

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129901

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-06-01

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

Contact

Address 15 Ellesmere Road
Culcheth
Warrington
WA3 4BJ

Phone +01925765875

Email lindajbloomfield@yahoo.co.uk

Website <http://www.methodist.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: The provision and support to members & non members of: public acts of worship, teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses & small groups, pastoral work to the sick and bereaved, youth club facilities and youth workers for the local area (with extra financial support from other bodies), disabled persons club, and meeting space for many internal and external social activities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, 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.
- Warrington

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£74,906	£64,092	-	-
2024-08-31	£82,327	£76,756	-	-
2023-08-31	£74,474	£65,176	-	-
2022-08-31	£73,965	£82,625	-	-
2021-08-31	£119,480	£114,640	-	-
2020-08-31	£105,673	£107,231	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
AMY ELIZABETH DRIVER		2013-06-19
CHRISTINE ANN PATHMARAJAH		2016-09-01
DAPHNE EASTBURN		
David William Ogilvy		2018-09-01
Elizabeth Ferguson Soehren		2019-06-23
Janette Christine Hutchinson		2018-10-09
Jon Purcell		2024-10-29
Joyce Daniels		2023-07-02
Joyce Liliias McComb		2022-10-06
Julie Mainwaring		2018-09-01
Phillip David Harrison		2019-06-23
RODERICK REDPATH MARR		
Rev Katharine Joyce Bland		2020-09-01
Rev Wilfred Robinson		2025-09-01
Susan Carol Sherratt		2022-04-04
THOMAS ASHLEY HUTCHINSON		2011-10-21
Thomas John Martin		2021-09-01

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129901

Accounts

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH
Charity Number 1129901
Ellesmere Road, Warrington. WA3 4BS
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
1st SEPTEMBER 2024 to 31st AUGUST 2025

TRUSTEES WHO MANAGED THE CHARITY DURING THE YEAR

Trustee Name	Office(s) which relate to ex-officio membership	Dates acted (if not for whole year)	Name of body entitled to appoint trustee
Rev Wilfred Robinson	Superintendent Minister and Chair		Ex- Officio
Thomas Martin	Circuit Steward Representative		Ex-Officio
David Ogilvy	Steward		Ex-Officio
Joyce McComb	Steward		Ex-Officio
Ashley Hutchinson			Church Meeting
Janette Hutchinson	Secretary of the Pastoral Committee		Ex-Officio
Roddy Marr			Church Meeting
Elizabeth Soehren	Steward		Ex-Officio
Daphne Eastburn			Church Meeting
Amy Driver	Steward		Ex-Officio
Christine Pathmarajah			Church Meeting
Julie Mainwaring			Church Meeting
Elizabeth Ann Marr			Church Meeting
Phil Harrison			Church Meeting
Joyce Daniels			Church Meeting
Susan Carol Sherratt	Treasurer		Ex-Officio
Caroline Fillery	Steward		Ex-Officio
Jon Purcell	Church Council Secretary		Ex-Officio

NAME AND ADDRESSES OF ADVISERS CONSULTED BY THE TRUSTEES

None were consulted during the year

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts;

The governing document is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976) and the charity is constituted by Act of Parliament. Some trustees are ex-officio, up to 15 are appointed by the existing trustees and up to 15 may be appointed by the General Church Meeting. The Circuit Meeting appoints a Circuit Steward to be an ex-officio member.

Induction and Training for Trustees

A range of guidance produced by the Charity Commission and the Methodist Connexion is issued to new trustees including the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in the Methodist Church' and they are offered the support of the Meeting Secretary. They also receive a copy of the previous year's audited accounts and key policies such as 'Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults'. They can seek the advice of the Chair or Council Secretary at any time and have the professional resources of the national church to call upon.

Structure.

The Church is part of the Leigh and Hindley Circuit which in turn is part of the North West England District and is accountable to the annual Methodist Conference. It is likely that the current Circuit structure will be reviewed by the District in the near future.

The Trustees of the Church work together in the Church Council which has leadership and oversight of all aspects of the Church's work and activities. The Council is chaired by the Presbyter (Minister) with pastoral charge of the church

The Council appoints a Treasurer to advise it on financial matters and the members of the church, at the annual General Church Meeting, appoint stewards. There are five stewards who are part of the team working with the Presbyter for giving leadership and help over the full range of the church's activities and to hold in unity the variety of concerns that are contained within the whole ministry of the church. This team also includes the Treasurer and the Pastoral Secretary.

From time to time specific responsibilities are delegated to the Stewards or other groups.

The ten churches of the Circuit work closely together within "hubs" which regularly share worship and fellowship activities. Increasingly hubs are looking to see if they can share any roles. Culcheth, together with Glazebury Methodist Church, forms the South Hub. Whilst the two churches remain independent organisations there are regular joint leadership team meetings which identify how the two churches can enhance their worship and missions by closer working and increase their fellowship. This year the two churches have combined their notice-sheets and worship in each building on alternate Sundays

Identification and Management of Risks

A major risk to the Church is its **Financial Viability**. This is because we have a reducing and aging membership so reliable regular giving is down and opportunities for fundraising have remained constrained by the availability of volunteers to manage them. While many in the congregation have given generously to compensate for this, the financial prospects of the church remain limited and unpredictable.

The Trustees have sought to reduce expenditure with limited spend on non-essential matters and recently cleaning costs were reduced by the redundancy of two part time cleaning posts with the work now being undertaken by Volunteers. In this year the church has started to feel the impact of this considerable reduction in costs

The key risk management actions during the year were the;

- continuation of the policy that no major expenditure should be made without the authority of the treasurer with prior Council awareness and, if required, discussion of the need for the expenditure.
- detailed financial reporting and projections to every Council Meeting
- reduction in non-essential expenditure and the requirement that any non-routine expenditure over £50 should be discussed with the treasurer beforehand
- Increased lettings fees to user groups
- The opening of a new bank account more appropriate to the church's needs and allows online access and more detailed management of the account.

A further risk is **Safeguarding** of children, young people and vulnerable adults who are members or use the church's facilities. The controls to manage any risk to them include:

- Application of the statutory procedures relating to churches for the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults such as Disclosure and Barring checks
- Annual updating and audit of the church's safeguarding policy using the model recommended by the Methodist Church.
- Following the Procedures and Practices laid down by the Methodist Church
- Mandatory training sessions for those involved in work with children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- Equality Diversity and Inclusion awareness training for all role holders and trustees
- Appointment of a safeguarding coordinator who has access to the trustees and to advice from the District and Connexion's professional Safeguarding Officers.
- Mandatory Safeguarding reporting to the trustees at every Council meeting

Health and Safety (H&S) is a possible major area of risk for the church; Trustees' responsibilities are wide and extend to church members, worshippers and the many community groups which use the building. Risk management initiatives include;

- The routine annual inspection of the building and safety arrangements which includes the input of the church's Safeguarding Officer.
- A quinquennial building audit carried out by an independent body which took place the previous year
- The registration of the kitchen with Warrington Borough Council and attendance by volunteers at a Food Safety course
- The requirement that the leaders of all Church events and initiatives draw up a risk assessment for their activity which also includes a safeguarding risk assessment.

- Replacement of faulty Fire doors

The Church is subject to the requirements of the **General Data Protection Regulations** (GDPR). At the initiation of the new procedures Council agreed a policy and procedures in line with national Methodist model and significant work was undertaken to ensure that the requirements of the Act are being met. Risk management includes;

- The trustees' commitment to an annual review of the operation of the policy which is monitored by the District and the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- (b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- (c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- (d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN RELATION TO THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS.

- The church building is available for booking by community groups and for family parties etc. It is home to a Tuesday Tots gathering (which is supported by church volunteers) and a preschool Nursery both of which are much appreciated by the local community. It also hosts Scouts, Guides, Brownies and a yoga group. Recent lettings have been to the University of the Third Age offering an IT literacy course to the community and to a Baby Ballet class.
- The church's pastoral support system and activities have included members of the local community not just church members. Outreach in our local care home includes craft work, gardening as well as leading worship.
- The community garden continues to be successful as a source of; great pleasure for our neighbours and passers-by, our Uniformed Organisations participate in the upkeep, learning is provided for the pre-school children and produce is available for the community especially those living in retirement apartments close to the church who do not have a garden.
- The church's welcome area which is open to all when the building is open is well used. Activities attended by many in the community include;
 - A monthly Meeting Point gathering with invited speakers,
 - A Monday prayer group and coffee morning
 - Saturday Morning Coffee gatherings and seasonal 'Soup Meals' which are open to and used by the wider community.
 - Being used as a gathering place by families whose children attend events and the nursery in the church.

- The church and its community, continues to support the local Food Bank, the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal, Christian Aid week and Warrington Youth For Christ.
- The church is open to all for weddings, funerals and baptisms as, of course, is its worship and fellowship activities. Special services such as those for Mother's Day, an annual Memorial Service, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and the Carol Service are all well attended and appreciated by the wider community
- The church is the place of refuge for Twiss Green Primary School and hosts their annual carol service
- The church's Hearts & Hands craft Group is also open to everyone with some non-church young people attending.
- As in all Methodist Churches office holders have started to undertake mandatory awareness training in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) matters in a bid to make our community work and worship activities more affirming and supportive of all.
- In response to a request from the church the Parish Council has provided funding to assist in the relocation of the defibrillator (funded by the Scouts) to an outside wall to make it available to the whole community not just users of the building
- The church hosts various local groups for the village annual Christmas Fair
- The Council is actively seeking ways, in accord with the Charity's objectives, to utilise currently uncommitted funds raised for youth work.

Despite the challenges of reducing membership and funds the trustees confirm and demonstrate through these activities that they have taken account of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Accounts were approved at the Council's meeting on 28th October 2025 together with the Reserves Policy. These are appended.

