

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130373

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2009-06-26

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

Contact

Address 3 Kings Lane
Yelvertoft
Northampton
NN6 6LX

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Website www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.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: Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas financially and with prayer

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Buckinghamshire
- Leicester City
- Leicestershire
- Milton Keynes
- Northamptonshire
- Oxfordshire
- Peterborough City
- Rutland
- Warwickshire

Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|----------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| 2024-08-31 | £928,442 | £1,019,475 | £617,766 | 11 |
| 2023-08-31 | £625,773 | £665,834 | £708,799 | 9 |
| 2022-08-31 | £615,566 | £941,520 | £745,860 | 9 |
| 2021-08-31 | £500,009 | £545,866 | £1,009,814 | 8 |
| 2020-08-31 | £505,196 | £301,267 | £812,404 | 6 |

Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|------------------------------|------|------------|
| Andrew Lewis | | 2016-08-30 |
| CHRISTOPHER LINFORD | | 2016-04-23 |
| Dr Hellen Okello | | 2021-08-13 |
| Jennifer Oliver | | 2023-09-09 |
| Matthew Forsyth | | 2021-08-02 |
| Olive Ruvimbo Ruzvidzo | | 2025-11-12 |
| PAUL SPRAY | | 2021-08-13 |
| Rev Alan John Bolton | | 2018-04-28 |
| Rev Andrew Stuart Farrington | | 2023-08-21 |
| Rev David Alderman | | 2021-12-08 |
| Rev Edson Dube | | 2024-08-20 |
| Rev Ian Suttie | | 2024-04-27 |
| Rev Karen Beecham | | 2025-08-06 |
| Rev Philip Robinson | | 2025-08-06 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130373

Accounts



**Trustees' Annual Report
and
Financial Statement**

Year Ending 31st August 2024

1 Objectives and activities

The Trustees form the District Executive (District Policy Committee - DPC) and meet at least quarterly to consider our objectives and to plan our activities. The District Synod, under the leadership of the District Trustees, meets twice each year and recognises the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and conforms to the Charities Act 2011.

Our primary purpose is to advance the mission of the Church in the region by supporting the Circuits, by providing opportunities to work together and by offering resources of finance, personnel and expertise that may not be available locally. Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the District and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. We aim to achieve this by encouraging the worship, social, and outreach activities and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the Church family. In a time of recovery after the pandemic and lockdown we have sought to remind the circuits of the resources they already have, and we have encouraged and supported the churches and circuits to be flexible in their outreach particularly in terms of digital presence and engagement.

2 Achievements and performance

In furtherance of these aims the District has this year:

- Drawn together representatives of the circuits responsible for the deployment of ministry resources, finance, property, leadership and oversight to enable them to learn from and support each other principally by zoom.
- Provided training for the above people relevant to their posts and responsibilities.
- Provided consultancy for the above people through district officers.
- Paid grants of £107,228 to circuits and churches in support of mission projects and property schemes with a clear priority for mission.
- Committed £436,572 to be paid in under 12 months to provide financial support of projects including £70,600 towards property schemes.
- Committed £283,332 for future years where a satisfactory monitoring and evaluation report has been received.
- Appointed a new member of the Mission Team to support circuits in engaging with digital/online presence, and to create content for and manage the District's social media channels and website.
- Appointed two new members to the District Safeguarding team focusing on circuit support and training.
- Made grants to ministers and lay people engaging in training relevant to their role in the church.
- Supported 4 probationer ministers in the early years of their ministry and 2 moving to ordination.
- Provided leadership in the development of regional co-operation with neighbouring Districts especially as regards the nurturing of probationer ministers across the region through a Shared Districts Probationers Committee.
- Filled all our vacant ministerial vacancies.
- Continued with learning and development opportunities for lay and ordained people through study days and learning groups all on zoom.
- Developed further the work of the Justice, Dignity & Solidarity Group within the District
- Continued to develop eco-summit gatherings of green champions in each circuit.
- Appointed Rev'd Dr Sonia Hicks as our new chair of District and rejoiced that our previous chair; Rev'd Helen Cameron was elected "President of the Methodist Conference" 2024-25.
- Continued to develop the twinning relationship with the Presbyterian Church in the Cameroon with a visit by Rev Forba (Moderator) to the District.

3 Financial review

During the year, the District received total income of £928k (2022-23: £626k) and dispersed £1,019k (2022-23: £666k).

The trustees of the District have every reason to believe that the District is a going concern, principally because Circuits continue to meet their assessments and the District has adequate funds in the District Advance Fund (DAF) to cover any shortfall in income. There are no subsidiary undertakings. Trustees do not foresee any factors that will significantly affect the financial performance or position in the next year or two.

The District has the following principal sources of funds:

- Interest on investments
- Levies on the Circuit Model Trust Funds of Circuits within the District
- Contribution from the Connexional Advance and Property Fund
- Assessments on Circuits within the District

These sums are used to administer the District and to provide grants to Circuits, Churches and individuals in the District so that they may embark on, or continue with, projects that fulfil the mission of the District by bringing more people to Christ or by providing facilities that might enable this to happen.

3.1 Investment Policy and Performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Districts and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the District. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere. The investment policy of the Northampton District is aligned with that of the Central Finance Board (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the CFB and attract good rates of interest.

There are no bench marks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. It is the District's policy to manage the cash and investment resources of the District so that a rate of return on investment – both by way of dividend and capital appreciation – is obtained at least as good as market rate considering the District's low appetite for risk.

3.2 Reserves level and policy

Although grants are made annually out of the District Advance Fund (DAF), it is recognised that some grants will be paid by annual instalments. The trustees ensure that there is sufficient in the DAF to meet these instalments, and the trustees recognise future approved grants as liabilities on the balance sheet.

Excluding the value of the manse, the reserves held in the General Fund at 31.08.24 are £27,455 (£34,971 at 31.08.23). This is more the sum required by our Reserves Policy (£20,000).

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

Year ended 31 August 2024

The reserves held at the end of the year were as follows:

| | £ | £ |
|---|---------|----------------|
| <i>Unrestricted funds</i> | | |
| General Fund | 552,455 | |
| District Advance Fund | -25,814 | |
| | | 526,641 |
| <i>Designated funds</i> | | |
| Manse Fund | 17,919 | |
| Training Fund | 7,207 | |
| Education and Youth | 10,063 | |
| FEAST | 21,359 | |
| Overstone Chaplain | -3,862 | |
| Digital Enabler | 4,274 | |
| | | 56,960 |
| Total unrestricted funds (including designated) | | 583,602 |
| <i>Restricted funds</i> | | |
| Local Preachers Fund | 12,888 | |
| Ministerial Training Fund | 5,231 | |
| Benevolence Fund | 834 | |
| Methodist Women in Britain | 668 | |
| MAPJ Grant | 14,544 | |
| | | 34,164 |
| Total Funds | | 617,766 |
| Total designated and unrestricted funds | | 583,602 |
| Less invested in the manse | | -525,000 |
| Uncommitted reserves | | 58,602 |

All funds are separately invested either with CFB or TMCP. No money is directly invested in property, securities or other forms of investment.

3.3 Collaborative arrangements with connected charities

The District's main source of funding for general expenses is the assessments obtained from each Circuit within the District based on the staffing levels of the Circuit and their reserves. This was used to defray most of the cost of administering the District. This sum amounted to £198,907 (2022-23: £148,963).

Each year the District is allocated a sum by the London Mission Fund (LMF). In 2023-24 this amounted to £19,705 which will be used to pay for, or contribute towards, the cost of certain activities within the District. This sum is not remitted to the District and does not appear in the accounts of the District because the District acts as agent for the LMF. Instead, the District nominates some grant applications which can be met by the LMF and passes these to the LMF so that the LMF can pay the grant directly to the grantee. Grants were awarded to various projects in the District.

The District also obtained from each Circuit with a reserve, known as a Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF), a levy based on the size of the Circuits' CMTFs at the start of the connexional year (01 September). In 2023-24 this sum was £160,323 and was credited to the District Advance Fund.

The District holds no funds as custodian trustee. However, it does receive quarterly contributions from Circuits for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF). These sums are collected as agent for the MCF and are passed to the MCF later in the same quarter. Funds received by the District as agent are not recognised as an asset in the financial statements because the funds are not within its control. No fee is earned in respect of this and the District incurs no cost through this arrangement.

4 Trustees' responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31 August the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the District's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees must:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently using the accruals method
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- follow applicable accounting standards
- prepare accounts to comply with the Charities SORP

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the District and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the District and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the District's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Training in the responsibilities of trustees is offered to all new trustees soon after their appointment.

4.1 Risk

The District is largely risk averse but, especially in making grants to entities embarking on new and imaginative initiatives, the District is prepared to underwrite considered risks.

Risks are managed by being aware of them, quantifying their impact not only in cost terms but in possible reputational or structural damage, laying them off through an insurer and minimising them by not taking them or by setting up control systems that timeously report any significant change in the risk.

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.

5 Structure, governance and management

The District is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commission on 26 June 2009.

5.1 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of Churches and they pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the Churches in the Circuit. Most decisions are made at, or ratified by, the regular Circuit Meetings. A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at the half yearly synods. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The connexional offices implement decisions made by Conference and are also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within the District.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

Year ended 31 August 2024

3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

5.2 Purpose of the District

The District is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any Circuit, of the Connexional character of the Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the union, the advancement of:

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church
- b. any charitable purposes 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 of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this District is to advance the mission of the Church in Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire together with parts of several adjoining counties. This is achieved by

- providing opportunities for Circuits to work together and support each other
- offering to Circuits resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The District serves the Local Churches and Circuits and the Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church, and in programmes of training.

5.3 Governance

The District operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the connexional offices at 25 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SF to provide guidance on changes that could affect the District.

The members of the District Executive (DPC) are annually appointed by a vote of the Synod for a continuous term not normally exceeding six years. The Chair of District is *ex officio* chair of the District Executive. When a position becomes vacant on the District Executive, nominations are invited from ministers and lay members of Circuits within the District. The Chair of the District then shares with nominees what the roles involve. If they wish to be considered for a role, their names and reasoned statements are taken to the District Executive and the District Synod for appointment. Members may be either ministers or lay people attending Churches in the area covered by the District.

The District Executive normally meets at least four times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the work of the Grants Committee, finance, property, the District office, the District manses, stationing, safeguarding, the work of the District Mission Team, authorisations to preside at communion and extensions to local preacher training.

5.4 Responsibilities of the District Executive (DPC)

- i to formulate and promote policies which will advance the mission of the Church in the Circuits and Local Churches and to supervise the use of resources of personnel, property and finance and to assist Local Churches and Circuits having exceptional problems
- ii to encourage inter-Circuit and ecumenical co-operation
- iii to act in an executive capacity in matters remitted to the Committee by the Synod
- iv to keep within its purview all District concerns not dealt with elsewhere
- v to contribute and respond to the development of Connexional policies as reflected in the work of the Conference and the Methodist Council, and to carry out its other responsibilities with any such development in mind
- vi to be aware that the stipend of the Chair of the District is set – currently by reference to the change over a year in the Consumer Price Index and to the annual change in the Average Weekly Earnings Index – using a formula that was agreed by the Methodist Conference for all ministers within the Connexion
- vii constantly to be aware of the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission

6 Reference and Administrative Details

6.1 Name of the charity

The Northampton District of the Methodist Church.

6.2 Charity registration number

1130373, registered in England and Wales

6.3 Principal Office

District Office
Bouverie Court
6 The Lakes
Bedford Road
Northampton
NN4 7YD

Tel: 01604 630128

E-mail: northampton.distoffice@gmail.com

Web-site: www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk

6.4 Chair of the District

Revd. Dr. Sonia Hicks

6.5 Secretary of the Synod

Revd. Alan Bolton (Presbyteral)
Mr Paul Spray (Representative)

6.6 District Treasurer

Mr Andrew Lewis

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2024

6.7 Names of trustees

The following served as trustees during the year 2023-24 or were trustees at the time of this report being approved:

Revd. Canon Helen Cameron (Chair) to 10 June 2024
Revd. Dr. Sonia Hicks (Chair) from 03 August 2024
Revd. Alan Bolton (Presbyteral Synod Secretary)
Revd. Lesley Dinham to 31 October 2023 (Secretary)
Mr Andrew Lewis (Treasurer & Grants Officer)
Mr Chris Linford (Property Secretary)
Mr Matthew Forsyth (District Mission Enabler)
Revd. David Alderman (Deputy Chair)
Dr. Hellen Okello
Revd. Andrew Farrington
Ms Janet Hinds
Mr Paul Spray (Representative Synod Secretary)
Revd. Miriam Moul to 31 July 2024
Mr Philip Jones to 31 July 2024
Revd. Sara Cliff
Revd. Langley Mackrell-Hey
Revd. David Speirs
Revd. Kate Strange (Deputy Chair) to 31 July 2024
Revd. Andrew Hollins (Ecumenical Officer) to 26 April 2024
Mrs Jennifer Oliver from 09 September 2023 (Secretary)
Rev'd Ian Suttie (Ecumenical Officer) from 27 April 2024
Rev'd Edson Dube from 20 August 2024

The Managing Trustees for the District are the members of the District Executive (DPC).
No trustee claims exemption from disclosure of his or her name here.

6.8 Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

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

6.9 Investment managers and custodian trustees

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

6.10 Independent Examiner

Mr David Briscoe
11 De Montfort Road
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1LQ

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2024

Approvals

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the District Executive Committee on 12 June 2025.

Signed on behalf of the District Executive Committee



Revd. Dr Sonia Hicks
District Chair
Date: 12 June 2025

Andrew Lewis
District Treasurer
Date: 12 June 2025

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2024

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

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total 2023-24 |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | | £ |
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 250 | | 250 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 397,292 | | | | 397,292 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 5,337 | 73,966 | 2,394 | 999 | | 82,696 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 198,907 | | | | | 198,907 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 160,323 | | | | 160,323 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 49,075 | | | | | 49,075 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | 5,755 | 16,284 | 2,097 | 15,764 | | 39,900 |
| Total income | | 259,074 | 647,864 | 4,491 | 17,013 | 0 | 928,442 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | 1,665 | -254,629 | 1,320 | 15,450 | | -236,194 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2024-25 | 5 | 7,750 | 221,872 | | | | 229,622 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2024-25 | 5 | | 492,782 | | | | 492,782 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 240,732 | | 113,764 | | | 354,496 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 60,227 | | | | | 60,227 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 18,998 | | | | | 18,998 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 17,952 | 3,228 | 1,222 | | | 22,402 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 6,228 | | | | | 6,228 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 8,382 | | 2,000 | | | 10,382 |
| 16 Professional fees | 11 | 348 | | | | | 348 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 12 | 51,483 | | 6,839 | 1,862 | | 60,184 |
| Total expenditure | | 413,766 | 463,252 | 125,145 | 17,312 | 0 | 1,019,475 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | | |
| | | -154,692 | 184,612 | -120,654 | -299 | 0 | -91,033 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -154,692 | 184,612 | -120,654 | -299 | 0 | -91,033 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 13 | 147,175 | -263,927 | 116,752 | | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net movement in funds | | -7,516 | -79,315 | -3,902 | -299 | 0 | -91,033 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 559,971 | 53,502 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 0 | 708,799 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 552,455 | -25,814 | 56,960 | 34,164 | 0 | 617,766 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2024

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

| Notes to the Accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) £ | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | Total 2023-24 £ | Total 2022-23 £ |
|---|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fixed Assets | | | | | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 14 | 525,000 | | | | 525,000 | 525,000 |
| Investment properties | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed assets | | 525,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 525,000 | 525,000 |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | |
| Debtors | 17 | | | 3,367 | | 3,367 | 3,932 |
| Loans by the District | | | 405,000 | | | 405,000 | 0 |
| Investments with TMCP | | | 951,690 | | | 951,690 | 1,132,509 |
| Central Finance Board Deposits | 22 | 33,928 | | 53,724 | 34,164 | 121,816 | 139,361 |
| Cash at Bank and in hand | | 5,195 | | | | 5,195 | 5,749 |
| Total current assets | | 39,123 | 1,356,690 | 57,091 | 34,164 | 1,487,069 | 1,281,550 |
| Current liabilities | | | | | | | |
| Creditors (due in under 1 year) | 18 | 3,918 | | 130 | | 4,049 | 7,447 |
| Grants payable in 2024-25 | 5 | 7,750 | 436,572 | | | 444,322 | 422,454 |
| Total current liabilities | | 11,668 | 436,572 | 130 | 0 | 448,371 | 429,901 |
| Net current assets/liabilities | | 27,455 | 920,118 | 56,960 | 34,164 | 1,038,698 | 851,649 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 552,455 | 920,118 | 56,960 | 34,164 | 1,563,698 | 1,376,649 |
| Long term liabilities (due after more than one year) | | | | | | | |
| Grants payable after 2024-25 | | | 945,932 | | | 945,932 | 667,850 |
| Loans to the District | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Net assets | | 552,455 | -25,814 | 56,960 | 34,164 | 617,766 | 708,799 |
| Funds of the District | | | | | | | |
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 552,455 | | | | 552,455 | 559,971 |
| District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | | | -25,814 | | | -25,814 | 53,502 |
| Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | | | 56,960 | | | 56,960 | 60,863 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | 583,602 | 674,336 |
| Restricted Funds | | | | 34,164 | | 34,164 | 34,464 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Funds | | 552,455 | -25,814 | 56,960 | 34,164 | 617,766 | 708,799 |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 12 June 2025.



Signed: Revd. Dr. Sonia Hicks
District Chair



Andrew Lewis
District Treasurer

1 Accounting framework and accounting policies

i Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP's 2005 version specified in its related 2008 Regulations and in accordance with the "true and fair override" provision contained therein.

ii Public benefit entity

The Northampton Methodist District meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been based on historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year, on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the District's financial position and activities.

iv Content

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.

v Going concern

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

vi Consolidation

The District oversees the work of ministers and lay workers in Churches and Circuits within the District but does not have control over those Circuits or Churches, ministers or lay workers except in extreme circumstances, none of which were applicable. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches and Circuits within the District are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue to the Northampton District. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers. Details of the cost of the District Chair are in Note 3 and the same figure also appears in the Expenditure at Note 6.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The District acts as agent in the following matters:

- the collection of quarterly assessments from circuits which are paid to the Methodist Church Fund (MCF).
- the payment of expenses of delegates from the District to the Methodist Conference.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

Year ended 31 August 2024

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because there is no obligation on the District to make up any shortfall in assessments from Circuits. Sums received as Circuit assessments cannot be recognised as income in the District as they are the income of the MCF.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised.

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the District to pay out resources.

ix Grants

Grants are recognised annually only as and when any performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Finance and Grants Committee being satisfied, based on progress reports from the grantee, that the grant's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of that grant. Such commitments are noted as contingent liabilities and included within the District Advance Fund or other relevant designated fund in these accounts.

x VAT

Since the District is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xi Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. The manse (289 Billing Road East) is shown in the accounts at £525,000 and the land component is deemed to be £110,000.

No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material.

xii Investments

The investments of the Northampton District are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA.

xiii Debtors and Creditors; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the District. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at the realisable values.

xiv Loans

Where concessionary loans (*i.e.* free of interest) are made to (or received by) the District to further its charitable purposes, and are repayable after more than one year, they are initially recognised at the amount paid [or received], with the carrying value adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any impairment, if necessary.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

Year ended 31 August 2024

Where there is objective evidence of impairment, an immediate impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. Subsequent reversals of an impairment loss that objectively relate to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities]

xv Methodist Church Fund

The District acts as agent for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF) by collecting its assessments on Circuits and does not, therefore, include the assessments in the SOFA. If a Circuit is late in paying its MCF assessment to the District but such sum is received before the quarterly transfer to the MCF, the amount paid late will be shown as a debtor in the District's accounts.

xvi Ministers' manse costs

The District is required to provide accommodation for each Minister and their families. The District bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These costs are not shown separately as benefits-in-kind for Ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of the Ministers.

2 a) Assessment on Circuits

All Circuits (see list given below in this note) paid their assessments to the District and to the MCF during the year. The assessment on Circuits is annually determined by an agreed formula.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Oxford | 2 Wantage & Abingdon |
| 3 West Oxfordshire | 5 Banbury |
| 6 Buckingham, Bicester & Brackley | 7 Leicester Trinity |
| 9 Leicester West | 10 Loughborough |
| 11 Hinckley | 12 Melton Mowbray |
| 13 Northampton | 14 East Mercia |
| 15 Stamford | 21 Peterborough |
| 23 Nene Valley | 26 Milton Keynes |
| 27 High Wycombe | 28 Amersham |
| 29 Vale of Aylesbury | |

b) Contribution to Methodist Church Fund (MCF)

In addition to the assessments on the Circuits to help defray the costs of running the District, the District acted as agent for the Methodist Church Fund which levied assessments on the Circuits in this District totalling £768,016 (2022-23: £704,602) all of which were collected or shown as debtors at the end of the year and paid over to the MCF in the year. No balance was held at the end of the year; no fee is received for this service which is performed at nearly nil cost to the District. These sums collected for and remitted to the MCF do not appear elsewhere in these financial statements.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

Year ended 31 August 2024

3 Cost of Chair and trustees

District Chair

The Chair of District chairs meetings of the District Executive Committee (District Policy Committee or DPC). The members of the DPC are the trustees of the District. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The Chair's other costs are met mostly by the District.

| | £ |
|--|---------------|
| Stipend of Chair of District, Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron | 31,020 |
| District Chair Allowance | 7,755 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 4,096 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 6,204 |
| Chair's expenses (including travel costs) | 7,502 |
| Housing Costs (Insurance, Water and Council Tax) | 3,650 |
| Total | 60,227 |
| Stipend cost paid by the Connexion (see SOFA, line 6) | 49,075 |
| Total Cost to District | 11,152 |

Since the stipend-related costs above (£49,075) are borne by the Connexion, they appear both in the Income of the District and the Expenditure of the District (See Note 6). It should be noted that the chair is required to occupy the District manse. The manse is provided by the Northampton District and the District maintains the property.

No accrual is made for the Chair's entitlement to a sabbatical as her functions are undertaken by a Deputy Chair at minimal extra cost to the District.

District Mission Enabler

The District Mission Enabler (DME) is employed by the District to concentrate on supporting and resourcing circuits and churches for their mission. The DME is a member of the District Executive Committee and a trustee. Remuneration of the DME is legally authorised as provided in the governing document as described in the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church (Book II, Part 2)

All costs of his employment in 2023-24 were met by the District as follows:

| | 2023-24 | 2022-23 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Salary of DME, Mr. Matthew Forsyth | 49,458 | 45,864 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 5,570 | 5,151 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 2,967 | 2,752 |
| Other Payroll costs including Apprenticeship Levy | 337 | 354 |
| Total | 58,332 | 54,121 |
| DME's travel expenses | 4,638 | 4,280 |
| DME's Office equipment | 442 | 361 |
| DME's other expenses | 651 | 691 |
| Total Cost | 64,063 | 59,453 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

Year ended 31 August 2024

Payments to trustees

It is District policy to offer to reimburse members of the District Executive Committee and others involved in the administration of District affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The Chair of the District undertakes the primary executive role within the District. Apart from the Chair of District and the District Mission Enabler, no member of the District Executive Committee was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the District, although certain travelling and administration costs were reimbursed whenever this was requested.

4 Other income

The District does not undertake fundraising.

