

**WESLEY CHURCH CAMBRIDGE**  
**Trustees Annual Report - year to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

**Required information**

Charity name	Wesley Methodist Church, Cambridge	
Charity registration number	1129303	
Address:	Christ's Pieces, Cambridge CB1 1LG	
Trustee names	Paul Ashley Graham Burghall Angus Campbell Geoff Batty Kathy Batty Janet Davis John Papaloizou Janet Davis	Elaine Papaloizou Adrian Mackintosh Dottie Haslett Malcolm Haslett Phil Howie David Taylor Jenny Izzett
Ministers (not trustees)	Rev'd Rose Westwood, Deacon Ian Murray	
Structure and management	<p>Wesley Methodist Church, as a charity, incorporates the physically and numerically larger Wesley Church and the smaller Chesterton Methodist Church.</p> <p>Wesley Methodist Church is governed and managed in accordance with the standing orders of the Methodist Church. The church is led a minister who chairs the Church Council, the governing body. The members of the Church Council, excluding the minister(s) and representatives of external organisations, are the trustees of the charity. Members of the Church Council are chosen by one of the following processes: (1) Ministers appointed to the church by the Methodist Church (2) ordinary members elected by the annual General Church Meeting (3) stewards of the church, elected by the annual General Church Meeting (4) <i>ex officio</i> officers of the church, such as the treasurer, who are appointed by the Church Council itself (5) representatives from the Methodist Church in the local circuit.</p> <p>The Church Council meets normally three times a year, and receives reports from officers and organisations within the church. Day-to-day management is devolved to the ministers, stewards, the Finance &amp; Property Committee, the Pastoral Committee, and the officers of the church, such as the pastoral secretary, treasurer and property steward.</p> <p>Trustees must all be members of Wesley Methodist Church or Chesterton Methodist Church. They serve for a period of six years at a time, and may be reappointed.</p>	

## Objectives in the year

Our objectives are summarised in our mission statement:

Our mission is to be a...

*Worshipping*

*Welcoming*

*Witnessing*

*Christian Community*

- with a distinctive Methodist character serving Cambridge and district. To that end, we intend...
  - ☐ To maintain a centre of Christian worship in the Methodist tradition, of high quality and in a wide variety of styles
  - ☐ To strengthen expressions of our fellowship and unity in Christ, through growth and nurture and pastoral care
  - ☐ To deepen the Christian knowledge and faith of the church community
  - ☐ To engage in effective outreach to those who live, work, study or play in central Cambridge
  - ☐ To serve the local community through individual participation and the use of our premises
  - ☐ To co-operate with other Churches and Christian workers in the city and in our circuit

In particular, we intend to increase our efforts...

- ☐ To reach out to children and young people
- ☐ To welcome and integrate those who join our community
- ☐ To provide adequate resources to reach our targets – resources of people, premises and money to reach our targets in:
  - Increasing small fellowship groups and extending other opportunities for Christian Education
  - Extending the use of premises for outreach and improve interaction with users
  - Improving and extending the use of technology for worship, administration and promotion.

## Activities and achievements

The year ending 31 August 2023 was a period of consolidation and reassessment following the covid pandemic and the appointment of a new minister, Revd Rose Westwood (who is also circuit superintendent). Deacon Ian Murray remains in charge at Chesterton.

### ***Wesley Church***

Sunday worship has been maintained through the year. An increasing number of services at Wesley Church are now live-streamed. The practice is to stream services on the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

Bible study and prayer groups are an important aspect of church life, as are one-off study sessions connected to significant times in the church calendar, such as the Lent study group.

Wesley Church plans to restart two activities which were important before covid: the Science Meets Faith lecture series, which drew an audience from across the city, and the Thursday Lunch club for older people. These both started in the year following the period covered by this report.

Wesley Church has seen a steady increase in use of the premises by non-church groups, this income has not yet reached pre-covid levels.

Wesley Church retains a full-time residential caretaker, and a part time centre manager. Following the departure of the previous centre manager in June 2022, a new centre manager was appointed from January 2023.

### ***Chesterton Methodist Church***

Sunday worship has been maintained through the year. It's membership and congregation remains small, but is growing slightly. It is recognised as an important institution in the community of East Chesterton, and area of significant inequality and deprivation.

Chesterton is used by two organisations that offer an increasingly valuable service to the local and regional community. It is a hub for the Cambridge City Foodbank, demand for which is growing. The charity Headway also uses Chesterton as its primary centre of activity in Cambridge. The Foodbank pays no fee for using the premises. Headway's letting fee is an important component of the church's income. The local Headway branch went into receivership during the year, but it's services have been taken over by a new branch of the charity; we have lost a small sum of income during the year (which we may have to write off), but this is expected to be just a one-off issue.

Chesterton Methodist Church continues to employ a part-time administrator, whose hours have increased in line with the increase in use of the premises by outside groups.

During the year plans were being developed for a new community café to be constructed on the church site, to be run in partnership with the New Meaning Foundation, a social enterprise. After the period of this report, the project was cancelled, owing to increasing costs and the administrative burden.

## **Financial review for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

### ***Form of accounts***

The registered charity consists of Wesley Church proper, and Chesterton Methodist Church, which is formally a 'class' of Wesley Church. The accounts 'books' are kept separate for each church.

Our formal financial statements are combined with Chesterton Methodist Church for reporting to the Methodist Church and The Charity Commission. Even combined, our income is normally still below the threshold (£250,000) above which we would be legally required to employ professional experts to examine our accounts. Nevertheless we do so because the size and complexity of our accounts makes it difficult to find a suitable 'lay' independent examiner. Prentis & Co has acted as our independent examiner.