LEGAL OBLIGATION

The Trustees confirm that they are aware of their obligations with regard to the reporting of critical incidents and that there have been no such incidents to report.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY'S TRUSTEES:

Wilfred Robinson

Reverend Wilfred Robinson
Chair

Dated: 11th June 2026

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

CULCHETH	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2025

Leigh and Hindley	Circuit	Circuit no.	06/07
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129901

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:

Revd Katharine Bland

Church Stewards:

David Ogilvy
Amy Driver
Elizabeth Soehren
Joyce McComb
Caroline Fillery-Brown

Treasurer:

Carol Sherratt

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

CULCHETH

Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
	Note				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	44,095		44,095	60,662
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	398	772	1,170	1,056
a4	Lettings	20,892		20,892	14,493
a5	Other receipts	8,749		8,749	6,116
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	74,134	772	74,906 (a7)	82,327
SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	43,786		43,786	42,807
b3	Donations	600	450	1,050	300
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	6,827		6,827	9,535
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	10,388		10,388	12,087
b6	Cleaning	40		40	7,435
b7	Other payments	2,001		2,001	4,592
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	63,642	450	64,092 (b9)	76,756
SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)			
		10,492	322	10,814	5,571
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	58,058	663	58,721 (c6)	53,150
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)			
		68,550	985	69,535	58,721
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)			
		68,550	985	69,535 (c8)	58,721 (c6)

SECTION D			
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures)	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	1,036	768
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	1,036	768

CULCHETH Church

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						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					(e11)	(e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	74,906 (a7)	64,092 (b9)	10,814	(c7)	58,721 (c6)	69,535 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	74,906	64,092	10,814		58,721 (x)	69,535 (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		
f2 Bank Current Account	39,640	39,701
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	19,081	29,834
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	58,721 (c6)	69,535 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	58,721 (x)	69,535 (y)

SECTION G OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,724,801	2,724,801
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		

Name of Church Culcheth

06/07

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 *S. C. Sherratt* Date *28.10.25*

Name and address of treasurer *SUSAN CAROL SHERRATT*

85 ANDERSON CLOSE PADGATE WARRINGTON Post Code *WAZ 0PD*

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

M. J. R.
Rw. Wilfred Robinson Date *28th Oct 25*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

CULCHETH METHODIST Church

Charity Number *1129901*

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the *CULCHETH METHODIST* Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages *1* to *5*. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Name of Church Culcheth

06/07

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 Thomas H McComb BAce CA

Name of independent examiner THOMAS H McComb

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner CA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 31 Doxford Close, Culcheth, WARRINGTON

Post Code WA3 4DL

Date 21 October 2025

* delete or circle as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of

Culcheth

(*Church Council)

To

Leigh and Hindley

(*Circuit Meeting)

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

Culcheth Methodist Church

(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

1. General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/25	£52,160
2. Restricted Funds held "	£17,376
3. Endowment Funds held "	£0

4. Reserves policy for General Funds

Reserves are needed to maintain cashflow throughout the year and cover risk. Our risks are ABC income and Quinquennial repairs. ABC are still adapting to their financial situation and if they were to close this would have a big impact on the church's income. There are still repairs to be undertaken from the 2024 Quinquennial report, but the main risk is the roof on the hall which could require replacement at any time in view of its age. General funds held cover 82% of next year's forecast expenditure.

5. Policy for Restricted Funds

Any grants received for specific purposes will only be used for those purposes.

Property Grant Fund The fund at the end of August 2025 was £1,720. This includes funds for the Community Garden.

Youth Work Fund The fund at the end of the year was £15,656. Church Council should consider how best to make use of these funds, which are growing with interest.

6. Terms relating to Endowment Funds held

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

CULCHETH METHODIST

(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name Susan Carol Sherratt	Full Name Rev. Wilfred Robinson
Signature S.C Sherratt	Signature W.R

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

CULCHETH	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
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CULCHETH

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CULCHETH Church

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g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		

Name of Church Culcheth

06/07

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 *S. C. Sherratt* Date *28.10.25*

Name and address of treasurer *SUSAN CAROL SHERRATT*

85 ANDERSON CLOSE PADGATE WARRINGTON Post Code *WAZ 0PD*

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 *M. J. R.*

Name of the Chair of the meeting *Rw. Wilfred Robinson* Date *28th Oct 25*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

CULCHETH METHODIST Church

Charity Number *1129901*

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the *CULCHETH METHODIST* Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages *1* to *5*. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Name of Church Culcheth

06/07

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 Thomas H McComb BAAC CA

Name of independent examiner THOMAS H McComb

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner CA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 31 Doxford Close, Culcheth, WARRINGTON

Post Code WA3 4DL

Date 21 October 2025

* delete or circle as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of

Culcheth

(*Church Council)

To

Leigh and Hindley

(*Circuit Meeting)

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

Culcheth Methodist Church

(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

1. General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/25	£52,160
2. Restricted Funds held "	£17,376
3. Endowment Funds held "	£0

4. Reserves policy for General Funds

Reserves are needed to maintain cashflow throughout the year and cover risk. Our risks are ABC income and Quinquennial repairs. ABC are still adapting to their financial situation and if they were to close this would have a big impact on the church's income. There are still repairs to be undertaken from the 2024 Quinquennial report, but the main risk is the roof on the hall which could require replacement at any time in view of its age.
 General funds held cover 82% of next year's forecast expenditure.

5. Policy for Restricted Funds

Any grants received for specific purposes will only be used for those purposes.

Property Grant Fund The fund at the end of August 2025 was £1,720. This includes funds for the Community Garden.

Youth Work Fund The fund at the end of the year was £15,656. Church Council should consider how best to make use of these funds, which are growing with interest.

6. Terms relating to Endowment Funds held

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

CULCHETH METHODIST

(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name Susan Carol Sherratt	Full Name Rev. Wilfred Robinson
Signature S.C Sherratt	Signature W.R

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129901

Accounts

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH
Charity Number 1129901
Ellesmere Road, Warrington. WA3 4BS
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
1st SEPTEMBER 2023 to 31st AUGUST 2024

TRUSTEES WHO MANAGED THE CHARITY DURING THE YEAR

Trustee Name	Office(s) which relate to ex-officio membership	Dates acted (if not for whole year)	Name of body entitled to appoint trustee
Rev Katharine Bland	Presbyter and Chair		Ex Officio
Thomas Martin	Circuit Steward Representative		Ex-officio
David Ogilvy	Steward		Ex-officio
Joyce McComb	Steward		Ex-Officioort
Ashley Hutchinson			Church Meeting
Janette Hutchinson	Secretary of the Pastoral Committee		Ex Officio
Roddy Marr			Church Meeting
Elizabeth Soehren	Steward		Ex Officio
Daphne Eastburn			Church Meeting
Amy Driver	Steward		Ex Officio
Christine Pathmarajah			Church Meeting
Julie Mainwaring			Church Meeting
Elizabeth Ann Marr			Church Meeting
Phil Harrison			Church Meeting
Joyce Daniels			Church Meeting
Susan Carol Sherratt	Treasurer		Ex Officio

NAME AND ADDRESSES OF ADVISERS CONSULTED BY THE TRUSTEES

None consulted in the year

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts;

The governing document is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976) and the charity is constituted by Act of Parliament. Some trustees are ex-officio, up to 15 are appointed by the existing trustees and up to 15 may be appointed by the General Church Meeting. The Circuit Meeting appoints a Circuit Steward to be an ex-officio member.

Induction and Training for Trustees

A range of guidance produced by the Charity Commission and the Methodist Connexion is issued to new trustees including the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in the Methodist Church' and they are offered the support of the Meeting Secretary. They also receive a copy of the previous year's audited accounts and key policies such as Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults. They can seek the advice of the Chair or Council Secretary at any time and have the professional resources of the national church to call upon.

Structure.

The Church is part of the Leigh and Hindley Circuit which in turn is part of the Bolton and Rochdale Methodist District and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. In the new year (from September 2024) all Districts in the northwest will be combined into one; the North West England District. The Circuit structure is also under review.

The Trustees of the Church work together in the Church Council which has leadership and oversight of all aspects of the Church's work. The Council is chaired by the Presbyter with pastoral charge of the church

The Council appoints a Treasurer to advise it on financial matters and the members of the church, at the annual General Church Meeting, appoint stewards. There are four stewards who are part of the team working with the presbyter for giving leadership and help over the full range of the church's activities and to hold in unity the variety of concerns that are contained within the whole ministry of the church. This team also includes the Treasurer and the Pastoral Secretary.

From time to time specific responsibilities are delegated to the Stewards or other groups.

The ten churches of the Circuit work closely together within "hubs" which regularly share worship and fellowship activities. Increasingly hubs are looking to see if they can share any roles.

Culcheth, together with Glazebury Methodist Church, forms the South Hub. Whilst the two churches remain independent organisations there are regular joint leadership team meetings which identify how the two churches can enhance their worship and missions by closer working and increase their fellowship. This year the two churches have combined their notice-sheets and worship in each building on alternate Sundays

Identification and Management of Risks

A major risk to the Church is its **Financial Viability**. This is because we have a reducing membership so reliable regular giving is down and opportunities for fundraising have remained constrained by the availability of volunteers to manage them. While many in the congregation have given generously to compensate for this, the financial prospects of the church remain limited and unpredictable.

The Trustees have sought to reduce expenditure with limited spend on non-essential matters and in the previous year cleaning costs were reduced by the redundancy of two part time cleaning posts with the work now being undertaken by Volunteers. In this year the church has started to feel the impact of this considerable reduction in costs

The key risk management actions during the year were the;

- continuation of the policy that no major expenditure should be made without the authority of the treasurer with prior Council awareness and, if required, discussion of the need for the expenditure.
- detailed financial reporting and projections to every Council Meeting
- reduction in non-essential expenditure and the requirement that any non-routine expenditure over £50 should be discussed with the treasurer beforehand
- An increase in lettings fees to user groups
- The opening of a new bank account more appropriate to the church's needs and allowing online management.

A further risk is **Safeguarding** of young people and vulnerable adults who are members or use the church's facilities. The controls to manage any risk to them include:

- Application of the statutory procedures relating to churches for the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults such as Disclosure and Barring checks
- Annual updating and audit of the church's safeguarding policy using the model recommended by the Methodist Church.
- Following the Procedures and Practices laid down by the Methodist Church
- Mandatory training sessions for those involved in work with children and vulnerable adults.
- Equality Diversity and Inclusion awareness training for all role holders and trustees
- Appointment of a safeguarding coordinator who has access to the trustees and to advice from the Connexion's professional Safeguarding Officers.
- Mandatory Safeguarding reporting to the trustees at every Council meeting

Health and Safety (H&S) is a possible major area of risk for the church; Trustees' responsibilities are wide and extend to church members, worshippers and the many community groups which use the building. Risk management initiatives include;

- The routine annual inspection of the building and safety arrangements which includes the input of the church's Safeguarding Officer.
- A quinquennial building audit carried out by an independent body which took place in this year
- The registration of the kitchen with Warrington Borough Council and attendance by volunteers at a Food Safety course
- The requirement that the leaders of all Church events and initiatives draw up a risk assessment for their activity which also includes a safeguarding risk assessment.

- The safety and integrity of the property are regularly monitored and any necessary remedial/improvement work is implemented.

The Church is subject to the requirements of the **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**. At the outset of the new procedures Council agreed a policy and procedures in line with national Methodist model and significant work was undertaken to ensure that the requirements of the Act are being met. Risk management includes;

- The trustees' commitment to an annual review of the operation of the policy which is monitored by the District. Some minor shortcomings have been identified and will be addressed.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- (b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- (c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- (d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN RELATION TO THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS.

