

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1127748

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-01-28
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Wealdstone Methodist Church Locket Road Harrow Middlesex HA3 7ND
Phone	020 8861 0913
Email	wealdstonechurch@yahoo.co.uk
Website	www.wmclr.org.uk

Activities

Objects: The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of -(a) the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church;(b) any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;(c) any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;(d) any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.

Activities: Provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church & non members alike. Provision of sacred space, a building, for prayer and contemplation. The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses & small groups. Pastoral work, including visiting the sick & bereaved. Provision of a Friendship Cafe, a fellowship meeting and toddlers group, with a Christian Ethos.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Harrow

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£243,288	£97,089	-	-
2024-08-31	£125,973	£94,560	-	-
2023-08-31	£133,554	£130,545	-	-
2022-08-31	£148,449	£132,186	-	-
2021-08-31	£97,872	£108,751	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Audrey Delores Browne	Chair	2023-09-01
AELWYN TAYLOR		
DAVID MILNE		
David Alexander Nixon		2022-05-01
HELEN RILEY		2014-05-01
HOWARD WILSON		2016-09-01
Helen Jessie Schoon		2013-10-22
Isabella Ann Crichlow		2024-04-07
JOY DRUMMOND		2011-09-13
JOYCELYN ANITA SHORTER		2011-11-09
JUNE JOSEPHINE MENSAH		2018-09-01
Jeremy David Thorp		2018-09-01
LESLIE JOHN STANTON		
Lynne Watton		2023-09-01
MALCOLM THOMAS BURT ALDRIDGE		
MRS YVONNE BRADSHAW		
Paul Phillips		2019-06-27
SUSAN MARY ALDRIDGE		
Sampson Osae Atiemo		2025-04-06

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1127748

Accounts

Wealdstone Methodist Church

Trustees' Report and Accounts 2025

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Address: Locket Road, Wealdstone Harrow. HA3 7ND

Church email: welcome@wmclr.org.uk

website: www.wmclr.org.uk

The Church halls telephone: 020 8861 0913

Registered Charity No: 1127748

Wealdstone Methodist Church comes under the auspices of the Methodist Church in Britain whose governing body is the Methodist Conference. The authority by which the Conference acts is laid out in the Methodist Church Act 1976. Wealdstone Methodist Church is part of the group of Methodist Churches in the Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. It is also a separately registered charity reporting to the Charity Commission.

All activities are undertaken by volunteers, other than the work of a stipendiary minister, appointed by the Circuit to provide guidance and oversight for the work of this and other local Methodist Churches.

Objectives and activities

Wealdstone Methodist Church exists to provide regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike. It provides a sacred space, a building for prayer and contemplation. It explains and commends Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups. It carries out pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved. It provides a weekly "Friendship Café", a Toddlers' Group and a Baby Bank. It offers its halls for hire, subject to availability, to community groups.

Minister

The Revd Audrey Browne, 54 Kingsfield Avenue, Harrow, HA2 6AT

Tel: 8427 0057 email: minister@wmclr.org.uk

Services for Marriage, Funerals, Baptisms and Confirmation are arranged directly with the Minister.

Church Council Secretary

David Milne, 38 The Avenue, Harrow. HA3 7DE (Until 1 September 2025)

Tel: 020 8954 7248 email: church.secretary@wmclr.org.uk

Treasurer

Malcolm Aldridge, 35 Boxtree Road, Harrow. HA3 6TN

Tel: 020 8954 1619 email: treasurer@wmclr.org.uk

The General Church Meeting

All church members are entitled to attend the General Church Meeting which has a responsibility to consider the whole ministry of the church. It appoints the Church Stewards and elects representatives of the congregation to serve on the Church Council.

The Church Council (Managing Trustees)

The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its responsibility. It appoints committees which have authority, in their own areas of responsibility, to initiate action, co-ordinate the work done in the church, advise the Church Council and report to it. Membership of the Church Council is either "Ex-officio" or by election at the General Church Meeting or by co-option by the Church Council itself.

The Church Council members are the managing trustees of Wealdstone Methodist Church. The Custodian Trustees for property matters are the *Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes* (TMCP), located in Manchester. On appointment, Trustees receive training in their responsibilities through guidance produced by the Methodist Conference and the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee'.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church for ensuring that financial statements comply with current legislation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets

of the church and their proper application under charity law and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Risks are regularly reviewed by the Church Council and recommendations followed up. Where necessary, advice from relevant professionals is sought.

The Trustees have adopted a Safeguarding Policy in relation to children and vulnerable people, and all trustees are subject to DBS clearance. This is reviewed annually.

There is no bar to anyone engaging in the activities of the church on the grounds of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation, saving that the trustees must by law be church members.

The Church Council is responsible for producing this Trustees' Report for the General Church Meeting and the Charities Commission. This Report for 2024 – 25 was approved by the General Church Meeting on 30 November 2025.

THE AREAS OF CHURCH WORK

The Church Council has identified three "areas" of church work. The names of these areas are:

- Worship, Learning and Care
- Mission
- Administration

WORSHIP, LEARNING AND CARE:

This working area includes all the worship and learning activities that happen on a Sunday as well as discussion groups and the mid-week communion services. Pastoral Care is monitored by the Pastoral Committee.

Services of Worship

Sunday: 10.45am.

Holy Communion is included at least once per month at 10.45am.

The Church Stewards

The General Church Meeting annually appoints as church stewards, two or more persons who are members of the Church. The church stewards are corporately responsible with the minister for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. This includes being responsible for ensuring that all services appointed on the circuit plan are duly held.

Communion Stewards

The Church Council annually appoints persons to serve as communion stewards who will make provision for the proper celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

The Pastoral Committee

The Church Council annually appoints pastoral visitors to share in the pastoral care of members and adherents. The Pastoral Committee is chaired by the minister.

Fellowship and Discussion Groups

Bible Study Group: The Bible Study Group meets weekly during special seasons such as Advent, Lent and Bible Study month.

MISSION

Mission includes the outreach and social interaction of the church with its members and adherents, all those who meet on or use the halls during the week and local or national charities.

Church Community Groups:

The Friendship Café offers a social activity and café on Wednesdays.

Toddlers' Group offers mid-week activities for young children and their parents or carers on Mondays and Thursdays at 10.00 am.

ADMINISTRATION

The Finance and Property Committee and the Church Treasurer

The Church Council annually appoints a church treasurer who keeps a record of all church income and expenditure and produces the Annual Accounts.

The Church Council annually appoints a Finance and Property Committee to work with the treasurer on the financial planning of the church and to maintain the buildings and property.

The Finance and Property Committee meets three times a year. The main sources of funds are weekly and monthly offerings, tax recoveries under Gift Aid, donations and some legacies. The church policy is to maintain in its General Reserve an amount equal to six months normal expenses.

The Church Council annually appoints Property Stewards and a Lettings officer. The role of Lettings Officer is to manage the letting of the premises to organisations who rent the premises for their own purposes. (This role is currently vacant and being done by a few church members.)

Achievements During The Year

During the financial year, 1 September 2024 – 31 August 2025, the Church Council met four times.

The Church Council has appointed a Safeguarding Officer and the annual review of the church's Safeguarding policy took place in October 2024.

The following gives an indication of the work overseen or initiated by the Church Council during 1 September 2024 – 31 August 2025.

Mission Plan: The church has produced a Mission Plan outlining the intended key activities for the year. Progress against this plan is reviewed regularly by the Church Council to ensure that planned actions take place. The plan itself is reviewed and re-issued annually.

Church Services: Sunday morning services take place every week at 10.45am.

There was one baptism this year. However, there are rarely any children at services.

The **Worship Forum** met in September after a morning service. This gives the congregation an opportunity to provide feedback on the services.

Communion Services: The average attendance at the Sunday Morning Communion Services, held once a month, was 52. This ranged from 70 communicants at the Easter Morning Service in April to 44 in July. Eight out of the twelve services had between 50 and 57 communicants. Attendance at the Covenant Service was similar to the previous year with 52. (53 - previous year). The afternoon Ash Wednesday Service in early March, joint with Kenton Methodist had dropped to 26 communicants. (37 - previous year). Maundy Thursday lunch time Communion joint with Kenton Methodist had 26 communicants.

There were no midweek communion services during the year.

Pastoral Committee Work: Pastoral visitors care for our members and adherents. The membership of the church at the end of the year was 96, which is two less than the previous year.

The Bible Study Group provides a means of sharing, discussion, bible study and prayer. This group met weekly during Advent and Lent.

The Wesley Guild met for just four meetings in 2024 – 25. At the last of these it was decided that the Guild should now be discontinued due to the diminishing number of members and organisers.

A Church Newsletter is published quarterly to tell people about upcoming events and services and reports on other events. There is also a message from the minister. This began in December 2023.

The Friendship Café on Wednesdays continues to be run successfully by church volunteers.

The Toddlers' Group on Mondays and Thursdays continue to be run very successfully by church volunteers.

The Wealdstone Baby Bank, continues to be very successful with many young families coming for support, baby clothes and small items of baby equipment. This is not really a church organisation and is managed by the *Baby Bank* charity. However, some church members are involved in running it.

Charities supported and funds raised:

At Christmas 2024 the church raised a total of £996.30 for *Action for Children* from the annual gift service, a coffee morning in December, the Christmas Card distribution, a church donation and carol singing outside the church.

We also raised £264.40 for *Firm Foundation* at a coffee morning, (£43.90) and the bread and cheese lunch (£220.50).

The Annual Bread and Cheese Lunch has been held on the Sunday before Christmas for very many years. However, attendance has been diminishing and the organisers are no longer able to do it so it has been agreed that this event will now be discontinued.

The church raised a total of £402.85 for *Christian Aid* during *Christian Aid Week*. This was comprised of £255 in Gift Envelopes, £125.35 from a coffee morning and Gift Aid was £22.50.

MHA, The church sent £256.45, raised at Coffee Mornings, to *Methodist Homes (MHA)*

The church also donated £7,000 to our regular list of local and world charities, which enables us to help people on the margins of society in Harrow and in the wider world.

The Finance and Property Committees has met three times during the year. The committee, including the treasurer who is also the Property Secretary, has maintained accounting records of the financial position of Wealdstone Methodist Church. (See attached accounts). Major financial decisions have to be approved by the Church Council.

Use of Premises by other Groups

The church sponsored Scout Group continued to meet on Friday evenings.

The premises were let to various community groups: A Kumon educational group, the Montrose Pre School, the 23rd Harrow Scout Group, the Harrow African Caribbean Association, the Parkinson's Exercise Group, Families in Action Together (Baby Bank and Parents Space) and Harrow Community Gospel Choir.

The premises are also let to the *Life Spring Romanian Fellowship Church*, which continues to meet regularly. They hold several mid-week meetings as well as Sunday services.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**

For the year ended 31st August 2025

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

in the

HARROW AND HILLINGDON CIRCUIT

OF THE LONDON DISTRICT no 35/36

Minister

The Rev. Audrey Browne

Senior Steward

Helen Riley

Church Stewards

Paul Phillips

David Nixon

Lynne Watton

Samson Atiemo (from 1st May 2025)

Church Secretary

David Milne

Treasurer

Malcolm Aldridge

Independent Examiner

Noel Rajaratnam

Registered Charity No 1127748

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2025

Introduction

Total income (excluding legacy income) is showing a decrease of 2.46% compared with last year. This is principally due to the "one off" income (refund of our contribution to the Methodist Church Pension Reserve Fund together with interest) received last year is not being repeated again this year. Total Expenditure (excluding legacy projects expenditure) has increased by 2.67% as compared with last year. The principal reason being the increased cost of gas and electricity following the change of supply contract last October. Service and Mission grants totalled £7,500, an increase of £500 from last year.

The resultant net out-turn (including transfers to repairs and maintenance funds but excluding legacy income) is an increase of £25.8K in the total funds of the church as compared with an increase of £31.4K last year. The church accounts are prepared on the receipts and payments method.

Income

The people at Wealdstone continue to be unfailingly generous in their financial support of the church and the various charitable projects for which support is sought either through special appeals or fund-raising events and coffee mornings. However, Freewill offering and Gift Aid recovered has shown a small increase of 1.81% over the past 12 months. Income from interest has increased by 13.11% due to the sustained higher rates of bank interest. Lettings income has decreased by 1.84%. Other income and internal organisations (income) have shown a decrease of 30.84% (due to Methodist Church Pension Reserve refund) and a decrease of 43.68% (due to reductions in income from the printing account and internal groups) respectively as compared with the previous year.

Expenditure

Overall costs have remained within budget. The church has continued to maintain a significant number of donations to various good causes, local and wider, totalling £7,500 from the general income fund. It must as always be acknowledged that such giving is only made possible through the many tasks undertaken by members and friends in the church without which significant higher costs would be incurred. Such service - some known, some unknown - continues to be a major contribution to the ongoing Christian witness in our community.

Legacies

There have been four new legacies received during the year totalling £120,410.76 comprising B Milne £2,000.00, E Alleyne £2,041.02, V Venning £1,000.00 and P Mangeroo £115,369.74. There has been no expenditure against the Legacy funds during the year. The Church is extremely grateful for the generosity of members and the Church Council will continue to deliberate carefully to ensure that future decisions on expenditure from the fund are wisely made.

Moving forward

The budget for 2025/26 continues to contain an amount of uncertainty, in particular, with inflation and increased costs. Assumptions have been made regarding freewill giving and lettings. The budget will be monitored at frequent intervals during the year and, where necessary, adjustments made. The Fund for Ministry (Circuit Assessment) is unchanged for the coming year. The charges for the use of premises have been reviewed and remain unchanged for the coming year.

It is hoped that income from freewill offering and lettings will remain as budget and hopefully, if possible, may increase during the coming year.

Malcolm Aldridge, Treasurer

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WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 August 2025

1. Charitable Status

The Church is registered with the Charity Commission.

2. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost. The accounts show the receipts and payments for the year.

3. Funds

General Funds

The funds held constitute: Unrestricted Funds comprising General Funds held for any purpose of the charity and Designated Funds held for specific purposes of the charity laid down by the Church Council. Restricted Funds are held by the church for narrower purposes. These comprise the Benevolence Fund to meet cases of need and the funds of Organisations Reporting to Church Council. Funds collected for and paid over to External Organisations are also Restricted but these are not included in the SOFA or Balance Sheet. The church has had no Endowment Funds since August 2007.

4. Accounting policies

Incoming Resources

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Church

Other than the historic cost of the building, no Tangible Fixed Assets have been capitalised. The church premises and contents are held by the Church Council as Managing Trustees on behalf of the Custodian trustees, the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. The buildings, contents and organ will be insured from renewal on 29th September 2025 for £4,045,983, £197,857 and £467,103 respectively representing the reinstatement cost, not historic cost less depreciation. The figures for 2024 were £3,909,103, £191,163 and £451,300.

Investment properties.

The church holds no investment properties.

Investments

The church holds no investments.

Loans

The church holds no loans from members or other sources.

5. Trustees

Two Trustees also fulfil organists duties and received payment against invoices in accordance with the rates given in Note 7 below totalling £1,344 (2024 £1,372). No other Trustees, or persons connected with them, received any remuneration or other benefits from the Church or any connected organisation as a result of their office during the year ended 31st August 2025 (2024 £Nil). Trustees are allowed to reclaim certain expenses incurred as a result of fulfilling their duties. The amount claimed during the year was £Nil. (2024 £Nil).

6. Fees for examination of the accounts

The Independent Examiner received no fees or expenses for reporting on the accounts. (2024 £Nil).

7. Paid employees

The church currently has no paid employees. The only persons to receive remuneration for their activities on behalf of the church were organists paid at the rate of £28 per service, at a total cost of £1,344 (2024, £28 & £1,372).

8. Capital Commitments

At 31st August 2025, no capital commitments existed, (2024, £Nil).

9. Treasurer's Declaration

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

Malcolm Aldridge, Treasurer

Signed:

M.T.B. Aldridge

Dated:

11/09/25

10. Declaration by the Chair of the Church Council

I confirm that the accounts will be presented to the Church Council which I intend to chair on 14th October 2025.