In 2021-22, our income was sufficiently high that we could no longer use the Receipts & Payments form of accounts, which were thus reported on an Accruals basis. This was seen as a one-off measure, as the high income arose from a grant paid to Chesterton Methodist Church for its planned community café (since the café project has been cancelled, this grant will be repaid in 2023-24). With the reduction in income in 2022-23, we have reverted to the Receipts and Payments form of accounts.

### ***Financial performance***

The combined charity made a substantial deficit of £57,191 across all funds, compared to the previous year's £58,153. The General Fund deficit of £36,270 is attributable to the steady loss of income from a declining membership and an increased assessment (transferred to the Cambridge circuit to pay for ministers' stipends and accommodation, and the national church organisation). During the year the King Street Pre-School ceased activities; we have thus lost a small proportion of their lettings income

for 2022-23, and will lose it entirely in 2023-24. The overall deficit was increased by expenditure on a new AV system at Wesley Church (which has been well-received), partly funded by a legacy from a former member. The deficit is entirely attributable to Wesley Church. Chesterton Methodist Church's receipts and payments are approximately in balance and stable.

The charity's financial reserves remain strong (£304,218), though declining.

We anticipate that the Cambridge Methodist Circuit, which has responsibility for all Methodist churches and ministerial staff in the area, will review undertake a review of assets and resources in the coming year with the aim of placing all churches on a more sustainable footing.

**WESLEY CHURCH (INCLUDING CHESTERTON METHODIST CHURCH)**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**  
**ACCOUNTS**

**THE METHODIST CHURCH**  
**STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Wesley Church (including Chesterton Methodist Church)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

Cambridge	Circuit	Circuit no.	14/26
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129303

If not a registered charity **Her 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:

Revd Rose Westwood

Church Stewards:

Graham Burghall	Phil Howie
Angus Campbell	Jennie Jenks
Malcolm Haslett	Adrian Mackintosh

Treasurer:

Paul Ashley

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>Note</b>			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	95,115	0	<b>95,115</b>	93,903
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	9,160	301	<b>9,461</b>	3,084
a4	Lettings	99,959	0	<b>99,959</b>	86,493
a5	Other receipts	14,860	0	<b>14,860</b>	93,584
a6	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>219,094</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>219,396 (a7)</b>	<b>277,064</b>

SECTION B					
b1	<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	100,662	0	<b>100,662</b>	96,123
b3	Donations	221	0	<b>221</b>	193
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	44,121	21,223	<b>65,344</b>	30,899
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	27,949	0	<b>27,949</b>	25,448
b6	Staff	62,579	0	<b>62,579</b>	55,008
b7	Other payments	19,833	0	<b>19,833</b>	11,239
b8	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>255,364</b>	<b>21,223</b>	<b>276,587 (b9)</b>	<b>218,911</b>

SECTION C					
c1	<b>NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(a6-b8)</b>	<b>(36,270)</b>	<b>(20,921)</b>	<b>(57,191)</b>
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	228,233	99,924	<b>328,157 (c6)</b>	270,004
c3	<b>Sub total</b>	<b>(c1+c2)</b>	<b>191,963</b>	<b>79,003</b>	<b>270,966</b>
c4	Transfers and adjustments	33,252	0	<b>33,252 (c7)</b>	0
c5	<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>(c3+c4)</b>	<b>225,215</b>	<b>79,003</b>	<b>304,218 (c8)</b>
					<b>328,157 (c6)</b>

SECTION D				
<b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS</b>				
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		2,118	1,622
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		2,342	12,104
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		2,543	11,608
d4	<b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID</b>	<b>(d1+d2-d3)</b>	<b>1,917</b>	<b>2,118</b>



**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 2023 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				0			0
e2				0			0
e3				0			0
e4				0			0
e5				0			0
e6				0			0
e7				0			0
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0	0	0	0	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	219,396 (a7)	276,587 (b9)	(57,191)	33,252 (c7)	328,157 (c6)	304,218 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	219,396	276,587	(57,191)	33,252	328,157 (x)	304,218 (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 2023**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand	298
f2	Bank Current Accounts	76,733
f3	Bank Deposit Account	
f4	Central Finance Board	118,638
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	124,667
f6	Other funds (accounts receivable/payable, agency)	7,821
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	328,157 (c6)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	0 (e11)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	328,157 (x)
		304,218 (y)

**SECTION G**

**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	142,079
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	17,578,321
g3	Other Assets	467,572
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	0
g5	Other Liabilities	7,821
		106,304
		18,105,659
		481,598
		0
		3,270

**Notes**

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 TMGP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church: **Wesley Church (including Chesterton Methodist Church)**

## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 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 31/5/24 .....

Name and address of treasurer : Paul Ashley

59 Gilbert Road, Cambridge. Post Code CB4 3NZ

### Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were/will be\* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 4 DECEMBER 2023

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....  .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting REW ROSE WESTWOOD ..... Date 02.06.2024 .....

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

**Wesley Church (including Chesterton Methodist Church)**

**Charity Number 1129303**

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the receipts and payments accounts of the Wesley Church (including Chesterton Methodist Church) for the year ended 31 August 2023 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.



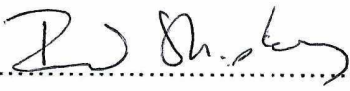
### Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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 receipts and payments 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 receipts and payments accounts to be reached.

I have 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 date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

Signature of independent examiner ..... 

Name of independent examiner ...Ian Shipley FCCA.....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ...FCCA.....

Name of firm ...Prentis & Co LLP.....

Address ...115C Milton Road, Cambridge.....

..... Post Code ...CB4 1XE.....

Date ..... 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 .....