- The church building is available for booking by community groups and for family parties etc. It is home to a Tuesday Tots gathering (which is supported by church volunteers) and a preschool (ABC) both of which are much appreciated by the local community. It also hosts Scouts, Guides, Brownies and a yoga group. Recent lettings include to a regular baby ballet class and to the University of the Third Age which is offering an IT literacy course to the community.
- The church's pastoral support system and activities have included members of the local community not just church members. Outreach in our local care home includes craft work, gardening as well as leading worship.
- The community garden continues to be successful as a source of; great pleasure for our neighbours and passers-by, learning for the pre-school children and produce for the community especially those living in retirement apartments close to the church who do not have a garden.
- The church's welcome area which is open to all when the building is open is well used. Activities attended by many in the community include;
 - A fortnightly Meeting Point gathering with invited speakers,
 - A fortnightly musical appreciation session
 - A Monday prayer group and coffee morning
 - Saturday Morning Coffee gatherings which are open to and used by the wider community.

- Being used as a gathering place by families whose children attend events and the nursery in the church.
- The church and its community, continues to support external charities such as the local Food Bank, the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal, Christian Aid week, All We Can, Warrington Youth for Christ and Action for Children. The Leadership Team is considering how the church might increase this charitable giving.
- The church is open to all for weddings, funerals and baptisms as, of course, is its worship and fellowship activities. Uniformed organisation take part in special services such as those for Mothering Sunday and the Harvest Festival. An annual Memorial Service and the Carol Service are well attended and appreciated by the wider community
- The church is the place of refuge for Twiss Green Primary School and hosts their annual carol service
- The church's Hearts & Hands craft Group is also open to everyone with some non-church young people attending.
- As in all Methodist Churches office holders have started to undertake mandatory awareness training in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) matters in a bid to make our community work and worship activities more affirming and supportive of all.
- In response to a request from the church the Parish Council has provided funding to assist in the relocation of the defibrillator (funded by the Scouts) to an outside wall to make it available to the whole community not just users of the building
- The church hosts various local groups for the villages' annual Christmas Fair
- The Council is actively seeking ways, in accord with the Charity's objectives, to utilise currently uncommitted funds raised for youth work now that it is unable to continue to fund a youth worker whose role extended into the local community and High School

Despite the challenges of reducing membership and funds the trustees confirm and demonstrate through these activities that they have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Accounts were approved by the Trustees on 10th January 2025 together with the Reserves Policy. These are appended.

LEGAL OBLIGATION

The Trustees confirm that they are aware of their obligations with regard to the reporting of critical incidents and that there have been no such incidents.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY'S TRUSTEES:



Reverend Katharine Bland

Date 29th January 2025

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

CULCHETH	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2024

Leigh and Hindley	Circuit	Circuit no.	06/07
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129901

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:

Revd Katharine Bland

Church Stewards:

David Ogilvy
Amy Driver
Elizabeth Soehren
Joyce McComb

Treasurer:

Carol Sherratt

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
	Note				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	60,662		60,662 ✓	52,586
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	282	774	1,056 ✓	687
a4	Lettings	14,493		14,493 ✓	12,013
a5	Other receipts	5,766	350	6,116 ✓	9,188
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	81,203	1,124	82,327 (a7)	74,474

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	42,807		42,807	42,807
b3	Donations	300		300	300
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	9,535		9,535	4,102
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	12,087		12,087	8,250
b6	CLEANERS	7,435		7,435	7,303
b7	Other payments	3,082	1,510	4,592	2,414
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	75,246	1,510	76,756 (b9)	65,176

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(b9)	5,571	9,298
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	52,101	1,049	53,150 (c6)	43,852
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	663	58,721	53,150
c4	Transfers and adjustments				
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	663	58,721 (c8)	53,150 (c6)

SECTION D		£	£
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	768	575
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	768	575
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)	

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

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

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

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds				(e11)	(e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	82,327 (a7)	76,756 (b9)	5,571	53,150 (c6)	58,721 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	82,327	76,756	5,571	53,150 (x)	58,721 (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 2024	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand	
f2	Bank Current Account	35,370
f3	Bank Deposit Account	
f4	Central Finance Board	17,780
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	
f6	Other funds	
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	53,150 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	(e11)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	53,150 (x)
		58,721 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1	Investments (Include Endowments)	
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re insurance value)	2,724,801
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 . **Culcheth Methodist Church**

~~06-Jul~~ 06/07

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 S C Sherratt Date 15.10.24

Name and address of treasurer MRS S C SHERRATT 85 ANDERSON CLOSE
PADGATE WARRINGTON Post Code WA2 0PQ

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 

Name of the Chair of the meeting KATHARINE BLAND Date 10.1.25

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Culcheth Methodist Church

Charity Number . 1129901

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CULCHETH METHODIST Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 1 to 5. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH No 1129901
Circuit No 06107

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 Thomas H Mc Comb BAcc CA.

Name of independent examiner THOMAS H Mc Comb

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner BAcc CA.

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 3, DOEFORD CLOSE, CULCHETH WA3 4DL

Post Code WA3 4DL

Date 29 October 2024.

* delete or circle as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of

Culcheth
(*Church Council/ Circuit Meeting/District)

To

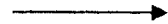
Leigh and Hindley
(*Circuit Meeting/District)

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

Culcheth Methodist Church Council

(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

1. General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/24	£39,640
2. Restricted Funds held "	£1,950
3. Designated Funds held "	£17,131

4. Reserves policy for General Funds

The Reserves Policy is needed to maintain cashflow throughout the year and unexpected expenditure should the church have to consider closure. The Pre-school group which operates on the premises are experiencing financial difficulties and if they were to close this would have a big impact on the church's income. The Reserves should remain at £32,000.

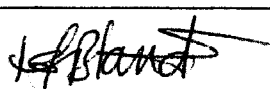
5. Policy for Designated and Restricted Funds

Any grants received for specific purposes will only be used for those purposes.
Youth Work Fund (Designated) The fund at the end of the year was £15,409. Discussion about how to best utilise these funds is with Church Council as a Youth Worker is no longer employed.
Property Grant Fund (Restricted and Designated) The fund at the end of August 2024 was £1,950. This includes funds for the Community Garden.
A modest amount is also held for the Benevolence Fund

6. Terms relating to Endowment Funds held

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name Mrs Susan Carol Sherratt	Full Name KATHARINE BLAND
Signature S. C Sherratt	Signature 

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129901

Accounts

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH
 Charity Number 1129901
 Ellesmere Road, Warrington. WA3 4BS
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
1st SEPTEMBER 2022 to 31st AUGUST 2023

TRUSTEES WHO MANAGED THE CHARITY DURING THE YEAR

Trustee Name	Office(s) which relate to ex-officio membership	Dates acted (if not for whole year)	Name of body entitled to appoint trustee
Rev Katharine Bland	Presbyter and Chair		Ex Officio
Thomas Martin	Circuit Steward Representative		Ex-officio
David Ogilvy	Steward		Ex-officio
Ashley Hutchinson			Church Meeting
Janette Hutchinson	Secretary of the Pastoral Committee		Ex Officio
Roddy Marr			Church Meeting
Elizabeth Soehren	Steward		Ex Officio
Daphne Eastburn			Church Meeting
Amy Driver	Steward		Ex Officio
Christine Pathmarajah			Church Meeting
Dave Soehren		Resigned 2 nd July 2023	Trustees
Julie Mainwaring			Church Meeting
Elizabeth Ann Marr			Church Meeting
Phil Harrison			Church Meeting
Joyce Daniels		Appointed 2 nd July 2023	Church Meeting
Susan Carol Sherratt	Treasurer		Ex Officio

NAME AND ADDRESSES OF ADVISERS CONSULTED BY THE TRUSTEES

None consulted in the year

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts;

The governing document is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976) and the charity is constituted by Act of Parliament. Some trustees are ex-officio, up to 15 are appointed by the existing trustees and up to 15 may be appointed by the General Church Meeting

Induction and Training for Trustees

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Structure.

The Church is part of the Leigh and Hindley Circuit which in turn is part of the Bolton and Rochdale Methodist District and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. The Trustees work together in the Church Council which has leadership and oversight of all aspects of the Church's work. From time to time specific responsibilities are delegated to the Stewards or other groups.

The churches of the Circuit work closely together within "hubs" which regularly share worship and fellowship activities. It is hoped that increasingly they may share some governance arrangements. Culcheth works with Glazebury Methodist Church in the South Hub and there are regular joint leadership team meetings.

As all churches and circuits face the same challenges of diminishing congregations and fewer ministers many outside the Leigh and Hindley Circuit are viewing its Hub Initiative with great interest.

Identification and Management of Risks

A major risk to the Church is its **Financial Viability**. This is because we have a reducing membership so reliable regular giving is down and opportunities for fundraising have remained constrained by the availability of volunteers. While many in the congregation have given generously to compensate for this, the financial prospects of the church remain limited and unpredictable.

The Trustees have sought to reduce expenditure with limited spend on non-essential matters and cleaning costs have been reduced by the redundancy of two part time cleaning posts with the work now being undertaken by Volunteers..

The key risk management actions put in place during the year were the;

- continuation of the policy that no major expenditure should be made without the authority of the treasurer with prior Council awareness and, if required, discussion of the need for the expenditure.
- detailed financial reporting and projections to every Council Meeting

- Reduction in non-essential expenditure and the requirement that any non-routine expenditure over £50 should be discussed with the treasurer beforehand
- An increase in lettings fees to user groups

A further risk is **Safeguarding** of young people and vulnerable adults who are members or use the church's facilities. The controls to manage any risk to them include:

- Application of the statutory procedures relating to churches for the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults such as Disclosure and Barring checks
- Annual updating and audit of the church's safeguarding policy using the model recommended by the Methodist Church.
- Following the Procedures and Practices laid down by the Methodist Church
- Mandatory training sessions for those involved in work with children and vulnerable adults.
- Appointment of a safeguarding coordinator who has access to the trustees and to advice from the Connexion's professional Safeguarding Officers.
- Mandatory Safeguarding reporting to the trustees at every Council meeting

Health and Safety (H&S) is a possible major area of risk for the church; Trustees' responsibilities are wide and extend to church members, worshippers and the many community groups which use the building. Risk management initiatives include;

- The routine annual inspection of the building and safety arrangements which includes the input of the church's Safeguarding Officer.
- A quinquennial building audit carried out by an independent body
- The registration of the kitchen with Warrington Borough Council and attendance by volunteers at a Food Safety course
- The attendance by volunteers at a First Aid course
- The requirement that the leaders of all Church events and initiatives draw up a risk assessment for their activity which also includes a safeguarding risk assessment.

