

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129654

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-05-15

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Market Place
Buxton
SK17 6HS

Phone 0129827065

Email admin@buxtonmethodist.co.uk

Website www.buxtonmethodistchurch.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: Worship - Sunday with Sunday Club, Youth Organisations - Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Parents and Toddlers Club, Monthly Youth Saturday Cafe Major role in Churches Together in Buxton Provide premises for use by the community Raise significant amounts for Christian Aid etc

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£146,668	£168,593	-	-
2024-08-31	£141,793	£143,503	-	-
2023-08-31	£243,924	£305,697	-	-
2022-08-31	£143,144	£117,193	-	-
2021-08-31	£101,493	£134,120	-	-

Trustees

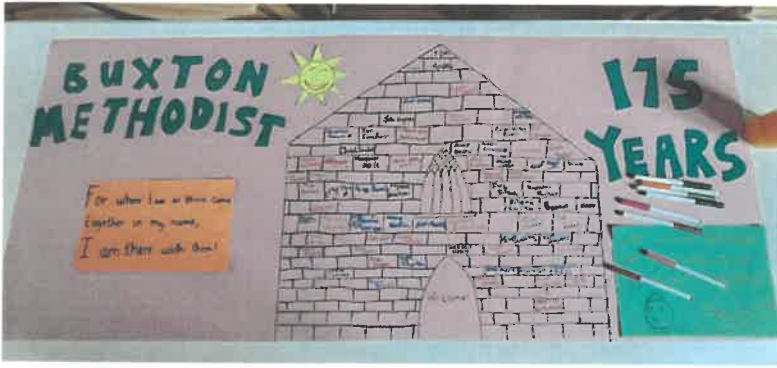
Name	Role	Appointed
ANGELA LUCILLE CRAWFORD		2020-09-01
ANNA LOUISE QUICK		
Anne-Marie Bentley		2022-09-01
Charles Edward Morten		2025-09-01
GLYNIS ANITA LEYLAND		2011-07-19
Graham Hodges		2025-09-01
IAN MALCOLM GEOFFREY STUBBS		
JOHN ROBERT ANFIELD		
MRS CHRISTINE HODKINSON		
MRS KATE MACLEAN		2012-10-02
Michelle Susan Boardman		2025-09-01
Nicholas Geoffrey Taylor		2020-09-01
PETER DAVID JOHNSON		2011-07-19
Philippa Rachel Strachan		2025-09-01
REV ANDREW PARKER		2012-10-02
RICHARD CHARLES SILSON		2014-01-01
Roderick Victor MACLEAN		2025-09-01
Ronald Spence Sinclair		
SUSAN MARGARET ANFIELD		2014-01-01

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129654

Accounts

The Methodist Church



BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

**for the year ending
31st August 2025**

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Church: **BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH**

Name and address
for correspondence: Rev'd Andrew Parker
Chapel Street
BUXTON
Derbyshire
SK17 6HX

Charity status: During 2009 Buxton Methodist Church became a registered charity. Number **1129654**

MEMBERSHIP OF BUXTON CHURCH COUNCIL 2024/25:

Rev Andrew Parker	(Chair)	Church Appointed members	
Dick Silson	(Circuit Steward)	John Anfield	Glynis Leyland
Peter Johnson	(Circuit Steward)	Sue Anfield	Kate MacLean
Wendy Jones	(Church Steward)	Robin Evison	Anna Quick
Anne-Marie Bentley	(Church Steward)	Pip Strachan	Christine Hodgkinson
Ian Stubbs	(Church Steward & Treasurer)	Nick Taylor	Ron Sinclair
		Michelle Boardman	Angela Crawford

Number of Church Members as at 31st October 2024: 88

AIMS AND ORGANISATION

Buxton Methodist Church has accepted the definition of its aim and purpose given by the Methodist Church in Britain. We exist to:

WORSHIP:

Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love

LEARNING AND CARING:

Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care

SERVICE:

Be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice

EVANGELISM:

Make more followers of Jesus Christ

The Managing Trustees of Buxton Methodist Church are the 'Church Council', which is responsible for overseeing the life and mission of the church in accordance with our stated aims and objectives and in accordance with the Constitutional Practices and Discipline of the Methodist Church. It consists of people elected from amongst the members of the church and those who are members by virtue of their office.

Several sub-committees are appointed by the Church Council to assist it in its work and are responsible to it.

The Church Leadership team and Church Stewards, elected by the church members, ensure, with the minister, that Church Council Policy is carried out and they have responsibility for the day-to-day life of the church.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS 1/9/2024 – 31/8/2025

Church Mission Plan

We continue to review and update our mission plan keeping our focus on the vision for our church as:

'All are welcome and all are working together for God in our community' and 'our aim is to be a cohesive, caring church community. Learning, worshipping and witnessing to the love of God'.

WORSHIP

- Worship is central to our life. We aim to provide worship that is relevant and accessible for all and relating it within the context of the world and local community. Our weekly Sunday morning services are attended by about 60 – 70 people, with ages ranging from under 5's, through teens and up to those who have attended the same church for over 70 years!
- We began the year with a very special 175th Anniversary weekend celebration. There was a Saturday afternoon tea and a special service on the Sunday morning. This anniversary weekend provided time to give thanks for what is past, enjoy what is happening and trust in what is to come.
- We hold a monthly evening informal service – Praise@6 - which provides a time for singing, learning new songs, discussion and activities. Through the use of on-line videos we can hear songs recently released by groups popular with those who attend. Praise@6 is particularly valued by some of our families who see this as a time of being together in church.
- We have continued a pattern of quarterly Taizé services. The quiet and reflective aspect to these services is in contrast to a morning service and this is appreciated by people both from the Methodist Church and ecumenically. Approximately 20 people attend.
- There continues to be an active Worship Group. This group plans our three all age services for harvest, Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter. They are also planning the quarterly Own Arrangement services which are required due to the shortage of preachers across the circuit.

SERVICE

- Our Saturday Café continues and is busy with its regular clientele.
- All We Can: We continue to support All We Can as a partner church and regularly hold collections and support their appeals.
- The Church Council makes donations annually amounting to 10% of our regular giving income. This is shared between the following regular contributions: Methodist Mission in Britain Fund; Methodist Fund for World Mission; Action for Children; All We Can (Methodist Relief and Development); Methodist Fund for Church Property and JMA, and local charities chosen on an annual basis.
- Additionally we raise money for local causes and national and international appeals throughout the year. We participate in Christian Aid Week and support an annual local Christian Aid sponsored walk.
- Our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides continue to meet and maintain very good numbers.

- The weekly Baby and Toddler Group provides a much-needed time for adults and pre-school children to meet, play and interact.
- The church is a major provider of high quality rooms and facilities for the local community. The church is well used as a venue for the Buxton Fringe and a number of concerts are held during the three week festival. We intentionally welcome groups whose aim reflect our values but they provide something we cannot do ourselves. For example, we welcome Transition Buxton Repair Café which supports our eco aims of reuse items rather than take them to landfill. There is also a Bereavement Group which provides valuable pastoral care.

LEARNING and CARING

- We held a study group through Lent on the theme 'Calling a Wounded Earth Home: what kind of people may we need to be to face the challenges of climate change?' The resources were developed by Green Christian as part of their Borrowed Time project.
- We endeavour to be more environmentally responsible, in line with our mission policy of caring for God's creation. (We achieved a bronze Eco Church award in February 2024 but have not yet progressed to silver.)
- 'Inbetweeners' took part in the annual Christian Aid sponsored walk and what is becoming the traditional snowdrop walk.
- Funerals: The minister took a number of funerals in the name of the church and families are invited to the annual memorial service in December.
- Pastoral Work: The church aims to be a caring community for both its members and non-members alike. The Pastoral group meets once a quarter and tries to make sure pastoral contact is maintained with those in times of need. This may be through visits, phone calls and sending cards at Christmas and Easter.
- We organised a very popular Daffodil Tea in March which not only raised over £600 for church funds but provided a lovely afternoon for people spending time together.
- In December a church recipe book was launched, again with the aim of raising funds but also provided a good opportunity for people to share favourite recipes.
- Churches Together in Buxton has struggled to attract members, however there are still a faithful few who occasionally meet and events are planned through the year. There is a shared ecumenical ministry at the outdoor Remembrance Sunday service and Annual Wells Dressing Festival. The Methodist Church hosted the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service and there are also well supported Lent Lunches, which take place in the Buxton Parish Church Hall.
- Sunday Club: Our Sunday Club provides a wonderful weekly opportunity for children to come together, learn and build friendship both with their peers and with those in the wider congregation. The number of children remains steady at about 6 – 10.
- Holiday Club: This year our theme of 'Kingdom Builders' led us to think how we build God's Kingdom. During the week, 20 adults volunteered in many different roles from catering to tidying up and 25 children enjoyed the crafts, music, games and activities.
- 3Generate Group: This group of young folk aged eight and over meets once a month for various activities. The highlight of the year is attending the national Methodist 3Generate weekend at the NEC. This year a group of 20 of our 8 - 14 year olds joined over a thousand others from all over the country to explore faith in a wide variety of ways. To help towards the cost of the weekend, the group did sponsored events through the year.

- Safeguarding: We continue to maintain our church as a safe place to meet and review our procedures as and when necessary. The Methodist Foundation Module training is offered every 6 months and we invite those who are new to their role and those who need refresher training to attend the class on our premises. The Church Council reviews and adopts the Safeguarding Policy annually.

EVANGELISM

- We publish a quarterly magazine containing a variety of information from the groups and about different events which celebrates the diverse life of the church community. A survey of the congregation was undertaken to see if the magazine was a worthwhile investment for the church and the feedback was overwhelming support for its continuation.
- The weekly sheet has also become a significant publication and is very much appreciated by those who receive it in hard copy or by email.
- We also have an increasing presence on Facebook with regular posts and photos about events and activities.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT WORK

There was a significant amount of time and energy put into our 'Working Together' project which grew from the question of 'why are did we undertake the Raise the Roof project?' The answer to the question was because we wanted to continue to be an active church in the centre of Buxton providing a much-needed resource for the community. At the end of the roof project, however, we realised that without improvements to our economic situation, we would exhaust our reserves within five years. The aim of the Working Together project was therefore to address two key areas: finance and volunteer resources. We secured a small grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund to enable us to engage a business planning consultant and set up a steering group, which included Council members and representatives from two of our building user groups.

As the Working Together project drew to a close, we instigated the 'Balance the Budget' project which focussed on the problem of the church running on an annual deficit. There was an open church meeting with clear communication about the problem and the need to increase giving and reduce expenditure, with targets for each over the 'Balance the Budget' transition year.

Although it was difficult to find areas to cut expenditure, the appeal to increase giving appears to have been received with a positive response and initial signs are that giving from the congregation has increased significantly. We increased our room hire charges by a higher percentage than usual and although there was understandable concern about how this might be received, groups responded with understanding and have continued to use the rooms for their groups.

We sought more volunteer helpers and the response has enabled us to set up a rota for cleaning the church, instead paying a contract cleaner, and more people providing help for Sunday services.

Andrew Parker
Minister

Treasurer's statement

Under the cloud of a gloomy external economic environment, our 2024/25 financial forecast, at the start of the year, reflected a deteriorating position, with further erosion of reserve funds falling to concerning levels. The instigation of a 'Balance the Budget' audit and subsequent action plan provided a reality check and the impetus for significant financial improvement.

