



Registered Charity number 1130274

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

**For the year ended
31st August 2024**



District Trustees

Rev David Hinchliffe (Chair)
Rev Helen Hollands (Assistant Chair) (resigned 31 August 2024)
Rev Samantha Funnell (Assistant Chair)
Rev Daniel Balsdon (Assistant Chair)
Mrs Pauline Newton (District Treasurer)
Rev Nicholas Oborski (Synod Secretary)
Rev. William Fletcher (appointed September 2023)
Mrs Jennifer Gandy
Ms Jenny Jackson
Rev Sydney Samuel Lake (resigned 31 August 2024)
Deacon Michelle Legumi (resigned 31 August 2024)
Rev Bonni-Belle Pickard
Miss Bridget Quint
Rev Andrew Reed
Mrs Charlotte Scrivens (appointed 14th September 2024)
Mrs. Linda Weedon

Principal Office

District Office, Unit 4b Basepoint Business Centre
Metcalf Way, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 7XX

Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor, Regis House, 45 King William Street, London, EC4R 9AN

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, PO Box 1000, BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE

**Investment Managers
and Custodian Trustees**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

The Trustees submit their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2024. These are presented annually to the District Synod. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015) Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued 2nd February 2016, in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Charity.

Objectives and Activities

The District is constituted to advance the mission of the Church in the South-East District by providing opportunities for circuits to work together and support each other, by offering them resources and finance, personnel and expertise which may not be available locally. The District also serves the local churches and circuits in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church in programmes of training.

Objectives

The District came into being as a new Methodist District on the 1st September 2006. The main objectives set out were:

- To support and encourage the circuits in mission and worship as members of a world-wide church and global community;
- To develop pastoral care of lay and ordained staff living and working in the circuits and of the lay officers of the District;
- To work together to share ministry, leadership and responsibility and encourage these ways of working in the circuits.

Activities and Achievements

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are as follows: 'The Methodist Church believes that the Church is called to serve the purpose of the reign of God through its worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.' Within this purpose the South-East Methodist District will concentrate on what it can uniquely and best do to promote excellence and creativity in worship, mission, ministry, oversight and governance in local churches, circuits and their communities.

Since its Representative Synod in April 2022, the South-East District has been working towards fulfilling its Mission Plan entitled "Inspire – Encourage – Enable". In summary, the Mission Plan affirms that:

"In playing its part in seeking to fulfil Our Calling as Methodist people, and inspired by the Methodist Way of Life, the purpose of the South-East District is to **Inspire, Enable and Encourage.**"

Inspire

The South-East Methodist District seeks to inspire us to be faithful disciples, bearing witness to God's love for the sake of the transformation of the world.

Enable

The South-East District seeks to enable our calling to be a people faithful to God in mission through offering **good governance**.

Encourage

The South-East District wants to encourage circuits, churches and individual disciples to live out their calling as followers of Jesus Christ.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

Activities and Achievements (continued)

The South-East Methodist District therefore commits itself in the following ways:

Our Commitment

The Methodist Church invites us to recognise that in God for all:

- All need to be **Centred in God**
- **Everyone is an Evangelist**
- Our desire is to develop **Transformational Leadership**
- We have the opportunity to cultivate **New Places for New People**
- We take seriously our missional need to be a **Church at the Margins**
- We seek for **Every Church a Growing Church**
- We commit to **Developing Young Evangelists, Pioneers, and Leaders**
- We need to create an effective **Digital Presence: Mission for the Digital Age**

The Next Steps

- Develop our work amongst **refugees, migrants, displaced persons**
- Develop **an international twinning relationship** with the Methodist Church's *Global Relationships* team
- Ensure the development of **an effective digital strategy** for mission
- Continue to encourage and support churches and circuits developing **new housing mission**
- Identify and support the opportunities to develop **new places for new people**
- Support **the development of children and youth work** in the District by advocacy for 3Generate and for Methodists to engage with schools in their communities
- Enable the District, circuits and churches to promote, celebrate and inhabit the call to **equality, diversity and inclusion** within the life of the Church for the sake of the world
- Seek to **inspire, enable and encourage** the Methodist people to be the people God calls us to be!

In the fulfilling of the District Mission Plan:

* Our Officer for Refugees, Migrants and Displaced Persons continues working with a network of knowledge and volunteers through Church, NGOs and statutory authorities across the South-East in recognition of the significant numbers of cross-Channel migrants coming into the District, as well as a significant number of British Overseas Nationals arriving from Hong Kong which, in one case in the District, trebled the size of a congregation in one year.

