

ALTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1129465

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-05-07
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Alton Methodist Church Draymans Way Alton Hampshire GU34 1AU
Phone	01420 82695
Email	altonmethodist@hotmail.com
Website	www.altonmethodist.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 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.

Activities: Religious activities - Alton Methodist Church

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Hampshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£118,695	£87,527	-	-
2024-08-31	£105,310	£103,526	-	-
2023-08-31	£111,223	£94,540	-	-
2022-08-31	£91,700	£90,800	-	-
2021-08-31	£84,011	£83,867	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev PHILIP SIMPKINS	Chair	2017-09-01
Alan Kenneth Robb		2023-05-07
Angela Simpkins		2019-05-05
Ann Hughes		2019-10-24
Anna Mitchell		2023-05-07
Carol Woodruffe		2018-09-01
Christine Stovold		2019-05-05
DAVID ALLAN		
DIANE ROSE WRIGHT		2012-03-23
Diane Faith Titterington		2017-09-01
Glenda Kim Bentley		2023-05-07
Graham Charles Titterington BSc MSc		2012-09-01
Helen Smith		2021-07-06
JANET WINIFRED ANN MEAGER		
Jennie Marlow		2016-09-01
Judith Nicholls		2023-07-11
Liz George		2016-10-01
NANCY ELIZABETH BUCK		2016-09-01
Nigel Hughes MA FREng		2019-10-24
Norma Duke		2024-05-05
Susanna Elizabeth Strain		2024-05-05

ALTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129465

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	September	2024		31	August	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Alton Methodist Church

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1129465.

Charity's principal address

Draymans Way

Alton

Hants

Postcode GU34 1AU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev P Simpkins	Minister		Methodist Church UK
Mr A Robb	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C. Woodruffe	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs A Mitchell	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs A. Simpkins	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mr H. Smith	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C. Stovold	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mr G Titterington	Treasurer		Church Council
Mrs D Titterington	Church Council Secretary		Church Council
Miss J Nicholls	Family Committee representative		Church Council
Mr D Allan	Steward and Property Committee representative		Church Council
Mr N. Hughes	Finance Committee representative		Church Council
Mr L. Sheridan	Lighthouse representative		Church Council

Mrs J. Marlow	Church Family Visitors representative		Church Council
Mrs L. George	Safeguarding		Church Council
Mrs A Hughes	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs J Meager	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs D. Wright	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs N Buck	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs G Bentley	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mr M. Morrice	Representative from Circuit Stewards		Circuit Stewards

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	
(custodian trustees of our building)	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Alton Methodist Church is governed by Statutory Instruments 1996 Number 180, as amended by Statutory Instruments 2007 Number 2655.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Election by the Church's Annual Meeting. Vacancies that arise during the year can be filled by election at a Church Council meeting.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Alton Methodist Church is part of The Hants-Surrey Border Circuit (36/1) in the South East District of the Methodist Church, UK.	
Alton Methodist Church is managed by the Church Council (Managing Trustees). A number of committees are responsible for specific facets of the Church's work.	
These include:	The Family Committee The Finance Committee The Property Committee.
The Church Council meets three times per year or more often if necessary. It receives reports from groups and reviews their work providing guidance and direction and authorises policy and is ultimately responsible for the activities of the groups.	
Much of the day to day running of the church is entrusted to a team of stewards elected by the church membership. In addition, there is an annual church meeting where the whole of the church membership is able to meet and review the work of the church over the previous year.	
The Church works to manage and limit risk as far as practicable. It reviews its practices against the Charity Commission's "Internal Financial Controls for Charities" document regularly. It only pays for services in cash in exceptional services (and no such occasions occurred in the year under review). All cheque and electronic payments require 2 signatures. All receipts are banked promptly. Operational risk is managed by servicing all fire extinguishers, electrical equipment, and sliding doors regularly. Personal and reputational risk is managed by adopting best practice, as recommended by the Methodist Church nationally, to safeguarding.	

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objective of the Church is summed up in our mission statement which states:	
The calling of Alton Methodist Church is to respond to the Gospel of God's Love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.	
This can be summarised in four key areas, i.e. worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.	
Worship:	Increase the awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love.
Learning and Caring:	Help people to grow and learn as Christians.
Service:	Be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Evangelism:	Make more followers of Jesus Christ.
The Church comprises 90 members and others who have not entered into membership. One service meets each Sunday. In addition, there are normally many activities during the week. These include: Girls and Boys Brigades, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Monthly Lunch Club, and Child Contact Centre. Many of these groups involve people and young people who are not members of the church. We value and wish to develop our links with the local community and the provision we are able to make, particularly for the elderly, vulnerable and young people with special needs who are welcomed into our various groups. In addition, there are a number of groups from the community who use these premises. Our paid staff comprises the Minister, and an “Anna Chaplain” (Chaplain to older people in the town and surrounding villages.) Grant applications and fund raising towards this role in the last year has proved successful and adds a degree of financial security to the post over the next 3 years plus. The work of the Anna Chaplaincy is highly respected and commended by grant making bodies for its work. All other activities are undertaken by volunteers. There are over 50 volunteers involved in some way in the activities that take place at the church. For administrative purposes the Methodist Church in the country (the Connexion) is divided into 33 districts. Each district is further divided into Circuits. The Alton Methodist Church is one of eleven churches in the local Circuit. Circuit assessment is a sum paid quarterly to the circuit treasurer to cover Ministers salaries and a contribution towards District and Connexional running costs. Our Minister is employed and paid by the Circuit. The Hants Surrey Border Methodist Circuit is in consultation with the Berkshire Surrey Border Methodist Circuit with a view to becoming one larger circuit from Sept. 2025. The name of the amalgamated circuit will be ‘The Blackwater Valley Circuit’ The church signed a covenant with the local Anglican parish in 2009 to work more closely together. The project known as the Greater Alton Project (GAP) currently funds with others a Chaplain to the elderly (particularly those in nursing homes, and known as the “Anna Chaplain”) as mentioned above. The trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, and believe this is illustrated by the Church’s service to the welfare of the elderly members of the surrounding community (outside our church) and to the younger members through the youth organisations. Generosity from Church members through a gift day, and ongoing giving have enabled the churches finances to remain sustainable post pandemic.	

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Restrictions on Activities: The regulations governing the Church do not permit the consumption of alcohol, and allow only very limited forms of gambling, on the premises. Policy on grant making The Church does not make grants to organisations outside the Methodist Church from its own funds, but it does often provide a channel for its members to make contributions to other charitable organisations working in the local community or globally to further objectives that are complementary to our own objectives. This year our chosen charity for particular support was MSF ('Medicins Sans Frontieres'). Investment policy The Church does not engage in speculative investment activity and all of our reserves are held in an interest bearing bank account operated by the UK Methodist Church. Volunteers Most of the work of the Church is performed by volunteers. Currently about 50 volunteers work for the church on a regular basis.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**Worship**

The church offers one worship service per Sunday with an average attendance of 50-70 people each week. Special services have been held including funeral/thanksgiving services. We continue to develop strong relationships with the Parish churches through the Greater Alton Project (GAP) and have held a number of well attended joint services. We also provide a recorded online service.

Learning and Caring: The minister, along with the Pastoral Secretary and members of the congregation offer strong pastoral support to one another and to the wider community.

Service: Members of the church run a weekly coffee morning and a monthly lunch club at the church. These are both well attended by mainly older people some of whom are members of the church but many are not. This helps to reduce the sense of loneliness and isolation that some of these folk tell us that they experience at times. We run successful children's activities in the form of Boys Brigade and Girls Brigade companies, and members lead very successful Duke of Edinburgh groups leading to bronze, silver and gold awards.

Evangelism: Members share their faith through friendship and service.

Together with the GAP churches we have employed a chaplain to older people (Anna Chaplain). This ministry has been very much appreciated by individuals and by local care home staff. She has led communion services, participated in funeral services, attended coffee morning and lunch clubs and, where appropriate, has shared her faith as a means of encouragement to those who she spends time with.

We have worked with other churches in the town on projects like community carols, lent courses and supporting organisations like Foodbank.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**Church Reserves Policy for Alton Methodist Church which is part of the Hants-Surrey Border Circuit 36/1****Trustees Annual Report Church Reserves Policy**

The Charity's Reserves Policy deals with:

- (a) Our General Fund

Other funds also held which are NOT required to be included in our reserves are:

- (b) Internal organisations (Restricted)
- (c) GAP funds (Restricted)
- (d) Special collections, where the Church collects money on behalf of other charities to facilitate giving by our members (Restricted)
- (e) Benevolent Fund (Restricted).

Our Reserves:

- (a) Our General Fund

We aim to hold in reserve sufficient money in our general funds to cover a minimum of 6 months expenditure i.e. £40,000.

The reason for this is twofold:

- (i) The Church needs a minimum of 3 months average expenditure in reserve as working capital to cover normal running costs.
- (ii) Maintenance of church buildings. Funds need to be available to meet unexpected repair bills.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by the Church Council (Managing trustees) on 27th February 2020.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Church derives most of its income from donations of its members. A small amount of income is derived from letting out rooms within our building.

The Church has been successful in winning external grants to support the provision of an "Anna Chaplain" to support elderly people of all denominations in the Alton area. Currently support is coming from East Hampshire District Council Communities Fund, The Mercers' Company, The Complins Memorial Trust, the Methodist Church HSB Circuit, and individual donations.

Regular giving from church members has continued. A very good gift day has reflected the generosity and commitment of our church members and friends.

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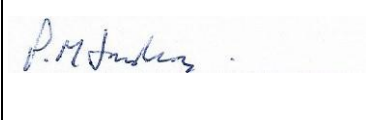
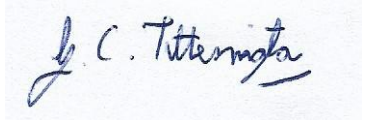
Section F	Other optional information
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Section G	Declaration
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The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
	Full name(s)	
	Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	
	Philip Mark Simpkins	Graham Charles Titterington
	Minister	Treasurer
Date		
12 th November 2025		

**CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS**

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Alton Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

Hants and Surrey Border	Circuit	Circuit no
		36/1

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129465

**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:

Rev Philip Simpkins

Church Stewards:

Mr David Allan	Mr Alan Robb
Mrs Christine Stovold	Mrs Liz Strain
Mrs Carol Woodruffe	Mrs Helen Smith
Mrs Angela Simpkins	Mrs Anna Mitchell

Treasurer:

Mr Graham Titterington

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025
Alton Methodist
Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	80,750	9,910	90,660	81,728
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	3,717		3,717	3,089
a4	Lettings	5,075		5,075	3,529
a5	Other receipts	5,244	14,000	19,244	16,965
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	94,785	23,910	118,695 (a7)	105,311

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	53,000		53,000	53,000
b3	Donations	4,353	1,000	5,353	5,047
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	7,882		7,882	14,301
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	4,793		4,793	7,119
b6					
b7	Other payments	9,401	7,099	16,500	24,058
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	79,428	8,099	87,527 (b9)	103,525

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	15,357	15,811	31,168	1,786
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	65,083	40,149	105,232 (c6)	103,446
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	80,440	55,960	136,399	105,232
c4	Transfers and adjustments			(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	80,440	55,960	136,399 (c8)	105,232 (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)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		276
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	6,142	2,873
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	6,130	3,149
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)	12	

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 Boys Brigade	7,201	7,970	(769)		1,847	1,078
e2 Girls Brigade	2,065	2,185	(120)		1,712	1,591
e3 Duke of Edinburgh Awards	3,442	2,831	611		328	939
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	12,708	12,986	(278)		3,887 (e11)	3,608 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	118,695 (a7)	87,527 (b9)	31,168	(c7)	105,232 (c6)	136,399 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	131,403	100,514	30,890		109,118 (x)	140,008 (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 2025**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	37,495	58,067
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	67,737	78,345
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds (external rganisations)		(12)
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	105,232 (c6)	136,400 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	3,887 (e11)	3,608 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	109,118 (x)	140,008 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,486,582	1,540,086
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)

Notes on assets

The church building is vested with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) who are the custodian trustees, while we are the managing trustees of the property.