By the year end, voluntary income (collections) increased to 17% above forecast (from (50,000 to £58,377) and lettings to 12% above forecast (from £43,048 to £48,305). With generous donations from members and some grant funding for specific projects, our total income for the year finished above forecast at £146,668, up 3.4% on the prior year. Supported by some targeted rationalisation of costs, we were able to reduce the deficit to achieve Total Funds at year-end of £85,050 from a previously projected £72,224.

This changing outlook enabled us to deliver on necessary building repairs, maintenance, accessibility and efficiency improvements. Furthermore, we were able to continue donating 10% of our voluntary income level to other external charitable causes.

In summary, year-end results for 2024/25 stabilise our financial position and support a significantly more positive and sustainable 5-year forecast.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

BUXTON METHODIST	Church
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2025**

HIGH PEAK PARTNERSHIP	Circuit	Circuit no.	01/15 19/04
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129654

**If not a registered charity His Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number**

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev'd A Parker

Church Stewards:

Mrs A Bentley	Mrs W Jones
Mrs I Sinclair	Mr R Sinclair
Mr I Stubbs	

Treasurer:

Mr I Stubbs

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
		£	£	£	£	
a1	RECEIPTS	Note				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	1	67,691	12,119	79,810	64,379
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2	4,566		4,566	4,635
a4	Lettings		48,306		48,306	41,392
a5	Other receipts	3	12,905	1,081	13,986	31,387
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		133,468	13,200	146,668 (a7)	141,793

SECTION B						
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		52,320		52,320	52,320
b3	Donations	4	5,550		5,550	5,100
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	5	36,848	26,155	63,003	41,177
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	6	16,778		16,778	16,985
b6						
b7	Other payments	7	20,963	9,979	30,942	27,921
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		132,459	36,134	168,593 (b9)	143,503

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	1,009	(22,934)	(21,925)	(1,710)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		113,224	(6,452)	106,772 (c6)	108,067
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	114,233	(29,386)	84,847	106,357
c4	Transfers and adjustments		(35,276)	35,479	203 (c7)	415
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	78,957	6,093	85,050 (c8)	106,772 (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	33	67
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	593	1,000
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	621	1,034
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)	5
			33

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 2025 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 Café	8,710	8,840	(130)	(3)	602	469
e2 Flower Fund	425	327	98		315	413
e3 Junior Youth		338	(338)		338	
e4 Baby & Toddler	362	277	85		25	110
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	9,497	9,782	(285)	(3)	1,280 (e11)	992 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	146,668 (a7)	168,593 (b9)	(21,925)	203 (c7)	106,772 (c6)	85,050 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	156,165	178,375	(22,210)	200	108,052 (x)	86,042 (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 2025

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	54	15
f2 Bank Current Account	10,816	(446)
f3 Bank Deposit Account	15,272	4,383
f4 Central Finance Board		
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	1,003	2,029
f6 Other funds	30,090	30,090
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	106,772 (c6)	85,050 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	1,280 (e11)	992 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	108,052 (x)	86,042 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	50,000	50,000
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	781,150	781,150
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)

Name of Church Buxton Methodist No 19/04

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.


Signature of treasurer  Date 24th Nov. 2025

Name and address of treasurer Ian Stubbs

8 The Paddock, Buxton, Derbyshire. SK17 6XR

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting Andrew Parker Date 11-2-26

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Buxton.....Church

Charity Number 1129654

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages ... to As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church .. Buxton Methodist

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner CE Francis

Name of independent examiner CHRISTINE ELIZABETH FRANCIS

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner RETIRED ACCOUNTANT

Name of firm (where appropriate) —

Address FLAT 2, 1 SILVERLANDS PARK BUXTON

Post Code SK17 6AX

Date 31/12/2005

* delete or circle as appropriate

RECEIPTS - page 2 Section A	2024-25	2023-24
1. Offerings and Tax Recoverable		
Loose cash collections	£5,595.00	£6,943.00
Weekly envelopes	£7,702.00	£4,715.00
One-off Gift Aid envelopes/donations	£10.00	
BACS collections (Standing Orders)	£41,881.00	£31,815.00
Other Donations	£6,130.00	£692.00
Card Machine & Text donations	£3,190.00	£2,270.00
Funeral collections	£193.00	
Bequests and Memorial donations	£1,000.00	£6.00
Tax recovered under Gift Aid	£1,990.00	£17,203.00
Sub Total	£67,691.00	£63,644.00
<i>Restricted offerings received:</i>		
Misc donations (restricted)	£12,119.00	
Raise the roof fund		£735.00
Bequests		
Sunday Club		
Kitchen & Catering		
Sub Total	£12,119.00	£735.00
	£79,810.00	£64,379.00
2. Interest and Investment Income		
TMCP	£23.00	£12.00
Methodist Chapel Aid A/c & Derbyshire Community Bank	£837.00	£795.00
Special Interest bearing deposit A/c	£165.00	£336.00
Current A/c	£160.00	£247.00
Gain on Endowment investment		£100.00
M&G Charibond income	£3,381.00	£3,145.00
a3	£4,566.00	£4,635.00
3. Other Receipts		
Miscellaneous Sales		
Café	£6,308.00	£6,058.00
Weddings and funerals fees	£2,175.00	£475.00
Personal photocopies	£172.00	£129.00
Solar Panels	£721.00	£524.00
Young People	£880.00	£435.00
Social Events	£1,157.00	£252.00
Insurance claim	£1,492.00	£347.00
Bin collection refund		
Sub Total	£12,905.00	£8,220.00
Young People	£816.00	£1,073.00
Grants		£22,095.00
Recipe Books	£265.00	
Sub Total	£1,081.00	£23,168.00
a5	£13,986.00	£31,388.00
4. Grants and Donations		
Mission in Britain Fund	£1,100.00	£1,000.00
Fund for World Mission (includes £375.00 to JMA)	£1,475.00	£1,350.00
All We Can	£650.00	£600.00
Methodist Homes	£375.00	£350.00
Action for Children	£650.00	£600.00
Vision Action	£200.00	
Juvenile Arthritis	£200.00	
Samaritans	£200.00	
Blythe House	£200.00	
Peak District Music Centres	£200.00	
Buxton Foodbank/Nightstop/Zink		£200.00
UNICEF Gaza Children	£250.00	
Churches together in Buxton	£50.00	
High Peak CVS		£200.00
Crescent Heritage Trust		£200.00
Epilepsy Action		£200.00
East Midlands Air Ambulance		£200.00
Buxton Mountain Rescue		£200.00
b3	£5,550.00	£5,100.00

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of Buxton Methodist Church
 (*Church Council/ ~~Circuit Meeting~~/District)

To The High Peak Partnership
 (*Circuit Meeting/~~District~~)

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

- (i) The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money
- (ii) Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s

- (iii) We have agreed a Reserves Policy which is set out overleaf and is recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report
- (iv) We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Circuit/District/Connexion
- (v) Our Report is attached overleaf →

* please delete as appropriate

To be completed by Receiving Body

The The High Peak Partnership
 *Circuit Meeting/~~District~~ received the RESERVES POLICY of
Buxton Methodist Church
 *Church Council/~~Circuit Meeting~~/District

Policy accepted and acknowledgement sent to the trustees YES / NO

Policy noted and the following enquiries made of the trustees

Responses received and any further action taken

*Circuit/District

Signatures Date.....
 * Please delete as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY of

Buxton Methodist Church(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

1. General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2025	£78,957
2. Restricted Funds held “	£6,093
3. Endowment Funds held “	£0

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds**

Please see spreadsheet attached.

Our reserves policy relates to unrestricted funding, including our designated funds

Our policy is to maintain six months of general operating costs (50% the previous year's expenditure on charitable activities) including Circuit Assessment, in order to be able to fulfil our responsibilities to our Minister, staff, users of our building and the wider Circuit.

In 2024/25, our total expenditure, excluding expenditure on major projects, was £142,441. The six months' running costs figure is therefore £71,221. The unrestricted funding we had available at 31 August 2025 was £78,957. We are therefore able to fulfil our reserves policy, with £7,734 in addition, which is not excessive

The Five-Year Forecast for Buxton Methodist Church as a whole shows an excess of expenditure over income in each financial year, but our residual balance remains positive over the whole period. It only drops below the reserves policy level in 2029/30, so we have time to address this. Our 'Balancing the Budget' project has already improved our financial sustainability considerably.

(Note: £50,000 of our financial balance is responsibly invested through M&G Charifund. We acknowledge that the value of this can fluctuate, so we only recognise the original investment figure in our reports.)

5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

We retain restricted funds until they can be utilised for the purpose the benefactor intended. Currently these include funds raised by our young people, towards the costs of attending the 3Generate conference and other youth activities, and the residue of a donation from our former Luncheon Club, reserved for use on kitchen equipment and upgrading. (There is also a sum held on behalf of internal organisations.)



6. **Terms relating to Endowment Funds held**

We do not have any endowment funds.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

Buxton Methodist Church Council

(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

Treasurer	Trustee (& Chair of the Finance Committee)
Full name: Graham Hodges	Full Name: Kate MacLean
Signature 	Signature 

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129654

Accounts

The Methodist Church



BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

AND ACCOUNTS

for the year ending
31st August 2024

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Church: **BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH**

Name and address
for correspondence: Rev'd Andrew Parker
Chapel Street
BUXTON
Derbyshire
SK17 6HX

Charity status: During 2009 Buxton Methodist Church became a registered charity.
Number **1129654**

MEMBERSHIP OF BUXTON CHURCH COUNCIL 2022/23:

Rev Andrew Parker	(Chair)	Church Appointed members:	
Dick Silson	(Circuit Steward)	John Anfield	Glynis Leyland
Peter Johnson	(Circuit Steward)	Sue Anfield	Kate MacLean
Wendy Jones	(Church Steward)	Beryl Blackwell	Anna Quick
Ian Stubbs	(Church Steward & Treasurer)	Ann Bradwell	Christine Hodgkinson
Ron Sinclair	(Church Steward)	Angela Crawford	Pip Strachan
Isabel Sinclair	(Church Steward)	Gwen Cokayne	Bridget Ball
Anne-Marie Bentley	(Church Steward)	Nick Taylor	Jackie Cowlshaw
		Robin Evison	

Number of Church Members as at 31st October 2023: 95

AIMS AND ORGANISATION

Buxton Methodist Church has accepted the definition of its aim and purpose given by the Methodist Church in Britain. We exist to:

WORSHIP:

Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love

LEARNING AND CARING:

Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care

SERVICE:

Be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice

EVANGELISM:

Make more followers of Jesus Christ

The Managing Trustees of Buxton Methodist Church are the 'Church Council', which is responsible for overseeing the life and mission of the church in accordance with our stated aims and objectives and in accordance with the Constitutional Practices and Discipline of the Methodist Church. It consists of people elected from amongst the members of the church and those who are members by virtue of their office.

Several sub-committees are appointed by the Church Council to assist it in its work and are responsible to it.

The Church Leadership team and Church Stewards, elected by the church members, ensures, with the minister, that Church Council Policy is carried out and they have responsibility for the day-to-day life of the church.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS 1/9/2023 – 31/8/2024

Church Mission Plan

We continue to review and update our Mission Plan, keeping our focus on the vision for our church as:

'All are welcome and all are working together for God in our community' and 'our aim is to be a cohesive, caring church community. Learning, worshipping and witnessing to the love of God'.