The Rev. Audrey Browne, Chair of the Church Council

Signed:

A. Browne

Dated:

14/10/25

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2025

		As at 31/08/2025	As at 31/08/2024
Fixed assets			
	3001: Long Term Investments	—	—
	3040: Church premises at historic cost	5,000.00	5,000.00
	3041: Hall premises at historic cost	2,775.00	2,775.00
	Total Fixed assets	7,775.00	7,775.00
Current assets			
	5001: Barclays Current Account	47,859.24	12,995.94
	5002: Lloyds Current Account	7,915.92	2,995.55
	5004: Central Finance Board	76,712.37	90,292.78
	5005: Scottish Widows Bank	—	—
	5006: Cash in Hand - Luncheon Club	—	—
	5007: Cash in Hand - Traidcraft	—	—
	5008: Cash in Hand - Friendship Cafe	50.17	45.30
	5009: Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes	198,768.32	78,777.75
	5010: General debtors	—	—
	5011: Fund for Ministry in advance	—	—
	5012: Cash in Hand - Toddlers	10.88	9.93
	5013: Cash in Hand - Social Activities Group	—	—
	5995: Debtors and creditors transfer account	—	—
	5999: Agency transfer account	—	—
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	—	—
	Total Current assets	331,316.90	185,117.25
Liabilities			
	6002: General Creditors	—	—
	6699: Agency collections	—	—
	Z04: Accounts Payable	—	—
	Total Liabilities	—	—
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	339,091.90	192,892.25
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	146,199.65	31,412.53
	Z01: Starting balances	192,892.25	161,479.72
	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	—	—
	Total Reserves	339,091.90	192,892.25

As at
31/08/2025

As at
31/08/2024

Represented by Funds		
Unrestricted	91,758.83	76,828.40
Designated	234,648.52	104,215.76
Restricted	12,684.55	11,848.09
Endowment	—	—
Total	339,091.90	192,892.25

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Summary of Receipts and Payments

For the year ended 31 August 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources					
Offerings and tax recoverable	48,928.32	10.63	—	48,938.95	48,069.68
Interest and investment income	9,080.46	—	—	9,080.46	8,027.89
Lettings	57,392.00	—	—	57,392.00	58,469.00
Other income	5,613.81	—	—	5,613.81	8,117.43
Internal organisations (income)	636.43	1,216.07	—	1,852.50	3,289.05
Legacies	119,410.76	1,000.00	—	120,410.76	—
Total income	241,061.78	2,226.70	—	243,288.48	125,973.05
Resources used					
Circuit assessment or share	44,780.00	—	—	44,780.00	44,780.00
Grants and donations	7,500.00	60.00	—	7,560.00	7,000.00
Repairs and maintenance	15,336.30	—	—	15,336.30	18,003.52
Utilities, insurances etc	19,493.05	—	—	19,493.05	12,555.87
Other expenditure	7,845.71	—	—	7,845.71	8,058.99
Internal organisations (expenditure)	743.53	1,330.24	—	2,073.77	4,162.14
Total expenditure	95,698.59	1,390.24	—	97,088.83	94,560.52
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	145,363.19	836.46	—	146,199.65	31,412.53
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	17,000.00	—	—	17,000.00	35,100.00
Gross transfers between funds - out	(17,000.00)	—	—	(17,000.00)	(35,100.00)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Net movement in funds	145,363.19	836.46	—	146,199.65	31,412.53
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	181,044.16	11,848.09	—	192,892.25	161,479.72
Total funds carried forward	326,407.35	12,684.55	—	339,091.90	192,892.25

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Analysis of income and expenditure
For the year ended 31 August 2025

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Incoming resources						
Offerings and tax recoverable						
1001 - Weekly offering - loose cash	3,223.50	—	—	—	3,223.50	2,659.30
1002 - Weekly offering - envelopes	7,989.00	—	—	—	7,989.00	7,578.90
1003 - Standing orders non- Gift Aid	5,062.00	—	—	—	5,062.00	4,742.00
1004 - Gift Aid - Standing orders	24,241.00	—	—	—	24,241.00	24,739.00
1006 - Benevolence Fund income	—	—	8.50	—	8.50	39.40
1008 - Weekly offering - loose cheques	230.00	—	—	—	230.00	160.00
1010 - Gift Aid Tax reclaimed	8,182.82	—	—	—	8,182.82	8,136.40
1011 - Benevolence Fund _Gift Aid reclaimed	—	—	2.13	—	2.13	14.68
Offerings and tax recoverable Totals	48,928.32	—	10.63	—	48,938.95	48,069.68
Interest and investment income						
1102 - Interest - CFB	4,199.59	—	—	—	4,199.59	3,900.11
1103 - Interest - TMCP	4,876.86	—	—	—	4,876.86	4,122.99
1105 - Interest on Gift Aid Tax	4.01	—	—	—	4.01	4.79
Interest and investment income Totals	9,080.46	—	—	—	9,080.46	8,027.89
Lettings						
1201 - Lettings - Church and halls	32,323.00	—	—	—	32,323.00	32,512.00
1202 - Lettings - Casual	944.00	—	—	—	944.00	857.00
1203 - Lettings - Uniformed Organisations	1,100.00	—	—	—	1,100.00	1,100.00
1204 - Rental Income - Flat	16,125.00	—	—	—	16,125.00	16,200.00
1205 - Rental income - Preschool	6,900.00	—	—	—	6,900.00	6,600.00
1206 - Rental income - elections	—	—	—	—	—	1,200.00
Lettings Totals	57,392.00	—	—	—	57,392.00	58,469.00
Other income						
1207 - Donations - Church group use	897.00	—	—	—	897.00	1,282.00
1209 - Refreshments income	—	—	—	—	—	50.90
1210 - Solar generation income	1,956.21	—	—	—	1,956.21	1,521.08
1304 - Donations and fees - Weddings and funera	750.00	—	—	—	750.00	500.00
1305 - Donations - General	1,990.60	—	—	—	1,990.60	1,175.00
1307 - Telephone income	—	—	—	—	—	0.40
1308 - Car Park Penalty income	20.00	—	—	—	20.00	10.00
1309 - Insurance Claim (net)	—	—	—	—	—	866.05
1310 - Meth Ch Pension Reserve Fund (Refund)	—	—	—	—	—	2,712.00
Other income Totals	5,613.81	—	—	—	5,613.81	8,117.43
Internal organisations (income)						
1311 - Printing income	—	636.43	—	—	636.43	850.57
1904 - Toddlers income	—	—	440.95	—	440.95	997.37
1905 - Wesley Guild income	—	—	110.75	—	110.75	334.55
1907 - Traidcraft income	—	—	—	—	—	89.26

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
1912 - Friendship Cafe/Project Income	—	—	664.37	—	664.37	1,017.30
Internal organisations (income) Totals	—	636.43	1,216.07	—	1,852.50	3,289.05
Legacies						
1306 - Legacies - income	—	119,410.76	1,000.00	—	120,410.76	—
Legacies Totals	—	119,410.76	1,000.00	—	120,410.76	—
Incoming resources Grand totals	121,014.59	120,047.19	2,226.70	—	243,288.48	125,973.05

Resources used

Circuit assessment or share

2001 - Circuit Assessment	44,780.00	—	—	—	44,780.00	44,780.00
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Circuit assessment or share Totals

44,780.00	—	—	—	44,780.00	44,780.00
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Grants and donations

2104 - Benevolence Distributions	—	—	60.00	—	60.00	—
2801 - Circuit Charity	150.00	—	—	—	150.00	150.00
2803 - Corrymeela Community	100.00	—	—	—	100.00	100.00
2807 - Harrow Interfaith Council	25.00	—	—	—	25.00	25.00
2808 - Re-generation	150.00	—	—	—	150.00	150.00
2809 - Karibuni Trust	200.00	—	—	—	200.00	200.00
2810 - LWPT	300.00	—	—	—	300.00	300.00
2811 - The Methodist Church Fund	2,500.00	—	—	—	2,500.00	2,500.00
2813 - Action for Children (Local Project)	200.00	—	—	—	200.00	200.00
2814 - MWIB	100.00	—	—	—	100.00	100.00
2817 - St Luke's Hospice	300.00	—	—	—	300.00	300.00
2820 - Whitechapel Mission	350.00	—	—	—	350.00	350.00
2822 - Zimbabwe Victim Support	150.00	—	—	—	150.00	300.00
2823 - Methodist Ministers' Housing Society	300.00	—	—	—	300.00	300.00
2825 - Emergency grants	250.00	—	—	—	250.00	—
2826 - Harrow Foodbank	375.00	—	—	—	375.00	375.00
2827 - Firm Foundation	300.00	—	—	—	300.00	300.00
2828 - Harrow Street Pastors	100.00	—	—	—	100.00	100.00
2829 - All We Can (MRDF)	400.00	—	—	—	400.00	400.00
2830 - Word4Weapons	250.00	—	—	—	250.00	—
2831 - Amaudo UK	200.00	—	—	—	200.00	200.00
2832 - Friends of Amasango	200.00	—	—	—	200.00	200.00
2833 - Ignite Trust	300.00	—	—	—	300.00	300.00
2837 - Leprosy Mission	150.00	—	—	—	150.00	150.00
2839 - Medecins sans Frontieres	150.00	—	—	—	150.00	—

Grants and donations Totals	7,500.00	—	60.00	—	7,560.00	7,000.00
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Repairs and maintenance

2203 - General caretaking supplies	366.19	—	—	—	366.19	444.40
2205 - Church cleaning contract	7,047.59	—	—	—	7,047.59	5,791.20
2210 - Church Maintenance - Repairs and renewal	—	5,448.10	—	—	5,448.10	7,476.85
2212 - Flat Maintenance - Repairs and renewals	—	422.80	—	—	422.80	1,295.20
2214 - Maintenance - Organ Tuning	746.70	—	—	—	746.70	1,776.30
2215 - Organ blower maintenance	245.83	—	—	—	245.83	228.48

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
2321 - Sanitary contract	1,059.09	—	—	—	1,059.09	991.09
Repairs and maintenance Totals	9,465.40	5,870.90	—	—	15,336.30	18,003.52
Utilities, insurances etc						
2204 - Refuse charges	861.50	—	—	—	861.50	789.80
2301 - Insurances	4,614.55	—	—	—	4,614.55	4,373.98
2310 - Gas	8,756.99	—	—	—	8,756.99	3,584.13
2312 - Electricity	3,548.39	—	—	—	3,548.39	2,017.18
2320 - Water rates	1,711.62	—	—	—	1,711.62	1,790.78
Utilities, insurances etc Totals	19,493.05	—	—	—	19,493.05	12,555.87
Other expenditure						
2200 - Bank Charges - Barclays	102.00	—	—	—	102.00	102.00
2202 - Bank charges - TMCP	256.03	—	—	—	256.03	217.66
2216 - Car Park Management costs	—	—	—	—	—	6.99
2217 - Flat Management costs	2,975.50	—	—	—	2,975.50	2,441.40
2603 - Office, Stationery and external printing	16.06	—	—	—	16.06	26.92
2604 - Church printing and copying	413.78	—	—	—	413.78	492.77
2605 - Postage	100.90	—	—	—	100.90	75.00
2606 - Telephone & Broadband	600.70	—	—	—	600.70	570.20
2620 - AV Equipment costs	660.00	—	—	—	660.00	870.00
2621 - IT costs	75.00	—	—	—	75.00	75.00
2622 - Website costs	375.00	—	—	—	375.00	907.00
2624 - Copyright Licence - CCLI	443.69	—	—	—	443.69	430.37
2625 - Sundry expenditure	0.30	—	—	—	0.30	75.24
2628 - Catering	249.85	—	—	—	249.85	243.63
2640 - Organist	1,344.00	—	—	—	1,344.00	1,372.00
2641 - Preacher's Expenses	—	—	—	—	—	33.60
2643 - Worship materials	125.89	—	—	—	125.89	5.83
2645 - Baptism and confirmation gifts	9.99	—	—	—	9.99	—
2647 - Weekly envelopes	77.04	—	—	—	77.04	93.38
2649 - Church flowers	19.98	—	—	—	19.98	20.00
Other expenditure Totals	7,845.71	—	—	—	7,845.71	8,058.99
Internal organisations (expenditure)						
2905 - Toddlers expenditure	—	—	553.71	—	553.71	1,057.45
2906 - Wesley Guild expenditure	—	—	110.75	—	110.75	334.55
2908 - Traidcraft expenditure	—	—	—	—	—	403.76
2909 - Printing Fund expenditure	—	743.53	—	—	743.53	1,381.12
2916 - Friendship Cafe/Project expenditure	—	—	665.78	—	665.78	985.26
Internal organisations (expenditure) Totals	—	743.53	1,330.24	—	2,073.77	4,162.14
Resources used Grand totals	89,084.16	6,614.43	1,390.24	—	97,088.83	94,560.52

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Fund movement summary

Selected period: 01 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Flat - Church Flat R&M & Improvement Fund	12,704.80	—	422.80	5,000.00	—	—	17,282.00
DHiggins - David Higgins (Young People) Fund	1,500.00	—	—	—	—	—	1,500.00
DiaComCI - Diabetes Community Club Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
OnILearn - Online Learning Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
VVenning - Valerie Venning (Church Outing) Fund	—	1,000.00	—	—	—	—	1,000.00
Benevolenc - Benevolence Fund	226.19	10.63	60.00	—	—	—	176.82
Buildings - Church Buildings Fund	7,775.00	—	—	—	—	—	7,775.00
ChurchHols - Church Holiday Fund	617.45	—	—	—	—	—	617.45
DFleming - Dedrick Fleming Fund	393.96	—	—	—	—	—	393.96
FrCafePrj - Friendship Cafe/Project Fund	766.22	664.37	665.78	—	—	—	764.81
General - General fund	76,828.40	121,014.59	89,084.16	(17,000.00)	—	—	91,758.83
IntEve - International Evening Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
LegProj - Legacy Projects Fund	73,701.80	119,410.76	—	—	—	—	193,112.56
Luncheon - Luncheon Club Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Organ - Organ Fund	2,000.00	—	—	—	—	—	2,000.00
Printing - Printing Fund	2,363.83	636.43	743.53	—	—	—	2,256.73
Property - Church Property R&M Fund	13,326.75	—	5,448.10	12,000.00	—	—	19,878.65
Social - Social Activity Fund	79.08	—	—	—	—	—	79.08
Toddlers - Toddlers Fund	490.19	440.95	553.71	—	—	—	377.43
Traidcraft - Traidcraft Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guild - Wesley Guild Fund	—	110.75	110.75	—	—	—	—
YoungCh - Young Church Fund	118.58	—	—	—	—	—	118.58
Totals	192,892.25	243,288.48	97,088.83	—	—	—	339,091.90

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Wealdstone Methodist Church Charity Number 1127748

This report is on the Church Funds for the year ended 31 August 2025 which are set out on the accompanying pages 2-7 and is in respect of an examination carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of the Church Council and the Examiner

As trustees, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and the preparation of the appropriate accounts under section 130 of the Act. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with section 145 of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the Directions made under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act. This examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Church Treasurer and a comparison of the accounts with those records. The procedures undertaken do not provide 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 Examiner's 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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

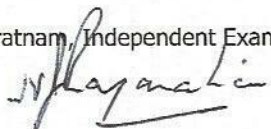
(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should have been drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(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.

* delete as appropriate

Noel Rajaratnam, Independent Examiner

Signed:



Dated: 23/9/2025

Address:

19 JEANE AVENUE
RUISLIP
MAY 6SP

EARMARKED DONATIONS

The amounts raised for other charities and organisations, which do not form part of the Church's Income or Expenditure, were as follows:

Organisation	2024/25	2023/24
23 rd Harrow Scouts	130.30	219.85
Action for Children	900.80	1,187.96
Age UK	212.70	111.00
All We Can	318.00	514.45
British Heart Foundation	75.00	-
Centre for ADHD and Autism Support (CAAS)	135.00	-
Christian Aid	**402.85	**505.90
Cystic Fibrosis Trust	266.70	610.00
Firm Foundation	264.40	-
Harrow Foodbank	152.50	65.00
Harrow Mencap (Community Connex)	504.40	613.10
Harrow Street Pastors	174.20	-
Karibuni Children	-	275.00
Lifeline for Childhood Cancer Ghana	127.00	-
MacMillan Cancer Relief	224.90	308.00
Methodist Homes (MHA)	62.45	70.00
Methodist Homes (MHA) Communities West London	194.00	-
Methodist Church World Mission Fund (MWIB Easter Offering)	*600.00	*411.25
Montrose Pre-School	432.75	406.00
National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC)	272.81	182.80
Nigeria Health Care Project	110.75	234.55
Parkinson's UK	-	115.00
Prism the Gift Fund (Choose Love)	-	234.10
Refugees in Effective and Active Partnership (REAP)	-	187.00
RNLI	132.40	407.95
St Lukes Hospice	121.00	-
Stillbirth and Neonatal Death (SANDS)	110.40	130.00
Transform Trade	-	497.00
UNICEF – Gaza Appeal	57.80	-
Unique (Rare Chromosome Disorder Support Group)	316.00	308.00
Wealdstone Baby Bank	-	100.00
Wealdstone Toddler Group	66.00	-
Whitechapel Mission	-	250.00
Word 4 Weapons	73.10	-
	£6,438.21	£7,943.91

*Includes Gift Aid reclaimed by WMC on behalf of the charity and included with the amount raised.