5 Grants and donations and related support costs

Grants and donations totalling £420,455 were paid from the District Advance Fund during the year (2022-23: £346,930). £286,278 was paid in grants to churches and circuits in the District and £134,177 was transferred to the General Fund as shown in the tables below.

| Transfers from District Advance Fund | 2023-24 |
|---|----------------|
| | £ |
| To District General Fund for the DME | 60,000 |
| To District General Fund for Ecumenical Sponsorship | 8,661 |
| To District General Fund for Circuit Assessments | 18,016 |
| To District General Fund for Safeguarding | 47,500 |
| To District General Fund for FEAST | 56,000 |
| To District General Fund for the Overstone Chaplain | 35,000 |
| To District General Fund for the Digital Enabler | 30,000 |
| To District General Fund for Education & Youth Work | 8,750 |
| Total transferred to District General Fund | 263,927 |

| Grants paid from DAF | 2023-24 |
|---|-----------------|
| | £ |
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 295,887 |
| Property Grants | 107,168 |
| Start-Up Grants | 17,400 |
| Total Paid | 420,455 |
| Less Transfers to District General Fund | -263,927 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.23 | -411,157 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9 | -254,629 |

| Grants to be paid during 2024-25 | £ |
|---|----------------|
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 365,972 |
| Property Grants | 70,600 |
| Total to be paid | 436,572 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.23 | 214,700 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9a | 221,872 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2024

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Grants to be paid after 2024-25 | £ |
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 945,932 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.23 | 453,150 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9b | 492,782 |

Details of the recipients of grants paid by the District during the year may be found on the District website:

<https://www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/lib/daf-report-2023-24-F895410.pdf>

Funds held for District Projects

| Description | Balance at 01.09.23 | Balance at 31.08.24 | Increase Decrease |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| General Fund | | | |
| Extending Discipleship Exploring Vocation (EDEV) | 1,374 | 1,374 | 0 |
| Training Officer / Development Enabler | 6,876 | 6,376 | -500 |
| Together Mission | 3,047 | 0 | -3,047 |
| Totals – General Fund | 11,297 | 7,750 | -3,547 |
| Designated and Restricted Funds | | | |
| NPNP – FEAST | 26,457 | 21,359 | -5,098 |
| Overstone Chaplaincy | -3,958 | -3,862 | 96 |
| Digital Enabler | 0 | 4,274 | 4,274 |
| MAPJ Funding for Grants (Restricted) | 14,604 | 14,544 | -60 |
| Methodist Women in Britain (Restricted) | 438 | 668 | 230 |
| Totals – Designated and Restricted Funds | 37,541 | 36,983 | -558 |

Expenditure on charitable activities through the District Advance Fund (DAF)

The DAF receives formulaically determined contributions from the Circuit Model Trust Funds held by Circuits within the District and redistributes the monies to grantees in the District through relevant grants as assessed by the District Finance and Grants Committee. The Finance and Grants Committee is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit.

6 Salaries and associated costs

In addition to the District Mission Enabler, gross salaries were paid to three full time and eight part time employees. Of these employees, three left and were replaced during the year and an additional full-time employee was recruited. Their total costs were as follows:

| | 2023-24 |
|---|----------------|
| | £ |
| Gross pay | 138,385 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 11,833 |
| Employer's pension contributions to defined contribution schemes | 31,130 |
| Miscellaneous Payroll Costs including the Apprenticeship Levy | 1,052 |
| Total costs of 11 staff | 182,401 |
| Cost of District Mission Enabler (see Note 3) | 57,995 |
| Miscellaneous DME Payroll Costs including the Apprenticeship Levy | 337 |
| Total (excluding the Chair) | 240,732 |
| Cost of Chair (see Note 3) | 49,075 |
| Total staff costs | 289,807 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2024

All lay employees are paid at or above the real living wage.

The lay employees provided services for safeguarding, administration, Human Resources, Mission and one was employed as a Community Chaplain.

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

Lay employees are contractually employees and are automatically enrolled in NEST if eligible.

7 Property Maintenance

| | 2023-24 | 2022-23 |
|---------------|---------------|----------|
| | £ | £ |
| Chair's manse | 18,998 | 0 |
| Total | 18,998 | 0 |

8 Office expenses (General fund)

| | 2023-24 | 2022-23 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 1,935 | 995 |
| Telephone | 2,042 | 1,599 |
| Bouverie Court | 8,640 | 8,640 |
| Office staff costs (excluding salaries) | 3,465 | 3,583 |
| Office Equipment | 1,870 | 673 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 17,952 | 15,489 |
| TMCP Charges | 3,228 | 3,239 |
| Overstone Office | 1,222 | 160 |
| Total | 22,402 | 18,889 |

9 Synods, Committees, Conference

| | 2023-24 | 2022-23 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Synods | 1,727 | 843 |
| Committees | 4,501 | 3026 |
| Total | 6,228 | 3,870 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2024

10 Training

| | 2023-24 | 2022-23 |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Further Ministerial Training | 7,470 | 7,102 |
| Education and Youth | 0 | 1,146 |
| Other Training | 912 | 0 |
| Total | 8,382 | 8,248 |

11 Professional Fees

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| | £ |
| Bank Fees | 60 |
| Independent Examination of Accounts | 288 |
| Total | 348 |

12 Other outgoings

| | |
|---|---------------|
| | £ |
| Safeguarding Costs (excl. Salaries) | 8,059 |
| Ministers' meetings (including Superintendents, new ministers and District Retreat) | 6,016 |
| DME Expenses (see Note 3) | 5,731 |
| Co-Chairs | 5,000 |
| Ecumenical Subscriptions | 8,661 |
| MCF Assessment | 18,016 |
| Total from General Fund | 51,483 |

13 Transfers between funds

The following transfers between funds were made during 2023-24.

| | General Fund | Designated Funds | DAF |
|--|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| District Mission Enabler | 60,000 | | (60,000) |
| Ecumenical Subscriptions | 8,661 | | (8,661) |
| To General Fund for MCF Assessment | 18,016 | | (18,016) |
| To General Fund for Safeguarding Costs | 47,500 | | (47,500) |
| FEAST | | 56,000 | (56,000) |
| Overstone Chaplain | | 35,000 | (35,000) |
| Digital Enabler | | 30,000 | (30,000) |
| Education & Youth | | 8,750 | (8,750) |
| Manse Repair Fund | 12,998 | -12,998 | |
| Totals | 147,175 | 116,752 | (263,927) |

14 Manse and other property

The District Chair's manse at 289 Billing Road East.

| | Land | Buildings | Others | Total |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Cost or valuation | | | | |
| Balance brought forward at 1 September 2023 | 110,000 | 415,000 | 0 | 525,000 |
| Balance carried forward at 31 August 2024 | 110,000 | 415,000 | 0 | 525,000 |

15 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

The funds that support the District Advance Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

16 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Cash at Bank

The District holds a current account with CAF Bank, an authorised institution. The sums held are immediately available. In addition, the District has seven deposit accounts at CFB, a common deposit fund. Interest is earned on these accounts and credited monthly; the sums deposited can be withdrawn without notice and without loss of interest. These sums are viewed as being liquid.

17 Debtors and prepayments

| Prepayments | 2023-24 | 2022-23 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Chesford Grange – Supers' Conf. – October 2023 | 0 | 982 |
| Launde Abbey – Probationers' Retreat – February 2024 | 0 | 2,530 |
| Chairs' Retreat 2024 | 0 | 120 |
| Benevolence Fund Payment | 0 | 300 |
| Ministerial Stipend (incl. Pension and NIC) | 3,367 | 0 |
| Total | 3,367 | 3,932 |

18 Creditors and accrued expenses

| Creditors | 2023-24 | 2022-23 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Expenses reimbursement | 3,118 | 980 |
| Training Course Expenses | 0 | 571 |
| Printing | 0 | 12 |
| Deposits for Probationers' Retreat – February 2024 | 0 | 5,783 |
| Leaving Collection – to be forwarded | 0 | 100 |
| Youth Event | 665 | 0 |
| Telephone Costs | 113 | 0 |
| Office Maintenance (IT Recycling) | 93 | 0 |
| Supervision Sessions | 60 | 0 |
| Total | 4,049 | 7,447 |

19 Grant Commitments and the District Advance Fund

Where grants are payable in annual instalments, it is necessary for the grantee to provide a satisfactory report on the achievements of activities funded by previous instalments of the multi-year grant award before any further instalments are paid. These reports are reviewed at the July meeting of the Finance and Grants Committee and the commitments for the following financial year are confirmed at that meeting subject to the approval of the District Executive (DPC). It is the District's policy to recognise these committed grants as expenditure out of this fund and thus accrue the unpaid amounts at the year-end as liabilities. Payments for all subsequent years are included even though they remain subject to a satisfactory progress report.

20 Unrestricted Funds

20.1 General Fund – balance £552,445 on 31 August 2024

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the District and which have not been designated for other purposes. £525,000 of this fund is held as freehold property (the manse for the Chair of District).

20.2 Designated Funds – balance £56,960 on 31 August 2024

These funds are to serve specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. These funds comprise:

- The Manse Fund – balance £17,919 (2023: £29,392) is available to meet the costs of maintenance and improvements in the accommodation at the District manse.
- The Training Fund – balance £7,207 (2023: £6,848).
- The Education and Youth Fund – balance £10,063 (2023: £2,124).
- *NPNP (FEAST) – balance £21,359 (2023: £26,457).
- *Overstone Chaplaincy – balance **-£3,862** (2023: **-£3,958**).
- *Digital Enabler – balance £4,274

*The funds for these projects are held in the General Fund account and not in separate bank accounts.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2024

21 Restricted Funds - balance £34,164 on 31 August 2024

- The Local Preachers' Fund – balance £12,888 (2023: £12,246)
- The Ministerial Training Fund – balance £5,231(2023: £4,971)
- The Benevolence Fund – balance £834 (2023: £2,204)
- * Methodist Women in Britain – balance £668 (2023: £438)
- * Funds from the Connexion for MAPJ Grants £14,544 (2023: £14,604)

*The funds for these projects are held in the General Fund account and not in separate bank accounts.

22 Summary of movements on significant individual funds

| Fund | Balance at 01.09.23 £ | Income £ | Expen- diture £ | Trans- fers £ | Gains/ Losses £ | Balance at 31.08.24 £ |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| General Fund | 559,971 | 259,074 | 413,766 | 147,175 | | 552,455 |
| District Advance Fund | 53,502 | 647,864 | 463,252 | -263,927 | | -25,814 |
| Manse (Designated) | 29,392 | 1,526 | | -12,998 | | 17,919 |
| Training (Designated) | 6,848 | 359 | | | | 7,207 |
| Education and Youth (Designated) | 2,124 | 510 | 1,320 | 8,750 | | 10,063 |
| FEAST (NPNP) (Designated) | 26,457 | | 61,098 | 56,000 | | 21,359 |
| Overstone Chaplain (Designated) | -3,958 | | 34,903 | 35,000 | | -3,862 |
| Digital Enabler (Designated) | 0 | 2,097 | 27,823 | 30,000 | | 4,274 |
| Total designated | 60,863 | 4,491 | 125,145 | -116,752 | | 56,960 |
| Local Preachers Fund (Restricted) | 12,246 | 641 | | | | 12,888 |
| Ministerial Training Fund (Restricted) | 4,971 | 260 | | | | 5,231 |
| Benevolence Fund (Restricted) | 2,204 | 347 | 1,717 | | | 834 |
| Methodist Women in Britain (Restricted) | 438 | 374 | 145 | | | 668 |
| MAPJ - Grants | 14,604 | 15,390 | 15,450 | | | 14,544 |
| Total restricted | 34,464 | 17,013 | 17,312 | 0 | | 34,164 |
| Total Funds | 708,799 | 1,058,192 | 1,149,226 | 0 | | 617,766 |

23 Connected organisations and related parties

Connected organisations include the Methodist Connexion, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP. All these entities have their own trustees or directors and autonomous administration such that this District has no significant influence over any of them, nor they over any District. Therefore, they are not considered related parties.

The related parties of the District are the nineteen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are based in the counties of Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire together with parts of several adjoining Counties. They are contactable by the District web site www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2024

During the year, the following transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No 8). Expenses were reimbursed by the charity to Revd Canon Helen D. Cameron, Mr Matthew Forsyth and other trustees in respect of motor and travel expenses, postage, supplies and repairs and have been included in the figures set out above.

24 Volunteer contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit, Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. Principally this contribution is by serving on committees of the District that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, grants, training, development. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment.

25 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31.08.24.

A C Lewis
District Treasurer
May 2025

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

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total 2023-24 |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | | £ |
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 250 | | 250 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 397,292 | | | | 397,292 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 5,337 | 73,966 | 2,394 | 999 | | 82,696 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 198,907 | | | | | 198,907 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 160,323 | | | | 160,323 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 49,075 | | | | | 49,075 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | 5,755 | 16,284 | 2,097 | 15,764 | | 39,900 |
| Total income | | 259,074 | 647,864 | 4,491 | 17,013 | 0 | 928,442 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | 1,665 | -254,629 | 1,320 | 15,450 | | -236,194 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2024-25 | 5 | 7,750 | 221,872 | | | | 229,622 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2024-25 | 5 | | 492,782 | | | | 492,782 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 240,732 | | 113,764 | | | 354,496 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 60,227 | | | | | 60,227 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 18,998 | | | | | 18,998 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 17,952 | 3,228 | 1,222 | | | 22,402 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 6,228 | | | | | 6,228 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 8,382 | | 2,000 | | | 10,382 |
| 16 Professional fees | 11 | 348 | | | | | 348 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 12 | 51,483 | | 6,839 | 1,862 | | 60,184 |
| Total expenditure | | 413,766 | 463,252 | 125,145 | 17,312 | 0 | 1,019,475 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | | |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | -154,692 | 184,612 | -120,654 | -299 | 0 | -91,033 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -154,692 | 184,612 | -120,654 | -299 | 0 | -91,033 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 13 | 147,175 | -263,927 | 116,752 | | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net movement in funds | | -7,516 | -79,315 | -3,902 | -299 | 0 | -91,033 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 559,971 | 53,502 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 0 | 708,799 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 552,455 | -25,814 | 56,960 | 34,164 | 0 | 617,766 |

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

| Notes to the Accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) £ | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | Total 2023-24 £ | Total 2022-23 £ |
|---|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fixed Assets | | | | | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 14 | 525,000 | | | | 525,000 | 525,000 |
| Investment properties | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed assets | | 525,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 525,000 | 525,000 |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | |
| Debtors | 17 | | | 3,367 | | 3,367 | 3,932 |
| Loans by the District | | | 405,000 | | | 405,000 | 0 |
| Investments with TMCP | | | 951,690 | | | 951,690 | 1,132,509 |
| Central Finance Board Deposits | 22 | 33,928 | | 53,724 | 34,164 | 121,816 | 139,361 |
| Cash at Bank and in hand | | 5,195 | | | | 5,195 | 5,749 |
| Total current assets | | 39,123 | 1,356,690 | 57,091 | 34,164 | 1,487,069 | 1,281,550 |
| Current liabilities | | | | | | | |
| Creditors (due in under 1 year) | 18 | 3,918 | | 130 | | 4,049 | 7,447 |
| Grants payable in 2024-25 | 5 | 7,750 | 436,572 | | | 444,322 | 422,454 |
| Total current liabilities | | 11,668 | 436,572 | 130 | 0 | 448,371 | 429,901 |
| Net current assets/liabilities | | 27,455 | 920,118 | 56,960 | 34,164 | 1,038,698 | 851,649 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 552,455 | 920,118 | 56,960 | 34,164 | 1,563,698 | 1,376,649 |
| Long term liabilities (due after more than one year) | | | | | | | |
| Grants payable after 2024-25 | | | 945,932 | | | 945,932 | 667,850 |
| Loans to the District | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Net assets | | 552,455 | -25,814 | 56,960 | 34,164 | 617,766 | 708,799 |
| Funds of the District | | | | | | | |
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 552,455 | | | | 552,455 | 559,971 |
| District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | | | -25,814 | | | -25,814 | 53,502 |
| Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | | | | 56,960 | | 56,960 | 60,863 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | 583,602 | 674,336 |
| Restricted Funds | | | | 34,164 | | 34,164 | 34,464 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Funds | | 552,455 | -25,814 | 56,960 | 34,164 | 617,766 | 708,799 |

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

| Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total 2022-23 |
|--|--------------------------------|---|---|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | | £ |
| Income from | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | 453 | | 453 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | 163,754 | | | | 163,754 |
| 3 Income from investments | 4,181 | 39,704 | 1,194 | 766 | | 45,845 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 148,963 | | | | | 148,963 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | 157,729 | | | | 157,729 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 50,128 | | | | | 50,128 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | 11,297 | | 33,000 | 14,604 | | 58,901 |
| Total income | 214,569 | 361,187 | 34,194 | 15,823 | 0 | 625,773 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | | -193,431 | 1,810 | 1,500 | | -190,121 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2023-24 | 11,297 | 240,407 | | | | 251,704 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2023-24 | | 218,950 | | | | 218,950 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 187,858 | | 29,293 | | | 217,151 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 55,734 | | | | | 55,734 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | | | | | | 0 |
| 13 Office expenses | 15,489 | 3,239 | 160 | | | 18,889 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 3,870 | | | | | 3,870 |
| 15 Training | 8,248 | | 920 | | | 9,168 |
| 16 Professional fees | 348 | | | | | 348 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 29,743 | 15,092 | 35,308 | | | 80,142 |
| Total expenditure | 312,586 | 284,257 | 67,491 | 1,500 | 0 | 665,834 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | -98,018 | 76,930 | -33,297 | 14,323 | 0 | -40,061 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | -98,018 | 76,930 | -33,297 | 14,323 | 0 | -40,061 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 63,472 | -65,972 | 60,179 | -57,679 | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) | 3,000 | | | | | 3,000 |
| Net movement in funds | -31,546 | 10,958 | 26,883 | -43,356 | 0 | -37,061 |
| Total funds brought forward | 591,517 | 42,544 | 33,980 | 77,819 | | 745,860 |
| Total funds carried forward | 559,971 | 53,502 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 0 | 708,799 |

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the District and that they include all funds under the control of the District Policy Committee.

Signature of treasurer:




Date: 13th May 2025

Name and address of treasurer : Andrew Lewis,
"Cassiopeia", 3 Kings Lane, Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire
Post Code: NN6 6LX

Presentation to the District Policy Committee

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were presented to the District Policy Committee held on 12th June 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:



Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev'd. Dr. Sonia Hicks

Date: 12th June 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Northampton District Charity Number 1130373

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Northampton District for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages ... to As the District'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 District'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

[The District's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of (*insert name of applicable listed body*)]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

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; or
- 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 *Delete if not applicable ie all R&P accounts*
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts *Delete if not applicable ie all R&P accounts.*

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 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 

Name of independent examiner: D.J. Briscoe

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACMA

Name of firm: AIMS Accountants for Business

Address : 11 De Montfort Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire

Post Code : LE10 1LQ

Date 10. JUNE 2025

* delete or circle as appropriate

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130373

Accounts



**Trustees' Annual Report
and
Financial Statement**

Year Ending 31st August 2023

1 Objectives and activities

The Trustees form the District Executive (District Policy Committee - DPC) and meet at least quarterly to consider our objectives and to plan our activities. The District Synod, under the leadership of the District Trustees, meets twice each year and recognises the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and conforms to the Charities Act 2011.

Our primary purpose is to advance the mission of the Church in the region by supporting the Circuits, by providing opportunities to work together and by offering resources of finance, personnel and expertise that may not be available locally. Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the District and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. We aim to achieve this by encouraging the worship, social, and outreach activities and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the Church family. In a time of recovery after the pandemic and lockdown we have sought to remind the circuits of the resources they already have and we have encouraged and supported the churches and circuits to be flexible in their outreach particularly in terms of digital presence and engagement.

2 Achievements and performance

In furtherance of these aims the District has this year:

- Drawn together representatives of the circuits responsible for the deployment of ministry resources, finance, property, leadership and oversight to enable them to learn from and support each other principally by zoom.
- Provided training for the above people relevant to their posts and responsibilities.
- Provided consultancy for the above people through district officers.
- Paid grants of £227,928 to circuits and churches in support of mission projects and property schemes with a clear priority for mission.
- Committed £411,157 to be paid in under 12 months to provide financial support of projects including £163,502 towards property schemes.
- Committed £265,415 for future years where a satisfactory monitoring and evaluation report has been received.
- Appointed a new member of the Mission team to support circuits in engaging with New Places for New People focusing primarily on small group nurture.
- Made grants to ministers and lay people engaging in training relevant to their role in the church.
- Supported 4 candidates for ordained presbyteral ministry (3 of whom were accepted for pre-ordination training)
- Supported 3 probationer ministers in the early years of their ministry and moving to ordination.
- Provided leadership in the development of regional co-operation with neighbouring Districts especially as regards the nurturing of 9 probationer ministers across the region through a Shared Districts Probationers Committee.
- Identified 3 new lay pioneers and encouraged them to join the Pioneer training Pathway.
- Filled all our vacant ministerial vacancies.
- Continued with learning and development opportunities for lay and ordained people through study days and learning groups all on zoom.
- Developed further the work of the Justice, Dignity & Solidarity Group within the District leading to the appointment of members of the group as circuit link persons.
- Revived the eco-summit gathering of green champions in each circuit.

3 Financial review

During the year, the District received total income of £626k (2021-22: £616k) and dispersed £666k (2021-22: £942k).

The trustees of the District have every reason to believe that the District is a going concern, principally because Circuits continue to meet their assessments and the District has adequate funds in the District Advance Fund (DAF) to cover any shortfall in income. There are no subsidiary undertakings. Trustees do not foresee any factors that will significantly affect the financial performance or position in the next year or two.

The District has the following principal sources of funds:

- Interest on investments
- Levies on the Circuit Model Trust Funds of Circuits within the District
- Contribution from the Connexional Advance and Property Fund
- Assessments on Circuits within the District

These sums are used to administer the District and to provide grants to Circuits, Churches and individuals in the District so that they may embark on, or continue with, projects that fulfil the mission of the District by bringing more people to Christ or by providing facilities that might enable this to happen.

3.1 Investment Policy and Performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Districts and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the District. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere. The investment policy of the Northampton District is aligned with that of the Central Finance Board (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the CFB and attract good rates of interest.

There are no bench marks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. It is the District's policy to manage the cash and investment resources of the District so that a rate of return on investment – both by way of dividend and capital appreciation – is obtained at least as good as market rate considering the District's low appetite for risk.

3.2 Reserves level and policy

Although grants are made annually out of the District Advance Fund (DAF), it is recognised that some grants will be paid by annual instalments. The trustees ensure that there is sufficient in the DAF to meet these instalments and the trustees recognise future approved grants as liabilities on the balance sheet.

Excluding the value of the manse, the reserves held in the General Fund at 31.08.23 are £34,971 (£69,517 at 31.08.22). This is more the sum required by our Reserves Policy (£20,000) but is approximately 50% of the reserves held 12 months earlier. The surplus funds are being passed onto the Circuits by reducing the annual assessments and it is anticipated that the reserves will reduce significantly over the next 12 months.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

The reserves held at the end of the year were as follows:

| | £ | £ |
|---|---------|----------------|
| <i>Unrestricted funds</i> | | |
| General Fund | 559,971 | |
| District Advance Fund | 53,502 | |
| | | 613,473 |
| <i>Designated funds</i> | | |
| Manse Fund | 29,392 | |
| Training Fund | 6,848 | |
| Education and Youth | 2,124 | |
| FEAST | 26,457 | |
| Overstone Chaplain | -3,958 | |
| | | 60,863 |
| Total unrestricted funds (including designated) | | 674,336 |
| <i>Restricted funds</i> | | |
| Local Preachers Fund | 12,246 | |
| Ministerial Training Fund | 4,971 | |
| Benevolence Fund | 2,204 | |
| Methodist Women in Britain | 438 | |
| MAPJ Grant | 14,604 | |
| | | 34,464 |
| Total Funds | | 708,799 |
| Total designated and unrestricted funds | | 674,336 |
| Less invested in the manse | | -525,000 |
| Uncommitted reserves | | 149,336 |

All funds are separately invested either with CFB or TMCP. No money is directly invested in property, securities or other forms of investment.

3.3 Collaborative arrangements with connected charities

The District's main source of funding for general expenses is the assessments obtained from each Circuit within the District based on the staffing levels of the Circuit and their reserves. This was used to defray most of the cost of administering the District. This sum amounted to £148,963 (2021-22: £139,750).

Each year the District is allocated a sum by the London Mission Fund (LMF). In 2022-23 this amounted to £19,705 which will be used to pay for, or contribute towards, the cost of certain activities within the District. This sum is not remitted to the District and does not appear in the accounts of the District because the District acts as agent for the LMF. Instead, the District nominates some grant applications which can be met by the LMF and passes these to the LMF so that the LMF can pay the grant directly to the grantee. Grants were awarded to various projects in the District.

The District also obtained from each Circuit with a reserve, known as a Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF), a levy based on the size of the Circuits' CMTFs at the start of the connexional year (01 September). In 2022-23 this sum was £157,729 and was credited to the District Advance Fund.

The District holds no funds as custodian trustee. However, it does receive quarterly contributions from Circuits for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF). These sums are collected as agent for the MCF and are passed to the MCF later in the same quarter. Funds received by the District as agent are not recognised as an asset in the financial statements because the funds are not within its control. No fee is earned in respect of this and the District incurs no cost through this arrangement.

4 Trustees' responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31 August the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the District's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees must:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently using the accruals method
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- follow applicable accounting standards
- prepare accounts to comply with the Charities SORP

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the District and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the District and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the District's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Training in the responsibilities of trustees is offered to all new trustees soon after their appointment.

4.1 Risk

The District is largely risk averse but, especially in making grants to entities embarking on new and imaginative initiatives, the District is prepared to underwrite considered risks.