WORSHIP

- Worship is central to our life. We aim to provide worship that is relevant and accessible for all and relating it within the context of the world and local community. Our weekly Sunday morning services are attended by about 60 – 70 people, with ages ranging from under 5's, through teens and up to those who have attended the same church for over 70 years!
- We hold a monthly evening informal service – Praise@6 - which provides a time for singing, learning new songs, discussion and activities. Through the use of on-line videos we can hear songs recently released by groups popular with those who attend. Praise@6 is particularly valued by some of our families who see this as a time of being together in church.
- We have continued a pattern of quarterly Taizé services. The quiet and reflective aspect to these services is in contrast to a morning service and this is appreciated by people both from the Methodist Church and ecumenically.
- There continues to be an active Worship Group. This group plans our three all age services for harvest, Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter. They are also planning the quarterly Own Arrangement services which are required due to the shortage of preachers across the circuit.

SERVICE

- Our Saturday Café continues and is busy with its regular clientele. Once a month, Transition Buxton operates a Repair Café alongside this.
- Fair Trade and Eco Church: We continue to promote Fairtrade and use Fairtrade products whenever possible. We have an Eco Church Bronze award and, amongst other environmental measures, we refill washing-up liquid and hand soap bottles with locally-sourced environmentally-friendly products. We had a fault on our solar photo-voltaic panels which unfortunately meant that they had to be switched off for much of the year. We hope to install batteries in 2025 to store the excess power generated.
- All We Can: We continue to support All We Can as a partner church and regularly hold collections and support their appeals.
- The Church Council makes donations annually amounting to 10% of our regular giving income. This is shared between the following: Methodist Mission in Britain Fund; Methodist Fund for World Mission; Action for Children; All We Can (Methodist Relief and Development); Methodist Fund for Church Property and JMA, and local charities chosen on

an annual basis. This year it was decided that one of the charities will be decided by our youth group.

- Additionally we raise money for local causes and national and international appeals throughout the year. We participate in Christian Aid Week and support an annual local Christian Aid sponsored walk.
- Our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides continue to meet and maintain very good numbers.
- Buxton Festival Fringe: The church is well used as a venue for the Buxton Fringe and a number of concerts are held during the three week festival.
- The church is a major provider of high quality rooms and facilities for the local community.
- Following the conclusion of the 'Raise the Roof' project in July 2023, there were some snagging issues which had to be resolved at the end of the 12 month defect liability period. As an aging building, there are on-going maintenance issues to be addressed. A volunteer created a comprehensive Maintenance Plan during the year to help us manage cyclical maintenance tasks.

LEARNING and CARING

- We held a study group through Lent using material relating to politics and faith. This had various positive outcomes which were particularly pertinent with the announcement of the general election. One outcome was the offer of help to sign-up to vote, by running a walk-in session in the church, where we assisted 5 people to obtain the correct photo ID. The church also hosted a hustings for the town, organised by Transition Buxton.
- The 'Inbetweeners' group took part in the annual Christian Aid sponsored walk and what is becoming the traditional snowdrop walk.
- Funerals: The minister took a number of funerals in the name of the church and families are invited to the annual memorial service in December.
- Pastoral Work: The church aims to be a caring community for both its members and non-members alike. The Pastoral group meets once a quarter and tries to make sure pastoral contact is maintained with those in times of need. This may be through visits, phone calls and sending cards at Christmas and Easter.
- Churches Together in Buxton has continued to struggle for various reasons, there are still a faithful few who occasionally meet and a handful of events are planned through the year. There is shared ecumenical ministry at the outdoor Remembrance Sunday service and Annual Wells Dressing Festival. Buxton Methodist Church will host the service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January 2025.
- Sunday Club: The Sunday Club provides a wonderful weekly opportunity for children to come together, learn and build friendship both with their peers and with those in the wider congregation. The number of children remains steady at about 6 – 10.
- The weekly Baby and Toddler Group provides a much-needed time for adults and pre-school children to meet, play and interact.
- Holiday Club: This year our theme of 'Deep Sea Divers' led us to think about diving deep into what it means to be followers of Jesus. During the week, 25 adults volunteered in many

different roles from catering to tidying up and 30 children enjoyed the crafts, music, games and activities.

- **3Generate Group:** This group of young folk, aged eight and over, meets once a month for various activities. The highlight of the year is attending the national Methodist 3Generate weekend at the NEC. This year a group of thirteen of our 8 - 12 year olds joined over a thousand others from all over the country to explore faith in a wide variety of ways. The group did sponsored events through the year to help towards the cost of the weekend..
- **Safeguarding:** We continue to maintain our church as a safe place to meet and review our procedures as and when necessary. The Methodist Foundation Module training is offered every 6 months and we invite those who are new to their role and those who need refresher training to attend the class on our premises.

EVANGELISM

- We publish a quarterly magazine containing a variety of church family updates, information from the groups and articles about different events, covering the diverse life of the church community.
- The weekly sheet has also become a significant publication and is very much appreciated by those who receive it in hard copy or by email.
- We also have an increasing presence on Facebook with regular posts and photos about events and activities.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

There has been an increasing awareness that the church cannot carry in the same way for many more years. This is because of two pressures (i) financial and (ii) volunteer help.

- (i) the church is facing a decline in funds as our annual expenditure exceeds income, and if this is not addressed the church will run out of money during 2028.
- (ii) The number of active volunteers is reducing and there is a feeling of increasing burden on those who already give so much in time and effort.

We are sure that our church is far from alone in facing these challenges, but we are determined to address them. During the year the church obtained a grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund for an independent study on how we can arrest the decline.

The remit of the Working Together study includes:

- (i) A review of how our staff operate and how this can be supported through better use of technology and by increased volunteer support.
- (ii) A review of our room hire charges, probably necessitating a significant increase so the day-to-day running costs of this community facility are covered.
- (iii) Exploration of ways to encourage increased congregational giving and donations.
- (iv) Building energy efficiency and access audits.

A steering group has been formed, including two representatives of external organisations who use our premises, which will take these ideas forward into the coming months.

Andrew Parker
Minister

Annual report comments from treasurer

The year ending 31st August 2024

Our income has been just over £100,000 lower than the previous year which was due to the grants received and the Gift Day for the 'Raise the Roof' project, in that year. Expenditure was also £160,000 lower as a result of the bulk of the repairs were paid for in the previous year,

Income from regular giving was slightly lower the previous year at £63,644 when excluding the special fund-raising for the roof project. Café income increased slightly and lettings showed a significant increase in income which helped to 'balance the books.'

Grants of £22,095 were received which related to the building, and to enable our young people to attend 3Generate. Some of these grants would be spent after the year-end so will appear to inflate our cash balances at 31st August 2024.

New energy contracts came into effect from September 2023 which have reduced our unit costs, but as the building is now more fully used, reflected by the increased lettings income, our overall spend is similar to the previous year. Insurance cost was reduced as we were no longer needing to pay for additional cover during the renovations.

Ian Stubbs, Church Treasurer.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

BUXTON METHODIST	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

HIGH PEAK PARTNERSHIP	Circuit	Circuit no.	19/04
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129654

**If not a registered charity His Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number**

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(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'd A Parker

Church Stewards:

Mrs A Bentley	Mrs W Jones
Mrs I Sinclair	Mr R Sinclair
Mr I Stubbs	

Treasurer:

Mr I Stubbs

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	63,644	735	64,379	112,745
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	4,635		4,635	6,896
a4	Lettings	41,392		41,392	32,719
a5	Other receipts	8,220	23,167	31,387	91,564
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	117,891	23,902	141,793 (a7)	243,924

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	52,320		52,320	52,320
b3	Donations	5,100		5,100	5,050
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	32,560	8,617	41,177	208,748
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	16,985		16,985	18,576
b6					
b7	Other payments	20,850	7,071	27,921	21,003
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	127,815	15,688	143,503 (b9)	305,697

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
		£	£	£	£	
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(9,924)	8,214	(1,710)	(61,773)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	122,733	(14,666)	108,067 (c6)	169,840	
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	112,809	(6,452)	106,357	108,067
c4	Transfers and adjustments	415		415 (c7)		
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	113,224	(6,452)	106,772 (c8)	108,067 (c)

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	67	46
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	1,000	287
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	1,034	266
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)	67

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 CAFÉ	7,894	7,548	346	3	253	602
e2 FLOWER FUND	425	417	8		307	315
e3 JUNIOR YOUTH					338	338
e4 BABBY & TODDLER	440	693	(253)		278	25
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	8,759	8,658	101	3	1,176 (e11)	1,280
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	141,793 (a7)	143,503 (b9)	(1,710)	415 (c7)	108,067 (c6)	106,772
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	150,552	152,161	(1,609)	418	109,243 (x)	108,052
	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 2024

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	97	54
f2 Bank Current Account	22,517	10,816
f3 Bank Deposit Account	4,844	15,272
f4 Central Finance Board		
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	903	
f6 Other funds	30,090	1,003
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	108,067 (c6)	106,772
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	1,176 (e11)	1,280
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	109,243 (x)	108,052

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	50,000	50,000
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	781,150	781,150
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)

Name of Church .. Buxton Methodist

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer *IMyhall* Date *31/12/2024*

Name and address of treasurer *IAN M C STUBBS*

..... *5 THE PRADDOCK BUXTON* Post Code *SK17 6XR*

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Alan*

Name of the Chair of the meeting *ANDREW PARKER* Date *22/1/25*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Buxton Methodist Church

Charity Number . 1129654

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the *Buxton* Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages *1*.. to *3*.. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church .. Buxton Methodist

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I ~~have~~/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner *CE Francis*

Name of independent examiner *CHRISTINE ELIZABETH FRANCIS*

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner *RETIRED ACCOUNTANT*

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address *FLAT 2 BLOCK 2 SILVERLANDS PARK*