**Includes Gift Aid to be reclaimed by the charity.

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1127748

Accounts

Wealdstone Methodist Church

Trustees' Report and Accounts 2024

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Address: Locket Road, Wealdstone Harrow. HA3 7ND

Church email: welcome@wmclr.org.uk

website: www.wmclr.org.uk

The Church halls telephone: 020 8861 0913

Registered Charity No: 1127748

Wealdstone Methodist Church comes under the auspices of the Methodist Church in Britain whose governing body is the Methodist Conference. The authority by which the Conference acts is laid out in the Methodist Church Act 1976. Wealdstone Methodist Church is part of the group of Methodist Churches in the Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. It is also a separately registered charity reporting to the Charity Commission.

All activities are undertaken by volunteers, other than the work of a stipendiary minister, appointed by the Circuit to provide guidance and oversight for the work of this and other local Methodist Churches.

Objectives and activities

Wealdstone Methodist Church exists to provide regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike. It provides a sacred space, a building for prayer and contemplation. It explains and commends Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups. It carries out pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved. It provides a weekly "Friendship Café", a fellowship meeting (The Wesley Guild), a Toddlers' Group and a Baby Bank. It offers its halls for hire, subject to availability, to community groups.

Minister

The Revd Audrey Browne, 54 Kingsfield Avenue, Harrow, HA2 6AT

Tel: 8427 0057 email: minister@wmclr.org.uk

Services for Marriage, Funerals, Baptisms and Confirmation are arranged directly with the Minister.

Church Council Secretary

David Milne, 38 The Avenue, Harrow. HA3 7DE

Tel: 020 8954 7248 email: church.secretary@wmclr.org.uk

Treasurer

Malcolm Aldridge, 35 Boxtree Road, Harrow. HA3 6TN

Tel: 020 8954 1619 email: treasurer@wmclr.org.uk

The General Church Meeting

All church members are entitled to attend the General Church Meeting which has a responsibility to consider the whole ministry of the church. It appoints the Church Stewards and elects representatives of the congregation to serve on the Church Council.

The Church Council (Managing Trustees)

The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its responsibility. It appoints committees which have authority, in their own areas of responsibility, to initiate action, co-ordinate the work done in the church, advise the Church Council and report to it. Membership of the Church Council is either "Ex-officio" or by election at the General Church Meeting or by co-option by the Church Council itself.

The Church Council members are the managing trustees of Wealdstone Methodist Church. The Custodian Trustees for property matters are the *Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes* (TMCP), located in Manchester. On appointment, Trustees receive training in their responsibilities through guidance produced by the Methodist Conference and the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee'.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church for ensuring that financial statements comply with current legislation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets

of the church and their proper application under charity law and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Risks are regularly reviewed by the Church Council and recommendations followed up. Where necessary, advice from relevant professionals is sought.

The Trustees have adopted a Safeguarding Policy in relation to children and vulnerable people, and all trustees are subject to DBS clearance. This is reviewed annually.

There is no bar to anyone engaging in the activities of the church on the grounds of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation, saving that the trustees must by law be church members.

The Church Council is responsible for producing this Trustees' Report for the General Church Meeting and the Charities Commission. This Report for 2023 – 24 was approved by the General Church Meeting on 17 November 2024.

THE AREAS OF CHURCH WORK

The Church Council has identified three “areas” of church work. The names of these areas are:

- Worship, Learning and Care
- Mission
- Administration

WORSHIP, LEARNING AND CARE:

This working area includes all the worship and learning activities that happen on a Sunday as well as discussion groups, Guild and the mid-week communion services. Pastoral Care is monitored by the Pastoral Committee.

Services of Worship

Sunday: 10.45am.

Holy Communion is included at least once per month at 10.45am.

The Church Stewards

The General Church Meeting annually appoints as church stewards, two or more persons who are members of the Church. The church stewards are corporately responsible with the minister for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. This includes being responsible for ensuring that all services appointed on the circuit plan are duly held.

Communion Stewards

The Church Council annually appoints persons to serve as communion stewards who will make provision for the proper celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

The Pastoral Committee

The Church Council annually appoints pastoral visitors and a Pastoral Committee secretary to share in the pastoral care of members and adherents.

Fellowship and Discussion Groups

Wesley Guild meets on alternate Thursdays at 7.30 pm from October to February.

Bible Study Group: This group now meets face to face in the Guild Room and has been renamed the Bible Study Group. It has met once a month during part of the year, but there were weekly meetings during Advent, Lent and Bible Study month.

MISSION

Mission includes the outreach and social interaction of the church with its members and adherents, all those who meet on or use the halls during the week and local or national charities.

Church Community Groups:

The Friendship Café offers a social activity and café on Wednesdays.

Toddlers' Group offers mid-week activities for young children and their parents or carers on Mondays at 10.00 am.

Baby Bank offers equipment and support to local families with small children on Fridays from 9.30am.

ADMINISTRATION

The Finance and Property Committee and the Church Treasurer

The Church Council annually appoints a church treasurer who keeps a record of all church income and expenditure and produces the Annual Accounts.

The Church Council annually appoints a Finance and Property Committee to work with the treasurer on the financial planning of the church and to maintain the buildings and property.

The Finance and Property Committee meets three times a year. The main sources of funds are weekly and monthly offerings, tax recoveries under Gift Aid, donations and some legacies. The church policy is to maintain in its General Reserve an amount equal to six months normal expenses.

The Church Council annually appoints two Property Stewards. The role of Lettings Officer is to manage the letting of the premises to organisations who rent the premises for their own purposes.

Achievements During The Year

During the financial year, 1 September 2023 – 31 August 2024, the Church Council met four times.

The Church Council has appointed a Safeguarding Officer and the annual review of the church's Safeguarding policy took place in October 2023.

The following gives an indication of the work overseen or initiated by the Church Council during 1 September 2023 – 31 August 2024.

Mission Plan: The church has produced a Mission Plan outlining the intended key activities for the year. Progress against this plan is reviewed regularly by the Church Council to ensure that planned actions take place. The plan itself is reviewed and re-issued annually.

Church Services: Sunday morning services take place every week. The service start time is at 10.45am because the church building is also used by the LifeSpring Romanian Church for their Sunday morning service, starting at 7.45am. This allows changeover time between the services

There were no baptisms this year. Once again, Young Church has not met as there are no children and so this activity has been discontinued for the time being.

The *Worship Forum* met in September after a morning service. This gives the congregation an opportunity to provide feedback on the services,

Communion Services: The average attendance at Sunday Morning Communion Services, held once a month, was 56. This ranged from 79 communicants in September, which was a joint service with Northwood Methodist, to 46 in July. Six of the monthly services had between 53 and 55 communicants. Attendance at the Covenant Service had dropped back considerably to 53 (from 71 previous year). The Ash Wednesday afternoon service in February was well attended with 37 communicants and there were 69 at the Easter Sunday Service.

Only one mid-week communion service was held at the end of the Tuesday Lent Bible Study meeting in Holy Week, attended by 14 members.

We have continued to follow the same pattern in the administering of Communion at the communion rail with members coming forward to fill a complete rail and the Minister saying a short prayer before people return to their seats. One Communion Steward has assisted the Minister with serving the wine.

Pastoral Committee Work: Pastoral visitors cared for our members and adherents and distribute our church magazine. The membership of the church at the end of the year was 98 is seven less than the previous year.

The Bible Study Group provides a means of sharing, discussion, bible study and prayer. This group met monthly, throughout the Autumn and Winter and weekly during Advent and Lent. It also met in June and July to study Genesis during Bible Month.

The Wesley Guild met on alternate Thursdays from October 2023 until February 2024. At its last meeting it was decided that there would be just four meetings in 2024 - 2025

Church Newsletter is published quarterly to tell people about upcoming events and services and reports on other events. There is also a message from the minister. This began in December 2023.

The Friendship Café on Wednesdays continues to be run successfully by church volunteers. A group from the Digital Inclusion classes join others at the café to continue online peer support.

The Toddlers' Group on Mondays and Thursdays continue to be run very successfully by church volunteers.

The Wealdstone Baby Bank, continues to be very successful with many young families coming for support, baby clothes and small items of baby equipment. It meets in the hall on Friday mornings from 9.30 – 11.30am.

Charities supported and funds raised:

At Christmas 2023 the church raised a total of £1,001.96 for *Action for Children* from the annual gift service (including vouchers), a coffee morning in December, the Christmas Card distribution, a church donation and carol singing outside the church.

The Annual Bread and Cheese Lunch was held on the Sunday before Christmas and raised £234.10 for *Prism the Gift Fund (Choose Love)*, the charity identifies where the need is greatest and works with local organisations doing the most effective work by providing funding for their projects.

Christian Aid Week collections were held this year by distributing *Christian Aid* envelopes to the Sunday congregations. We collected a total of £365.00 and *Christian Aid* will be able to claim a further £48.75 as Gift Aid. A further £92.15 was raised at a *Christian Aid* coffee morning, making a grand total of £505.90.

MHA: The annual box collection for Methodist Homes raised £70.00.

The church also donated £7,000 to our regular list of local and world charities, which enables us to help people on the margins of society in Harrow and in the wider world.

The Finance and Property Committees has met three times during the year. The committee, including the treasurer who is also the Property Secretary, has maintained accounting records of the financial position of Wealdstone Methodist Church. (See attached accounts). Major financial decisions have to be approved by the Church Council.

Use of Premises by other Groups

The church sponsored Scout Group continued to meet on Friday evenings.

The premises were let to various community groups: the Montrose Pre-School, a Parkinson's UK Group, the Harrow African Caribbean Association and a *Kumon* educational group.

The premises are also let to the *Life Spring Romanian Fellowship Church*, which continues to meet regularly. They hold several mid-week meetings as well as Sunday services.

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

For the year ended 31st August 2024

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

in the

HARROW AND HILLINGDON CIRCUIT

OF THE LONDON DISTRICT no 35/36

Minister

The Rev. Audrey Browne

Senior Steward

Helen Riley

Church Stewards

Paul Phillips

David Nixon

Lynne Watton (from 1st May 2024)

Church Secretary

David Milne

Treasurer

Malcolm Aldridge

Independent Examiner

Graham Lee

Registered Charity No 1127748

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2024

Introduction

Total income (excluding legacy income) is showing an increase of 10.5% compared with last year. This is principally due greater use of the premises, higher interest rates received on the church deposit accounts and some "one-off" income including a refund with interest from the Pension Reserve Fund. Total Expenditure (excluding legacy projects expenditure) has reduced by 26% as compared with last year. The principal reason there was large expenditure on electrical repairs and maintenance during 2023. Service and Mission grants totalled £7,000, unchanged from last year, together with an unexpended reserve of £500 set aside for emergency grants.

The resultant net out-turn (including transfers to repairs and maintenance funds but excluding legacy income) is an increase of 19% in the total funds of the church as compared with last year. The church accounts are prepared on the receipts and payments method.

Income

The people at Wealdstone continue to be unfailingly generous in their financial support of the church and the various charitable projects for which support is sought either through special appeals or fund-raising events and coffee mornings. However, due to reducing numbers, Freewill offering and Gift Aid recovered has shown a decrease of 9% over the past 12 months. Income from interest has increased by 107% due to the higher rates of bank interest. Lettings income has increased by 26%. Other income and internal organisations (income) has shown an increase of 28% and a decrease of 24% respectively as compared with the previous year.

Expenditure

Overall costs have remained within budget. The church has continued to maintain a significant number of donations to various good causes, local and wider, totalling £7,000 from the general income fund. It must as always be acknowledged that such giving is only made possible through the many tasks undertaken by members and friends in the church without which significant higher costs would be incurred. Such service - some known, some unknown – continues to be a major contribution to the ongoing Christian witness in our community.

Legacies

There have been no new legacies received during the year. There has been one expenditure against the Legacy funds during the year, a transfer of £1,500 from the David Higgins legacy towards the cost of a new canopy for the Montrose Pre-School. The Church is extremely grateful for the generosity of members and the Church Council will continue to deliberate carefully to ensure that future decisions on expenditure from the fund are wisely made.

Moving forward

The budget for 2024/25 continues to contain an amount of uncertainty, in particular, with inflation and increased costs. Assumptions have been made regarding freewill giving and lettings. The budget will be monitored at frequent intervals during the year and, where necessary, adjustments made. The Fund for Ministry (Circuit Assessment) is unchanged for the coming year. We are due to enter a new contract for the supply of gas and electricity from October 2024 which represents a substantial increase of approximately double the current cost. The charges for the use of premises have been reviewed and some have been increased where appropriate.

It is hoped that income from freewill offering and lettings will remain as budget and hopefully, if possible, may increase during the coming year.

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 August 2024

1. Charitable Status

The Church is registered with the Charity Commission.

2. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost. The accounts show the receipts and payments for the year.

3. Funds

General Funds

The funds held constitute: Unrestricted Funds comprising General Funds held for any purpose of the charity and Designated Funds held for specific purposes of the charity laid down by the Church Council. Restricted Funds are held by the church for narrower purposes. These comprise the Benevolence Fund to meet cases of need and the funds of Organisations Reporting to Church Council. Funds collected for and paid over to External Organisations are also Restricted but these are not included in the SOFA or Balance Sheet. The church has had no Endowment Funds since August 2007.

4. Accounting policies

Incoming Resources

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Church

Other than the historic cost of the building, no Tangible Fixed Assets have been capitalised. The church premises and contents are held by the Church Council as Managing Trustees on behalf of the Custodian trustees, the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. The buildings, contents and organ will be insured from renewal on 29th September 2024 for £3,909,103, £191,163 and £451,300 respectively representing the reinstatement cost, not historic cost less depreciation. The figures for 2023 were £3,784,255, £185,058 and £436,887.

Investment properties.

The church holds no investment properties.

Investments

The church holds no investments.

Loans

The church holds no loans from members or other sources.

5. Trustees

Two Trustees also fulfil organists duties and received payment against invoices in accordance with the rates given in Note 7 below totalling £1,372 (2023 £1,456). No other Trustees, or persons connected with them, received any remuneration or other benefits from the Church or any connected organisation as a result of their office during the year ended 31st August 2024 (2023 £Nil). Trustees are allowed to reclaim certain expenses incurred as a result of fulfilling their duties. The amount claimed during the year was £Nil. (2023 £Nil).

6. Fees for examination of the accounts

The Independent Examiner received no fees or expenses for reporting on the accounts. (2023 £Nil).

7. Paid employees

The church currently has no paid employees. The only persons to receive remuneration for their activities on behalf of the church were organists paid at the rate of £28 per service, at a total cost of £1,372 (2023, £28 & £1,456).

8. Capital Commitments

At 31st August 2024, no capital commitments existed, (2023, £Nil).

9. Treasurer's Declaration

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

Malcolm Aldridge, Treasurer

Signed:

M. T. B. Aldridge

Dated:

13/09/24

10. Declaration by the Chair of the Church Council

I confirm that the accounts will be presented to the Church Council which I intend to chair on 15th October 2024.

