

Offington Park Methodist Church

Trustees Report for the year ending 31st Aug 2024

Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Church Council continues to meet six times a year under the leadership of the presbyter in Pastoral Charge.

Our mission statement – *this church exists to live the Good News of Jesus in word and action and build an inclusive community where everyone can come and fulfil their God-designed potential.*

The church is using Our Calling to focus on all areas of the church's life and has produced a growth plan under the headings of Worship, Learning and Caring, Mission and Evangelism. This is reviewed at Church Council meetings to focus our work.

Achievements and Performance

We continue to offer a wide range of services for all ages and are advertising appropriate services to the differing age groups and have settled into a monthly routine. We now have a printed booklet for families as well as our information booklet. Cafe Worship, Messy Church, Breakfast Church and Fun Church are all now being organised by teams and would value some new members. Early morning communion continues to attract a good number for those who prefer a quiet way to start the week. All services are well attended and the number of people joining us through streaming is increasing. A concerted effort is made to refer to the differing congregations as one, to promote unity within the church and we pray for each other at the different services. The Christingle services were well attended with many new faces from both Zachs and The Lighthouse. At Easter, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter day early morning service followed by breakfast was rounded off by Easter Family Worship. All were well attended and valued by those who came. Our worship is rich and varied and we give thanks for Offbeat and Jubilate who continue to help lead our worship.

The church family are made up of a wide age range and we have been blessed with more new members this year. We recognise that most of the congregation are chronologically older. This led the Leadership Team and Church Council to pray and explore the vision which focused on the new mission project which became operational in June 2024.

The soft play (Lighthouse) opened on 2 June 2024 with a commissioning service led by Rev Dr David Hinchliffe the Chair of District. The main hall has been decorated, and a new floor laid, and now looks lighter and brighter. Existing toilets have been refurbished; the Mary Humphrey Hall has been repainted and the floor sealed to enable it to be a multifunctional space including a party room on Saturdays. The new kitchen was delayed, partly due to our underestimating the cost of a kitchen which met our high eco vision standard and the price increases of labour and materials. The other consideration was the families already engaging in The Lighthouse who asked us to remain open through the summer holidays. Needing also to upgrade our electricity to a three-phase supply led to an even bigger financial commitment, but with the added generosity of the congregation and an agreed loan from the Circuit as a safety net, the kitchen was successfully installed and received a 5* food rating from the Council. The focus of the soft play is to optimise the length of time we are able to engage with families with children from birth to the age of ten. This enables a longer time to build relationships which are a key to church growth.

Our Church Community and Development Worker is a joy to work alongside and she instils confidence in all the volunteers. We have successfully begun to attract young people who are wanting to complete their work experience with us. Grateful thanks are due to all those who give their time to develop this missional work. The Church Community and

Development Worker has worked tirelessly to put systems in place to ensure the smooth running of the sessions and also the exclusive use parties on a Saturday. She is also constantly exploring new ideas to engage with the wider community including reaching out to small organisations that cater for children with many varied needs and different abilities. She organises special sessions during the school holidays which parents and carers appreciate greatly. There has been no need to advertise other than on our own website and Facebook pages as those who attend recommend by word of mouth and that is priceless.

Zach's Drop-in Café continues to go from strength to strength, now also being used by the soft play attendees either before or after their session and the café is always busy. Adverts are put on the screens advertising coming events. The café counter area has now been extended and has become a user friendly space which is also more widely accessible. We are grateful to all the volunteers who serve and those who head up the team. Thursdays and Sundays are continuing to prove a challenge as the toys need to be packed away or put out and the chairs set out, but we are grateful to those who help with this task on a Thursday and some members of the congregation who help on a Sunday. More help would be much appreciated. The Wesley Room has now become the designated toy store.

The existing lay workers room has now been converted into a second toilet with changing facilities, automatic taps and lights to improve our eco credentials and to save us money. This provides for the growing needs throughout the week and to our congregation on a Sunday and has been much appreciated.