National Insurance contributions

During the course of the year 2023-2024, the Trustees became aware of an error in the way in which National Insurance contributions had been calculated. This was immediately declared to HMRC and the Trustees are still awaiting HMRC's determination of this matter. Our expectation is that we will be required to pay HMRC £4271. Of this £4,254 relates to the employment of the Anna Chaplain, and £17 to unrestricted funds.

Notes on restricted funds

The Boys Brigade, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the Girls Brigade maintain their independent bank accounts and have their accounts examined independently.

The Anna Chaplaincy is part of the mission of the Greater Alton Project, and its finances are managed by Alton Methodist Church. The Church was without the services of a paid Anna Chaplain for nearly 8 Months, relying on our volunteer chaplains to continue the mission.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Transfers between funds	Expenditure	Closing balance
Anna Chaplaincy	40001.53	21697.58		6963.83	54735.28
Tuesday Coffee Club	9.09	2212.22		1135.30	1086.01
Benevolent Fund	138.50	0.00		0.00	138.50
Total	40149.12	23909.80	0.00	8099.13	55959.79

Special collections

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing balance
Naomi House	0.00	12.10	0.00	12.10
The Hampshire Forum DofE Award	0.00	39.33	39.33	0.00
All We Can	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
Mission Aviation Fellowship	0.00	5790.07	5790.07	0.00
Total	0.00	6141.50	6129.40	12.10

Explanation of "other receipts" and "other payments" in Sections A and B

Other receipts in unrestricted funds

Feed in Tariff payments	1,689.42
Events	1,557.41
Grants received :-	
HSBC Circuit	1,000.00
Complin Memorial Trust	500.00
EHDC	345.00
Hampshire and Islands Historic Churches	20.00
Reimbursement of expenses	131.98
Total	5,243.81

Other payments in unrestricted payments

Consummables	3,055.24
Copyright payments	1,051.69
Bank charges	70.85
Website hosting	489.60
Office expenses	2,295.30
Phone and Internet	353.25
Personal expenses	148.50
Worship materials	1,936.44
Total	9,400.87

Other receipts in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Grants from:	
EHDC Communities Fund	5,000.00
Hants Surrey Border Circuit	5,000.00
Complin Memorial Trust	3000.00
The Ainstable Trust	1,000.00
Total	14,000.00

Other payments in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Pensions and HMRC	982.07
Expenses	372.61
Salary	5,609.15
Total	6,963.83

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer Date

Name

Address

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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; or
- (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

STALE CURTIS

Signature



Relevant Professional qualification or body

RETIRED BANK MANAGER

Address

1 PLYMOUTH CLOSE
ALDERSHOT
HAMPSHIRE GU12 4TX

Date

13 OCTOBER 2025

**CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS**

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Alton Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

Hants and Surrey Border	Circuit	Circuit no	36/1
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Mrs Christine Stovold	Mrs Liz Strain
Mrs Carol Woodruffe	Mrs Helen Smith
Mrs Angela Simpkins	Mrs Anna Mitchell

Treasurer:

Mr Graham Titterington

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025
Alton Methodist
Church

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c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	15,357	15,811	31,168	1,786
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	65,083	40,149	105,232 (c6)	103,446
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	80,440	55,960	136,399	105,232
c4	Transfers and adjustments			(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	80,440	55,960	136,399 (c8)	105,232 (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)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		276
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	6,142	2,873
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	6,130	3,149
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)	12	

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 Boys Brigade	7,201	7,970	(769)		1,847	1,078
e2 Girls Brigade	2,065	2,185	(120)		1,712	1,591
e3 Duke of Edinburgh Awards	3,442	2,831	611		328	939
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	12,708	12,986	(278)		3,887 (e11)	3,608 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	118,695 (a7)	87,527 (b9)	31,168	(c7)	105,232 (c6)	136,399 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	131,403	100,514	30,890		109,118 (x)	140,008 (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 2025**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	37,495	58,067
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	67,737	78,345
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds (external rganisations)		(12)
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	105,232 (c6)	136,400 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	3,887 (e11)	3,608 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	109,118 (x)	140,008 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,486,582	1,540,086
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)

Notes on assets

The church building is vested with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) who are the custodian trustees, while we are the managing trustees of the property.

National Insurance contributions

During the course of the year 2023-2024, the Trustees became aware of an error in the way in which National Insurance contributions had been calculated. This was immediately declared to HMRC and the Trustees are still awaiting HMRC's determination of this matter. Our expectation is that we will be required to pay HMRC £4271. Of this £4,254 relates to the employment of the Anna Chaplain, and £17 to unrestricted funds.

Notes on restricted funds

The Boys Brigade, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the Girls Brigade maintain their independent bank accounts and have their accounts examined independently.

The Anna Chaplaincy is part of the mission of the Greater Alton Project, and its finances are managed by Alton Methodist Church. The Church was without the services of a paid Anna Chaplain for nearly 8 Months, relying on our volunteer chaplains to continue the mission.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Transfers between funds	Expenditure	Closing balance
Anna Chaplaincy	40001.53	21697.58		6963.83	54735.28
Tuesday Coffee Club	9.09	2212.22		1135.30	1086.01
Benevolent Fund	138.50	0.00		0.00	138.50
Total	40149.12	23909.80	0.00	8099.13	55959.79

Special collections

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing balance
Naomi House	0.00	12.10	0.00	12.10
The Hampshire Forum DofE Award	0.00	39.33	39.33	0.00
All We Can	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
Mission Aviation Fellowship	0.00	5790.07	5790.07	0.00
Total	0.00	6141.50	6129.40	12.10

Explanation of "other receipts" and "other payments" in Sections A and B

Other receipts in unrestricted funds

Feed in Tariff payments	1,689.42
Events	1,557.41
Grants received :-	
HSBC Circuit	1,000.00
Complin Memorial Trust	500.00
EHDC	345.00
Hampshire and Islands Historic Churches	20.00
Reimbursement of expenses	131.98
Total	5,243.81

Other payments in unrestricted payments

Consummables	3,055.24
Copyright payments	1,051.69
Bank charges	70.85
Website hosting	489.60
Office expenses	2,295.30
Phone and Internet	353.25
Personal expenses	148.50
Worship materials	1,936.44
Total	9,400.87

Other receipts in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Grants from:	
EHDC Communities Fund	5,000.00
Hants Surrey Border Circuit	5,000.00
Complin Memorial Trust	3000.00
The Ainstable Trust	1,000.00
Total	14,000.00

Other payments in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Pensions and HMRC	982.07
Expenses	372.61
Salary	5,609.15
Total	6,963.83

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer Date

Name

Address

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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; or
- (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

STALE CURTIS

Signature



Relevant Professional qualification or body

RETIRED BANK MANAGER

Address

1 PENYMAN CLOSE
ALDERSHOT
HAMPSHIRE GU12 4TX

Date

13 OCTOBER 2025

ALTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129465

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	01	September	2023		31	August	2024
From				To			

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Alton Methodist Church		
Other names charity is known by			
Registered charity number (if any)	1129465.		
Charity's principal address	Draymans Way		
	Alton		
	Hants		
	Postcode GU34 1AU		

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev P Simpkins	Minister		Methodist Church UK
Mr A Robb	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C. Woodruffe	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs A Mitchell	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs A. Simpkins	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mr H. Smith	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C. Stovold	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mr G Titterington	Treasurer		Church Council
Mrs D Titterington	Church Council Secretary		Church Council
Miss J Nicholls	Family Committee representative		Church Council
Mr D Allan	Steward and Property Committee representative		Church Council
Mr N. Hughes	Finance Committee representative		Church Council
Mr L. Sheridan	Lighthouse representative		Church Council
Mrs J. Marlow	Church Family Visitors representative		Church Council
Mrs L. George	Safeguarding		Church Council

Mrs A Hughes	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs J Meager	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs D. Wright	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs N Buck	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs G Bentley	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mr M. Morrice	Representative from Circuit Stewards		Circuit Stewards

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	
(custodian trustees of our building)	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Alton Methodist Church is governed by Statutory Instruments 1996 Number 180, as amended by Statutory Instruments 2007 Number 2655.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Election by the Church's Annual Meeting. Vacancies that arise during the year can be filled by election at a Church Council meeting.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Alton Methodist Church is part of The Hants-Surrey Border Circuit (36/1) in the South East District of the Methodist Church, UK.

Alton Methodist Church is managed by the Church Council (Managing Trustees). A number of committees are responsible for specific facets of the Church's work.

These include:

- The Family Committee
- The Finance Committee
- The Property Committee.

The Church Council meets three times per year or more often if necessary. It receives reports from groups and reviews their work providing guidance and direction and authorises policy and is ultimately responsible for the activities of the groups.

Much of the day to day running of the church is entrusted to a team of stewards elected by the church membership. In addition, there is an annual church meeting where the whole of the church membership is able to meet and review the work of the church over the previous year.

The Church works to manage and limit risk as far as practicable. It reviews its practices against the Charity Commission's "Internal Financial Controls for Charities" document regularly. It only pays for services in cash in exceptional services (and no such occasions occurred in the year under review). All cheque and electronic payments require 2 signatures. All receipts are banked promptly. Operational risk is managed by servicing all fire extinguishers, electrical equipment, and sliding doors regularly. Personal and reputational risk is managed by adopting best practice, as recommended by the Methodist Church nationally, to safeguarding.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objective of the Church is summed up in our mission statement which states:

The calling of Alton Methodist Church is to respond to the Gospel of God's Love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

This can be summarised in four key areas, i.e. worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.

Worship: Increase the awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love.

Learning and Caring: Help people to grow and learn as Christians.

Service: Be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

Evangelism: Make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Church comprises 92 members plus young people and others who have not entered into membership. One service meets each Sunday. In addition, there are normally many activities during the week. These include: Girls and Boys Brigades, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Monthly Lunch Club, and Child Contact Centre. Many of these groups involve people and young people who are not members of the church. We value and wish to develop our links with the local community and the provision we are able to make, particularly for the elderly, vulnerable and young people with special needs who are welcomed into our various groups. In addition, there are a number of groups from the community who use these premises.