The Church is subject to the requirements of the **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**. In previous years it has agreed a policy in line with national Methodist model and significant work was undertaken to ensure that the requirements of the Act are being met. Risk management includes;

- The trustees' commitment to an annual review of the operation of the policy which is monitored by the District. Some minor shortcomings have been identified and will be addressed.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- (b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- (c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;

- (d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

**SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT
IN RELATION TO THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS.**

- The church building is available for booking by community groups and for family parties etc. It is home to a Tuesday Tots gathering (which is supported by church volunteers) and a preschool both of which are much appreciated by the local community. It also hosts Scouts, Guides, Brownies and a yoga group.
- The church's pastoral support system and activities have included members of the local community not just church members. Outreach in our local care home includes craft work as well as worship.
- The community garden continues to be successful as a source of; great pleasure for our neighbours and passers-by, learning for the pre-school children and produce for the community especially those living in retirement apartments close to the church who do not have a garden.
- The church's relatively new welcome area which is open to all is well used. Activities include a monthly Meeting Point gathering with invited speakers, a prayer group and Monday and Saturday Morning Coffee gatherings which are open to and used by the wider community. The space is appreciated by families whose children attend events and the nursery in the church as a welcoming place to gather. During the year there have been various "Warm Space" initiatives to help in the cost of living crisis.
- The church and its community, continues to support the local Food Bank, the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal and Christian Aid week. Its Open Gardens" event attracted visitors from far and wide and raised £5,000 to be split between St Rocco's Hospice and church funds
- The church is open to all for weddings, funerals and baptisms as, of course, is its worship and fellowship activities. Special services such as those for Mother's day, an annual Memorial Service and the Carol Service are well attended and appreciated by the wider community
- The church is the place of refuge for Twiss Green Primary School and hosts their annual carol service
- In the aftermath of the tragic death of Brianna Ghey the church was open for refreshments and support for those attending the Vigil in the village at which our Minister was invited to speak. Lots of people came in to the church including many members of the LGBTQ+ community who were thankful for their warm welcome. Tthe following week the church was open and staffed for people to come for conversation or quiet time and sign a book of condolence which has been given to the family. Relationships are being built with some individuals and groups to whom the church hopes to provide some support in the future
- As in all Methodist Churches office holders have started to undertake mandatory awareness training in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) matters in a bid to make our community work and worship activities more affirming and supportive of all.
- In liaison with Youth for Christ and volunteers from other churches we arranged a Youth Mission Day on the village green. This was well attended by a wide range of young people with free food and activities including a football cage and crafts
- Recognising the different needs of our community for support and spiritual and faith matters the church has widened the range of worship and reflection activities to

include Monday morning prayers, "Take Time" and joining in the alternative "18.30" Sunday evening worship as well as continuing "Wine, Women and Wonder". These initiatives serve people from outside the traditional church community.

- With the help of Alzheimer's UK the church has conducted a dementia audit of the property to try to make the building more accessible and safe for those living with dementia. An action plan has been put in place to address some minor improvements.
- The church is exploring funding options to reposition the defibrillator (funded by the Scouts) to an outside wall to make it available to the whole community not just users of the building

Despite the challenges of reducing membership and funds the trustees confirm and demonstrate through these activities that they have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Accounts were approved at the Council's meeting on 5th March 2024 together with the Reserves Policy.

These are appended.

LEGAL OBLIGATION

The Trustees confirm that they are aware of their obligations with regard to the reporting of critical incidents and that there have been no such incidents.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY'S TRUSTEES:



Reverend Katharine Bland
Chair

5th March 2024

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Culcheth	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2023

Leigh & Hindley	Circuit	Circuit no.	06/07
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129901

If not a registered charity Her 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:

Revd Katharine Bland

Church Stewards:

David Ogilvy
Amy Driver
Elizabeth Soehren
Joyce McComb

Treasurer:

Carol Sherratt

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	52,586		52,586	54,746
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	187	500	687	95
a4	Lettings	12,013		12,013	11,711
a5	Other receipts	7,581	1,607	9,188	7,413
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	72,367	2,107	74,474 (a7)	73,965

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	42,807		42,807	42,807
b3	Donations	300		300	
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	4,102		4,102	4,222
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	8,250		8,250	8,301
b6	Employment Costs	7,303		7,303	25,337
b7	Other payments	1,346	1,068	2,414	1,958
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	64,108	1,068	65,176 (b9)	82,625

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
		£	£	£	£	
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	8,259	1,039	9,298	(8,660)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	43,842	10	43,852 (c6)	52,512	
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	52,101	1,049	53,150	43,852
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	52,101	1,049	53,150 (c8)	43,852 (c6)

SECTION D		£	£
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	575	1,090
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	575	1,090
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID		
	(d1+d2-d3)		

NOTES

Description

- 1 Restricted Fund Interest relates to Youth Fund
- 2 Miscellaneous Income includes Refund of £1,700 from E.On Credit on Gas account when Contract ceased.

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										
e2										
e3										
e4										
e5										
e6										
e7										
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds							(e11)		(e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)		74,474 (a7)	65,176 (b9)	9,298	(c7)	43,852 (c6)		53,150 (c8)	
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH		74,474	65,176	9,298		43,852 (x)		53,150 (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	
f2	Bank Current Account	25,558
f3	Bank Deposit Account	
f4	Central Finance Board	18,294
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	
f6	Other funds	
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	43,852 (c6)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	(e11)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	43,852 (x)
		53,150 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,315,000
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 CULCHETH No. 06/07

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 S. C Sherratt Date 9.11.23

Name and address of treasurer MRS S C SHERRATT 85 ANDERSON CLOSE
PADGATE, WARRINGTON Post Code WA2 0PQ

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 5th March 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting KATHARINE J. BAND Date 18.2.24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

CULCHETH METHODIST Church

Charity Number 1129901

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CULCHETH METHODIST Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 1 to 5. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church ... CULCHETH METHODIST No 06/07

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 Thomas H McComb B Acc CA

Name of independent examiner THOMAS H MC COMB

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner CA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 31 Doeford Close, CULCHETH

..... Post Code WAB 4DL

Date 14 December 2023

* delete or circle as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of

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

To

Leigh and Hindley Circuit
 (*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

Culcheth Methodist Church Council

(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

1. General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/23	£35,370
2. Restricted Funds held “	£2,564
3. Designated Funds held “	£15,216

4. Reserves policy for General Funds

The Reserves Policy is needed to help smooth payments which are not spread evenly throughout the year, taking into account likely income. Reserves of 6 months expenditure is what has been aimed for in the past. Based on expenditure reported last year, this would be £32,000. (Whilst the cleaners ceased to work during the 2022/2023 year, the redundancy payment was paid out in October 2023, meaning that expenditure for 2023/24 will be similar to 2022/23). The quinquennial inspection is due this summer and reserves will have to be used for any remedial works that are identified. For these reasons the reserves should remain at £32,000.

5. Policy for Designated and Restricted Funds

Any grants received for specific purposes will only be used for those purposes.

Youth Work Fund (Designated) The fund at the end of the year was £14,885. Discussion about how to utilise these funds is with Church Council as a Youth Worker is no longer employed.

Property Grant Fund (Restricted and Designated) The fund at the end of August 2023 stood at £2,895. This includes funds for the community garden.

A modest amount is also held for the **Benevolence Fund**.

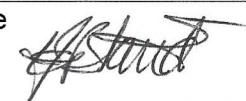
6. Terms relating to Endowment Funds held

[Empty box for terms relating to Endowment Funds held]

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

Culcheth Methodist Church Council

(*Church Council /Circuit Meeting /District)

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name Mrs Susan Carol Sherratt	Full Name KATHARINE J. BLAND
Signature S.C Sherratt	Signature 

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129901

Accounts

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH
 Charity Number 1129901
 Ellesmere Road, Warrington. WA3 4BS
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
 1st SEPTEMBER 2021 to 31st AUGUST 2022

TRUSTEES WHO MANAGED THE CHARITY DURING THE YEAR

Trustee Name	Office(s) which relate to ex-officio membership	Dates acted (if not for whole year)	Name of body entitled to appoint trustee
Rev Katharine Bland	Presbyter and Chair		Ex Officio
Thomas Martin	Circuit Steward Representative	Appointed 01/09/2021	Ex-officio
David Ogilvy	Steward		Ex-officio
Ashley Hutchinson			Trustees
Janette Hutchinson	Secretary of the Pastoral Committee		Ex Officio
Roddy Marr	Property Steward		Ex Officio
Elizabeth Soehren	Steward		Ex Officio
Daphne Eastburn			Church Meeting
Amy Driver	Steward		Ex Officio
Christine Pathmarajah			Church Meeting
Dave Soehren			Trustees
Julie Mainwaring			Church Meeting
Elizabeth Ann Marr			Church Meeting
Phil Harrison			Church Meeting
Rachel Slater	Steward	Resigned 31/08/2022	Ex Officio
David Slater	Steward Treasurer	Resigned 14/01/2022	Ex Officio
Susan Carol Sherratt	Treasurer	Appointed 04/04/2022	Ex Officio

NAME AND ADDRESSES OF ADVISERS CONSULTED BY THE TRUSTEES

Platt and Fishwicks. Solicitors
The Old Bank, 47 King Street, Wigan WN1 1DB

Pye Design. Architects.
29 Market St Hindley, Wigan WN2 3AE

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts;

The governing document is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976) and the charity is constituted by Act of Parliament. Some trustees are ex-officio, up to 15 are appointed by the existing trustees and up to 15 may be appointed by the General Church Meeting

Induction and Training for Trustees

A range of guidance produced by the Charity Commission and the Methodist Connexion is issued to new trustees including the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in the Methodist Church' and they are offered the support of the Meeting Secretary. They also receive a copy of the previous year's audited accounts and key policies such as Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults. They can seek the advice of the Chair or Council Secretary at any time and have the professional resources of the national church to call upon.

Structure.

The Church is part of the Leigh and Hindley Circuit which in turn is part of the Bolton and Rochdale Methodist District and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. The Trustees work together in the Church Council which has leadership and oversight of all aspects of the Church's work. From time to time specific responsibilities are delegated to the Stewards.

Hub Working

Ministers are engaged by the Circuit and in 2021-2022 there were only two full time and a part time presbyters for this Circuit of 11 churches. In addition to the significant challenges of ministering to and leading worship in so many churches, as each is fully independent, there are 11 separate sets of governance requirements to lead as well. In the year the Circuit Leadership Team led a Vision event including all churches. A key decision was the grouping of churches into "hubs"; the immediate impact being greater sharing of some Sunday services in one church within the hub. This has reduced some pressure on Ministers and Local Preachers but challenges remain and in 2022-23 it is hoped that there will be even closer working between churches. Culcheth and Glazebury Methodist Churches comprise one hub. In the year there were some shared services and in the year ahead these will continue as will joint leadership team meetings to plan closer working together.