The Church Administrator working pattern was increased to nine hours over three days and this seems to be offering more consistent cover. Next year will see the need to replace the current administrator who is moving away and our Leadership Team will explore the best way forward for the new post. The Welcome Desk is working well and continues to be a successful way of taking the burden of workload away from the administrator, as well as being a welcoming face to all who visit the church building and a hub for our hirers for booking the premises.

Regular use of Facebook, our church website and a closed (by invitation only) group on Instagram gives the church a presence within the community and allows the young people to have safe contact with each other and their leaders. Last year, due to the preschool closing, the church was able to offer a designated area to our young people in the Mary Humphrey Hall to show our investment in them. This hall has been a valuable asset in the past, but built to be for short term usage. It has no damp course which is now becoming an increasing problem. The hall will need to be looked at over the next couple of years with a view to replacing it with a better structure. For the time being this hall acts as a party room on a Saturday and also hosts an increasing number of uniformed groups meeting of an evening.

Three youth leaders have led this small but dedicated and committed group of young people every fortnight. We appreciated time spent at the circuit youth weekend on the boat at Bosham and were especially delighted that a youth Alpha course proved popular and will continue on a Sunday evening. The youth have also attended 3-generate and will be going again in October 2025. The young people have representation on the church council and feel confident to join in the discussion when necessary and are always keen to help at social and fundraising events. We will say goodbye to two of them as they leave for University and wish them every blessing. Two new reps will be sought to replace them on Church Council.

Uniformed organisations continue to thrive. We are now looking into some groups remaining with us while others use a different venue as their numbers increase beyond the church's capacity to manage this. Dates of the three church parades a year are being

tweaked to fit in better with the leaders of the uniformed organisations in the hope that this will increase numbers attending. The minister and senior steward are now invited to attend Scout meetings periodically which has improved communication between the two groups.

Cameo, Knit 'n' Natter, and Bells meet regularly on the premises and provide opportunities to share gifts and skills.

The church and its members are upheld regularly by the powerhouse of prayer, a group which has met for many years for this purpose. Bible study is held weekly and has increased in the number attending. For those who are unable to come there is a zoom facility. We currently have four house groups meeting to offer spiritual support and deepening faith.

We continue to assess the way forward for our pastoral team work and carry out visits to those who are poorly, live alone, or are unable to attend church having been regular members and those who have been bereaved. Pastoral friends continue to make contact and are encouraged to pass on any concerns to us.

We have been delighted to welcome some new faces to our congregation and look forward to getting to know you better. A short membership course will be held in September for those wishing to explore membership, and a course in the summer will help people to speak more freely about their faith. We are also hoping to run an Alpha course in 2025.

All communion services are face to face at church and a team of people take extended communion out to those who are housebound, or unable to attend due to illness.

Tuesday lunches is always popular and attracts those who enjoy the chance to eat together. Guild Care continue to attend and we have been able to extend into the afternoon where games, chat and afternoon tea together round off the day and is an important mission stream which could be developed further over time.

We have been developing and extending our eco involvement with the new Eco team. The church grounds have new planters, a compost site, and we have exciting plans. We were especially pleased that the bird boxes the Brownies made for us are continuing to be used and a video was uploaded to our Facebook page showing our new visitors this year. We were delighted to be awarded the Silver Eco award this year and will now look at Gold status.

The church building lends itself to large gatherings and the Circuit and District make full use of this when holding larger services and meetings. The building is well equipped with screens which are used at services and events. The building has been well maintained by our property team.

The puppet team continue to enhance our worship and this year have also been involved in some outreach to other venues. It is hoped they will make some appearances at the soft play and a puppet workshop will encourage others to join the team.

Plans for future years

The church building is now working for us and helps to further our mission.

The Allan Fletcher Hall and kitchen will be decorated, refurbished and new doors fitted in the vestibule for easier access and to strengthen security. This will be paid for by gift day and a generous bequest.

Zach's café will continue to offer a free space to all generations in order to build relationships and attendees will be invited to appropriate faith festivals and social events throughout the year.

