

Downham Market Methodist Church - Trustees Annual Report —2022/2023 Registered Charity
No —1129143

Principal Address Downham Market Methodist Church c/o 1 Camomile Close, Downham
Market, Norfolk, PE38 9UJ.

Trustees: all members of the Church Council, the Governing Body of the Church, are trustees and are listed below (correct up to end August 2024) Paul Critchley, Shirley Williamson, Sylvia Cornwell, Beryl Boyce, Janet Roust, Mary Cumbers, Terence Foster, Margaret Harrison, Alison Durkin, Pat Mewhew, Joyce Dent, Heinz Hessler, Ralph Perkins, Alan Rix, John Roust and Maureen Hibling.

Minister Revd Paul Critchley

Charity Constitution: Previously excepted charities; - excepted charities were not required to register but are regulated by the Charity Commission. This is because they have been excepted from the requirement to register either by legislation or an order made by us. Churches and chapels of some Christian denominations; The Charities Act 2006 required excepted charities with an annual income of over £100,000 to register with us.

Charity trustee selection method: Charity trustees for Downham Market Methodist Church are appointed as per the rules of the Methodist Church. They are a mixture of stationed minister, Deacons, volunteer elected stewards and volunteer representatives elected from individual organisations within the Church.

Summary of the objectives 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 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.

Summary of the main activities for the public benefit;

What

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES —The main act of worship at Downham Market Methodist Church was the 10am service with attendance increasing this year to around 55-60 people per week. A midweek Holy Communion service continued to be offered once a month. We have a regular number of worshippers attending worship from one of our local Care Homes. Communion is also led at Ashville Care Home in Downham Market.

Evening worship continued online using Zoom during the winter months and although numbers attending this service has declined, it is a worthwhile activity for those who cannot attend church in person.

Several families brought children for baptism, providing wonderful occasions to welcome people to the church. Funerals for church members and for others from within the community have been a regular occurrence.

The signed services which were run in conjunction with the 'Sign the Cross' community have now ceased as our deaf attendees now attend worship at the Deaf Church in Huntingdon.

Monthly benevolent collections are donated to other charities, such as Action for Children, Christian Aid and Macmillan Nurses. These are agreed annually by the trustees. There is the opportunity to donate in cash weekly, or to donate online. The church members also regularly support the local food bank and at Christmas support other local churches in providing hampers for families in need on Christmas Day.

Who

THE GENERAL PUBLIC —any member of the community may attend any service and can seek help and/or support from members of the charity.

How

The building is in daily use by community groups. Lettings are ably managed by the Church Administrator. She ensures that people using the facilities are well looked after and she helps promote these activities via social media and posters where appropriate. Community Choirs, Dance and Exercise Groups, and the Dementia Cafe make regular use of the premises. A local youth group, who encourage the young people to use music and drama, meet at the church and also occasionally share in worship. These Community lettings provide both valuable facilities for the public and essential revenue for the Church.

The rooms are also used by the church's own groups such as Messy Church (an initiative aimed at offering families the opportunity to learn about the Bible through crafts, stories and food) and the Ladies Friendship Circle, which provides a regular meeting with talks, outings and fellowship.

Members of the church have been generous in giving via BACS to support both the church's financial needs and charity support.

The Social Centre, based in the church buildings, supports the elderly in the community. It has provided a welcome to members of the public Monday to Friday between 9am and 1.30pm, with hot lunches served to the many who appreciate the food, friendship and companionship on offer. For those who can't get out, the Social Centre provided a 'meals on wheels' service, delivering lunches, using volunteer drivers. This has provided a vital service to many isolated, elderly members of the community.

The Revd Paul Critchley has oversight of not only Downham Market Methodist Church but other smaller Methodist chapels in the surrounding villages of West Norfolk and has now taken on the

role of Superintendent of the West Norfolk Methodist Circuit. He has supported the work of the Social Centre as well as visiting and supporting the work of local care homes and schools.

