



Fareham Methodist Church

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended

31 AUGUST 2024

Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Church Council Meeting has given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives and conforms to the Charities Act 2011.

Our Mission as a local church of the East Solent and Downs Circuit is to pursue the mission of God through worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.

This is done for as many people as possible within the Fareham area through the provision of Christian Worship, spiritual development and pastoral care both to church members and to the wider communities in which the church is located.

Fareham Methodist Church supports the advancement of the Christian Faith through ecumenical liaison with other Christian groups in Fareham.

Achievements and performance

Current year

Attendance at Sunday services runs at an average of approximately 65 per week. The majority of regular church attendees now donate by standing order which has meant that income from giving is now more predictable. Church services are also streamed onto Youtube enabling a number of people who were unable to get back to church to enjoy feeling part of the service through the live stream or to view the service after the event. Most services receive between 20 and 30 views once they have been recorded.

Various weekday activities continue to take place in the life of the church with many offering outreach opportunities to the local community. This has become an increasingly important aspect of Church Life at Fareham. Mini Market on a Monday and Coffee Morning on a Thursday are vibrant outreach activities and the monthly Messy Church continues to be well received by those who attend.

The new heating management system has provided a more effective management of heating controls within the building. As it is linked to the room booking system appropriate heating is now provided automatically which has reduced significantly the management burden on Church volunteers.

In the early part of this Church year a new audio and visual system was installed. This is a significant improvement on the previous system. The new system enables streaming of high quality pictures and sound. It also provides a better quality of amplified sound within the church building. The majority of the cost of the new system was covered by bequests received over recent years together with a substantial grant received from the Circuit.

The Church continues to make donations to other charities and through social events raise money for various appeals.

Fareham Methodist Church
Year ended 31 August 2024

Future years

- To continue to focus on mission activity as an open and inclusive church and lead new people into faith and so grow the number of Christians.
- To focus on worship and spiritual development and continue the use of technology to stream services to people who cannot access the premises
- To continue to work with Christians Together in Fareham to promote Christianity in the Borough.
- To provide pastoral support to those in need.
- To demonstrate our commitment to improving the environment by registering for Eco Church and attaining the Bronze Standard.

Financial review

Income and expense

During the year the Church received total income of £91,416 (2022-23 £102,387) and made payments of £106,255 (2022-23: £88,267). Bequests were received in the year totalling £5,575 and these are held in the church accounts. Funds held at TMCP in Trust Number 21694 stands at £8,807. Total restricted reserves held in endowment funds at TMCP amount to £15,965. The interest from these funds is paid into the General Fund as it is received.

Unrestricted reserves carried forward were £91,104 (2023-24: £105,939). £48,855 of these reserves are designated: £500 for benevolence payments; £8,829 in the Organ and Keyboard Fund; £27,000 in the Major Property Repair Fund; £2,744 bequests held within church accounts and £8,807 as bequests held at TMCP for longer term or specific use.

The trustees of the Church have every reason to believe that the Charity is a going concern, principally because the majority of the donated income is not reliant on attendance within the church building but is paid directly to the church accounts by standing order. There are no subsidiary undertakings. The proportion of income that is from lettings has reduced from previous years and the Trustees are aware that this income cannot be relied on as fully secure, especially as the cost of living crisis potentially affects user groups. However the Trustees are confident that there are sufficient reserves to cover any continued reduction in lettings in the medium term.

Remuneration policy

The church currently has two employees, a cleaner working 11 hours per week and a caretaker working 4 hours per week. Both posts are paid the Real Living Wage set annually by the Living Wage Foundation. Pay reviews are normally undertaken with effect from 1st April each year with rates set by the Managing Trustees at the Church Council prior to this date.

Investment Policy and Performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the Central Finance Board (CFB) and attract interest. The Trustees are not minded to invest in higher risk funds.

Reserves level and policy

The General Fund contains five designated funds, the Benevolence Fund, a fund for Organ and Musical Instruments, a fund to support asylum seekers, an Eco fund, and a fund for

Fareham Methodist Church
Year ended 31 August 2024

Major Property Repair. It also contains restricted bequests held in the general account and unrestricted bequests held in Trust number 21694 at TMCP and in the church accounts.

- ❖ Since in accordance with its stewardship policy, the church does not take separate collections for benevolence, a benevolence reserve is maintained in the General Fund for disbursement at the discretion of the minister.
- ❖ Church Council agreed that the church should start to build up a reserve to go towards replacement of the organ and other major musical instruments in the future. The designation of this fund is Organ and Keyboard with an ultimate target fund of £20,000.
- ❖ The major property reserve was re-assessed in October 2021 and a target property reserve has been set at £40,000 to cover major repair, renewals and improvements not included in the operating costs of the Church. This is designated CAPEX within the budget set each year. There is budgeted expenditure in the next 12 months of £10,000. The Quinquennial did not indicate any short-term major spend requirements. An energy management system was installed during 2022-2023 and there is a plan to significantly upgrade the AV system during 2023-2024.
- ❖ Bequests were received in 2023-2024 totalling £5,575 and these are currently held in the Church Accounts.