The soft play will continue to develop to support the community. Funding has been applied for from a Connexional initiative called New Places for New People to support two new roles to further encourage mission and faith building. If this application is accepted we will be advertising for a children and families worker and a pioneer to focus on growth over the next three years.

The rhythm of services seems to provide worship that covers all age ranges and there are no plans to change this in the foreseeable future.

My thanks to the stewards, Leadership Team and Church Council for their dedication to the roles they have been asked to fulfil. As you can see from this report, we continue to be a busy church open all week and having opportunities to witness to all generations. We take seriously the great commission, *'Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'*

Rev Dawn Carn

Financial Review

The Examined Account for the year ending 31st August 2023 shows a General Fund surplus of £8,613.

Overall income was again aided by a rebate from the West Sussex (Coast & Downs) Circuit and a strong income stream from Zach's drop in café and play zone., although lettings income fell as a result of the main hall no longer being available for hire due to the soft play project. The soft play project in 2024 was classified as a reporting organisation, but will come 'on stream from the next church financial year.

The Church works hard to keep expenditure levels as low as possible and to keep the buildings in good repair. Our property focus was on making sure the ancillary facilities for the soft play project were completed to enable it to start on time and to function effectively.

Investment policy and performance

The General Fund comprises £35,753 held locally and £47,388 held in TMCP Model Trust Funds. Reserve funds performed well and realised a gain on revaluation of £2,915.

Reserves Level and policy

The Reserves Policy agreed by Church Council is a tiered approach as follows:

- a. A lower limit of 25% of turnover based on covering a significant 'one-off' expense (expected to be property-related). If the reserves fell below this level an action plan would be mandated to restore the minimum balances.
- b. A working band of 25%-50% of turnover would be considered the norm, wherein spend would be considered on a project by project basis which schemes merited funding.
- c. An upper limit of 50% of turnover, above which Church Council would actively consider spending.

Trustees' Responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31st August the Managing Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the Church's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements the Managing Trustees must:

- a. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- b. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- c. Follow applicable accounting standards

- d. Prepare accounts to comply with the Charities SORP
- d. Keep proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and enables them to ensure that financial statements comply with the law.

Trustees must also safeguard the assets of the charity and take reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The church operates within a sound control framework which allows it to function effectively. Processes in place are regularly reviewed and cover typical church activities such as recording and handling income, recording and controlling expenditure, management of restricted funds, effective budgeting, general financial controls and the review of investment holdings.

Structure, governance and management

The Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church.

Structure

Offington Park Methodist Church is part of the West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Circuit. As such it is represented on the Circuit Meeting which convenes four times a year. The Methodist Conference, with whom overall regulatory authority rests, meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

Governance

Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by the Conference and is responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within the District. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation. The District passes down to Circuit level for implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory control is then exercised by the Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

Purpose of the Church

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of:

1. The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church; and
2. Any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church; and
3. Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society, or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church; and
4. Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of Offington Park Methodist Church is to advance the Christian faith by providing opportunities for worship, Christian nurture and fellowship within the wider Worthing Community.

Management

The Church operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Connexional Office at 25 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5JR to provide guidance on changes that could affect

the Church. The members of the Church Council are appointed under the terms of S.O. 610(2). The Superintendent is ex-officio chair of the Church Council but may delegate this task to other presbyters in the Circuit.

The Church Council normally meets six times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the work of other groups within the life of the Church. The responsibilities of the Church Council and other committees are set out in Standing Orders 603 – 604 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

Reference and Administrative Details

Name of the Church: Offington Park Methodist Church

Charity Registration number: 1127681

Superintendent Minister: The Revd Rosemarie Clarke MA

Presbyter in Pastoral Charge: The Revd Dawn Carn BA (Hons)

