Sutton St James Baptist Church – SSJBC 1184783
Annual Report for The Charity Commission
For the period 1st January 2025 – 31st December 2025

SSJBC ended the year with 12 Covenant Members and 5 Trustees.

In 2025, we offered Debbie Clarke, a placement as a Minister in Training (MiT) at SSJBC. The MiT serves as the pastor of the placement church in a part-time role. This is part of her ministerial training, alongside academic studies at the Centre for Baptist Ministry, which is a three-year course. SSJBC is providing a funded placement for Debbie while she is undergoing ministerial formation.

Our daily Renew SSJ outreach is part of the National Network of Renew Wellbeing centres, which is billed as a "quiet shared space where it is ok not to be ok." The Outreach activities run by SSJBC remain popular. These activities rely on our team of volunteers, led by our Renew Lead Person. This common theme of reducing social isolation within our four walls has proven itself.

As well as our Sunday Church Family, our wider family are regularly engaging with our various outreach events as listed below:

- **Daily**
  - Renew SSJ every weekday 10am – 12 noon. The following optional activities are also available each weekday.
    Monday – Chair Exercise Group with Jake
    Tuesday – French conversation group
    Wednesday – Craft group
    Thursday – Book Club
    Friday – Knitting and crochet group.
- **Weekly**
  - Sunday Worship
  - SSJ Village Choir – weekly on Thursday evenings
- **Monthly**
  Men's Breakfast
  Community Lunch
- **Special Events**
  - Pancake Day Drop-in
  - Flower Festival
  - Pre-Christmas singalong

The feedback that we received from our auditor for the end of 2025 is as follows:

- 2025 was a good year financially, with income more than expected of £10,827.
- Money from tithes and donations was down, but we have received the final payment of our 3-year grant from Lincolnshire County Council and are looking into other options for 2026.
- The year included a part-year payment for the stipend for our new Minister, for which we receive a grant from the EMBA (East Midlands Baptist Association).

Signed
Pastor Debbie Clarke
Chair of Trustees
Sutton St James Baptist Church

69 Chapelgate,
Sutton St James,
Spalding,
Lincs.
PE12 0EE

Charity Number 1184783

Sutton St James Baptist Church

Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2025

Sutton St James Baptist Church

Independent Examiner's Report

for the year ended 31st December 2025

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 set out in the attached Accounts.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiners

As the charity's trustees (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'); you consider that the audit requirement of Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the 2011 Act) and to state on the basis of the Act, as amended, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners' statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

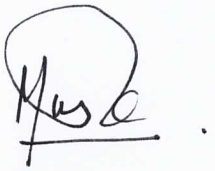
Independent examiners' statement

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:
   (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act and section 386 of the 2006 Act; and
   (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
   (c) to prepare the accounts in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities

   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.



Mark Rose, FFA
Mark Rose Accountancy
Foresters Hall
High Street
Long Sutton
Spalding
Lincolnshire
PE12 9DB

Date: 30.04.26

SUTTON ST JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH

Statement of Financial Activities: Year ended 31 December 2025

Incoming Resources	**General Purposes**	**Restricted**	**Designated**	**Total Funds**	**2024**
Gift Aid	0	0	0	0	5,355
Planned Giving (uncovenanted)	5,593	0	0	5,593	12,768
Church Functions	0	0	0	0	2,786
Fund Raising and Appeals (Note 2)	17,478	0	0	17,478	14,534
Investment Income (Note 3)	4,478	0	0	4,478	2,892
Charitable and Ancillary Trading	0	0	0	0	0
Donations and Grants	0	16,197	500	16,697	30,917
Other Income	244	0	0	244	1,857
Building Restoration Grants				0	0
Total Incoming Resources	£27,793	£16,197	£500	£44,490	£71,109
Resources Expended					
Relating to Church Activities					
Ministers Stipend and Expenses	0	5,949	0	5,949	11,917
Other employement incl Pensions	532	10,248	0	10,780	11,646
Church Running Expenses	7,898	0	0	7,898	10,609
Cost of Services	1,581	0	0	1,581	1,777
Outreach Costs and Renew SSJ	3,693	0	500	4,193	8,912
Charity Donations	1,165	0	0	1,165	0
Building Restoration				0	980
	£14,869	£16,197	£500	£31,566	£45,841
Fundraising Costs :					
Events and Appeals (note 4)	1,510	0	0	1,510	0
Governance Costs					
Accountancy	587	0	0	587	475
Total Resources Expended	£16,966	£16,197	£500	£33,663	£46,316
Net movement in funds	10,827	0	0	10,827	24,793
Transfers					0
Fund balances introduced / bfwd	23,071	14,033	54,179	91,283	66,490
Fund balances carried forward	£33,898	£14,033	£54,179	£102,110	£91,283