* The District has completed a review of all District and Circuit lay employees' roles, terms and conditions, contracts etc in order to ensure best lay employment practice is being consistently followed across the District. We are grateful to the District Lay Employment Advisor and to the working group assisting in this work.

* The District has initiated a safeguarding audit of the circuits to ensure best practice.

* The District has been delighted to appoint a new District Safeguarding Officer who, with vision and verve, is helping the District ensure it is doing the best it can to be a safe place for all.

* The District rejoiced that it was able to send forth 2 presbyters and 2 deacons for ordination at the Methodist Conference in Leeds.

* The District continues to use the monies available to it through the District Advance Fund to support innovative property and mission projects across the District.

* The District rejoiced to see the opening of the newly built Emmanuel Church in Eastbourne. A highlight has been that Emmanuel hosted the Methodist Modern Art Collection in the late spring.

* We rejoice that an increasing number of children and young people from across the District have been able to attend 3Generate – the Methodist Church's national children and youth gathering at the NEC in Birmingham.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

Activities and Achievements (continued)

- * The District is developing its New Places for New People project in Gibraltar, and is planning to partner with Cliff College in that developing work. The District also rejoices in innovations for mission which are developing in various contexts across the South-East.
- * The District itself continues to review its own digital resources and policy.
- * Pastoral care remains at the heart of being a caring, Christian community. The District remains indebted to its ministers, and to the many lay workers and pastoral visitors who offer pastoral care across the churches and circuits.
- * Community service. Churches have been active in supporting vulnerable members and neighbours, as well as supporting increasingly needed foodbanks. Given the high cost of living, many churches across the District took part in the Winter Warm Spaces initiative, offering warmth, welcome and hospitality to many communities. In numerous cases the District was able to support this work by the offering of grants to contribute towards the cost of heating premises for this initiative, and to provide food at no cost to the recipient.
- * Training. This has been offered online, and in person, with the Methodist Learning Network offering many imaginative online training opportunities. A particular focus this year has been in developing our reconciliation capacity. The District Safeguarding Team along with the Learning Network Team have been working hard to ensure that those required to undertake Safeguarding Advanced Module Training have been able to complete it by the Connexionally-set deadline. We continue to be very grateful for their hard work and imagination.
- * Mutual support. The District's superintendents have continued to meet weekly with the Chair and Assistant Chairs via Zoom in order to share best practice and offer mutual support and encouragement to each other. The Superintendents have also met twice residentially during this year. The District "Under Fives Group" (those in early years in ministry) has continued to meet regularly via Zoom and now in person for mutual support and encouragement.
- * District Officers and Support Teams. The District continues to be grateful for the work of the District Resourcing Mission Officer, District Safeguarding Officer, the District Property Officer and District Administrator, in their support of the life of the District, Circuits and local churches in the fulfilment of their responsibilities.
- * The District has worked hard to fill vacant volunteer posts. This remains a constant challenge.

Finally, the District Chair wishes to honour and celebrate the skill, imagination, grace and commitment of so many faithful servants of Christ across the District who have enabled the Church to flourish even amidst a pandemic. He is especially grateful to the District's Assistant Chairs, and to his PA, and to the remarkable number of District Officers who continue to serve the Church faithfully, imaginatively and with good cheer.

Fundraising

The District does not actively fundraise from the general public.

Financial Review

Investment Policy

The surplus funds of the District's General Funds are held in a deposit account of the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, which is a separate body reporting directly to Conference. The surplus funds of the District Advance Fund are held in an account with The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees' objective is to maintain net current assets in Unrestricted Reserves equivalent to approximately four months' Resources expended. The Trustees maintain the Restricted Reserves at a sufficient level to enable each Fund to carry out its objectives.



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

Financial Review (continued)

District Expenses Account

The Net Resources showed an excess of income over expenditure of £17,229 (2023 excess of expenditure over income of £3042) after setting aside a sum of £3,000 towards future repairs to the District Manse.

Chair's Benevolent Fund

This is a small fund which relies on donations from Churches, Circuits and individuals, which allows the District Chair to make payments to those the Chair feels are deserving of a Grant. Donations totalling £295 were received during the year and £800 was paid out in grants. The Fund only spends monies which it has available to it and at 31st August 2024 the balance carried forward was £926. (2023 £1,431). These funds are accounted for as restricted funds within the District Expenses bank account at Lloyds Bank.

