

NAILSEA METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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The trustees present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Reference and Administrative Information

Registered charity number 1128514

Minister

Rev Sally Ratcliffe

Church Stewards

Richard Lancaster
Jane Powell
Diane Todd
Ceri Bowen
Lesley Rogers
Peter Todd (from 20th July 2025)

(For full list of trustees see page 6)

Principal Office

Chapel Precinct
74 Silver Street
Nailsea
Bristol
BS48 2DS

Tel: 01275 854304
e-mail: methodist-church@outlook.com

Independent Examiner

Matthew Bracher BSc FCA
Gravita
Chartered Accountants
Bath House
6-8 Bath Street
Bristol
BS1 6HL

Bankers

HSBC Bristol Cabot Circus

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Structure, Governance and Management

Nailsea Methodist Church is part of the Gordano Valley Circuit (No.15), in the Bristol District (No.7) within the Methodist Church in Great Britain (The Connexion). In all matters Nailsea Methodist Church is governed by "The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church". All property is owned on Model Trusts controlled by the Managing Trustees (The Church Council), who govern all areas of Nailsea Methodist Church's activity. Nailsea Methodist Church was registered as a charity on 12th March 2009.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are defined in Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act of 1976:

Purposes

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the 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 being a 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.

This report seeks to define the specific activities of Nailsea Methodist Church within the greater structure of the Methodist Connexion. All the activities of the Church are intended for public benefit, both spiritual and in service to the local community.

Trustees

The trustees who served the charity during the period are the members of the Church Council, shown on Page 6. New trustees are voted on by the General Church Meeting normally held in July each year. They are made aware of the financial position of the Church and of their responsibilities as trustees. Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Organisation

The Church Council of Nailsea Methodist Church holds the responsibility of running its financial affairs. It is assisted in this role by the Property Management Team and the Church Stewards, operating within a budget approved by the Church Council.

Related Parties

One trustee, Corinne Day, was employed on a part time basis as Church Office Co-ordinator. During the year, aggregate donations from trustees amounted to £37,356 (2024 - £40,980) of which £6,533 (2024 - £10,094) related to restricted funds.

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Volunteers

Almost all the activities of the Church involve substantial work by volunteers, for example as Church Council members (trustees), office holders, committee members, activity group leaders and helpers.

Grant Making

The Church Council delegate the power to make grants and donations to the Mission Committee. This committee allocates grants of the order of £2,200 to various bodies and reports back to the Church Council.

Risks

The trustees have identified the major risks to which the charity is exposed. These risks are reviewed annually, and systems have been established to mitigate the risks.

Review of Developments, Activities and Achievements 2024 – 2025

In September 2024, we welcomed our new minister Rev Sally Ratcliffe. Sally has guided us through revisiting our mission action plan in line with the Methodist way of life. Our mission is to be like Jesus and link the transforming love of God into every aspect of daily life through:

Worship

- Offering a warm welcome to visitors and those exploring faith.
- Having a pattern of worship that is varied and accessible to all including Holy Communion, Café Church and Messy Church.

Learning and Caring

- Praying and caring for one another via the pastoral care team and the prayer diary.
- Meeting in-house/fellowship groups of different shapes and sizes.

Service

- Ensuring our buildings are well maintained for the use of church groups and as a community space.
- Caring for the world that God made through our Eco Church activities and focus, including the celebration of the Season of Creation.
- Having a presence in the local community through Busy Bees, Hobby Horse, the Refugee Café, Bookmark and Film Club.
- Ensuring our Tuesday Fellowship continues to thrive offering a place of friendship and faith to the older members of our community.
- Engaging with and support Girl's Brigade.

Evangelism

- Offering a warm welcome to all.
- Looking for opportunities to share our faith and speak of God's love and grace.

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These premises are looked after by a Property Management Team made up of about seven volunteers who meet bi-monthly. We have three paid staff. In addition, we employ a small firm of cleaning contractors - who are in early every weekday morning. These premises are very heavily used 6 days per week - with over thirty regular groups and a number of one-off bookings. We are an Eco-church - so much of our maintenance and upgrading is aimed at improving insulation and reducing energy costs. We have PV panels on the roofs of both buildings aimed to be used on improving our sustainability. We hosted a Flood Forum in June 2025 to inform local residents of risks and appropriate actions. Our Craft Fair is a real community event - the community of our church brought together & the community of Nailsea with proceeds going towards mission committee grants.

For over 35 years, the 1st Nailsea Girls' Brigade (GB) have been "Church" here on a Tuesday evening. In fun and an endless variety of ways, GB offers a SAFE and welcoming environment for girls, nurturing them towards adulthood and telling them of the love of Jesus.