Identification and Management of Risks

A major risk to the Church is its **Financial Viability**. This is because we have a reducing membership so reliable regular giving is down and opportunities for fundraising have remained constrained by the after effects of Covid pandemic. While many in the

congregation have given generously to compensate for this, the financial prospects of the church remain limited and unpredictable.

The Trustees have sought to reduce expenditure with limited spend on non-essential matters and cleaning costs have been reduced by the reduction of 50% in the cleaners' hours.

During the first half of the year a new and inexperienced Treasurer was in post and he was supported by a small working group. Unfortunately he was unable to continue in the role and there was a period of some three months when the Church was without a Treasurer during which time the group continued to meet. We were extremely fortunate to appoint an experienced treasurer at the start of the 22-23 financial year and management and reporting to Council is now regular, accurate and with realistic forward projections.

The key risk management actions put in place during the year were the;

- continuation of the policy that that no expenditure could be made without Council discussion and the express authority of the Treasurer
- financial reporting to every Council Meeting
- Reduction in non-essential expenditure and the requirement that any expenditure over £50 had to be approved beforehand
- An increase of 9% in lettings fees and a proviso to user groups that these are likely to rise further

A further risk is **Safeguarding** of young people and vulnerable adults who are members or use the church's facilities. The controls to manage any risk to them include:

- Application of the statutory procedures relating to churches for the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults such as Disclosure and Barring checks
- Annual updating of the church's safeguarding policy using the model recommended by the Methodist Church.
- Following the Procedures and Practices laid down by the Methodist Church
- Mandatory training sessions for those involved in work with children and vulnerable adults.
- Appointment of a safeguarding coordinator who has access to the trustees and to advice from the Connexion's professional Safeguarding Officers.
- Mandatory Safeguarding reporting to the trustees at every Council meeting

Health and Safety (H&S) is a major risk for the church; Trustees' responsibilities are wide and extend to church members, worshippers and the many community groups which use the building. Risk management initiatives include;

- The routine annual inspection of the building and safety arrangements which includes the input of the church's Safeguarding Officer.
- A quinquennial building audit carried out by an independent body
- The registration of the kitchen with Warrington Borough Council and attendance by volunteers at a Food Safety course
- The attendance by volunteers at a First Aid course
- Working to improve the formality of the requirement that the leaders of all Church events and user groups draw up a risk assessment for their use of the building. This also should include a safeguarding risk assessment. During 2022-23 the church will work with the District to design templates and guidance for this requirement.

The Church is subject to the requirements of the **General Data Protection Regulations** (GDPR). In previous years it has agreed a policy in line with national Methodist model and significant work was undertaken to ensure that the requirements of the Act are being met. Risk management includes;

- The trustees' commitment to an annual review of the operation of the policy which is monitored by the District. Some minor shortcomings were identified and now that the church is returning to more normal activity attention needs to be given to these omissions

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- (b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- (c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- (d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN RELATION TO THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS.

Even though the restrictions of the pandemic were over there were ongoing effects on the church; in particular a number of members had become more frail and did not return to worship or church activities. Additionally community events were more limited, however we have continued to lead or support activities wherever possible. We can, therefore, confirm that the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

- The church building is available for booking by community groups and for childrens' parties etc. It is home to a Tuesday Tots gathering and preschool which are much appreciated by the local community. It also hosts Scouts and Guides.
- The church's pastoral support system, essential shopping and "keeping in touch" activities have included members of the local community not just church members. Outreach in our local care home includes craft work as well as worship.
- The church funded Youth Worker continued her work in the local high school which greatly valued her input to the curriculum and her support and mentoring of young people especially those at risk. She was also active on the streets of Culcheth in which activity she worked with volunteers from our and other churches. Sadly Hannah moved onto another role at the end of the year and will be greatly missed especially by the school. During 2022-23 the church will be reviewing how best to continue its commitment to support young people and families in our community especially in the context of reduced resources both people to help and monies.
- The long planned community garden continues to be successful as a source of great pleasure, learning for the pre-school children and garden produce for the community especially those living in retirement apartments close to the church who do not have a garden.

- The church's building work to create a "welcome" area open to all and a new fire escape was signed off by the Building Inspector and is in full use. Activities include a monthly Meeting Point gathering with invited speakers, a prayer group and Monday Morning Coffee which is open to all. The space is appreciated by families whose children attend events and nursery in the church as a welcoming place to gather. During 2022-23 we hope to start a "Warm Space" to help in the cost of living crisis.
- The church and its community, continues to support the local Food Bank, the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Appeal and Christian Aid week.
- The church is open to all for weddings, funerals and baptisms as, of course, is its worship and fellowship activities. Special services such as those for Mother's day, an annual Memorial service and the Carol Service were resumed and were well attended and appreciated by the community
- As part of ensuring that the church is an inclusive safe space for all people and after consultation of members on the national church's report "God in Love Unites Us" the Council voted that the Church would be registered for same sex marriage. Blessings may also be conducted.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

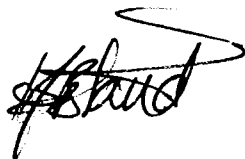
The Accounts were approved at the Council's meeting on 28th February 2023 together with the Reserves Policy.
These are appended.

LEGAL OBLIGATION

The Trustees confirm that they are aware of their obligations with regard to the reporting of critical incidents.

The Trustees declare that they have approved their report above at the Council's meeting on 28th February 2023

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY'S TRUSTEES:



Reverend Katharine Bland
Chair

28th February 2023

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Culcheth Methodist

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2022

Leigh & Hindley

Circuit

Circuit no.

06/07

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1129901

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

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

Minister:

Revd Katharine Bland

Church Stewards:

David Ogilvy

Amy Driver

Elizabeth Soerhen

Rachel Slater

David Slater (part year)

Treasurer:

David Slater (part Year) then Carol Sherratt

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	54,746		54,746	48,201
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	95		95	41
a4	Lettings	11,711		11,711	8,500
a5	Other receipts	1,163	6,250	7,413	62,738
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	67,715	6,250	73,965 (a7)	119,480

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	42,807		42,807	42,807
b3	Donations				
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	4,222		4,222	40,357
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	8,301		8,301	4,229
b6	Employment Costs-inc Grant Funded	11,583	13,754	25,337	25,550
b7	Other payments	1,780	178	1,958	1,697
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	68,693	13,932	82,625 (b9)	114,640

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
		£	£	£	£	
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(978)	(7,682)	(8,660)	4,840
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	44,820	7,692	52,512 (c6)	47,672	
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	43,842	10	43,852	52,512
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	43,842	10	43,852 (c8)	52,512 (c6)

SECTION D		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
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			1,090	200
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			1,090	200
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 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						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds				(e11)	(e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	73,965 (a7)	82,625 (b9)	(8,660)	52,512 (c6)	43,852 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	73,965	82,625	(8,660)	52,512 (x)	43,852 (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS			

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2022**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand	
f2	Bank Current Account	22,806
f3	Bank Deposit Account	
f4	Central Finance Board	29,706
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	
f6	Other funds	
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	52,512 (c6)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	(e11)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	52,512 (x)
		43,852 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,105,635
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 CULCHETH METHODIST 06/07

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 S C Sherratt Date 4.10.22

Name and address of treasurer: Mrs S C Sherratt, 85 Anderson Close,
..... Padgate, Warrington WA2 0PQ

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 KATHARINE BLAND Date 28/2/23

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

CULCHETH METHODIST Church

Charity Number 1129901

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CULCHETH METHODIST Church for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages 1 to 5. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

* delete or circle as appropriate

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 Thomas J Mc Comb BAcc CA.

Name of independent examiner THOMAS H Mc Comb

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner CA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 31 Doeford Close, CULCHETH

..... Post Code WA3 4DL

Date 13 November 2022

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-22

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of

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

To

Leigh and Hindley Circuit
 (*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

Culcheth Methodist Church Council

1. General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/22	£25,558
2. Restricted Funds held “	£1,141
3. Designated Funds held “	£17,153

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds**

The church aims to have 6 months of expenditure as reserves to cover our quarterly assessment, wages, monthly direct debits, general maintenance, unplanned and quinquennial jobs that are required; this equates to £34,400 based on expenditure during 2021/2022. At the end of that year, the cleaners' hours were halved. Rising inflation due to various world events has pushed the prices up of most commodities and this will affect the church's expenditure, particularly gas from April 2023 when the contract is due for renewal. Based on forecast our reserve should be £34,500.

5. **Policy for Designated and Restricted Funds**

Any grants received for specific purposes will only be used for those purposes.

Youth Work Fund (Designated) Youth work has been undertaken in the community funded by a Circuit grant and as part of the Well Project. The youth worker left our employ in July 2022. The fund stood at £13,448 at the end of 2021/2022. Discussion about how to utilise these funds is with Church Council.

Property Grant Fund (Restricted and Designated) The fund at the end of August 2022 stood at £4,546. Some of these funds are for the Community Garden Project which broke ground in the Spring of 2021.


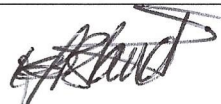
A modest amount is also held for the **Benevolence Fund**.

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

Not applicable

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

Culcheth Methodist Church Council

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name Mrs Susan Carol Sherratt	Full Name KATHARINE BLAND
Signature 	Signature 

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129901

Accounts

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH
Charity Number 1129901
Ellesmere Road, Warrington. WA3 4BS
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
1st SEPTEMBER 2020 to 31st AUGUST 2021

TRUSTEES WHO MANAGED THE CHARITY DURING 2020-21

Trustee Name	Office(s) which relate to ex-officio membership	Dates acted (if not for whole year)	Name of body entitled to appoint trustee
Rev Katharine Bland	Presbyter and Chair		Ex Officio
Viv Briney	Steward, Secretary to Pastoral Committee	Resigned 27/4/2021	Ex-officio
Linda Fish	Circuit Steward Representative	Resigned 18/6/2021	Ex-officio
Dave Briney	Steward	Resigned 27/4/2021	Ex-officio
David Ogilvy	Steward		Ex-officio
Ashley Hutchinson			Trustees
Janette Hutchinson	Secretary of the Pastoral Committee		Ex Officio
Jane Bushby		Resigned 31/8/2021	Trustees
Roddy Marr	Church Property Steward		Ex Officio
Elizabeth Soehren	Steward		Ex Officio
Elsbeth Brighton	Treasurer		Ex-officio
Daphne Eastburn			Church Meeting
Amy Driver	Steward		Ex Officio
Christine Pathmarajah			Church Meeting
Dave Soehren			Trustees
Julie Mainwaring			Church Meeting
Elizabeth Ann Marr			Church Meeting

Phil Harrison			Church Meeting
Rachel Slater	Steward	Appointed 17/3/2021	Ex Officio
David Slater	Steward	Appointed 17/3/2021	Ex Officio

NAME AND ADDRESSES OF ADVISERS CONSULTED BY THE TRUSTEES

Platt and Fishwicks. Solicitors
The Old Bank, 47 King Street, Wigan WN1 1DB

Pye Design. Architects.
29 Market St Hindley, Wigan WN2 3AE

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts;

The governing document is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976) and the charity is constituted by Act of Parliament. Some trustees are ex-officio, up to 15 are appointed by the existing trustees and up to 15 may be appointed by the General Church Meeting

Induction and Training for Trustees

A range of guidance produced by the Charity Commission and the Methodist Connexion is issued to new trustees including the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in the Methodist Church' and they are offered the support of the Meeting Secretary. They also receive a copy of the previous year's audited accounts and key policies such as Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults. They can seek the advice of the Chair or Council Secretary at any time and have the professional resources of the national church to call upon.