District Advance Fund

After receiving Circuit levies of £216,143, £189,310 from the Connexional Priority Fund, grants and donations of £106,818 and Interest and Investment income of £52,250 the Trustees were able to make Grants totalling £174,891 and also transfers totalling £125,524 to the Expenses Account as follows: £18,976 relating to Training, £13,422 to District Safeguarding expenses, £217 to Refugee & Inter-faith expenditure, £10,126 to our Resourcing Mission Officer, £13,866 to our District Property Officer, £2,220 for District IT upgrade, £13,500 to Circuits to help with provision of 'Warm Welcome', £5,370 to Circuits for youthwork, £32,827 for work in Gibraltar and £15,000 to Kent Workplace Mission for our Ecumenical partnership work in Kent. The funding from the London Mission Fund (LMF) continues to be channelled through our District Advance Fund and £90,418 has been received and passed on to Circuits.

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements, £857,453 has been set aside for this purpose. £47,420 (2023 £96,106) is carried forward into the new Connexional Year.

Plans for Future Periods

We continue to review our Budget and hold several committee meetings on-line in order to reduce travel costs. As mentioned under District Advance Fund, the new arrangements continue for the way the London Mission Fund makes grant payments and we anticipate a grant allocation of £71,145 in the year 24/25. The District Advance Fund will continue to receive Circuit Levies and a Grant from the Connexional Priority Fund when the District is eligible. This will enable the Grants Committee to offer Grants in year 2024/2025 depending on the quantity of the requests received. The Benevolent Fund will continue to consider requests to spend the resources available.

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its financial activities for that period, together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the period, and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the Charity. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable Accounting Standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and



Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31st August 2024

Structure, Governance and Trustees' Responsibilities (continued)

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

Legal and administrative information

The governing body of the District is the Methodist Church and the governing body of the Methodist Church is the Conference. The Methodist Church Act 1976 gives the authority under which the Methodist Church acts. The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church governs the activities of the District. The District is a Registered Charity and was registered with the Charity Commission on 10th June 2009.

Trustees

The Trustees who have served during the year and those appointed since are set out on page 1. Trustees are appointed by the Autumn Synod.

The Trustees are responsible for the detailed examination of the financial statements and for recommending their adoption to Synod.

With District amalgamations, the SE District is one of twenty four Districts of the Methodist Church in the United Kingdom, with effect from 1st September 2024. The South-East District brings together seventeen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses based in the south eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent, most of Surrey and Sussex, small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and includes the Circuits in Malta & Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District.

Internal Financial Controls

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that there is in place an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise, to provide reasonable confidence and assurance that:

- the District's administration is operating effectively and efficiently;
- the assets of the District are properly safeguarded against unauthorised loss or damage;
- proper records are maintained and information produced for management control, fiscal and statutory reasons; and
- the District complies with the relevant laws and guidelines.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic business and operational risks which the charity faces, and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to monitor these risks.

District Independent Examiner

Azets Audit Services was appointed Independent Examiner of District Funds by the District Council.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 11th December, 2024.

Signed by:

Rev David Hinchliffe District Chair & Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton District Treasurer & Trustee



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Methodist Church South-East District

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024, which are set out on pages 8 – 17.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Signed by:

John Howard FCA
Azets Audit Services
2nd Floor
Regis House
45 King William Street
London
EC4R 9AN