Our paid staff comprises the Minister, and an “Anna Chaplain” (Chaplain to older people in the town and surrounding villages.) Grant applications and fund raising towards this role in the last year has proved successful and adds a degree of financial security to the post over the next 3 years plus. The work of the Anna Chaplaincy is highly respected and commended by grant making bodies for its work.

All other activities are undertaken by volunteers. There are over 70 volunteers involved in some way in the activities that take place at the church.

For administrative purposes the Methodist Church in the country (the Connexion) is divided into 33 districts. Each district is further divided into Circuits. The Alton Methodist Church is one of eleven churches in the local Circuit. Circuit assessment is a sum paid quarterly to the circuit treasurer to cover Ministers salaries and a contribution towards District and Connexional running costs. Our Minister is employed and paid by the Circuit. The Hants Surrey Border Methodist Circuit is in consultation with the Berkshire Surrey Border Methodist Circuit with a view to becoming one larger circuit from Sept. 2025. The name of the amalgamated circuit will likely be ‘The Blackwater Valley Circuit’

The church signed a covenant with the local Anglican parish in 2009 to work more closely together. The project known as the Greater Alton Project (GAP) currently funds with others a Chaplain to the elderly (particularly those in nursing homes, and known as the “Anna Chaplain”) as mentioned above.

The trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, and believe this is illustrated by the Church’s service to the welfare of the elderly members of the surrounding community (outside our church) and to the younger members through the youth organisations. Generosity from Church members through a gift day, and ongoing giving have enabled the churches finances to remain sustainable post pandemic.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Restrictions on Activities:

The regulations governing the Church do not permit the consumption of alcohol, and allow only very limited forms of gambling, on the premises.

Policy on grant making

The Church does not make grants to organisations outside the Methodist Church from its own funds, but it does often provide a channel for its members to make contributions to other charitable organisations working in the local community or globally to further objectives that are complementary to our own objectives. This year our chosen charity for particular support was 'Mission Aviation Fund'.

Investment policy

The Church does not engage in speculative investment activity and all of our reserves are held in an interest bearing bank account operated by the UK Methodist Church.

Volunteers

Most of the work of the Church is performed by volunteers. Currently about 70 volunteers work for the church on a regular basis.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Worship

The church offers one worship service per Sunday with an average attendance of 50-70 people each week. Special services have been held including funeral/thanksgiving services. We continue to develop strong relationships with the Parish churches through the greater Alton Project (GAP) and have held a number of well attended joint services. We hold "Messy Church" services aimed at family worship once a month. We also provide a recorded online service.

Learning and Caring: The minister, along with the Pastoral Secretary and members of the congregation offer strong pastoral support to one another and to the wider community.

Service: Members of the church run a weekly coffee morning and a monthly lunch club at the church. These are both well attended by mainly older people some of whom are members of the church but many are not. This helps to reduce the sense of loneliness and isolation that some of these folk tell us that they experience at times. We run successful children's activities in the form of Boys Brigade and Girls Brigade companies, and members lead very successful Duke of Edinburgh groups leading to bronze, silver and gold awards.

Evangelism: Members share their faith through friendship and service.

Together with the GAP churches we have employed a chaplain to older people (Anna Chaplain). This ministry has been very much appreciated by individuals and by local care home staff. She has led communion services, participated in funeral services, attended coffee morning and lunch clubs and, where appropriate, has shared her faith as a means of encouragement to those who she spends time with.

We have worked with other churches in the town on projects like community carols, lent courses and supporting organisations like Foodbank.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**Church Reserves Policy for Alton Methodist Church which is part of the Hants-Surrey Border Circuit 36/1****Trustees Annual Report Church Reserves Policy**

The Charity's Reserves Policy deals with:

- (a) Our General Fund

Other funds also held which are NOT required to be included in our reserves are:

- (b) Internal organisations (Restricted)
- (c) GAP funds (Restricted)
- (d) Special collections, where the Church collects money on behalf of other charities to facilitate giving by our members (Restricted)
- (e) Benevolent Fund (Restricted).

Our Reserves:

- (a) Our General Fund

We aim to hold in reserve sufficient money in our general funds to cover a minimum of 6 months expenditure i.e. £40,000.

The reason for this is twofold:

- (i) The Church needs a minimum of 3 months average expenditure in reserve as working capital to cover normal running costs.
- (ii) Maintenance of church buildings. Funds need to be available to meet unexpected repair bills.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by the Church Council (Managing trustees) on 27th February 2020.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Church derives most of its income from donations of its members. A small amount of income is derived from letting out rooms within our building.

The Church has been successful in winning external grants to support the provision of an "Anna Chaplain" to support elderly people of all denominations in the Alton area. Currently support is coming from East Hampshire District Council Communities Fund, The Mercers' Company, The Complins Memorial Trust, the Methodist Church HSB Circuit, and individual donations.

Regular giving from church members has continued. A very good gift day has reflected the generosity and commitment of our church members and friends.

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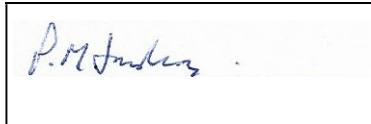
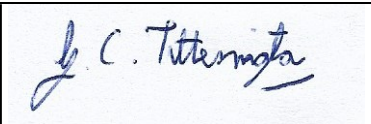
Section F	Other optional information
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Section G	Declaration
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The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
	Full name(s) Philip Mark Simpkins	Graham Charles Titterington
	Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) Minister	Treasurer
Date 12 th November 2024		

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Alton Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

Hants and Surrey Border	Circuit	Circuit no	36/1
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129465

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:

Rev Philip Simpkins

Church Stewards:

Mr David Allan
Mrs Christine Stovold
Mrs Carol Woodruffe
Mrs Angela Simpkins
Mrs Helen Smith
Mr Alan Robb
Mrs Liz Strain

Treasurer:

Mr Graham Titterington

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Alton Methodist

Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	73,683	8,044	81,728	84,330
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	3,089		3,089	2,090
a4	Lettings	3,529		3,529	2,500
a5	Other receipts	3,965	13,000	16,965	22,304
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	84,266	21,044	105,310 (a7)	111,224

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	53,000		53,000	54,200
b3	Donations	4,047	1,000	5,047	2,155
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	14,301		14,301	9,071
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	7,119		7,119	6,704
b6					
b7	Other payments	6,796	17,261	24,058	22,410
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	85,264	18,261	103,526 (b9)	94,540

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(998)	2,783	1,785
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	66,035	37,413	103,447 (c6)	86,763
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	65,036	40,196	105,232
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	65,036	40,196	105,232 (c8)
					103,447 (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)		£		£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		276		685
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		2,873		7,563
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		3,149		7,972
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			276

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 Boys Brigade	4,588	4,134	454		1,393	1,847
e2 Girls Brigade	1,240	1,178	62		1,649	1,711
e3 Duke of Edinburgh Awards	1,647	1,666	(19)		348	329
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	7,474	6,978	497		3,390 (e11)	3,887 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	105,310 (a7)	103,526 (b9)	1,785	(c7)	103,447 (c6)	105,232 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	112,785	110,503	2,281		106,837 (x)	109,119 (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	45,970	37,495
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	57,753	67,737
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds	(276)	
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	103,447 (c6)	105,232 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	3,390 (e11)	3,887 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	106,837 (x)	109,119 (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)	1,437,688	1,486,562
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)

Notes on assets

The church building is vested with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) who are the custodian trustees, while we are the managing trustees of the property.

National Insurance contributions

During the course of this year, the Trustees became aware of an error in the way in which National Insurance contributions had been calculated. This was immediately declared to HMRC and the Trustees are currently awaiting HMRC's determination of this matter. Our expectation is that we will be required to pay HMRC £4271. Of this £4,254 relates to the employment of the Anna Chaplain, and £17 to unrestricted funds.

Notes on restricted funds

The Boys Brigade, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the Girls Brigade maintain their independent bank accounts and have their accounts examined independently.

The Anna Chaplaincy is part of the mission of the Greater Alton Project, and its finances are managed by Alton Methodist Church.

Some years ago, an Alpha course was run at which there was a surplus of donations remaining. These have now been moved into the Anna Chaplaincy Fund.

The operation of the Tuesday Coffee Club has been moved within the restricted fund of the Church for these accounts, having previously been reported as an external organisation.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Transfer from unrestricted funds	Transfers between restricted funds	Expenditure	Closing balance
Anna Chaplaincy	37231.72	18889.21	0.00	1000.00	17119.42	40001.51
Tuesday Coffee Club	42.38	2155.28	0.00	-1000.00	1142.07	55.59
Benevolent Fund	138.50	0.00	0.00		0.00	138.50
Total	37412.60	21044.49	0.00	0.00	18261.49	40195.60

Special collections

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing balance
Shelter Box	276.21	0.00	276.21	0.00
All We Can	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
Mission Aviation Fellowship	0.00	5000.00	5000.00	0.00
Total	276.21	5300.00	5576.21	0.00

Explanation of "other receipts" and "other payments" in Sections A and B

Other receipts in unrestricted funds

Feed in Tariff payments	1,632.15
Events	1,557.65
Miscellaneous	775.00
Total	3,964.80

Other payments in unrestricted payments

Consumables	2,872.84
Copyright payments	1,020.37
Bank charges	143.96
Website hosting	489.60
Office expenses	1,556.17
Worship materials	713.34
Total	6,796.28

Other receipts in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Grants from:

The Mercers Company	5000.00
EHDC Communities Fund	5000.00
Complins Memorial Trust	3,000.00
Total	13,000.00

Other payments in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

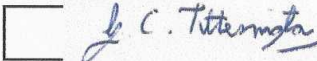
Pensions and HMRC	2,184.72
Expenses	699.43
Salary	14,235.27

Total 17,119.42

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer  Date 12th November 2024

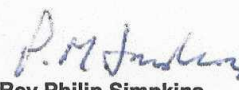
Name Graham Charles Titterington

Address 24 Haydock Close, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 2TL

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on 12th November 2024 and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting  Rev Philip Simpkins

Date 12th November 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Alton Methodist Church Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2024

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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; or
- (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

STEPHEN CURTIS

Signature



Relevant Professional qualification or body

RETIRED BANK MANAGER

Address

1 PENRYN CLOSE, ALDERSHOT
HAMPSHIRE GU24 4JX

Date

14/1/25

CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Alton Methodist	Church
-----------------	--------

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

Hants and Surrey Border	Circuit	Circuit no	36/1
-------------------------	---------	------------	------

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129465

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:

Rev Philip Simpkins

Church Stewards:

Mr David Allan
Mrs Christine Stovold
Mrs Carol Woodruffe
Mrs Angela Simpkins
Mrs Helen Smith
Mr Alan Robb
Mrs Liz Strain

Treasurer:

Mr Graham Titterington

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Alton Methodist

Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	73,683	8,044	81,728	84,330
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	3,089		3,089	2,090
a4	Lettings	3,529		3,529	2,500
a5	Other receipts	3,965	13,000	16,965	22,304
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	84,266	21,044	105,310 (a7)	111,224

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	53,000		53,000	54,200
b3	Donations	4,047	1,000	5,047	2,155
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	14,301		14,301	9,071
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	7,119		7,119	6,704
b6					
b7	Other payments	6,796	17,261	24,058	22,410
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	85,264	18,261	103,526 (b9)	94,540

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(998)	2,783	1,785		16,684
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		66,035	37,413	103,447	(c6)	86,763
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	65,036	40,196	105,232		103,447
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	65,036	40,196	105,232	(c8)	103,447 (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)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year	276	685
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	2,873	7,563
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	3,149	7,972
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID		276
	(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 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 Boys Brigade	4,588	4,134	454		1,393	1,847
e2 Girls Brigade	1,240	1,178	62		1,649	1,711
e3 Duke of Edinburgh Awards	1,647	1,666	(19)		348	329
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	7,474	6,978	497		3,390 (e11)	3,887 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	105,310 (a7)	103,526 (b9)	1,785	(c7)	103,447 (c6)	105,232 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	112,785	110,503	2,281		106,837 (x)	109,119 (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	45,970	37,495
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	57,753	67,737
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds	(276)	
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	103,447 (c6)	105,232 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	3,390 (e11)	3,887 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	106,837 (x)	109,119 (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)	1,437,688	1,486,562
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)

Notes on assets

The church building is vested with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) who are the custodian trustees, while we are the managing trustees of the property.