BUXTON DERBYSHIRE Post Code *SK17 6QY*

Date *17th Jan. 2025*

* delete or circle as appropriate

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31st August 2024

RECEIPTS - page 2 Section A	2023-24	2022=23
1. Offerings and Tax Recoverable		
Loose cash collections	£6,943.00	£5,434.00
Weekly envelopes	£4,715.00	£4,700.00
One-off Gift Aid envelopes/donations		£80.00
BACS collections (Standing Orders)	£31,815.00	£29,455.00
Other Donations	£692.00	£1,447.00
Card Machine & Text donations	£2,270.00	
Funeral collections		£75.00
Bequests and Memorial donations	£6.00	£17,962.00
Tax recovered under Gift Aid	£17,203.00	£6,245.00
Sub Total	£63,644.00	£65,398.00
<i>Restricted offerings received:</i>		
Misc donations (restricted)		£61.00
Raise the roof fund	£735.00	£36,992.00
Bequests		£10,000.00
Sunday Club		
Kitchen & Catering		£294.00
Sub Total	£735.00	£47,347.00
	£64,379.00	£112,745.00
2. Interest and Investment Income		
TMCP	£12.00	£567.00
Methodist Chapel Aid A/c & Derbyshire Community Bank	£795.00	£401.00
Special Interest bearing deposit A/c	£336.00	£401.00
Current A/c	£247.00	£524.00
Gain on Endowment investment	£100.00	£1,929.00
M&G Charibond income	£3,145.00	£3,071.00
a3	£4,635.00	£6,893.00
3. Other Receipts		
Miscellaneous Sales		
Café	£6,058.00	£5,650.00
Weddings and funerals fees	£475.00	£1,975.00
Personal photocopies	£129.00	£51.00
Solar Panels	£524.00	£969.00
Young People	£435.00	£1,188.00
Social Events	£252.00	
Insurance claim	£347.00	
Bin collection refund		
Sub Total	£8,220.00	£9,833.00
Young People	£1,073.00	£2,275.00
Grants	£22,095.00	£79,420.00
Social Events (Held for Network)		£36.00
Sub Total	£23,168.00	£81,731.00
a5	£31,388.00	£91,564.00
4. Grants and Donations		
Mission in Britain Fund	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Fund for World Mission (includes £350.00 to JMA)	£1,350.00	£1,350.00
All We Can	£600.00	£550.00
Methodist Homes	£350.00	£350.00
Action for Children	£600.00	£600.00
Guide Dogs		£250.00
Volunteer Bureau		£250.00
Theyer Foundation		£250.00
Buxton Foodbank/Nightstop/Zink	£200.00	£250.00
National Churches Trust		£200.00
Churches together in Buxton		
High Peak CVS	£200.00	
Crescent Heritage Trust	£200.00	
Epilepsy Action	£200.00	
East Midlands Air Ambulance	£200.00	
Buxton Mountain Rescue	£200.00	
b3	£5,100.00	£5,050.00

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31st August 2024

PAYMENTS (continued)		
	2023-24	2022-23
5. Repairs and Maintenance		
Building (unrestricted funds)	8,291.00	3,994.00
Building (restricted funds)	8,617.00	181,948.00
Organ and piano	1,155.00	803.00
Wages for caretakers (Net of Tax and NI)	21,783.00	20,537.00
Cleaning supplies and refuse collection	1,331.00	1,466.00
	b4 41,177.00	208,748.00
6. Insurance, Utilities etc		
Insurance	5,764.00	6,960.00
Gas	6,048.00	7,676.00
Electricity	4,307.00	2,811.00
Water	866.00	1,129.00
	b5 16,985.00	18,576.00
7. Other Payments		
Advertising		
Communications asst. Buxton office	3,859.00	3,619.00
Admin Assistant fees (Lettings)	7,062.00	6,637.00
Inland Revenue payments	2,488.00	1,841.00
Photocopier costs	1,676.00	1,663.00
Stationery	210.00	415.00
Postage	30.00	104.00
CCL and other Copyright Licences	926.00	886.00
Organist Fees	225.00	450.00
Software		
Miscellaneous admin costs	2,214.00	1,350.00
Sunday refreshment packs	201.00	201.00
Church consumables (candles etc)		
Music and Choir		
Social events		
Young People expenditure	929.00	387.00
Technical and Internet services	1,030.00	822.00
	Sub Total 20,850.00	18,375.00
<i>Restricted Funds:</i>		
Choir expenditure	144.00	
Social Events	31.00	
Sunday Club	23.00	171.00
Young People expenditure	2,757.00	1,649.00
Admin expenses	3,500.00	
Kitchen and Catering	616.00	808.00
	:B 7,071.00	2,628.00
	b7 27,921.00	21,003.00
Additional Notes:		
MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS page 2 Section D		
Action for Children		136.00
All we Can		151.00
Water Aid		
	d2 and d3 0.00	287.00

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of Buxton Methodist Church
 (*Church Council/ ~~Circuit Meeting~~/District)

To The High Peak Partnership
 (*Circuit Meeting/District)

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

- (i) The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money
- (ii) Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s

- (iii) We have agreed a Reserves Policy which is set out overleaf and is recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report
- (iv) We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Circuit/District/Connexion
- (v) Our Report is attached overleaf →

* please delete as appropriate

To be completed by Receiving Body

The The High Peak Partnership

*Circuit Meeting/~~District~~ received the RESERVES POLICY of

Buxton Methodist Church

*Church Council/~~Circuit Meeting~~/District

Policy accepted and acknowledgement sent to the trustees YES / NO

Policy noted and the following enquiries made of the trustees

Responses received and any further action taken

*Circuit/District

Signatures Date.....

* Please delete as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY of

Buxton Methodist Church(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

1. General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2024	£81,627
2. Restricted Funds held “	£25,604
3. Endowment Funds held “	£0

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds**

Please see spreadsheet attached.

Our reserves policy relates to unrestricted funding, including our designated funds

We try to maintain six months of general operating costs (50% the previous year's expenditure on charitable activities) plus a full year's Circuit Assessment, in order to be able to fulfil our responsibilities to our Minister, staff, users of our building and the wider Circuit.

This year, the six months' running costs figure is £67,180, and half the Circuit Assessment would be £26,318. Unfortunately, the unrestricted funding we had available as at 31 August 2024 was only £81,627, being sufficient to cover the six months running costs only, but not the additional six months' Circuit Assessment. We hold remaining reserves of just under £14,500.

The Five Year Forecast for Buxton Methodist Church as a whole shows an excess of expenditure over income in each financial year, and if this trend continues, we will exhaust all our funds in 2028, unless we reduce our expenditure and receive a considerable injection of cash from regular giving, legacies and other sources. Our 'Working Together' project (funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund) provided us with a strategy for tackling our financial position and we have now started a transition year under the project title, 'Balancing the Budget'.

5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

We retain restricted funds until they can be utilised for the purpose the benefactor intended. Currently these include funding secured towards our 'Raise the Roof' repair project and the residue of a donation from the former Tuesday Luncheon Club, specifically for kitchen equipment. Additionally, we have received small grants and other donations for youth work and hold funds on behalf of internal organisations, such as the Guides and Brownies.

6. **Terms relating to Endowment Funds held**

We do not have any endowment funds.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

Buxton Methodist Church Council(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

Treasurer	Trustee (& Chair of the Finance Committee)
Full name: Ian Stubbs	Full Name: Kate MacLean
Signature	Signature

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129654

Accounts

The Methodist Church 



BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

AND ACCOUNTS

for the year ending
31st August 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Church: **BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH**

Name and address
for correspondence: Rev'd Andrew Parker
Chapel Street
BUXTON
Derbyshire
SK17 6HX

Charity status: During 2009 Buxton Methodist Church became a registered charity.
Number **1129654**

MEMBERSHIP OF BUXTON CHURCH COUNCIL 2022/23:

Rev Andrew Parker (Chair)	Church Appointed members:
Dick Silson (Circuit Steward)	John Anfield Glynis Leyland
Peter Johnson (Circuit Steward)	Sue Anfield Kate MacLean
Wendy Jones (Church Steward)	Beryl Blackwell Anna Quick
Ian Stubbs (Church Steward & Treasurer)	Ann Bradwell Helen Mirtle
Ron Sinclair (Church Steward)	Angela Crawford Pip Strachan
Isabel Sinclair (Church Steward)	Gwen Cokayne Bridget Ball
Anne-Marie Bentley (Church Steward)	Nick Taylor Jackie Cowlshaw
	Robin Evison Christine Hodgkinson

Number of Church Members as at 31st October 2022: 93

AIMS AND ORGANISATION

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WORSHIP:
Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love

LEARNING AND CARING:
Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care

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

EVANGELISM:
Make more followers of Jesus Christ

The Managing Trustees of Buxton Methodist Church are the 'Church Council', which is responsible for overseeing the life and mission of the church in accordance with our stated aims and objectives and in accordance with the Constitutional Practices and Discipline of the Methodist Church. It consists of people elected from amongst the members of the church and those who are members by virtue of their office.

Several sub-committees are appointed by the Church Council to assist it in its work and are responsible to it.

The Church Leadership team and Church Stewards, elected by the church members, ensures, with the minister, that Church Council Policy is carried out and they have responsibility for the day-to-day life of the church.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS 1/9/2022 – 31/8/2023

Church Mission Plan

We continue to review and update our mission plan keeping our focus on the vision for our church as:

'All are welcome and all are working together for God in our community' and 'our aim is to be a cohesive, caring church community. Learning, worshipping and witnessing to the love of God'.

WORSHIP

- Worship is central to our life. We seek to relate our spirituality and worship to the needs of this world and the community. We aim to provide worship that is relevant and accessible for all. Our weekly Sunday morning services are attended by about 60 – 70 people, with ages ranging from under 5's, through teens and up to those who have attended the same church for over 70 years!
- We have continued to provide a monthly online service via the zoom platform. There remains a small number of people who for various reasons cannot attend church in person and appreciate this opportunity to join in worship and remain connected with the church family.
- We hold a monthly evening informal service – Praise@6 - which provides a time for singing, learning new songs, discussion and activities.
- We have continued a quarterly pattern of quiet reflective services using chants from Taizé. The quiet and reflective aspect to this service is in contrast to many of the usual services and is appreciated by people both from the Methodist Church and ecumenically.

SERVICE

- Our Saturday Café continues and is busy with its regular clientele.
- Fair Trade church: We continue to promote Fairtrade and use Fairtrade products whenever possible.
- All We Can: We continue to support All We Can as a partner church and regularly hold collections and support their appeals.
- The Church Council makes donations annually amounting to 10% of our regular giving income. This is shared between the following regular contributions: Methodist Mission in Britain Fund; Methodist Fund for World Mission; Action for Children; All We Can (Methodist Relief and Development); Methodist Fund for Church Property and JMA, and local charities chosen on an annual basis. Additionally we raise money for local causes and national and international appeals throughout the year. We participate in Christian Aid Week.
- The church is a major provider of high quality rooms and facilities for the local community.
- Our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides continue to meet and maintain very good numbers.
- Buxton Festival Fringe: The church is well used as a venue for the Buxton Fringe and a number of concerts are held during the three week festival.
- This year the 'Raise the Roof' campaign has been a significant focus of our resources in terms of time and finance. There was a very successful campaign to raise money through

grants and this was supported by consultation with the user groups who provided letters of support for this work. The building work took place during a 12 week period in early summer, repairing a number of different problem areas on the roof, particularly over the community rooms. Arrangements were made to allow access for a limited number of people to see the work close at hand. This enabled people connected with church and representatives from user groups to have unique viewing of both the church and across the town. There are a few on-going snagging issues but we hope these will be resolved during the 12-month defects period. Issues with the roof over the main chapel await further funding.

