

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND UNAUDITED
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Henry Dixon
Edmund Ball
David Randall
Daniel Wilson

Principal address

Poplar Baptist Church
2 Zetland Street
Poplar
London
E14 6RB

**Independent
Examiner**

Roger Seaton FCA
23 Greenhill Park
Barnet
Herts
EN5 1HQ

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POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 September 2020.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the church's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) published on 16 July 2014.

Structure, governance and management

The use of the church's building was established by a charitable trust deed on 30 July 1885. It has a Constitution which was adopted on 5 September 1998 and amended on 22 September 2008.

The trustees who served during the year were:

Henry Dixon
Edmund Ball
David Randall
Daniel Wilson

The trustees (also known as Elders and Deacons) are appointed by church members by a vote at a church members' meeting.

The members of the church appoint Elders, who may be employed, to oversee the spiritual well-being of the church, and Deacons to oversee practical and administrative matters.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the church is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Objectives and activities

The church's objects are to glorify God through the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the inhabitants of Poplar, and to build up of those who are believers so that they may grow to maturity in their understanding and obedience to the Word of God. The church also supports missionaries working overseas and gives assistance to those who are in financial hardship. The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are to preach the Word of God, to pray, and to encourage believers to build each other up. There has been no change in these during the year.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the church should undertake.

For the first half of the financial year the church held services of worship on Sunday mornings and afternoons, pre-service prayer meetings on Sundays, Sunday school for children on Sunday mornings, fortnightly services in a local old people's home on Sunday afternoons, prayer meetings on Monday evenings, and once a month on Saturdays, Bible studies or home groups on Wednesdays, regular door to door visiting on Thursday evenings, monthly open air meetings at a local market, open air meetings in Central London at various times, and other visitation and counselling sessions at various times.

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

During the second half of the financial year activities were severely disrupted due to the COVID pandemic which started in March. During the first lockdown all meetings were held on-line. In July 2020 just the morning service resumed in person, and all other meetings carried on being held on-line for the rest of the financial year. The time away at Letton Hall had to be cancelled.

Up until the start of lockdown, preaching on Sunday mornings consisted mainly of a series of sermons from Paul's letter to the Romans. From March 2020 until the end of the financial year preaching was on various subjects arising from the COVID crisis.

Achievements and performance

In September 2019 Paul Pomeroy, who is training with London Seminary, started working with the church part-time. He has greatly assisted with preaching, pastoral visiting, evangelism and youth work. In January 2020 a Christian lady who lives locally started attending, with her adult daughter who seemed to have been restored from having been backslidden. Around this time a couple whom we have known for many years, and with whom we had been doing Bible studies, also professed faith.

As previously mentioned, the activities of the church were severely disrupted due to the COVID pandemic. However, one good thing that came out of COVID was the introduction of a daily prayer meeting on-line. This was attended by between 6 and 12 people most days. Some who had not been involved very much in the prayer life of the church up till this point became regular attendees at this meeting. Another good thing that came out of COVID was an on-line link to the home village Pakistan from which one of our members comes. We were able to do on-line regular Bible studies with the village elder and his son, the niece and father of our church member, and a Moslem friend of hers.

During the period when the church was open for services in the summer of 2020 two Portuguese ladies started attending, with their teenage and adult children. They seem to be settling into the church and finding spiritual help.

Financial review

During the year total income was £64,477 of which £5,232 was restricted. Total expenditure was £62,452 of which £4,254 was from restricted funds. The total funds balance at the end of the year, standing at £39,012, showed a rise of £2,025 over the period.

Unrestricted funds rose during the year by £1,047 to £34,892. During the year, the trustees decided to set aside £2,000 from general funds to the designated fund for ministry work in Sicily.

Cash offerings during the year were lower, probably as a result of there being no meetings at the church building for a while. Nevertheless, the income of the church held up remarkably well, and giving via Stewardship increased. Also, because of the lockdown there were savings in utility bills, and there were other savings in expenditure. Thus the church was able finance the cost of employing Paul Pomeroy as a part-time trainee pastor, and the cost of a new boiler in flat 2a without seeing a fall in unrestricted funds during the year.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have established a policy whereby unrestricted funds held by the Poplar Baptist Church is greater than £10,000. At this level the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the activities of the church in the event of a significant drop in funding.

As at 30 September 2020, the unrestricted funds were £34,892. This is £24,892 greater than the policy requirement.

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

On behalf of the board of trustees

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Daniel Wilson, Treasurer

Dated:.....

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 30 September 2020, which are set out on pages 4 to 11.

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:

- (i) examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- (ii) 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
- (iii) 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:

- (a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - (ii) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act;have not been met; or
- (b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Roger Seaton FCA

23 Greenhill Park
Barnet
Herts
EN5 1HQ

Dated:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>					
Donations and legacies	2	39,212	5,232	44,444	46,273
Investment income	3	20,033	-	20,033	19,148
Total incoming resources		59,245	5,232	64,477	65,421
<u>Resources expended</u>					
Church activities		58,198	4,254	62,452	66,875
Total resources expended	4	58,198	4,254	62,452	66,875
Net income / (expenditure) for the year					
Net movement in funds		1,047	978	2,025	(1,454)
Fund balances at 1 October 2019		33,845	3,142	36,987	38,441
Fund balances at 30 September 2020		34,892	4,120	39,012	36,987

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
Current assets					
Debtors	8	361		241	
Cash in bank and in hand		42,593		39,225	
			<u>42,954</u>		<u>39,466</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	9		<u>(3,942)</u>		<u>(2,479)</u>
Total assets less liabilities			<u>39,012</u>		<u>36,987</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	10		4,120		3,142
Unrestricted funds	11		34,892		33,845
			<u>39,012</u>		<u>36,987</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on

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Daniel Wilson, Treasurer

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

1. Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) published on 16 July 2014.