The Rev. Audrey Browne, Chair of the Church Council

Signed:

A. Browne

Dated:

15th October 2024

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 31/08/2024	As at 31/08/2023
Fixed assets			
	3001: Long Term Investments	—	—
	3040: Church premises at historic cost	5,000.00	5,000.00
	3041: Hall premises at historic cost	2,775.00	2,775.00
	Total Fixed assets	7,775.00	7,775.00
Current assets			
	5001: Barclays Current Account	12,995.94	10,804.15
	5002: Lloyds Current Account	2,995.55	2,989.38
	5004: Central Finance Board	90,292.78	63,460.67
	5005: Scottish Widows Bank	—	—
	5006: Cash in Hand - Luncheon Club	—	—
	5007: Cash in Hand - Traidcraft	—	18.46
	5008: Cash in Hand - Friendship Cafe	45.30	38.38
	5009: Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes	78,777.75	76,372.42
	5010: General debtors	—	—
	5011: Fund for Ministry in advance	—	—
	5012: Cash in Hand - Toddlers	9.93	21.26
	5013: Cash in Hand - Social Activities Group	—	—
	5995: Debtors and creditors transfer account	—	—
	5999: Agency transfer account	—	—
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	—	—
	Total Current assets	185,117.25	153,704.72
Liabilities			
	6002: General Creditors	—	—
	6699: Agency collections	—	—
	Z04: Accounts Payable	—	—
	Total Liabilities	—	—
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	192,892.25	161,479.72
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	31,412.53	3,009.26
	Z01: Starting balances	161,479.72	158,470.46
	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	—	—
	Total Reserves	192,892.25	161,479.72

Represented by Funds		
Unrestricted	76,828.40	69,424.81
Designated	104,215.76	78,418.36
Restricted	11,848.09	13,636.55
Endowment	—	—
Total	192,892.25	161,479.72

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources					
Offerings and tax recoverable	48,015.60	54.08	—	48,069.68	52,744.48
Interest and investment income	8,027.89	—	—	8,027.89	3,881.22
Lettings	58,469.00	—	—	58,469.00	46,263.46
Other income	8,117.43	—	—	8,117.43	6,327.82
Internal organisations (income)	850.57	2,438.48	—	3,289.05	4,337.48
Legacies	—	—	—	—	20,000.00
Total income	123,480.49	2,492.56	—	125,973.05	133,554.46
Resources used					
Circuit assessment or share	44,780.00	—	—	44,780.00	45,680.00
Grants and donations	7,000.00	—	—	7,000.00	7,673.87
Repairs and maintenance	18,003.52	—	—	18,003.52	33,560.71
Utilities, insurances etc	12,555.87	—	—	12,555.87	11,751.14
Provisions	—	—	—	—	—
Other expenditure	8,058.99	—	—	8,058.99	7,708.64
Internal organisations (expenditure)	1,381.12	2,781.02	—	4,162.14	21,670.84
Legacy Projects	—	—	—	—	2,500.00
Total expenditure	91,779.50	2,781.02	—	94,560.52	130,545.20
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	—	—	—
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	31,700.99	(288.46)	—	31,412.53	3,009.26
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	35,100.00	—	—	35,100.00	14,500.34
Gross transfers between funds - out	(33,600.00)	(1,500.00)	—	(35,100.00)	(14,500.34)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds	33,200.99	(1,788.46)	—	31,412.53	3,009.26
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	147,843.17	13,636.55	—	161,479.72	158,470.46
Total funds carried forward	181,044.16	11,848.09	—	192,892.25	161,479.72

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Fund movement summary
Selected period: 01 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Flat - Church Flat R&M & Improvement Fund	4,000.00	—	1,295.20	10,000.00	—	—	12,704.80
DHiggins - David Higgins (Young People) Fund	3,000.00	—	—	(1,500.00)	—	—	1,500.00
DiaComCI - Diabetes Community Club Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
OnILearn - Online Learning Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Benevolenc - Benevolence Fund	172.11	54.08	—	—	—	—	226.19
Buildings - Church Buildings Fund	7,775.00	—	—	—	—	—	7,775.00
ChurchHols - Church Holiday Fund	617.45	—	—	—	—	—	617.45
DFleming - Dedrick Fleming Fund	393.96	—	—	—	—	—	393.96
FrCafePrj - Friendship Cafe/Project Fund	734.18	1,017.30	985.26	—	—	—	766.22
General - General fund	69,424.81	122,629.92	81,626.33	(33,600.00)	—	—	76,828.40
IntEve - International Evening Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
LegProj - Legacy Projects Fund	73,701.80	—	—	—	—	—	73,701.80
Luncheon - Luncheon Club Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Organ - Organ Fund	2,000.00	—	—	—	—	—	2,000.00
Printing - Printing Fund	2,294.38	850.57	1,381.12	600.00	—	—	2,363.83
Property - Church Property R&M Fund	(3,696.40)	—	7,476.85	24,500.00	—	—	13,326.75
Social - Social Activity Fund	79.08	—	—	—	—	—	79.08
Toddlers - Toddlers Fund	550.27	997.37	1,057.45	—	—	—	490.19
Traidcraft - Traidcraft Fund	314.50	89.26	403.76	—	—	—	—
Guild - Wesley Guild Fund	—	334.55	334.55	—	—	—	—
YoungCh - Young Church Fund	118.58	—	—	—	—	—	118.58
Totals	161,479.72	125,973.05	94,560.52	—	—	—	192,892.25

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Wealdstone Methodist Church Charity Number 1127748

This report is on the Church Funds for the year ended 31 August 2024 which are set out on the accompanying pages 2-7 and is in respect of an examination carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of the Church Council and the Examiner

As trustees, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and the preparation of the appropriate accounts under section 130 of the Act. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with section 145 of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the Directions made under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act. This examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Church Treasurer and a comparison of the accounts with those records. The procedures undertaken do not provide 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 Examiner's 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
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act
- have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should have been drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

- (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.

* delete as appropriate

Graham Lee, Independent Examiner

Signed:



Dated:

13/10/2024

Address:

58 BEECH AVENUE
RUISLIP
HA4 8UA

EARMARKED DONATIONS

The amounts raised for other charities and organisations, which do not form part of the Church's Income or Expenditure, were as follows:

Organisation	2023/24	2022/23
23 rd Harrow Scouts	219.85	299.00
Action for Children	1,187.96	1,131.40
Age UK	111.00	93.78
All We Can	514.45	93.80
Amaudo UK	-	150.00
British Heart Foundation	-	111.67
Christian Aid	**505.90	**495.30
Cystic Fibrosis Trust	610.00	523.00
DEC Pakistan Floods Appeal	-	135.70
DEC Turkey & Syria Earthquake Appeal	-	695.00
Harrow Foodbank	65.00	303.00
Harrow Mencap	613.10	639.10
Harrow and Pinner Lions Club	-	112.00
Karibuni Children	275.00	120.00
MacMillan Cancer Relief	308.00	289.25
Methodist Homes (MHA)	70.00	*541.33
Methodist Church World Mission Fund (MWiB Easter Offering)	*411.25	*414.50
Montrose Pre-School	406.00	547.00
National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC)	182.80	411.00
Nigeria Health Care Project	234.55	257.50
Parkinson's UK	115.00	120.00
Prism the Gift Fund (Choose Love)	234.10	-
Refugees in Effective and Active Partnership (REAP)	187.00	-
RNLI	407.95	286.68
Salvation Army Victim Support Fund	-	130.00
Shelter	-	285.60
St Lukes Hospice	-	283.00
Stillbirth and Neonatal Death (SANDS)	130.00	125.00
Transform Trade	497.00	-
Unique (Rare Chromosome Disorder Support Group)	308.00	170.20
Wealdstone Baby Bank	100.00	125.50
Whitechapel Mission	250.00	-
	£7,943.91	£8,889.31

*Includes Gift Aid reclaimed by WMC on behalf of the charity and included with the amount raised.

**Includes Gift Aid to be reclaimed by the charity.

Accounts

Wealdstone Methodist Church

Trustees' Report and Accounts 2023

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Address: Locket Road, Wealdstone Harrow. HA3 7ND

Church email: welcome@wmclr.org.uk

website: www.wmclr.org.uk

The Church halls telephone: 020 8861 0913

Registered Charity No: 1127748

Wealdstone Methodist Church comes under the auspices of the Methodist Church in Britain whose governing body is the Methodist Conference. The authority by which the Conference acts is laid out in the Methodist Church Act 1976. Wealdstone Methodist Church is part of the group of Methodist Churches in the Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. It is also a separately registered charity reporting to the Charity Commission.

All activities are undertaken by volunteers, other than the work of a stipendiary minister, appointed by the Circuit to provide guidance and oversight for the work of this and other local Methodist Churches.

Objectives and activities

Wealdstone Methodist Church exists to provide regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike. It provides a sacred space, a building, for prayer and contemplation. It explains and commends Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups. It carries out pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved. It provides a weekly "Friendship Café", a fellowship meeting (The Wesley Guild), a Toddlers' Group and a Baby Bank. It offers its halls for hire, subject to availability, to community groups.

Minister

The Revd Audrey Browne, 54 Kingsfield Avenue, Harrow, HA2 6AT

Tel: 8427 0057 email: minister@wmclr.org.uk

This is a new appointment starting on 1 September 2023. The minister during the year covered in this Annual Report, 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023, was the Revd Stephen Poole.

Services for Marriage, Funerals, Baptisms and Confirmation are arranged directly with the Minister.

Church Council Secretary

David Milne, 38 The Avenue, Harrow. HA3 7DE

Tel: 020 8954 7248 email: church.secretary@wmclr.org.uk

Treasurer

Malcolm Aldridge, 35 Boxtree Road, Harrow. HA3 6TN

Tel: 020 8954 1619 email: treasurer@wmclr.org.uk

The General Church Meeting

All church members are entitled to attend the General Church Meeting which has a responsibility to consider the whole ministry of the church. It appoints the Church Stewards and elects representatives of the congregation to serve on the Church Council.

The Church Council (Managing Trustees)

The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its responsibility. It appoints committees which have authority, in their own areas of responsibility, to initiate action, co-ordinate the work done in the church, advise the Church Council and report to it. Membership of the Church Council is either "Ex-officio" or by election at the General Church Meeting or by co-option by the Church Council itself.

The Church Council members are the managing trustees of Wealdstone Methodist Church. The Custodian Trustees for property matters are the *Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes* (TMCP), located in Manchester. On appointment, Trustees receive training in their responsibilities through guidance produced by the Methodist Conference and the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee'.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church for ensuring that financial statements comply with current legislation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and their proper application under charity law and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Risks are regularly reviewed by the Church Council and recommendations followed up. Where necessary, advice from relevant professionals is sought.

The Trustees have adopted a Safeguarding Policy in relation to children and vulnerable people, and all trustees are subject to DBS clearance. This is reviewed annually.

There is no bar to anyone engaging in the activities of the church on the grounds of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation, saving that the trustees must by law be church members.

The Church Council is responsible for producing this Trustees' Report for the General Church Meeting and the Charities Commission. This Report for 2022 – 23 was approved by the General Church Meeting on 26 November 2023.

THE AREAS OF CHURCH WORK

The Church Council has identified three “areas” of church work. The names of these areas are:

- Worship, Learning and Care
- Mission
- Administration

WORSHIP, LEARNING AND CARE:

This working area includes all the worship and learning activities that happen on a Sunday as well as discussion groups, Guild and the mid-week communion services. Pastoral Care is monitored by the Pastoral Committee.

Services of Worship

Sunday: 10.45am.

Holy Communion is included at least once per month at 10.45am.

The Church Stewards

The General Church Meeting annually appoints as church stewards, two or more persons who are members of the Church. The church stewards are corporately responsible with the minister for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. This includes being responsible for ensuring that all services appointed on the circuit plan are duly held.

Communion Stewards

The Church Council annually appoints persons to serve as communion stewards who will make provision for the proper celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

The Pastoral Committee

The Church Council annually appoints pastoral visitors and a Pastoral Committee secretary to share in the pastoral care of members and adherents.

Fellowship and Discussion Groups

Wesley Guild meets on alternate Thursdays at 7.30 pm from October to February.

Bible Study Group: Previously, two “House Groups” met monthly in a member's home but during the Covid pandemic they merged into one group meeting online. This group now meets face to face in the Guild Room and has been renamed the Bible Study Group

MISSION

Mission includes the outreach and social interaction of the church with its members and adherents, all those who meet on or use the halls during the week and local or national charities.

Social Activities Group

The Church Council annually appoints a Social Activities Group to arrange occasional social activities and outings for Church Members, adherents and friends.

Church Community Groups:

The Friendship Café offers a social activity and café on Wednesdays.

Toddlers' Group offers mid-week activities for young children and their parents or carers on Monday and Thursday at 10.00 am.

Baby Bank offers equipment and support to local families with small children on Fridays from 9.30am.

Shamwari is a social group for members and adherents who normally live alone.

ADMINISTRATION

The Finance and Property Committee and the Church Treasurer

The Church Council annually appoints a church treasurer who keeps a record of all church income and expenditure and produces the Annual Accounts.

The Church Council annually appoints a Finance and Property Committee to work with the treasurer on the financial planning of the church and to maintain the buildings and property.

The Finance and Property Committee meets three times a year. The main sources of funds are weekly and monthly offerings, tax recoveries under Gift Aid, donations and some legacies. The church policy is to maintain in its General Reserve an amount equal to six months normal expenses.

The Church Council annually appoints two Property Stewards. The role of Lettings Officer is to manage the letting of the premises to organisations who rent the premises for their own purposes.

Achievements During The Year

During the financial year, 1 September 2022 – 31 August 2023, the Church Council met four times.

The Church Council has appointed a Safeguarding Officer and the annual review of the church's Safeguarding policy took place in October 2022.

The following gives an indication of the work overseen or initiated by the Church Council during 1 September 2022 – 31 August 2023.

Mission Plan: The church has produced a Mission Plan outlining the intended key activities for the year. Progress against this plan is reviewed regularly by the Church Council to ensure that planned actions take place. The plan itself is reviewed and re-issued annually.

Church Services: Sunday morning services take place every week. The service start time is at 10.45am because the church building is also used by the LifeSpring Romanian Church for their Sunday morning service, starting at 7.45am. This allows changeover time between the services

Communion Services: The average attendance at our monthly morning Holy Communion was 59, which is 5 higher than last year. This ranged from 43 in June to 74 at the April Easter Morning Communion Service. There was only one month when we had under 50 communicants. The annual Covenant Service in February was well attended with 71 communicants. We had an earlier Christmas Eve Communion at 6.30pm attended by 35 communicants.

This year, there were no monthly midweek communions on Wednesdays, but during Lent, in March, a Monday afternoon Communion followed on after our Minister had led a Lent Group Meeting and 17 attended.

We have continued to follow the same pattern in the administering of Communion at the communion rail with members coming forward to fill a complete rail and the Minister saying a short prayer before people return to their seats. One Communion Steward has assisted the Minister with serving the wine.

There were no baptisms this year. Once again, Young Church has not met as there are no children and so this activity has been discontinued for the time being.

The *Worship Forum* met twice in the year, as planned, after a morning service. This gives the congregation an opportunity to provide feedback on the services,

Pastoral Committee Work: Pastoral visitors cared for our members and adherents and distribute our church magazine. The membership of the church at the end of the year was 105 which is five less than the previous year.

The Bible Study Group provides a means of sharing, discussion, bible study and prayer. This group met monthly, throughout the year with a summer break in August. It has been decided to continue with this group instead of reverting to meetings in peoples' homes.

The Wesley Guild met on alternate Thursdays from October 2022 until February 2023.

Shamwari is a church group for people who live on their own. It has held occasional meetings and outings.

The Church Magazine, Dawn, was published five times during the year. Sadly, the June edition proved to be the last because of the deteriorating health of the editors, which meant that they could not continue. As no-one else can take it on, the magazine has now been discontinued.

The Friendship Café on Wednesdays and *The Toddlers' Group* on Mondays and Thursdays continue to be run very successfully by church volunteers.

The Wealdstone Baby Bank, continues to be very successful with many young families coming for support, baby clothes and small items of baby equipment. It meets in the hall on Friday mornings from 9.30 – 11.30am.

The Online Learning Centre, run by a "Digital Ambassador" from the Enderley Road Patients' Association, held some more courses during the year. These courses offered digital skills training to local people who need access to government and health services which are available online, eg the NHS or surgery appointments. However, they have been so successful that they have

“saturated the market” in the local area. The “Digital Ambassador” has expanded the work to other areas which are beyond the scope of Wealdstone Methodist Church.

Charities supported and funds raised:

At Christmas 2022 the church raised a total of £1,023.40 for *Action for Children* from the annual gift service (including vouchers), the Christmas Card distribution, a church donation and carol singing outside the church.

The Annual Bread and Cheese Lunch was held on the Sunday before Christmas and raised £285 for *Shelter*, the charity that helps homeless people.

Christian Aid Week collections were held this year by distributing *Christian Aid* envelopes to the Sunday congregations. We collected a total of £340.00 and *Christian Aid* will be able to claim a further £57.50 as Gift Aid. A further £97.80 was raised at a *Christian Aid* coffee morning, making a grand total of £495.30.