Risks are managed by being aware of them, quantifying their impact not only in cost terms but in possible reputational or structural damage, laying them off through an insurer and minimising them by not taking them or by setting up control systems that timeously report any significant change in the risk.

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.

5 Structure, governance and management

The District is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commission on 26 June 2009.

5.1 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of Churches and they pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the Churches in the Circuit. Most decisions are made at, or ratified by, the regular Circuit Meetings. A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at the half yearly synods. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The connexional offices implement decisions made by Conference and are also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within the District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

5.2 Purpose of the District

The District is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any Circuit, of the Connexional character of the Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the union, the advancement of:

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church
- b. any charitable purposes 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 of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this District is to advance the mission of the Church in Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire together with parts of several adjoining counties. This is achieved by

- providing opportunities for Circuits to work together and support each other
- offering to Circuits resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The District serves the Local Churches and Circuits and the Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church, and in programmes of training.

5.3 Governance

The District operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the connexional offices at 25 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SF to provide guidance on changes that could affect the District.

The members of the District Executive (DPC) are annually appointed by a vote of the Synod for a continuous term not normally exceeding six years. The Chair of District is *ex officio* chair of the District Executive. When a position becomes vacant on the District Executive, nominations are invited from ministers and lay members of Circuits within the District. The Chair of the District then shares with nominees what the roles involve. If they wish to be considered for a role, their names and reasoned statements are taken to the District Executive and the District Synod for appointment. Members may be either ministers or lay people attending Churches in the area covered by the District.

The District Executive normally meets at least four times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the work of the Grants Committee, finance, property, the District office, the District manses, stationing, safeguarding, the work of the District Mission Enabler, authorisations to preside at communion and extensions to local preacher training.

5.4 Responsibilities of the District Executive (DPC)

- i to formulate and promote policies which will advance the mission of the Church in the Circuits and Local Churches and to supervise the use of resources of personnel, property and finance and to assist Local Churches and Circuits having exceptional problems
- ii to encourage inter-Circuit and ecumenical co-operation
- iii to act in an executive capacity in matters remitted to the Committee by the Synod
- iv to keep within its purview all District concerns not dealt with elsewhere
- v to contribute and respond to the development of Connexional policies as reflected in the work of the Conference and the Methodist Council, and to carry out its other responsibilities with any such development in mind
- vi to be aware that the stipend of the Chair of the District is set – currently by reference to the change over a year in the Consumer Price Index and to the annual change in the Average Weekly Earnings Index – using a formula that was agreed by the Methodist Conference for all ministers within the Connexion
- vii constantly to be aware of the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission

6 Reference and Administrative Details

6.1 Name of the charity

The Northampton District of the Methodist Church.

6.2 Charity registration number

1130373, registered in England and Wales

6.3 Principal Office

District Office
Bouverie Court
6 The Lakes
Bedford Road
Northampton
NN4 7YD

Tel: 01604 630128

E-mail: northampton.distoffice@gmail.com

Web-site: www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk

6.4 Chair of the District

Revd. Canon Helen Cameron

6.5 Secretary of the Synod

Revd. Alan Bolton (Presbyteral)
Mr Paul Spray (Representative)

6.6 District Treasurer

Mr Andrew Lewis

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

6.7 Names of trustees

The following served as trustees during the year 2022-23 or were trustees at the time of this report being approved:

Revd. Canon Helen Cameron (Chair)
Revd. Alan Bolton (Presbyteral Synod Secretary)
Revd. Lesley Dinham to 31 October 2023 (Secretary)
Mr Andrew Lewis (Treasurer)
Mr Chris Linford (Property Secretary)
Mr Matthew Forsyth (District Mission Enabler)
Revd. David Alderman from (Deputy Chair)
Dr. Hellen Okello (Methodist Council Representative)
Mr Derek Beaumont (to 19 December 2022)
Revd. Andrew Farrington to 22 April 2023 (Ecumenical Officer) and from 21 August 2023
Ms Janet Hinds
Mr Paul Spray (Representative Synod Secretary)
Revd. Miriam Moul
Mr Philip Jones
Revd. Sara Cliff
Revd. Langley Mackrell-Hey
Revd. David Speirs
Revd. Kate Strange (Deputy Chair)
Revd. Andrew Hollins from 22 April 2023 (Ecumenical Officer)
Mrs Jennifer Oliver from 09 September 2023 (Secretary)

The Managing Trustees for the District are the members of the District Executive (DPC).
No trustee claims exemption from disclosure of his or her name here.

6.8 Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

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

6.9 Investment managers and custodian trustees

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

6.10 Independent Examiner

Mr David Briscoe
11 De Montfort Road
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1LQ

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

Approvals

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the District Executive Committee on 16 April 2024.

Signed on behalf of the District Executive Committee



Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron
District Chair
Date: 16 April 2024

Andrew Lewis
District Treasurer
Date: 16 April 2024

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

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

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total 2022-23 |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | | £ |
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 453 | | 453 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 163,754 | | | | 163,754 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 4,181 | 39,704 | 1,194 | 766 | | 45,845 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 148,963 | | | | | 148,963 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 157,729 | | | | 157,729 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 50,128 | | | | | 50,128 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | 11,297 | | 33,000 | 14,604 | | 58,901 |
| Total income | | 214,569 | 361,187 | 34,194 | 15,823 | 0 | 625,773 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | | -193,431 | 1,810 | 1,500 | | -190,121 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2023-24 | 5 | 11,297 | 240,407 | | | | 251,704 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2023-24 | 5 | | 218,950 | | | | 218,950 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 187,858 | | 29,293 | | | 217,151 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 55,734 | | | | | 55,734 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | | | | | | 0 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 15,489 | 3,239 | 160 | | | 18,889 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 3,870 | | | | | 3,870 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 8,248 | | 920 | | | 9,168 |
| 16 Professional fees | 11 | 348 | | | | | 348 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 12 | 29,743 | 15,092 | 35,308 | | | 80,142 |
| Total expenditure | | 312,586 | 284,257 | 67,491 | 1,500 | 0 | 665,834 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | | |
| | | -98,018 | 76,930 | -33,297 | 14,323 | 0 | -40,061 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -98,018 | 76,930 | -33,297 | 14,323 | 0 | -40,061 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 13 | 63,472 | -65,972 | 60,179 | -57,679 | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) - Manse | 14 | 3,000 | | | | | 3,000 |
| Net movement in funds | | -31,546 | 10,958 | 26,883 | -43,356 | 0 | -37,061 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 591,517 | 42,544 | 33,980 | 77,819 | | 745,860 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 559,971 | 53,502 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 0 | 708,799 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

| Notes to the Accounts | | General Fund (Unrestricted) £ | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | Total 2022-23 £ | Totals 2021/22 £ |
|---|----|-------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Fixed Assets | | | | | | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 14 | 525,000 | | | | | 525,000 | 522,000 |
| Investment properties | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed assets | | 525,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 525,000 | 522,000 |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | | |
| Debtors | 17 | 3,932 | | | | | 3,932 | 287 |
| Loans by the District | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments with TMCP | | | 1,132,509 | | | | 1,132,509 | 1,136,583 |
| Central Finance Board Deposits | | 44,034 | | 60,863 | 34,464 | | 139,361 | 180,635 |
| Cash at Bank and in hand | | 5,749 | | | | | 5,749 | 9,438 |
| Total current assets | | 53,715 | 1,132,509 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 0 | 1,281,550 | 1,326,943 |
| Current liabilities | | | | | | | | |
| Creditors (due in under 1 year) | 18 | 7,447 | | | | | 7,447 | 946 |
| Grants payable in 2023-24 | 5 | 11,297 | 411,157 | | | | 422,454 | 482,487 |
| Total current liabilities | | 18,744 | 411,157 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 429,901 | 483,433 |
| Net current assets/liabilities | | 34,971 | 721,352 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 0 | 851,649 | 843,510 |
| liabilities | | 559,971 | 721,352 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 0 | 1,376,649 | 1,365,510 |
| Long term liabilities (due after more than one year) | | | | | | | | |
| Grants payable after 2023-24 | | | 667,850 | | | | 667,850 | 619,650 |
| Loans to the District | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Net assets | | 559,971 | 53,502 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 0 | 708,799 | 745,860 |
| Funds of the District | | | | | | | | |
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 559,971 | | | | | 559,971 | 591,517 |
| District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | | | 53,502 | | | | 53,502 | 42,544 |
| Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | | | | 60,863 | | | 60,863 | 33,980 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | | 674,336 | 668,041 |
| Restricted Funds | | | | | 34,464 | | 34,464 | 77,819 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Funds | | 559,971 | 53,502 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 0 | 708,799 | 745,860 |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 16 April 2024.

Helen D Cameron

Andrew Lewis

Signed: Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron
District Chair

Andrew Lewis
District Treasurer

1 Accounting framework and accounting policies

i Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP’s 2005 version specified in its related 2008 Regulations and in accordance with the “true and fair override” provision contained therein.

ii Public benefit entity

The Northampton Methodist District meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been based on historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year, on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the District’s financial position and activities.

iv Content

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.

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available on 31 August 2023, the trustees believe that the District is a going concern.

vi Consolidation

The District oversees the work of ministers and lay workers in Churches and Circuits within the District but does not have control over those Circuits or Churches, ministers or lay workers except in extreme circumstances, none of which were applicable. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches and Circuits within the District are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue to the Northampton District. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers. Details of how the contribution to the cost of the District Chair has been determined are in Note 3 and the same figure also appears in the Expenditure at Note 6.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The District acts as agent in the following matters:

- the collection of quarterly assessments from circuits which are paid to the Methodist Church Fund (MCF).
- the payment of expenses of delegates from the District to the Methodist Conference.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because there is no obligation on the District to make up any shortfall in assessments from Circuits. Sums received as Circuit assessments cannot be recognised as income in the District as they are the income of the MCF.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised.

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the District to pay out resources.

ix Grants

Grants are recognised annually only as and when any performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Finance and Grants Committee being satisfied, based on progress reports from the grantee, that the grant's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of that grant. Such commitments are noted as contingent liabilities and included within the District Advance Fund or other relevant designated fund in these accounts.

x VAT

Since the District is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xi Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. The manse (291 Billing Road East) was sold during the year for £522,000 and a replacement (289 Billing Road East) was purchased for the sum of £525,000. It is shown in the accounts at £525,000 and the land component is deemed to be £110,000. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material.

xii Investments

The investments of the Northampton District are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA.

xiii Debtors and Creditors; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the District. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at the realisable values.

xiv Loans

Where concessionary loans (*i.e.* free of interest) are made to (or received by) the District to further its charitable purposes, and are repayable after more than one year, they are initially recognised at the amount paid [or received], with the carrying value adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any impairment, if necessary.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

Where there is objective evidence of impairment, an immediate impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. Subsequent reversals of an impairment loss that objectively relate to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities]

xv Methodist Church Fund

The District acts as agent for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF) by collecting its assessments on Circuits and does not, therefore, include the assessments in the SOFA. If a Circuit is late in paying its MCF assessment to the District but such sum is received before the quarterly transfer to the MCF, the amount paid late will be shown as a debtor in the District's accounts.

xvi Ministers' manse costs

The District is required to provide accommodation for each Minister and their families. The District bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These costs are not shown separately as benefits-in-kind for Ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of the Ministers.

2 a) Assessment on Circuits

All Circuits (see list given below in this note) paid their assessments to the District and to the MCF during the year. The assessment on Circuits is annually determined by an agreed formula.

| | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|----|--------------------|
| 1 | Oxford | 2 | Wantage & Abingdon |
| 3 | West Oxfordshire | 5 | Banbury |
| 6 | Buckingham, Bicester & Brackley | 7 | Leicester Trinity |
| 9 | Leicester West | 10 | Loughborough |
| 11 | Hinckley | 12 | Melton Mowbray |
| 13 | Northampton | 14 | East Mercia |
| 15 | Stamford | 21 | Peterborough |
| 23 | Nene Valley | 26 | Milton Keynes |
| 27 | High Wycombe | 28 | Amersham |
| 29 | Vale of Aylesbury | | |

b) Contribution to Methodist Church Fund (MCF)

In addition to the assessments on the Circuits to help defray the costs of running the District, the District acted as agent for the Methodist Church Fund which levied assessments on the Circuits in this District totalling £704,602 (2021-22: £707,922) all of which were collected or shown as debtors at the end of the year and paid over to the MCF in the year. No balance was held at the end of the year; no fee is received for this service which is performed at nearly nil cost to the District. These sums collected for and remitted to the MCF do not appear elsewhere in these financial statements.

3 Cost of Chair and trustees

District Chair

The Chair of District chairs meetings of the District Executive Committee (District Policy Committee or DPC). The members of the DPC are the trustees of the District. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The Chair's other costs are met mostly by the District.

| | 2022-23 | 2021-22 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Stipend of Chair of District, Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron | 33,630 | 31,905 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 3,442 | 3,211 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 7,244 | 6,866 |
| Computers for Ministry | 176 | 169 |
| Chair's expenses (including travel costs) | 2,312 | 1,576 |
| Housing Costs (Insurance, Water and Council Tax) | 3,294 | 3,136 |
| Total | 50,128 | 46,863 |
| Stipend cost paid by the Connexion (see SOFA, line 6) | 44,522 | 42,151 |
| Total Cost to District | 5,606 | 4,711 |

Since the stipend-related costs above (£44,522) are borne by the Connexion, they appear both in the Income of the District and the Expenditure of the District (See Note 6). It should be noted that the chair is required to occupy the District manse. The manse is provided by the Northampton District and the District maintains the property.

No accrual is made for the Chair's entitlement to a sabbatical as her functions are undertaken by a Deputy Chair at minimal extra cost to the District.

District Mission Enabler

The District Mission Enabler (DME) is employed by the District to concentrate exclusively on supporting and resourcing circuits and churches for their mission. The DME is a member of the District Executive Committee and a trustee. Remuneration of the DME is legally authorised as provided in the governing document as described in the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church (Book II, Part 2)

All costs of his employment in 2022-23 were met by the District as follows:

| | 2022-23 |
|---|---------------|
| | £ |
| Salary of DME, Mr. Matthew Forsyth | 45,864 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 5,151 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 2,752 |
| Other Payroll costs including Apprenticeship Levy | 354 |
| Total | 54,121 |
| DME's travel expenses | 4,280 |
| DME's Office equipment | 361 |
| DME's other expenses | 691 |
| Total Cost | 59,453 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

Payments to trustees

It is District policy to offer to reimburse members of the District Executive Committee and others involved in the administration of District affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The Chair of the District undertakes the primary executive role within the District. Apart from the Chair of District and the District Mission Enabler, no member of the District Executive Committee was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the District, although certain travelling and administration costs were reimbursed whenever this was requested.

4 Other income

The District does not undertake fundraising.

5 Grants and donations and related support costs

Grants and donations totalling £346,930 were paid from the District Advance Fund during the year (2021-22: £258,292). £252,958 was paid in grants to churches and circuits in the District and £93,972 was transferred to the General Fund as shown in the tables below.

| Transfers from District Advance Fund | 2022-23 |
|---|----------------|
| | £ |
| To District General Fund for the DME | 57,500 |
| To District General Fund for Ecumenical Sponsorship | 8,472 |
| Total transferred to District General Fund | 65,972 |

| Grants paid from DAF | 2022-23 |
|---|-----------------|
| | £ |
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 209,172 |
| Property Grants | 128,498 |
| Start-Up Grants | 9,260 |
| Total Paid | 346,930 |
| Less Transfers to District General Fund | -65,972 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.22 | -474,389 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9 | -193,431 |

| Grants to be paid during 2023-24 | £ |
|---|----------------|
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 247,655 |
| Property Grants | 163,502 |
| Total to be paid | 411,157 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.22 | 170,750 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9a | 240,407 |

| Grants to be paid after 2023-24 | £ |
|--|----------------|
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 667,850 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.22 | 448,900 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9b | 218,950 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

Details of the recipients of grants paid by the District during the year may be found on the District website:

<https://www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/lib/daf-report-2022-23-F793350.pdf>

Funds held for District Projects

| Description | Balance at 01.09.22 | Balance at 31.08.23 | Increase |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| General Fund | | | |
| Extending Discipleship Exploring Vocation (EDEV) | 1,374 | 1,374 | 0 |
| Training Officer / Development Enabler | 6,876 | 6,876 | 0 |
| Together Mission | 3,047 | 3,047 | 0 |
| Manse Improvement Project | -3,199 | 0 | 3,199 |
| Totals – General Fund | 8,098 | 11,297 | 3,199 |
| Designated and Restricted Funds | | | |
| NPNP – FEAST | 28,000 | 26,457 | -1,543 |
| Overstone Chaplaincy | 27,179 | -3,958 | -31,137 |
| MAPJ Funding for Grants (Restricted) | 0 | 14,604 | 14,604 |
| Methodist Women in Britain (Restricted) | 438 | 438 | 0 |
| Totals – Designated and Restricted Funds | 55,618 | 37,541 | -18,076 |

Expenditure on charitable activities through the District Advance Fund (DAF)

The DAF receives formulaically determined contributions from the Circuit Model Trust Funds held by Circuits within the District and redistributes the monies to grantees in the District through relevant grants as assessed by the District Finance and Grants Committee.

The Finance and Grants Committee is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit.

6 Salaries and associated costs

In addition to the District Mission Enabler, gross salaries were paid to one full time and eight part time employees as follows:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| | 2022-23 |
| | £ |
| Gross pay | 126,339 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 7,298 |
| Employer's pension contributions to defined contribution schemes | 28,325 |
| Miscellaneous Payroll Costs including the Apprenticeship Levy | 1,068 |
| Total costs of 9 staff | 163,030 |
| Cost of District Mission Enabler (see Note 3) | 53,766 |
| Miscellaneous Payroll Costs including the Apprenticeship Levy | 354 |
| Total (excluding the Chair) | 217,151 |
| Cost of Chair (see Note 3) | 50,128 |
| Total staff costs | 267,279 |

No employees received employee benefits that totalled more than £60,000. All staff are paid at or above the real living wage.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

Three of the eight part-time employees were engaged exclusively in safeguarding matters, four provided administrative assistance at the District office and one was responsible for HR matters. The full-time employee was employed as a Community Chaplain.

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

Lay employees are contractually employees and are automatically enrolled in NEST if eligible.

7 Property Maintenance

| | 2022-23 | 2021-22 |
|---------------|----------|------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Chair's manse | 0 | 369 |
| Total | 0 | 369 |

8 Office expenses (General fund)

| | 2022-23 | 2021-22 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 995 | 1,438 |
| Telephone | 1,599 | 1,560 |
| Bouverie Court | 8,640 | 8,640 |
| Secretarial Assistance | 3,583 | 5,956 |
| Office Equipment | 673 | 3,207 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 15,489 | 20,801 |
| TMCP Charges | 3,239 | 2,903 |
| Contribution to Overstone Office | 160 | 0 |
| Total | 18,889 | 23,704 |

9 Synods, Committees, Conference

| | 2022-23 | 2021-22 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Synods | 843 | 2,688 |
| Committees | 3026 | 1,671 |
| Total | 3,870 | 4,359 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

10 Training

| | 2022-23 | 2021-22 |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Further Ministerial Training | 7,102 | 5,847 |
| Education and Youth | 1,146 | 1,000 |
| Other Training | 0 | 254 |
| Total | 8,248 | 7,101 |

11 Professional Fees

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| | £ |
| Bank Fees | 60 |
| Independent Examination of Accounts | 288 |
| Total | 348 |

12 Other outgoings

| | |
|---|---------------|
| | £ |
| Safeguarding Costs (excl. Salaries) | 6,364 |
| Ministers' meetings (including Superintendents, new ministers and District Retreat) | 9,377 |
| DME Expenses (see Note 3) | 5,332 |
| HR Costs (excl. Salaries) | 198 |
| Ecumenical Subscriptions | 8,472 |
| Total from General Fund | 29,743 |
| Cost of purchasing replacement manse | 532,038 |
| Manse proceeds after deduction of costs | 516,936 |
| Total from District Advance Fund | 15,092 |
| Payment to Nene Valley Circuit for Rev'd. Kim Shorley | 21,600 |
| Housing for Rev'd. Kim Shorley | 11,931 |
| Expenses for FEAST and Overstone | 1,777 |
| Total from Designated Funds | 35,308 |

13 Transfers between funds

The following transfers between funds were made during 2022-23.

| | General Fund | DAF | Designated Funds | Restricted Funds |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| FEAST | | | 28,000 | (28,000) |
| Overstone Chaplain (not restricted) | | | 27,179 | (27,179) |
| Ministerial Training (not restricted) | 2,500 | | | (2,500) |
| District Mission Enabler | 57,500 | (57,500) | | |
| Ecumenical Subscriptions | 8,472 | (8,472) | | |
| Manse Maintenance | (5,000) | | 5,000 | |
| Totals | 63,472 | (65,972) | 60,179 | (57,679) |

14 Manse and other property

In November 2022, the District Chair's manse at 291 Billing Road East was sold for £522,000 and replaced by the adjacent property, 289 Billing Road East. The purchase price of No. 289 was £525,000.

| | Land | Buildings | Others | Total |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Cost or valuation | | | | |
| Balance brought forward at 1 September 2022 | 110,000 | 412,000 | 0 | 522,000 |
| Sale of 291 Billing Road East | (110,000) | (412,000) | 0 | (522,000) |
| Purchase of 289 Billing Road East | 110,000 | 415,000 | 0 | 525,000 |
| Transfers between categories | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Balance carried forward at 31 August 2023 | 110,000 | 415,000 | 0 | 525,000 |

15 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

The funds that support the District Advance Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

16 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Cash at Bank

The District holds a current account with CAF Bank, an authorised institution. The sums held are immediately available. In addition, the District has seven deposit accounts at CFB, a common deposit fund. Interest is earned on these accounts and credited monthly; the sums deposited can be withdrawn without notice and without loss of interest. These sums are viewed as being liquid.

17 Debtors and prepayments

| Prepayments | 2022-23 | 2021-22 |
|--|--------------|------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Action Centres UK - Synod Deposit | 0 | 287 |
| Chesford Grange – Supers' Conf. – October 2023 | 982 | 0 |
| Launde Abbey – Probationers' Retreat – February 2024 | 2,530 | 0 |
| Chairs' Retreat 2024 | 120 | 0 |
| Benevolence Fund Payment | 300 | 0 |
| Total | 3,932 | 287 |

18 Creditors and accrued expenses

| Creditors | 2022-23 | 2021-22 |
|--|--------------|------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Expenses reimbursement | 980 | 693 |
| Training Course Expenses | 571 | 0 |
| Printing | 12 | 0 |
| Deposits for Probationers' Retreat – February 2024 | 5,783 | 0 |
| Leaving Collection – to be forwarded | 100 | 0 |
| Total | 7,447 | 946 |

19 Grant Commitments and the District Advance Fund

Where grants are payable in annual instalments, it is necessary for the grantee to provide a satisfactory report on the achievements of activities funded by previous instalments of the multi-year grant award before any further instalments are paid. These reports are reviewed at the July meeting of the Finance and Grants Committee and the commitments for the following financial year are confirmed at that meeting subject to the approval of the District Executive (DPC). It is the District's policy to recognise these committed grants as expenditure out of this fund and thus accrue the unpaid amounts at the year-end as liabilities. Payments for all subsequent years are included even though they remain subject to a satisfactory progress report.

20 Unrestricted Funds

20.1 General Fund – balance £559,971 on 31 August 2023

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the District and which have not been designated for other purposes. £525,000 of this fund (94%) is held as freehold property (the manse for the Chair of District).

20.2 Designated Funds – balance £60,863 on 31 August 2023

These funds are to serve specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. These funds comprise:

- The Manse Fund – balance £29,392 (2022: £23,554) is available to meet the costs of maintenance and improvements in the accommodation at the District manse.
- The Training Fund – balance £6,848 (2022: £7,589).
- The Education and Youth Fund – balance £2,124 (2022: £2,837).
- NPNP (FEAST) (see note 5) – balance £26,457.
- Overstone Chaplaincy (see note 5) – balance -£3,958.

21 Restricted Funds - balance £34,464 on 31 August 2023

- The Local Preachers' Fund – balance £12,246 (2022: £11,835)
- The Ministerial Training Fund – balance £4,971 (2022: £8,200)
- The Benevolence Fund – balance £2,204 (2022: £2,167)
- * Methodist Women in Britain – balance £438 (2022: £438)
- * Funds from the Connexion for MAPJ Grants £14,604.