Financial Review

The Church Council approved a broadly balanced general budget for 2024-25. On property, there was a net underspend against the budget. Some £3,000 was due to increased lettings income and a further £3,000 arose from timing of receipts. Repairs and maintenance was some £3,500 below budget. Energy costs were lower due to the mild winter and warm spring. Some £7,600 income was received from the solar panels feed in and export tariffs. Income from the offertory was very close to the budget, additional interest of some £2,500 was received other income was around £1,000 higher. Contributions towards family work were accrued in the earmarked fund pending the review of the lay worker role. Overall, some £39,000 was added reserves during the year. A table showing the movement of reserves is shown on page 5.

The accounts are divided into separate funds and accounts.

1. General Account

This includes the Church's main source of income - weekly and monthly "collection". Expenditure is principally the "assessment" paid to the Gordano Valley Circuit to cover Ministers' stipend and central Methodism and Circuit costs, together with the church's non-property related administration expenses.

2. Property Account

The income is made up of rent and room hire charges arising from the use of the premises, balanced by expenditure on the maintenance, upkeep and administration. The property account is kept in balance, with any shortage of income transferred from the general account.

3. Designated and Restricted Funds

Within the general funds the Church Council designated income from the installation of solar panels towards further energy efficiency initiatives and property maintenance. The funding for a lay worker comes from specific donations. These funds have been treated as being restricted. Following the departure of the families worker in July 2024 the church is reviewing what type of role is needed going forward.

A number of internal organisations within the Church organisation hold separate funds, i.e., the Film Club, Tuesday fellowship, and the Girls Brigade which has its own bank account. The transactions for internal organisations have been recorded separately in the accounts.

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4. Outreach

Income from Mission and Outreach comes partly from general church funds and partly from specific church collections or collections from church affiliated organisations that pass income through the church funds and on to nominated charities. Expenditure is by way of cash payments to nominated charities and Methodist organised charities, and by way of discounted room hire charges to one charitable organisation using the premises.

5. Accounting Policy

The accounts are presented on a receipts and payments basis using the Methodist Church standard form of accounts.

6. Reserves

Reserves are held to cover general or designated purposes and the general risks of unforeseen expenditure or a fall in anticipated income. Each year the trustees review the level of reserves. The trustees consider the church's exposure to major risks in terms of their impact on its income resources and expenditure. In recent years, the trustees have adopted a policy of seeking to maintain a minimum reserve based on a sum advised by the Circuit in respect of the annual assessment and 50% of other expenditure. The minimum reserve based on this policy was some £50,000 at 31st August 2025. The trustees have also designated certain funds for lay work, energy efficiency and repairs. The movement of reserves during the year was as follows:

	Reserves 01-Sep-24	Funds Raised	Funds Applied	Transfers	Reserves 31-Aug-25
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	92,113	151,830	134,358	(5,000)	104,585
Property Reserve	15,750			12,500	28,250
Energy Efficiency	388	7,608	482	(7,500)	14
Lay Worker - unrestricted	13,046				13,046
Lay Worker - restricted	9,988	14,797	-		24,785
Total	131,285	174,235	134,840	-	170,680
Funds of Internal Organisations	6,189	3,080	4,070		5,199

The trustees approved the trustees' report above on 25th February 2026

Signed on behalf of the trustees.

Rev Sally Ratcliffe
Chair of the Meeting

Mrs E Rose
Church Council Secretary

NAILSEA METHODIST CHURCH

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Trustees elected at Annual Church Meeting	
Church Stewards: 1. Richard Lancaster 2. Jane Powell 3. Diane Todd 4. Ceri Bowen 5. Lesley Rogers 6. Peter Todd (from 20th July 2025)	Representatives: 1. Eleanor Espley 2. Mike Poxon (to 20th July 2025) 3. Meryl Markall 4. Joy Shipway 5. Peter Todd (to 20th July 2025) 6. Anita Dale 7. Phyllis Wilmott 8. Nigel Nardman
Appointments ratified by the Church Council	
1. Secretary 2. Treasurer 3. Pastoral Secretary 4. Lay Worker 5. Centre Manager 6. Circuit Steward Representatives: 7. Worship Planning 8. Mission 9. Property Management Team 10. Local Preacher 11. Junior Church 12. Girls Brigade 13. Administration 14. ICT Manager 15. Eco-Congregation representative 16. Christians Together in Nailsea 17. Safeguarding 18. Charity Commission Liaison	Liz Rose David Markall Vacant Vacant Mike Rose Vacant Felicity Gibb David Sharp Mike Rose Alan Emery Rose Lancaster Jane Powell / Officers on rotational basis Corinne Day Richard Lancaster John Silvester Marjorie Sharp Jane Powell John Payne
Ministers 19. Sally Ratcliffe 20. Russell Herbert	