Date: 8th January 2025

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2024

| Notes | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | | Total Funds | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Expenses Account | Advance Fund | Benevolent Fund | 2024 | 2023 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Incoming Resources | | | | | |
| Assessments | 192,956 | - | - | 192,956 | 211,190 |
| NPNP grant | 10,000 | - | - | 10,000 | - |
| Interest & Investment Income | 3,808 | 52,250 | - | 56,058 | 28,865 |
| Circuit Levies | - | 216,143 | - | 216,143 | 240,197 |
| Donations | - | 106,818 | 295 | 107,113 | 99,142 |
| CPF Distribution received | - | 189,310 | - | 189,310 | 32,951 |
| Total incoming resources | 206,764 | 564,521 | 295 | 771,580 | 612,345 |
| Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity | | | | | |
| District Administration 5 | 89,937 | - | - | 89,937 | 84,943 |
| Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs | 47,652 | - | - | 47,652 | 44,310 |
| District Safeguarding expenses 6 | 24,625 | 13,422 | - | 38,047 | 53,813 |
| Resourcing Mission/Property 7 | - | 23,992 | - | 23,992 | 22,983 |
| Refugee & Inter-faith exp. | - | 217 | - | 217 | 286 |
| Synod Meeting expenses 8 | 1,176 | - | - | 1,176 | 828 |
| Manse Expenditure 9 | 6,555 | - | - | 6,555 | 6,763 |
| Provision for Manse repairs 10 | 3,000 | - | - | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| District Committee Expenses | 8,670 | - | - | 8,670 | 11,807 |
| Training Grants & Expenses 11 | - | 18,976 | - | 18,976 | 22,779 |
| Methodist Conference | 281 | - | - | 281 | 899 |
| Ecumenical payments 12 | 733 | 15,000 | - | 15,733 | 10,812 |
| Other expenditure 13 | 6,906 | 2,220 | - | 9,126 | 30,800 |
| | 189,535 | 73,827 | - | 263,362 | 294,023 |
| Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects | | | | | |
| Grants & donations | - | 304,730 | 800 | 305,530 | 226,551 |
| Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments | - | 227,803 | - | 227,803 | 163,281 |
| Miscellaneous | - | 2,048 | - | 2,048 | 1,829 |
| Total Resources Expended | 189,535 | 608,408 | 800 | 798,743 | 685,684 |
| Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers | 17,229 | (43,887) | (505) | (27,163) | (73,339) |
| Transfer between Funds | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unresolved gains & losses on investments | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers | 17,229 | (43,887) | (505) | (27,163) | (73,339) |
| Funds brought forward | 586,675 | 96,106 | 1,431 | 684,212 | 757,551 |
| Total Funds carried forward | 603,904 | 52,219 | 926 | 657,049 | 684,212 |

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31st August 2023 (prior year)

| Notes | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | | Total Funds |
|---|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | Expenses Account | Advance Fund | Benevolent Fund | 2023 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Incoming Resources | | | | |
| Assessments | 211,190 | - | - | 211,190 |
| Interest & Investment Income | 3,013 | 25,852 | - | 28,865 |
| Circuit Levies | - | 240,197 | - | 240,197 |
| Grant/Donations | - | 98,778 | 364 | 99,142 |
| CPF Distribution received | - | 32,951 | - | 32,951 |
| Total incoming resources | 214,203 | 397,778 | 364 | 612,345 |
| Resources expended on managing and administering the Charity | | | | |
| District Administration 5 | 84,943 | - | - | 84,943 |
| Contributions to Circuits for Assistant Chairs | 44,310 | - | - | 44,310 |
| District Safeguarding expenses 6 | 43,050 | 10,763 | - | 53,813 |
| Resourcing Mission/Property 7 | - | 22,983 | - | 22,983 |
| Refugee & Inter-faith exp. | - | 286 | - | 286 |
| Synod Meeting expenses 8 | 828 | - | - | 828 |
| Manse Expenditure 9 | 6,763 | - | - | 6,763 |
| Provision for Manse repairs 10 | 3,000 | - | - | 3,000 |
| District Committee Expenses | 11,807 | - | - | 11,807 |
| Training Grants & Expenses 11 | - | 22,779 | - | 22,779 |
| Methodist Conference | 899 | - | - | 899 |
| Ecumenical payments 12 | 10,812 | - | - | 10,812 |
| Other expenditure 13 | 10,833 | 19,967 | - | 30,800 |
| | 217,245 | 76,778 | - | 294,023 |
| Grants and payments made in furtherance of the Charity's Objects | | | | |
| Grants & donations | - | 226,301 | 250 | 226,551 |
| Increase (Reduction) in Provision for future years payments | - | 163,281 | - | 163,281 |
| Miscellaneous | - | 1,829 | - | 1,829 |
| Total Resources Expended | 217,245 | 468,189 | 250 | 685,684 |
| Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources before Transfers | (3,042) | (70,411) | 114 | (73,339) |
| Transfer between Funds | - | - | - | - |
| Unresolved gains & losses on investments | - | - | - | - |
| Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources after Transfers | (3,042) | (70,411) | 114 | (73,339) |
| Funds brought forward | 589,717 | 166,517 | 1,317 | 757,551 |
| Total Funds carried forward | 586,675 | 96,106 | 1,431 | 684,212 |