Structure.

The Church is part of the Leigh and Hindley Circuit which in turn is part of the Bolton and Rochdale Methodist District and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. The Trustees work together in the Church Council which has leadership and oversight of all aspects of the Church's work. From time to time specific responsibilities are delegated to the Stewards.

Identification and Management of Risks

A major risk to the Church is its **financial viability**. This remains so even though the church has successfully completed a major updating building project as part of the "The Well Project". During the successive periods of lockdown and Covid restrictions there have been many months when the church has been unable to carry out some of the activities, including social events and room hire, and so has foregone significant elements of its normal income. While many in the congregation have given generously to compensate for this, and cleaning staff have been furloughed for some of the time, the financial prospects of the church remain unpredictable.

As mentioned in last year's report, after a short term Treasurer appointment, a previous very experienced Treasurer was reappointed to help "steady the ship" and she continued in

post for this financial year. This gave trustees greater clarity as to the church's actual position and that grant monies were being correctly used. Under her leadership the church stabilised its position somewhat, unfortunately her appointment had to end at the end of the financial year.

The key risk management actions put in place during the year were the;

- appointment of a new Treasurer before the end of the year to enable a handover period..
- continuation of the policy that that no expenditure could be made without Council discussion and the express authority of the Treasurer
- financial reporting to every Council Meeting

A further risk is **Safeguarding** of young people and vulnerable adults who are members or use the church's facilities. The controls to manage any risk to them include:

- Application of the statutory procedures relating to churches for the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults such as Disclosure and Barring checks
- Annual updating of the church's safeguarding policy using the model recommended by the Methodist Church.
- Following the Procedures and practices laid down by the Methodist Church
- Mandatory training sessions for those involved in work with children and vulnerable adults.
- Appointment of a safeguarding coordinator who has access to the trustees and to advice from the Connexion's professional Safeguarding Officers.
- Mandatory Safeguarding reporting to the trustees at every Council meeting

Health and Safety (H&S) is a major risk for the church especially those issues related to Covid19 Trustees' responsibilities are wide and extend to church members, worshippers and the many community groups which use the building. Risk management initiatives include;

- The routine annual inspection of the building and safety arrangements
- The determination of a cautious "safety first" approach to reopening the building.
- The appointment of a Covid Champion supported by a small group to manage all health and safety implications of the pandemic. The group produced requirements for safety procedures which have been updated as circumstances and lockdowns developed.
- That all user groups must draw up a risk assessment for their use of the building in line with the church's own This must be approved by the Trustees before they can restart in the church

At the close of the year the building was open for worship (socially distant and masked), was being used by the pre-school and there was some limited use by the uniformed organisations. There was little church fellowship taking place in the building.

The Church is subject to the requirements of the **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**. In previous years it has agreed a policy in line with national Methodist model and significant work was undertaken to ensure that the requirements of the Act are being met. Risk management includes;

- The trustees' commitment to an annual review of the operation of the policy. In the year a desk review was undertaken by the Safeguarding Officer working to a format issued by the District champion for GDPR. This was discussed by the trustees.

Whilst some omissions were identified these were not major and overall the church was judged to be aware of and trying to follow the requirements. It is planned that, as activities return more to normal, in 2021 to 2022 attention will be given to addressing the shortcomings.

In previous years the Trustees identified a risk to quality **Governance** because of the reducing number of members who were willing to become trustees meaning that trustees elected by the members were outnumbered in decision making by ex officio trustees (ie role holders). Council put some specific actions in place to address the risk. Since then Council membership has stabilised and trustees have become more experienced and collegiate. However the decision made in 2019-20 that the Council as a single collective body should take more management responsibility to itself rather than delegating to role holders has been successful and will continue. The trustees have felt able to reduce the number of meetings.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- (b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- (c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- (d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN RELATION TO THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS.

Whilst this Covid affected year has had a significant impact on the public benefit activities of the church we have continued community support activities wherever possible. We can, therefore, confirm that the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

- The church's pastoral support system, essential shopping "keeping in touch" activities have included members of the local community not just church members. There have been many acts of kindness and support, both big and small, that made sure everyone felt supported. The Prayer blanket ministry has been busy, with gifts delivered to many people in our wider community and outreach in our local care home.
- The church funds Hannah a Youth Worker who is employed by "Youth for Christ", Hannah is active in the local high school who value her input to the curriculum and her support and mentoring of young people. She is also active on the streets of Culcheth in which activity she works with volunteers from our and other churches. Her work has continued online where necessary so that vulnerable young people continue to have a source of support during the pandemic. The church supported Hannah's summer activities for the young people of the village through monies and volunteers

- The long planned community garden has become a reality and has been a source of great pleasure, learning and garden produce to the community especially those living in retirement apartments close to the church who do not have a garden and those who live alone. Donations from MAD Culcheth a youth club (now closed) that used to use the church and another person enabled benches to be provided so that there is seating which is often in use by neighbours and passers-by. The children and families of preschool and the uniformed organisations have been involved in the garden which was a part of the Community Open Gardens Walk held in the summer 2021 to raise monies for the church and the local Hospice. Many people visited and chatted to the church gardeners. £6,000 was shared between the two charities
- The weekly online/ telephone worship services have continued even when the church was open enabling the housebound and vulnerable to participate and these sometimes involve attract people who would not normally be part of our congregation
- The church has been made safer for our and wider community use by installation of new fire alarm and more comfortable by the installation of a new heating system and refreshment area in the Welcome area which is open to all
- Although we have not been able to have our usual charitable collections this last year, we have found other ways to help; people contributed generously to the Helping Hands food hampers at Christmas and many gifts were given to Action for Children The Food bank has been supported in different ways as we were not open for the usual collection of items. We also contributed to the All We Can “on your bike” appeal, and Christian Aid week.
- For Remembrance the Scouts created a stunning poppy display using the church windows which was enjoyed by the community. This inspired the church to other displays including “stars at Christmas”, “the Hope of Easter” where the community was asked to contribute pictures, crafts, words, poems and prayers. This lifted the spirits of those who contributed or enjoyed seeing the displays.
- The church is open to all for weddings, funerals and baptisms as, of course, is its worship and fellowship activities. As part of ensuring that the church is an exclusive safe space for all people during this year the Methodist Conference voted to accept the proposals of the “God in Love Unites Us” report which includes a number of resolutions about relationships. It is now possible for Methodist Churches to register as places for same sex marriage should the trustees wish to do so. The Council and wider church membership have started the conversations which will lead to a Council decision on the matter next year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Accounts and Independent Examiner's statement are appended together with the Reserves Policy. The Council worked vigorously during the year seeking an increase in regular committed giving aiming to ensure balances, once fully restored, remain at the necessary level after careful assessment of need to fund major repairs in next five years. The General Fund at the end of the financial year 2020/21 held £20,717, a slight decrease on the previous year, while dedicated gifts held for specific purposes stood at £32,315. The main projects to be supported from these dedicated gifts are the funding of a youth worker (£28,321 in hand) and the creation of a community garden (£1,881). Further fund raising to support the continued employment of the youth worker will continue for the foreseeable future, as will efforts to restore general balances to a more prudent level.

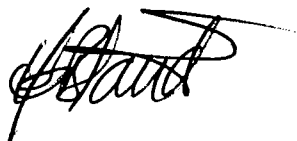
The Accounts were approved at the Council's meeting on 8th February 2022

LEGAL OBLIGATION

The Trustees confirm that they are aware of their obligations with regard to the reporting of critical incidents.

The trustees declare that they have approved their report above at the Council's meeting on 8th February 2022

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Reverend Katharine Bland
Chair

25/2/2022

Signed by Trustee
J Hutchinson

Janelle Hutchinson.
27/2/2022

**CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS**

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Culcheth Methodist Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Leigh & Hindley	Circuit	Circuit No	06/07
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Registered Charity - Registration number

1129901 (England)

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 that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

REV KATHARINE BLAND

Church Stewards:

AMY DRIVER
DAVID OGLVY
VIVIANE BRINEY
DAVID BRINEY
ELIZABETH SOEHREN

Treasurer:

ELSPETH BRIGHTON

M. H. C.

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Culcheth Methodist Church

SECTION A	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Totals this	Totals last
		Funds	Funds	year	year
RECEIPTS		£	£	£	£
Offerings and Tax recovered		48,200.58	0.00	48,200.58	38,134.57
Bank, CFB interest, and Investment income		41.27	0.00	41.27	193.99
Lettings		8,500.00		8,500.00	7,751.00
Grants and dedicated gifts		5,441.00	32,750.00	38,191.00	40,791.32
Other receipts		24,547.43		24,547.43	18,801.95
TOTAL RECEIPTS		86,730.28	32,750.00	119,480.28	105,672.83

SECTION B					
PAYMENTS					
Circuit Assessment or Share		42,807.20		42,807.20	42,807.20
Donations		0.00		0.00	0.00
Repairs and Maintenance - Normal		1,500.60		1,500.60	1,615.64
Repairs and Maintenance - Grant funded		21,443.37	17,413.44	38,856.81	29,293.98
Utilities (Insces, water rates, heating & lighting)		4,228.70		4,228.70	7,972.17
Employment Costs - inc Grant Funded		13,677.75	11,871.99	25,549.74	22,232.36
Other payments		1,696.69		1,696.69	3,309.28
TOTAL PAYMENTS		85,354.31	29,285.43	114,639.74	107,230.63

SECTION C					
NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	1,375.97	3,464.57	4,840.54	(1,557.80)

Total funds brought forward from last year		43,443.93	4,227.74	47,671.67	49,229.47
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Sub total	(c1+c2)	44,819.90	7,692.31	52,512.21	47,671.67
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Transfers and adjustments		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	44,819.90	7,692.31	52,512.21	47,671.67
-----------------------------------	----------------	------------------	-----------------	------------------	------------------

SECTION D				
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO OTHER EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS				
<i>(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)</i>				
Balance brought forward from last year				0.00
Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				200.00
Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				200.00
BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			0.00