LEARNING and CARING

- We held a study group through Lent using the 'Exploring the Void' material based on the film 'Touching the Void'. This attracted people who don't normally join study groups.
- 'Inbetweeners' took part in the annual Christian Aid sponsored walk and what is becoming the traditional snowdrop walk.
- Funerals: The minister took a number of funerals in the name of the church and families are invited to the annual memorial service in December.
- Weddings: Following the Church Council decision to allow same sex marriages, we were delighted to be the venue for our first same sex marriage in May.
- Pastoral Work: The church aims to be a caring community for both its members and non-members alike. The Pastoral group meets once a quarter and tries to make sure pastoral contact is maintained with those in times of need. This may be through visits, phone calls and sending cards at Christmas and Easter.
- Churches Together in Buxton has struggled due to illness of the CTiB chair and irregularity of meetings. There was however shared ministry at the outdoor Remembrance Sunday service and Annual Wells Dressing Festival.
- Sunday Club: The Sunday Club provides a wonderful weekly opportunity for children to come together, learn and build friendship both with their peers and with those in the wider congregation. The number of children remains steady at about 6 – 10.
- The weekly Baby and Toddler Group provides a much-needed time for adults and pre-school children to meet, play and interact.
- Holiday Club: This year our theme of 'Team of Champions' led us to think about being part of Jesus' team, what it means to support one another, all having a role to play and using our skills to the best of our ability. During the week, 25 adults volunteered in many different roles from catering to tidying up and 30 children enjoyed the crafts, music, games and activities.
- 3Generate Group: This group of young folk aged eight and over, meets once a month for various activities. The highlight of the year is attending the national Methodist 3Generate weekend at the NEC. This year a group of nine of our 8 - 12 year olds joined over a thousand others from all over the country to explore faith in a wide variety of ways. To help towards the cost of the weekend the group did sponsored events through the year.
- Safeguarding: We continue to maintain our church as a safe place to meet and review our procedures as and when necessary. The Methodist Foundation Module training is offered every 6 months and we invite those who are new to their role and those who need refresher training to attend the class on our premises.

EVANGELISM

- We publish a quarterly magazine containing a variety of information from the groups and different events which covers the diverse life of the church community.
- The weekly sheet has also become a significant publication and is very much appreciated by those who receive it in hard copy or by email.
- We also have an increasing presence on Facebook with regular posts and photos about events and activities.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Like many voluntary organisations, Buxton Methodist Church faces a challenging time trying to continue as an active church for all ages and maintain a busy community facility. The church is blessed with good resources in terms of finance, skills and people and we continually seek to enable people to find roles for which they are suited. We want to explore how we can involve our building users from outside the congregation on the management of our community facilities.

It is encouraging that new people continue to join the congregation and comment that they find a warm and welcoming church. In particular this year we have welcomed several families from Nigeria, who have settled in Buxton where they have found work in the social care sector and a number of early-retired couples.

Andrew Parker
Minister

Annual report for the year ending 31st August 2023

Treasurer's comments

Our income has been just over £100,000 more than in the previous year due to the grants received and the Gift Day for the 'Raise the Roof' project, which totalled £126,400. Expenditure was also £100,000 more as a result of paying for these repairs, £182,000 in total. The funds needed to make up the shortfall were made by drawing on our reserves and a bequest. Excluding the 'Raise the Roof', income from regular giving and lettings was similar to the previous year and café income increased by £2,000, this being the first full year of regular cafes since covid restrictions.

The main increase in expenditure was due to energy costs, as predicted last year. Gas and electricity costs were £10,487 against £4,800 for the previous year. There were also increases in the cost of insurance and water. New energy contracts came into effect from September 2023 which will reduce the amount we spend in this present year.

Ian Stubbs

Treasurer

February 2024

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

BUXTON METHODIST	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

HIGH PEAK PARTNERSHIP	Circuit	Circuit no.	19/04
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129654

**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'd Andrew Parker

Church Stewards:

Mrs A Bentley	Mrs W Jones
Mrs I Sinclair	Mr R Sinclair

Treasurer:

Mr Ian Stubbs

RECEIPTS - page 2 Section A	2022-23	2021-22
1. Offerings and Tax Recoverable		
Loose cash collections	£5,434.00	£4,869.00
Weekly envelopes	£4,700.00	£4,464.00
One-off Gift Aid envelopes/donations	£80.00	£530.00
BACS collections (Standing Orders)	£29,455.00	£28,186.00
Other Donations	£1,447.00	£1,382.00
Funeral collections	£75.00	£53.00
Bequests and Memorial donations	£17,962.00	£1,587.00
Tax recovered under Gift Aid	£6,245.00	£7,292.00
Sub Total	£65,398.00	£48,363.00
<i>Restricted offerings received:</i>		
Misc donations (restricted)	£61.00	
Raise the roof fund	£36,992.00	£2,440.00
Bequests	£10,000.00	£35,000.00
Sunday Club		
Kitchen & Catering	£294.00	£4,472.00
Sub Total	£47,347.00	41,912.00
	£112,745.00	£90,275.00
2. Interest and Investment Income		
TMCP	£567.00	£273.00
Methodist Chapel Aid A/c & Derbyshire Community Bank	£401.00	£235.00
Special Interest bearing deposit A/c	£401.00	£11.00
Current A/c	£524.00	£18.00
Gain on Endowment investment	£1,929.00	-£3,595.00
M&G Charibond income	£3,071.00	£2,872.00
a3	£6,893.00	-£186.00
3. Other Receipts		
Miscellaneous Sales		£19.00
Café	£5,650.00	£3,650.00
Weddings and funerals fees	£1,975.00	£1,185.00
Personal photocopies	£51.00	£195.00
Solar Panels	£969.00	£600.00
Young People	£1,188.00	£1,249.00
Social Events		
Circuit's reimbursement of Circuit Admin costs		
Insurance claim		£1,930.00
Bin collection refund		
Sub Total	£9,833.00	£8,828.00
Young People	£2,275.00	
Grants	£79,420.00	£12,363.00
Social Events (Held for Network)	£36.00	
Sub Total	£81,731.00	£12,363.00
a5	£91,564.00	£21,191.00
4. Grants and Donations		
Mission in Britain Fund	£1,000.00	£1,300.00
Fund for World Mission (includes £350.00 to JMA)	£1,350.00	£1,650.00
The Fund for Property		
All We Can	£550.00	£550.00
Methodist Homes	£350.00	£350.00
Action for Children	£600.00	£600.00
Guide Dogs	£250.00	
Volunteer Bureau	£250.00	
Theyer Foundation	£250.00	
Buxton Foodbank/Nightstop	£250.00	£300.00
National Churches Trust	£200.00	
Churches together in Buxton		£50.00
Ashgate Hospice		£300.00
Buxton Town Team		£300.00
Stroke Association		£300.00
b3	£5,050.00	£5,700.00

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31st August 2023

PAYMENTS (continued)		
	2022-23	2021-22
5. Repairs and Maintenance		
Building (unrestricted funds)	3,994.00	12,002.00
Building (restricted funds)	181,948.00	
Organ and piano	803.00	1,087.00
Wages for caretakers (Net of Tax and NI)	20,537.00	17,768.00
Cleaning supplies and refuse collection	1,466.00	1,295.00
	b4 208,748.00	32,152.00
6. Insurance, Utilities etc		
Insurance	6,960.00	5,780.00
Gas	7,676.00	3,033.00
Electricity	2,811.00	1,767.00
Water	1,129.00	1,008.00
	b5 18,576.00	11,588.00
7. Other Payments		
Advertising		119.00
Communications asst. Buxton office	3,619.00	3,377.00
Admin Assistant fees (Lettings)	6,637.00	6,195.00
Inland Revenue payments	1,841.00	66.00
Photocopier costs	1,663.00	1,306.00
Stationery	415.00	403.00
Postage	104.00	34.00
CCL and other Copyright Licences	886.00	859.00
Organist Fees	450.00	325.00
Software		239.00
Miscellaneous admin costs	1,350.00	1,229.00
Sunday refreshment packs	201.00	162.00
Church consumables (candles etc)		
Music and Choir		
Social events		
Young People expenditure	387.00	967.00
Lay Worker (Pastoral)		
Technical and Internet services	822.00	2,688.00
	Sub Total	17,969.00
	18,375.00	
<i>Restricted Funds:</i>		
Choir expenditure		
Social Events		
Sunday Club	171.00	62.00
Young People expenditure	1,649.00	2,168.00
Kitchen and Catering	808.00	334.00
	:B 2,628.00	2,628.00
	b7 21,003.00	20,597.00
Additional Notes:		
MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS page 2 Section D		
Action for Children	136.00	
Save The Children		
Haiti appeal		161.00
DEC		140.00
Cancer research		520.00
Easter offering		
Retirement collection		335.00
All we Can	151.00	852.00
Benevolent fund		
Water Aid		
	d2 and d3 287.00	2,008.00

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
		£	£	£	£	
a1	RECEIPTS	Note				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	1	65,398	47,347	112,745	90,275
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2	6,896		6,896	(186)
a4	Lettings		32,719		32,719	31,864
a5	Other receipts	3	9,833	81,731	91,564	21,191
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		114,846	129,078	243,924 (a7)	143,144

SECTION B						
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		52,320		52,320	47,220
b3	Donations	4	5,050		5,050	5,700
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		26,800	181,948	208,748	32,152
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	6	18,576		18,576	11,588
b6						
b7	Other payments	7	18,375	2,628	21,003	20,533
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		121,121	184,576	305,697 (b9)	117,193

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(6,275)	(55,498)	(61,773)	25,951
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		129,008	40,832	169,840 (c6)	143,889
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	122,733	(14,666)	108,067	169,840
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	122,733	(14,666)	108,067 (c8)	169,840 (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	46	2
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	287	2,008
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	266	1,964
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)	67
			46

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 Café	6,234	6,152	82	1	170	253
e2 Flower Fund	545	808	(263)		570	307
e3 Junior Youth					338	338
e4 Baby & Toddler	618	568	50		228	278
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	7,397	7,528	(131)	1	1,306 (e11)	1,176 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	243,924 (a7)	305,697 (b9)	(61,773)	(c7)	169,840 (c6)	108,067 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	251,321	313,225	(61,904)	1	171,146 (x)	109,243 (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 2023**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		97
f2 Bank Current Account	15,760	27,660
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board		
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	39,305	903
f6 Other funds	30,019	30,090
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	169,840 (c6)	108,067 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	1,306 (e11)	1,176 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	171,146 (x)	109,243 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	50,000	50,000
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)		
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)

Name of Church Buxton Methodist No. 19/04

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer I.M.G. Stubbs Date 4th March 2024

Name and address of treasurer IAN M G STUBBS
8 THE PADDOCK, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE Post Code SK17 6XR

Presentation to the Church trustees

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

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Alan -

Name of the Chair of the meeting Andrew Parker Date 13-3-24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Buxton Methodist Church

Charity Number 1129654

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Buxton Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 1 to 3. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church Buxton Methodist No 19/04

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- ~~the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.~~

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I ~~have~~/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner CE Francis

Name of independent examiner CHRISTINE ELIZABETH FRANCIS

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner RETIRED ACCOUNTANT

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address FLAT 2, BLOCK 2, SILVERLEADS PARK, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE

Post Code SK17 6QY

Date 1st MARCH 2024

* delete or circle as appropriate

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129654

Accounts

The Methodist Church



BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

AND ACCOUNTS

**for the year ending
31st August 2022**

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Church: **BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH**

Name and address
for correspondence: Rev'd Andrew Parker
Chapel Street
BUXTON
Derbyshire
SK17 6HX

Charity status: During 2009 Buxton Methodist Church became a registered charity. Number **1129654**

Managing Trustees in 2021 - 2022

Rev Andrew Parker	Dick Silson	John Anfield
Glynis Leyland	Peter Johnson	Sue Anfield
Kate MacLean	Beryl Blackwell	Ray Parker
Wendy Jones	Ann Bradwell	Anna Quick
Ian Stubbs	Angela Crawford	Helen Mirtle
Ron Sinclair	Gwen Cokayne	Pip Strachan
Isabel Sinclair	Nick Taylor	Bridget Ball
Anne-Marie Bentley	Robin Evison	Brian Laurence
Christine Hodkinson	Jackie Cowlshaw	

Number of Church Members as at 31st October 2021: - 99

(Oct 2020 – 94; Oct 2019 – 105; 2018 – 107; Oct 2017 – 112; Oct 2016 – 118; Oct 2015 – 124; 2014 – 104; 2013 – 104; 2012 – 108)

AIMS AND ORGANISATION

Buxton Methodist Church has accepted the definition of its aim and purpose given by the Methodist Church in Britain. We exist to:

WORSHIP:

Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love

LEARNING AND CARING:

Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care

SERVICE:

Be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice

EVANGELISM:

Make more followers of Jesus Christ

The Managing Trustees of Buxton Methodist Church are the 'Church Council', which is responsible for overseeing the life and mission of the church in accordance with our stated aims and objectives and in accordance with the Constitutional Practices and Discipline of the Methodist Church. It consists of people elected from amongst the members of the church and those who are members by virtue of their office.