MHA: The annual envelope offering and box collection for Methodist Homes raised ££233.75, including Gift Aid.

The church also donated £7,500 to our regular list of local and world charities, which enables us to help people on the margins of society in Harrow and in the wider world, including Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) appeals.

The *Finance and Property Committees* has met three times during the year. The committee, including the treasurer who is also the Property Secretary, has maintained accounting records of the financial position of Wealdstone Methodist Church. (See attached accounts). Major financial decisions have to be approved by the Church Council.

Use of Premises by other Groups

The church sponsored Scout Group continued to meet on Friday evenings. At present, they only have Scout and Cub sections.

The premises were let to various community groups: the Montrose Pre-School, a Parkinson’s UK Group, the Harrow African Caribbean Association and a *Kumon* educational group.

The premises are also let to the *Life Spring Romanian Fellowship* Church, which continues to meet regularly. They hold several mid-week meetings as well as Sunday services.

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

For the year ended 31 August 2023

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

in the

HARROW AND HILLINGDON CIRCUIT

OF THE LONDON DISTRICT no 35/36

Minister

The Rev. Stephen Poole (to 31st August 2023)

Senior Steward

Helen Riley

Church Stewards

Paul Phillips

David Nixon

Church Secretary

David Milne

Treasurer

Malcolm Aldridge

Independent Examiner

Graham Lee

Registered Charity No 1127748

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2023

Introduction

Total income (excluding legacy income) is showing a reduction of 23% compared with last year. This is principally due to no further grants being obtained for the online digital inclusion classes which have now completed. Total Expenditure (excluding legacy projects expenditure) has increased by 2% as compared with last year. Service and Mission grants have increased by £350 to £7,500 as compared with the previous year.

The resultant out-turn (excluding legacy income) is a £14,500 reduction against 2022. The church accounts are prepared on the receipts and payments method.

Income

The people at Wealdstone continue to be unfailingly generous in their financial support of the church and the various charitable projects for which support is sought either through special appeals or fund-raising events and coffee mornings. Freewill offering and Gift Aid recovered has shown a small increase of 1% over the past 12 months. Income from interest has increased sixfold due to the various increases in the bank interest rate. Lettings income has increased by almost 4%. Other income and internal organisations (income) has shown a decrease of 42% and 89% respectively as compared with the previous year, due to the loss of receipt of new funding and resultant income from the online digital inclusion classes.

Expenditure

Overall costs have remained within budget with the exception of the property repairs and maintenance fund where extensive electrical remedial and improvement works were undertaken as a single package which was financially advantageous as against undertaking the work as separate packages. The church has continued to maintain a significant number of donations to various good causes, local and wider, totalling £7,500, a small increase of £350 from the previous year from the general income fund. It must as always be acknowledged that such giving is only made possible through the many tasks undertaken by members and friends in the church without which significant higher costs would be incurred. Such service - some known, some unknown – continues to be a major contribution to the ongoing Christian witness in our community.

Legacies

The church received £20,000 from the estate of Jean Bartlett. There has been one expenditure against the Legacy funds during the year, a donation of £2,500 to the Amaudo Itumbauzo upgrade of water supplies project. The Church is extremely grateful for the generosity of members and the Church Council will continue to deliberate carefully to ensure that future decisions on expenditure from the fund are wisely made.

Moving forward

The budget for 2023/24 continues to contain an amount of uncertainty, in particular, with inflation and increased costs. Assumptions have been made regarding freewill giving and lettings. The budget will be monitored at frequent intervals during the year and, where necessary, adjustments made. There is a reduction of £1,200 in the Fund for Ministry (Circuit Assessment). The current contract for the supply of gas and electricity expires in September 2024. However, we are to expect a substantial increase, approximately double the current cost, for gas and electricity from October 2024. The charges for the use of premises have been reviewed and some have been increased where appropriate.

It is hoped that income from freewill offering and lettings will remain as budget and, if possible, increase during the coming year.

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 August 2023

1. Charitable Status

The Church is registered with the Charity Commission.

2. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost. The accounts show the receipts and payments for the year.

3. Funds

General Funds

The funds held constitute: Unrestricted Funds comprising General Funds held for any purpose of the charity and Designated Funds held for specific purposes of the charity laid down by the Church Council. Restricted Funds are held by the church for narrower purposes. These comprise the Benevolence Fund to meet cases of need and the funds of Organisations Reporting to Church Council. Funds collected for and paid over to External Organisations are also Restricted but these are not included in the SOFA or Balance Sheet. The church has had no Endowment Funds since August 2007.

4. Accounting policies

Incoming Resources

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Church

Other than the historic cost of the building, no Tangible Fixed Assets have been capitalised. The church premises and contents are held by the Church Council as Managing Trustees on behalf of the Custodian trustees, the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. The buildings, contents and organ will be insured from renewal on 29th September 2023 for £3,784,255, £185,058 and £436,887 respectively representing the reinstatement cost, not historic cost less depreciation. The figures for 2022 were £3,610,936, £176,562 and £416,878.

Investment properties.

The church holds no investment properties.

Investments

The church holds no investments.

Loans

The church holds no loans from members or other sources.

5. Trustees

Two Trustees also fulfil organists duties and received payment against invoices in accordance with the rates given in Note 7 below totalling £1,456 (2022 £1,428). No other Trustees, or persons connected with them, received any remuneration or other benefits from the Church or any connected organisation as a result of their office during the year ended 31st August 2023 (2022 £Nil). Trustees are allowed to reclaim certain expenses incurred as a result of fulfilling their duties. The amount claimed during the year was £Nil. (2022 £Nil).

6. Fees for examination of the accounts

The Independent Examiner received no fees or expenses for reporting on the accounts. (2022 £Nil).

7. Paid employees

The church currently has no paid employees. The only persons to receive remuneration for their activities on behalf of the church were organists paid at the rate of £28 per service, at a total cost of £1,456 (2022, £28 & £1,428).

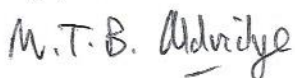
8. Capital Commitments

At 31st August 2023, no capital commitments existed, (2022, £Nil).

9. Treasurer's Declaration

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

Malcolm Aldridge, Treasurer

Signed: 

Dated: 29/09/23

10. Declaration by the Chair of the Church Council

I confirm that the accounts will be presented to the Church Council which I intend to chair on 17th October 2023.

The Rev. Audrey Browne, Chair of the Church Council

Signed: 

Dated: 17th October 2023

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 31/08/2023	As at 31/08/2022
Fixed assets			
	3001: Long Term Investments	—	—
	3040: Church premises at historic cost	5,000.00	5,000.00
	3041: Hall premises at historic cost	2,775.00	2,775.00
	Total Fixed assets	7,775.00	7,775.00
Current assets			
	5001: Barclays Current Account	10,804.15	15,297.06
	5002: Lloyds Current Account	2,989.38	6,050.65
	5004: Central Finance Board	63,460.67	72,108.58
	5005: Scottish Widows Bank	—	—
	5006: Cash in Hand - Luncheon Club	—	—
	5007: Cash in Hand - Traidcraft	18.46	13.15
	5008: Cash in Hand - Friendship Cafe	38.38	21.54
	5009: Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes	76,372.42	57,187.26
	5010: General debtors	—	—
	5011: Fund for Ministry in advance	—	—
	5012: Cash in Hand - Toddlers	21.26	17.22
	5013: Cash in Hand - Social Activities Group	—	—
	5995: Debtors and creditors transfer account	—	—
	5999: Agency transfer account	—	—
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	—	—
	Total Current assets	153,704.72	150,695.46
Liabilities			
	6002: General Creditors	—	—
	6699: Agency collections	—	—
	Z04: Accounts Payable	—	—
	Total Liabilities	—	—
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	161,479.72	158,470.46
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	3,009.26	16,262.96
	Z01: Starting balances	158,470.46	142,207.49
	Z02: Other gains/(losses)	—	0.01
	Total Reserves	161,479.72	158,470.46

Represented by Funds		
Unrestricted	69,424.81	55,077.46
Designated	78,418.36	72,401.21
Restricted	13,636.55	30,991.79
Endowment	—	—
Total	161,479.72	158,470.46

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources					
Offerings and tax recoverable	52,638.92	105.56	—	52,744.48	52,066.62
Interest and investment income	3,881.22	—	—	3,881.22	559.07
Lettings	46,263.46	—	—	46,263.46	44,617.96
Other income	6,327.82	—	—	6,327.82	10,969.96
Internal organisations (income)	1,438.49	2,898.99	—	4,337.48	40,235.67
Legacies	20,000.00	—	—	20,000.00	—
Total income	130,549.91	3,004.55	—	133,554.46	148,449.28
Resources used					
Circuit assessment or share	45,680.00	—	—	45,680.00	45,980.00
Grants and donations	7,500.00	173.87	—	7,673.87	10,495.20
Repairs and maintenance	33,560.71	—	—	33,560.71	15,348.87
Utilities, insurances etc	11,751.14	—	—	11,751.14	11,881.13
Provisions	—	—	—	—	—
Other expenditure	7,708.64	—	—	7,708.64	10,788.49
Internal organisations (expenditure)	1,485.26	20,185.58	—	21,670.84	31,056.63
Legacy Projects	2,500.00	—	—	2,500.00	6,636.00
Total expenditure	110,185.75	20,359.45	—	130,545.20	132,186.32
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	—	—	0.01
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	20,364.16	(17,354.90)	—	3,009.26	16,262.97
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	14,500.34	—	—	14,500.34	32,836.00
Gross transfers between funds - out	(14,500.00)	(0.34)	—	(14,500.34)	(32,836.00)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds	20,364.50	(17,355.24)	—	3,009.26	16,262.97
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	127,478.67	30,991.79	—	158,470.46	142,207.49
Total funds carried forward	147,843.17	13,636.55	—	161,479.72	158,470.46

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Fund movement summary Selected period: 01 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Flat - Church Flat Improvement Fund	4,000.00	—	—	—	—	—	4,000.00
DHiggins - David Higgins (Young People) Fund	3,000.00	—	—	—	—	—	3,000.00
DiaComCI - Diabetes Community Club Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
OnlLearn - Online Learning Fund	18,024.23	—	18,023.90	(0.33)	—	—	—
Benevolenc - Benevolence Fund	240.42	105.56	173.87	—	—	—	172.11
Buildings - Church Buildings Fund	7,775.00	—	—	—	—	—	7,775.00
ChurchHols - Church Holiday Fund	617.45	—	—	—	—	—	617.45
DFleming - Dedrick Fleming Fund	393.96	—	—	—	—	—	393.96
FrCafePrj - Friendship Cafe/Project Fund	537.72	777.84	581.38	—	—	—	734.18
General - General fund	55,077.46	109,111.42	85,264.41	(9,499.66)	—	—	69,424.81
IntEve - International Evening Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
LegProj - Legacy Projects Fund	56,201.80	20,000.00	—	(2,500.00)	—	—	73,701.80
Luncheon - Luncheon Club Fund	0.01	—	—	(0.01)	—	—	—
Organ - Organ Fund	2,000.00	—	—	—	—	—	2,000.00
Printing - Printing Fund	2,341.15	1,438.49	1,485.26	—	—	—	2,294.38
Property - Property Fund	7,739.68	—	23,436.08	12,000.00	—	—	(3,696.40)
Social - Social Activity Fund	79.08	—	—	—	—	—	79.08
Toddlers - Toddlers Fund	132.52	1,153.54	735.79	—	—	—	550.27
Traidcraft - Traidcraft Fund	191.40	580.11	457.01	—	—	—	314.50
Guild - Wesley Guild Fund	—	387.50	387.50	—	—	—	—
YoungCh - Young Church Fund	118.58	—	—	—	—	—	118.58
Totals	158,470.46	133,554.46	130,545.20	—	—	—	161,479.72

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Wealdstone Methodist Church Charity Number 1127748

This report is on the Church Funds for the year ended 31 August 2023 which are set out on the accompanying pages 2-7 and is in respect of an examination carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of the Church Council and the Examiner

As trustees, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and the preparation of the appropriate accounts under section 130 of the Act. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with section 145 of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the Directions made under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act. This examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Church Treasurer and a comparison of the accounts with those records. The procedures undertaken do not provide 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 Examiner's 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
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act
- have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should have been drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

- (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.

* delete as appropriate

Graham Lee, Independent Examiner

Signed: *Graham Lee*
Address: 58 BEECH AVENUE
RUISLIP
MAY 800

Dated: 29th September 2023

EARMARKED DONATIONS

The amounts raised for other charities and organisations, which do not form part of the Church's Income or Expenditure, were as follows:

Organisation	2022/23	2021/22
23 rd Harrow Scouts	299.00	-
Action for Children	1,131.40	654.40
Age UK	93.78	-
All We Can	93.80	501.60
Amaudo UK	150.00	-
British Heart Foundation	111.67	-
Christian Aid	**495.30	**257.50
Crisis at Christmas	-	282.50
Cystic Fibrosis Trust	523.00	438.62
DEC Pakistan Floods Appeal	135.70	-
DEC Turkey & Syria Earthquake Appeal	695.00	-
DEC Ukraine Appeal	-	508.00
Friends of Amasango	-	158.00
Harrow Foodbank	303.00	256.75
Harrow Mencap	639.10	403.00
Harrow and Pinner Lions Club	112.00	668.15
Karibuni Trust	120.00	122.50
MacMillan Cancer Relief	289.25	175.92
Methodist Homes (MHA)	*541.33	*471.45
Methodist Wesley Guild	-	23.00
Methodist Church World Mission Fund (MWiB)		
Easter Offering)	*414.50	*393.75
Montrose Pre-School	547.00	
Mufakose Methodist Church	-	111.20
National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC)	411.00	-
Nigeria Health Care Project	257.50	194.30
Parkinson's UK	120.00	-
Paul Strickland Scanner Centre	-	125.50
RNLI	286.68	458.00
Salvation Army Victim Support Fund	130.00	87.50
Shelter	285.60	-
Sickle Cell Society	-	121.20
St Lukes Hospice	283.00	101.00
Stillbirth and Neonatal Death (SANDS)	125.00	147.80
Traidcraft Exchange	-	500.00
Traidcraft Fair Trade Fortnight	-	92.00
UNICEF - Tonga Emergency Appeal (£250.00 from Benevolence Fund)	-	250.00
UNICEF - Afghanistan Conflict Appeal (£250.00 from Benevolence Fund & £140.00 Wesley Guild coffee morning)	-	390.00
Unique (Rare Chromosome Disorder Support Group)	170.20	-
Wealdstone Baby Bank	125.50	200.00
Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund	-	96.00
	£8,889.31	£8,189.64

*Includes Gift Aid reclaimed by WMC on behalf of the charity and included with the amount raised.

**Includes Gift Aid to be reclaimed by the charity.

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1127748

Accounts

Wealdstone Methodist Church

Trustees' Report and Accounts 2022

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Address: Locket Road, Wealdstone Harrow. HA3 7ND

Church email: wealdstonechurch@yahoo.co.uk

website: www.wmclr.org.uk

The Church halls telephone: 020 8861 0913

Registered Charity No: 1127748

Wealdstone Methodist Church comes under the auspices of the Methodist Church in Britain whose governing body is the Methodist Conference. The authority by which the Conference acts is laid out in the Methodist Church Act 1976. Wealdstone Methodist Church is part of the group of Methodist Churches in the Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. It is also a separately registered charity reporting to the Charity Commission.

All activities are undertaken by volunteers, other than the work of a stipendiary minister, appointed by the Circuit to provide guidance and oversight for the work of this and other local Methodist Churches.

Objectives and activities

Wealdstone Methodist Church exists to provide regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike. It provides a sacred space, a building, for prayer and contemplation. It explains and commends Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups. It carries out pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved. It provides a weekly "Friendship Café", a fellowship meeting (The Wesley Guild), a Toddlers' Group and a Baby Bank. It also hosts "Digital inclusion Courses" run by an expert to train people on how to access local social services through online technology. It offers its halls for hire, subject to availability, to community groups.

Minister

The Revd Stephen Poole Tel: 07760 490606 email: steveej55@hotmail.co.uk

Services for Marriage, Funerals, Baptisms and Confirmation are arranged directly with the Minister.