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2024

| | | Unrestricted | Restricted | | Totals | |
|--|-------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | Notes | | Advance Fund | Benevolent Fund | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
| Tangible Fixed Assets | | | | | | |
| District Manse | 2 | 501,663 | - | - | 501,663 | 501,663 |
| Current Assets | | | | | | |
| Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes | | - | 904,872 | - | 904,872 | 709,955 |
| Debtors and Prepayments | 3 | 2,483 | 4,800 | - | 7,283 | 15,801 |
| Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board | | <u>115,228</u> | - | 926 | <u>116,154</u> | <u>98,913</u> |
| Total current Assets | | 117,711 | 909,672 | 926 | 1,028,309 | 824,669 |
| Creditors and Accruals | | | | | | |
| District Advance Fund – provision for amounts | | | | | | |
| Falling due in future years | 4 | - | (857,453) | - | (857,453) | (629,650) |
| Provision for Manse repairs | 10 | <u>(15,470)</u> | - | - | <u>(15,470)</u> | <u>(12,470)</u> |
| Total current assets less current liabilities | | 102,241 | 52,219 | 926 | 155,386 | 182,549 |
| Total Net Assets | | 603,904 | 52,219 | 926 | 657,049 | 684,212 |
| Funds of the District | | | | | | |
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 603,904 | - | - | 603,904 | 586,675 |
| District Advance Fund (Restricted) | | - | 52,219 | - | 52,219 | 96,106 |
| Benevolent Fund (Restricted) | | - | - | 926 | 926 | <u>1,431</u> |
| Total Funds | 20 | 603,904 | 52,219 | 926 | 657,049 | 684,212 |

The notes on pages 13 to 17 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 11th December, 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2023 (prior year)

| | Notes | Unrestricted | Restricted Advance Fund | Benevolent Fund | Totals 2023 £ |
|--|-------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Tangible Fixed Assets | | | | | |
| District Manse | 2 | 501,663 | - | - | 501,663 |
| Current Assets | | | | | |
| Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes | | - | 709,955 | - | 709,955 |
| Debtor | 3 | - | 15,801 | - | 15,801 |
| Cash at Bank and Central Finance Board | | <u>97,482</u> | - | <u>1,431</u> | <u>98,913</u> |
| Total current Assets | | 97,482 | 725,756 | 1,431 | 824,669 |
| Creditors and Accruals | | | | | |
| District Advance Fund – provision for amounts | | | | | |
| Falling due in future years | 4 | - | (629,650) | - | (629,650) |
| Provision for Manse repairs | 10 | <u>(12,470)</u> | - | - | <u>(12,470)</u> |
| Total current assets less current liabilities | | 85,012 | 96,106 | 1,431 | 182,549 |
| Total Net Assets | | 586,675 | 96,106 | 1,431 | 684,212 |
| Funds of the District | | | | | |
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 586,675 | - | - | 586,675 |
| District Advance Fund (Restricted) | | - | 96,106 | - | 96,106 |
| Benevolent Fund (Restricted) | | - | - | <u>1,431</u> | <u>1,431</u> |
| Total Funds | 21 | <u>586,675</u> | <u>96,106</u> | <u>1,431</u> | <u>684,212</u> |

Approved by the Trustees on 7th December, 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

David Hinchliffe
District Chair and Trustee

Mrs. Pauline J Newton
District Treasurer and Trustee

Cashflow Statement as at 31st August 2024

Statement of Cashflows

| | Note | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|--|------|------------------|----------------|
| Net cash generated from/(used by) operating activities | 22 | 156,100 | 47,126 |
| Cashflows from investing activities: | | | |
| Interest from investments | | <u>56,058</u> | <u>28,865</u> |
| Net movement in cash and cash equivalents | | 212,158 | 75,991 |
| Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of year | | <u>808,868</u> | <u>732,877</u> |
| Cash & cash equivalents at end of year | | <u>1,021,026</u> | <u>808,868</u> |
| | | | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 116,154 | 98,913 |
| | | | |
| Short term deposits | | <u>904,872</u> | <u>709,955</u> |
| | | <u>1,021,026</u> | <u>808,868</u> |



Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2024

1. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16th July 2014 and Update Bulletin 1 issued on 2nd February 2016.

Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31st August 2024 the Trustees believe that the District is a going concern.

Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the District and are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and Restricted Funds which are held for a narrower purpose.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation has not been provided on freehold land and buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manse is not less than cost and the depreciation would be immaterial.

Incoming Resources

These are included in the SOFA when the District becomes entitled to the resources; the Trustees are virtually certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Liability Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the District to make the payment. With regard to the District Advance Fund, a note of the Contingent Liability is set out in Note 4 to these Accounts.

Provisions

An annual provision is made for major expenditure on manse repairs, with such expenditure being deducted from the accumulated provision when it is incurred.

Debtors

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid.

Gains/(losses) on investments

The investments are in monetary assets and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value are those provided by TMCP. Realised and unrealised capital gains and losses on investments are dealt with in the SOFA in the year in which they arise, based on the brought forward valuations or cost of subsequent additions.

Estimates and judgements

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.



Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2024

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|--|---|--|
| 2. Fixed Assets | | |
| Freehold land and building | | |
| Deemed Cost | | |
| District manse – as at 31 st August 2024 | 501,663 | 501,663 |
| Land £167,221 Building £334,442 | | |
| 3. Debtors and Prepayments | | |
| Duplicate grant payment | - | 15,801 |
| Conference expenses paid from District funds awaiting repayment from Connexion | 2,483 | - |
| Rent paid in advance for Superintendents flat in Gibraltar | 4,800 | - |
| 4. Creditors and Accruals | | |
| District Advance Fund | | |
| Provision for Grants committed or payable in future years, balance as at 31 st August | 629,650 | 466,369 |
| Increase (reduction) in provision for future payments | 227,803 | 163,281 |
| | Payable 2024-25 £378,303 | Payable 2025 onwards £479,150 |
| Total Provision as at 31 st August | <u>857,453</u> | <u>629,650</u> |
| 5. District Administration | | |
| Chair's travel and miscellaneous expenses | 2,984 | 3,474 |
| Secretarial and Administration | 44,514 | 41,129 |
| - Salary - £38,304 | | |
| - Social security - £3,948 | | |
| - Pension - £2,262 | | |
| District Office rent | 32,965 | 30,300 |
| District Office expenses, printing, stationery, post, Phone, etc | <u>9,474</u> | <u>10,040</u> |
| | <u>89,937</u> | <u>84,943</u> |
| 6. District Safeguarding Expenses | | |
| No Safeguarding Officer Oct.2023 to 18 th Mar.2024 | | |
| Previous SO Sep 2023 and new SO wef 19 th Mar.24 | 28,756 | 44,625 |
| - Salary - £24,699 | | |
| - Social security - £2,676 | | |
| - Pension - £1,381 | | |
| Additional costs incurred | <u>9,291</u> | <u>9,188</u> |
| | 38,047 | 53,813 |
| Reimbursed from District Advance Fund | <u>(13,422)</u> | <u>(10,763)</u> |
| Cost to District Expenses | <u>24,625</u> | <u>43,050</u> |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2024

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 7. Resourcing Mission & Property Officers | | |
| 2 District Officers (part-time) | 22,955 | 21,205 |
| - RMO Salary - £8,928 | | |
| - RMO Social security - nil | | |
| - RMO Pension – £536 £9,464 | | |
| - PO Salary - £12.309 | | |
| - PO Social Security - £443 | | |
| - PO Pension – £739 £13,491 | | |
| Expenses including travel, phone calls etc | <u>1,037</u> | <u>1,778</u> |
| | 23,992 | 22,983 |
| Reimbursed from District Advance Fund | <u>(23,992)</u> | <u>(22,983)</u> |
| | — | — |
| 8. Synod Expenses | | |
| District Directory | - | 377 |
| Miscellaneous costs | 652 | - |
| Miscellaneous travel | <u>524</u> | <u>451</u> |
| | <u>1,176</u> | <u>828</u> |
| 9. District Manse Expenses | | |
| Council tax | 3,366 | 3,235 |
| Water rates | 219 | 473 |
| Insurance | 1,684 | 1,567 |
| Telephone | 924 | 782 |
| Miscellaneous expenses, boiler, security, etc | <u>362</u> | <u>706</u> |
| | <u>6,555</u> | <u>6,763</u> |
| 10. Provision for Manse Repairs | | |
| Balance as at 31 st August 2023 | 12,470 | 10,620 |
| Amount transferred in the year | <u>3,000</u> | <u>3,000</u> |
| Balance as at 31 st August 2024 | 15,470 | 13,620 |
| Major expenditure during the year | <u>-</u> | <u>1,150</u> |
| | <u>15,470</u> | <u>12,470</u> |
| 11. Training expenditure | | |
| Total paid out for Training Grants | 1,907 | 1,470 |
| Residential Conferences, Training courses etc | <u>17,069</u> | <u>21,309</u> |
| | 18,976 | 22,779 |
| Reimbursed from District Advance Fund | <u>(18,976)</u> | <u>(22,779)</u> |
| Cost to District Expenses | — | — |
| 12. Ecumenical payments | | |
| Churches Together in Surrey | 733 | 744 |
| Kent Workplace Mission | 15,000 | 10,000 |
| Kent Leaders breakfast | - | <u>68</u> |
| | <u>15,733</u> | <u>10,812</u> |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2024