National Insurance contributions

During the course of this year, the Trustees became aware of an error in the way in which National Insurance contributions had been calculated. This was immediately declared to HMRC and the Trustees are currently awaiting HMRC's determination of this matter. Our expectation is that we will be required to pay HMRC £4271. Of this £4,254 relates to the employment of the Anna Chaplain, and £17 to unrestricted funds.

Notes on restricted funds

The Boys Brigade, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the Girls Brigade maintain their independent bank accounts and have their accounts examined independently.

The Anna Chaplaincy is part of the mission of the Greater Alton Project, and its finances are managed by Alton Methodist Church.

Some years ago, an Alpha course was run at which there was a surplus of donations remaining. These have now been moved into the Anna Chaplaincy Fund.

The operation of the Tuesday Coffee Club has been moved within the restricted fund of the Church for these accounts, having previously been reported as an external organisation.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Transfer from unrestricted funds	Transfers between restricted funds	Expenditure	Closing balance
Anna Chaplaincy	37231.72	18889.21	0.00	1000.00	17119.42	40001.51
Tuesday Coffee Club	42.38	2155.28	0.00	-1000.00	1142.07	55.59
Benevolent Fund	138.50	0.00	0.00		0.00	138.50
Total	37412.60	21044.49	0.00	0.00	18261.49	40195.60

Special collections

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing balance
Shelter Box	276.21	0.00	276.21	0.00
All We Can	0.00	300.00	300.00	0.00
Mission Aviation Fellowship	0.00	5000.00	5000.00	0.00
Total	276.21	5300.00	5576.21	0.00

Explanation of "other receipts" and "other payments" in Sections A and B

Other receipts in unrestricted funds

Feed in Tariff payments	1,632.15
Events	1,557.65
Miscellaneous	775.00
Total	3,964.80

Other payments in unrestricted payments

Consumables	2,872.84
Copyright payments	1,020.37
Bank charges	143.96
Website hosting	489.60
Office expenses	1,556.17
Worship materials	713.34
Total	6,796.28

Other receipts in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Grants from:	
The Mercers Company	5000.00
EHDC Communities Fund	5000.00
Complins Memorial Trust	3,000.00
Total	13,000.00

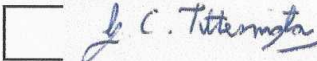
Other payments in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Pensions and HMRC	2,184.72
Expenses	699.43
Salary	14,235.27
Total	17,119.42

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer  Date 12th November 2024

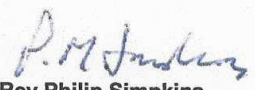
Name Graham Charles Titterington

Address 24 Haydock Close, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 2TL

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on 12th November 2024 and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting  Rev Philip Simpkins

Date 12th November 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Alton Methodist Church Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2024

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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

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 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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* Please circle as appropriate

Name

STEPHEN CURTIS

Signature



Relevant Professional qualification or body

RETIRED BANK MANAGER

Address

1 PENRYN CLOSE, ALDERSHOT
HAMPSHIRE GU24 4JX

Date

14/1/25

ALTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129465

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	01	September	2022		31	August	2023
From				To			

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Alton Methodist Church		
Other names charity is known by			
Registered charity number (if any)	1129465.		
Charity's principal address	Draymans Way		
	Alton		
	Hants		
	Postcode GU34 1AU		

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev P Simpkins	Minister		Methodist Church UK
Mr A Robb	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C. Woodruffe	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs A Mitchell	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs A. Simpkins	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mr H. Smith	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C. Stovold	Steward	From 8/3/2022	Annual Church Meeting
Mr G Titterington	Treasurer		Church Council
Mrs D Titterington	Church Council Secretary		Church Council
Miss J Nicholls	Steward and Family Committee representative		Church Council
Mr D Allan	Property Committee representative		Church Council
Mr N. Hughes	Finance Committee representative		Church Council
Mr L. Sheridan	Lighthouse representative		Church Council
Mrs J. Marlow	Church Family Visitors representative		Church Council
Mrs L. George	Safeguarding		Church Council
Mrs A Hughes	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting

Mrs J Meager	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs D. Wright	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs N Buck	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C Stovold	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting	Until 8/3/2022	Annual Church Meeting
Mrs D Bridger	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs G Bentley	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mr M. Morrice	Representative from Circuit Stewards		Circuit Stewards

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	
(custodian trustees of our building)	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Alton Methodist Church is governed by Statutory Instruments 1996 Number 180, as amended by Statutory Instruments 2007 Number 2655.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Election by the Church's Annual Meeting. Vacancies that arise during the year can be filled by election at a Church Council meeting.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Alton Methodist Church is part of The Hants-Surrey Border Circuit (36/1) in the South East District of the Methodist Church, UK.

Alton Methodist Church is managed by the Church Council (Managing Trustees). A number of committees are responsible for specific facets of the Church's work.

These include:

- The Family Committee
- The Finance Committee
- The Property Committee.

The Church Council meets three times per year or more often if necessary. It receives reports from groups and reviews their work providing guidance and direction and authorises policy and is ultimately responsible for the activities of the groups.

Much of the day to day running of the church is entrusted to a team of stewards elected by the church membership. In addition, there is an annual church meeting where the whole of the church membership is able to meet and review the work of the church over the previous year.

The Church works to manage and limit risk as far as practicable. It reviews its practices against the Charity Commission's "Internal Financial Controls for Charities" document regularly. It only pays for services in cash in exceptional services (and no such occasions occurred in the year under review). All cheque and electronic payments require 2 signatures. All receipts are banked promptly. Operational risk is managed by servicing all fire extinguishers, electrical equipment, and sliding doors regularly. Personal and reputational risk is managed by adopting best practice, as recommended by the Methodist Church nationally, to safeguarding.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objective of the Church is summed up in our mission statement which states:

The calling of Alton Methodist Church is to respond to the Gospel of God's Love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

This can be summarised in four key areas, i.e. worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.

Worship: Increase the awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love.

Learning and Caring: Help people to grow and learn as Christians.

Service: Be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

Evangelism: Make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Church comprises 92 members plus young people and others who have not entered into membership. One service meets each Sunday together with meetings for young people. In addition, there are normally many activities during the week. These include: Girls and Boys Brigades, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Monthly Lunch Club, and Child Contact Centre. Many of these groups involve people and young people who are not members of the church. We value and wish to develop our links with the local community and the provision we are able to make, particularly for the elderly, vulnerable and young people with special needs who are welcomed into our various groups. In addition, there are a number of groups from the community who use these premises.

Our paid staff comprises the Minister, and an “Anna Chaplain” (Chaplain to older people in the town and surrounding villages.) Grant applications and fund raising towards this role in the last year has proved successful and adds a degree of financial security to the post over the next 3 years plus. The work of the Anna Chaplaincy is highly respected and commended by grant making bodies for its work.

All other activities are undertaken by volunteers. There are over 70 volunteers involved in some way in the activities that take place at the church.

For administrative purposes the Methodist Church in the country (the Connexion) is divided into 33 districts. Each district is further divided into Circuits. The Alton Methodist Church is one of eleven churches in the local Circuit. Circuit assessment is a sum paid quarterly to the circuit treasurer to cover Ministers salaries and a contribution towards District and Connexional running costs. Our Minister is employed and paid by the Circuit.

The church signed a covenant with the local Anglican parish in 2009 to work more closely together. The project known as the Greater Alton Project (GAP) currently funds with others a Chaplain to the elderly (particularly those in nursing homes, and known as the “Anna Chaplain”) as mentioned above.

The trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, and believe this is illustrated by the Church’s service to the welfare of the elderly members of the surrounding community (outside our church) and to the younger members through the youth organisations. Generosity from Church members through a gift day, and ongoing giving have enabled the churches finances to remain sustainable post pandemic.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Restrictions on Activities:

The regulations governing the Church do not permit the consumption of alcohol, and allow only very limited forms of gambling, on the premises.

Policy on grant making

The Church does not make grants to organisations outside the Methodist Church from its own funds, but it does often provide a channel for its members to make contributions to other charitable organisations working in the local community or globally to further objectives that are complementary to our own objectives. This year our chosen charity for particular support was 'ShelterBox'.

Investment policy

The Church does not engage in speculative investment activity and all of our reserves are held in an interest bearing bank account operated by the UK Methodist Church.

Volunteers

Most of the work of the Church is performed by volunteers. Currently about 70 volunteers work for the church on a regular basis.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Worship

The church offers one worship service per Sunday with an average attendance of 50-70 people each week. Special services have been held including funeral/thanksgiving services. We continue to develop strong relationships with the Parish churches through the greater Alton Project (GAP) and have held a number of well attended joint services. We hold "Messy Church" services aimed at family worship once a month. We also provide a recorded online service.

Learning and Caring: The minister, along with the Pastoral Secretary and members of the congregation offer strong pastoral support to one another and to the wider community.

Service: Members of the church run a weekly coffee morning and a monthly lunch club at the church. These are both well attended by mainly older people some of whom are members of the church but many are not. This helps to reduce the sense of loneliness and isolation that some of these folk tell us that they experience at times. We run successful children's activities in the form of Boys Brigade and Girls Brigade companies, and members lead very successful Duke of Edinburgh groups leading to bronze, silver and gold awards.

Evangelism: Members share their faith through friendship and service.

Together with the GAP churches we have employed a chaplain to older people (Anna Chaplain). This ministry has been very much appreciated by individuals and by local care home staff. She has led communion services, participated in funeral services, attended coffee morning and lunch clubs and, where appropriate, has shared her faith as a means of encouragement to those who she spends time with.