Church Council Secretary

David Milne, 38 The Avenue, Harrow. HA3 7DE

Tel: 020 8954 7248 email: themilnes@sky.com

Treasurer

Malcolm Aldridge, 35 Boxtree Road, Harrow. HA3 6TN

Tel: 020 8954 1619 email: Malcolm.Aldridge@btinternet.com

The General Church Meeting

All church members are entitled to attend the General Church Meeting which has a responsibility to consider the whole ministry of the church. It appoints the Church Stewards and elects representatives of the congregation to serve on the Church Council.

The Church Council (Managing Trustees)

The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its responsibility. It appoints committees which have authority, in their own areas of responsibility, to initiate action, co-ordinate the work done in the church, advise the Church Council and report to it. Membership of the Church Council is either "Ex-officio" or by election at the General Church Meeting or by co-option by the Church Council itself.

The Church Council members are the managing trustees of Wealdstone Methodist Church. The Custodian Trustees for property matters are the *Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes* (TMCP), located in Manchester. On appointment, Trustees receive training in their responsibilities through guidance produced by the Methodist Conference and the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee'.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church for ensuring that financial

statements comply with current legislation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and their proper application under charity law and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Risks are regularly reviewed by the Church Council and recommendations followed up. Where necessary, advice from relevant professionals is sought.

The Trustees have adopted a Safeguarding Policy in relation to children and vulnerable people, and all trustees are subject to DBS clearance. This is reviewed annually.

There is no bar to anyone engaging in the activities of the church on the grounds of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation, saving that the trustees must by law be church members.

The Church Council is responsible for producing this Trustees' Report for the General Church Meeting and the Charities Commission. This Report for 2021 – 22 was approved by the General Church Meeting on 27 November 2022.

THE AREAS OF CHURCH WORK

The Church Council has identified three “areas” of church work. The names of these areas are:

- Worship, Learning and Care
- Mission
- Administration

Previously, there were two groups called “Ministry” and “Local and World Mission.” These were combined into “Mission” in July 2022.

WORSHIP, LEARNING AND CARE:

This working area includes all the worship and learning activities that happen on a Sunday as well as discussion groups, Guild and the mid-week communion services. Pastoral Care is monitored by the Pastoral Committee.

Services of Worship

Sunday: 10.45am. *(The service start time was changed from 10.30am in March 2022)*

Holy Communion is included on the second Sunday in the month at 10.45am.

Midweek Communion: A Communion service is held at 2.00pm on the third Monday of the month. *This is a trial arrangement, replacing the Wednesday services that were held previously.*

The Church Stewards

The General Church Meeting annually appoints as church stewards, two or more persons who are members of the Church. The church stewards are corporately responsible with the minister for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. This includes being responsible for ensuring that all services appointed on the circuit plan are duly held.

Communion Stewards

The Church Council annually appoints persons to serve as communion stewards who will make provision for the proper celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

The Pastoral Committee

The Church Council annually appoints pastoral visitors and a Pastoral Committee secretary to share in the pastoral care of members and adherents.

Fellowship and Discussion Groups

Wesley Guild meets on alternate Thursdays at 7.30 pm from October to February.

House Groups: Two groups previously met monthly in a member's home but during the pandemic one group met online. This group now meets face to face in the Guild Room. It is planned to return to house meetings in the future

MISSION

Mission includes the outreach and social interaction of the church with its members and adherents, all those who meet on or use the halls during the week and local or national charities.

The Local and World Mission Committee has not met for three years and is now discontinued. Its role is now taken on by the Church Council.

The Church Council employed a Church Development Worker for five years. This employment ended on 31 August 2021. Efforts to find a new "Church Community Worker" were unsuccessful so this role is no longer in place.

Social Activities Group

The Church Council annually appoints a Social Activities Group to arrange occasional social activities and outings for Church Members, adherents and friends.

Church Community Groups:

The Friendship Café offers a social activity and café on Wednesdays.

The Online Learning Centre is a new group offering digital training to the community.

Toddlers' Group offers mid-week activities for young children and their parents or carers on Monday and Thursday at 10.00 am.

Baby Bank offers equipment and support to local families with small children on Fridays from 9.30am.

Shamwari is a social group for members and adherents who normally live alone.

ADMINISTRATION

The Finance and Property Committee and the Church Treasurer

The Church Council annually appoints a church treasurer who keeps a record of all church income and expenditure and produces the Annual Accounts.

The Church Council annually appoints a Finance and Property Committee to work with the treasurer on the financial planning of the church and to maintain the buildings and property.

The Finance and Property Committee meets three times a year. The main sources of funds are weekly and monthly offerings, tax recoveries under Gift Aid, donations and some legacies. The church policy is to maintain in its General Reserve an amount equal to six months normal expenses.

The Church Council annually appoints two Property Stewards. The role of Lettings Officer is to manage the letting of the premises to organisations who rent the premises for their own purposes. This role is now being carried out by the minister.

Achievements During The Year

During the financial year, 1 September 2021 – 31 August 2022, the Church Council met four times. The Church Council has appointed a Safeguarding Officer and the annual review of the church's Safeguarding policy took place in October 2021.

The following gives an indication of the work overseen or initiated by the Church Council during 1 September 2021 – 31 August 2022. Most of the church activities that were curtailed due to the Covid pandemic the previous year resumed after September 2021.

Mission Plan: The church has produced a Mission Plan outlining the intended key activities for the year. Progress against this plan is reviewed regularly by the Church Council to ensure that planned actions take place. The plan itself is reviewed and re-issued annually.

Church Services: Sunday morning services take place every week. The service start time was changed from 10.30 am to 10.45am from March 2022. This change was made because the church is also used by the LifeSpring Romanian Church for their Sunday morning service. Their start time changed to 7.45 instead of 8.00 and so this allowed more changeover time between the services

Communion Services: The administering of communion by the Minister and Steward returned to the pre Covid procedure from Easter onwards, ie those participating come forward to the communion rail to receive the bread and wine and return to their seats after a short prayer.

Average attendance was 54 at 12 morning services. Last year the average attendance was 50. The range of attendance was from 42 in October to 69 in November when there was a joint service with North Harrow. Ten of the 12 monthly services had over 50 communicants.

12 people attended the Ash Wednesday Communion at 5.00pm but there was no Easter Morning Communion this year.

There were only 6 Wednesday Communion Services during the year with an average attendance of 5. Several were cancelled due to low attendance or the Minister being unavailable. The mid-week communion is being moved to the third Monday of the month at 2.00pm. Hopefully, this time suits more members as we have recently held House Group meetings at church on the first Monday afternoon of the month with encouraging attendance.

There were no baptisms this year. Once again, Young Church has not met as there are no children and so this activity has been discontinued for the time being.

The *Worship Forum* met twice in the year, as planned, after a morning service. This gives the congregation an opportunity to provide feedback on the services,

Pastoral Committee Work: Pastoral visitors care for our members and adherents and distribute our church magazine. This workload has now returned to normal as there are no longer any Covid restrictions. The current membership of the church is 110 which is 4 lower than for the previous year.

Fellowship and discussion groups provide a means of sharing, discussion, bible study and prayer in people's homes. The *Afternoon House Group* and the *Evening House Group*, did not meet this year but a Bible Study group met monthly. Initially, this group met online but now meets face to face in the Guild room at church. It is hoped to return to the House Group format later.

The *Wesley Guild* restarted in October 2021 and met on alternate Thursdays until February 2022. This pattern worked well and will be repeated for 2022 – 2023.

The *Social Activities Group* arranged outings to Windsor and Southend. Both were very successful and enjoyed by those who took part.

Shamwari is a church group for people who live on their own. It has restarted meetings and outings.

The *Church Magazine, Dawn*, was back to normal with six editions published during the year.

The *Friendship Café* on Wednesdays and The *Toddlers' Group* on Mondays and Thursdays are now run by church volunteers as we could not recruit a Church Community Worker.

The *Wealdstone Baby Bank*, which started in April 2021, has proved to be very successful with many young families coming for support, baby clothes and small items of baby equipment. It meets in the hall on Friday mornings from 9.30am – 12.00 noon.

The *Online Learning Centre*, run by a “Digital Ambassador” from the Enderley Road Patients’ Association, has continued to be very successful. This group offers digital skills training to local people who need access to government and health services which are available online, eg the NHS or surgery appointments. The work has expanded to include a *Diabetic Community Club*, which offers similar support especially designed for diabetic patients. These courses have been so successful that to some extent they have now “saturated the market” in the local area and the number of courses at the church may decrease next year.

Charities supported and funds raised:

At Christmas 2021 the church raised a total of £1,099.40 for *Action for Children* from the annual gift service (including vouchers), the Christmas Card distribution, a church donation and carol singing outside the church.

The Annual Bread and Cheese Lunch was held in the church halls but a “Take Away” lunch was offered as an option. This raised £228 for *Crisis at Christmas*. A further £54.50 was raised at the Christmas Day service.

Christian Aid Week collections were held this year by distributing Christian Aid envelopes to the Sunday congregations. We collected a total of £235.00 and Christian Aid will be able to claim a further £22.50 as Gift Aid.

MHA: The annual envelope offering and box collection for Methodist Homes raised £420.20, including Gift Aid.

The church also donated £7,500 to our regular list of local and world charities, which enables us to help people on the margins of society in Harrow and in the wider world, including Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) appeals.

The church still supports and promotes *Fair Trade* by enabling the sale of *Traidcraft* products.

The *Finance and Property Committees* has met three times during the year. The committee, including the treasurer who is also the Property Secretary, has maintained accounting records of the financial position of Wealdstone Methodist Church. (See attached accounts). Major financial decisions have to be approved by the Church Council.

Use of Premises by other Groups

The church sponsored Scout Group continued to meet on Friday evenings. At present, they only have Scout and Cub sections.

The premises were let to various community groups: the Montrose Pre-School, a Parkinson’s UK Group, the Harrow African Caribbean Association, Kumon educational group and a Zumba class.

The premises are also let to other Christian denominations. *The Arise Church* no longer meets on our premises but the *LifeSpring Romanian Fellowship Church*, which started in February 2021, continues to meet regularly. They hold several mid-week meetings as well as Sunday services. At Christmas 2021 there was a united carol service for both churches.

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

For the year ended 31 August 2022

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

in the

HARROW AND HILLINGDON CIRCUIT

OF THE LONDON DISTRICT no 35/36

Minister

The Rev. Stephen Poole

Senior Steward

Helen Riley

Church Stewards

Paul Phillips

David Nixon (from 1st May 2022)

Church Secretary

David Milne

Treasurer

Malcolm Aldridge

Independent Examiner

Geoffrey Porter

Registered Charity No 1127748

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2022

Introduction

The financial position has shown a steady recovery from the COVID 19 pandemic and consequential lockdown(s) of 2020-21. Income from all sources has shown a substantial improvement of 25% as compared with last year where income had increased by 1%. Expenditure has also increased by 28% as compared with the previous year, principally due to an increase in property repairs and maintenance and mission grant donations. The resultant out-turn is a £3,300 surplus. This surplus has been largely generated by two substantial income streams from use of premises. The church accounts are prepared on the receipts and payments method.

Income

The people at Wealdstone continue to be unfailingly generous in their financial support of the church and the various charitable projects for which support is sought either through special appeals or fund raising events and coffee mornings. Freewill offering has shown a reduction of 5% over the past 12 months. However, this needs to be read against a general increase in income from use of the premises. Income from Gift Aid has remained broadly static as compared with 2021.

Expenditure

Overall costs have remained within budget. The church has continued to maintain a significant number of donations to various good causes, local and wider, totalling £7,250, an increase of £1,400 from the previous year from the general income fund. It must as always be acknowledged that such giving is only made possible through the many tasks undertaken by members and friends in the church without which significant higher costs would be incurred. Such service – some known, some unknown – continues to be a major contribution to the ongoing Christian witness in our community.

Legacies

No new Legacy funds have been received during the year. Existing Legacy funds have been expended during the year with the transfer to the general fund to support the loss of lettings income resulting from the pandemic lockdown(s) and the upgrade work to the church audio-visual system. To date, we have been unsuccessful in finding and appointing a new Church Community Worker which would be substantially funded from the Legacy funds. The Church is extremely grateful to the team of volunteers who have stepped in to continue the significant outreach work. Church Council will continue to deliberate carefully to ensure that future decisions on expenditure from the fund are wisely made.

Moving forward

The budget for 2022/23 continues to contain an amount of uncertainty, in particular, with inflation and increased costs. Assumptions have been made regarding freewill giving and lettings. The budget will be monitored at frequent intervals during the year and, where necessary, adjustments made. There is no increase in the Fund for Ministry (Circuit Assessment). A new two year contract for the supply of gas and electricity commences in October based on rates agreed before the recent substantial increases in the cost of energy. The charges for the use of premises have been reviewed and these are largely unchanged from the previous year.

It is hoped that income from freewill offering and lettings will remain as budget and, if possible, increase during the coming year.

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 August 2022

1. Charitable Status

The Church is registered with the Charity Commission.

2. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost. The accounts show the receipts and payments for the year.

3. Funds

General Funds

The funds held constitute: Unrestricted Funds comprising General Funds held for any purpose of the charity and Designated Funds held for specific purposes of the charity laid down by the Church Council. Restricted Funds are held by the church for narrower purposes. These comprise the Benevolence Fund to meet cases of need and the funds of Organisations Reporting to Church Council. Funds collected for and paid over to External Organisations are also Restricted but these are not included in the SOFA or Balance Sheet. The church has had no Endowment Funds since August 2007.

4. Accounting policies

Incoming Resources

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Church

Other than the historic cost of the building, no Tangible Fixed Assets have been capitalised. The church premises and contents are held by the Church Council as Managing Trustees on behalf of the Custodian trustees, the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. The buildings, contents and organ will be insured from renewal on 29th September 2022 for £3,610,936, £176,562 and £416,878 respectively representing the reinstatement cost, not historic cost less depreciation. The figures for 2021 were £3,478,999, £153,665 and £401,082.

Investment properties.

The church holds no investment properties.

Investments

The church holds no investments.

Loans

The church holds no loans from members or other sources.

5. Trustees

Three Trustees also fulfil organists duties and received payment against invoices in accordance with the rates given in Note 7 below totalling £1,428 (2021 £924). No other Trustees, or persons connected with them, received any remuneration or other benefits from the Church or any connected organisation as a result of their office during the year ended 31st August 2022 (2021 £Nil). Trustees are allowed to reclaim certain expenses incurred as a result of fulfilling their duties. The amount claimed during the year was £Nil. (2021 £Nil).

6. Fees for examination of the accounts

The Independent Examiner received no fees or expenses for reporting on the accounts. (2021 £Nil).

7. Paid employees

During 2020/21 the church employed a Church Development Worker at a cost of £19,492, including pension payments, in accordance with the contract and terms and conditions as agreed by Church Council. The employment of the Church Development Worker ceased on 31st August 2021 and the church now currently has no paid employees. The only other persons to receive remuneration for their activities on behalf of the church were organists paid at the rate of £28 per service, at a total cost of £1,428 (2021, £28 & £924).

8. Capital Commitments

At 31st August 2022, no capital commitments existed, (2021, £Nil).

9. Treasurer's Declaration

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

Malcolm Aldridge, Treasurer

Signed: *M.T.B. Aldridge*

Dated: *04/10/22*

10. Declaration by the Chair of the Church Council

I confirm that the accounts will be presented to the Church Council which I intend to chair on 19th October 2022.