Withdrawal of money from the Designated Funds, restricted and unrestricted bequests requires Managing Trustee approval.

The remainder of the funds are held as Free Reserves. The target is for free reserves to cover approximately 6 months of operating costs with a target range of 40%-60%

Designated Funds:

Benevolence	£ 500
Asylum fund	£ 100
Organ and Keyboard	£ 8,829
Major Property Repair (target £40k)	£27,000
Unrestricted bequests @ TMCP	£ 8,807
Unrestricted bequests held in accounts	£ 2,744
Restricted bequests/gifts not yet expended	£ 625

Free Reserve:	£42,249 - 50% operating costs [forecast operating costs 2024/25 = £84,998]
---------------	--

Trustees' responsibilities

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently using the accruals method
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- follow applicable accounting standards
- prepare accounts to comply with the Charities SORP

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church and enables them to

Fareham Methodist Church
Year ended 31 August 2024

ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The Church's policy is to adhere to the Methodist Church's policy on Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults. A Safeguarding Officer is appointed. The Circuit provides regular safeguarding training that can be accessed by the church as required. The Safeguarding Officer keeps records of training and ensures that this is up to date.

The Church does not hold any funds as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

Structure, governance and management

The Church is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 2 February 2009. Prior to this the charity had an excepted registration.

Structure

The Church is one of a number that make up the East Solent and Downs Circuit.

The Circuit is the coordinating charity and pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the Churches in the Circuit; most decisions are made at or ratified by the Circuit Meeting.

The Circuit is part of the Southampton District which is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits. District decisions are made at the half yearly synod to which the Circuit appoints both lay and ordained representatives. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

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

Governance

The Church operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Connexional Office at 25 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SF to provide guidance on changes that could affect the Church.

Reference and Administrative Details

Name of the charity

Fareham Methodist Church.

Charity registration number

1127814, registered in England and Wales

Principal Office

Fareham Methodist Church
Kings Road
Fareham
PO16 0NU

Minister with pastoral oversight

Revd Pauline Crispin

Church Treasurer

Mr Michael Petter

Names of trustees

The following served as trustees throughout part or all of the year 2023-24 or were trustees at the time of this report being approved:

Mrs	Sally	Bland	
Mr	Mark	Brooks	
Mr	Nigel	Cox	
Revd	Pauline	Crispin	
Mrs	Patricia	Crocker	
Ms	Rachel	Davies	
Mrs	Linda	Foster	
Mr	Kevin	Foster	
Mrs	Jill	Groom	
Mrs	Shirley	Henderson	
Mrs	Julie	Kettle	
Mrs	Edith	Livingstone	
Mrs	Audrey	Mann	
Mr	Peter	Moody	
Mrs	Heather	Murphy	
Mrs	Jean	Petter	
Mr	Michael	Petter	
Mr	Robert	Temple	
Mrs	Margaret	Shepherd	
Mr	Michael	Shepherd	
Mrs	Catherine	Stevenson	
Mrs	Roberta	Watson	
Mrs	Margaret	Wheeler	
Mr	Christopher	Woodhams	
Mrs	Lin	Woodhams	

No trustee claims exemption from disclosure of his or her name here.

Fareham Methodist Church
Year ended 31 August 2024

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

Investment managers and custodian trustees

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

Independent Examiner

Mrs Joanne Gregory
19/21 High Street
Emsworth
Hants
PO10 7AQ

Approvals

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the Church Council Meeting on 23rd January 2025.

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Fareham Methodist	Church
--------------------------	---------------

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

East Solent & Downs	Circuit	Circuit no.	26/07
--------------------------------	----------------	--------------------	--------------

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1127814

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

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

Minister:

Revd. Pauline Crispin

Church Stewards:

Mrs Maggie Wheeler

Mrs Jill Groom

Miss Rach Davies

Mrs Audrey Mann

Mr Chris Woodhams

Mrs Jean Petter

Treasurer:

Mike Petter

SECTION A			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds incl Trust No 21694	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	1				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		61,602		61,602	59,620
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		3,539		3,539	2,308
a4	Lettings		12,806		12,806	13,564
a5	Other receipts	2	13,469		13,469	26,895
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		91,416		91,416 (a7)	102,387
SECTION B						
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		49,164		49,164	46,815
b3	Donations	3	3,375		3,375	3,019
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	4	24,959		24,959	12,316
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	5	12,547		12,547	11,808
b6	Caretaking & Cleaning	6	10,540		10,540	9,457
b7	Other payments	2	5,670		5,670	4,852
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		106,255		106,255 (b9)	88,267
SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(14,839)		(14,839)	14,120
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		97,136	8,807	105,943 (c6)	91,819
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	82,297	8,807	91,104	105,939
c4	Transfers and adjustments		279		279 (c7)	4
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	82,576	8,807	91,383 (c8)	105,943 (c6)
SECTION D						
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS						
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)				£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year					
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				2,410	2,436
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				2,410	2,436
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)				