An Alpha Course was run last autumn as a means of outreach in partnership with the Parish Church. We have also worked with other churches in the town on projects like community carols, lent courses and supporting organisations like Foodbank.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Church Reserves Policy for Alton Methodist Church which is part of the Hants-Surrey Border Circuit 36/1

Trustees Annual Report Church Reserves Policy

The Charity's Reserves Policy deals with:

- (a) Our General Fund

Other funds also held which are NOT required to be included in our reserves are:

- (b) Internal organisations (Restricted)
- (c) GAP funds (Restricted)
- (d) Special collections, where the Church collects money on behalf of other charities to facilitate giving by our members (Restricted)
- (e) Benevolent Fund (Restricted).

Our Reserves:

- (a) Our General Fund

We aim to hold in reserve sufficient money in our general funds to cover a minimum of 6 months expenditure i.e. £40,000.

The reason for this is twofold:

- (i) The Church needs a minimum of 3 months average expenditure in reserve as working capital to cover normal running costs.
- (ii) Maintenance of church buildings. Funds need to be available to meet unexpected repair bills.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by the Church Council (Managing trustees) on 27th February 2020.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Church derives most of its income from donations of its members. It has been successful in winning external grants to support the provision of an "Anna Chaplain" to support elderly people of all denominations in the Alton area. Currently support is coming from the Complins Trust. A small amount of income is derived from letting out rooms within our building.

Regular giving from church members has continued. A very good gift day has reflected the generosity and commitment of our church members and friends.

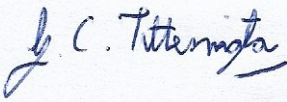
Section F

Other optional information

Section GDeclaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Philip Mark Simpkins	Graham Charles Titterington
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Minister	Treasurer
Date	25th October 2023	

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Alton Methodist

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

Hants and Surrey Border

Circuit

Circuit no

36/1

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129465

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:

Rev Philip Simpkins

Church Stewards:

Mr David Allan

Mrs Christine Stovold

Mrs Carol Woodruffe

Mrs Angela Simpkins

Mrs Helen Smith

Mr Alan Robb

Treasurer:

Mr Graham Titterington

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	74,983	9,347	84,330	75,351
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2,090		2,090	244
a4	Lettings	2,500		2,500	1,845
a5	Other receipts	3,208	19,095	22,303	14,260
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	82,781	28,442	111,223 (a7)	91,700

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	54,200		54,200	52,650
b3	Donations	2,120	35	2,155	1,670
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	9,071		9,071	13,978
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	6,704		6,704	4,345
b6					
b7	Other payments	5,488	16,922	22,410	17,437
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	77,583	16,957	94,540 (b9)	90,080

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	5,199	11,485	16,684		1,620
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		60,836	25,811	86,647	(c6)	85,027
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	66,035	37,296	103,331		86,647
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	66,035	37,296	103,331	(c8)	86,647 (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)	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year	801	147
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	7,563	3,493
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	7,972	2,838
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	393	801
	(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 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	Boys Brigade	3,599	2,529	1,070		322	1,392
e2	Girls Brigade	1,752	1,203	549		1,100	1,649
e3	Duke of Edinburgh Awards	3,096	3,655	(559)		907	348
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	8,447	7,387	1,060		2,329 (e11)	3,389 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	111,223 (a7)	94,540 (b9)	16,684	(c7)	86,647 (c6)	103,331 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	119,670	101,927	17,744		88,976 (x)	106,720 (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		
f2	Bank Current Account	37,511	45,970
f3	Bank Deposit Account		
f4	Central Finance Board	49,937	57,753
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6	Other funds	(801)	(393)
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	86,647 (c6)	103,331 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	2,329 (e11)	3,389 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	88,976 (x)	106,720 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,437,688
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)

Notes on assets

The church building is vested with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) who are the custodian trustees, while we are the managing trustees of the property.

Notes on restricted funds

The Boys Brigade, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the Girls Brigade maintain their independent bank accounts and have their accounts examined independently.

The Anna Chaplaincy is part of the mission of the Greater Alton Project, and its finances are managed by Alton Methodist Church.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Transfer from unrestricted funds	Expenditure	Closing balance
Anna Chaplaincy	25637.89	28441.72		16921.89	37157.72
Benevolent Fund	173.50			35.00	138.50
Total	25811.39	28441.72	0.00	16956.89	37296.22

The restricted funds reported in sections A, B and C of this return include only the Anna Chaplaincy and Benevolent Fund. Special collections are shown in Section D.

Special collections

The Church has also been fund raising for its internal organisations. These donations are handled in the same way as collections for external organisations (i.e. money is collected into the main church accounts, gift aid is reclaimed where appropriate, and the aggregated sum is passed to the internal organisation). These donations have therefore been recorded in section D, as well as being recorded as income by the internal organisation in Section E.

The Tuesday Coffee Club collects donations that it uses exclusively to donate to charitable causes.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing balance
Shelter Box	0.00	6097.39	5821.18	276.21
Tuesday coffee	541.18	1001.20	1500.00	42.38
Alpha course	63.00	50.00	39.00	74.00
All We Can	312.00	300.00	612.00	0.00
Mercy Ships	-114.88	114.88	0.00	0.00
Other (closed) special collections	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	801.30	7563.47	7972.18	392.59

Adjustments in external organisations

£60 of the closing balance in the Tuesday Coffee Club in the 2022 return should have been recorded in the All We Can closing balance. This error has been corrected in the above statement.

Explanation of "other receipts" and "other payments" in Sections A and B

Other receipts in unrestricted funds

Feed in Tariff payments	1,388.01
Events	1,656.55
Miscellaneous	163.41
Total	3,207.97

Other payments in unrestricted payments

Consumables	2,015.41
Copyright payments	972.28
Bank charges	64.50
Website hosting	489.60
Office expenses	1,111.38
Travel and training	445.50
Worship materials	389.10
Total	5,487.77

Other receipts in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Grants from:	
The Mercers Company	5000.00
EHDC Communities Fund	5000.00
HSB Circuit	6000.00
Complins Memorial Trust	3,000.00
Events	60.00
Alton Benevolent Fund	35.00
Total	19,095.00

Other payments in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Pensions and National Insurance	1,413.79
Expenses	1,589.90
Salary	13,918.20
Total	16,921.89

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer  Date

Name

Address

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on
and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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 requirements:
- 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; or
- (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	STEVE CURTIS
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	
Address	1 PLAINMAN CLOSE ALDERSHOT HAMPSHIRE GU12 4JX
Date	10/12/23



THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Alton Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

Hants and Surrey Border	Circuit	Circuit no	36/1
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129465

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)

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Mrs Christine Stovold

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Mrs Angela Simpkins

Mrs Helen Smith

Mr Alan Robb

Treasurer:

Mr Graham Titterington

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	74,983	9,347	84,330	75,351
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2,090		2,090	244
a4	Lettings	2,500		2,500	1,845
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a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	82,781	28,442	111,223 (a7)	91,700

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	54,200		54,200	52,650
b3	Donations	2,120	35	2,155	1,670
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	9,071		9,071	13,978
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	6,704		6,704	4,345
b6					
b7	Other payments	5,488	16,922	22,410	17,437
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	77,583	16,957	94,540 (b9)	90,080

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	5,199	11,485	16,684	1,620
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	60,836	25,811	86,647 (c6)	85,027
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	66,035	37,296	103,331	86,647
c4	Transfers and adjustments				
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	66,035	37,296	103,331 (c8)	86,647 (c6)

SECTION D		£	£
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)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year	801	147
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SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E****Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

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	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

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f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	88,976 (x)	106,720 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,437,688
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)

Notes on assets

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Notes on restricted funds

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Fund	Opening balance	Income	Transfer from unrestricted funds	Expenditure	Closing balance
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Benevolent Fund	173.50			35.00	138.50
Total	25811.39	28441.72	0.00	16956.89	37296.22

The restricted funds reported in sections A, B and C of this return include only the Anna Chaplaincy and Benevolent Fund. Special collections are shown in Section D.

Special collections

The Church has also been fund raising for its internal organisations. These donations are handled in the same way as collections for external organisations (i.e. money is collected into the main church accounts, gift aid is reclaimed where appropriate, and the aggregated sum is passed to the internal organisation). These donations have therefore been recorded in section D, as well as being recorded as income by the internal organisation in Section E.

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Tuesday coffee	541.18	1001.20	1500.00	42.38
Alpha course	63.00	50.00	39.00	74.00
All We Can	312.00	300.00	612.00	0.00
Mercy Ships	-114.88	114.88	0.00	0.00
Other (closed) special collections	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	801.30	7563.47	7972.18	392.59

Adjustments in external organisations

£60 of the closing balance in the Tuesday Coffee Club in the 2022 return should have been recorded in the All We Can closing balance. This error has been corrected in the above statement.

Explanation of "other receipts" and "other payments" in Sections A and B

Other receipts in unrestricted funds

Feed in Tariff payments	1,388.01
Events	1,656.55
Miscellaneous	163.41
Total	3,207.97

Other payments in unrestricted payments

Consumables	2,015.41
Copyright payments	972.28
Bank charges	64.50
Website hosting	489.60
Office expenses	1,111.38
Travel and training	445.50
Worship materials	389.10
Total	5,487.77

Other receipts in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Grants from:	
The Mercers Company	5000.00
EHDC Communities Fund	5000.00
HSB Circuit	6000.00
Complins Memorial Trust	3,000.00
Events	60.00
Alton Benevolent Fund	35.00
Total	19,095.00

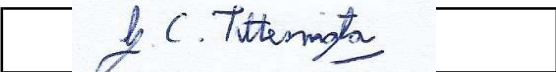
Other payments in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Pensions and National Insurance	1,413.79
Expenses	1,589.90
Salary	13,918.20
Total	16,921.89

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer  Date 24/10/2023

Name Graham Charles Titterington

Address 24 Haydock Close, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 2TL

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on 24/10/2023 and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Philip Simpkins

Date 24/10/2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Alton Methodist Church Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2023

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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*):

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- (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	STEVE CURTIS
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	
Address	1 PLAINMAN CLOSE ALDERSHOT HAMPSHIRE GU12 4JX
Date	10/12/23



ALTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129465

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date			Period end date		
	01	September	2021	31	August	2022
From				To		

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name	Alton Methodist Church		
Other names charity is known by			
Registered charity number (if any)	1129465.		
Charity's principal address	Draymans Way		
	Alton		
	Hants		
	Postcode GU34 1AU		

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev P Simpkins	Minister		Methodist Church UK
Mrs J. Nicholls	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C. Woodruffe	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs D Bridger	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs A. Simpkins	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mr H. Smith	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C. Stovold	Steward	From 8/3/2022	Annual Church Meeting
Mr G Titterington	Treasurer		Church Council
Mrs D Titterington	Church Council Secretary		Church Council
Mr D Allan	Steward and Family Committee representative		Church Council
Mr P White	Property Committee representative		Church Council
Mr N. Hughes	Finance Committee representative		Church Council
Mr L. Sheridan	Lighthouse representative		Church Council
Mrs J. Marlow	Church Family Visitors representative		Church Council
Mrs L. George	Safeguarding		Church Council
Mrs A Hughes	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting

Mrs J Meager	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs D. Wright	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs N Buck	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C Stovold	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting	Until 8/3/2022	Annual Church Meeting
Mr D Mason	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs I Jopling	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mr M. Morrice	Representative from Circuit Stewards		Circuit Stewards

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	
(custodian trustees of our building)	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Alton Methodist Church is governed by Statutory Instruments 1996 Number 180, as amended by Statutory Instruments 2007 Number 2655.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Election by the Church's Annual Meeting. Vacancies that arise during the year can be filled by election at a Church Council meeting.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Alton Methodist Church is part of The Hants-Surrey Border Circuit (36/1) in the South East District of the Methodist Church, UK.