*The funds for these projects are held in the General Fund account and not in separate bank accounts.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

22 Summary of movements on significant individual funds

| Fund | Balance at 01.09.22 £ | Income £ | Expen- diture £ | Trans- fers £ | Gains/ Losses £ | Balance at 31.08.23 £ |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| General Fund | 591,517 | 164,441 | 262,458 | 63,472 | 3,000 | 559,971 |
| District Advance Fund | 42,544 | 361,187 | 284,257 | -65,972 | | 53,502 |
| Manse (Designated) | 23,554 | 838 | | 5,000 | | 29,392 |
| Training (Designated) | 7,589 | 260 | 1,000 | | | 6,848 |
| Education and Youth (Designated) | 2,837 | 96 | 810 | | | 2,124 |
| **FEAST (NPNP) (Designated) | | 33,000 | 34,543 | 28,000 | | 26,457 |
| *Overstone Chaplain (Designated) | | | 31,137 | 27,179 | | -3,958 |
| Total designated | 33,980 | 34,194 | 67,491 | 60,179 | | 60,863 |
| Local Preachers Fund (Restricted) | 11,835 | 411 | | | | 12,246 |
| Ministerial Training Fund (Restricted) | 8,200 | 271 | 1,000 | -2,500 | | 4,971 |
| Benevolence Fund (Restricted) | 2,167 | 537 | 500 | | | 2,204 |
| *Overstone Chaplain | 27,179 | | | -27,179 | | 0 |
| **FEAST (NPNP) | 28,000 | | | -28,000 | | 0 |
| Methodist Women in Britain (Restricted) | 438 | | | | | 438 |
| MAPJ | 0 | 14,604 | | | | 14,604 |
| Total restricted | 77,819 | 15,823 | 1,500 | -57,679 | | 34,464 |
| Total Funds | 745,860 | 575,645 | 615,706 | 0 | 3,000 | 708,799 |

*Note 1. The Overstone Chaplain project was initially funded by external grants that were restricted. The project is now being funded from the District Advance Fund and therefore, the funds are not restricted. The funds have been transferred from Restricted to Designated.

**Note 2. The FEAST project was initially funded by an external grant that was restricted. The project is now being funded by a combination of District funds and an external grant and therefore, the funds are not restricted. The funds have been transferred from Restricted to Designated.

23 Connected organisations and related parties

Connected organisations include the Methodist Connexion, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP. All these entities have their own trustees or directors and autonomous administration such that this District has no significant influence over any of them, nor they over any District. Therefore, they are not considered related parties.

The related parties of the District are the nineteen Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are based in the counties of Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire together with parts of several adjoining Counties. They are contactable by the District web site www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk. Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2023

During the year, the following transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No 8). Expenses were reimbursed by the charity to Revd Canon Helen D. Cameron, Mr Matthew Forsyth and other trustees in respect of motor and travel expenses, postage, supplies and repairs and have been included in the figures set out above.

24 Volunteer contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit, Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. Principally this contribution is by serving on committees of the District that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, grants, training, development. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment.

25 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31.08.23.

A C Lewis
District Treasurer
April 2024

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

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) £ | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Designated Funds (unrestricted) £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds | Total 2022-23 £ |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 453 | | 453 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 163,754 | | | | 163,754 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 4,181 | 39,704 | 1,194 | 766 | | 45,845 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 148,963 | | | | | 148,963 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 157,729 | | | | 157,729 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 50,128 | | | | | 50,128 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | 11,297 | | 33,000 | 14,604 | | 58,901 |
| Total income | | 214,569 | 361,187 | 34,194 | 15,823 | 0 | 625,773 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | | -193,431 | 1,810 | 1,500 | | -190,121 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2023-24 | 5 | 11,297 | 240,407 | | | | 251,704 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2023-24 | 5 | | 218,950 | | | | 218,950 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 187,858 | | 29,293 | | | 217,151 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 55,734 | | | | | 55,734 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | | | | | | 0 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 15,489 | 3,239 | 160 | | | 18,889 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 3,870 | | | | | 3,870 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 8,248 | | 920 | | | 9,168 |
| 16 Professional fees | 11 | 348 | | | | | 348 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 12 | 29,743 | 15,092 | 35,308 | | | 80,142 |
| Total expenditure | | 312,586 | 284,257 | 67,491 | 1,500 | 0 | 665,834 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | | |
| | | -98,018 | 76,930 | -33,297 | 14,323 | 0 | -40,061 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -98,018 | 76,930 | -33,297 | 14,323 | 0 | -40,061 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 13 | 63,472 | -65,972 | 60,179 | -57,679 | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) - Manse | 14 | 3,000 | | | | | 3,000 |
| Net movement in funds | | -31,546 | 10,958 | 26,883 | -43,356 | 0 | -37,061 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 591,517 | 42,544 | 33,980 | 77,819 | | 745,860 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 559,971 | 53,502 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 0 | 708,799 |

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

| Notes to the Accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) £ | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds £ | Total 2022-23 £ | Totals 2021/22 £ |
|---|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Fixed Assets | | | | | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 14 | 525,000 | | | | 525,000 | 522,000 |
| Investment properties | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed assets | | 525,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 525,000 | 522,000 |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | |
| Debtors | 17 | 3,932 | | | | 3,932 | 287 |
| Loans by the District | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments with TMCP | | | 1,132,509 | | | 1,132,509 | 1,136,583 |
| Central Finance Board Deposits | | 44,034 | 60,863 | 34,464 | | 139,361 | 180,635 |
| Cash at Bank and in hand | | 5,749 | | | | 5,749 | 9,438 |
| Total current assets | | 53,715 | 1,132,509 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 1,281,550 | 1,326,943 |
| Current liabilities | | | | | | | |
| Creditors (due in under 1 year) | 18 | 7,447 | | | | 7,447 | 946 |
| Grants payable in 2023-24 | 5 | 11,297 | 411,157 | | | 422,454 | 482,487 |
| Total current liabilities | | 18,744 | 411,157 | 0 | 0 | 429,901 | 483,433 |
| Net current assets/liabilities | | 34,971 | 721,352 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 851,649 | 843,510 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 559,971 | 721,352 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 1,376,649 | 1,365,510 |
| Long term liabilities (due after more than one year) | | | | | | | |
| Grants payable after 2023-24 | | | 667,850 | | | 667,850 | 619,650 |
| Loans to the District | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Net assets | | 559,971 | 53,502 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 708,799 | 745,860 |
| Funds of the District | | | | | | | |
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 559,971 | | | | 559,971 | 591,517 |
| District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | | | 53,502 | | | 53,502 | 42,544 |
| Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | | | 60,863 | | | 60,863 | 33,980 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | 674,336 | 668,041 |
| Restricted Funds | | | | 34,464 | | 34,464 | 77,819 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Funds | | 559,971 | 53,502 | 60,863 | 34,464 | 708,799 | 745,860 |

Signed



District Treasurer

Name of District: Northampton

District No.23

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) £ | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Designated Funds (unrestricted) £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds | Total 2021-22 £ |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 248 | | 248 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 98,242 | | | | 98,242 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 575 | 5,800 | 112 | 93 | | 6,579 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 139,750 | | | | | 139,750 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 275,969 | | | | 275,969 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 42,151 | | | | | 42,151 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | | 14,189 | | 38,438 | | 52,627 |
| Total income | | 182,476 | 394,199 | 112 | 38,779 | 0 | 615,566 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | | -67,630 | | 179 | | -67,451 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2022-23 | 5 | 10,742 | 350,189 | | | | 360,931 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2022-23 | 5 | | 335,650 | | | | 335,650 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 159,641 | | | 28,137 | | 187,778 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 46,863 | | | | | 46,863 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 369 | | | | | 369 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 20,801 | 2,903 | | | | 23,704 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 4,359 | | | | | 4,359 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 7,101 | | | 240 | | 7,341 |
| 16 Professional fees | 11 | 333 | | | | | 333 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 12 | 23,358 | 15,000 | | 3,285 | | 41,644 |
| Total expenditure | | 273,567 | 636,112 | 0 | 31,841 | 0 | 941,520 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | | |
| | | -91,091 | -241,913 | 112 | 6,938 | 0 | -325,954 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -91,091 | -241,913 | 112 | 6,938 | 0 | -325,954 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 13 | 59,611 | -66,022 | 8,410 | -2,000 | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) - Manse | 14 | 62,000 | | | | | 62,000 |
| Net movement in funds | | 30,520 | -307,934 | 8,522 | 4,938 | 0 | -263,954 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 560,997 | 350,478 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,009,814 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 591,517 | 42,544 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 745,860 |

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the District and that they include all funds under the control of the District Policy Committee.

Signature of treasurer



Date 27/3/24

Name and address of treasurer

Andrew Lewis, "Cassiopeia", 3 Kings Lane, Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire
Post Code: NN6 6LX

Presentation to the District Policy Committee

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 will be presented to the District Policy Committee held on 16th April 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:



Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron

Date: 16th April 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Northampton District

Charity Number 1130373

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the NORTHAMPTON METHODIST District for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages ... to As the District'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 District'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

[The District's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of (*insert name of applicable listed body*)]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

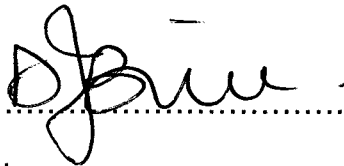
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- 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 *Delete if not applicable ie all R&P accounts*
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts *Delete if not applicable ie all R&P accounts.*

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



Name of independent examiner: D.J. Briscoe

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACMA

Name of firm: AIMS Accountants for Business

Address : 11 De Montfort Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire

Post Code : LE10 1LQ

Date 24th MAY 2024

* delete or circle as appropriate

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130373

Accounts



**Trustees' Annual Report
and
Financial Statement**

Year Ending 31st August 2022

1 Objectives and activities

The Trustees form the District Executive (District Policy Committee - DPC) and meet at least quarterly to consider our objectives and to plan our activities. The District Synod, under the leadership of the District Trustees, meets twice each year and recognises the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and conforms to the Charities Act 2011.

Our primary purpose is to advance the mission of the Church in the region, by supporting the Circuits by providing opportunities to work together and by offering resources of finance, personnel and expertise that may not be available locally. Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the District and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. We aim to achieve this by encouraging the worship, social, and outreach activities and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the Church family. In a time of pandemic and lockdown we have sought to remind the circuits of the resources they already have and have encouraged and supported the churches and circuits to be flexible in their outreach particularly in terms of digital presence and engagement during lockdown. We are offering support to circuits as the Church begins to emerge from a sustained lockdown.

2 Achievements and performance

In furtherance of these aims the District has this year:

- Drawn together representatives of the circuits responsible for the deployment of ministry resources, finance, property, leadership and oversight to enable them to learn from and support each other principally by zoom.
- Provided training for the above people relevant to their posts and responsibilities.
- Provided consultancy for the above people through district officers.
- Pursued a sustained Safeguarding training programme for those in leadership in churches and circuits which has moved online for the present.
- Paid grants of £172,270 to circuits and churches in support of mission projects and property schemes with a clear priority for mission.
- Committed £474,389 to be paid in under 12 months to provide financial support of projects including £274,500 towards property schemes.
- Committed £164,200 for future years where a satisfactory monitoring and evaluation report has been received.
- Appointed a District HR officer to support circuits in lay employment matters.
- Made grants to ministers and lay people engaging in training relevant to their role in the church.
- Supported 3 candidates for ordained presbyteral ministry
- Supported 2 probationer ministers in the early years of their ministry and moving to ordination
- Provided leadership in the development of regional co-operation with neighbouring Districts especially with regards to the sharing of resources.
- Made significant progress with one New Places for New People Project in one Circuit which has potential to be replicated across the District and region.
- Identified 2 new lay pioneers and encouraged them to join the Pioneer training Pathway.
- Filled all but one of our vacant ministerial vacancies.
- Continued with learning and development opportunities for lay and ordained people through study days and learning groups all on zoom.
- Created a 'Love Is' project for all churches and Circuits with resources produced for local implementation.

3 Financial review

During the year, the District received total income of £616k (2020-21: £500k) and dispersed £942k (2020-21: £546k).

The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic were less significant, but continued to affect the work carried out. The circuits and churches were unable, or unwilling in the uncertain and difficult circumstances, to commence projects resulting in fewer applications for grants.

The trustees of the District have every reason to believe that the District is a going concern, principally because Circuits continue to meet their assessments and the District has adequate funds in the District Advance Fund to cover any shortfall in income. There are no subsidiary undertakings. Trustees do not foresee any factors that will significantly affect the financial performance or position in the next year or two.

The District has the following principal sources of funds:

- Interest on investments
- Levies on the Circuit Model Trust Funds of Circuits within the District
- Contribution from the Connexional Advance and Property Fund
- Assessments on Circuits within the District

These sums are used to administer the District and to provide grants to Circuits, Churches and individuals in the District so that they may embark on, or continue with, projects that fulfil the mission of the District by bringing more people to Christ or by providing facilities that might enable this to happen.

3.1 Investment Policy and Performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Districts and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the District. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere. The investment policy of the Northampton District is aligned with that of the Central Finance Board (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the CFB and attract good rates of interest.

There are no bench marks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. It is the District's policy to manage the cash and investment resources of the District so that a rate of return on investment – both by way of dividend and capital appreciation – is obtained at least as good as market rate considering the District's low appetite for risk.

3.2 Reserves level and policy

Although grants are made annually out of the District Advance Fund (DAF), it is recognised that some grants will be paid by annual instalments. The trustees ensure that there is sufficient in the DAF to meet these instalments and the trustees recognise future approved grants as liabilities on the balance sheet.

Excluding the value of the manse, the reserves held in the General Fund at 31.08.22 are £69,517 (£100,997 at 31.08.21). This is more the sum required by our Reserves Policy (£20,000), but is

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

significantly reduced from the previous year as the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic continues. The savings are being passed onto the Circuits by reducing the annual assessments and it is anticipated that the reserves will reduce significantly over the next 24 months.

The reserves held at the end of the year were as follows:

| | £ | £ |
|---|---------|----------------|
| <i>Unrestricted funds</i> | | |
| General Fund | 591,517 | |
| District Advance Fund | 42,544 | |
| | | 634,061 |
| <i>Designated funds</i> | | |
| Manse Fund | 23,554 | |
| Training Fund | 7,589 | |
| Education and Youth | 2,837 | |
| | | 33,980 |
| Total unrestricted funds (including designated) | | 668,041 |
| <i>Restricted funds</i> | | |
| Local Preachers Fund | 11,835 | |
| Ministerial Training Fund | 8,200 | |
| Benevolence Fund | 2,167 | |
| Overstone Chaplain Project | 27,179 | |
| NPNP – FEAST | 28,000 | |
| Methodist Women in Britain | 438 | |
| | | 77,819 |
| Total Funds | | 745,860 |
| Total undesignated and unrestricted funds | | 668,041 |
| Less invested in the manse | | -522,000 |
| Uncommitted reserves | | 146,041 |

All funds are separately invested either with CFB or TMCP. No money is directly invested in property, securities or other forms of investment.

3.3 Collaborative arrangements with connected charities

The District's main source of funding was the assessments obtained from each Circuit within the District based on the staffing levels of the Circuit and this was used to defray most of the cost of administering the District. This sum amounted to £139,750 (2020-21: £167,900).

Each year the District is allocated a sum by the London Mission Fund (LMF). In 2021-22 this amounted to £19,830 which will be used to pay for, or contribute towards, the cost of certain activities within the District. This sum is not remitted to the District and does not appear in the accounts of the District because the District acts as agent for the LMF. Instead, the District nominates some grant applications which can be met by the LMF and passes these to the LMF so that the LMF can pay the grant directly to the grantee. Grants were awarded to various projects in the District.

The District also obtained from each Circuit with a reserve, known as a Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF), a levy based on the size of the Circuits' CMTFs at the start of the connexional year (01 September). In 2021-22 this sum was £275,969 and was credited to the District Advance Fund.

The District holds no funds as custodian trustee. However, it does receive quarterly contributions from Circuits for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF). These sums are collected as agent for the MCF and

are passed to the MCF later in the same quarter. Funds received by the District as agent are not recognised as an asset in the financial statements because the funds are not within its control. No fee is earned in respect of this and the District incurs no cost through this arrangement.

4 Trustees' responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31 August the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the District's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees must:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently using the accruals method
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- follow applicable accounting standards
- prepare accounts to comply with the Charities SORP

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the District and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the District and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the District's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Training in the responsibilities of trustees is offered to all new trustees soon after their appointment.

4.1 Risk

The District is largely risk averse but, especially in making grants to entities embarking on new and imaginative initiatives, the District is prepared to underwrite considered risks.

Risks are managed by being aware of them, quantifying their impact not only in cost terms but in possible reputational or structural damage, laying them off through an insurer and minimising them by not taking them or by setting up control systems that timeously report any significant change in the risk.

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.

5 Structure, governance and management

The District is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commission on 26 June 2009.

5.1 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of Churches and they pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the Churches in the Circuit. Most decisions are made at, or ratified by, the regular Circuit Meetings. A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at the half yearly synods. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The connexional offices implement decisions made by Conference and are also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within the District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

5.2 Purpose of the District

The District is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any Circuit, of the Connexional character of the Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the union, the advancement of:

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church
- b. any charitable purposes 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 of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this District is to advance the mission of the Church in Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire together with parts of several adjoining counties. This is achieved by

- providing opportunities for Circuits to work together and support each other
- offering to Circuits resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The District serves the Local Churches and Circuits and the Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church, and in programmes of training.

5.3 Governance

The District operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the connexional offices at 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR to provide guidance on changes that could affect the District.

The members of the District Executive (DPC) are annually appointed by a vote of the Synod for a continuous term not normally exceeding six years. The Chair of District is *ex officio* chair of the District Executive. When a position becomes vacant on the District Executive, nominations are invited from ministers and lay members of Circuits within the District. The Chair of the District then shares with nominees what the roles involve. If they wish to be considered for a role, their names and reasoned statements are taken to the District Executive and the District Synod for appointment. Members may be either ministers or lay people attending Churches in the area covered by the District.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

The District Executive normally meets at least four times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the work of the Grants Committee, finance, property, the District office, the District manses, stationing, safeguarding, the work of the District Mission Enabler, authorisations to preside at communion and extensions to local preacher training.

5.4 Responsibilities of the District Executive (DPC)

- i to formulate and promote policies which will advance the mission of the Church in the Circuits and Local Churches and to supervise the use of resources of personnel, property and finance and to assist Local Churches and Circuits having exceptional problems
- ii to encourage inter-Circuit and ecumenical co-operation
- iii to act in an executive capacity in matters remitted to the Committee by the Synod
- iv to keep within its purview all District concerns not dealt with elsewhere
- v to contribute and respond to the development of Connexional policies as reflected in the work of the Conference and the Methodist Council, and to carry out its other responsibilities with any such development in mind
- vi to be aware that the stipend of the Chair of the District is set – currently by reference to the change over a year in the Consumer Price Index and to the annual change in the Average Weekly Earnings Index – using a formula that was agreed by the Methodist Conference for all ministers within the Connexion
- vii constantly to be aware of the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission

6 Reference and Administrative Details

6.1 Name of the charity

The Northampton District of the Methodist Church.

6.2 Charity registration number

1130373, registered in England and Wales

6.3 Principal Office

District Office
Bouverie Court
6 The Lakes
Bedford Road
Northampton
NN4 7YD

Tel: 01604 630128

E-mail: northampton.distoffice@gmail.com

Web-site: www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk

6.4 Chair of the District

Revd. Canon Helen Cameron

6.5 Secretary of the Synod

Revd. Alan Bolton (Presbyteral)
Mr Derek Beaumont (Representative)

6.6 Assistant Secretary of the Synod

Mr Paul Spray from 08 December 2021

6.7 District Treasurer

Mr Andrew Lewis

6.8 Names of trustees

The following served as trustees during the year 2021-22 or were trustees at the time of this report being approved:

Revd. Canon Helen Cameron (Chair)
Revd. Alan Bolton (Presbyteral Synod Secretary)
Revd. Lesley Dinham (Secretary from 14 October 2021)
Mr Andrew Lewis (Treasurer)
Mr Chris Linford (Property Secretary)
Mr Matthew Forsyth (District Mission Enabler)
Revd. Rose Westwood (Deputy Chair)
Revd. Andy Fyall (Deputy Chair)
Revd. David Alderman from 08 December 2021 (Deputy Chair)
Revd. Romeo Pedro (Deputy Chair)
Dr. Hellen Okello (Methodist Council Representative)
Mr Derek Beaumont (Representative Synod Secretary)
Revd. Andrew Farrington (Ecumenical Officer)
Mr James Blackhall
Ms Janet Hinds
Mr Paul Spray (Representative Synod Secretary from 01 September 2022)
Revd. Miriam Moul
Mr Philip Jones
Revd. Sara Cliff (from 15 August 2022)
Revd. Langley Mackrell-Hey (from 15 August 2022)
Revd. David Speirs (from 15 August 2022)
Revd. Kate Strange (from 15 August 2022)

The Managing Trustees for the District are the members of the District Executive (DPC).
No trustee claims exemption from disclosure of his or her name here.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

6.9 Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

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

6.10 Investment managers and custodian trustees

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

6.11 Independent Examiner

Mr David Briscoe
11 De Montfort Road
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1LQ

Approvals

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the District Executive Committee on 14 February 2023.

Signed on behalf of the District Executive Committee



Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron
District Chair
Date: 14 February 2023

Andrew Lewis
District Treasurer
Date: 14 February 2023

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total 2021-22 |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | | £ |
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 248 | | 248 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 98,242 | | | | 98,242 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 575 | 5,800 | 112 | 93 | | 6,579 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 139,750 | | | | | 139,750 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 275,969 | | | | 275,969 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 42,151 | | | | | 42,151 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | | 14,189 | | 38,438 | | 52,627 |
| Total income | | 182,476 | 394,199 | 112 | 38,779 | 0 | 615,566 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | | -67,630 | | 179 | | -67,451 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2022-23 | 5 | 10,742 | 350,189 | | | | 360,931 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2022-23 | 5 | | 335,650 | | | | 335,650 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 159,641 | | | 28,137 | | 187,778 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 46,863 | | | | | 46,863 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 369 | | | | | 369 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 20,801 | 2,903 | | | | 23,704 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 4,359 | | | | | 4,359 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 7,101 | | | 240 | | 7,341 |
| 16 Professional fees | 11 | 333 | | | | | 333 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 12 | 23,358 | 15,000 | | 3,285 | | 41,644 |
| Total expenditure | | 273,567 | 636,112 | 0 | 31,841 | 0 | 941,520 |
| Net income/(expenditure) gains and losses on | | | | | | | |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on | | -91,091 | -241,913 | 112 | 6,938 | 0 | -325,954 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -91,091 | -241,913 | 112 | 6,938 | 0 | -325,954 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 13 | 59,611 | -66,022 | 8,410 | -2,000 | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) - Manse | 14 | 62,000 | | | | | 62,000 |
| Net movement in funds | | 30,520 | -307,934 | 8,522 | 4,938 | 0 | -263,954 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 560,997 | 350,478 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,009,814 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 591,517 | 42,544 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 745,860 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

| Notes to the Accounts | | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Totals 2021/22 | Totals 2020/21 |
|---|----|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | | | | | | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 14 | 522,000 | | | | | 522,000 | 460,000 |
| Investment properties | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed assets | | 522,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 522,000 | 460,000 |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | | |
| Debtors | 17 | 287 | | | | | 287 | 6,543 |
| Loans by the District | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments with TMCP | | | 1,136,583 | | | | 1,136,583 | 1,018,578 |
| Central Finance Board Deposits | | 68,836 | | 33,980 | 77,819 | | 180,635 | 204,853 |
| Cash at Bank and in hand | | 9,438 | | | | | 9,438 | 6,430 |
| Total current assets | | 78,561 | 1,136,583 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 1,326,943 | 1,236,404 |
| Current liabilities | | | | | | | | |
| Creditors (due in under 1 year) | 18 | 946 | | | | | 946 | 5,644 |
| Grants payable in 2022-23 | 5 | 8,098 | 474,389 | | | | 482,487 | 272,746 |
| Total current liabilities | | 9,044 | 474,389 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 483,433 | 278,390 |
| Net current assets/liabilities | | 69,517 | 662,194 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 843,510 | 958,014 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 591,517 | 662,194 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 1,365,510 | 1,418,014 |
| Long term liabilities (due after more than one year) | | | | | | | | |
| Grants payable after 2022-23 | | | 619,650 | | | | 619,650 | 408,200 |
| Loans to the District | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Net assets | | 591,517 | 42,544 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 745,860 | 1,009,814 |
| Funds of the District | | | | | | | | |
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 591,517 | | | | | 591,517 | 560,997 |
| District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | | | 42,544 | | | | 42,544 | 350,478 |
| Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | | | | 33,980 | | | 33,980 | 25,458 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | | 668,041 | 936,933 |
| Restricted Funds | | | | | 77,819 | | 77,819 | 72,882 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Funds | | 591,517 | 42,544 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 745,860 | 1,009,814 |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 14 February 2023.