Managing Trustees 2023-24

Rev Dawn Carn

John Bishop

Adam Cook

Lesley Skinner

Jacqueline Brown

Joy Barnes

Hilary Colbourn

Kevin Harmer

Gill Powell

Mike Powell

David Gibbs

Alison Wright

John Carr

Elaine Carr

David Barnes

Michele Funnell

Charlotte Gould

Carolyn Williams

Catherine Burgess

Patrick Knight

Emily Wilson

Pamela Frost

Nicholas Skinner

Independent Examiner

Mr Keith Thacker

Offington Park Methodist Church

General Account for period 01/09/23 - 31/08/24

THIS YEAR

LAST YEAR

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£

£

Income

Offerings	76,817.67	72,792.58
Circuit Assessment Rebate	4,245.00	8,255.00
Gift Aid on Offerings	20,675.12	18,422.74
Gift Day Receipts	13,014.00	10,860.10
Donations (General)	4,513.27	4,425.60
Lettings (Use of Premises)	20,456.50	32,376.35
Weddings and Funerals	860.00	1,199.00
Church Activities (Fundraising)	2,419.35	9,374.76
Spotlight Sales	754.00	735.55
Photocopier Income	170.24	146.20
Transport Receipts	464.07	819.12
Church Flowers	125.00	135.00
Solar Panel Income	2,237.08	4,441.03
Interest on Investments	4,243.07	3,202.10
Miscellaneous Income	1,373.00	667.28
Zach's Café	14,142.54	10,204.28
Tuesday Lunches	7,488.57	3,392.89
Church Activities (Our Calling)	2,951.50	210.55
Cleaning Receipts	480.00	482.28
Total Income	177,429.98	182,142
<i>Other fund income through bank</i>	<i>144,141.63</i>	<i>8,499.94</i>

Expenditure

Circuit Assessment	89,512.00	84,984.00
Salaries & Wages	14,626.84	9,846.40
Insurance Premiums	5,839.89	5,955.80
Administration	1,399.05	497.13
Property Account	22,228.08	10,132.54
Gas Charges	4,846.77	4,657.79
Electricity Charges	4,611.18	4,057.40
Water Rates/Commercial Waste	1,233.81	1,304.69
Telecom inc Broadband	2,281.92	1,266.30
Church Activities (Our Calling)	3,767.00	2,575.39
Photocopier Expenditure	2,362.73	3,227.29
Transport Expenses	972.94	525.48
Church Flowers	32.50	182.78
Fees & Charges	390.91	293.74
Miscellaneous Expenses	3,886.52	1,054.45
Digital Media	1,897.59	2,708.88
Wedding and Funeral Costs	100.00	175.00
Zach's Café Expenses	3,359.39	2,485.07
Organ & Piano Costs	1,077.48	689.97
Cleaning Expenses	2,893.72	3,842.75
Worship Resources	1,496.66	609.71
Total expenditure	168,816.98	141,073
<i>Other fund expenses through bank</i>	<i>194,504.04</i>	<i>14,006.97</i>

Net Surplus/Deficit(-)

8,613

41,069.85

B/F Balance Others	140.00
Collections on behalf of Others	1,156.23
Payments on behalf of others	1,296.23
Net C/F Balance Others	0.00

Offington Park Methodist Church

General Account for period 01/09/23 - 31/08/24

Total Funds B/F	122,567.47
Unrealised Gain/Loss on TMCP Unit Revaluations	2,915.01
Net Surplus/Deficit(-)	8,613.00
Net 'Other Fund' Movements (Reflected in CFB)	50,362.41
Total Funds C/F	83,733.07

STATEMENT OF FUNDS

Current Local Fund Balances

CAF Bank Current Account	27,298.04
Cash In Hand (Floats)	325.00
Central Finance Board	39,061.82
<i>Less Creditors (1-year Loans)</i>	30,000.00
<i>Less Receipts due to Lighthouse Account</i>	340.00
<i>Less Funds Collected for Others</i>	0.00
Sub-total Funds held locally	36,344.86

Reserve General Funds Held at TMCP Manchester

TMCP Trustee's Interest Fund	845.41
TMCP Managed Fixed Int Fund	16,906.39
TMCP Managed Mixed Int Fund	29,636.41
Sub-total Reserves	47,388.21