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| 13. Other expenditure | | |
| Youth Conference – 3Generate | 291 | 1,778 |
| Copyright | 421 | 249 |
| Employment advice | 2,215 | 2,719 |
| Independent Exam. fee | 2,700 | 2,100 |
| Apprenticeship Levy | 418 | 466 |
| Administration and bank charges | 86 | 89 |
| MCF Assessment shortfall | 0 | 218 |
| Gibraltar Methodist Circuit exp. | 0 | 3,214 |
| District 'New Places for New People' Project | 775 | 0 |
| | <u>6,906</u> | <u>10,833</u> |

14. Reimbursements

No employee earned £60,000 per annum or more.

The average number of employees, analysed by function, was:

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|------|------|
| F/T Administration of the charity | 1 | 1 |
| F/T District Safeguarding Officer | 1 | 1 |
| Half-time District Resourcing Mission/Property Officers | 1 | 1 |

The Chair of S E District chairs meetings of the District Council and provides key management of the charity. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. Members of the District Council are the Trustees of the Charity and work with the Chair of District to manage the Charity.

15. Payments to Trustees

Expenses were reimbursed to Trustees for their travelling and out of pocket expenses.

| No. of Trustees | | Amount Reimbursed | |
|-----------------|------|-------------------|---------|
| 2024 | 2023 | 2024 | 2023 |
| 13 | 14 | £11,911 | £12,093 |

16. Ultimate controlling party

The ultimate controlling party of the District is considered to be the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church.

17. Related parties

The related parties of the District are seventeen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are all based in the south-eastern segment of England including the whole of Kent and most of Surrey and Sussex and includes small areas of Berkshire and Hampshire and the Circuits in Malta and Gibraltar. They are contactable via the principal office of the District. Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

During the year, no transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No. 33).

18. Capital commitments

| | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|------|------|
| At 31 st August 2024 the District had the following Capital Commitments: | Nil | Nil |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2024

19. Expenses related to Malta & Gibraltar

Each year, expenses incurred relating to members of the churches in Malta & Gibraltar travelling to District meetings are paid for by Methodist Church Fund so are not included in our SOFA. The amount for year 2024 is £4,859 (2023 £1,044).

20. Funds

| | Unrestricted | Restricted | TOTAL |
|--------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|
| Brought forward | 586,675 | 97,537 | 684,212 |
| Income | 206,764 | 564,816 | 771,580 |
| Expenditure | (189,535) | (609,208) | (798,743) |
| Other gains/losses | - | - | - |
| Carried forward | 603,904 | 53,145 | 657,049 |

District Advance Fund (included in Restricted Funds)

Many of the Grants agreed relate to future years and under the accounting requirements funds have been set aside for this purpose.

21. Funds (prior year)

| | Unrestricted | Restricted | TOTAL |
|--------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|
| Brought forward | 589,717 | 167,834 | 757,551 |
| Income | 214,203 | 398,142 | 612,345 |
| Expenditure | (217,245) | (468,439) | (685,684) |
| Other gains/losses | - | - | - |
| Carried forward | 586,675 | 97,537 | 684,212 |

22. Reconciliation of net cash provided by/(used by) operating activities

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Net expenditure for the reporting period | (27,163) | (73,339) |
| Interest received | (56,058) | (28,865) |
| (Increase)/decrease in debtors | 8,518 | (15,801) |
| Increase/(decrease) in creditors | <u>230,803</u> | <u>165,131</u> |
| | <u>156,100</u> | <u>47,126</u> |