Signed: Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron
District Chair

Andrew Lewis
District Treasurer

1 Accounting framework and accounting policies

i Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP’s 2005 version specified in its related 2008 Regulations and in accordance with the “true and fair override” provision contained therein.

ii Public benefit entity

The Northampton Methodist District meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been based on historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year, on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the District’s financial position and activities.

iv Content

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.

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2021, the trustees believe that the District is a going concern.

vi Consolidation

The District oversees the work of ministers and lay workers in Churches and Circuits within the District but does not have control over those Circuits or Churches, ministers or lay workers except in extreme circumstances, none of which were applicable. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches and Circuits within the District are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue to the Northampton District. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers. Details of how the contribution to the cost of the District Chair has been determined are in Note 3 and the same figure also appears in the Expenditure at Note 6.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The District acts as agent in the following matters:

- the collection of quarterly assessments from circuits which are paid to the Methodist Church Fund (MCF).
- the payment of expenses of delegates from the District to the Methodist Conference.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because there is no obligation on the District to make up any shortfall in assessments from Circuits. Sums received as Circuit assessments cannot be recognised as income in the District as they are the income of the MCF.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised.

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the District to pay out resources.

ix Grants

Grants are recognised annually only as and when any performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Grants Committee being satisfied, based on progress reports from the grantee, that the grant's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of that grant. Such commitments are noted as contingent liabilities and included within the District Advance Fund or other relevant designated fund in these accounts.

x VAT

Since the District is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xi Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. In August 2022, an offer of £522,000 was accepted for the purchase of the freehold property, 291 Billing Road East. It is shown in the accounts at £522,000 and the land component is deemed to be £110,000. The manse will be sold and replaced by a more suitable property during 2022-23.

No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material.

xii Investments

The investments of the Northampton District are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA.

xiii Debtors and Creditors; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the District. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at the realisable values.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

xiv Loans

Where concessionary loans (*i.e.* free of interest) are made to (or received by) the District to further its charitable purposes, and are repayable after more than one year, they are initially recognised at the amount paid [or received], with the carrying value adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any impairment, if necessary.

Where there is objective evidence of impairment, an immediate impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. Subsequent reversals of an impairment loss that objectively relate to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities]

xv Methodist Church Fund

The District acts as agent for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF) by collecting its assessments on Circuits and does not, therefore, include the assessments in the SOFA. If a Circuit is late in paying its MCF assessment to the District but such sum is received before the quarterly transfer to the MCF, the amount paid late will be shown as a debtor in the District's accounts.

xvi Ministers' manse costs

The District is required to provide accommodation for each Minister and their families. The District bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These costs are not shown separately as benefits-in-kind for Ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of the Ministers.

2 a) Assessment on Circuits

All Circuits (see list given below in this note) paid their assessments to the District and to the MCF during the year. The assessment on Circuits is annually determined by an agreed formula.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Oxford | 2 Wantage & Abingdon |
| 3 Witney & Faringdon | 5 Banbury |
| 6 Buckingham, Bicester & Brackley | 7 Leicester Trinity |
| 9 Leicester West | 10 Loughborough |
| 11 Hinckley | 12 Melton Mowbray |
| 13 Northampton | 14 Rugby & Daventry |
| 15 Stamford | 19 Kettering & Corby |
| 20 Market Harborough | 21 Peterborough |
| 23 Nene Valley | 26 Milton Keynes |
| 27 High Wycombe | 28 Amersham |
| 29 Vale of Aylesbury | |

b) Contribution to Methodist Church Fund (MCF)

In addition to the assessments on the Circuits to help defray the costs of running the District, the District acted as agent for the Methodist Church Fund which levied assessments on the Circuits in this District totalling £707,922 (2020-21: £715,304) all of which were collected or shown as debtors at the end of the year and paid over to the MCF in the year. No balance was held at the end of the year; no fee is received for this service which is performed at nearly nil cost to the District. These sums collected for and remitted to the MCF do not appear elsewhere in these financial statements.

3 Cost of Chair and trustees

District Chair

The Chair of District chairs meetings of the District Executive Committee (District Policy Committee or DPC). The members of the DPC are the trustees of the District. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The Chair's other costs are met mostly by the District.

| | 2021-22 | 2020-21 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Stipend of Chair of District, Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron | 31,905 | 31,905 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 3,211 | 3,211 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 6,866 | 6,866 |
| Computers for Ministry | 169 | 169 |
| Chair's expenses (including travel costs) | 1,576 | 836 |
| Housing Costs (Insurance, Water and Council Tax) | 3,136 | 2,994 |
| Total | 46,863 | 45,981 |
| Stipend cost paid by the Connexion (see SOFA, line 6) | 42,151 | 42,151 |
| Total Cost to District | 4,711 | 3,830 |

Since the stipend-related costs above (£42,151) are borne by the Connexion, they appear both in the Income of the District and the Expenditure of the District (See Note 6). It should be noted that the chair is required to occupy the District manse. The manse is provided by the Northampton District and the District maintains the property.

No accrual is made for the Chair's entitlement to a sabbatical as her functions are undertaken by a Deputy Chair at minimal extra cost to the District.

District Mission Enabler

The District Mission Enabler (DME) is employed by the District to concentrate exclusively on supporting and resourcing circuits and churches for their mission. The DME is a member of the District Executive Committee and a trustee. Remuneration of the DME is legally authorised as provided in the governing document as described in the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church (Book II, Part 2)

Mr Matthew Forsyth was employed as DME from 2nd August 2021 and all costs of his employment in 2021-22 were met by the District as follows:

| | 2021-22 |
|---|---------------|
| | £ |
| Salary of DME, Mr. Matthew Forsyth | 44,000 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 5,019 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 2,640 |
| Other Payroll costs including Apprenticeship Levy | 375 |
| Total | 52,034 |
| DME's travel expenses | 3,867 |
| DME's Office equipment | 230 |
| DME's other expenses | 1,415 |
| Total Cost | 57,546 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

Payments to trustees

It is District policy to offer to reimburse members of the District Executive Committee and others involved in the administration of District affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The Chair of the District undertakes the primary executive role within the District. Apart from the Chair of District and the District Mission Enabler, no member of the District Executive Committee was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the District, although certain travelling and administration costs were reimbursed whenever this was requested.

4 Other income

The District does not undertake fundraising.

5 Grants and donations and related support costs

Grants and donations totalling £324,314 were paid from the District Advance Fund during the year (2020-21: £282,382). £258,292 was paid in grants to churches and circuits in the District and £66,022 was transferred to the General Fund as shown in the tables below.

| Transfers from District Advance Fund | 2021-22 |
|---|----------------|
| | £ |
| To District General Fund for the DME | 55,000 |
| To District General Fund for Ecumenical Sponsorship | 11,022 |
| Total transferred to District General Fund | 66,022 |

| Grants paid from DAF | 2021-22 |
|---|----------------|
| | £ |
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 147,422 |
| Property Grants | 108,000 |
| Start-Up Grants | 2,870 |
| Total Paid | 258,292 |
| Less Transfers to District General Fund | -66,022 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.21 | -259,900 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9 | -67,630 |

| Grants to be paid during 2022-23 | £ |
|---|----------------|
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 199,889 |
| Property Grants | 274,500 |
| Total to be paid | 474,389 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.21 | 124,200 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9a | 350,189 |

| Grants to be paid after 2022-23 | £ |
|--|----------------|
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 619,650 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.21 | 284,000 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9b | 335,650 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

Details of the recipients of grants paid by the District during the year may be found on the District website:

www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/for-ministers-and-office-holders/finance/

Funds held for District Projects

| Description | Balance at 01.09.21 | Balance at 31.08.22 | Increase |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| General Fund | | | |
| Extending Discipleship Exploring Vocation (EDEV) | 1,374 | 1,374 | 0 |
| Training Officer / Development Enabler | 6,876 | 6,876 | 0 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme | 1,549 | 0 | -1,549 |
| Together Mission | 3,047 | 3,047 | 0 |
| Manse Improvement Project | 0 | -3,199 | -3,199 |
| Totals – General Fund | 12,846 | 8,098 | -4,748 |
| Restricted Funds | | | |
| NPNP – FEAST | 0 | 28,000 | 28,000 |
| Overstone Chaplaincy | 48,602 | 27,179 | -21,422 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme Bursaries | 2,000 | 0 | -2,000 |
| Methodist Women in Britain | 0 | 438 | 438 |
| Totals – Restricted Funds | 50,602 | 55,618 | 5,015 |

Expenditure on charitable activities through the District Advance Fund (DAF)

The DAF receives formulaically determined contributions from the Circuit Model Trust Funds held by Circuits within the District and redistributes the monies to grantees in the District through relevant grants as assessed by the District Finance and Grants Committee.

The Finance and Grants Committee is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit.

6 Salaries and associated costs

In addition to the District Mission Enabler, gross salaries were paid to one full time and nine (2020-21: nine) part time employees as follows:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| | 2021-22 |
| | £ |
| Gross pay | 104,384 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 6,490 |
| Employer's pension contributions to defined contribution schemes | 21,952 |
| Miscellaneous Payroll Costs including the Apprenticeship Levy | 2,917 |
| Total costs of 10 staff | 135,744 |
| Cost of District Mission Enabler (see Note 3) | 51,659 |
| Miscellaneous Payroll Costs including the Apprenticeship Levy | 375 |
| Total (excluding the Chair) | 187,778 |
| Cost of Chair (see Note 3) | 46,863 |
| Total staff costs | 234,641 |

Total weekly contractual hours for 10 staff n/a

No employees received employee benefits that totalled more than £60,000. All staff are paid at or above the real living wage.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

Three of the nine part-time employees were engaged exclusively in safeguarding matters, five provided administrative assistance at the District office and one was responsible for HR matters. The full-time employee was employed as a Community Chaplain.

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

Lay employees are contractually employees and are automatically enrolled in NEST if eligible.

7 Property Maintenance

| | 2021-22 | 2020-21 |
|---------------|------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Chair's manse | 369 | 3,292 |
| DME's Manse | 0 | 3,145 |
| Total | 369 | 6,437 |

8 Office expenses (General fund)

| | 2021-22 | 2020-21 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 1,438 | 965 |
| Telephone | 1,560 | 1,923 |
| Bouverie Court | 8,640 | 8,640 |
| Secretarial Assistance | 5,956 | 1,152 |
| Office Equipment | 3,207 | 913 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 20,801 | 13,593 |
| TMCP Charges | 2,903 | 1,401 |
| Total | 23,704 | 14,994 |

9 Synods, Committees, Conference

| | 2021-22 | 2020-21 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Synods | 2,688 | 78 |
| Committees | 1,671 | 1,195 |
| Total | 4,359 | 1,273 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

10 Training

| | 2021-22 | 2020-21 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Further Ministerial Training | 5,847 | 3,885 |
| Education and Youth | 1,000 | 0 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme (excl. Salaries) | 0 | 1,023 |
| Development Expenses | 0 | 1,200 |
| Other Training | 254 | 0 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 7,101 | 6,107 |

11 Professional Fees

| | 2021-22 |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| | £ |
| Bank Fees | 93 |
| Independent Examination of Accounts | 240 |
| Total | 333 |

12 Other outgoings

| | 2021-22 |
|---|---------------|
| | £ |
| Safeguarding Costs (excl. Salaries) | 6,911 |
| Ministers' meetings (including Superintendents, new ministers and District Retreat) | 9,463 |
| DME Expenses (see Note 3) | 5,512 |
| Acts 29 | 493 |
| HR Costs (excl. Salaries) | 979 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 23,358 |

13 Transfers between funds

The following transfers between funds were made during 2021-22.

| From the District Advance Fund to the General Fund | £ |
|---|---------------|
| Contribution to the funding of the District Mission Enabler | 55,000 |
| Ecumenical Subscriptions | 11,022 |
| Total from the District Advance Fund | 66,022 |

| To Designated Funds | £ |
|---|--------------|
| From the General Fund for Manse Repairs | 6,131 |
| From the General Fund for Education and Youth | 279 |
| From a restricted fund (unused bursary) for Education & Youth | 2,000 |
| Total from the District Advance Fund | 8,410 |

14 Manse and other property

| | Land | Buildings | Others | Total |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Cost or valuation | | | | |
| Balance brought forward at 1 September 2021 | 96,000 | 364,000 | 0 | 460,000 |
| Additions in the year | | | | |
| Revaluations in the year | 14,000 | 48,000 | | 62,000 |
| Transfers between categories | | | | |
| Balance carried forward at 31 August 2022 | 110,000 | 412,000 | 0 | 522,000 |

15 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

The funds that support the District Advance Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

16 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Cash at Bank

The District holds a current account with CAF Bank, an authorised institution. The sums held are immediately available. In addition, the District has seven deposit accounts at CFB, a common deposit fund. Interest is earned on these accounts and credited monthly; the sums deposited can be withdrawn without notice and without loss of interest. These sums are viewed as being liquid.

17 Debtors and prepayments

| Prepayments | 2021-22 | 2020-21 |
|--|------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Action Centres UK - Synod Deposit | 287 | 287 |
| CPD 2021-22 | 0 | 667 |
| Yorks N&E - District Chairs' Retreat | 0 | 435 |
| Launde Abbey – Retreat (2022) | 0 | 907 |
| Chesford Grange – Supers' Conf. – Oct. 2021 | 0 | 822 |
| The Belfry, Oxford – Supers' Conf. – March '22 | 0 | 1,599 |
| Books for Acts 29 (Postponed) | 0 | 493 |
| Launde Abbey – Probationers' Retreat | 0 | 1,334 |
| Total | 287 | 6,543 |

18 Creditors and accrued expenses

| Creditors | 2021-22 | 2020-21 |
|----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Expenses reimbursement | 693 | 3,777 |
| Development Expenses | 0 | 1,200 |
| Supervision Fees | 0 | 240 |
| Supervision Administration | 253 | 428 |
| Total | 946 | 5,645 |

19 Grant Commitments and the District Advance Fund

Where grants are payable in annual instalments, it is necessary for the grantee to provide a satisfactory report on the achievements of activities funded by previous instalments of the multi-year grant award before any further instalments are paid. These reports are reviewed at the July meeting of the Finance and Grants Committee and the commitments for the following financial year are confirmed at that meeting subject to the approval of the District Executive (DPC). It is the District's policy to recognise these committed grants as expenditure out of this fund and thus accrue the unpaid amounts at the year-end as liabilities. Payments for all subsequent years are included even though they remain subject to a satisfactory progress report.

20 Unrestricted Funds

20.1 General Fund – balance £591,517 at 31 August 2022

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the District and which have not been designated for other purposes. £522,000 of this fund (88%) is held as freehold property (the manse for the Chair of District).

20.2 Designated Funds – balance £33,980 at 31 August 2022

These funds are to serve specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. These funds comprise:

- The Manse Fund – balance £23,554 (2021: £17,346) is available to meet the costs of maintenance and improvements in the accommodation at the District manse.
- The Training Fund £7,589 (2021: £7,557)
- The Education and Youth Fund – balance £2,837 (2021: £555)

21 Restricted Funds - balance £77,819 at 31 August 2022

There are six restricted funds:

- The Local Preachers' Fund – balance £11,835 (2021: £12,026)
- The Ministerial Training Fund – balance £8,200 (2021: £8,166)
- The Benevolence Fund – balance £2,167 (2021: £2,089)
- * Overstone Chaplaincy – balance £27,179 (2021: £48,602)
- * FEAST (NPNP) – balance £28,000 (new project)
- * Methodist Women in Britain – balance £438

*The funds for these projects are held in the General Fund account and not in separate bank accounts.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

22 Summary of movements on significant individual funds

| Fund | Balance | | | | | Balance at 31.08.22 £ |
|---|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| | at 01.09.21 £ | Income £ | Expenditure £ | Transfers £ | Gains/Losses £ | |
| General Fund | 560,997 | 182,476 | 273,567 | 59,611 | 62,000 | 591,517 |
| District Advance Fund | 350,478 | 9 | 636,112 | -66,022 | | 42,544 |
| Manse (Designated) | 17,346 | 77 | | 6,131 | | 23,554 |
| Training (Designated) | 7,557 | 32 | | | | 7,589 |
| Education and Youth (Designated) | 555 | 3 | | 2,280 | | 2,837 |
| Total designated | 25,458 | 112 | | 8,410 | | 33,980 |
| Local Preachers Fund (Restricted) | 12,026 | 49 | 240 | | | 11,835 |
| Ministerial Training Fund (Restricted) | 8,166 | 34 | | | | 8,200 |
| Benevolence Fund (Restricted) | 2,089 | 258 | 179 | | | 2,167 |
| Overstone Chaplain (Restricted) | 48,602 | 10,000 | 31,422 | | | 27,179 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme Bursaries (Restricted) - See Note 1 below | 2,000 | | | -2,000 | | 0 |
| FEAST (NPNP) (Restricted) | 0 | 28,000 | | | | 28,000 |
| Methodist Women in Britain (Restricted) – See Note 2 below | 0 | 438 | | | | 438 |
| Total restricted | 72,882 | 38,779 | 31,841 | -2,000 | | 77,819 |
| Total Funds | 1,009,814 | 615,566 | 941,520 | 0 | 62,000 | 745,860 |

Note 1. One of the bursaries was unclaimed and the outstanding £2,000 was transferred to the general Youth Work funds under the terms of the original donation.

Note 2. The MWiB does not have any officers in the District and it was decided that the HSBC bank account should be closed. The District has agreed to hold the MWiB funds until they are required.

23 Connected organisations and related parties

Connected organisations include the Methodist Connexion, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, the Methodist Ministers' Children's Relief Association, CFB and TMCP. All these entities have their own trustees or directors and autonomous administration such that this District has no significant influence over any of them, nor they over any District. Therefore, they are not considered related parties.

The related parties of the District are the twenty-one Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are based in the counties of Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire together with parts of several adjoining Counties. They are contactable by the District web site www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk. Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2022

During the year, the following transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No 8). Expenses were reimbursed by the charity to Revd Canon Helen D. Cameron, Mr Matthew Forsyth and other trustees in respect of motor and travel expenses, postage, supplies and repairs and have been included in the figures set out above.

24 Volunteer contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit, Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. Principally this contribution is by serving on committees of the District that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, grants, training, development. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment.

25 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31.08.22

A C Lewis
District Treasurer
February 2023

Name of District: Northampton

District No.23

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total 2021-22 |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | | £ |
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 248 | | 248 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 98,242 | | | | 98,242 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 575 | 5,800 | 112 | 93 | | 6,579 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 139,750 | | | | | 139,750 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 275,969 | | | | 275,969 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 42,151 | | | | | 42,151 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | | 14,189 | | 38,438 | | 52,627 |
| Total income | | 182,476 | 394,199 | 112 | 38,779 | 0 | 615,566 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | | -67,630 | | 179 | | -67,451 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2022-23 | 5 | 10,742 | 350,189 | | | | 360,931 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2022-23 | 5 | | 335,650 | | | | 335,650 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 159,641 | | | 28,137 | | 187,778 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 46,863 | | | | | 46,863 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 369 | | | | | 369 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 20,801 | 2,903 | | | | 23,704 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 4,359 | | | | | 4,359 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 7,101 | | | 240 | | 7,341 |
| 16 Professional fees | 11 | 333 | | | | | 333 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 12 | 23,358 | 15,000 | | 3,285 | | 41,644 |
| Total expenditure | | 273,567 | 636,112 | 0 | 31,841 | 0 | 941,520 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | | |
| | | -91,091 | -241,913 | 112 | 6,938 | 0 | -325,954 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -91,091 | -241,913 | 112 | 6,938 | 0 | -325,954 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 13 | 59,611 | -66,022 | 8,410 | -2,000 | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) - Manse | 14 | 62,000 | | | | | 62,000 |
| Net movement in funds | | 30,520 | -307,934 | 8,522 | 4,938 | 0 | -263,954 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 560,997 | 350,478 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,009,814 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 591,517 | 42,544 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 745,860 |

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

| Notes to the Accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Totals 2021/22 | Totals 2020/21 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |

Fixed Assets

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| Tangible fixed assets | 14 | 522,000 | | | | 522,000 | 460,000 |
| Investment properties | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed assets | | 522,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 522,000 | 460,000 |

Current Assets

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|---------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| Debtors | 17 | 287 | | | | 287 | 6,543 |
| Loans by the District | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments with TMCP | | | 1,136,583 | | | 1,136,583 | 1,018,578 |
| Central Finance Board Deposits | | 68,836 | 33,980 | 77,819 | | 180,635 | 204,853 |
| Cash at Bank and in hand | | 9,438 | | | | 9,438 | 6,430 |
| Total current assets | | 78,561 | 1,136,583 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 1,326,943 | 1,236,404 |

Current liabilities

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Creditors (due in under 1 year) | 18 | 946 | | | | 946 | 5,644 |
| Grants payable in 2022-23 | 5 | 8,098 | 474,389 | | | 482,487 | 272,746 |
| Total current liabilities | | 9,044 | 474,389 | 0 | 0 | 483,433 | 278,390 |
| Net current assets/liabilities | | 69,517 | 662,194 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 958,014 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------|------------------|
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 591,517 | 662,194 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 1,365,510 |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------|------------------|

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|------------------|
| Long term liabilities (due after more than one year) | | | | | | | |
| Grants payable after 2022-23 | | | 619,650 | | | 619,650 | 408,200 |
| Loans to the District | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Net assets | | 591,517 | 42,544 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 1,009,814 |

Funds of the District

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 591,517 | | | | 591,517 | 560,997 |
| District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | | | 42,544 | | | 42,544 | 350,478 |
| Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | | | | 33,980 | | 33,980 | 25,458 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | 668,041 | 936,933 |
| Restricted Funds | | | | | 77,819 | 77,819 | 72,882 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total Funds | | 591,517 | 42,544 | 33,980 | 77,819 | 0 | 1,009,814 |

Signed



District Treasurer

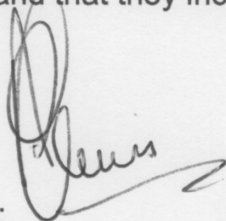
Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total 2020-21 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | | £ |
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 491 | | 491 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 100,855 | | | | 100,855 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 195 | 2,864 | 30 | 30 | | 3,119 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 167,900 | | | | | 167,900 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 162,993 | | | | 162,993 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 42,151 | | | | | 42,151 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | | | | 22,500 | | 22,500 |
| Total income | | 210,246 | 266,712 | 30 | 23,021 | 0 | 500,009 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | | -132,200 | | -2,000 | | -134,200 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2021-22 | 5 | -1,954 | 145,800 | | -25,000 | | 118,846 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2021-22 | 5 | | 330,700 | | -22,500 | | 308,200 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 134,465 | | | 21,062 | | 155,526 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 45,981 | | | | | 45,981 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 6,437 | | | | | 6,437 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 13,593 | 1,401 | | | | 14,994 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 1,273 | | | | | 1,273 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 6,107 | | | | | 6,107 |
| 16 Professional fees | 11 | 314 | | | | | 314 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 12 | 22,051 | | | 337 | | 22,388 |
| Total expenditure | | 228,267 | 345,701 | 0 | -28,102 | 0 | 545,866 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | | |
| | | -18,021 | -78,989 | 30 | 51,123 | 0 | -45,857 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -18,021 | -78,989 | 30 | 51,123 | 0 | -45,857 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 13 | 81,219 | -84,782 | 3,563 | | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) - Manses | 14 | -92,000 | 335,268 | | | | 243,268 |
| Net movement in funds | | -28,802 | 171,497 | 3,593 | 51,123 | 0 | 197,411 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 589,799 | 178,981 | 21,865 | 21,759 | | 812,404 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 560,997 | 350,478 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,009,814 |

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the District and that they include all funds under the control of the District Policy Committee.