The Rev. Stephen Poole, Chair of the Church Council

Signed: *Spole*

Dated: *19.10.22*

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 31/08/2022	As at 31/08/2021
Fixed assets			
	3001: Long Term Investments	—	—
	3040: Church premises at historic cost	5,000.00	5,000.00
	3041: Hall premises at historic cost	2,775.00	2,775.00
	Total Fixed assets	7,775.00	7,775.00
Current assets			
	5001: Barclays Current Account	15,297.06	13,949.58
	5002: Lloyds Current Account	6,050.65	3,014.96
	5004: Central Finance Board	72,108.58	48,580.60
	5005: Scottish Widows Bank	—	—
	5006: Cash in Hand - Luncheon Club	—	(0.01)
	5007: Cash in Hand - Traidcraft	13.15	63.46
	5008: Cash in Hand - Friendship Cafe	21.54	—
	5009: Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes	57,187.26	68,754.65
	5010: General debtors	—	—
	5011: Fund for Ministry in advance	—	—
	5012: Cash in Hand - Toddlers	17.22	18.00
	5013: Cash in Hand - Social Activities Group	—	—
	5995: Debtors and creditors transfer account	—	—
	5999: Agency transfer account	—	—
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	—	—
	Total Current assets	150,695.46	134,381.24
Liabilities			
	6002: General Creditors	—	—
	6699: Agency collections	—	(51.25)
	Z04: Accounts Payable	—	—
	Total Liabilities	—	(51.25)
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	158,470.46	142,207.49
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	16,262.96	(10,879.87)
	Z01: Starting balances	142,207.49	153,087.36
	Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	0.01	—
	Total Reserves	158,470.46	142,207.49

Represented by Funds		
Unrestricted	55,077.46	51,772.71
Designated	72,401.21	68,095.83
Restricted	30,991.79	22,338.95
Endowment	—	—
Total	158,470.46	142,207.49

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 September 2021 to 31 August 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources					
Offerings and tax recoverable	51,925.12	141.50	—	52,066.62	54,143.40
Interest and investment income	559.07	—	—	559.07	370.15
Lettings	44,617.96	—	—	44,617.96	28,303.31
Other income	10,969.96	—	—	10,969.96	3,394.05
Internal organisations (income)	1,174.78	39,060.89	—	40,235.67	11,660.71
Legacies	—	—	—	—	—
Total income	109,246.89	39,202.39	—	148,449.28	97,871.62
Resources used					
Circuit assessment or share	45,980.00	—	—	45,980.00	45,980.00
Grants and donations	9,650.00	845.20	—	10,495.20	5,850.00
Repairs and maintenance	15,348.87	—	—	15,348.87	15,231.05
Utilities, insurances etc	11,881.13	—	—	11,881.13	10,658.08
Provisions	—	—	—	—	—
Other expenditure	10,788.49	—	—	10,788.49	5,504.09
Internal organisations (expenditure)	1,352.27	29,704.36	—	31,056.63	6,036.00
Legacy Projects	6,636.00	—	—	6,636.00	19,492.27
Total expenditure	101,636.76	30,549.56	—	132,186.32	108,751.49
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	0.01	—	0.01	—
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	7,610.13	8,652.84	—	16,262.97	(10,879.87)
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	32,836.00	—	—	32,836.00	20,132.86
Gross transfers between funds - out	(32,836.00)	—	—	(32,836.00)	(20,132.86)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds	7,610.13	8,652.84	—	16,262.97	(10,879.87)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	119,868.54	22,338.95	—	142,207.49	153,087.36
Total funds carried forward	127,478.67	30,991.79	—	158,470.46	142,207.49

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Fund movement summary
Selected period: 01 September 2021 to 31 August 2022

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
Flat - Church Flat Improvement Fund	—	—	—	4,000.00	—	—	4,000.00
DHiggins - David Higgins (Young People) Fund	3,000.00	—	—	—	—	—	3,000.00
DiaComCI - Diabetes Community Club Fund	3,000.00	(3,000.00)	—	—	—	—	—
DIGTF - Digital Inclusion (Good Things Fdn) Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
OnLearn - Online Learning Fund	5,190.01	37,710.00	24,875.78	—	—	—	18,024.23
Benevolenc - Benevolence Fund	944.12	141.50	845.20	—	—	—	240.42
Buildings - Church Buildings Fund	7,775.00	—	—	—	—	—	7,775.00
ChurchHols - Church Holiday Fund	617.45	—	—	—	—	—	617.45
DFleming - Dedrick Fleming Fund	393.96	—	—	—	—	—	393.96
FrCafePrj - Friendship Cafe/Project Fund	382.00	752.58	596.86	—	—	—	537.72
General - General fund	51,772.71	108,072.11	95,203.36	(9,564.00)	—	—	55,077.46
IntEve - International Evening Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
LegProj - Legacy Projects Fund	62,837.80	—	—	(6,636.00)	—	—	56,201.80
Luncheon - Luncheon Club Fund	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01
Organ - Organ Fund	2,000.00	—	—	—	—	—	2,000.00
Printing - Printing Fund	1,318.64	1,174.78	1,352.27	1,200.00	—	—	2,341.15
Property - Property Fund	1,820.81	—	5,081.13	11,000.00	—	—	7,739.68
Social - Social Activity Fund	276.88	1,345.00	1,542.80	—	—	—	79.08
Toddlers - Toddlers Fund	178.29	555.22	600.99	—	—	—	132.52
Traidcraft - Traidcraft Fund	581.24	1,248.79	1,638.63	—	—	—	191.40
Guild - Wesley Guild Fund	—	449.30	449.30	—	—	—	—
YoungCh - Young Church Fund	118.58	—	—	—	—	—	118.58
Totals	142,207.49	148,449.28	132,186.32	—	—	0.01	158,470.46

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Wealdstone Methodist Church

This report is on the Church Funds for the year ended 31 August 2022 which are set out on the accompanying pages 2-7 and is in respect of an examination carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of the Church Council and the Examiner

As trustees, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and the preparation of the appropriate accounts under section 130 of the Act. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with section 145 of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the Directions made under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act. This examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Church Treasurer and a comparison of the accounts with those records. The procedures undertaken do not provide 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 Examiner's 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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should have been drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

(3) I have 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.

Signed:

G. J. Porter

Dated:

4th October 2022

EARMARKED DONATIONS

The amounts raised for other charities and organisations, which do not form part of the Church's Income or Expenditure, were as follows:

Organisation	2021/22	2020/21
Action for Children	654.40	898.60
Akim Swedru Methodist Church, Ghana	-	-
All We Can	501.60	**235.00
Centre Point	-	265.00
Christian Aid	**257.50	536.50
Crisis at Christmas	282.50	-
Cystic Fibrosis Trust	438.62	-
DEC Ukraine Appeal	508.00	-
Firm Foundation	-	125.00
Friends of Amasango	158.00	-
Great Ormond Street Hospital	-	150.00
Harrow Foodbank	256.75	205.00
Harrow Mencap	403.00	-
Harrow and Pinner Lions Club	668.15	-
Karibuni Trust	122.50	-
MacMillan Cancer Relief	175.92	-
Methodist Homes (MHA)	*471.45	*538.67
Methodist Wesley Guild	23.00	-
Methodist Church World Mission Fund (MWiB Easter Offering)	*393.75	*213.00
Mufakose Methodist Church	111.20	-
Nigeria Health Care Project	194.30	-
Paul Strickland Scanner Centre	125.50	-
RNLI	458.00	-
Salvation Army Victim Support Fund	87.50	-
Sickle Cell Society	121.20	-
St Lukes Hospice	101.00	100.00
Stillbirth and Neonatal Death (SANDS)	147.80	-
Traidcraft Exchange	500.00	600.00
Traidcraft Fair Trade Fortnight	92.00	-
UNICEF - Tonga Emergency Appeal (£250.00 from Benevolence Fund)	250.00	-
UNICEF - Afghanistan Conflict Appeal (£250.00 from Benevolence Fund & £140.00 Wesley Guild coffee morning)	390.00	-
Wealdstone Baby Bank	200.00	-
Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund	96.00	-
	£8,189.64	£3,866.77

*Includes Gift Aid reclaimed by WMC on behalf of the charity and included with the amount raised.

**Includes Gift Aid to be reclaimed by the charity.

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1127748

Accounts

Wealdstone Methodist Church Trustees' Report and Accounts 2021

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Address: Locket Road, Wealdstone Harrow. HA3 7ND

Church email: wealdstonechurch@yahoo.co.uk

website: www.wmclr.org.uk

The Church halls telephone: 020 8861 0913

Registered Charity No: 1127748

Wealdstone Methodist Church comes under the auspices of the Methodist Church in Britain whose governing body is the Methodist Conference. The authority by which the Conference acts is laid out in the Methodist Church Act 1976. Wealdstone Methodist Church is part of the group of Methodist Churches in the Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. It is also a separately Registered Charity reporting to the Charity Commission.

All activities are undertaken by volunteers, other than the work of a stipendiary minister, appointed by the Circuit to provide guidance and oversight for the work of this and other local Methodist Churches, and the Church Development Worker who has been employed by the church.

Mission Statement

Wealdstone Methodist Church exists to provide regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike. It provides a sacred space, a building, for prayer and contemplation. It explains and commends Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups and runs a "Young Church" for children. It carries out pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved. It provides a weekly "Friendship Café", a fellowship meeting (The Wesley Guild) and a Toddlers' Group, with a Christian ethos. It offers its halls for hire, subject to availability, to community groups.

Minister

The Revd Stephen Poole Tel: 07760 490606 email: steveej55@hotmail.co.uk

Services for Marriage, Funerals, Baptisms and Confirmation are arranged directly with the Minister.

Church Council Secretary

David Milne, 38 The Avenue, Harrow. HA3 7DE

Tel: 020 8954 7248 email: themilnes@sky.com

Treasurer

Malcolm Aldridge, 35 Boxtree Road, Harrow. HA3 6TN

Tel: 020 8954 1619 email: Malcolm.Aldridge@btinternet.com

The General Church Meeting

All church members are entitled to attend the General Church Meeting which has a responsibility to consider the whole ministry of the church. It appoints the Church Stewards and elects representatives of the congregation to serve on the Church Council.

The Church Council (Managing Trustees)

The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its responsibility. It appoints committees which have authority, in their own areas of responsibility, to initiate action, co-ordinate the work done in the church, advise the Church Council and report to it. Membership of the Church Council is either "Ex-officio" or by election at the General Church Meeting or by co-option by the Church Council itself.

The Church Council members are the managing trustees of Wealdstone Methodist Church. The Custodian Trustees for property matters are the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, located in Manchester. On appointment, Trustees receive training in their responsibilities through guidance produced by the Methodist Conference and the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee'.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church for ensuring that financial statements comply with current legislation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets

of the church and their proper application under charity law and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.

Risks are regularly reviewed by the Church Council and recommendations followed up. Where necessary, advice from relevant professionals is sought.

The Trustees have adopted a Safeguarding Policy in relation to children and vulnerable people, and all trustees are subject to DBS clearance. This is reviewed annually.

There is no bar to anyone engaging in the activities of the church on the grounds of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation, saving that the trustees must by law be church members.

The Church Council is responsible for producing this Trustees' Report for the General Church Meeting and the Charities Commission. This Report for 2020 – 21 was approved by the General Church Meeting on 28 November 2021.

THE AREAS OF CHURCH WORK

The Church Council has identified three "areas" of church work plus one additional area for "administration". The names of these areas are:

- Worship, Learning and Care
- Ministry
- Local and World Mission
- Administration

WORSHIP, LEARNING AND CARE:

This working area includes all the worship and learning activities that happen on a Sunday as well as discussion groups, Guild and the Wednesday communion services. Pastoral Care is monitored by the Pastoral Committee.

Services of Worship

Sunday: 10.30am. **Young Church** at 10.30 am

Holy Communion is included on the fourth Sunday in the month at 10.30 am.

Wednesday: Holy Communion at 11.30 (30 minutes) on the last Wednesday of the month

The Church Stewards

The General Church Meeting annually appoints as church stewards, two or more persons who are members of the Church. The church stewards are corporately responsible with the minister for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. This includes being responsible for ensuring that all services appointed on the circuit plan are duly held.

Communion Stewards

The Church Council annually appoints persons to serve as communion stewards who will make provision for the proper celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Pastoral Committee

The Church Council annually appoints pastoral visitors and a Pastoral Committee secretary to share in the pastoral care of members and adherents.

Fellowship and Discussion Groups

Wesley Guild meets on Thursdays at 7.30 pm from October to February.

House Groups: Two groups previously met monthly in a member's home but during the pandemic on group has been meeting fortnightly online instead

MINISTRY

“Ministry” is about the mission of the church to all those who meet on or use the halls for any reason other than worship. Usually these people meet Monday to Saturday. Social activities run by the church are included here as well.

The Church Development Worker

The Church Council has employed a Church Development Worker for the past 5 years. The aim was to develop new opportunities for the church to interact with people from the community and other local churches. A core task is to lead and coordinate the work of the Toddlers’ Group. This employment ended on 31 August 2021 and a new “Church Community Worker” is being sought.

Social Activities Group

The Church Council annually appoints a Social Activities Group to arrange occasional social activities and outings for Church Members, adherents and friends.

Church Community Groups:

The Friendship Café offers a social activity and café on Wednesdays.

The Online Learning Centre is a new group offering digital training to the community.

Toddlers’ Group offers mid-week activities for young children and their parents or carers on Monday and Thursday at 10.00 am.

Shamwari is a social group for members and adherents who normally live alone.

LOCAL AND WORLD MISSION

Local and World Mission is about the mission of the church to people and organisations who are outside the immediate vicinity of the church premises. This includes work in the local community, working with other Methodist churches in the Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit and working with churches of other denominations. It also includes fund raising and other work in support of local and national charities. The charities supported by the church are listed in the accounts.

The Local and World Mission Committee

The Church Council annually appointed a convenor and secretary for the Local and World Mission Committee to discuss and plan the mission of the church and also to decide which charities will receive annual donations from the church. Due to Covid restrictions this committee did not meet between September 2020 and August 2021. A modified church management structure is being tried for the coming year. (See “Achievements” report below).

ADMINISTRATION

The Finance and Property Committees functioned as a single committee during the year

The Finance Committee and the Church Treasurer

The Church Council annually appoints a church treasurer who keeps a record of all church income and expenditure and produces the Annual Accounts.

The Church Council annually appoints a Finance and Property Committee to work with the treasurer on the financial planning of the church and to maintain the buildings and property.

The Finance and Property Committee meets three times a year. The main sources of funds are weekly and monthly offerings, tax recoveries under Gift Aid, donations and some legacies. The church policy is to maintain in its General Reserve an amount equal to six months normal expenses.

The Church Council annually appoints two Property Stewards. The role of Lettings officer is to manage the letting of the premises to organisations who rent the premises for their own purposes. This role is now being carried out by the minister.

Achievements During The Year

During the financial year, 1 September 2020 – 31 August 2021, the Church Council met three times. (The January meeting was cancelled as we were in a lockdown due to Covid-19 and there was little activity to discuss)

The Church Council has appointed a Safeguarding Officer and the annual review of the church's Safeguarding policy took place in October 2020.

The following gives an indication of the work overseen or initiated by the Church Council during 1 September 2020 – 31 August 2021. For most of the financial year many church activities were curtailed due to the Covid pandemic and the consequent Government restrictions. These activities are expected to resume after September 2021.

Mission Plan: The church has produced a Mission Plan outlining the intended key activities for the year. The plan was on hold for most of the year up to August 2021. However, it was reviewed and now will be the basis of activity for the coming year.

Church Services: After a period of lockdown, the church restarted services from Sunday 6 September. However, Covid-19 restrictions were in place. There was no singing, socialising or after church coffee. Face masks were worn and track and trace recording was in place. After Christmas, due to the worsening pandemic situation, services were stopped again until Sunday 14 March. We were pleased that Easter services could be held this year, even although the Covid restrictions were still in place.

When all legal restrictions were removed on 19 July "normal" services were cautiously restarted but people were encouraged to keep wearing masks when attending.

There were 11 Sunday morning communion services with an average attendance of 50. Last year the average for just 5 services was 69. Seven of the 11 services had over 50 communicants.

Strict Covid guidelines were followed for the preparation and administering of communion. Members remained in their seats instead of coming to the communion rail.

This year, due to Covid restrictions, Wednesday communion services were not held. It is planned to restart these once per month from September 2021

There were no baptisms this year. Formally we still have a Young Church but it is currently not meeting.

Normally, a *Worship Forum* meets twice per year after a morning service. This year it was not possible to hold these meetings but it is planned to restart them soon.

Pastoral Committee Work: Pastoral visitors care for our members and adherents and distribute our church magazine. Their workload increased during lockdown periods as the pastoral leaders have to support the members, many of whom were shielding or self-isolating. Communication was maintained by telephone and social media as well as some "socially distant" visiting when it was allowed. The current membership of the church is 114 which is 6 lower than for the previous year.

Fellowship and discussion groups provide a means of sharing, discussion, bible study and prayer in people's homes. The *Afternoon House Group* and the *Evening House Group*, did not meet this year but an online Bible Study group met monthly.

The Wesley Guild did not meet at all this year but plans to restart in October 2021

The Social Activities Group did not arrange any outings or social events but hopes to plan events in the coming year.

Shamwari is a church group for people who live on their own. It too had to stop meeting but is restarting in the new year.