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

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS		Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	Flower Fund	205	108	97		249	346
e2	Friday Lunches	1,835	1,820	15		19	34
e3	Junior Church	200	56	144		30	174
e4	Mini Market	1,981	1,807	175		188	363
e5	Parent & Toddlers	401	388	13		153	166
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	4,622	4,180	443		639 (e11)	1,082 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	91,416 (a7)	106,255 (b9)	(14,839)	279 (c7)	105,943 (c6)	91,383 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	96,038	110,435	(14,396)	279	106,582 (x)	92,465 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward		TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2024**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	52,798	22,179
f3 Bank Deposit Account		30,227
f4 Central Finance Board	44,338	30,170
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	8,807	8,807
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	105,943 (c6)	91,383 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	639 (e11)	1,082 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	106,582 (x)	92,465 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	15,965	15,965
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	3,339,511	3,426,350
g3 Other Assets	168,106	172,477
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board


f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

Charity Number 1127814

Declaration by Treasurer

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date 23-1-25

Name and address of treasurer Mike Petter
4 Romyns Court Fareham PO14 1NB

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 23rd January 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting  Date 23-1-25

Name of the Chair of the meeting Revd Pauline Crispin

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Fareham Methodist Church
Charity Number 1127814**

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Fareham Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 1 to 3. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner J Gregory

Name of independent examiner MRS. JOANNE GREGORY

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner /

Name of firm (where appropriate) /

Address 19/21 HIGH STREET, EMSWORTH

..... Post Code PO10 7AQ

Date 7th December 2024

FAREHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Notes accompanying Accounts for Year ended 31st August 2024

1. Both the General Fund and Trust No. 21694 are unrestricted. Trust No. 21694 consists of Model Trust bequests.

2. Other Receipts and Other Payments

<u>Receipts</u>	Weekday activity	
-----------------	------------------	--

Mini market: £1098	5,114
Messy Church: £171	
Holiday at Home: £303	
Coffee Centre: £605	
Friday lunch: £1160	
Funeral payment £878	
Shirley stall £200	
Bazaar: £699	

Organ & Keyboard fund donations	805
Environmental fund	250
Sunday lunch donations	469
Sunday coffee donations	220
Bequests(Law, Baily, Guest)	5,575
Donation for TV	400
Asylum support	359
Other	277

13,469

Payments

Messy Church	286
Copying, Copyright & Website	2,314
New copier	2,256
Bank & contactless fees	128
Benevolence payments	262
Other incl expenses	424

5,670

3 Donations

Advance payment Gift Aid	185
World Missions	1,000
Mission in Britain	600
Fund for the Support of Presbyters and Deacons	300
Fund for human need	250
BRF	250
Friends of homeless in Fareham	250
Christians Together in Fareham	190
Junior Church	200
Fareham Masonic Club (for use of car park)	150

3,375

4 Repairs

Boiler service	230
Fire extinguishers	100
Fire alarm service	260
Smoke head relocation	90
Electrical testing (5 year)	960
Electrical work & certification	5,441
Network reconfigure	227
AST Door entry system	372
AV system incl screens and monitors	16,866
General erepairs <£75	413

24,959

FAREHAM METHODIST CHURCH
Notes accompanying Accounts for Year ended 31st August 2024 continued

5	Utilities	Broadband	362	
		Gas	999	
		Electricity	7,291	
		BT	62	
		Insurance	3,833	12,547
6	Caretaking and cleaning			
		Wages	8,720	
		Janitorial supplies	738	
		PHS	863	
		Window clean	220	
				10,540
7.	General Fund at 31st August 2024			
		Running Costs Reserve	42,249	
		Benevolence Reserve	500	
		Asylum Fund	100	
		Organ & Keyboard reserve	8,829	
		Environmental Fund	250	
		Major Repairs Reserve	27,000	
		Unrestricted bequests @ TMCP	8,807	
		Unrestricted bequests in account	2,744	
		Restricted bequests in account	625	
				91104
8.	Appeals for External Organisations			
		Action for Children	698	
		Youth Options	290	
		Comic Relief	165	
		Christian Aid Week	390	
		Basics Bank	243	
		Step by Step	593	
		World Mission Fund JMA	30	
				2410.00
9.	The investment shown in Section G is Trust No. 17856 and Trust No. 22184 with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (Charity No. 1136358).			
10.	The Buildings and "other assets" (contents and organ) are valued at the sums for which they are insured. The sums insured are increased annually according to appropriate indices.			

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Fareham Methodist Church
Charity Number 1127814**

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Fareham Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 1 to 3. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner J Gregory

Name of independent examiner MRS JOANNE GREGORY

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

..... Post Code

Date 7th December 2024