2. Incoming resources

Income is credited in the accounts when received.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised when the amounts are received. It is added to the same fund as the related net donation.

3. Resources expended

Expenditure is charged in the accounts when a liability to make payment is incurred.

4. Accumulated funds

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the elders are also unrestricted.

2. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Giving under gift aid	26,779	3,690	30,469	29,805
Giving not under gift aid	8,122	1,090	9,212	12,244
Gift aid recovered	4,311	452	4,763	4,224
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	39,212	5,232	44,444	46,273
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

3. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Rental income	20,033	-	20,033	19,148
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

4. Total resources expended

	Staff Costs £	Other Costs £	Grant Funding £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Direct charitable activities					
<u>Church activities</u>					
Activities directly undertaken	39,589	808	-	40,397	34,965
Premises expenses	-	12,092	-	12,092	17,244
Grants payable	200	-	7,054	7,254	8,777
Support and administration					
Governance costs	-	829	-	829	3,019
Other administrative expenses	-	1,880	-	1,880	2,870
Total	39,789	15,609	7,054	62,452	66,875

Governance costs includes payments to the independent examiner of £nil (2019: £nil) for independent examination and accountancy fees. Restricted expenditure is made up of £4,254 (2019: £5,777) of grants payable.

5. Grants payable

	2020 £	2019 £
Grants to Individuals		
Ed Ball	2,586	3,409
Individuals from Hardship Fund	728	1,900
John Walters	1,200	1,200
Helen Sapienza	1,190	1,000
Michael Robinson (European Missionary Fellowship)	1,000	1,000
Poor Relief in Pakistan	150	-
Paul Pomeroy	200	-
Grants to Projects and Organisations		

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

Friends of Mandritsara Trust	200	268
Total	7,254	8,777

6. Trustees

One of the trustees received a total of £33,089 (2019: £30,750) employee remuneration for the year and nil gifts (2019: £nil) from funds specifically given for this purpose. Another of the trustees received employee remuneration of £nil (2019: £nil) for the year and gifts totalling £2,586 (2019: £3,409) from funds specifically given for this purpose. None of them or any persons connected with them were reimbursed expenses during the year (2019: none were reimbursed).

7. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2020 Number	2019 Number
Church activities	2	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2020 £	2019 £
Employment costs		
Wages and salaries	38,625	30,000
Social security costs	-	-
Pension costs	964	750
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	39,589	30,750
	<hr/>	<hr/>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more. The pension costs above relates to a defined contribution scheme.

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

8. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Other debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	361	241
	<hr/> 361	<hr/> 241

9. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Accruals	3,942	2,479
	<hr/> 3,942	<hr/> 2,479

10. Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movements in Funds			
	Balance at 1 Oct 2019 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Balance at 30 Sep 2020 £
Support of Christian workers	1,819	3,229	3,376	1,672
Building Fund	270	607	-	877
Hardship Fund	1,053	1,396	878	1,571
Church Conference Fund	-	-	-	-
	<hr/> 3,142	<hr/> 5,232	<hr/> 4,254	<hr/> 4,120

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	Movements in Funds			Balance at 30 Sep 2019 £
	Balance at 1 Oct 2018 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	
Support of Christian workers	3,255	2,440	3,876	1,819
Building Fund	4,583	10	4,323	270
Hardship Fund	1,253	1,700	1,900	1,053
Church Conference Fund	-	2,243	2,243	-
	9,091	6,393	12,342	3,142

11. Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds comprise of the general fund and the Sicily Ministry Fund, a designated fund for ministry work in Sicily.

	Movements in Funds				Balance at 30 Sep 2020 £
	Balance at 1 Oct 2019 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	
General Fund	29,845	59,245	58,198	(2,000)	28,892
Sicily Ministry Fund	4,000	-	-	2,000	6,000
	33,845	59,245	58,198	-	34,892

	Movements in Funds				Balance at 30 Sep 2019 £
	Balance at 1 Oct 2018 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	
General Fund	27,350	59,028	54,533	(2,000)	29,845
Sicily Ministry Fund	2,000	-	-	2,000	4,000
	29,350	59,028	54,533	-	33,845

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

POPLAR BAPTIST CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

12. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 30 September 2020, as represented by:			
Current assets	38,834	4,120	42,954
Creditors: amount falling due within one year	(3,942)	-	(3,942)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	34,892	4,120	39,012
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund balances at 30 September 2019, as represented by:			
Current assets	36,324	3,142	39,466
Creditors: amount falling due within one year	(2,479)	-	(2,479)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	33,845	3,142	36,987
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

13. Related party transactions and balances

During the year, Daniel Wilson rented a Poplar Baptist Church flat at an arm's length basis for £8,520 (2019: £8,520).

Total donations, across all funds, received from trustees amounted to £4,362 (2019: £5,423).

Out of pocket expenditure for items bought on behalf of the Church has been reimbursed to the trustees. Such expenditure is categorised within the relevant expenditure category and as such is not separately disclosed in the financial statements.