The Church Magazine, Dawn, which is normally published every other month, restarted with the October and December 2020 editions but was not produced in February. Since the April 2021 edition it has continued as normal.

Church Development Worker (CDW) ran the *Wednesday Friendship Café* and *The Toddlers' Group* on Mondays and Thursdays. These had to stop during the Covid crisis. However, Zoom

conference calls, social media and outdoor, socially distant meetings were used to enable members to keep in touch with each other.

During the year, together with a “Digital Ambassador” from the Enderley Road Patients’ Association, the CDW set up an *Online Learning Centre*. This group offers digital skills training to local people who need access to government and health services which are available online, eg the NHS or surgery appointments. After several weeks of training, 20 students now know how to go online and find the support and resources that they need. It is hoped that more such courses will start in September, working with the NHS and designed especially for diabetic patients.

Together with *Harrow Citizens* the *Wealdstone Baby Bank* was started in April. This helps and supports young families by providing baby clothes and small items of baby equipment. It meets in the hall on Friday mornings from 10.00am – 12.00 noon.

The CDW, Kath Harrison, has now finished her employment and a new Church Community Worker is being sought to continue this work.

Charities supported and funds raised:

At Christmas 2020 the church raised a total of £1,124 for *Action for Children* from the annual gift service, the Christmas Card distribution, a church donation, home collecting boxes and socially distant carol singing outside the church.

The Annual Bread and Cheese Lunch was held as a “Take Away” as it was not possible to meet for lunch. This raised £265 for the *Centre Point* charity

Christian Aid Week collections were not held this year due to the virus restrictions but church members were encouraged to support the national appeals organised by the charity.

MHA: The annual envelope offering and box collection for Methodist Homes raised £538.67 including Gift Aid.

The church also donated £3,350 to our regular list of local and world charities, which enables us to help people on the margins of society in Harrow and in the wider world

A small team of members enables the church to support and promote *Fair Trade* by selling *Traidcraft* products. However, with services not being for much of the year, the level of activity was much lower.

The *Finance and Property Committees* has met three times during the year, sometimes by using online conference calls. The committee, including the treasurer who is also the Property Secretary, has maintained accounting records of the financial position of Wealdstone Methodist Church. (See attached accounts). Major financial decisions have to be approved by the Church Council.

Use of Premises by other Groups

The church sponsored Scout Group continued to meet on Friday evenings. However, the Brownies, like the Guides the previous year, have closed down due to low numbers.

The premises were let to various community groups: the Montrose Pre-School, a Parkinson’s UK Group, the Harrow African Caribbean Association and a Kumon educational group. All of these groups had to be suspended for some time due to the crisis but are now restarting.

The premises are also let to other Christian denominations. *The Arise Church* has been meeting here for many years.

A new tenant is the *LifeSpring Romanian Fellowship Church*, which started in February 2021. Their use of the premises is proving to be significant in terms of the number of regular meetings each week. This is providing more income, offsetting some of the losses due to cancellations caused by Covid.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**

For the year ended 31 August 2021

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

in the

**HARROW AND HILLINGDON CIRCUIT
OF THE LONDON DISTRICT no 35/36**

Minister

The Rev. Stephen Poole

Senior Steward

Helen Riley

Church Stewards

Paul Phillips

Gilbert Sam (to 31st July 2021)

Church Secretary

David Milne

Treasurer

Malcolm Aldridge

Independent Examiner

Geoffrey Porter

Registered Charity No 1127748

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR TO 31 AUGUST 2021

Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic and consequential lockdown(s) from March 2020 has continued to adversely affect the financial position through the year 2020/21. Income from all sources has shown a slight improvement of 0.75% as compared with last year where income had reduced by 11%. There has been a more significant reduction in costs of 15% as compared with the previous year which has been the significant factor in the resultant out-turn of a £8,290 surplus. This surplus has been largely achieved by two new income streams from use of premises and the Legacy Project Fund supporting the Service and Missions donations. The church accounts are prepared on the receipts and payments method.

Income

The people at Wealdstone continue to be unfailingly generous in their financial support of the church and the various charitable projects for which support is sought either through special appeals. It is anticipated that financial support through regular coffee mornings will be able to recommence shortly. However, the effects of the pandemic have continued to have an impact on the finances of the church. Freewill offering has shown a significant improvement of 9.7% over the past 12 months but this needs to read against a general reduction in lettings income due as not all groups been able to meet. Income from Gift Aid has reduced by 2.2% compared with 2020.

Expenditure

Overall costs have remained within budget. The church has continued to maintain a significant number of donations to various good causes, local and wider, totalling £5,850, albeit a reduction of £5,325 from the previous year from the general income and the legacy projects fund. It must as always be acknowledged that such giving is only made possible through the many tasks undertaken by members and friends in the church without which significant higher costs would be incurred. Such service - some known, some unknown - continues to be a major contribution to the ongoing Christian witness in our community.

Legacies

No new Legacy funds have been received during the year. Legacy funds continue to be expended during the year with the transfer of funds to support the Service and Mission donations. Katharine Harrison, our Church Development Worker, has been employed since October 2016 and her salary costs continue to be funded from the Legacy Fund. Her employment has now ceased as she has moved away. A new Church Community Worker is being sought to continue the significant outreach work that has been achieved. The Church is extremely grateful for the generosity of members and the Church Council will continue to deliberate carefully to ensure that future decisions on expenditure from the fund are wisely made.

Moving forward

The budget for 2021/22 continues to contain an amount of uncertainty. It is hoped that some "normality" to church life will return. Assumptions have been made regarding freewill giving and lettings. At present, it is assumed a greater use of the premises through lettings will be achieved from September. The budget will be frequently monitored and, where necessary, adjustments made. There is no increase in the Fund for Ministry (Circuit Assessment) or the supply of gas and electricity this year. We have also reviewed the charges for the use of premises and increased, where appropriate, the letting charges for the coming year.

It is hoped that income from freewill offering and lettings will increase during the coming year. It is hoped that it may be possible to reinstate the Service and Mission and Property Budgets back to pre-pandemic levels.

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 August 2021

1. Charitable Status

The Church is registered with the Charity Commission.

2. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost. The accounts show the receipts and payments for the year.

3. Funds

General Funds

The funds held constitute: Unrestricted Funds comprising General Funds held for any purpose of the charity and Designated Funds held for specific purposes of the charity laid down by the Church Council. Restricted Funds are held by the church for narrower purposes, and comprise the Benevolence Fund to meet cases of need and the funds of Organisations Reporting to Church Council. Funds collected for and paid over to External Organisations are also Restricted but these are not included in the SOFA or Balance Sheet. The church has had no Endowment Funds since August 2007.

4. Accounting policies

Incoming Resources

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Church

Other than the historic cost of the building, no Tangible Fixed Assets have been capitalised. The church premises and contents are held by the Church Council as Managing Trustees on behalf of the Custodian trustees, the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. The buildings, contents and organ will be insured from renewal on 29th September 2021 for £3,478,999, £153,665 and £401,082 respectively representing the reinstatement cost, not historic cost less depreciation. The figures for 2020 were £3,352,001, £148,056 and £386,441.

Investment properties.

The church holds no investment properties.

Investments

The church holds no investments.

Loans

The church holds no loans from members or other sources.

5. Trustees

Three Trustees also fulfil organists duties and received payment against invoices in accordance with the rates given in Note 7 below totalling £924 (2020 £868). No other Trustees, or persons connected with them, received any remuneration or other benefits from the Church or any connected organisation as a result of their office during the year ended 31st August 2021 (2020 £Nil). Trustees are allowed to reclaim certain expenses incurred as a result of fulfilling their duties. The amount claimed during the year was £Nil. (2020 £Nil).

6. Fees for examination of the accounts

The Independent Examiner received no fees or expenses for reporting on the accounts. (2020 £Nil).

7. Paid employees

The church has one paid employee - the Church Development Worker - at a cost of £19,492, including pension payments, (2020 £18,965) in accordance with the contract and terms and conditions as agreed by Church Council. The only other persons to receive remuneration for their activities on behalf of the church were organists paid at the rate of £28 per service, at a total cost of £924 (2020, £28 & £896).

8. Capital Commitments

At the 31st August 2021 no capital commitments existed, (2020, £Nil).

9. Treasurer's Declaration

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

Malcolm Aldridge, Treasurer

Signed: *M.T.B. Aldridge*

Dated: *30/09/21*

10. Declaration by the Chair of the Church Council

I confirm that the accounts will be presented to the Church Council which I intend to chair on 20th October 2021.

The Rev. Stephen Poole, Chair of the Church Council

Signed: *[Signature]*

Dated: *20.10.21*

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Balance Sheet detailed

	As at 31/08/2021	As at 31/08/2020
Fixed assets		
3001: Long Term Investments	—	—
3040: Church premises at historic cost	5,000.00	5,000.00
3041: Hall premises at historic cost	2,775.00	2,775.00
Total Fixed assets	7,775.00	7,775.00
Current assets		
5001: Barclays Current Account	13,949.58	6,943.74
5002: Lloyds Current Account	3,014.96	1,883.56
5004: Central Finance Board	48,580.60	42,670.53
5005: Scottish Widows Bank	—	—
5006: Cash in Hand - Luncheon Club	(0.01)	(0.01)
5007: Cash in Hand - Traidcraft	63.46	22.39
5008: Cash in Hand - Friendship Cafe	—	18.25
5009: Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes	68,754.65	93,773.90
5010: General debtors	—	—
5011: Fund for Ministry in advance	—	—
5012: Cash in Hand - Toddlers	18.00	—
5995: Debtors and creditors transfer account	—	—
5999: Agency transfer account	—	—
Z05: Accounts Receivable	—	—
Total Current assets	134,381.24	145,312.36
Liabilities		
6002: General Creditors	—	—
6699: Agency collections	(51.25)	—
Z04: Accounts Payable	—	—
Total Liabilities	(51.25)	—
Net Asset surplus (deficit)	142,207.49	153,087.36
Reserves		
Excess / (deficit) to date	(10,879.87)	(43,970.96)
Z01: Starting balances	153,087.36	197,058.32
Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	—	—
Total Reserves	142,207.49	153,087.36

Represented by Funds		
Unrestricted	51,772.71	49,763.38
Designated	68,095.83	87,273.43
Restricted	22,338.95	16,050.55
Endowment	—	—
Total	142,207.49	153,087.36

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 September 2020 to 31 August 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources					
Offerings and tax recoverable	54,130.65	12.75	—	54,143.40	50,527.22
Interest and investment income	370.15	—	—	370.15	1,359.23
Lettings	28,303.31	—	—	28,303.31	29,360.50
Other income	3,394.05	—	—	3,394.05	4,510.26
Internal organisations (income)	625.95	11,034.76	—	11,660.71	8,216.05
Legacies	—	—	—	—	—
Total income	86,824.11	11,047.51	—	97,871.62	93,973.26
Resources used					
Circuit assessment or share	45,980.00	—	—	45,980.00	44,714.00
Grants and donations	5,850.00	—	—	5,850.00	11,243.06
Repairs and maintenance	15,231.05	—	—	15,231.05	14,184.84
Utilities, insurances etc	10,658.08	—	—	10,658.08	10,549.65
Provisions	—	—	—	—	—
Other expenditure	5,504.09	—	—	5,504.09	6,427.37
Internal organisations (expenditure)	1,276.89	4,759.11	—	6,036.00	7,360.03
Legacy Projects	19,492.27	—	—	19,492.27	43,465.27
Total expenditure	103,992.38	4,759.11	—	108,751.49	137,944.22
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(17,168.27)	6,288.40	—	(10,879.87)	(43,970.96)
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	20,132.86	—	—	20,132.86	12,000.00
Gross transfers between funds - out	(20,132.86)	—	—	(20,132.86)	(12,000.00)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains / losses on investment assets	—	—	—	—	—
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	—
Net movement in funds	(17,168.27)	6,288.40	—	(10,879.87)	(43,970.96)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	137,036.81	16,050.55	—	153,087.36	197,058.32
Total funds carried forward	119,868.54	22,338.95	—	142,207.49	153,087.36

Wealdstone Methodist Church - 1127748

Fund movement summary

Selected period: 01 September 2020 to 31 August 2021

Fund	Fund Balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Journal Entries	Fund balances Carried forward
DHiggins - David Higgins (Young People) Fund	3,000.00	—	—	—	—	—	3,000.00
DiaComCI - Diabetes Community Club Fund	—	3,000.00	—	—	—	—	3,000.00
DIGTF - Digital Inclusion (Good Things Fdn) Fund	1,572.41	(1,572.41)	—	—	—	—	—
OnLearn - Online Learning Fund	—	8,972.41	3,782.40	—	—	—	5,190.01
Benevolenc - Benevolence Fund	931.37	12.75	—	—	—	—	944.12
Buildings - Church Buildings Fund	7,775.00	—	—	—	—	—	7,775.00
ChurchHols - Church Holiday Fund	617.45	—	—	—	—	—	617.45
DFleming - Dedrick Fleming Fund	393.96	—	—	—	—	—	393.96
FrCafePrj - Friendship Cafe/Project Fund	318.34	160.18	96.52	—	—	—	382.00
General - General fund	49,763.38	86,198.16	75,355.97	(8,832.86)	—	—	51,772.71
IntEve - International Evening Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
LegProj - Legacy Projects Fund	81,697.21	—	19,492.27	632.86	—	—	62,837.80
Organ - Organ Fund	2,000.00	—	—	—	—	—	2,000.00
Printing - Printing Fund	769.58	625.95	1,276.89	1,200.00	—	—	1,318.64
Property - Property Fund	2,688.06	—	7,867.25	7,000.00	—	—	1,820.81
Social - Social Activity Fund	276.88	—	—	—	—	—	276.88
Toddlers - Toddlers Fund	434.72	18.00	274.43	—	—	—	178.29
Traidcraft - Traidcraft Fund	730.42	456.58	605.76	—	—	—	581.24
Guild - Wesley Guild Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
YoungCh - Young Church Fund	118.58	—	—	—	—	—	118.58
Totals	153,087.36	97,871.62	108,751.49	—	—	—	142,207.49

WEALDSTONE METHODIST CHURCH

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Wealdstone Methodist Church

This report is on the Church Funds for the year ended 31 August 2021 which are set out on the accompanying pages 2-7 and is in respect of an examination carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

Respective responsibilities of the Church Council and the Examiner

As trustees, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and the preparation of the appropriate accounts under section 130 of the Act. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with section 145 of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the Directions made under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act. This examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Church Treasurer and a comparison of the accounts with those records. The procedures undertaken do not provide 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 Examiner's 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
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should have been drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have 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.

Signed:

G. J. Porter

Dated:

29th September 2021

EARMARKED DONATIONS

The amounts raised for other charities and organisations, which do not form part of the Church's Income or Expenditure, were as follows:

Organisation	2020/21	2019/20
Action for Children	898.60	1,658.70
Akim Swedru Methodist Church, Ghana	-	180.00
All We Can	**235.00	**655.41
Centre Point	265.00	-
ChildAid to Eastern Europe	-	360.00
Christian Aid	536.50	408.20
Crisis at Christmas	-	141.85
Cystic Fibrosis Trust	-	183.00
Dementia UK	-	81.00
Firm Foundation	125.00	-
Friends of Amasango	-	201.00
Great Ormond Street Hospital	150.00	-
Harrow Foodbank	205.00	447.00
Harrow Young Carers	-	120.00
International Women's Aid to Mahaica Hospital (Leprosy Mission)	-	210.00
Karibuni Trust	-	119.00
Mary's Meals	-	73.50
MacMillan Cancer Relief	-	200.00
Methodist Homes (MHA)	*538.67	205.90
Methodist Wesley Guild	-	28.00
Methodist Church World Mission Fund (MWiB)		
Easter Offering)	*213.00	-
Moorfields Eye Hospital	-	200.00
Mufakose Methodist Church	-	300.00
Nigeria Health Care Project	-	152.00
RNLI	-	245.00
St Lukes Hospice	100.00	354.50
Traidcraft Exchange	-	2,000.00
Tree Aid (Circuit Services 29/09/19)	600.00	317.75
Work Aid	-	100.80
Zimbabwe Victims Support Fund	-	102.00
	£3,866.77	£9,044.61

*Includes Gift Aid reclaimed by WMC on behalf of the charity and added to the amount raised.

**Includes Gift Aid to be reclaimed by the charity.