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 Church and its Internal Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
			0			0.00
			0			0.00
			0			0.00
			0			0.00
			0			0.00
			0			0.00
Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00 (e11)	0.00 (e12)
Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	119,480.28 (a7)	114,639.74 (b9)		0.00 (c8)	47,671.67 (c6)	52,512.21 (c7)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	119,480.28	114,639.74		0.00	47,671.67 (x)	52,512.21 (y)

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

TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS
-----------------------	-----------------------

SECTION F
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
Cash in hand	116.45	0.00
Bank Current Account	17,332.86	22,805.78
Bank Deposit Account	0.00	0.00
Central Finance Board	30,222.36	29,706.43
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	0.00	0.00
Other Funds	0.00	0.00
Liabilities	0.00	0.00
SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	47,671.67 (c6)	52,512.21 (c7)
Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (c12)	0.00 (e11)	0.00 (e12)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	47,671.67 (x)	52,512.21 (y)

SECTION G
OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
Investments (include Endowments)		
Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,105,635.00	
Other Assets		
Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
Other Liabilities		

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

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

Signature of Treasurer



Date

4/2/22

Name

Dr Elspeth Brighton

Address

32 Wadeson Way, Croft, Warrington, WA3 7JS

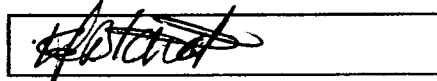
Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

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

8/2/2022

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

K.J. Band Rev

Date

8/2/2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Culcheth Methodist

Church

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

2021

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~):

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

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

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate*

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

** Please circle as appropriate*

Name Thomas H Mc Comb

Signature Thomas H Mc Comb B. Acc CA

Relevant Professional qualification or body
CA

Address 31 Doxford Close, Culcheth W43 4DL

Date 29 Jan 2022

RESERVES POLICY of

Culcheth Methodist Church Council

1. General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2021	£20,717
2. Restricted Funds held “	£ 7,692
3. Designated Funds held “	£24,623

4. Reserves policy for General Funds

CMC General Fund: We aim ideally to hold in reserve at the start of the financial year sufficient money in our general fund to cover 6 month's expenditure, i.e. £32,000 approximately. This is to ensure that we can always

- pay our contribution to the circuit each quarter
- meet our usual running costs including payments to staff
- deal with routine maintenance and unplanned urgent property repairs
- undertake planned repairs identified in the quinquennial property survey

despite the fact that some large elements of income such as reclaimed tax only occur once each year.

When the General Fund holds more than is required to cover 3 months expenditure the excess will be held in a Central Finance Board CMC General account. The General Fund at the end of the financial year 2020/21 (at £20,717) was well below the ideal level. Council has vigorously pursued an increase in committed giving to ensure balances, once fully restored, remain at the necessary level after careful assessment of need to fund major repairs in next five years. This work limited the fall in general balances in 2020/21 to just under £2,000 but loss of income from social events and efforts during lockdown limited the scope to restore balances.

5. Policy for Designated and Restricted Funds



- **CMC Youth Work Fund (Restricted and Designated).** CMC undertakes youth work in the community and continues to receive Circuit funding to support this work. The resources in the fund at the end of 2020/21 financial year stood at approximately £28,321. The money is being used to fund a youth worker as part of the Well Project.
- **CMC Property Grant Fund (Restricted and Designated)** This Fund is intended to hold grants awarded for the improvement and refurbishment of the church buildings and surrounding land, and for initiatives to benefit the local community. As these grants are usually awarded for specific projects they are normally spent shortly after they are received. However, to ensure clarity on the restricted nature of these funds awards are deposited in the Central Finance Board CMC Property account. At 31 Aug 2021 £3,475 was held here, the majority of which will be used to help create a community garden.
- Modest amounts are also held for the **Benevolence Fund**.

6. Terms relating to Endowment Funds held

N/A

This Reserves Policy has been approved by **Culcheth Methodist Church Council**

(*Church Council/Circuit Meeting /District)

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name Dr Elspeth Brighton	Full Name Rev Katharine J Bland
Signature  27/2/22	Signature 

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1129901

Accounts

CULCHETH METHODIST CHURCH

Charity Number 1129901
Ellesmere Road, Warrington. WA3 4BS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 1st SEPTEMBER 2019 to 31st AUGUST 2020

TRUSTEES WHO MANAGED THE CHARITY DURING 2019-20

Trustee Name	Office(s) which relate to ex-officio membership	Dates acted (if not for whole year)	Name of body entitled to appoint trustee
Vivienne Smith	Presbyter and Chair		Ex Officio
Viv Briney	Steward, Secretary to Pastoral Committee		Ex-officio
Linda Fish	Circuit Steward Representative	From 19/11/2019	Ex-officio
Dave Briney	Steward		Ex-officio
David Ogilvy	Steward		Ex-officio
Ashley Hutchinson			Trustees
Janette Hutchinson			Trustees
Jane Bushby			Trustees
Roddy Marr	Church Property Steward		Ex Officio
Elizabeth Soehren	Steward		Ex Officio
Elsbeth Brighton	Treasurer		Ex-officio
Daphne Eastburn			Church Meeting
Amy Driver	Steward		Ex Officio
Alex Laing			Church Meeting
Christine Pathmarajah			Church Meeting
Dave Soehren			Trustees
Julie Mainwaring			Church Meeting
Elizabeth Ann Marr			Church Meeting
Phil Harrison			Church Meeting

NAME AND ADDRESSES OF ADVISERS CONSULTED BY THE TRUSTEES

Platt and Fishwicks. Solicitors
The Old Bank, 47 King Street, Wigan WN1 1DB

Pye Design. Architects.
29 Market St Hindley, Wigan WN2 3AE

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Description of the charity's trusts;

The governing document is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976) and the charity is constituted by Act of Parliament. Some trustees are ex-officio, up to 15 are appointed by the existing trustees and up to 15 may be appointed by the General Church Meeting

Induction and Training for Trustees

A range of guidance produced by the Charity Commission and the Methodist Connexion is issued to new trustees including the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in the Methodist Church' and they are offered the support of the Meeting Secretary. They also receive a copy of the previous year's audited accounts and key policies such as Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults.

Structure.

The Church is part of the Leigh and Hindley Circuit which in turn is part of the Bolton and Rochdale Methodist District and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. The Trustees work together in the Church Council which has leadership and oversight of all aspects of the Church's work. From time to time specific responsibilities are delegated to the Stewards.

Identification and Management of Risks

A major risk to the Church is its **financial viability**. This remains so even though the church has successfully completed a major updating building project as part of the "The Well Project". During the successive periods of lockdown and covid restrictions the church has been closed from March to the end of the year so there have been many months when the church has been able to carry out some of the activities, including social events and room hire, and so has foregone significant elements of its normal income. While many in the congregation have given generously to compensate for this, and cleaning staff have been furloughed for some of the time, the financial prospects of the church remain unpredictable.

As mentioned above this year saw the completion of the major project dedicated to expanding the church's mission and community service known as "The Well Project". This project was funded by the church members and grants from outside agencies. Some funding challenges arose during the latter part of the project, particularly the unexpected notification that the church's fire escape did not conform to the current requirement which required costly mandatory work to be done. In managing the unexpected expenditure it was essential that grant monies were only used in the funding stream for which they had been granted, that any funding shortfall was quickly identified and, if necessary, any additional

monies were raised. This challenging period coincided with a period without a Treasurer followed by an appointment which was unexpectedly short term.

The key risk management actions put in place were the;

- reappointment of the church's previous, very experienced Treasurer whose work then enabled the Trustees to fully understand the situation, ensure all funders' grant criteria was met and any shortfall was met.
- decision that no expenditure at all can be made without the express authority of the Treasurer

The Church is seen by the community as a safe place and many young people and vulnerable adults are members or use its facilities. The controls to manage any risk to them include:

- Application of the statutory procedures for the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults.
- Annual updating of the church's safeguarding policy using the model recommended by the Methodist Church.
- Mandatory training sessions for those involved in work with children and vulnerable adults.
- Appointment of a safeguarding coordinator who has access to the trustees and to advice from the Connexion's professional Safeguarding Officers.
- Mandatory Safeguarding reporting to the trustees at every Council meeting

Health and Safety (H&S) is a major risk for the church especially those issues related to Covid19 Trustees' responsibilities are wide and extend to church members, worshippers and the many community groups which use the building. Risk management initiatives include;

- The routine annual inspection of the building and safety arrangements
- The determination of a cautious "safety first" approach to reopening the building.
- The appointment of a Covid Champion supported by a small group to manage all health and safety implications of the pandemic. Using national Methodist models, local knowledge and local Covid requirements a building reopening strategy and risk assessment was drawn up for approval by the trustees.
- That all user groups must draw up a risk assessment for their use of the building in line with the church's own This must be approved by the Trustees before they can restart in the church

At the close of the year the building remained closed for all purposes except the pre school reopened in line with government policy and agreed safety requirements.

The Church is subject to the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). In previous years it has agreed a policy in line with national Methodist model and significant work was undertaken to ensure that the requirements of the Act are being met. Risk management includes;

- The trustees' commitment to an annual review of the policy. They have been informed that it was not conducted in this current year due the Covid closure but they have ensured that all official church role holders are aware of the requirements and are active in implementing them in the church's everyday activities.

In previous years the Trustees identified a risk to quality governance because of the reducing number of members who were willing to become trustees meaning that there was

an in-balance in the Council and decision making between the number of trustees and ex officio trustees (ie role holders). Last year, to manage the risk, the Council as a single collective body took more management responsibility to itself rather than delegating to role holders. Whilst the risk itself has lessened as a better balance of trustees has now been appointed this more "hands on approach" has served the Council well in dealing with the financial and other challenges of this Covid affected year. Trustees will keep their mode of operation under review.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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

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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- (b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- (c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- (d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relations to the Charity's objects.

Whilst this Covid affected year has had an impact on the public benefit activities of the church we have continued community support activities wherever possible. We can, therefore, confirm that the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

- The church's pastoral support system, essential shopping "keeping in touch" activities have included members of the local community not just church members.
- The church joined in the national initiative "Your Neighbour" helpline and the availability of this service was widely advertised to the local community
- The church provided one of the biggest collection of items needed by the community hub in Warrington
- Contributions to the Circuit's Food Bank continue in cash rather than food
- There have been activities with local care homes such as the provision of personalised gifts for residents
- The church funds a Youth Worker who is active in the local high school who value her input to the curriculum and her support and mentoring of young people. She is also active on the streets of Culcheth and works with the MADCulcheth community youth club which the church hosts each week and for which it also provides some volunteer leaders. Her work has been adapted to online so that vulnerable young people continue to have a source of support during the pandemic.
- Great effort has been made to progress the church's plan for a community garden where (national Covid rules permitting) people can meet and chat especially those who may be isolated.