Signature of treasurer:



Date: 1st February 2023

Name and address of treasurer:

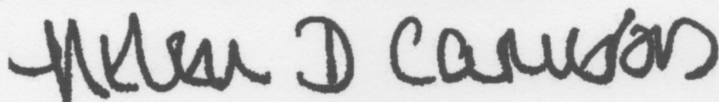
Andrew Lewis, "Cassiopeia", 3 Kings Lane, Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire

Post Code: NN6 6LX

Presentation to the District Policy Committee

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 will be presented to the District Policy Committee held on 14th February 2023

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:



Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron

Date 14th February 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Northampton District

Charity Number 1130373

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Northampton District for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages ... to As the District'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 District'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

[The District's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of (*insert name of applicable listed body*)]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

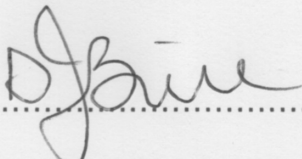
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- 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 *Delete if not applicable ie all R&P accounts*
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts *Delete if not applicable ie all R&P accounts.*

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



Name of independent examiner: D.J. Briscoe

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACMA

Name of firm: AIMS Accountants for Business

Address : 11 De Montfort Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire

Post Code : LE10 1LQ

Date 14/02/23

* delete or circle as appropriate

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130373

Accounts



**Trustees' Annual Report
and
Financial Statement**

Year Ending 31st August 2021

1 Objectives and activities

The Trustees form the District Executive (District Policy Committee - DPC) and meet at least quarterly to consider our objectives and to plan our activities. The District Synod, under the leadership of the District Trustees, meets twice each year and recognises the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and conforms to the Charities Act 2011.

Our primary purpose is to advance the mission of the Church in the region, by supporting the Circuits by providing opportunities to work together and by offering resources of finance, personnel and expertise that may not be available locally. Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the District and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. We aim to achieve this by encouraging the worship, social, and outreach activities and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the Church family. In a time of pandemic and lockdown we have sought to remind the circuits of the resources they already have and have encouraged and supported the churches and circuits to be flexible in their outreach particularly in terms of digital presence and engagement during lockdown. We are offering support to circuits as the Church begins to emerge from a sustained lockdown.

2 Achievements and performance

In furtherance of these aims the District has this year:

- Drawn together representatives of the circuits responsible for the deployment of ministry resources, finance, property, leadership and oversight to enable them to learn from and support each other principally by zoom.
- Provided training for the above people relevant to their posts and responsibilities.
- Provided consultancy for the above people through district officers.
- Pursued a sustained Safeguarding training programme for those in leadership in churches and circuits which has moved online for the present.
- Paid grants of £187,600 to circuits and churches in support of mission projects and property schemes with a clear priority for mission.
- Committed £259,900 to be paid in under 12 months to provide financial support of projects including £113,500 towards property schemes.
- Committed £142,200 for future years where a satisfactory monitoring and evaluation report has been received.
- Appointed a District HR officer to support circuits in lay employment matters.
- Made grants to ministers and lay people engaging in training relevant to their role in the church.
- Supported 3 candidates for ordained presbyteral ministry
- Supported 2 probationer ministers in the early years of their ministry and moving to ordination
- Provided leadership in the development of regional co-operation with neighbouring Districts especially as regards sharing of resources.
- Made significant progress with one New Places for New People Project in one Circuit which has potential to be replicated across the District and region.
- Identified 2 new lay pioneers and encouraged them to join the Pioneer training Pathway.
- Filled all but one of our vacant ministerial vacancies.
- Continued with learning and development opportunities for lay and ordained people through study days and learning groups all on zoom.
- Created a 'Love Is' project for all churches and Circuits with resources produced for local implementation.

3 Financial review

During the year, the District received total income of £500k (2019-20: £505k) and dispersed £546k (2019-20: £301k).

The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic continued to affect the work carried out and caused further cost savings due to the restrictions on travel and meetings. The circuits and churches were unable to commence some of their postponed projects resulting in fewer applications for grants.

The trustees of the District have every reason to believe that the District is a going concern, principally because Circuits continue to meet their assessments and the District has adequate funds in the District Advance Fund to cover any shortfall in income. There are no subsidiary undertakings. Trustees do not foresee any factors that will significantly affect the financial performance or position in the next year or two.

The District has the following principal sources of funds:

- Interest on investments
- Levies on the Circuit Model Trust Funds of Circuits within the District
- Contribution from the Connexional Advance and Property Fund
- Assessments on Circuits within the District

These sums are used to administer the District and to provide grants to Circuits, Churches and individuals in the District so that they may embark on, or continue with, projects that fulfil the mission of the District by bringing more people to Christ or by providing facilities that might enable this to happen.

3.1 Investment Policy and Performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Districts and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the District. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere. The investment policy of the Northampton District is aligned with that of the Central Finance Board (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the CFB and attract good rates of interest.

There are no bench marks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. It is the District's policy to manage the cash and investment resources of the District so that a rate of return on investment – both by way of dividend and capital appreciation – is obtained at least as good as market rate considering the District's low appetite for risk.

3.2 Reserves level and policy

Although grants are made annually out of the District Advance Fund (DAF), it is recognised that some grants will be paid by annual instalments. The trustees ensure that there is sufficient in the DAF to meet these instalments and the trustees recognise future approved grants as liabilities on the balance sheet.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

Excluding the value of the manse, the reserves held in the General Fund at 31.08.21 are £100,997 (£37,799 at 31.08.20). This is more than five times the sum stated in our Reserves Policy (£20,000) and is a result of the Covid-19 pandemic causing a significant reduction in our expenditure. The savings are being passed onto the Circuits by reducing the annual assessments and it is anticipated that the reserves will reduce significantly over the next 24 months.

The reserves held at the end of the year were as follows:

| | £ | £ |
|---|---------|------------------|
| <i>Unrestricted funds</i> | | |
| General Fund | 560,977 | |
| District Advance Fund | 350,478 | |
| | | 911,475 |
| <i>Designated funds</i> | | |
| Manse Fund | 17,346 | |
| Training Fund | 7,557 | |
| Education and Youth | 555 | |
| | | 25,458 |
| Total unrestricted funds (including designated) | | 936,933 |
| <i>Restricted funds</i> | | |
| Local Preachers Fund | 12,026 | |
| Ministerial Training Fund | 8,166 | |
| Benevolence Fund | 2,089 | |
| Overstone Chaplain Project | 48,602 | |
| Young Leaders' Scheme Bursaries | 2,000 | |
| | | 72,882 |
| Total Funds | | 1,009,814 |
| Total undesignated and unrestricted funds | | 936,933 |
| Less invested in the manse | | -460,000 |
| Uncommitted reserves | | 476,933 |

All funds are separately invested either with CFB or TMCP. No money is directly invested in property, securities or other forms of investment.

3.3 Collaborative arrangements with connected charities

The District's main source of funding was the assessments obtained from each Circuit within the District based on the staffing levels of the Circuit and this was used to defray most of the cost of administering the District. This sum amounted to £167,900 (2019-20: £157,000).

Each year the District is allocated a sum by the London Mission Fund (LMF). In 2020-21 this amounted to £19,530 which will be used to pay for, or contribute towards, the cost of certain activities within the District. This sum is not remitted to the District and does not appear in the accounts of the District because the District acts as agent for the LMF. Instead, the District nominates some grant applications which can be met by the LMF and passes these to the LMF so that the LMF can pay the grant directly to the grantee. Grants were awarded to various projects in the District.

The District also obtained from each Circuit with a reserve, known as a Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF), a levy based on the size of the Circuits' CMTFs at the start of the connexional year (01 September). In 2020-21 this sum was £180,690 and was credited to the District Advance Fund.

The District holds no funds as custodian trustee. However, it does receive quarterly contributions from Circuits for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF). These sums are collected as agent for the MCF and

are passed to the MCF later in the same quarter. Funds received by the District as agent are not recognised as an asset in the financial statements because the funds are not within its control. No fee is earned in respect of this and the District incurs no cost through this arrangement.

4 Trustees' responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31 August the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the District's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees must:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently using the accruals method
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- follow applicable accounting standards
- prepare accounts to comply with the Charities SORP

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the District and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the District and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the District's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Training in the responsibilities of trustees is offered to all new trustees soon after their appointment.

4.1 Risk

The District is largely risk averse but, especially in making grants to entities embarking on new and imaginative initiatives, the District is prepared to underwrite considered risks.

Risks are managed by being aware of them, quantifying their impact not only in cost terms but in possible reputational or structural damage, laying them off through an insurer and minimising them by not taking them or by setting up control systems that timeously report any significant change in the risk.

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.

5 Structure, governance and management

The District is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commission on 26 June 2009.

5.1 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of Churches and they pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the Churches in the Circuit. Most decisions are made at, or ratified by, the regular Circuit Meetings. A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at the half yearly synods. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The connexional offices implement decisions made by Conference and are also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within the District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

5.2 Purpose of the District

The District is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any Circuit, of the Connexional character of the Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the union, the advancement of:

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church
- b. any charitable purposes 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 of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this District is to advance the mission of the Church in Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire together with parts of several adjoining counties. This is achieved by

- providing opportunities for Circuits to work together and support each other
- offering to Circuits resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The District serves the Local Churches and Circuits and the Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church, and in programmes of training.

5.3 Governance

The District operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the connexional offices at 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR to provide guidance on changes that could affect the District.

The members of the District Executive (DPC) are annually appointed by a vote of the Synod for a continuous term not normally exceeding six years. The Chair of District is *ex officio* chair of the District Executive. When a position becomes vacant on the District Executive, nominations are invited from ministers and lay members of Circuits within the District. The Chair of the District then shares with nominees what the roles involve. If they wish to be considered for a role, their names and reasoned statements are taken to the District Executive and the District Synod for appointment. Members may be either ministers or lay people attending Churches in the area covered by the District.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

The District Executive normally meets at least four times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the work of the Grants Committee, finance, property, the District office, the District manses, stationing, safeguarding, the work of the District Mission Enabler, authorisations to preside at communion and extensions to local preacher training.

5.4 Responsibilities of the District Executive (DPC)

- i to formulate and promote policies which will advance the mission of the Church in the Circuits and Local Churches and to supervise the use of resources of personnel, property and finance and to assist Local Churches and Circuits having exceptional problems
- ii to encourage inter-Circuit and ecumenical co-operation
- iii to act in an executive capacity in matters remitted to the Committee by the Synod
- iv to keep within its purview all District concerns not dealt with elsewhere
- v to contribute and respond to the development of Connexional policies as reflected in the work of the Conference and the Methodist Council, and to carry out its other responsibilities with any such development in mind
- vi to be aware that the stipend of the Chair of the District is set – currently by reference to the change over a year in the Consumer Price Index and to the annual change in the Average Weekly Earnings Index – using a formula that was agreed by the Methodist Conference for all ministers within the Connexion
- vii constantly to be aware of the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission

6 Reference and Administrative Details

6.1 Name of the charity

The Northampton District of the Methodist Church.

6.2 Charity registration number

1130373, registered in England and Wales

6.3 Principal Office

District Office
Bouverie Court
6 The Lakes
Bedford Road
Northampton
NN4 7YD

Tel: 01604 630128

E-mail: northampton.distoffice@gmail.com

Web-site: www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk

6.4 Chair of the District

Revd. Canon Helen Cameron

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

6.5 Secretary of the Synod

Revd. Alan Bolton (Presbyteral)
Mr Derek Beaumont (Representative)

6.6 Assistant Secretary of the Synod

Mrs Sue Bayliss to 25 August 2021
Mr Paul Spray from 08 December 2021

6.7 District Treasurer

Mr Andrew Lewis

6.8 Names of trustees

The following served as trustees during the year 2020-21 or were trustees at the time of this report being approved:

Revd. Canon Helen Cameron (Chair)
Revd. Alan Bolton (Presbyteral Synod Secretary)
Mrs Sue Bayliss (Secretary and Assistant Synod Secretary) to 25 August 2021
Revd. Lesley Dinham from 13 August 2021 (Secretary from 14 October 2021)
Mr Andrew Lewis (Treasurer)
Mr Chris Linford (Property Secretary)
Revd. Jill Marsh (District Mission Enabler) to 28 February 2021
Mr Matthew Forsyth (District Mission Enabler) from 02 August 2021
Revd. Rose Westwood (Deputy Chair)
Revd. Andy Fyall (Deputy Chair)
Revd. David Alderman (Deputy Chair) from 08 December 2021
Revd. Romeo Pedro (Deputy Chair)
Revd. Novette Headley (Methodist Council Representative) to 31 July 2021
Dr. Hellen Okello (Methodist Council Representative) from 13 August 2021
Mr Derek Beaumont (Representative Synod Secretary)
Revd. Andrew Farrington (Ecumenical Officer)
Revd. Kim Shorley to 31 July 2021
Deacon Richard Goldstraw to 31 July 2021
Mr James Blackhall
Ms Janet Hinds
Mr Charles Levitt to 31 July 2021
Mr Paul Spray from 13 August 2021 (Assistant Synod Secretary from 08 December 2021)
Revd. Miriam Moul from 13 August 2021
Mr Philip Jones from 13 August 2021

The Managing Trustees for the District are the members of the District Executive (DPC).
No trustee claims exemption from disclosure of his or her name here.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

6.9 Bankers

TSB Bank plc (To 08 February 2021)
Town Hall Square
17 Horsefair Street
Leicester
LE1 5PD

CAF Bank Ltd (From 08 October 2020)
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

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

6.10 Investment managers and custodian trustees

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

6.11 Independent Examiner

Mr David Briscoe
11 De Montfort Road
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1LQ

Approvals

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the District Executive Committee on 22 March 2022.

Signed on behalf of the District Executive Committee



Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron
District Chair
Date: 22 March 2022



Andrew Lewis
District Treasurer
Date: 22 March 2022

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total 2020-21 |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | | £ |
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 491 | | 491 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 100,855 | | | | 100,855 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 195 | 2,864 | 30 | 30 | | 3,119 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 167,900 | | | | | 167,900 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 162,993 | | | | 162,993 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 42,151 | | | | | 42,151 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | | | | 22,500 | | 22,500 |
| Total income | | 210,246 | 266,712 | 30 | 23,021 | 0 | 500,009 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | | -132,200 | | -2,000 | | -134,200 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2021-22 | 5 | -1,954 | 145,800 | | -25,000 | | 118,846 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2021-22 | 5 | | 330,700 | | -22,500 | | 308,200 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 134,465 | | | 21,062 | | 155,526 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 45,981 | | | | | 45,981 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 6,437 | | | | | 6,437 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 13,593 | 1,401 | | | | 14,994 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 1,273 | | | | | 1,273 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 6,107 | | | | | 6,107 |
| 16 Professional fees | 11 | 314 | | | | | 314 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 12 | 22,051 | | | 337 | | 22,388 |
| Total expenditure | | 228,267 | 345,701 | 0 | -28,102 | 0 | 545,866 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | | |
| | | -18,021 | -78,989 | 30 | 51,123 | 0 | -45,857 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -18,021 | -78,989 | 30 | 51,123 | 0 | -45,857 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 13 | 81,219 | -84,782 | 3,563 | | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) - Manses | 14 | -92,000 | 335,268 | | | | 243,268 |
| Net movement in funds | | -28,802 | 171,497 | 3,593 | 51,123 | 0 | 197,411 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 589,799 | 178,981 | 21,865 | 21,759 | | 812,404 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 560,997 | 350,478 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,009,814 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

| Notes to the Accounts | | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Totals 2020/21 | Totals 2019/20 |
|---|----|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | | | | | | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 14 | 460,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 460,000 | 552,000 |
| Investment properties | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed assets | | 460,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 460,000 | 552,000 |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | | |
| Debtors | 17 | 6,543 | | | | | 6,543 | 10,468 |
| Loans by the District | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments with TMCP | | | 1,018,578 | | | | 1,018,578 | 700,381 |
| Central Finance Board Deposits | | 106,514 | | 25,458 | 72,882 | | 204,853 | 138,750 |
| Cash at Bank and in hand | | 6,430 | | | | | 6,430 | 2,796 |
| Total current assets | | 119,487 | 1,018,578 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,236,404 | 852,396 |
| Current liabilities | | | | | | | | |
| Creditors (due in under 1 year) | 18 | 5,644 | | | | | 5,644 | 28,292 |
| Grants payable in 2021-22 | 5 | 12,846 | 259,900 | | | | 272,746 | 372,100 |
| Total current liabilities | | 18,490 | 259,900 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 278,390 | 400,392 |
| Net current assets/liabilities | | 100,997 | 758,678 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 958,014 | 452,004 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 560,997 | 758,678 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,418,014 | 1,004,004 |
| Long term liabilities (due after more than one year) | | | | | | | | |
| Grants payable after 2021-22 | | | 408,200 | | | | 408,200 | 191,600 |
| Loans to the District | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Net assets | | 560,997 | 350,478 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,009,814 | 812,404 |
| Funds of the District | | | | | | | | |
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 560,997 | | | | | 560,997 | 589,799 |
| District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | | | 350,478 | | | | 350,478 | 178,981 |
| Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | | | | 25,458 | | | 25,458 | 21,865 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | | 936,933 | 790,645 |
| Restricted Funds | | | | | 72,882 | | 72,882 | 21,759 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Funds | | 560,997 | 350,478 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,009,814 | 812,404 |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 22 March 2022.



Signed: Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron
District Chair



Andrew Lewis
District Treasurer

1 Accounting framework and accounting policies

i Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP’s 2005 version specified in its related 2008 Regulations and in accordance with the “true and fair override” provision contained therein.

ii Public benefit entity

The Northampton Methodist District meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been based on historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year, on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the District’s financial position and activities.

iv Content

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.

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2021, the trustees believe that the District is a going concern.

vi Consolidation

The District oversees the work of ministers and lay workers in Churches and Circuits within the District but does not have control over those Circuits or Churches, ministers or lay workers except in extreme circumstances, none of which were applicable. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches and Circuits within the District are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue to the Northampton District. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers. Details of how the contribution to the cost of the District Chair has been determined are in Note 3 and the same figure also appears in the Expenditure at Note 6.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The District acts as agent in the following matters:

- the collection of quarterly assessments from circuits which are paid to the Methodist Church Fund (MCF).
- the payment of expenses of delegates from the District to the Methodist Conference.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because there is no obligation on the District to make up any shortfall in assessments from Circuits. Sums received as Circuit assessments cannot be recognised as income in the District as they are the income of the MCF.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised.

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the District to pay out resources.

ix Grants

Grants are recognised annually only as and when any performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Grants Committee being satisfied, based on progress reports from the grantee, that the grant's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of that grant. Such commitments are noted as contingent liabilities and included within the District Advance Fund or other relevant designated fund in these accounts.

x VAT

Since the District is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xi Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. The freehold property, 291 Billing Road East, was valued in August 2019 and is shown in the accounts at the 2019 deemed values plus an allowance for inflation over the subsequent 24 months. The land component is deemed to be £100,000. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment. The second manse, 9 The Elms, was transferred to the Methodist Connexion during the 2020-21 year and the sum of £335,268 was paid into the District Advance Fund by the Connexion.

xii Investments

The investments of the Northampton District are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA.

xiii Debtors and Creditors; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the District. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at the realisable values.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

xiv Loans

Where concessionary loans (*i.e.* free of interest) are made to (or received by) the District to further its charitable purposes, and are repayable after more than one year, they are initially recognised at the amount paid [or received], with the carrying value adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any impairment, if necessary.

Where there is objective evidence of impairment, an immediate impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. Subsequent reversals of an impairment loss that objectively relate to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities]

xv Methodist Church Fund

The District acts as agent for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF) by collecting its assessments on Circuits and does not, therefore, include the assessments in the SOFA. If a Circuit is late in paying its MCF assessment to the District but such sum is received before the quarterly transfer to the MCF, the amount paid late will be shown as a debtor in the District's accounts.

xvi Ministers' manse costs

The District is required to provide accommodation for each Minister and their families. The District bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These costs are not shown separately as benefits-in-kind for Ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of the Ministers.

2 a) Assessment on Circuits

All Circuits (see list given below in this note) paid their assessments to the District and to the MCF during the year. The assessment on Circuits is annually determined by an agreed formula.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Oxford | 2 Wantage & Abingdon |
| 3 Witney & Faringdon | 5 Banbury |
| 6 Buckingham, Bicester & Brackley | 7 Leicester Trinity |
| 9 Leicester West | 10 Loughborough |
| 11 Hinckley | 12 Melton Mowbray |
| 13 Northampton | 14 Rugby & Daventry |
| 15 Stamford | 19 Kettering & Corby |
| 20 Market Harborough | 21 Peterborough |
| 23 Nene Valley | 26 Milton Keynes |
| 27 High Wycombe | 28 Amersham |
| 29 Vale of Aylesbury | |

b) Contribution to Methodist Church Fund (MCF)

In addition to the assessments on the Circuits to help defray the costs of running the District, the District acted as agent for the Methodist Church Fund which levied assessments on the Circuits in this District totalling £715,304 (2019-20: £687,485) all of which were collected or shown as debtors at the end of the year and paid over to the MCF in the year. No balance was held at the end of the year; no fee is received for this service which is performed at nearly nil cost to the District. These sums collected for and remitted to the MCF do not appear elsewhere in these financial statements.

3 Cost of Chair and trustees

District Chair

The Chair of District chairs meetings of the District Executive Committee (District Policy Committee or DPC). The members of the DPC are the trustees of the District. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The Chair's other costs are met mostly by the District.

| | 2020-21 | 2019-20 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Stipend of Chair of District, Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron | 31,905 | 31,065 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 3,211 | 3,075 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 6,866 | 6,685 |
| Computers for Ministry | 169 | - |
| Chair's expenses (including travel costs) | 836 | 2,689 |
| Housing Costs (Insurance, Water and Council Tax) | 2,994 | 2,482 |
| Total | 45,981 | 45,997 |
| Stipend cost paid by the Connexion (see SOFA, line 6) | 42,151 | 40,825 |
| Total Cost to District | 3,830 | 5,172 |

Since the stipend-related costs above (£42,151) are borne by the Connexion, they appear both in the Income of the District and the Expenditure of the District (See Note 6). It should be noted that the chair is required to occupy the District manse. The manse is provided by the Northampton District and the District maintains the property.

No accrual is made for the Chair's entitlement to a sabbatical as her functions are undertaken by a Deputy Chair at minimal extra cost to the District.

District Mission Enabler

The District Mission Enabler (DME) is employed by the District to concentrate exclusively on supporting and resourcing circuits and churches for their mission. The DME is a member of the District Executive Committee and a trustee. Remuneration of the DME is legally authorised as provided in the governing document as described in the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church (Book II, Part 2)

Revd. Jill Marsh was employed as DME until 28th February 2021 and all costs of her employment were met by the District as follows:

| | 2020-21 | 2019-20 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Stipend of DME, Revd. Jill Marsh | 12,762 | 27,207 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 1,178 | 2,579 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 3,433 | 6,685 |
| Computers for Ministry | 169 | 165 |
| Housing Costs (Insurance, Water and Council Tax) | 1,791 | 2,751 |
| Total | 19,333 | 39,388 |
| DME's travel expenses | 72 | 2,065 |
| DME's other expenses | 237 | 737 |
| Total Cost | 19,642 | 42,190 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

Mr Matthew Forsyth was employed as DME from 2nd August 2021 and all costs of his employment were met by the District as follows:

| | 2020-21 |
|---|--------------|
| | £ |
| Salary of DME, Mr. Matthew Forsyth | 3,548 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 388 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 213 |
| Total | 4,149 |
| DME's travel expenses | 294 |
| DME's Office equipment | 768 |
| DME's other expenses | 47 |
| Total Cost | 5,259 |

Payments to trustees

It is District policy to offer to reimburse members of the District Executive Committee and others involved in the administration of District affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The Chair of the District undertakes the primary executive role within the District. Apart from the Chair of District and the District Mission Enabler, no member of the District Executive Committee was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the District, although certain travelling and administration costs were reimbursed whenever this was requested.

4 Other income

The District does not undertake fundraising.

The District Synod invites donations from the members of synod for All We Can. The District Synod did not meet in person and no donations were received during this financial year.

