

# **WIGAN METHODIST MISSION**

## **Queens Hall**

### **TAR and ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2024**

#### **Management**

Responsibility for management of Wigan Methodist Mission lies with its Church Council, in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The membership of the Church Council is partly ex officio and partly elected. For example, the minister with pastoral responsibility, the church stewards (who are elected annually by the church members), and the treasurer are ex officio. Other members of the Church Council are elected annually by the church members.

In the period of 12 months to the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024 the Church Council met 4 times, to review the whole mission of the church, including its worship, the discipleship of its members, its financial position, the maintenance of the church premises, its pastoral care of both its members and adherents, and its social and evangelistic outreach.

The church has a small Leadership Group which meets every 4 to 5 weeks, which has responsibility for the day to day running of the church, reviews its activities and prepares items for presentation to the Church Council.

#### **Objectives**

The mission statement of the church remains “In Jesus Christ, Growing up, Growing together, Growing out, Growth rooted in Love”. This statement summarises our mission of serving the community while deepening our fellowship, our relationship to God and Christian discipleship.

#### **Premises**

The church building is in one of the main streets in the Wigan Town Centre, close to the bus station. As well as the church sanctuary and ancillary rooms, it has a café. This provides a range of food and drink each morning Tuesday to Friday, in a safe and friendly environment where people, particularly elderly, can meet friends. Prayer and a listening ear are also offered. The café is now operating within the sanctuary and has been welcomed by everyone for its light airy feel and open space. It has also helped to promote prayer for customers and anyone needing help and support.

The church building is open every day. As well as its use for church-based activities, it is used by a number of outside organisations each week. Some are charged a commercial fee. Others, for example Alcoholics Anonymous, pay only a nominal amount.

We currently have an enormous problem with the cupola at the top of the building. This has degraded to such an extent that masonry is cracking and needs repair. On top of this we have window frames which need replacing, an inefficient heating system which is expensive to run, a lift which needs replacing and inefficient guttering. We have set up a small team to look into this and in the last 12 months we have employed a fundraiser to help us access the National Lottery Heritage Fund. We were successful in the proposal bid and we have now submitted our first stage bid and should hear soon if we are successful or not. The building has been added to Historic England’s Heritage At Risk Register. The total cost of all this is in excess of 1 million pounds and the members of the Church are working hard to try to bring in extra income but we are relying on grants for the large amount.

#### **Activities**

The activities of the church reflect its obligation to show that it exists for public benefit, with particular regard to the advancement of religion. The church enables ordinary people to live out their Christian faith through:

- Worship and prayer, learning about the gospel of Jesus Christ and developing their knowledge of and trust in Jesus
- Opportunities for fellowship and the provision of pastoral care for its members and others connected with the church
- Mission and outreach

### **Worship and Prayer**

The church holds services every Sunday morning between 10.45am and 12.30pm. The music is led mainly by our worship group. Those who attend cover a wide age range. The services are led by a variety of preachers as well as the minister. Once a month we hold an informal service, led by a preacher gifted at addressing children as well as adults. Prayer events and healing services are also held.

All are welcome to attend our services; the average weekly adult attendance at the morning service was 35. We have lost many of our children and families since the pandemic and we are trying to rebuild in that area.

The sacraments of baptism and marriage are available and funeral services are held.

Every month we try to hold a Café worship event on a Wednesday afternoon, followed by refreshments. This event usually attracts around 20 people each time including our learners from Adult Community Education who share our building. Some of those who also attend are customers of the café and have no other attachment to the church.

There is a dedicated Prayer Room on the first floor of the building. It is used for prayer meetings particularly the weekly Thursday lunchtime prayer meeting and discipleship and bible study groups. Our monthly leadership meetings and pastoral meetings are held there, where prayer is greatly valued. It is available for use for private prayer by anyone while the building is open.

The church has a Prayer Ministry Team, members of which are available after each service, and a prayer circle for urgent prayer requests.

### **Fellowship and Pastoral Care**

The pastoral care system is regularly reviewed and all the members and most of the non-members who attend regularly have a Pastoral Carer, who is responsible for keeping in touch and/or visiting them in their homes, particularly those who are house-bound or sick.

### **Mission**

Mission continues to be an important element in the Church. We run regular Alpha courses and continue to see people come to faith in Jesus Christ. Our café has proved to be a very important mission field and we have regular people daily going into the café to offer prayer and a listening ear.

Little Angels is our outreach to younger families and this continues to see a good regular attendance.

Our Youth outreach is on a monthly basis and on those days, from 3.30pm to 5pm, youth from local high schools visit and take part in learning to play instruments, singing, craft and enjoying themselves. This continues to grow and develop with our Minister taking an active role.

