



Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church ANNUAL REPORT TO CHARITY COMMISSION 2023-24

1. Name: Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church

Registration Number: 1128900

Principal Office: South Parade, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B72 1QY

2. Trustees:

Pat Allen, Joan Burkwood (part), Les Burkwood, Anne Cole (Secretary), Bob Dauncey, Keith Dennis, Philip Griffith, Enid Howles, Amanda Hume, Angela Lavender, Peter Le Brocq, Donna Miller, David Mills, Yvette Morgan, Cynthia Reakes, Rev. Alan Smithson (Chair), Grahame Tench and Gill Wallwork.

3. Structure, governance and management:

We are governed according to the "Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church". Within the Methodist Church we belong to the Sutton Park Circuit. Our governing body is the Church Council (i.e. the Trustees listed above) which meets three times a year, usually in March, June and November. Trustees are generally appointed ex officio from membership of various church groups, with provision for others from the church membership and the Church Stewards. There are committees to cover Finance and Property and Pastoral matters.

The membership as at 1st November 2023 was 90.

4. Financial Review:

The Church is in a healthy financial situation, able to meet its commitment to the Circuit assessment and to maintain its premises in good condition while maintaining consistent levels of giving to charitable causes. We have general reserves equivalent to 6 months' running costs consistent with the connexional policy.

5. Public benefits:

The Church offers weekly opportunities for worship, and there are some house groups whose aim is spiritual development and growth. The church is outward looking and provides a number of facilities for the community at large for many age groups. These include:-

- Thriving uniformed groups for Scouts, Cubs, Brownies and Beavers
- Twice monthly Wednesday Club open to all
- Weekly Friends on Friday club for people with memory problems and their families
- Weekly coffee mornings for anyone to drop in

Over many years there has been a gradual change in the use of the Centre with increasing use by non-church groups for room hire. The Centre is in use 7 days a week, 50 weeks of the year. There is a tremendous cross-section of people using the Centre and in a typical week there are as many as 1,300 people passing through the doors via a wide variety of external community groups. The groups for vulnerable adults include Gamblers Anonymous, MIND Friendship Club providing recreational activities for people with mental health problems, Support Groups for Parkinson's Disease, Memory Cafe, RVS Dementia Group, Friends on Friday Memory Club, Alzheimer's Singing for the Brain, Talking Newspapers and Sian Bain breathing exercises. There is a weekly coffee morning for anyone who'd like to drop in for company.

The community groups include Cherished "Blossom" for teenage girls and "ROAR" for the boys, art groups, Yoga groups, Drama Club, Sutton Coldfield Choral Society, a Sewing group, Needlecraft, Lace-making, Folk dancing, Little Pals toddlers group, Portrait painting, Aikido, Tai Chi, Badminton, Ballet for children and for over 55s, Indoor Bowls, Antenatal yoga, Birchfield String Orchestra, seated exercises, Sutton Coldfield Photography Club, Sutton Arts Theatre, Smart 11+ Tuition, Stamp Fairs, Speech and Drama and Ballet exams, National Trust lectures, Royal Sutton Coldfield Philatelic Society, Tumbletots, u3a classes in German, Latin, Spanish, Philosophy, Dancing and Enjoy Opera plus Mixed Games and Pickleball and PKA Karate/ Kick Boxing.

In addition to this we also have local residents meetings and occasional other outside organisations using our rooms for meetings. E.g. Sutton Ramblers, Sutton Coldfield Stroke Club, Birmingham City Council for ballot box distribution.

6. Objectives:

Our objectives are in line with those of the Methodist Church which are:-

Worship

The Church exists to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.

Learning & Caring

The Church exists to help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care.

Service

The Church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.

Evangelism

The Church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

7. Activities and Milestones :

The premises have been maintained in excellent condition and are an asset both for the church itself and the local community. In the past year we have replaced the heating system for a much more efficient one and hope to be able to meet the national issue of spiralling energy costs as a result.

We gave £140 to Action for Children, £100 to Bible Society, £270 to World Mission, £538 to Mission in Britain, £243 to All We Can (previously Methodist Relief & Development Fund), £3,086 to Christian Aid and £417 to Methodist Homes. In all, the special collections raised £4,795 for outside causes and a further £3,900 was given from our church funds to other organisations and charities.

The photo-voltaic panels which were installed on the roof of the Church Centre in 2013 generate just over 30,000 kWh/year. These continue to make a significant contribution to reducing our carbon footprint and helping to protect the environment as well as reducing our electricity bills.

8. Future Plans:

The Church plans:-

- To continue to offer worship which is varied in style blending the traditional and the modern
- To continue to offer groups for Prayer and Spiritual Growth
- To encourage the development and growth of the various groups which make up our Church Family
- To support financially, according to our means, charities both Methodist and more widely

9. Risk Assessment:

Risk Management is monitored via the regular trustees meetings. The main items of concern are maintenance of membership, safety and adequacy of the building used, balance of funding to maintain current activities, the ongoing commitment of volunteers in running the church and the community centre and ensuring the church operates within existing and potential regulation and legislation.

CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2024

Circuit

Circuit no.

504

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1128900

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. Alan Smithson

Church Stewards:

Peter LeBrocq

Gill Wallwork

Anne Cole

Cynthia Reakes

Treasurer:

Grahame Tench

SECTION A			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		Note	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS					
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		57,976		57,976	57,559
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		7,580	2,800	10,380	6,543
a4	Lettings		101,776		101,776	88,227
a5	Other receipts		7,442		7,442	18,015
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		174,774	2,800	177,574 (a7)	170,344

SECTION B						
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		68,435		68,435	63,366
b3	Donations		3,850		3,850	4,800
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		54,228		54,228	58,396
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		26,839		26,839	22,516
b6						
b7	Other payments		21,050	302	21,352	28,122
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		174,402	302	174,704 (b9)	177,200

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	372	2,498	2,870	(6,856)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		178,436	59,172	237,608 (c6)	244,464
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	178,808	61,670	240,478	237,608
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	178,808	61,670	240,478 (c8)	237,608 (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		4,795		2,972
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		4,795		2,972
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		13,799	8,532	5,267		5,364	10,631
e2							
e3							
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	13,799	8,532	5,267		5,364 (e11)	10,631 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	177,574 (a7)	174,704 (b9)	2,870	(c7)	237,608 (c6)	240,478 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	191,373	183,236	8,137		242,972 (x)	251,109 (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	32,433	44,197
f3	Bank Deposit Account		
f4	Central Finance Board	145,903	134,357
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	59,272	61,924
f6	Other funds		
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	237,608 (c6)	240,478 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	5,364 (e11)	10,631 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	242,972 (x)	251,109 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	
g3	Other Assets	
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	906
g5	Other Liabilities	477

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 Church Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church

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 *G. Tench* Date *1/12/24*

Name and address of treasurer Grahame Tench

24 Frederick Road Sutton Coldfield Post Code B73 5QW

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 *1/12/2024*

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Alan Smithson*

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev. Alan Smithson Date *1/12/2024*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church

Charity Number 1128900

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Sutton Coldfield 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 Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church No

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act;
- 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 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 of the Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Committee of Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the reporting date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner A M Sanders

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner N/A

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

149 Tamworth Road Sutton Coldfield Post Code B75 6DY

Date ... 23rd November 2021

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church No 1128900

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act;
- 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 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 Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Committee Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the reporting date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner A M Sanders

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner N/A

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

149 Tamworth Road Sutton Coldfield Post Code B75 6DY

Date 23rd November 2021

* delete or circle as appropriate