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Nailsea Methodist Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

District 7

Circuit 15

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1128514

Minister:

Rev Sally Ratcliffe

Church Stewards:

Richard Lancaster

Jane Powell

Diane Todd

Ceri Bowen

Lesley Rogers

Peter Todd (From 20th July 2025)

Treasurer:

David Markall

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
a2	Offerings and tax recovered	77,808		77,808	79,104
a3	Ad Hoc donations and legacies	1,473		1,473	14,110
a4	Family Worker contributions		14,797	14,797	25,065
a5	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	6,554		6,554	6,109
a6	Lettings	60,383		60,383	55,340
a7	Other receipts	13,220		13,220	11,584
a8	SUB-TOTAL (AR)	159,438	14,797	174,235	191,312
a9	Loans				
a10	TOTAL RECEIPTS	159,438	14,797	174,235	191,312

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	54,495		54,495	56,498
b3	Family Worker				26,369
b4	Donations	2,200		2,200	2,050
b5	Repairs and Maintenance	10,881		10,881	31,178
b6	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	22,310		22,310	20,187
b7	Other payments	44,954		44,954	47,784
b8	SUB-TOTAL	134,840		134,840	184,066
b9	Loans repaid				3,500
b10	TOTAL PAYMENTS	134,840		134,840	187,566

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS) FOR THE YEAR	(a12-b10)	24,598	14,797	39,395
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		121,297	9,988	131,285 (c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	145,895	24,785	170,680
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	145,895	24,785	170,680 (c8)
					131,285 (c6)

SECTION D			
d	CHARITY FUND		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year	£	£
d2	Offerings/Gifts - raised for other charities	-	70
d3	Offerings/Gifts - paid to other charities	11,847	9,715
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	11,840	9,785
	(d1+d2-d3)	7	-

Nailsea Methodist Church

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts £	Payments £	Net Receipts/ Payments £	Adjustments £	Opening balances £	Closing balances £
e1	Film Club	640	643	(3)		15	12
e2	Tuesday Fellowship	783	781	2		505	507
e3	Girls Brigade	1,657	2,646	(989)		5,669	4,680
e4							
e5							
e6	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	3,080	4,070	(990)		6,189 (e11)	5,199 (e12)
e7	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	174,235 (a12)	134,840 (b10)	39,395	(c7)	131,285 (c6)	170,680 (c8)
e8	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	177,315	138,910	38,405		137,474 (x)	175,879 (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 2025		OPENING BALANCES 1st Sept 2024	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 31st Aug 2025
f1	Cash in hand	50	50			50
f2	Bank Current Account	7,952	2,276			2,276
f3	Bank Deposit Account					
f4	Central Finance Board	123,283	143,568	24,786		168,354
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes					
f6	Other funds					
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	131,285 (c6)	145,894	24,786		170,680 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	6,189 (e11)		5,199		5,199 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	137,474 (x)	145,894	29,985		175,879 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES		1st Sept 2024	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 31 Aug 2025
g1	Investments	651			653	653
g2	Land & Buildings (note 1)	5,011,009	5,141,312			5,141,312
g3	Buildings Contents (Insured Value)	300,833	308,656			308,656
g4	Other Assets - Debtors and Prepayments	17,621	13,624			13,624
g5	Other Liabilities - Creditors	869	2,072			2,072

Notes:

1 Land and Buildings and Contents are shown at the insured value which was last assessed by Methodist Insurance in November 2024

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts set out on pages 1-3 from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

Date

25th February 2026

Name

David Markall

Address

3 Huntley Grove, Nailsea, Bristol BS48 2UQ

Presentation to the Nailsea Methodist Church Council for approval

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on
and were approved.

25th February 2026

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev Sally Ratcliffe

Date

25th February 2026



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees/
members of

Nailsea Methodist Church

On accounts for the year
ended

31st August 2025

Charity
no

1128514

Set out on pages

7-10

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2025

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Responsibilities and basis
of report

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

Independent examiner's
statement

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

Signed:

Date: 26th February 2026

Name:

Matthew Bracher BSc FCA

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

ICAEW

Address:

Gravita, Chartered Accountants, Bath House, 6 - 8 Bath Street, Bristol BS1 6HL