Alton Methodist Church is managed by the Church Council (Managing Trustees). A number of committees exist responsible for specific facets of the Church's work.

These include:

- The Family Committee
- The Finance Committee
- The Property Committee.

The Church Council meets three times per year or more often if necessary. It receives reports from groups and reviews their work providing guidance and direction and authorises policy and is ultimately responsible for the activities of the groups.

Much of the day to day running of the church is entrusted to a team of stewards elected by the church membership. In addition, there is an annual church meeting where the whole of the church membership is able to meet and review the work of the church over the previous year.

The Church works to manage and limit risk as far as practicable. It reviews its practices against the Charity Commission's "Internal Financial Controls for Charities" document regularly. It only pays for services in cash in exceptional services (and no such occasions occurred in the year under review). (The only exception to this rule is that at events where refreshments are available, food ingredients are often paid for in cash.) All cheque and electronic payments require 2 signatures. All receipts are banked promptly. Operational risk is managed by servicing all fire extinguishers, electrical equipment, and sliding doors regularly. Personal and reputational risk is managed by adopting best practice, as recommended by the Methodist Church nationally, to safeguarding.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objective of the Church is summed up in our mission statement which states:

The calling of Alton Methodist Church is to respond to the Gospel of God's Love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

This can be summarised in four key areas, i.e. worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.

Worship: Increase the awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love.

Learning and Caring: Help people to grow and learn as Christians.

Service: Be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

Evangelism: Make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Church comprises 92 members plus young people and others who have not entered into membership. One service meets each Sunday together with meetings for young people. In addition, there are normally many activities during the week. These include: Girls and Boys Brigades, Monthly Lunch Club, and Child Contact Centre. Many of these groups involve people and young people who are not members of the church. We value and wish to develop our links with the local community and the provision we are able to make, particularly for the elderly, vulnerable and young people with special needs who are welcomed into our various groups. In addition, there are a number of groups from the community who use these premises.

Following the Covid pandemic we have now resumed our normal worship services and activities with attendance now largely back to pre-pandemic figures.

Our paid staff comprises the Minister, and an "Anna Chaplain" (Chaplain to older people in the town and surrounding villages.) During the year the previous Anna Chaplain retired and after a three month gap we are delighted to have appointed a new chaplain as of March 2022. Grant applications and fund raising towards this role in the last year has proved successful and adds a degree of financial security to the post over the next 3 years.

All other activities are undertaken by volunteers. There are over 70 **volunteers** involved in some way in the activities that take place at the church.

For administrative purposes the Methodist Church in the country (the Connexion) is divided into 33 districts. Each district is further divided into Circuits. The Alton Methodist Church is one of eleven churches in the local Circuit. Circuit assessment is a sum paid quarterly to the circuit treasurer to cover Ministers salaries and a contribution towards District and Connexional running costs. Our Minister is employed and paid by the Circuit.

The church signed a covenant with the local Anglican parish in 2009 to work more closely together. The project known as the Greater Alton Project (GAP) currently funds with others a Chaplain to the elderly (particularly those in nursing homes, and known as the "Anna Chaplain") as mentioned above.

The trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, and believe this is illustrated by the Church's service to the welfare of the elderly members of the surrounding community (outside our church) and to the younger members through the youth organisations. Generosity from Church members through a gift day, and ongoing giving have enabled the churches finances to remain sustainable post pandemic.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Restrictions on Activities:

The regulations governing the Church do not permit the consumption of alcohol, and allow only very limited forms of gambling, on the premises.

Policy on grant making

The Church does not make grants to organisations outside the Methodist Church from its own funds, but it does often provide a channel for its members to make contributions to other charitable organisations working in the local community or globally to further objectives that are complementary to our own objectives. This year our chosen charity for particular support was 'Mercy Ships'.

Investment policy

The Church does not engage in speculative investment activity and all of our reserves are held in an interest bearing bank account operated by the UK Methodist Church.

Volunteers

Most of the work of the Church is performed by volunteers. Currently about 70 volunteers work for the church on a regular basis.

Section D**Achievements and performance**

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Worship

The church offers one worship service per Sunday with an average attendance of 50-70 people each week. Special services have been held including baptisms and funeral/thanksgiving services. We continue to develop strong relationships with the Parish churches through the greater Alton Project (GAP) and have held a number of well attended joint services. We hold "Messy Church" services aimed at family worship once a month. We also provide a recorded online service.

Learning and Caring: The minister, along with the Pastoral Secretary and members of the congregation offer strong pastoral support to one another and to the wider community.

Service: Members of the church run a weekly coffee morning and a monthly lunch club at the church. These are both well attended by mainly older people some of whom are members of the church but many are not. This helps to reduce the sense of loneliness and isolation that some of these folk tell us that they experience at times. We run successful children's activities in the form of Boys Brigade and Girls Brigade companies, and members lead very successful Duke of Edinburgh groups leading to bronze, silver and gold awards.

Evangelism: Members share their faith through friendship and service.

Together with the GAP churches we have employed a chaplain to older people (Anna Chaplain). This ministry has been very much appreciated by individuals and by local care home staff. She has led communion services, funeral services, attended coffee morning and lunch clubs and, where appropriate, has shared her faith as a means of encouragement to those who she spends time with.

We aim to run an Alpha Course in the autumn as a means of outreach. We have also worked with other churches in the town on projects like community carols, lent courses and supporting organisations like Foodbank.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Church Reserves Policy for Alton Methodist Church which is part of the Hants-Surrey Border Circuit 36/1

Trustees Annual Report Church Reserves Policy

The Charity's Reserves Policy deals with:

- (a) Our General Fund

Other funds also held which are NOT required to be included in our reserves are:

- (b) Internal organisations (Restricted)
- (c) GAP funds (Restricted)
- (d) Special collections, where the Church collects money on behalf of other charities to facilitate giving by our members (Restricted)
- (e) Benevolent Fund (Restricted).

Our Reserves:

- (a) Our General Fund

We aim to hold in reserve sufficient money in our general funds to cover a minimum of 6 months expenditure i.e. £40,000.

The reason for this is twofold:

- (i) The Church needs a minimum of 3 months average expenditure in reserve as working capital to cover normal running costs.
- (ii) Maintenance of church buildings. Funds need to be available to meet unexpected repair bills.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by the Church Council (Managing trustees) on 27th February 2020.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Church derives most of its income from donations of its members. It has been successful in winning external grants to support the provision of an "Anna Chaplain" to support elderly people of all denominations in the Alton area. Currently support is coming from the Complins Trust. A small amount of income is derived from letting out rooms within our building.

Post pandemic regular giving from church members has continued. A very good gift day has reflected the generosity and commitment of our church members and friends.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Philip Mark Simpkins	Graham Charles Titterington
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Minister	Treasurer
Date	9 th October 2022	

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Alton Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2022

Circuit	Circuit no	36/1
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129465

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:

Rev Philip Simpkins

Church Stewards:

Mr David Allan
Mrs Deborah Bridger
Mrs Carol Woodruffe
Mrs Angela Simpkins
Mrs Helen Smith
Miss Judith Nicholls
Mrs Christine Stovold

Treasurer:

Mr Graham Titterington

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	66,307	9,044	75,351	71,684
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	244		244	58
a4	Lettings	1,845		1,845	200
a5	Other receipts	4,252	10,008	14,260	12,069
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	72,648	19,052	91,700 (a7)	84,011

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	52,650		52,650	51,963
b3	Donations	1,620	50	1,670	1,620
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	13,978		13,978	2,086
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	4,345		4,345	3,616
b6					
b7	Other payments	3,915	13,522	17,437	24,582
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	76,508	13,572	90,080 (b9)	83,867

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(3,860)	5,480	1,620		144
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		64,695	20,332	85,027	(c6)	84,883
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	60,835	25,812	86,647		85,027
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	60,835	25,812	86,647	(c8)	85,027 (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	147	144
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	3,492	414
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	2,838	411
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	801	147

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 2019 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	Boys Brigade	4,598	4,895	(297)	(10)	629	322
e2	Girls Brigade	1,602	2,095	(493)	469	1,124	1,100
e3	Duke of Edinburgh Awards	4,598	4,861	(263)		1,171	908
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	10,798	11,851	(1,053)	459	2,924 (e11)	2,330 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	91,700 (e7)	90,080 (b9)	1,620	(c7)	85,027 (c6)	86,647 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	102,498	101,931	567	459	87,951 (x)	88,977 (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 2019**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	42,827	37,511
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	42,347	49,937
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds	(147)	(801)
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	85,027 (c6)	86,647 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	2,924 (e11)	2,330 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	87,951 (x)	88,977 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,127,926	1,240,722
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)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

Mr G. Titterton

Date

13/2/2023

Name

Mr Graham Titterington

Address

24 Haydock Close, Alton, Hants GU34 2TL

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on

10.11.22

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

P. Simpkins

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev Philip Simpkins

Date

10.11.22

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Alton Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2022

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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 requirements:

- 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; or

(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 Mr Jacob George

Signature 

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Address 74 Salisbury Close, Alton, Hants, GU34 2TP

Date 12/2/2023

Notes on assets

The church building is vested with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) who are the custodian trustees, while we are the managing trustees of the property.

Notes on restricted funds

The Boys Brigade, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the Girls Brigade maintain their independent bank accounts and have their accounts examined independently.

The Anna Chaplaincy is part of the mission of the Greater Alton Project, and its finances are managed by Alton Methodist Church.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Transfer from unrestricted funds	Expenditure	Closing balance
Anna Chaplaincy	20107.75	19051.8		13521.7	25637.89
Benevolent Fund	223			49.5	173.5
Total	20330.75	19051.8	0	13571.2	25811.39

The restricted funds reported in sections A, B and C of this return include only the Anna Chaplaincy and Benevolent Fund. Special collections are shown in Section D.

Special collections

The Church has also been fund raising for its internal organisations. These donations are handled in the same way as collections for external organisations (i.e. money is collected into the main church accounts, gift aid is reclaimed where appropriate, and the aggregated sum is passed to the internal organisation). These donations have therefore been recorded in section D, as well as being recorded as income by the internal organisation in Section E.