Regular community services continued before building closure and will resume as soon as possible. These include

- Weddings, funerals and baptisms regular acts of worship which are open to all people without charge including an annual memorial service which is widely advertised and parade services for uniformed organisations.,
- Three weekly coffee shops and craft activities which are open to all in the community and are aimed particularly at older people who may be isolated.
- Sessions of worship and activities in a local residential home for all residents who wish to participate.
- Liaison with a local primary school hosting special services such as harvest and making the church available to it as a place of refuge in the event of an emergency.
- Financial support, including to non-church members, in their charitable work, such as making grants available to Guides going to India
- Offering opportunities for young people to think about faith and spiritual matters through a fortnightly group "Explore"
- Offering Family Fun days open to all such as during the Community's Christmas Markets.
- Providing volunteers for youth activities taking place in the High School and offered summer holiday activities, including the "Eden Bus" and climbing wall, on the Village Green for all young people.
- Providing premises for and contributes to the local community's annual charitable fundraising events at Christmas and on Community Day
- Offering important social activities such as a fortnightly Meeting Point which has excellent topical speakers and arranges visits to local places of interest and a Supper Club
- Making premises available at fair rates to local community groups such as, Tuesday Tots and the Thursday Club which is a meeting point and luncheon club for people who have a disability.
- Running a walking group (open to all the community) which also raised money for Action for Children
- Through its work for World Mission including monthly offerings providing monies for non-faith charitable activities at home and abroad
- Provides volunteers for the local community's Christmas Post Service
- Hosting a community Christmas Toy Service which collects many gifts for children in the care of the charity "Action for Children"
- Providing quiet space for people to reflect and or pray on topical issues.

Summary of the main activities undertaken in relations to other aspects of Charity's objects.

This has been a challenging year calling for new ways of being church, of worshipping and discipleship, of keeping everyone connected and supported. Work and achievements include:

- Through phone calls and socially distanced end-of-the-garden chats, lots of praying, crafting and other mutual support the community has been strengthened. The building may have been closed, but our congregation and community continued regardless.
- Technology enabled Rev Viv to create the brilliant daily podcasts that have been so encouraging for us, and for us to hold our weekly phone-in Sunday service, which

- gets around 180 households calling in each week from the Leigh & Hindley and Liverpool North circuits.
- There have been Zoom calls, and a new Facebook group with 62 members, many of whom are not part of our Sunday morning congregation in “normal” times. All of these have been a blessing.
- The completion of the Well Project’s “Welcome Space” is a wonderful transformation of our church. It has given us a lovely welcoming, open meeting spot, used by church and other user groups who can see that God is at the centre of everything we do.
- September 2019 saw us welcome Hannah, our Youth Worker. Whilst she is focussed on young people her faith and commitment to God has been a model of discipleship and a gift to us all.
- When the Covid rules allowed small group meetings the Church created “Getting Together Groups” meeting in gardens allowing us all to share our faith and build each other up, in a safe way. This is an exciting “new normal”. Early Methodism was built around small groups or cells, and if faith spreads person-to-person, a bit like a virus, we are hoping this could be “infectious”.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Accounts and Independent Auditor’s statement are appended together with the Reserves Policy. The Council worked vigorously during the year successfully seeking an increase in regular committed giving and also held a Gift Day aiming to ensure balances, once fully restored, remain at the necessary level after careful assessment of need to fund major repairs in next five years. The General Fund at the end of the financial year 2019/20 (at £22,484) while dedicated gifts held for specific purposes stood at £25,071. The main projects to be supported from these dedicated gifts once the final payments have been made on the Well Project works are the funding of a youth worker (£17,272 in hand) and the creation of a community garden (£1,190 held). Further fund raising to support the continued employment of the youth worker will continue for the foreseeable future.

The Accounts were approved at the Council’s meeting on 17th March 2021

The Reserves policy was approved by the Council at its meeting on 17th March 2021

LEGAL OBLIGATION

The Trustees confirm that they are aware of their obligations with regard to the reporting of critical incidents.

The trustees declare that they have approved their report above at the Council’s meeting on 17th March 2021

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees:



Reverend Katharine Bland
Chair

**CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS**

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Culcheth Methodist Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2020

Leigh & Hindley	Circuit	Circuit No	06/07
----------------------------	----------------	-------------------	--------------

Registered Charity - Registration number

1129901 (England)

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 that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

REV VIVIENNE SMITH

Church Stewards:

AMY DRIVER
DAVID OGILVY
VIVIANE BRINEY
DAVID BRINEY
ELIZABETH SOEHREN

Treasurer:

ELSPETH BRIGHTON

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Culcheth Methodist Chu

SECTION A	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Totals this		Totals last	
		Funds	Funds	year		year	
RECEIPTS		£	£	£		£	
Offerings and Tax recovered		37,175.57	959.00	38,134.57		46,235.82	
Bank, CFB interest, and Investment income		193.99	0.00	193.99		230.86	
Lettings		7,751.00		7,751.00		11,155.00	
Grants and dedicated gifts		40,791.32		40,791.32		3,346.10	
Other receipts		18,801.95		18,801.95		7,739.37	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		104,713.83	959.00	105,672.83	(a7)	68,707.15	

SECTION B							
PAYMENTS							
		£	£				
Circuit Assessment or Share		42,807.20		42,807.20		41,932.67	
Donations		0.00		0.00		440.00	
Repairs and Maintenance - Normal		1,615.64		1,615.64		3,111.97	
Repairs and Maintenance - Well Project		29,293.98		29,293.98		3,174.00	
Utilities (Insces, water rates, heating & lighting)		7,972.17		7,972.17		7,785.91	
Employment Costs - inc Grant Funded		8,835.04	13,397.32	22,232.36		13,001.58	
Other payments		3,309.28		3,309.28		3,565.51	
TOTAL PAYMENTS		93,833.31	13,397.32	107,230.63	(b9)	73,011.64	

SECTION C							
NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR							
		£	£				
	(a6-b8)	10,880.52	(12,438.32)	(1,557.80)		(4,304.49)	
Total funds brought forward from last year		44,665.05	4,564.42	49,229.47		53,533.96	
Sub total	(c1+c2)	55,545.57	(7,873.90)	47,671.67		49,229.47	
Transfers and adjustments		0.00	0.00	0.00	(c8)	0.00	
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	55,545.57	(7,873.90)	47,671.67	(c7)	49,229.47	

SECTION D							
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO OTHER EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS							
(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)							
		£	£				
Balance brought forward from last year				0.00		0.00	
Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				746.99		876.95	
Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				746.99		876.95	
BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			0.00		0.00	

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 2020 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 Church and its Internal Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
			0			0.00
			0			0.00
			0			0.00
			0			0.00
			0			0.00
			0			0.00
Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00 (e11)	0.00 (e12)
Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	105,672.83 (a7)	107,230.63 (b9)		0.00 (c8)	49,229.47 (c6)	47,671.67 (c7)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	105,672.83	107,230.63		0.00	49,229.47 (x)	47,671.67 (y)

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

TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS
-----------------------	-----------------------

SECTION F
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2020

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
Cash in hand	36.00	116.45
Bank Current Account	23,857.90	17,332.86
Bank Deposit Account	0.00	0.00
Central Finance Board	25,335.57	30,222.36
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	0.00	0.00
Other Funds	0.00	0.00
Liabilities	0.00	0.00
SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	49,229.47 (c6)	47,671.67 (c7)
Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	0.00 (e11)	0.00 (e12)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	49,229.47 (x)	47,671.67 (y)

SECTION G
OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2019	At 31 August 2020
Investments (include Endowments)		
Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,052,271.00	2,105,635.00
Other Assets		
Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
Other Liabilities		

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

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

Signature of Treasurer



Date

4/4/21

Name

Dr Elspeth Brighton

Address

32 Wadeson Way, Croft, Warrington, WA3 7JS

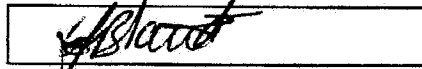
Presentation to the Church Council for approval.

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

17/8/21

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

REV KATHARINE BLAND

Date

26/4/2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Culcheth Methodist

Church

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

2020

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below*):

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

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

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate

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

* Please circle as appropriate

Name Thomas H McComb B.Acc CA

Signature Thomas H McComb B.Acc CA

Relevant Professional qualification or body
B.Acc CA

Address 31 Doxford Close, Culcheth. WA3 4DL

Date 23 March 2021

RESERVES POLICY of

Culcheth Methodist Church Council

1.	General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2020	£22,600.36
2.	Restricted Funds held	-
3.	Designated Funds held	£25,071.31

4. Reserves policy for General Funds

CMC General Fund: We aim ideally to hold in reserve at the start of the financial year sufficient money in our general fund to cover 6 month's expenditure i.e. £33,400 approximately. This is to ensure that we can always

- pay our contribution to the circuit each quarter
- meet our usual running costs including payments to staff
- deal with routine maintenance and unplanned urgent property repairs
- undertake planned repairs identified in the quinquennial property survey

despite the fact that some large elements of income such as reclaimed tax only occur once each year.

When the General Fund holds more than is required to cover 3 months expenditure the excess will be held in a Central Finance Board CMC General account. The General Fund at the end of the financial year 2019/20 (at £22,600.36) was below the ideal level. Council has vigorously pursued an increase in committed giving to ensure balances, once fully restored, remain at the necessary level after careful assessment of need to fund major repairs in next five years. This improved general balances in 2019/20 by nearly £4,000 but loss of income from social events and efforts during lockdown limited the restoration of balances more fully.

5. Policy for Designated and Restricted Funds

- **CMC Youth Work Fund (Designated).**

CMC undertakes youth work in the community and continues to receive Circuit funding to support this work. The resources in the fund at the end of 2019/20 financial year stood at approximately £17,272. The money is being used to fund a youth worker as part of the Well Project.

- **CMC Property Grant Fund (Restricted and Designated)**

This Fund is intended to hold grants awarded for the improvement and refurbishment of the church buildings and surrounding land, and for initiatives to benefit the local community. As these grants are usually awarded for specific projects they are normally spent shortly after they are received. However, to ensure clarity on the restricted nature of these funds awards are deposited in the Central Finance Board CMC Property account. At 31 Aug 2020 £7,800 was held here and this sum should be sufficient to complete the key remaining property elements of the Well Project.

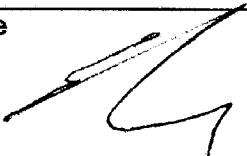
- Modest amounts are also held for the **Benevolence Fund**.

6. Terms relating to Endowment Funds held

N/A

This Reserves Policy has been approved by **Culcheth Methodist Church Council**

(*Church Council/Circuit Meeting /District)

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name Dr Elspeth Brighton	Full Name REVD KATHARINE BLAND
Signature 	Signature 