5 Grants and donations and related support costs

Grants and donations totalling £282,382 were paid from the District Advance Fund during the year (2019-20: £194,124). £197,600 was paid in grants to churches and circuits in the District and £84,782 was transferred to the General Fund as shown in the tables below.

| Transfers from District Advance Fund | 2020-21 |
|---|---------------|
| | £ |
| To District General Fund for the DME | 46,000 |
| To District General Fund for Safeguarding | 10,000 |
| To District General Fund for Ecumenical Sponsorship | 14,782 |
| To District General Fund for Young Leaders' Scheme | 14,000 |
| Total transferred to District General Fund | 84,782 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

| Grants paid from DAF | 2020-21 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| | £ |
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 61,300 |
| Property Grants | 136,000 |
| Start-Up Grants | 300 |
| Total Paid | 197,600 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.20 | 329,800 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9 | -132,200 |

| Grants to be paid during 2021-22 | £ |
|---|----------------|
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 146,400 |
| Property Grants | 113,500 |
| Total to be paid | 259,900 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.20 | 114,100 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9a | 145,800 |

| Grants to be paid after 2021-22 | £ |
|--|----------------|
| Mission and Ministry Grants | 408,200 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.20 | 77,500 |
| Total to SOFA – Line 9b | 330,700 |

Details of the recipients of grants paid by the District during the year may be found on the District website:

www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/for-ministers-and-office-holders/finance/

Funds held for District Projects

| Description | Balance at 01.09.20 | Balance at 31.08.21 | Increase |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| General Fund | | | |
| Extending Discipleship Exploring Vocation (EDEV) | 1,374 | 1,374 | 0 |
| Training Officer / Development Enabler | 6,876 | 6,876 | 0 |
| Bikes for Ghana | 100 | 0 | -100 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme | 1,223 | 1,549 | 326 |
| Together Mission | 3,047 | 3,047 | 0 |
| Trichy Visit | 2,180 | 0 | -2,180 |
| Totals – General Fund | 14,800 | 12,846 | -1,954 |
| Restricted Funds | | | |
| Overstone Chaplaincy | 47,500 | 48,602 | 1,102 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme Bursaries | 8,000 | 2,000 | -6,000 |
| Totals – Restricted Funds | 55,500 | 50,602 | -4,898 |

Expenditure on charitable activities through the District Advance Fund (DAF)

The DAF receives formulaically determined contributions from the Circuit Model Trust Funds held by Circuits within the District and redistributes the monies to grantees in the District through relevant grants as assessed by the District Finance and Grants Committee.

The Finance and Grants Committee is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit.

6 Salaries and associated costs

In addition to the District Mission Enabler, gross salaries were paid to one full time and nine (2019-20: seven) part time employees as follows:

| | 2020-21 |
|--|----------------|
| | £ |
| Gross pay | 113,448 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 8,289 |
| Employer's pension contributions to defined contribution schemes | 7,490 |
| Miscellaneous Payroll Costs including the Apprenticeship Levy | 1,568 |
| Total costs of 10 staff | 130,625 |
| Cost of District Mission Enabler (see Note 3) to February 2021 | 19,642 |
| Cost of District Mission Enabler (see Note 3) from August 2021 | 5,259 |
| Total (excluding the Chair) | 155,526 |
| Cost of Chair (see Note 3) | 45,981 |
| Total staff costs | 201,507 |
| Total weekly contractual hours for 10 staff | n/a |

No employees received employee benefits that totalled more than £60,000. All staff are paid at or above the real living wage.

Two of the nine part-time employees were engaged exclusively in safeguarding matters, four provided administrative assistance at the District office and three were involved in the District Young Leaders' Scheme. The full-time employee was employed as a Community Chaplain.

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

Lay employees are contractually employees and are automatically enrolled in NEST if eligible.

7 Property Maintenance

| | 2020-21 | 2019-20 |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Chair's manse | 3,292 | 10,409 |
| DME's Manse | 3,145 | 1,324 |
| Total | 6,437 | 11,733 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

8 Office expenses (General fund)

| | 2020-21 | 2019-20 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 965 | 3,508 |
| Telephone | 1,923 | 1,985 |
| Bouverie Court | 8,640 | 8,640 |
| Secretarial Assistance | 1,152 | 0 |
| Office Equipment | 913 | 0 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 13,593 | 14,134 |
| TMCP Charges | 1,401 | 1,242 |
| Total | 14,994 | 15,376 |

9 Synods, Committees, Conference

| | 2020-21 | 2019-20 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Synods | 78 | 1,485 |
| Committees | 1,195 | 4,491 |
| Total | 1,273 | 5,976 |

10 Training

| | 2020-21 | 2019-20 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Further Ministerial Training | 3,885 | 3,927 |
| Education and Youth | 0 | 175 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme (excl. Salaries) | 1,023 | 1,706 |
| Development Expenses | 1,200 | 1,200 |
| Other Training | 0 | 342 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 6,107 | 7,351 |

11 Professional Fees

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| | 2020-21 |
| | £ |
| Bank Fees | 74 |
| Independent Examination of Accounts | 240 |
| Total | 314 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

12 Other outgoings

| | 2020-21 |
|---|---------------|
| | £ |
| Safeguarding Costs (excl. Salaries) | 2,743 |
| Ministers' meetings (including Superintendents, new ministers and District Retreat) | 2,245 |
| Ecumenical Sponsorship | 14,782 |
| Repayment of contribution to cancelled trip to Trichy | 2,180 |
| Donation to All We Can (Bikes for Ghana) | 100 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 22,051 |

13 Transfers between funds

The following transfers to the General Fund were made during 2018-19.

| | £ |
|--|---------------|
| From the District Advance Fund to contribute to the funding of the District Mission Enabler | 46,000 |
| From the District Advance Fund to contribute towards the increasing cost of the Safeguarding Team. | 10,000 |
| From the District Advance Fund to fund Ecumenical Subscriptions | 14,782 |
| From the District Advance Fund to fund the Young Leaders' Scheme. | 14,000 |
| Total from the District Advance Fund | 84,782 |
| | |
| To the designated Manse Repair Fund | 3,563 |
| Total to Designated Funds | 3,563 |

14 Manse and other property

| | Land | Buildings | Others | Total |
|--|---------------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Cost or valuation | | | | |
| Balance brought forward at 1 September 2020 | 122,000 | 430,000 | | 552,000 |
| Additions in the year | | | | |
| Revaluations in the year | 32,000 | 108,000 | | 140,000 |
| Less: Disposals in the year (9, The Elms, Blaby) | 58,000 | 174,000 | | 232,000 |
| Transfers between categories | | | | |
| Balance carried forward at 31 August 2021 | 96,000 | 364,000 | 0 | 460,000 |

15 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

The funds that support the District Advance Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

16 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Cash at Bank

At 21st September 2020, the District held a current account at TSB which was closed following the opening of an account with CAF Bank, another authorised institution. The sums held are immediately available. In addition, the District has seven deposit accounts at CFB, a common deposit fund. Interest is earned on these accounts and credited monthly; the sums deposited can be withdrawn without notice and without loss of interest. These sums are viewed as being liquid.

17 Debtors and prepayments

Prepayments:

| | 2020-21 | 2019-20 |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Stipends and Allowances | 0 | 2,892 |
| Action Centres UK - Synod Deposit | 287 | 287 |
| CPD 2021-22 | 667 | 617 |
| Yorks N&E - District Chairs' Retreat | 435 | 435 |
| Launde Abbey – Retreat (2022) | 907 | 2,241 |
| Chesford Grange – Supers' Conf. – Oct. 2021 | 822 | 0 |
| The Belfry, Oxford – Supers' Conf. – March '22 | 1599 | 0 |
| Books for Acts 29 (Postponed) | 493 | 493 |
| Launde Abbey - Supers' Conference | 0 | 665 |
| Launde Abbey – Probationers' Retreat | 1334 | 0 |
| Flights to Trichy | 0 | 2,839 |
| Total | 6,543 | 10,468 |

18 Creditors and accrued expenses

Creditors:

| | 2020-21 | 2019-20 |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Expenses reimbursement | 3,776.53 | 292 |
| Development Expenses | 1,200.00 | 0 |
| Supervision Fees | 240.00 | 0 |
| Supervision Administration | 427.75 | 0 |
| Total | 5,644 | 292 |

19 Grant Commitments and the District Advance Fund

Where grants are payable in annual instalments, it is necessary for the grantee to provide a satisfactory report on the achievements of activities funded by previous instalments of the multi-year grant award before any further instalments are paid. These reports are reviewed at the July meeting of the Finance and Grants Committee and the commitments for the following financial year are confirmed at that meeting subject to the approval of the District Executive (DPC). It is the District's policy to recognise these committed grants as expenditure out of this fund and thus accrue the unpaid amounts at the year-end as liabilities. Payments for all subsequent years are included even though they remain subject to a satisfactory progress report.

20 Unrestricted Funds

20.1 General Fund – balance £560,997 at 31 August 2021

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the District and which have not been designated for other purposes. £460,000 of this fund (82%) is held as freehold property (the manse for the Chair of District).

20.2 Designated Funds – balance £25,458 at 31 August 2021

These funds are to serve specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. These funds comprise:

- The Manse Fund – balance £17,346 (2020: £13,764) is available to meet the costs of maintenance and improvements in the accommodation at the District manse.
- The Training Fund £7,557 (2020: £7,547)
- The Education and Youth Fund – balance £555 (2020: £554)

21 Restricted Funds - balance £72,882 at 31 August 2021

There are five restricted funds:

- The Local Preachers' Fund – balance £12,026 (2020: £12,009)
- The Ministerial Training Fund – balance £8,166 (2020: £8,154)
- The Benevolence Fund – balance £2,089 (2020: £1,595)
- *Young Leaders' Scheme Bursaries – balance £2,000 (2020: £8,000)
- *Overstone Chaplaincy – balance £48,602 (2020: £47,500)

*The funds for these projects are held in the General Fund account and not in separate bank accounts.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2021

22 Summary of movements on significant individual funds

| Fund | Balance at | Income | Expenditure | Transfers | Gains/ | Balance |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| | 01.09.20 | | | | Losses | at |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | 31.08.21 |
| | | | | | | £ |
| General Fund | 589,799 | 210,246 | 228,267 | 81,219 | -92,000 | 560,997 |
| District Advance Fund | 178,981 | 266,712 | 345,701 | -84,782 | 335,268 | 350,478 |
| Manse (Designated) | 13,764 | 19 | | 3,563 | | 17,346 |
| Training (Designated) | 7,547 | 10 | | | | 7,557 |
| Education and Youth (Designated) | 554 | 1 | | | | 555 |
| Total designated | 21,865 | 30 | | 3,563 | | 25,458 |
| Local Preachers Fund (Restricted) | 12,009 | 17 | | | | 12,026 |
| Ministerial Training Fund (Restricted) | 8,154 | 11 | | | | 8,166 |
| Benevolence Fund (Restricted) | 1,595 | 493 | | | | 2,089 |
| Overstone Chaplain (Restricted) See Note 1. below | 0 | 22,500 | -26,102 | | | 48,602 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme Bursaries (Restricted) See Note 2 below | 0 | 0 | -2,000 | | | 2,000 |
| Total restricted | 21,759 | 23,021 | -28,102 | | | 72,882 |
| Total Funds | 812,404 | 500,009 | 545,866 | 0 | 243,268 | 1,009,814 |

Note 1. The Overstone Chaplain project had been delayed and the Balance Sheet at 31 August 2020 indicated a zero balance as it had been anticipated that the grants would be used more quickly. The sum of £48,602 represents the sum held in the General Fund accounts for this project.

Note 2. It was anticipated that all the £2,000 YLS bursaries (4 No.) would be paid during the year 2020-21, but one was unclaimed. The balance of £2,000 is held in the General Fund accounts.

23 Connected organisations and related parties

Connected organisations include the Methodist Connexion, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, the Methodist Ministers' Children's Relief Association, the Northampton District of Methodist Women in Britain, CFB and TMCP. All these entities have their own trustees or directors and autonomous administration such that this District has no significant influence over any of them, nor they over any District. Therefore, they are not considered related parties.

The related parties of the District are the twenty-one Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are based in the counties of Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire together with parts of several adjoining Counties. They are contactable by the District web site www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk. Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

During the year, the following transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No 8) Expenses were reimbursed by the charity to Revd Canon Helen D. Cameron, Revd Jill Marsh Mr Matthew Forsyth and other trustees in respect of motor and travel expenses, postage, supplies and repairs and have been included in the figures set out above.

24 Volunteer contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit, Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. Principally this contribution is by serving on committees of the District that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, grants, training, development. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment.

25 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31.08.21

A C Lewis
District Treasurer
March 2022

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) £ | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Designated Funds (unrestricted) £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds | Total 2020-21 £ |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 491 | | 491 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 100,855 | | | | 100,855 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 195 | 2,864 | 30 | 30 | | 3,119 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 167,900 | | | | | 167,900 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 162,993 | | | | 162,993 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 42,151 | | | | | 42,151 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | | | | 22,500 | | 22,500 |
| Total income | | 210,246 | 266,712 | 30 | 23,021 | 0 | 500,009 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | | -132,200 | | -2,000 | | -134,200 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2021-22 | 5 | -1,954 | 145,800 | | -25,000 | | 118,846 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2021-22 | 5 | | 330,700 | | -22,500 | | 308,200 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 134,465 | | | 21,062 | | 155,526 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 45,981 | | | | | 45,981 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 6,437 | | | | | 6,437 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 13,593 | 1,401 | | | | 14,994 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 1,273 | | | | | 1,273 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 6,107 | | | | | 6,107 |
| 16 Professional fees | 11 | 314 | | | | | 314 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 12 | 22,051 | | | 337 | | 22,388 |
| Total expenditure | | 228,267 | 345,701 | 0 | -28,102 | 0 | 545,866 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | -18,021 | -78,989 | 30 | 51,123 | 0 | -45,857 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -18,021 | -78,989 | 30 | 51,123 | 0 | -45,857 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 13 | 81,219 | -84,782 | 3,563 | | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) - Manses | 14 | -92,000 | 335,268 | | | | 243,268 |
| Net movement in funds | | -28,802 | 171,497 | 3,593 | 51,123 | 0 | 197,411 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 589,799 | 178,981 | 21,865 | 21,759 | | 812,404 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 560,997 | 350,478 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,009,814 |

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

| Notes to the Accounts | | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Totals 2020/21 | Totals 2019/20 |
|---|----|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | | | | | | | | |
| | 14 | 460,000 | | | | | 460,000 | 552,000 |
| | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | 460,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 460,000 | 552,000 |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | | |
| | 17 | 6,543 | | | | | 6,543 | 10,468 |
| | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | 1,018,578 | | | | 1,018,578 | 700,381 |
| | | 106,514 | | 25,458 | 72,882 | | 204,853 | 138,750 |
| | | 6,430 | | | | | 6,430 | 2,796 |
| | | 119,487 | 1,018,578 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,236,404 | 852,396 |
| Current liabilities | | | | | | | | |
| | 18 | 5,644 | | | | | 5,644 | 28,292 |
| | 5 | 12,846 | 259,900 | | | | 272,746 | 372,100 |
| | | 18,490 | 259,900 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 278,390 | 400,392 |
| | | 100,997 | 758,678 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 958,014 | 452,004 |
| | | 560,997 | 758,678 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,418,014 | 1,004,004 |
| Long term liabilities (due after more than one year) | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 408,200 | | | | 408,200 | 191,600 |
| | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | 560,997 | 350,478 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,009,814 | 812,404 |
| Funds of the District | | | | | | | | |
| | | 560,997 | | | | | 560,997 | 589,799 |
| | | | 350,478 | | | | 350,478 | 178,981 |
| | | | | 25,458 | | | 25,458 | 21,865 |
| | | | | | | | 936,933 | 790,645 |
| | | | | | 72,882 | | 72,882 | 21,759 |
| | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 560,997 | 350,478 | 25,458 | 72,882 | 0 | 1,009,814 | 812,404 |

Signed

District Treasurer

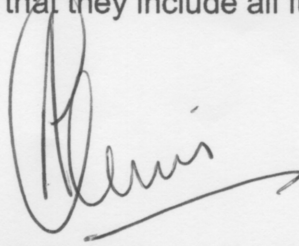
Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

| Notes to the accounts | District | | | | | Total 2019-20 £ |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| | General Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Advance Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Designated Funds (unrestricted) £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds | |
| Income from | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | 368 | | 368 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | 38,747 | | | | 38,747 |
| 3 Income from investments | 703 | 6,432 | 174 | 158 | | 7,468 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 157,000 | | | | | 157,000 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | 223,608 | | | | 223,608 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 40,825 | | | | | 40,825 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | 2,180 | | | 35,000 | | 37,180 |
| Total income | 200,708 | 268,788 | 174 | 35,526 | 0 | 505,196 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | | -216,350 | | | | -216,350 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2020-21 | -4,323 | 197,100 | | 8,000 | | 200,777 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2020-21 | | 31,100 | | 25,000 | | 56,100 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 138,360 | | | | | 138,360 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 45,997 | | | | | 45,997 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 11,733 | | | | | 11,733 |
| 13 Office expenses | 14,134 | 1,242 | | | | 15,376 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 5,976 | | | | | 5,976 |
| 15 Training | 7,351 | | | | | 7,351 |
| 16 Professional fees | | | | | | 0 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 33,178 | | | 2,770 | | 35,948 |
| Total expenditure | 252,406 | 13,092 | 0 | 35,770 | 0 | 301,267 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | |
| | -51,698 | 255,696 | 174 | -243 | 0 | 203,929 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | -51,698 | 255,696 | 174 | -243 | 0 | 203,929 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | 80,207 | -77,474 | -2,733 | | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) | | | | | | 0 |
| Net movement in funds | 28,510 | 178,222 | -2,559 | -243 | 0 | 203,929 |
| Total funds brought forward | 561,289 | 759 | 24,424 | 22,002 | | 608,475 |
| Total funds carried forward | 589,799 | 178,981 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 812,403 |

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the District and that they include all funds under the control of the District Policy Committee.

Signature of treasurer:



Date: 3rd March 2022

Name and address of treasurer:

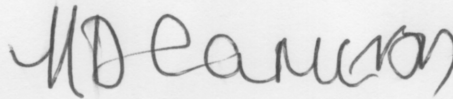
Andrew Lewis, "Cassiopeia", 3 Kings Lane, Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire

Post Code: NN6 6LX

Presentation to the District Policy Committee

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 will be presented to the District Policy Committee held on 22nd March 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:



Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron

Date: 22nd March 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Northampton District

Charity Number 1130373

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the NORTHAMPTON District for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages ... to As the District'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 District'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

[The District's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of *(insert name of applicable listed body)*]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

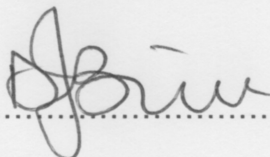
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- 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 *Delete if not applicable ie all R&P accounts*
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts *Delete if not applicable ie all R&P accounts.*

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



Name of independent examiner: D.J. Briscoe

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACMA

Name of firm: AIMS Accountants for Business

Address : 11 De Montfort Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire

Post Code : LE10 1LQ

Date 11th MARCH 2022

* delete or circle as appropriate

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1130373

Accounts



**Trustees' Annual Report
and
Financial Statement**

Year Ending 31st August 2020

1 Objectives and activities

The Trustees form the District Executive (District Policy Committee - DPC) and meet at least quarterly to consider our objectives and to plan our activities. The District Synod, under the leadership of the District Trustees, meets twice each year and recognises the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and conforms to the Charities Act 2011.

Our primary purpose is to advance the mission of the Church in the region, by supporting the Circuits by providing opportunities to work together and by offering resources of finance, personnel and expertise that may not be available locally. Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the District and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. We aim to achieve this by encouraging the worship, social, and outreach activities and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the Church family. In a time of pandemic and lockdown we have sought to remind the circuits of the resources they already have and have encouraged and supported the churches and circuits to be flexible in their outreach particularly in terms of digital presence and engagement during lockdown. We are offering support to circuits as the Church begins to emerge from a sustained lockdown.

2 Achievements and performance

In furtherance of these aims the District has this year:

- Drawn together representatives of the circuits responsible for the deployment of ministry resources, finance, property, leadership and oversight to enable them to learn from and support each other principally by zoom.
- Provided training for the above people relevant to their posts and responsibilities.
- Provided consultancy for the above people through district officers.
- Pursued a sustained Safeguarding training programme for those in leadership in churches and circuits which has moved online for the present.
- Paid grants of £183,150 to circuits and churches in support of mission projects and property schemes with a clear priority for mission.
- Committed £329,800 to be paid in under 12 months to provide financial support of projects including £181,500 towards property schemes.
- Committed £191,600 for future years where a satisfactory monitoring and evaluation report has been received.
- Made grants to ministers and lay people engaging in training relevant to their role in the church.
- Supported 2 candidates for ordained presbyteral ministry who were successful in their candidature and who will enter initial ministerial training in the autumn
- Supported 6 probationer ministers in the early years of their ministry and moving to ordination
- Been closely involved in the development of regional co-operation with neighbouring Districts especially as regards sharing of resources.
- Begun work on two New Places for New People Projects in two separate Circuits.
- Identified 3 new lay pioneers and encouraged them to join the Pioneer training Pathway.
- Filled all vacant ministerial vacancies.

3 Financial review

During the year, the District received total income of £505k (2018-19: £493k) and dispersed £301k (2018-19: £682k).

The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic were significant from March 2020 and resulted in considerable cost savings due to the restrictions on travel and meetings. In addition, the circuits and churches postponed some of their intended projects which caused a reduction in applications for grants.

The trustees of the District have every reason to believe that the District is a going concern, principally because Circuits continue to meet their assessments and the District has adequate funds in the District Advance Fund to cover a shortfall in anticipated income. There are no subsidiary undertakings. Trustees do not foresee any factors that will significantly affect the financial performance or position in the next year or two.

The District has the following principal sources of funds:

- Interest on investments
- Levies on the Circuit Model Trust Funds of Circuits within the District
- Contribution from the Connexional Advance and Property Fund
- Assessments on Circuits within the District

These sums are used to administer the District and to provide grants to Circuits, Churches and individuals in the District so that they may embark on, or continue with, projects that fulfil the mission of the District by bringing more people to Christ or by providing facilities that might enable this to happen.

3.1 Investment Policy and Performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Districts and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the District. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere. The investment policy of the Northampton District is aligned with that of the Central Finance Board (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the CFB and attract good rates of interest.

There are no bench marks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. It is the District's policy to manage the cash and investment resources of the District so that a rate of return on investment – both by way of dividend and capital appreciation – is obtained at least as good as market rate considering the District's low appetite for risk.

3.2 Reserves level and policy

Although grants are made annually out of the District Advance Fund (DAF), it is recognised that some grants will be paid by annual instalments. The trustees ensure that there is sufficient in the DAF to meet these instalments and the trustees recognise future approved grants as liabilities on the balance sheet.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

Excluding the value of the manses, the reserves held in the General Fund at 31.08.20 are £37,799 (£9,289 at 31.08.19). This is 89% more than the sum stated in our Reserves Policy and is a result of the Covid-19 pandemic causing a significant reduction in our expenditure.

The reserves held at the end of the year were as follows:

| | £ | £ |
|---|---------|----------------|
| <i>Unrestricted funds</i> | | |
| General Fund | 589,799 | |
| District Advance Fund | 178,891 | |
| | | 768,780 |
| <i>Designated funds</i> | | |
| Manse Fund | 13,764 | |
| Training Fund | 7,547 | |
| Education and Youth | 554 | |
| | | 21,865 |
| Total unrestricted funds (including designated) | | 790,645 |
| <i>Restricted funds</i> | | |
| Local Preachers Fund | 12,009 | |
| Ministerial Training Fund | 8,154 | |
| Benevolence Fund | 1,595 | |
| | | 21,759 |
| Total Funds | | 812,404 |
| Total undesignated and unrestricted funds | | 790,645 |
| Less invested in the manse | | -552,000 |
| Uncommitted reserves | | 238,645 |

All funds are separately invested either with CFB or TMCP. No money is directly invested in property, securities or other forms of investment.

3.3 Collaborative arrangements with connected charities

The District's main source of funding was the assessments obtained from each Circuit within the District based on the staffing levels of the Circuit and this was used to defray most of the cost of administering the District. This sum amounted to £157,000 (2018-19: £130,700).

Each year the District is allocated a sum by the London Mission Fund (LMF). In 2019-20 this amounted to £19,705 which was used to pay for, or contribute towards, the cost of certain activities within the District. This sum is not remitted to the District and does not appear in the accounts of the District because the District acts as agent for the LMF. Instead, the District nominates some grant applications which can be met by the LMF and passes these to the LMF so that the LMF can pay the grant directly to the grantee. Grants were awarded to various projects in the District.

The District also obtained from each Circuit with a reserve, known as a Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF), a levy based on the size of the Circuits' CMTFs at the start of the connexional year (01 September). In 2019-20 this sum was £223,608 and was credited to the District Advance Fund.

The District holds no funds as custodian trustee. However, it does receive quarterly contributions from Circuits for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF). These sums are collected as agent for the MCF and are passed to the MCF later in the same quarter. Funds received by the District as agent are not recognised as an asset in the financial statements because the funds are not within its control. No fee is earned in respect of this and the District incurs no cost through this arrangement.

4 Trustees' responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31 August the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the District's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees must:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently using the accruals method
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- follow applicable accounting standards
- prepare accounts to comply with the Charities SORP

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the District and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the District and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the District's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Training in the responsibilities of trustees is offered to all new trustees soon after their appointment.

