

Otley Methodist Church

Trustees Annual Report to the Charity Commission 2023-2024

Period: Trustees Annual Report for the period 1st Sept 2023 – 31st Aug 2024

Name of Charity: Otley Methodist Church

Charity Number: 1128580

Objectives and Activities:

Summary of the Purposes of the Charity

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 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.

The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.

The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses, and small groups.

The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.

Taking religious assemblies in local schools.

Promoting the Christian faith through the staging of events and services.

Provision of chaplaincy services to local institutions.

The supporting of missions and other local charities through fundraising.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes:

Provision of public acts of worship and sacred space

Otley Methodist Church delivers a regular Sunday morning service at 10:30am including a monthly service of Holy Communion. A Bible Study also takes place on Wednesday evenings, once a fortnight as well as a fortnightly fellowship group with occasional speakers called Midweek Medley. New expressions of Church for families on the Chevin (Forest Church) and locally at Cornerstone, Menston (Breathe) have been encouraged and supported by the local Church.

Joint services with other churches both within the town, and within the Circuit, are also held when possible.

The size of the congregation and the membership list has shrunk significantly over the last few years. Numbers attending have averaged around 30-35 and the membership list currently stands at 85.

Teaching of the Christian Faith.

We continue to ensure that teaching the Christian faith is a core activity and do this via sermons, service, sheets, Advent and Lent groups, Bible studies and advertising wider District, Regional and Connexional Online/face to face courses and programmes.

Pastoral care of the Church community role.

Each of our members has a pastoral visitor (one visitor usually has about 10 members to care for). Our minister also carries out pastoral visits, end of life and bereavement care. Access to Care Homes and our members who live in them. We have a good number of pastoral visitors who work hard to provide appropriate support to members via phone calls, visits, emails and letters.

Promotion of Christianity through special events.

All our special events and services throughout the year and this includes sharing through social media.

Some of these are for Church activities and others supporting other local groups and charities. We shared in supporting the local Rob Burrow Marathon.

Christian Nurture of The Young In Sunday School And Uniformed Groups.

The Methodist church as an organisation has a long history of nurturing children and young people, and this is still something we do today. We have several groups within the uniformed organisations (Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Brownies, and Guides) running during the week. Such groups and their families are invited to special Parade services at Church. The Minister tries to 'keep in touch' with the uniformed organizations.

Support Of UK And Overseas Charities Financially And With Prayer.

During the year we carried out a number of activities to support charities both in the UK and overseas. We uphold these charities in prayer within our regular services. Our ecumenical Lent Lunches help to raise funds for Christian Aid as do a number of activities in Christian Aid Week. Locally we collected small coins for Water Aid.

Sale of Church Buildings

The Covid pandemic which impacted our membership list and on our financial situation (both through decreases in financial giving and more particularly through lost revenue from external bookings) led to some major decisions being taken by the Trustees. The Trustees have decided that the buildings are now too old, too restrictive, and too costly to maintain. We also recognise that we do not have the personnel to manage them well and so have taken the decision to put them up for sale. Lambert, Smith, Hampton Surveyors have been appointed to act on our behalf with the disposal process and with trying to find a newer, smaller, more flexible and cost-effective alternative. Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes have approved the sale process and we await its outcome. The congregation is determined to continue in its life and mission.

Public Benefit

We confirm that the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Governing document for the Church is the Deed of Union (1932) and The Methodist Church Act (1976.) Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) by order of the annual Methodist Conference.

Day to day management of the Church is undertaken by the Church Trustees and the Minister in Pastoral Charge.

Trustee Training

A range of resources produced by the Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of churches is provided to all new Trustees.

Related Parties

Otley Methodist Church is a constituent part of the Wharfedale and Aireborough Methodist Circuit and the Yorkshire West Methodist District and is accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Church Minister

Rev Cameron Stirk

Church Trustees

Rev Cameron Stirk

Mrs Gillian Fawcett

Mrs Christine Pratt

Mr Alan Pratt

Mr Howard Chaplin

Mr John Burland

Mr Martin Campey

Mrs Lindsey Hurst

Mr Keith Hodson

Mrs Elizabeth Campey

Mr Fred King

Mrs Gill Chaplin

Mrs Sarah Wainwright

Mr Lionel Derry

Mrs Mairi Devlin

Mrs Olwen Marshall

Mr Peter Holmes

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

OTLEY

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

Wharfedale & Aireborough

Circuit

Circuit no.

27/15

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1128580

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

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

Minister:

Rev Cameron Stirk

Church Stewards:

Mrs Gillian Fawcett

Mrs Lindsay Hurst

Mr Peter Holmes

Mrs Elizabeth Campey

Mr J D Burland

Mrs Christine Pratt

Treasurer:

Mr Alan K Pratt

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	38,996		38,996	45,274
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2,515		2,515	2,422
a4	Lettings	12,077		12,077	5,096
a5	Other receipts	2,866		2,866	15,643
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	56,453		56,453 (a7)	68,435

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	30,375		30,375	27,500
b3	Donations	1,500		1,500	1,500
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	6,520		6,520	11,035
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	19,528		19,528	16,857
b6					
b7	Other payments	499		499	14,655
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	58,422		58,422 (b9)	71,547

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	(1,968)		(1,968)	(3,112)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	29,728		29,728 (c6)	32,840
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	27,760		27,760	29,728
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	27,760		27,760 (c8)	29,728 (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	4,414	3,747
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	4,101	3,747
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)	312	

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 Uniformed Support Group	12	3,612	(3,600)		3,600	
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	12	3,612	(3,600)		3,600 (e11)	(e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	56,453 (a7)	58,422 (b9)	(1,968)	(c7)	29,728 (c6)	27,760 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	56,466	62,034	(5,568)		33,328 (x)	27,760 (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	17,179	25,029
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	12,549	2,731
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	29,728 (c6)	27,760 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	3,600 (e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	33,328 (x)	27,760 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	92,222	98,816
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	9,894,799	10,142,089
g3 Other Assets		
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)

Name of ChurchOTLEY METHODIST CHURCH No.....27/15.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

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..... 3/2/25

Name and address of treasurer **Mr Alan K Pratt, 31 The Whartons, Otley**

...**West Yorkshire**..... Post Code **LS21 2AG**...

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting**Rev Cameron Stirk** Date **3/2/2025**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

OTLEY METHODIST CHURCH.....**Church**

Charity Number 1128580

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the OTLEY METHODIST Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 2 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church ...OTLEY METHODIST CHURCH..... No 27/15.

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/have not* 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 C E Kane

Name of independent examiner ...Mrs Catherine E. Kane

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner Retired Bank Employee.....

Name of firm (where appropriate)N/A.....

Address 47 The Whartons, Otley, W.Yorkshire LS21 2AG.....

..... Post Code LS21 2AG

Date 14/2/25

* delete or circle as appropriate