Several sub-committees are appointed by the Church Council to assist it in its work and are responsible to it.

The Church Leadership team and Church Stewards, elected by the church members, ensure, with the minister, that Church Council Policy is carried out and they have responsibility for the day-to-day life of the church.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS 1/9/2021 – 31/8/2022

Church Mission Plan

A significant amount of time has been spent on developing a Mission Plan to look at the overall life of the church. This will enable us to assess our strengths and prioritise areas which require more focus.

Our Mission Plan states that the vision for our church is:

All are welcome and all are working together for God in our community and our aim is to be a cohesive, caring church community. Learning, worshipping and witnessing to the love of God.

The plan was presented to the Church Council in June and formed the focus of discussion at the Annual Church Meeting in July.

The plan will be reviewed on an annual basis.

WORSHIP

- Worship is central to our life. We seek to relate our spirituality and worship to the needs of this world and the community and we aim to serve. We hold a weekly morning service where numbers average about 60 – 65 and try to provide worship that is relevant and accessible for all.
- We have also provided a weekly online service via the zoom platform. This has been in conjunction with the other churches across the High Peak Partnership. As people have grown more confident in returning to face-to-face services, inevitably the numbers on zoom have reduced yet there is still a number who appreciate the weekly service.
- We hold a monthly evening informal service – Praise@6 - which provides a time for singing, learning new songs, discussion and activities.

SERVICE

- Following covid, our Saturday Café re-opened in October 2021 and after a slow start it is once again building up its regular cliental.
- Fair Trade church. We continue to promote Fairtrade and use Fairtrade products whenever possible.
- All We Can. We continue to support All We Can as a partner church and regularly hold collections and support their appeals.
- Plastic Pledge in February 2020, commitment of reducing its plastic usage in 3 ways; no cling film, refilling washing up liquid bottles at the local 'Day Zero' shop, and replacing plastic coffee/tea cups for cardboard or washable cups. We recognise there is still much to do towards sustainable living.
- The Church Council makes donations annually amounting to 10% of our regular giving income. This is shared between the following regular contributions: Methodist Mission in Britain Fund; Methodist Fund for World Mission; Action for Children; All We Can (Methodist Relief and Development); Methodist Fund for Church Property and JMA, and local charities chosen on an annual basis. Additionally we raise money for local causes and national and international appeals throughout the year.

- The church is a major provider of high quality rooms and facilities for the local community. Following the almost complete shutdown during the past couple of years due to covid we are pleased that our rooms are once again being well used by external groups.
- Our Rainbows, Brownies and Guides continue to meet and maintain very good numbers.
- Buxton Festival Fringe: The church is well used as a venue for the Buxton Fringe and a number of concerts are held during the three week festival.
- This year, we faced particular problems with the church roof which has developed leaks in a number of places. These leaks needed immediate attention as they were affecting the building and spoiling the decoration in the rooms. It has been costly in terms of time and finance in assessing the work needed, fund raising and preparing to start the work. The 'Raise the Roof' campaign has, however, enabled us to engage with our building users and wider community.

LEARNING and CARING

- We held a study group through Lent based on material from All We Can. During July we followed the Methodist Bible Month material for Isaiah and held weekly study groups.
- 'Inbetweeners': In September, the Inbetweeners took part in the delayed (due to Covid) Christian Aid walk and did the same walk 6 months later, in April.
- Funerals: The minister took a number of funerals in the name of the church and families are invited to the annual memorial service in December.
- Pastoral Work: The church aims to be a caring community for both its members and non-members alike. It does this in a variety of ways from face-to-face visits and phone calls to delivery of our weekly news sheet and occasional cards.
- Churches Together in Buxton hold regular meetings and join together for various events through the year. On the Saturday morning before Easter Day, over 600 knitted Easter chicks were hidden and found in the Pavilion Gardens. These chicks had a Bible verse and invitation to an Easter Service attached. There was shared ministry at the outdoor Remembrance Sunday service and Annual Wells Dressing Festival.
- Sunday Club: The Sunday Club provide a wonderful weekly opportunity for children to come together, learn and build friendship both with their peers and with those in the wider congregation. The number of children remains steady at about 6 – 10.
- Baby and Toddler Group provides a much-needed time for adults and pre-school children to meet, play and interact.
- Holiday Club: This year our theme of 'Planet Protectors' led us to think about caring for God's creation. During the week, 25 adults volunteered in many different roles from catering to tidying up and 28 children enjoyed the crafts, music, games and activities.
- Youth Group: A group of seven 8 - 12 year olds went to '3Generate', the national Methodist Youth event at the NEC. This group did sponsored events to raise money towards the 3Generate weekend and has continued to meet on a monthly basis. The hope is to make 3Generate an annual event for the group to attend.
- Safeguarding: We continue to maintain our church as a safe place to meet and review our procedures as and when necessary. Training has been on hold whilst we have been unable to meet face-to-face but we are now starting to re-establish a pattern of training and DBS checks.

EVANGELISM

- Since the appointment of our Publicity Coordinator the improved standard of our Church magazine has been widely praised and it remains a major way in which the church communicates the varied life of the church.
- The weekly sheet has also become a significant publication and is very much appreciated by those who receive it.
- We also have an increasing presence on Facebook with regular posts and photos about events and activities.

Looking to the future

Over recent years the building has started showing its age and a number of leaks have developed in the roof. This has caused unsightly blistering on the plaster in some of the rooms and also causes a slip hazard in the lower corridor.

The church has committed to a programme of extensive repair work through our 'Raising the Roof' project. An architect report estimated costs at approximately £135,000. This amount could only be reached if there were considerable outside grants. The church has been very successful in its grant applications and with fund raising within the local congregation we hope to achieve the target.

Alongside fundraising has been the professional help in assessing what work is required. Due to the complexity of the building and particularly its roof, access for this work is not straightforward so will require careful planning and monitoring.

This project will demand a lot of time and effort from the congregation to see it to completion. We believe the mission which takes place in the church is well worth it and has a considerable future.

Andrew Parker

Minister

Annual report comments from treasurer

The year ending 31st August 2022 has seen a return to more normal activities after 2 years which were affected by the Covid pandemic. Our income has exceeded expenditure by £26,000 but this has been due to bequests and the start of our fundraising for the roof repairs. Without these items, expenditure would have exceeded income by £15,000.

Lettings have brought in revenue similar to pre-Covid levels and the Saturday café is now helping the church finances. Building maintenance costs are lower than last year, as was to be expected considering the amount spent in 2022/21 on decorating and carpeting of the church. Utility costs rose in line with the increased use of the buildings, however, our energy contracts ended at the end of August and this coming year will show a very significant increase in costs due to the current state of the energy markets.

There is a need to continue with our fundraising and freewill giving if we are to meet the challenges before us in the years ahead.

Ian Stubbs

Treasurer

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

BUXTON METHODIST	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2022

HIGH PEAK PARTNERSHIP	Circuit	Circuit no.	19/18
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129654

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'd Andrew Parker

Church Stewards:

Mrs W Jones	Mrs I Sinclair
Mrs A Bentley	Mr R Sinclair
Mr I Stubbs	

Treasurer:

MR IAN STUBBS

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
	Note				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	48,363	41,912	90,275	67,414
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	(186)		(186)	15,250
a4	Lettings	31,864		31,864	6,765
a5	Other receipts	8,828	12,363	21,191	12,064
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	88,869	54,275	143,144 (a7)	101,493
SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	47,220		47,220	45,519
b3	Donations	5,700		5,700	5,450
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	32,152		32,152	57,835
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	11,588		11,588	9,486
b6					
b7	Other payments	17,969	2,564	20,533	15,830
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	114,629	2,564	117,193 (b9)	134,120
SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(25,760)	51,711	25,951
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		154,768	(10,879)	143,889 (c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	129,008	40,832	169,840
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	129,008	40,832	169,840 (c8)
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			2	25
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			2,008	72
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			1,964	95
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)		46	2

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 2022 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	CAFÉ	5,774	5,871	103		67	170
e2	FLOWER FUND	532	477	55		515	570
e3	JUNIOR YOUTH					338	338
e4	BABY & TODDLER	207	253	(46)		274	228
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of internal Organisations funds	6,513	6,401	112		1,194 (e11)	1,308 (e12)
c9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	143,144 (a7)	117,183 (b9)	25,961	(c7)	143,889 (c6)	169,840 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	143,657	123,594	20,063		145,083 (x)	171,146 (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 2022	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	(1,779)	15,686
f3 Bank Deposit Account	3,248	35,542
f4 Central Finance Board		
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	42,900	39,305
f6 Other funds	50,019	50,019
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	143,889 (c6)	169,840 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	1,194 (e11)	1,308 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	145,083 (x)	171,146 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	50,000	50,000
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re insurance value)	781,150	781,150
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)

Name of Church BUXTON METHODIST..... No... 19/18.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date 9 Feb 2023

Name and address of treasurer Mr Ian Stubbs

8 The Paddock, Buxton, Derbyshire

SK17 6XR

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Andrew Parker Date 9/2/23

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

Charity Number . 1129654

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages ... to As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church .. BUXTON METHODIST