The church supports a number of house groups, where people meet for Bible study and fellowship. This gives members of the church the opportunity to speak of their faith and share in discussion. These house groups occasionally lead services in the church.

RISK

The trustees review the risks that the charity is exposed to on an ongoing basis and take steps to mitigate those risks as appropriate.

Reserves Policy Our Reserves Policy relates to our general (unrestricted) funds, which are freely available to be used for any or all of the purposes of the Church. Our Reserve Policy is to hold 50% of annual expenditure in hand; these reserve funds allow for fluctuations in receipts against set payments and act as contingency funds. The Church holds funds to continue the ongoing upgrades to its premises to maintain and improve the fabric of our buildings and to enhance the ability of our members, users of our services and visitors to make maximum use of the facilities.

CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

DOWNHAM MARKET	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

WEST NORFOLK	Circuit	Circuit no.	14 / 20
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129143

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. PAUL CRITCHLEY

Church Stewards:

MRS S. CORNWELL
MRS S. EMSWELL
MRS M. HIBLING
MR R. PERKINS
MR A. RIX
MR R. Webb
MRS S. WILLIAMSON

Treasurer:

Alison Durkin

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

**DOWNHAM
MARKET**

Church

SECTION A			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		Note	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS					
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		45,145.83		45,146	46,616
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		7,524.03		7,524	4,318
a4	Lettings		27,360.25		27,360	19,344
a5	Other receipts 22206.05 + 97.72	+ 156.40	22,460.17		22,460	36,996
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		102,490.28		102,490 (a7)	107,274

SECTION B			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		38,075.00		38,075	39,988
b3	Donations		1,540.00		1,540	1,575
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		6,517.12		6,517	7,092
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		16,077.08		16,077	12,551
b6						
b7	Other payments		28,982.09		28,982	52,175
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		91,191.29		91,191 (b9)	113,381

SECTION C			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	11,298.99		11,299	(6,107)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		130,060.16		130,060 (c6)	136,167
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	141,359.15		141,359	130,060
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	141,359.15		141,359 (c8)	130,060 (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		2,552.45	2,541
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		2,552.45	2,541
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 CARPET BOWLS	1,447.06	1,648.51	(201.45)		1,947.34	1,745.89
e2 LADIES FRIENDSHIP	878.61	867.77	10.84		304.45	315.29
e3 SOCIAL CENTRE	53,842.90	57,008.04	(3,165.14)		30,678.37	27,513.23
e4					72.95	72.95
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	56,169	59,524	(3,356)		33,003 (e11)	29,647 (e12)
Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	102,490 (a7)	91,191 (b9)	11,299	(c7)	130,060 (c6)	141,359 (c8)
e9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	158,659	150,716	7,943		163,063 (x)	171,007 (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	5,518	5,731
f3 Bank Deposit Account	3,979	2,295
f4 Central Finance Board	45,020	45,729
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	75,543	87,604
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	130,060 (c6)	141,359 (c8)
Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	33,003 (e11)	29,647 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	163,063 (x)	171,007 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	5,359.20	5,621
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	3,047,129.00	3,123,282
g3 Other Assets - Contents Insurance	201,253.00	206,283
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 Church DOWNHAM MARKET No.....

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 [Signature] Date 15/11/2024
Name and address of treasurer 31 New Road, DOWNHAM MARKET
Post Code PE38

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 4/3/25...

Signature of the Chair of the meeting [Signature]
Name of the Chair of the meeting P. CRITCHER Date 4/3/25

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

DOWNHAM MARKET Church

Charity Number 1129143

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the DOWNHAM MARKET Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 1 to 5. 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 DOWNHAM MARKET No

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 CS

Name of independent examiner CLIFFORD SHELTON

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ACMA. G.C.M.A.

Name of firm (where appropriate) —

Address 1 WOODLAND GARDENS, NORTH WOOTTON.

KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK

Post Code PE30 3PX

Date 19th February 2025

* delete or circle as appropriate