The Tuesday Coffee Club collects donations that it uses exclusively to donate to charitable causes.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Gift Aid added	Expenditure	Closing balance
Tuesday coffee	83.65	1,017.53		500.00	601.18
Alpha course	63.00				63.00
All We Can	0.00	475.00	28.75	251.75	252.00
Mercy Ships	0.00	1,662.22	209.29	1,986.39	-114.88
Other (closed) special collections	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
Total	146.65	3,254.75	238.04	2,838.14	801.30

Adjustments in internal organisations

The closing balance of the Boys Brigade last year should have been £619, and not as reported £629. This £10 adjustment corrects the balance going forward.

In the previous year, the Girls Brigade had collected £469 towards the cost of activities that had to be cancelled because of Covid regulations. This money was not shown in the accounts for last year because it would have to be repaid. In the current year's accounts this money is included in the opening balance, and its refunding is included in the annual expenditure total.

Explanation of "other receipts" and "other payments" in Sections A and B

Other receipts in unrestricted funds

Feed in Tariff payments	2,761.59
Events	1,490.58
Total	4,252.17

Other payments in unrestricted payments

Consumables	701.58
Copyright payments	904.17
Bank charges	97.00
Website hosting	444.24
Office expenses	789.86
Worship materials	978.33
Total	3,915.18

Other receipts in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Grants from:	
The Mercers Company	1008.00
Complins Memorial Trust	3,000.00
The Ainstable Trust	1,000.00
Mercers Company	5000.00
Total	10,008.00

Other payments in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Pensions and National Insurance	1,874.12
Expenses	263.31
Job advertisement	279.20
Salary	11,105.07
Total	13,521.70

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Alton Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2022

Circuit	Circuit no	36/1
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129465

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:

Rev Philip Simpkins

Church Stewards:

Mr David Allan
Mrs Deborah Bridger
Mrs Carol Woodruffe
Mrs Angela Simpkins
Mrs Helen Smith
Miss Judith Nicholls
Mrs Christine Stovold

Treasurer:

Mr Graham Titterington

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	66,307	9,044	75,351	71,684
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	244		244	58
a4	Lettings	1,845		1,845	200
a5	Other receipts	4,252	10,008	14,260	12,069
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	72,648	19,052	91,700 (a7)	84,011

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	52,650		52,650	51,963
b3	Donations	1,620	50	1,670	1,620
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	13,978		13,978	2,086
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	4,345		4,345	3,616
b6					
b7	Other payments	3,915	13,522	17,437	24,582
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	76,508	13,572	90,080 (b9)	83,867

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(3,860)	5,480	1,620	144
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c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	60,835	25,812	86,647	85,027
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	60,835	25,812	86,647 (c8)	85,027 (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	147	144
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e3	Duke of Edinburgh Awards	4,598	4,861	(263)		1,171	908
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	10,798	11,851	(1,053)	459	2,924 (e11)	2,330 (e12)
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e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	102,498	101,931	567	459	87,951 (x)	88,977 (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 2019**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	42,827	37,511
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f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	85,027 (c6)	86,647 (c8)
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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)

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

Mr G. Titterton

Date

13/2/2023

Name

Mr Graham Titterington

Address

24 Haydock Close, Alton, Hants GU34 2TL

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I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on

10.11.22

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

P. Simpkins

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev Philip Simpkins

Date

10.11.22

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Alton Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2022

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- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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(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*

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** Please circle as appropriate*

Name Mr Jacob George

Signature 

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Address 74 Salisbury Close, Alton, Hants, GU34 2TP

Date 12/2/2023

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Special collections

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The Tuesday Coffee Club collects donations that it uses exclusively to donate to charitable causes.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Gift Aid added	Expenditure	Closing balance
Tuesday coffee	83.65	1,017.53		500.00	601.18
Alpha course	63.00				63.00
All We Can	0.00	475.00	28.75	251.75	252.00
Mercy Ships	0.00	1,662.22	209.29	1,986.39	-114.88
Other (closed) special collections	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
Total	146.65	3,254.75	238.04	2,838.14	801.30

Adjustments in internal organisations

The closing balance of the Boys Brigade last year should have been £619, and not as reported £629. This £10 adjustment corrects the balance going forward.

In the previous year, the Girls Brigade had collected £469 towards the cost of activities that had to be cancelled because of Covid regulations. This money was not shown in the accounts for last year because it would have to be repaid. In the current year's accounts this money is included in the opening balance, and its refunding is included in the annual expenditure total.

Explanation of "other receipts" and "other payments" in Sections A and B

Other receipts in unrestricted funds

Feed in Tariff payments	2,761.59
Events	1,490.58
Total	4,252.17

Other payments in unrestricted payments

Consumables	701.58
Copyright payments	904.17
Bank charges	97.00
Website hosting	444.24
Office expenses	789.86
Worship materials	978.33
Total	3,915.18

Other receipts in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Grants from:	
The Mercers Company	1008.00
Complins Memorial Trust	3,000.00
The Ainstable Trust	1,000.00
Mercers Company	5000.00
Total	10,008.00

Other payments in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Pensions and National Insurance	1,874.12
Expenses	263.31
Job advertisement	279.20
Salary	11,105.07
Total	13,521.70

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	01	September	2020		31	August	2021
From				To			

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Alton Methodist Church		
Other names charity is known by			
Registered charity number (if any)	1129465.		
Charity's principal address	Draymans Way		
	Alton		
	Hants		
	Postcode GU34 1AU		

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Rev P Simpkins	Minister		Methodist Church UK
Ms J Nicholls	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C. Woodruffe	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs D Bridger	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs A. Simpkins	Steward		Annual Church Meeting
Mr G Titterington	Treasurer		Church Council
Mrs D Titterington	Church Council Secretary		Church Council
Mr D Allan	Steward and Family Committee representative		Annual Church Meeting/Church Council
Mr P White	Property Committee representative		Church Council
Mrs H Smith	Steward		Church Council
Mr L Sheridan	Lighthouse representative		Church Council
Mrs J. Marlow	Church Family Visitors representative		Church Council
Mrs L George	Safeguarding		Church Council
Mrs A Hughes	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs J Meager	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting

Mr N Hughes	Finance Committee representative and Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Church Council/Annual Church Meeting
Mrs N Buck	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs C Stovold	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs D Wright	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mr D Mason	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mrs I Jopling	Representative elected by Church Annual Meeting		Annual Church Meeting
Mr M Morrice	Representative from Circuit Stewards		Circuit Stewards

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	
(custodian trustees of our building)	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Alton Methodist Church is governed by Statutory Instruments 1996 Number 180, as amended by Statutory Instruments 2007 Number 2655.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Election by the Church's Annual Meeting. Vacancies that arise during the year can be filled by election at a Church Council meeting.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Alton Methodist Church is part of The Hants-Surrey Border Circuit (36/1) in the South East District of the Methodist Church, UK.

Alton Methodist Church is managed by the Church Council (Managing Trustees). A number of committees exist responsible for specific facets of the Church's work.

These include:

- The Family Committee
- The Finance Committee
- Property Committee.

The Church Council meets three times per year or more often if necessary. It receives reports from groups and reviews their work providing guidance and direction and authorises policy and is ultimately responsible for the activities of the groups. During the Covid Pandemic Church Council has met via Zoom, but it has now resumed in-person meetings.

Much of the day to day running of the church is entrusted to a team of stewards elected by the church membership. In addition, there is an annual church meeting where the whole of the church membership is able to meet and review the work of the church over the previous year. Due to the Covid Pandemic the 2020 AGM was cancelled and the 2021 AGM was postponed, and all elected members remained in post as elected reps, until Sept.2021.

The Church works to manage and limit risk as far as practicable. It reviews its practices against the Charity Commission's "Internal Financial Controls for Charities" document regularly. It only pays for services in cash in exceptional services (and no such occasions occurred in the year under review). (The only exception to this rule is that at events where refreshments are available, food ingredients are often paid for in cash.) All cheque and electronic payments require 2 signatures. Operational risk is managed by servicing all fire extinguishers, electrical equipment, and sliding doors regularly. Personal and reputational risk is managed by adopting best practice, as recommended by the Methodist Church nationally, to safeguarding.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objective of the Church is summed up in our mission statement which states:

The calling of Alton Methodist Church is to respond to the Gospel of God's Love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

This can be summarised in four key areas, i.e. worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.

Worship:	Increase the awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love.
Learning and Caring:	Help people to grow and learn as Christians.
Service:	Be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.
Evangelism:	Make more followers of Jesus Christ.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Church comprises 100 members plus young people and others who have not entered into membership. One service is held each Sunday together with meetings for young people. In addition, there are normally many activities during the week. These include: Girls and Boys Brigades, Fortnightly Lunch Club, and Child Contact Centre. Many of these groups involve people and young people who are not members of the church. We value and wish to develop our links with the local community and the provision we are able to make, particularly for the elderly, vulnerable and young people with special needs who are welcomed into our various groups. In addition, there are a number of groups from the community who use these premises.

Due to the Covid Pandemic Church services and groups activities were unable to happen 'live' and on the premises since March 2020, with attempts to re-open thwarted by increases in the pandemic. Any events that did happen followed a strict Covid risk assessment overseen by a Covid Team set up within the Church. Services were prepared for on-line worship and groups met on-line as and when they could.

Our paid staff comprises the Minister and an "Anna Chaplain" (Chaplain to older people in the town and surrounding villages.) All other activities are undertaken by volunteers. There are over 70 volunteers involved in some way in the activities that take place at the church.

For administrative purposes the Methodist Church in the country (the Connexion) is divided into 33 districts. Each district is further divided into Circuits. The Alton Methodist Church is one of eleven churches in the local Circuit. Circuit assessment is a sum paid quarterly to the circuit treasurer to cover Ministers salaries and a contribution towards District and Connexional running costs. Our Minister is employed and paid by the Circuit, leaving the Church with 1 direct employee.

The church signed a covenant with the local Anglican parish in 2009 to work more closely together. The project known as the Greater Alton Project (GAP) currently funds with others a Chaplain to the elderly (particularly those in nursing homes, and known as the "Anna Chaplain"), and a Chaplain at the local college.

The trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, and believe this is illustrated by the Church's service to the welfare of the elderly members of the surrounding community (outside our church) and to the younger members through the youth organisations.

The Pandemic affected the regular income of the church. Generosity from Church members through a gift day, and ongoing giving helped ease our financial losses so that the church remains sustainable.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Restrictions on Activities:

The regulations governing the Church do not permit the consumption of alcohol, and allow only very limited forms of gambling, on the premises.

Policy on grant making

The Church does not make grants to organisations outside the Methodist Church from its own funds, but it does often provide a channel for its members to make contributions to other charitable organisations working in the local community, or globally to further objectives that are complementary to our own objectives.(such as disaster relief).

Investment policy

The Church does not engage in speculative investment activity and all of our reserves are held in an interest bearing bank account operated by the UK Methodist Church.

Volunteers

Most of the work of the Church is performed by volunteers. Currently about 70 volunteers work for the church on a regular basis.

Section D**Achievements and performance**

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Worship

Following the Covid Pandemic Worship services were transferred to being on-line until restrictions were eased in July 2021.

The church offers one worship service per Sunday with an average attendance of 50-60 people each week. Special services have been held including baptisms and funeral/thanksgiving services. We continue to develop strong relationships with the Parish churches through the Greater Alton Project (GAP) and have held a number of well attended joint services. We are now holding "Messy Church" services aimed at family worship.

