



# **Church Trustees**

**FRIMLEY BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

**2023**

Frimley Baptist Church (FBC) is a registered Charity, set up for charitable purposes. To ensure that all aspects of the Church Charity are handled carefully, effectively and with absolute integrity, Charity Trustees are appointed to have the **“general control and management of the administration of the Charity”** (Charities Act 1993), **taking strategic decisions about the church’s activities and ensuring that it is run well.**

At FBC, whilst Trustees remain ultimately responsible for the Charitable Objects, they delegate authority to the Ministry Team for activities relating to those Objects. This includes, but is not limited to, the areas of:

- Mission – spreading the good news of Jesus
- Maturity – discipling of Christians
- Serving – meeting needs in the community
- Fellowship – encouraging and caring for the membership.

Other areas relating to finance, buildings and fabric, employment, safeguarding, health and safety, legal compliance, data protection etc are managed by the Trustees.

#### **Responsibilities of a Charity Trustee:**

- Advancement of the work of the charity
- Mutual accountability
- Good governance – that the charity is managed in accordance with its governing document (constitution)
- Good management – including financial management
- Asset distribution - that the assets of the charity are used to benefit those nominated to benefit from the funds

Church Members are responsible for appointing Trustees and are encouraged to include people with a variety of skills and a wide and diverse range of backgrounds. Ministers of the Church are, by nature of their office, automatically Trustees.

Members are also reminded of the Biblical teaching in 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:6-9 concerning the appropriate character of those called into Church leadership. This includes being above reproach, self-controlled, respectable and sober, gentle and honest.

To serve as a Charity Trustee of FBC, people must also meet the following criteria:

#### **Legal Restrictions**

A person cannot serve as a Charity Trustee if they:

- Are under 18 years of age.
- Are on the Sex Offenders’ Register or have been subject to notification requirements under sexual offences legislation - even if your offence is spent.
- Have an unspent conviction for an offence involving any of the following: (a) deception or dishonesty; (b) terrorist offences; (c) money laundering; (d) bribery; (e) misconduct in public office, (f) perjury or perverting the course of justice; (g) contravention of certain preventative orders of the Charity Commission (section 77 of the Charities Act 2011); or an unspent conviction for attempting, aiding or abetting any of the above offences.
- Have been in contempt of court;
- Have received a designation under specific anti-terrorist legislation;
- Have been found guilty by the High Court of disobeying a Commission Order or Direction
- Are an un-discharged bankrupt or insolvent;
- Have previously been removed from trusteeship, or as an officer, agent or employee of a charity by the Court or the Charity Commissioners for misconduct or mismanagement;
- Have been disqualified from being a Company Director;
- Are unable to manage their own personal business affairs;
- Are an employee of the church/charity (other than the minister).

#### **Constitutional Restrictions**

According to the FBC Constitution, a person cannot be a Charity Trustee if they

- Have not been baptised as a believer by immersion.
- Have not been in membership for at least one year (as of the date of the proposed appointment).
- Have a close family member (spouse, parent, child, sibling) already serving as a Charity Trustee.

#### **Safeguarding**

Anyone becoming a Charity Trustee will be subject to safeguarding procedures (including a DBS check).