TOTAL OPMC FUNDS	83,733.07
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ANALYSIS OF FUNDS HELD LOCALLY

Funds Held Locally

CAF Current Account		27,283.04
Central Finance Board	Unrestricted	8,470.78
COP Project Fund	Restricted	25,876.53
Dunning Bequest	Restricted	2,811.13
OPYP (Senior Youth) Fund	Restricted	1,527.47
Eco Fund	Designated	375.91
Total Locally Held Funds		66,344.86

ANALYSIS OF RESERVES

Reserves

Unallocated Reserves	47,388.21
Total Reserves	47,388.21

ANALYSIS OF CREDITORS

1-year Loan (Ref: 001)	10,000.00
1-year Loan (Ref: 002)	10,000.00
1-year Loan (Ref: 003)	10,000.00
Total Creditors	30,000.00

TOTAL OPMC Funds	83,733.07
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ANALYSIS OF GENERAL FUND HOLDINGS	2022-23	2023-24
General Fund at CFB	28,278.18	8,470.78
General Fund at Bank & In Cash	10,357.89	27,283.04
General Fund at TMCP	44,473.20	47,388.21
General Creditors	0.00	30,000.00
Total General Fund	83,109.27	53,142.03
Total Other Funds	39,458.20	30,591.04
TOTAL OPMC FUNDS	122,567.47	83,733.07

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Offington Park Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

West Sussex (Coast & Downs)	Circuit	Circuit no	36/08
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1127681

If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number**

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Dawn Carn

Church Stewards:

Jacqueline Brown	Hilary Colbourn
Joy Barnes	Kevin Harmer
Gillian Powell	John Bishop

Treasurer:

Michael Powell

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	97,492		97,492	91,215
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	4,243		4,243	3,202
a4	Lettings	20,456		20,456	32,610
a5	Other receipts	55,239		55,239	55,349
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	177,430		177,430 (a7)	182,376

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	89,512		89,512	84,984
b3	Donations				
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	23,306		23,306	10,823
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	18,814		18,814	17,242
b6					
b7	Other payments	37,185		37,185	28,024
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	168,817		168,817 (b9)	141,073

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	8,613	8,613	41,303
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		122,567	122,567 (c6)	87,248
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	131,180	131,180	128,551
c4	Transfers and adjustments (investment revaluation)		(47,447)	(47,447) (c7)	(5,984)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	83,733	83,733 (c8)	122,567 (c6)

SECTION D				
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS				
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures)		£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		60	1,846
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		1,236	630
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		1,296	2,416
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)		60

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Benevolence					357	357
e2 The Lighthouse Soft Play	22,607	7,257	15,350			15,350
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	22,607	7,257	15,350		357 (e11)	15,707 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	177,430 (a7)	168,817 (b9)	8,613	(47,447) (c7)	122,567 (c6)	83,733 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	200,037	176,074	23,963	(47,447)	122,924 (x)	99,440 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward.

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2020**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	325	325
f2 Bank Current Account	10,033	27,298
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	67,736	39,061
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	44,473	47,388
f6 Other funds		(30,339)
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	122,567 (c6)	83,733 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	357 (e11)	15,707 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	122,924 (x)	99,440 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 01/09/2023	At 31/08/2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	£7.10m	£7.10m
g3 Other Assets	£318k	£400k
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		£30k
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes


g1 include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer



Date

25/9/24

Name

MICHAEL POWELL

Address

20 St Lawrence Avenue Worthing BN14 7JF

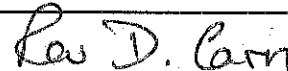
Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on

26/09/2024

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev Dawn Carn

Date

25/9/24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Offington Park Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2024

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 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 the 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 (other than that disclosed below*):

- (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 Charities Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate*

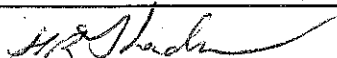
- (3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

** Please circle as appropriate*

Name

Keith Thacker

Signature



Relevant Professional qualification or body

Address

HIGH ROAD, COMMANDERS HALL
FAIRLIGHT, HASTINGS TN35 4BE

Date

29.12.2024