Learning and Caring: The minister, along with the Pastoral Secretary and members of the congregation offer strong pastoral support to one another and to the wider community.

During the pandemic ongoing caring and learning continued through on-line bible studies and pastoral telephone calls along with visits where possible.

Service: Members of the church have run a weekly coffee morning and a fortnightly lunch club at the church. These are both well attended by mainly older people some of whom are members of the church but many are not. This helps to reduce the sense of loneliness and isolation that some of these folk tell us that they experience at times. We run successful children's activities in the form of Boys Brigade and Girls Brigade companies, and members lead very successful Duke of Edinburgh groups leading to bronze, silver and gold awards.

During the summer of 2021 events and services began to re-open following Covid guidelines. The Pandemic had some impact on our numbers of attendees due to age and a reluctance to meet in large groups.

One of our new ventures is a Stay and Play Group for younger children.

Evangelism: Members share their faith through friendship and service.

Together with the GAP churches we have employed a chaplain to older people (Anna Chaplain). This ministry has been very much appreciated by individuals and by local care home staff. She has led communion services, funeral services, attended coffee morning and lunch clubs and, where appropriate, has shared her faith as a means of encouragement to those who she spends time with.

Following a period on furlough, the work of the chaplain has resumed where and when possible.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Church Reserves Policy for Alton Methodist Church which is part of the Hants-Surrey Border Circuit 36/1

Trustees Annual Report Church Reserves Policy

The Charity's Reserves Policy deals with:

- (a) Our General Fund

Other funds also held which are NOT required to be included in our reserves are:

- (b) Internal organisations (Restricted)
- (c) GAP funds (Restricted)
- (d) Special collections, where the Church collects money on behalf of other charities to facilitate giving by our members (Restricted)
- (e) Benevolent Fund (Restricted).

Our Reserves:

- (a) Our General Fund

We aim to hold in reserve sufficient money in our general funds to cover a minimum of 6 months expenditure i.e. £40,000.

The reason for this is twofold:

- (i) The Church needs a minimum of 3 months average expenditure in reserve as working capital to cover normal running costs.
- (ii) Maintenance of church buildings. Funds need to be available to meet unexpected repair bills.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by the Church Council (Managing trustees) on 27th February 2020.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Church derives most of its income from donations of its members. It has been successful in winning external grants to support the provision of an "Anna Chaplain" to support elderly people of all denominations in the Alton area. Currently support is coming from the Complins Trust. A small amount of income is derived from letting out rooms within our building.

During the Pandemic regular giving from church members has continued, although less so due to regular meetings not happening. Fund raising events have not been able to happen and funds from church lettings ceased with effect from March 2020. Lettings resumed in the summer of 2021. A very good gift day did happen however and along with support from the Methodist Circuit the church was able to sustain its work and ministry.

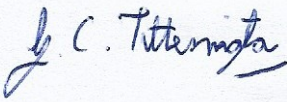
Section F

Other optional information

Section GDeclaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Philip Mark Simpkins	Graham Charles Titterington
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Minister	Treasurer
Date	3 rd May 2022	

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Alton Methodist

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Circuit	Circuit no	36/1
---------	------------	------

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129465

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:

Rev Philip Simpkins

Church Stewards:

Mr D. Allan

Mrs D Bridger

Mrs C Woodruffe

Mrs Angela Simpkins

Mrs H Smith

Miss J Nicholls

Treasurer:

Graham Titterington

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	65,846	5,837	71,683	79,241
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	58		58	374
a4	Lettings	200		200	2,845
a5	Other receipts	469	11,601	12,070	2,099
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	66,573	17,438	84,011 (a7)	84,559

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	51,963		51,963	54,929
b3	Donations	1,620		1,620	1,810
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	2,086		2,086	13,383
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	3,616		3,616	4,363
b6					
b7	Other payments	5,528	19,054	24,582	19,968
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	64,813	19,054	83,867 (b9)	94,453

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	1,760	(1,616)	144	(9,894)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	62,935	21,948	84,883 (c6)	94,777
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	64,695	20,332	85,027	84,883
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	64,695	20,332	85,027 (c8)	84,883 (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	144	455
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	414	2,482
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	411	2,793
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)	147	144

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 2021 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	Boys Brigade	1,161	1,600	(439)		1,068	629
e2	Girls Brigade	823	742	81		1,043	1,124
e3	Duke of Edinburgh Awards	3,088	2,343	745		426	1,171
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	5,072	4,685	387		2,537 (e11)	2,924 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	84,011 (a7)	83,867 (b9)	144	(c7)	84,883 (c6)	85,027 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	89,083	88,552	531		87,420 (x)	87,951 (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 2019**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	50,775	42,827
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	34,252	42,347
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds	(144)	(147)
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	84,883 (c6)	85,027 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	2,537 (e11)	2,924 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	87,420 (x)	87,951 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,098,267	1,127,926
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)

Notes on assets

The church building is vested with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) who are the custodian trustees, while we are the managing trustees of the property.

Notes on restricted funds

The Boys Brigade, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the Girls Brigade maintain their independent bank accounts and have their accounts examined independently.

The Anna Chaplaincy is part of the mission of the Greater Alton Project, and its finances are managed by Alton Methodist Church.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Transfer from unrestricted funds	Expenditure	Closing balance
Anna Chaplaincy	21689.16	17437.19		19018.6	20107.75
Benevolent Fund	258			35	223
Total	21947.16	17437.19	0	19053.6	20330.75

The restricted funds reported in sections A, B and C of this return include only the Anna Chaplaincy and Benevolent Fund. Special collections are shown in Section D.

Special collections

The Church has also been fund raising for its internal organisations. These donations are handled in the same way as collections for external organisations (i.e. money is collected into the main church accounts, gift aid is reclaimed where appropriate, and the aggregated sum is passed to the internal organisation). These donations have therefore been recorded in section D, as well as being recorded as income by the internal organisation in Section E.

The Tuesday Coffee Club collects donations that it uses exclusively to donate to charitable causes.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Gift Aid added	Expenditure	Closing balance
Tuesday coffee	66.85	60.00		43.20	83.65

Other receipts in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Payments from Job Retention Scheme	5,600.60	A government COVID19 support measure
Grant from Complins Trust	3,000.00	
Grant from Hants Surrey Border Circuit	3,000.00	
Total	11,600.60	

Other payments in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Pensions and National Insurance	4,356.44
Travel expenses	200.48
Salary	14,461.68
Total	19,018.60

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer G. C. Titterton Date 22/9/2021

Name Graham Titterton

Address 24 Haydock Close, Alton, Hants, GU34 2TL

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on 21-10-21 and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting P. M. Simpkins

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev P Simpkins

Date 17/1/22

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Alton Methodist Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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 requirements:

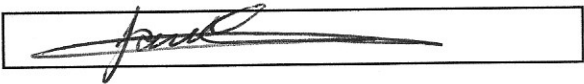
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

(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	Mr Jacob George
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	ICPA
Address	74 SALISBURY CLOSE ALTON GU34 2TP
Date	20/12/2021

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Alton Methodist

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Circuit	Circuit no	36/1
---------	------------	------

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129465

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:

Rev Philip Simpkins

Church Stewards:

Mr D. Allan

Mrs D Bridger

Mrs C Woodruffe

Mrs Angela Simpkins

Mrs H Smith

Miss J Nicholls

Treasurer:

Graham Titterington

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
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a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	58		58	374
a4	Lettings	200		200	2,845
a5	Other receipts	469	11,601	12,070	2,099
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	66,573	17,438	84,011 (a7)	84,559

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	51,963		51,963	54,929
b3	Donations	1,620		1,620	1,810
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	2,086		2,086	13,383
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	3,616		3,616	4,363
b6					
b7	Other payments	5,528	19,054	24,582	19,968
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	64,813	19,054	83,867 (b9)	94,453

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	1,760	(1,616)	144	(9,894)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	62,935	21,948	84,883 (c6)	94,777
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	64,695	20,332	85,027	84,883
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	64,695	20,332	85,027 (c8)	84,883 (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	144	455
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	414	2,482
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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 2021 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 Boys Brigade	1,161	1,600	(439)		1,068	629
e2 Girls Brigade	823	742	81		1,043	1,124
e3 Duke of Edinburgh Awards	3,088	2,343	745		426	1,171
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	5,072	4,685	387		2,537 (e11)	2,924 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	84,011 (a7)	83,867 (b9)	144	(c7)	84,883 (c6)	85,027 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	89,083	88,552	531		87,420 (x)	87,951 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2019**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	50,775	42,827
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	34,252	42,347
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds	(144)	(147)
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	84,883 (c6)	85,027 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	2,537 (e11)	2,924 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	87,420 (x)	87,951 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,098,267	1,127,926
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)

Notes on assets

The church building is vested with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) who are the custodian trustees, while we are the managing trustees of the property.

Notes on restricted funds

The Boys Brigade, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the Girls Brigade maintain their independent bank accounts and have their accounts examined independently.

The Anna Chaplaincy is part of the mission of the Greater Alton Project, and its finances are managed by Alton Methodist Church.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Transfer from unrestricted funds	Expenditure	Closing balance
Anna Chaplaincy	21689.16	17437.19		19018.6	20107.75
Benevolent Fund	258			35	223
Total	21947.16	17437.19	0	19053.6	20330.75

The restricted funds reported in sections A, B and C of this return include only the Anna Chaplaincy and Benevolent Fund. Special collections are shown in Section D.

Special collections

The Church has also been fund raising for its internal organisations. These donations are handled in the same way as collections for external organisations (i.e. money is collected into the main church accounts, gift aid is reclaimed where appropriate, and the aggregated sum is passed to the internal organisation). These donations have therefore been recorded in section D, as well as being recorded as income by the internal organisation in Section E.

The Tuesday Coffee Club collects donations that it uses exclusively to donate to charitable causes.

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Gift Aid added	Expenditure	Closing balance
Tuesday coffee	66.85	60.00		43.20	83.65

Other receipts in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Payments from Job Retention Scheme	5,600.60	A government COVID19 support measure
Grant from Complins Trust	3,000.00	
Grant from Hants Surrey Border Circuit	3,000.00	
Total	11,600.60	

Other payments in Anna Chaplaincy (restricted payments)

Pensions and National Insurance	4,356.44
Travel expenses	200.48
Salary	14,461.68
Total	19,018.60

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer

G. C. Titterington

Date

22/9/2021

Name

Graham Titterington

Address

24 Haydock Close, Alton, Hants, GU34 2TL

Presentation to the *Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on
and were approved.

21-10-21

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

P. M. Simpkins

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev P Simpkins

Date

17/1/22

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Alton Methodist

Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2021

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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 requirements:

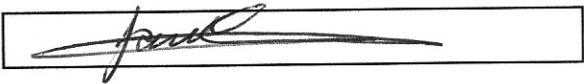
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

(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	Mr Jacob George
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	ICPA
Address	74 SALISBURY CLOSE ALTON GU34 2TP
Date	20/12/2021