Statement of Net Income

Gross Income As Above

General Purpose Fund	27,793	
Designated Fund	500	
Restricted Funds	16,197	44,490

Total Expenditure As Above

General Purpose Fund	16,966	
Designated Fund	500	
Restricted Funds	16,197	33,663

Net Income (Expenditure) For the Year £10,827

SUTTON ST JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	2025		2024	
Current Assets				
Stock	0		0	
Prepayments	0		0	
Bank Current Account- Community Account	16,499		10,245	
East Midlands Baptist Trust Account 1	11,636		30,760	
East Midlands Baptist Trust Account 2	55,766		52,169	
East Midlands Baptist Trust Account 3	20,005		0	
Cash in Hand	202		48	
Debtors	0	104,108	0	93,222
Current Liabilities				
Creditors		1,999		1,939
Net Assets		£102,109		£91,283
FUNDS				
Unrestricted Funds				
General Purpose Funds		33,897		23,071
Designated Funds				
Designated Funds		54,179		54,179
Restricted Funds				
Mental Health and Wellbeing		14,033		14,033
		£102,109		£91,283

We approve the accounts set out on pages 1 to 5 and confirm that we have made available all information and records for their preparation.

Signed on behalf of the Committee on

Trustee Dated 03.05.26

Trustee Nigel Beverly Dated 03.05.26

SUTTON ST JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

1 **Accounting Policies**
General

These accounts have been prepared under the Historical Cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

a **Restricted Funds**
Restricted funds represent monies earmarked by Grants/Donations for specific projects.

b **Designated Funds**
Designated funds are funds specifically allocated by the Trustees as being earmarked for specific projects

c **Unrestricted Funds**
Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the objects of the church without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

2 **Fund Raising and Appeals**

	General	Restricted
Church Functions	1,054	0
Outreach	0	0
Lunches	6,062	0
Renew	7,429	0
Mens Breakfast	1,246	0
Youth Activities	0	0
Events	1,687	0
	£17,478	£0

3 **Investment Income**

	General	Restricted
Barclays Bank	0	0
Baptists Together	4478	0
Baptists Together	0	0
	£4,478	£0

4 **Fund Raising Costs**

	General	Restricted
Lunches	0	0
Coffee Mornings/Drop In	0	0
Mens Breakfasts	0	0
Event Costs	1,510	0
Miscellaneous Costs	0	0
	1,510	£0

Sutton St James Baptist Church

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025

5 **Analysis of Net Assets by Fund**

	General	Restricted	Designated		Total
		Wave 12	Mental Health Wellbeing	Designated Funds	
Current Assets	33,897	0	14,033	54,179	102,109
Current Liabilities	0	0	0	0	0
Fund Balances at 31 December 2025	£33,897	£0	£14,033	£54,179	£102,109

6 **Funds**

Restricted Funds

Grants and Donations are sought where available.

Pioneer Grant
A grant is applied for to enable the Church to pay a Stipend to the Pastor.

Project Refresh
This fund is set up for building and other projects to maintain or improve the Church property.

7 **Remuneration and Expenses**

No remuneration was paid either directly or indirectly out of the funds of the Church for the year to any Trustee or to any other person or persons known to be connected with any of them, other than the Pastor's Stipend if a grant can be secured to cover this.

No reimbursement of expenses has been made to any of the members in respect of the year, save for re-imbursing out of pocket expenses with receipts.