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner C. E. Francis

Name of independent examiner ... CHRISTINE E. FRANCIS

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ... RETIRED ACCOUNTANT

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

..... Post Code

Date

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-22

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31st August 2022

RECEIPTS - page 2 Section A	2021-22	2020-2021
1. Offerings and Tax Recoverable		
Loose cash collections	£4,869.00	£3,699.00
Weekly envelopes	£4,464.00	£6,256.00
One-off Gift Aid envelopes/donations	£530.00	
BACS collections (Standing Orders)	£28,186.00	£28,786.00
Other Donations	£1,382.00	£6,147.00
Funeral collections	£53.00	£18.00
Bequests and Memorial donations	£1,587.00	£1,045.00
Tax recovered under Gift Aid	£7,292.00	£21,463.00
Sub Total	£48,363.00	£67,414.00
<i>Restricted offerings received:</i>		
Misc donations (restricted)		
Raise the roof fund	£2,440.00	
Bequests	£35,000.00	
Sunday Club		
Kitchen & Catering	£4,472.00	
Sub Total	41,912.00	-
	£90,275.00	£67,414.00
2. Interest and Investment Income		
TMCP	£273.00	£236.00
Methodist Chapel Aid A/c	£235.00	£451.00
Special Interest bearing deposit A/c	£11.00	£1.00
Current A/c	£18.00	£6.00
Gain on Endowment investment	-£3,595.00	£12,084.00
M&G Charibond Income	£2,872.00	£2,472.00
a3	-£186.00	£15,250.00
3. Other Receipts		
Miscellaneous Sales	£19.00	£20.00
Café	£3,650.00	
Weddings and funerals fees	£1,185.00	£425.00
Personal photocopies	£195.00	£46.00
Solar Panels	£600.00	£800.00
Young People	£1,249.00	£245.00
Social Events		
Circuit's reimbursement of Circuit Admin costs		
Insurance claim	£1,930.00	
Bin collection refund		£195.00
Sub Total	£8,828.00	£1,731.00
Young People		
Grants	£12,363.00	£10,298.00
Social Events (Held for Network)		£35.00
Sub Total	£12,363.00	£10,333.00
a5	£21,191.00	£12,064.00
4. Grants and Donations		
Mission in Britain Fund	£1,300.00	£1,300.00
Fund for World Mission (includes £350.00 to JMA)	£1,650.00	£1,650.00
The Fund for Property		£350.00
All We Can	£550.00	£550.00
Methodist Homes	£350.00	
Action for Children	£600.00	£600.00
Buxton Civic Assn		£200.00
InnerWheel Covid appeal		£200.00
Theyer Foundation		£200.00
Buxton Foodbank/Nightstop	£300.00	£200.00
Blythe House Hospice		£200.00
Churches together in Buxton	£50.00	
Ashgate Hospice	£300.00	
Buxton Town Team	£300.00	
Stroke Association	£300.00	
b3	£5,700.00	£5,450.00

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH
Notes to the Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31st August 2022

PAYMENTS (continued)		
	2021-22	2020-21
5. Repairs and Maintenance		
Building (unrestricted funds)	12,002.00	587.00
Building (restricted funds)		39,018.00
Organ and piano	1,087.00	1,935.00
Wages for caretakers (Net of Tax and NI)	17,768.00	14,930.00
Cleaning supplies and refuse collection	1,295.00	1,365.00
	b4 32,152.00	57,835.00
6. Insurance, Utilities etc		
Insurance	5,780.00	5,220.00
Gas	3,033.00	2,256.00
Electricity	1,787.00	1,535.00
Water	1,008.00	475.00
	b5 11,588.00	9,486.00
7. Other Payments		
Advertising	119.00	
Communications asst. Buxton office	3,377.00	3,290.00
Admin Assistant fees (Lettings)	6,195.00	6,034.00
Inland Revenue payments	66.00	
Photocopier costs	1,306.00	1,288.00
Stationery	403.00	340.00
Postage	34.00	335.00
CCL and other Copyright Licences	859.00	858.00
Organist Fees	325.00	175.00
Software	239.00	230.00
Miscellaneous admin costs	1,229.00	564.00
Sunday refreshment packs	162.00	
Church consumables (candles etc)		18.00
Music and Choir		406.00
Social events		
Young People expenditure	967.00	1,588.00
Lay Worker (Pastoral)		
Technical and Internet services		
	2,688.00	599.00
	Sub Total 17,969.00	15,725.00
Restricted Funds:		
Choir expenditure		
Social Events		
Sunday Club	62.00	39.00
Young People expenditure	2,168.00	66.00
Kitchen and Catering	334.00	
	Sub Total 2,564.00	105.00
	b7 20,533.00	15,830.00
Additional Notes:		
MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS page 2 Section D		
Action for Children		
Save The Children		
Haiti appeal	161.00	
DEC	140.00	
Cancer research	520.00	
Easter offering		
Retirement collection	335.00	
All we Can	852.00	77.00
Benevolent fund		
Water Aid		
	d2 and d3 2,008.00	77.00

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of

Buxton Methodist Church

(*Church Council/ ~~Circuit Meeting/District~~)

To

The High Peak Partnership

(*Circuit Meeting/District)

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

- (i) The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money
- (ii) Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s

(iii) We have agreed a Reserves Policy which is set out overleaf and is recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report

(iv) We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Circuit/District/Connexion

(v) Our Report is attached overleaf →

* please delete as appropriate

To be completed by Receiving Body

The

*Circuit Meeting/District received the RESERVES POLICY of

*Church Council/~~Circuit Meeting/District~~

Policy accepted and acknowledgement sent to the trustees

YES / NO

Policy noted and the following enquiries made of the trustees

Responses received and any further action taken

*Circuit/District

Signatures Date.....

* Please delete as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY of

Buxton Methodist Church(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

1.	General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2021	£148,707
2.	Restricted Funds held “	£21,846
3.	Endowment Funds held “	£0

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds****Please see spreadsheet attached (page 3)**

We ensure that we maintain six months of general operating costs (50% the previous year's expenditure on charitable activities) plus a full year's Circuit Assessment, in order to be able to fulfil our responsibilities to our Minister, staff, users of our building and the wider Circuit. This year we have taken into account the significant increase in our Circuit Assessment from August 2022. The six months' reserves figure we are using for this reserves policy is thus £88,158.

We then have a number of designated funds into which we make contributions each year, to build up funds to maintain our organ and to replace the photocopier when required etc.

Finally, we are retaining funds 'in hand' for items of property expenditure in accordance with our Property Committee's Five Year Forecast. 'Making our building warm and weathertight' is a current objective in our 5 Year Mission Plan, under the priority to 'Develop more welcoming buildings' (in turn under the aim to be 'A cohesive, caring church community. Learning, worshipping and witnessing to the love of God'. Our vision is that 'All are welcome and all are working together for God in our community'.)

The Five Year Forecast for Buxton Methodist Church as a whole shows an excess of expenditure over income in each financial year, and if this trend continues, we will exhaust all our funds by the end of 2024/25, unless we receive a considerable injection of cash from legacies or other sources.

5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

We retain restricted funds until they can be utilised for the purpose the benefactor intended. Currently these include grants secured towards our 'Raise the Roof' repair projects and a donation of £4,254 from the Tuesday Luncheon Club and on closure and distribution of its funds, specifically towards upgrading the kitchen. Additionally, we have a small residue of a grant from a local charity towards youth work, other donations for youth work and monies held on behalf of internal organisations, such as the Guides and Brownies.

6. **Terms relating to Endowment Funds held**

We do not have any endowment funds.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

Buxton Methodist Church Council

(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

Treasurer	Trustee (& Chair of the Finance Committee)
Full name: Ian Stubbs	Full Name: Kate MacLean
Signature	Signature

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129654

Accounts

The Methodist Church 



BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

**TRUSTEES'
ANNUAL REPORT**

AND ACCOUNTS

**for the year ending
31st August 2021**

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Church: **BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH**

Name and address
for correspondence: Rev'd Andrew Parker
Chapel Street
BUXTON
Derbyshire
SK17 6HX

Charity status: During 2009 Buxton Methodist Church became a registered charity, No **1129654**, with 29 Trustees

Managing Trustees in 2020 - 2021

Rev Andrew Parker	Mrs Di Ruff
Mrs Wendy Jones	Mr Brian Laurence
Mr Ian Stubbs	Miss Anna Quick
Mr Robin Evison	Mrs Pip Strachan
Mrs Sue Anfield	Mrs Glynis Leyland
Mrs Christine Hodkinson	Mr Ray Parker
Mr Ron Sinclair	Mrs Isabel Sinclair
Mrs Beryl Blackwell	Mrs Gwen Cockayne
Mrs Jackie Cowlshaw	Mr John Anfield
Mr Nick Taylor	Mrs Ann Bradwell
Mr Peter Johnson	Mrs Angela Crawford
Mrs Kate MacLean	
Mr Dick Silson	

Number of Church Members as at 31st October 2020: - 94

(Oct 2019 – 105; 2018 – 107; Oct 2017 – 112; Oct 2016 – 118; Oct 2015 – 124; 2014 – 104; 2013 – 104; 2012 – 108)

AIMS AND ORGANISATION

Buxton Methodist Church has accepted the definition of its aim and purpose given by the Methodist Church in Britain. We exist to:

WORSHIP:

Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love

LEARNING AND CARING:

Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care

SERVICE:

Be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice

EVANGELISM:

Make more followers of Jesus Christ

The Managing Trustees of Buxton Methodist Church are the 'Church Council', which is responsible for overseeing the life and mission of the church in accordance with our stated aims and objectives and in accordance with the Constitutional Practices and Discipline of the Methodist Church. It consists of people elected from amongst the members of the church and those who are members by virtue of their office.

Several sub-committees are appointed by the Church Council to assist it in its work and are responsible to it.

The Church Leadership team and Church Stewards, elected by the church members, ensure, with the minister, that Church Council Policy is carried out and they have responsibility for the day-to-day life of the church.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS 1/9/2020 – 31/8/2021

As with many organisations this annual report is written in a year affected by COVID 19 restrictions. These restrictions have had significant impact on the day-to-day life of the church and the many outside users. There was a brief period when the church re-opened from September to November but further lockdowns and increased risk meant that the church remained closed to all but essential users. The church reopened for Easter (Sun 4th April) and continued to carefully and safely open up as guided by Government guidelines.

WORSHIP.

- Worship is central to our life. We seek to relate our spirituality and worship to the needs of this world and the community and we aim to serve. We have responded to Covid social distance guidance and reduced seating capacity and increased spacing between seats and rows. We hold a weekly morning service where numbers average about 55 – 60 and try to provide worship that is relevant and accessible for all.
- We used a booking in system to make sure everyone who came to church was assured they would have a seat and not be turned away because the church was full. We also implemented a track and trace system.
- Following the COVID lockdown, we enhanced our weekly news sheet to include a 'worship at home' section. This section is written by our Local Preachers and minister. This weekly sheet was distributed by a group of volunteers and was given out to over 100 homes. As lockdown restrictions eased and people got busier it was decided to stop the weekly distribution but try to find other ways like email and the quarterly magazine for keeping in touch with the congregation.
- We have also provided a weekly online service via the zoom platform. This has been in conjunction with the other churches across the High Peak Partnership. As people have grown more confident in returning to face to face services, inevitably the numbers on zoom have reduced yet there is still a number who appreciate the weekly service.

SERVICE

- Wednesday Luncheon Club. This has not started and there are on-going discussions about ways in which it may restart, maybe in a more low-key way.
- Tuesday and Saturday Café. Due to covid restrictions the café was unable to start but there were plans for it to start in October 2021.

- Fair Trade church. We continue to promote Fairtrade and use Fairtrade products whenever possible.
- All We Can. We continue to support All We Can as a partner church and regularly hold collections and support their appeals.
- Plastic Pledge in February 2020, commitment of reducing it's plastic usage in 3 ways; no cling film, refilling washing up liquid bottles at the local 'Day Zero' shop, and replacing plastic coffee/tea cups for cardboard or washable cups. Although the launch of this was affected by the church closing for Covid, we still maintain to work toward this pledge and have put in place the use of paper cups and pens from recycled plastic.
- The Church Council makes donations amounting to 10% of our regular giving income, this is divided between the following regular contributions; Methodist Mission in Britain Fund; Methodist fund for World Mission; Action for Children; All We Can (Methodist Relief and Development); Methodist Fund for Church Property; JMA; and to local charities chosen on an annual basis. Additionally we raise money for local causes and national and international appeals throughout the year.
- The church is a major provider of high quality rooms and facilities for the local community. During the closure our bookings stopped but following re-opening in April the bookings have steadily increased and although not back to pre-covid levels things are looking more positive.
- Our Uniformed groups have been unable to meet face to face but they have plans to start using the church premises from September 2021.
- Due to Covid restriction the Buxton Fringe festival was very limited this year and there were just 3 events. We hope things will be better next year.
- We continue to improve and invest in our premises and hold financial reserves for longer term projects which will ensure the buildings remain at a high standard.