### **The Brick**

The Brick began as a small outreach from the Church and has grown to be a charity in its own right, and it is still expanding thanks to our ongoing involvement in its success. See

[The Brick's Charity Commission page here](#)

### **Finance**

The church accounts are subject to independent examination and a copy, duly certified, is attached. Our lettings comprise several one-off, as well as regular users. In December 2023 The Brick, a local charity, started using the lower hall as a night shelter for rough sleepers. The original

contract was for six months but continued through the summer. The use may continue through the winter. This explains the increase in Lettings from 2022/23 to 2023/24. This income has helped cover the high cost of reports for the Nehemiah Project. Since March 2024 the project has had a separate bank account for receipts and payments.

**Wigan Methodist Mission**  
**Notes on Accounts**  
**Year ended 31st August 2024**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Coffee Bar		37675	28,000
Lets		71364	22,480
Offerings		26159	27,317
Gift Aid		0	7,363
Donations and Legacies		2071	1,811
CFB Interest received		1316	1,010
Nehemiah		3420	11,710
Sundry receipts		1251	<u>1,084</u>
		<b>143,256</b>	<b>100,775</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>			
Wages, tax, NI		18780	24489
Assessment		13000	14965
Heat and light		30756	28920
Building	1	23075	3218
Nehemiah	2	27418	16196
Printing, postages, etc		891	812
Insurance		4474	4366
Water		3642	2080
Telephone		875	780
Supplies		5126	6054
Sundry expenses		1662	1613
Equipment and fittings	3	6185	2630
Donations	4	2180	<u>2060</u>
		<b><u>138,064</u></b>	<b><u>108,183</u></b>
Suplus/Deficit for year		5,192	-7,408

**Wigan Methodist Mission**  
**Notes on Accounts**  
**Year ended 31st August 2024**

	2024	2023
<b><u>1. Building</u></b>		
Fire alarm service	2005	268
Lift Repairs and service	38	361
Waste disposal	1113	736
Pat test	283	286
Fazackerley flooring	0	110
Bithell wndow repair	0	570
Gibson plumbing	0	72
Halestone vegetation removal	5755	0
GS Electrics	5568	0
Metrorod	1320	0
Ace Gas Service	300	0
Legionella Assessment	450	0
P Wilson toilet plans	2460	0
CSS Asbestos	2340	0
Other	<u>1443</u>	<u>815</u>
	<b><u>23,075</u></b>	<b><u>3,218</u></b>
 <b><u>2.Nehemiah</u></b>		
Pat Wilson roof	3168	6,720
Markland structural survey	0	3,660
Christian Environ survey	0	3,840
GLJ projects	1467	1,976
Odell (fund raise)	7000	0
Shearstone	8340	0
Glovers (QS)	6185	0
Other	<u>1258</u>	<u>0</u>
	<b><u>27418</u></b>	<b><u>16,196</u></b>

**Wigan Methodist Mission**  
**Notes on Accounts**  
**Year ended 31st August 2024**

	2024	2023
<b><u>3. Equipment</u></b>		
Defibrillator Hire	522	985
Water boiler	0	634
Microphone	0	275
Toaster	0	252
Ladders	0	130
Kitchen equipment	5260	0
Chairs	185	0
Tables	60	0
Other	<u>158</u>	267
	<b><u>6,185</u></b>	<b><u>2,543</u></b>
<b><u>4. Donations</u></b>		
Alpha International	240	200
UCB	400	300
MAF	240	260
QHHC/QHAP/Brick	1,200	1,200
Action for Children	<u>100</u>	100
	<b><u>2,180</u></b>	<b><u>2,060</u></b>

**Wigan Methodist Mission**  
**Liquidity Statement as at 31st August 2024**

	<b>2023/24</b>		<b>2022/23</b>	
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>				
Co-op	17403		3,527	
CFB Deposit Account	21381	38784	30,065	33,592
Youth Fund		454		454
<b><u>Net Current Assets</u></b>		<b><u>38330</u></b>		<b><u>33,138</u></b>
<b><u>Accumulated Fund</u></b>				
Co-op brought forward	3,527		11,643	
CFB brought forward	30,065	33,592	<u>29,055</u>	40,698
Cash in hand		<u>0</u>		<u>402</u>
		33592		41,100
Youth Fund		<u>454</u>		<b><u>554</u></b>
		<b><u>33,138</u></b>		40,546
Surplus/deficit		<u>5192</u>		<u>-7408</u>
		<b><u>38,330</u></b>		<b><u>33,138</u></b>

# WIGAN METHODIST MISSION

## ACCOUNTS 2023/24

### Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~).

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met;
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

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

\* Please circle as appropriate

Name **MAS** **BERN BOURNE**

Signature **B Bourne**

Relevant Professional qualification or body **AAT member**

Address **34 Firs Park Cres  
Ashton WN2 2SS**

Date **16/2/25**