000	-	45,556	59,569
Cash funds this year end	51,076	3,272	-	54,348	51,556

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	General Account	9,704	3,272	-
	Reserve Account	41,372	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	51,076	3,272	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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 liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	H F Beaven.	Helen Beaven	05/07/26
	D R Beaven.	D R Beaven.	05/07/26

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of: Charity Name — Honiton Family Church

On accounts for the year ended: 31 December 2025 | **Charity no (if any)**: 1181655

Set out on pages: 8-9 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed: John Hilton **Date:** 2 September 2026

Name: John Hilton

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	
Address:	Vernon Accounting Ltd
	The Manor House, 143 High Street, Honiton, Devon EX14 1LJ