LEARNING and CARING

- The 'Home Group' stopped meeting and are discussing ways they might want to start meeting again.
- 'Network'. This stopped and is unsure if it will start again.
- 'Inbetweeners' were able to occasionally meet and enjoyed a couple of afternoon walks.
- Funerals, the minister took a number of funerals in the name of the church but most were held at Macclesfield crematorium.
- Pastoral Work. Face to face visits have been very limited but phone calls, zoom and emails have been a way of keeping the church family in touch with each other.
- Churches Together in Buxton. This has been very limited this year, partly due to Covid and partly due to the chair of the meeting being off due to illness.

- Sunday Club. The Sunday Club continued to meet on zoom and then met face to face. With two of the leaders stepping back from leading the Sunday Club there is a transition with leadership but the hope is a wider group will take on the responsibility of running the group. The number of children remains steady at about 10 – 15.
- Baby and Toddler Group. This started but was unable to continue due to lack of volunteers and there are ongoing discussions about how it may restart.
- 'Holiday Club'. There was a very successful Holiday club for 25 children and run by 15 adult during the August school holiday. Using the Scripture Union 'Wonder Zone' resource there were 5 days of activity learning and fun.
- Safeguarding. We continue to maintain our church as a safe place to meet and review our procedures as and when necessary. Training will resume when it is safe to meet face to face.
- During the time of COVID restrictions we have adapted our position in regard to furloughing staff. They have worked when there was need but we have also been careful to use the church reserves wisely and furloughed staff when there is no work to do.

EVANGELISM

Since the appointment of our Publicity Coordinator the improved standard of our Church magazine has been widely praised and it remains a major way in which the church communicates the varied life of what the church.

The weekly sheet has also become a significant weekly publication and is very much appreciated by those who receive it.

We also have an increasing presence on Facebook with regular posts and photos about events and activities.

Looking to the future.

In many ways the church has a fresh start, many groups have stopped and we find ourselves in a period of reassessment. There is a lack of volunteers, energy and time to do many of the things which were done before so it will take time to wisely select our priorities for where our resources are focussed. A numerically smaller church which is less busy is inevitable, yet there are signs of new life and by choosing carefully what we do we will be able to continue a meaningful ministry in the town.

We also wait to see which outside groups are able to re-start so a new diary of events can be established.

Financially, it is fortunate the church has good reserves and is able to 'weather the storm' to some extent but we remain vigilant and continue to encourage giving through a variety of ways.

Andrew Parker
Minister

Annual report comments from treasurer

The impact on church finance from the situation which we have faced over the year has been significant but not catastrophic due to our reserves. The two areas which have suffered most are Lettings (down by a further £13,000) and Café, which was closed for the whole year. Freewill giving has held up well and some of the reduction in loose-cash offertories has been compensated for in sundry donations.

The improvement in the total income is largely from the income tax recovered for this and the previous year being received in the same year.

Our general expenditure has also been reduced due to the closure of the buildings: less has been spent on gas and electricity, but there was a significant increase (£27,000) in the expenditure on building maintenance. It was an opportune time, while the building was closed, to redecorate and lay new carpet in the church. Some of our staff continued to be furloughed and we have claimed the relevant Government grants. As responsible employers we have continued to pay our staff their normal amounts. All resumed normal hours by the end of this period.

The overall result was that we spent £32,000 more than our income. This came from reserves and had been budgeted for in forward plans. Nonetheless, our five year forecast shows a year-on-year decline in funds.

**CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS**

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

BUXTON METHODIST	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

High Peak Partnership	Circuit	Circuit no	19/04
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129654

**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'd A Parker

Church Stewards:

Mrs J Cowlishaw	Mrs W Jones
Ms D Ruff	Mrs I Sinclair
Mr R Sinclair	Mr I Stubbs

Treasurer:

Mr Ian Stubbs

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	1	67,414	67,414	52,242
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2	15,250	15,250	8,754
a4	Lettings		6,765	6,765	19,554
a5	Other receipts		12,029	35	14,628
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		101,458	35	101,493 (a7)

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		45,519	45,519	45,519
b3	Donations	4	5,450	5,450	5,540
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	5	18,817	39,018	31,132
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	6	9,486	9,486	10,876
b6					
b7	Other payments	7	15,725	105	15,830
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		94,997	39,123	134,120 (b9)

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	6,461	(39,088)	(32,627)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		148,307	28,209	176,516 (c6)
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	154,768	(10,879)	143,889
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	154,768	(10,879)	143,889 (c8)

SECTION D			
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year	£	£
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	25	903
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	72	878
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID		
	(d1+d2-d3)	95	25

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 Café					67	67
e2 Network		185	(185)		185	
e3 Flower Fund	450	206	244		271	515
e4 Junior Youth					338	338
e5 Senior Youth		78	(78)		78	
e6 Baby & Toddler	56	28	28		246	274
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	506	497	9		1,185 (e11)	1,184 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	101,493 (a7)	134,120 (b9)	(32,627)	(c7)	176,516 (c5)	143,889 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	101,889	134,817	(32,818)		177,701 (x)	145,083 (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 2021

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	6,457	(1,779)
f3 Bank Deposit Account	9,224	3,248
f4 Central Finance Board		
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	60,816	42,900
f6 Other funds	50,019	50,019
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	176,516 (c5)	143,889 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	1,185 (e11)	1,184 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	177,701 (x)	145,083 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES


	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	50,000	50,000
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	78,185	78,185
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)

Name of Church Buxton Methodist Church No. 1129654

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date 1st March 2022

Name and address of treasurer
Ian Stubbs
8 The Paddock, Buxton, Derbyshire. SK17 6XR

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 17-3-22

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting Andrew Parker Date 17-3-22

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Buxton Methodist Church

Charity Number 1129654

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages ... to As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church BUYTON METHODIST CHURCH No 1129654

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
 - the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.
- [the [the

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner CE Francis

Name of independent examiner CHRISTINE ELIZABETH FRANCIS

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ACCOUNTANT (RETIRED)

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

..... Post Code

Date

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-20

BUXTON METHODIST CHURCH

Notes to the Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31st August 2021

RECEIPTS - page 2 Section A	2020-21	2019-20
1. Offerings and Tax Recoverable		
Loose cash collections	£3,699.00	2,676.00
Weekly envelopes	£6,256.00	6,506.00
One-off Gift Aid envelopes/donations		45.00
BACS collections (Standing Orders)	£28,786.00	28,906.00
Other Donations	£6,147.00	7,445.00
Funeral collections	£18.00	
Bequests and Memorial donations	£1,045.00	6,664.00
Tax recovered under Gift Aid	£21,463.00	
Sub Total	£67,414.00	52,242.00
<i>Restricted offerings received:</i>		
Misc donations (restricted)		
Bequests		
Sunday Club		
Messy Church		
Sub Total	£0.00	-
	67,414.00	52,242.00
2. Interest and Investment Income		
TMCP	£236.00	608.00
Methodist Chapel Aid A/c	£451.00	541.00
Special Interest bearing deposit A/c	£1.00	26.00
Current A/c	£6.00	5.00
Gain on Endowment investment	£12,084.00	4,647.00
M&G Charibond income	£2,472.00	2,927.00
a3	£15,250.00	8,754.00
3. Other Receipts		
Miscellaneous Sales	£20.00	49.00
Café		5,700.00
Weddings and funerals fees	£425.00	125.00
Personal photocopies	£46.00	97.00
Solar Panels	£800.00	1,104.00
Young People	£245.00	1,080.00
Social Events		
Circuit's reimbursement of Circuit Admin costs		
Gas & Electricity Refund		
Bin collection refund	£195.00	
Sub Total	£1,731.00	8,155.00
Young People		
Grants	£10,298.00	6,473.00
Social Events (Held for Network)	£35.00	
Sub Total	£10,333.00	£6,473.00
a5	£12,064.00	14,628.00
4. Grants and Donations		
Mission in Britain Fund	£1,300.00	1,300.00
Fund for World Mission (includes £350.00 to JMA)	£1,650.00	1,700.00
The Fund for Property	£350.00	350.00
All We Can	£550.00	550.00
Christian Aid		1,000.00
Action for Children	£600.00	600.00
Buxton Civic Assn	£200.00	
InnerWheel Covid appeal	£200.00	
Theyer Foundation	£200.00	
Buxton Foodbank/Nightstop	£200.00	
Blythe House Hospice	£200.00	
Churches together in Buxton		40.00
Ashgate Hospice		
Zimbabwe		
b3	£5,450.00	5,540.00

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of

Buxton Methodist Church
 (*Church Council/ ~~Circuit Meeting~~/District)

To

The High Peak Partnership
 (*Circuit Meeting/~~District~~)

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

- (i) The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money
- (ii) Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s

- (iii) We have agreed a Reserves Policy which is set out overleaf and is recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report
- (iv) We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Circuit/District/Connexion
- (v) Our Report is attached overleaf →

* please delete as appropriate

To be completed by Receiving Body

The
 *Circuit Meeting/~~District~~ received the RESERVES POLICY of

 *Church Council/~~Circuit Meeting~~/District

Policy accepted and acknowledgement sent to the trustees YES / NO

Policy noted and the following enquiries made of the trustees

Responses received and any further action taken

***Circuit/District**

Signatures Date.....

* Please delete as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY of

Buxton Methodist Church(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

1.	General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2021	£144,406
2.	Restricted Funds held “	£5,562
3.	Endowment Funds held “	£0
4.	Reserves policy for General Funds	

Please see spreadsheet attached.

We ensure that we maintain six months of general operating costs (50% the previous year's expenditure on charitable activities) plus a full year's Circuit Assessment, in order to be able to fulfil our responsibilities to our Minister, staff, users of our building and the wider Circuit. This year we have chosen to estimate our operating costs based on a normal year's expenditure, as our costs have been distorted by the coronavirus pandemic. The six months' reserves figure we are using for this reserves policy is thus £60,000.

We then have a number of designated funds into which we make contributions each year, to build up funds to maintain our organ and to replace the photocopier when required etc.

Finally, we retain funds 'in hand' for items of property expenditure in accordance with our Property Committee's Five Year Forecast and for the costs of future foreseeable paid posts such as a paid organist or lay staff member.

The Five Year Forecast for Buxton Methodist Church as a whole shows an overspend in each financial year, and a final balance in 2024/25 of £1,572, compared to £144,406 at end August 2020.

5. Policy for Restricted Funds

We retain restricted funds until they can be utilised for the purpose the benefactor intended. Currently these include a small residue of a grant from a local charity towards youth work, other donations for youth work and monies held on behalf of internal organisations, such as the Guides and Brownies.

6. Terms relating to Endowment Funds held

We do not have any endowment funds.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

Buxton Methodist Church Council(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

Treasurer	Trustee (& Chair of the Finance Committee)
Full name: Ian Stubbs	Full Name: Kate MacLean
Signature	Signature