4.1 Risk

The District is largely risk averse but, especially in making grants to entities embarking on new and imaginative initiatives, the District is prepared to underwrite considered risks.

Risks are managed by being aware of them, quantifying their impact not only in cost terms but in possible reputational or structural damage, laying them off through an insurer and minimising them by not taking them or by setting up control systems that timeously report any significant change in the risk.

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.

5 Structure, governance and management

The District is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commission on 26 June 2009.

5.1 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of Churches and they pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the Churches in the Circuit. Most decisions are made at, or ratified by, the regular Circuit Meetings. A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at the half yearly synods. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The connexional offices implement decisions made by Conference and are also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within the District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

5.2 Purpose of the District

The District is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any Circuit, of the Connexional character of the Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the union, the advancement of:

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church
- b. any charitable purposes 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 of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this District is to advance the mission of the Church in Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire and Oxfordshire together with parts of several adjoining counties. This is achieved by

- providing opportunities for Circuits to work together and support each other
- offering to Circuits resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The District serves the Local Churches and Circuits and the Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church, and in programmes of training.

5.3 Governance

The District operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the connexional offices at 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR to provide guidance on changes that could affect the District.

The members of the District Executive (DPC) are annually appointed by a vote of the Synod for a continuous term not normally exceeding six years. The Chair of District is *ex officio* chair of the District Executive. When a position becomes vacant on the District Executive, nominations are invited from ministers and lay members of Circuits within the District. The Chair of the District then shares with nominees what the roles involve. If they wish to be considered for a role, their names and reasoned statements are taken to the District Executive and the District Synod for appointment. Members may be either ministers or lay people attending Churches in the area covered by the District.

The District Executive normally meets four times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the work of the Grants Committee, finance, property, the District office, the District manses, stationing, safeguarding, the work of the District Mission Enabler, authorisations to preside at communion and extensions to local preacher training.

5.4 Responsibilities of the District Executive (DPC)

- i to formulate and promote policies which will advance the mission of the Church in the Circuits and Local Churches and to supervise the use of resources of personnel, property and finance and to assist Local Churches and Circuits having exceptional problems
- ii to encourage inter-Circuit and ecumenical co-operation
- iii to act in an executive capacity in matters remitted to the Committee by the Synod
- iv to keep within its purview all District concerns not dealt with elsewhere
- v to contribute and respond to the development of Connexional policies as reflected in the work of the Conference and the Methodist Council, and to carry out its other responsibilities with any such development in mind
- vi to be aware that the stipend of the Chair of the District is set – currently by reference to the change over a year in the Consumer Price Index and to the annual change in the Average Weekly Earnings Index – using a formula that was agreed by the Methodist Conference for all ministers within the Connexion
- vii constantly to be aware of the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission

6 Reference and Administrative Details

6.1 Name of the charity

The Northampton District of the Methodist Church.

6.2 Charity registration number

1130373, registered in England and Wales

6.3 Principal Office

District Office
Bouverie Court
6 The Lakes
Bedford Road
Northampton
NN4 7YD

Tel: 01604 630128

E-mail: northampton.distoffice@gmail.com

Web-site: www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk

6.4 Chair of the District

Revd. Canon Helen Cameron

6.5 Secretary of the Synod

Revd. Alan Bolton (Presbyteral)

Mr Derek Beaumont (Representative)

6.6 Assistant Secretary of the Synod

Mrs Sue Bayliss

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

6.7 District Treasurer

Mr Andrew Lewis

6.8 Names of trustees

The following served as trustees during the year 2019-20 or were trustees at the time of this report being approved:

Revd. Canon Helen Cameron (Chair)
Revd. Alan Bolton (Presbyteral Synod Secretary)
Mrs Sue Bayliss (Secretary and Assistant Synod Secretary)
Mr Andrew Lewis (Treasurer)
Mr Chris Linford (Property Secretary)
Revd. Jill Marsh (District Mission Enabler)
Revd. Andy Fyall (Ecumenical Officer)
Revd. Novette Headley (Methodist Council Representative)
Mr Derek Beaumont (Representative Synod Secretary)
Mr David Sparks to 31 July 2020
Mrs Wendy Curtis to 31 July 2020
Revd. Martin Wellings to 31 July 2020
Revd. Kim Shorley
Revd. Romeo Pedro
Deacon Richard Goldstraw
Revd. Dawn Saunders from 16 August 2019 to 31 July 2020
Revd. Andrew Farrington from 01 May 2020
Revd. Rose Westwood from 21 August 2020
Mr James Blackhall from 21 August 2020
Ms Janet Hinds from 21 August 2020
Mr Charles Levitt from 21 August 2020

The Managing Trustees for the District are the members of the District Executive (DPC).
No trustee claims exemption from disclosure of his or her name here.

6.9 Bankers

TSB Bank plc
Town Hall Square
17 Horsefair Street
Leicester
LE1 5PD

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

6.10 Investment managers and custodian trustees

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

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

6.11 Independent Examiner

Mr David Briscoe
11 De Montfort Road
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1LQ

Approvals

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the District Executive Committee on 14 June 2021.

Signed on behalf of the District Executive Committee



Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron
District Chair
Date: 14 June 2021



Andrew Lewis
District Treasurer
Date: 14 June 2021

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Total 2019-20 |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | | £ |
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 368 | | 368 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 38,747 | | | | 38,747 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 703 | 6,432 | 174 | 158 | | 7,468 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 157,000 | | | | | 157,000 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 223,608 | | | | 223,608 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 40,825 | | | | | 40,825 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | 5 | 2,180 | | | 35,000 | | 37,180 |
| Total income | | 200,708 | 268,788 | 174 | 35,526 | 0 | 505,196 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | | -216,350 | | | | -216,350 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2020-21 | 5 | -4,323 | 197,100 | | 8,000 | | 200,777 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2020-21 | 5 | | 31,100 | | 25,000 | | 56,100 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 138,360 | | | | | 138,360 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 45,997 | | | | | 45,997 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 11,733 | | | | | 11,733 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 14,134 | 1,242 | | | | 15,376 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 5,976 | | | | | 5,976 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 7,351 | | | | | 7,351 |
| 16 Professional fees | | | | | | | 0 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 11 | 33,178 | | | 2,770 | | 35,948 |
| Total expenditure | | 252,406 | 13,092 | 0 | 35,770 | 0 | 301,267 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | -51,698 | 255,696 | 174 | -243 | 0 | 203,929 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -51,698 | 255,696 | 174 | -243 | 0 | 203,929 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | | 80,207 | -77,474 | -2,733 | | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net movement in funds | | 28,510 | 178,222 | -2,559 | -243 | 0 | 203,929 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 561,289 | 759 | 24,424 | 22,002 | | 608,475 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 589,799 | 178,981 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 812,404 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

| Notes to the Accounts | | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Totals 2019/20 | Totals 2018/19 |
|---|----|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | | | | | | | | |
| Tangible fixed assets | 13 | 552,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 552,000 | 552,000 |
| Investment properties | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed assets | | 552,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 552,000 | 552,000 |
| Current Assets | | | | | | | | |
| Debtors | 16 | 10,468 | | | | | 10,468 | 5,142 |
| Loans by the District | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments with TMCP | | | 700,381 | | | | 700,381 | 620,959 |
| Central Finance Board Deposits | | 39,626 | | 21,865 | 77,259 | | 138,750 | 86,454 |
| Cash at Bank and in hand | | 2,796 | | | | | 2,796 | 6,752 |
| Total current assets | | 52,891 | 700,381 | 21,865 | 77,259 | 0 | 852,396 | 719,307 |
| Current liabilities | | | | | | | | |
| Creditors (due in under 1 year) | 17 | 292 | | | 28,000 | | 28,292 | 1,010 |
| Grants payable in 2020-21 | 5 | 14,800 | 329,800 | | 27,500 | | 372,100 | 368,622 |
| Total current liabilities | | 15,092 | 329,800 | 0 | 55,500 | 0 | 400,392 | 369,632 |
| Net current assets/liabilities | | 37,799 | 370,581 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 452,004 | 349,675 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 589,799 | 370,581 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 1,004,004 | 901,675 |
| Long term liabilities (due after more than one year) | | | | | | | | |
| Grants payable after 2020-21 | | | 191,600 | | | | 191,600 | 293,200 |
| Loans to the District | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Net assets | | 589,799 | 178,981 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 812,404 | 608,475 |
| Funds of the District | | | | | | | | |
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 589,799 | | | | | 589,799 | 561,289 |
| District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | | | 178,981 | | | | 178,981 | 759 |
| Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | | | | 21,865 | | | 21,865 | 24,424 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | | 790,645 | 586,472 |
| Restricted Funds | | | | | 21,759 | | 21,759 | 22,002 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Funds | | 589,799 | 178,981 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 812,404 | 608,475 |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 14th June 2021.

Helen D Cameron

Andrew Lewis

Signed: Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron
District Chair

Andrew Lewis
District Treasurer

1 Accounting framework and accounting policies

i Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP’s 2005 version specified in its related 2008 Regulations and in accordance with the “true and fair override” provision contained therein.

ii Public benefit entity

The Northampton Methodist District meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been based on historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year, on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the District’s financial position and activities.

iv Content

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.

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2020, the trustees believe that the District is a going concern.

vi Consolidation

The District oversees the work of ministers and lay workers in Churches and Circuits within the District but does not have control over those Circuits or Churches, ministers or lay workers except in extreme circumstances, none of which were applicable. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches and Circuits within the District are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue to the Northampton District. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers. Details of how the contribution to the cost of the District Chair has been determined are in Note 3 and the same figure also appears in the Expenditure at Note 6.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The District acts as agent in three matters:

- the collection of quarterly assessments from circuits which are paid to the Methodist Church Fund (MCF).
- the payment of expenses of delegates from the District to the Methodist Conference.
- the collections taken at synod on behalf of the Methodist Ministers’ Children’s Relief Association and All We Can.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because there is no obligation on the District to make up any shortfall in assessments from Circuits. Sums received as Circuit assessments cannot be recognised as income in the District as they are the income of the MCF.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised.

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the District to pay out resources.

ix Grants

Grants are recognised annually only as and when any performance conditions attaching to the award are met, even when the award is for a recurrent grant over more than one year. All grants awarded for payment in future financial years are conditional on the Grants Committee being satisfied, based on progress reports from the grantee, that the grant's achievements to date justify the payment of further instalments of that grant. Such commitments are noted as contingent liabilities and included within the District Advance Fund or other relevant designated fund in these accounts.

x VAT

Since the District is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xi Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. The freehold property (291 Billing Road East) is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, of which the land component is deemed to be £64,000. The value of the manse purchased during the year 2017-18 (9 The Elms) is shown at the valuation figure provided at the time of purchase. The land component is deemed to be £58,000, being the difference between the valuation figure and the recommended building insurance figure. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

xii Investments

The investments of the Northampton District are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA.

xiii Debtors and Creditors; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the District. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at the realisable values.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

xiv Loans

Where concessionary loans (*i.e.* free of interest) are made to (or received by) the District to further its charitable purposes, and are repayable after more than one year, they are initially recognised at the amount paid [or received], with the carrying value adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any impairment, if necessary.

Where there is objective evidence of impairment, an immediate impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. Subsequent reversals of an impairment loss that objectively relate to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities]

xv Methodist Church Fund

The District acts as agent for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF) by collecting its assessments on Circuits and does not, therefore, include the assessments in the SOFA. If a Circuit is late in paying its MCF assessment to the District but such sum is received before the quarterly transfer to the MCF, the amount paid late will be shown as a debtor in the District's accounts.

xvi Ministers' manse costs

The District is required to provide accommodation for each Minister and his / her family. The District bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These costs are not shown separately as benefits-in-kind for Ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of the Ministers.

2 a) Assessment on Circuits

All Circuits (see list given below in this note) paid their assessments to the District and to the MCF during the year. The assessment on Circuits is annually determined by an agreed formula.

| | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Oxford | 2 | Wantage & Abingdon |
| 3 | Witney & Faringdon | 4 | Chipping Norton & Stow |
| 5 | Banbury | 6 | Buckingham, Bicester & Brackley |
| 7 | Leicester Trinity | 9 | Leicester West |
| 10 | Loughborough | 11 | Hinckley |
| 12 | Melton Mowbray | 13 | Northampton |
| 14 | Rugby & Daventry | 15 | Stamford |
| 19 | Kettering & Corby | 20 | Market Harborough |
| 21 | Peterborough | 23 | Nene Valley |
| 26 | Milton Keynes | 27 | High Wycombe |
| 28 | Amersham | 29 | Vale of Aylesbury |

b) Contribution to Methodist Church Fund (MCF)

In addition to the assessments on the Circuits to help defray the costs of running the District, the District acted as agent for the Methodist Church Fund which levied assessments on the Circuits in this District totalling £687,485 (2018-19: £659,447) all of which were collected or shown as debtors at the end of the year and paid over to the MCF in the year. No balance was held at the end of the year; no fee is received for this service which is performed at nearly nil cost to the District. These sums collected for and remitted to the MCF do not appear elsewhere in these financial statements.

3 Cost of Chair and trustees

District Chair

The Chair of District chairs meetings of the District Executive Committee (District Policy Committee or DPC). The members of the DPC are the trustees of the District. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The Chair's other costs are met mostly by the District.

| | 2019-20 | 2018-19 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Stipend of Chair of District, Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron | 31,065 | 30,298 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 3,075 | 3,026 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 6,685 | 8,023 |
| Chair's expenses (including travel costs) | 2,689 | 6,167 |
| Housing Costs (Insurance, Water and Council Tax) | 2,482 | 2,864 |
| Total | 45,997 | 50,378 |
| Stipend cost paid by the Connexion (see SOFA, line 6) | 40,825 | 41,347 |
| Total Cost | 5,172 | 9,031 |

Since the stipend-related costs above (£40,825) are borne by the Connexion, they appear both in the Income of the District and the Expenditure of the District (See Note 6). It should be noted that the chair is required to occupy the District manse. The manse is provided by the Northampton District and the District maintains the property.

No accrual is made for the Chair's entitlement to a sabbatical as her functions are undertaken by a Deputy Chair at minimal extra cost to the District.

District Mission Enabler

The District Mission Enabler (DME) is employed by the District to concentrate exclusively on supporting and resourcing circuits and churches for their mission. All costs of employment are met by the District as follows:

| | 2019-20 | 2018-19 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Stipend of DME, Revd. Jill Marsh | 27,207 | 26,523 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 2,579 | 2,510 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 6,685 | 6,501 |
| Miscellaneous | 165 | 0 |
| Housing Costs (Insurance, Water and Council Tax) | 2,751 | 2,306 |
| Total | 39,388 | 37,840 |
| DME's travel expenses | 2,065 | 3,745 |
| DME's other expenses | 737 | 3,149 |
| Total Cost | 42,190 | 44,734 |

Payments to trustees

It is District policy to offer to reimburse members of the District Executive Committee and others involved in the administration of District affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The Chair of the District undertakes the primary executive role within the District. Apart from the Chair of District and the District Mission Enabler, no member of the District Executive Committee was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the District, although certain travelling and administration costs were reimbursed whenever this was requested.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

4 Other income

The District does not undertake fundraising.

The District Synod invited donations from the members of synod for All We Can. The amount donated and paid over in the year was £506.70.

5 Grants and donations and related support costs

Grants and donations totalling £194,124 were made during the year (2018-19: £325,607).

| | 2019-20 | 2018-19 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| From District Advance Fund for Mission and Ministry | 101,150 | 193,695 |
| From District Advance Fund for the DME | 46,000 | 45,000 |
| From District Advance Fund for Safeguarding | 12,000 | 20,000 |
| From District Advance Fund for Property | 24,000 | 58,512 |
| Ecumenical Sponsorship | 10,974 | 8,400 |
| Total | 194,124 | 325,607 |

| Grants paid from DAF | 2019-20 | 2018-19 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Mission and Ministry | 84,000 | 173,950 |
| Property | 24,000 | 58,512 |
| Start Up Grants | 2,650 | 2,495 |
| Total | 110,650 | 234,957 |
| Less Grants committed at 31.08.19 | 327,000 | 282,712 |
| Total to SOFA | -216,350 | -47,755 |

Details of the recipients of grants paid by the District during the year may be found on the District website:

www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/for-ministers-and-office-holders/finance/

Funds held for District Projects

| Description | Balance at 01.09.19 | Balance at 31.08.20 | Increase |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| General Fund | | | |
| Extending Discipleship Exploring Vocation (EDEV) | 1,374 | 1,374 | 0 |
| Training Officer / Development Enabler | 8,076 | 6,876 | -1,200 |
| Bikes for Ghana | 100 | 100 | 0 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme | 525 | 1,223 | 697 |
| Together Mission | 3,047 | 3,047 | 0 |
| Trichy Visit | 0 | 2,180 | 2,180 |
| Schools Consultancy Work | 6,000 | 0 | -6,000 |
| Totals – General Fund | 19,122 | 14,800 | -4,323 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Restricted Funds | | | |
| Overstone Chaplaincy | 22,500 | 47,500 | 25,000 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme Bursaries | 0 | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| Totals – Restricted Fund2 | 22,500 | 55,500 | 33,000 |

Expenditure on charitable activities through the District Advance Fund (DAF)

The DAF receives formulaically determined contributions from the Circuit Model Trust Funds held by Circuits within the District and redistributes the monies to grantees in the District through relevant grants as assessed by the District Finance and Grants Committee.

The total income to the fund during 2019-20 was £274,788.

The Grants Committee is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit.

6 Salaries and associated costs

Gross salaries paid to seven (2018-19: eight) part time employees were as follows:

| | 2019-20 £ |
|--|----------------|
| Gross pay | 87,766 |
| Employer's National Insurance contributions | 5,538 |
| Employer's pension contributions to defined contribution schemes | 7,356 |
| Payroll Costs including the Apprenticeship Levy | 1,064 |
| Total costs of 7 staff | 101,723 |
| Cost of District Mission Enabler (see Note 3) | 36,637 |
| Total (excluding the Chair) | 138,360 |
| Cost of Chair (see Note 3) | 40,825 |
| Total staff costs | 179,185 |
| Total weekly contractual hours for 7 staff | n/a |

No employees received employee benefits that totalled more than £60,000. There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial; the holiday year ends on 31 August. All staff are paid at or above the living wage.

Two of the seven part-time employees were engaged exclusively in safeguarding matters, two provided administrative assistance at the District office and three were involved in the District Young Leaders' Scheme.

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

Lay employees are contractually employees and may join the Pensions Trust, NEST or some other arrangement.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

7 Property Maintenance

| | 2019-20 | 2018-19 |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Chair's manse | 10,409 | 8,124 |
| DME's Manse | 1,324 | 1,490 |
| Total | 11,733 | 9,614 |

8 Office expenses (General fund)

| | 2019-20 | 2018-19 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 3,508 | 6,155 |
| Telephone | 1,985 | 2,258 |
| Bouverie Court | 8,640 | 8,640 |
| Recruitment | 0 | 1,434 |
| Other | 0 | 567 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 14,134 | 19,054 |
| TMCP Charges | 1,242 | 1,285 |
| Total | 15,376 | 20,339 |

9 Synods, Committees, Conference

| | 2019-20 | 2018-19 |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Synods | 1,485 | 3,316 |
| Committees | 4,491 | 7,967 |
| Total | 5,976 | 11,283 |

10 Training

| | 2019-20 |
|--|--------------|
| | £ |
| Further Ministerial Training | 3,927 |
| Education and Youth | 175 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme (excl. Salaries) | 1,706 |
| Development Expenses | 1,200 |
| Other Training | 342 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 7,351 |

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

11 Other outgoings

| | 2019-20 £ |
|---|---------------|
| District Mission Enabler Costs (excl. Stipend) See Note 3. | 5,553 |
| Safeguarding Costs (excl. Salaries) | 9,743 |
| Ministers' meetings (including Superintendents, new ministers and District Retreat) | 6,228 |
| Ecumenical Sponsorship | 10,974 |
| Other District Office Costs | 440 |
| Independent Examination of Accounts | 240 |
| Total charged to General Fund | 33,178 |

12 Transfers between funds

The following transfers to the General Fund were made during 2018-19.

| | £ |
|--|---------------|
| From the District Advance Fund to contribute to the funding of the District Mission Enabler | 46,000 |
| From the District Advance Fund to contribute towards the increasing cost of the Safeguarding Team. | 12,000 |
| From the District Advance Fund to fund Ecumenical Subscriptions | 10,974 |
| From the District Advance Fund to fund the Young Leaders' Scheme. | 14,500 |
| To the DAF – repayment of funding for the Schools Work Project | -6,000 |
| Total from the District Advance Fund | 77,474 |
| From the designated Manse Repair Fund | 2,733 |
| Total from Designated Funds | 2,733 |

13 Manse and other property

| | Land | Buildings | Others | Total |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Cost or valuation | | | | |
| Balance brought forward at 1 September 2019 | 122,000 | 430,000 | | 552,000 |
| Additions in the year | | | | |
| Revaluations in the year | | | | |
| Less: Disposals in the year | | | | |
| Transfers between categories | | | | |
| Balance carried forward at 31 August 2020 | 122,000 | 430,000 | 0 | 552,000 |

14 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

The funds that support the District Advance Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

15 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Cash at Bank

The District has a current account at TSB, an authorised institution. The sums held are immediately available. In addition, the District has seven deposit accounts at CFB, a common deposit fund. Interest is earned on these accounts and credited monthly; the sums deposited can be withdrawn without notice and without loss of interest. These sums are viewed as being liquid.

16 Debtors and prepayments

All sums paid in advance at 1 September 2019 were for work carried out during 2019-20. Similarly, all payments in advance at 1 September 2020 will be used in 2020-21

Prepayments:

| | 2019-20 | 2018-19 |
|--|---------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Stipends and Allowances | 2,892 | 3,038 |
| Synod Deposit (Action Centres UK) | 287 | 280 |
| Books for Synod | 0 | 250 |
| CPD 2020-21 | 617 | 0 |
| District Chairs' Retreat – Postponed to 2021 | 435 | 0 |
| Launde Abbey – Retreat (2021) | 2,241 | 1,024 |
| | | |
| Books for Acts 29 (Postponed) | 493 | 0 |
| Launde Abbey - Deposit for Supers' Conference (Postponed to 2021) | 665 | 550 |
| Flights to Trichy | 2,839 | 0 |
| Total | 10,468 | 5,142 |

17 Creditors and accrued expenses

| | 2019-20 | 2018-19 |
|---|------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Creditors: | | |
| Expenses reimbursement and stationery costs | 292 | 1,010 |
| Total | 292 | 1,010 |

18 Grant Commitments and the District Advance Fund

Expenditure on charitable activities: District Advance Fund

Where grants are payable in annual instalments, it is necessary for the grantee to provide a satisfactory report on the achievements of activities funded by previous instalments of the multi-year grant award before any further instalments are paid. These reports are reviewed at the July meeting of the Finance and Grants Committee and the commitments for the following financial year are confirmed at that meeting subject to the approval of the District Executive (DPC). It is the District's policy to recognise these committed grants as expenditure out of this fund and thus accrue the unpaid amounts at the year-end as liabilities. Payments for all subsequent years are included even though they remain subject to a satisfactory progress report.

The sum of £327,000 was committed to be spent during the 2019-20 year, but delays in certain project meant that the sum paid out was £194,124 resulting in a negative figure for the expenditure during the year.

19 Unrestricted Funds

19.1 General Fund – balance £589,799 at 31 August 2020

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the District and which have not been designated for other purposes. £552,000 of this fund (94%) is held as freehold property, the District manses for the Chair of District and the District Mission Enabler.

19.2 Designated Funds – balance £21,865 at 31 August 2020

These funds are to serve specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. These funds comprise:

- The Manse Fund – balance £13,764 (2019: £16,381) is available to meet the costs of maintenance and improvements in the accommodation at the District manses.
- The Training Fund £7,547 (2019: £7,493)
- The Education and Youth Fund – balance £554 (2019: £550)

20 Restricted Funds - balance £77,259 at 31 August 2020

There are five restricted funds:

- The Local Preachers' Fund – balance £12,009 (2019: £11,924)
- The Ministerial Training Fund – balance £8,154 (2019: £8,096)
- The Benevolence Fund – balance £1,595 (2019: £1,982)
- *Young Leaders' Scheme Bursaries – balance £8,000 (new fund)
- *Overstone Chaplaincy – balance £47,500 (new fund)

*The funds for the two new projects are held in the General Fund account and not in separate bank accounts.

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT
Year ended 31 August 2020

21 Summary of movements on significant individual funds

| Fund | Balance at | Income | Expenditure | Transfers | Gains/ | Balance |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| | 01.09.19 | | | | Losses | at |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | 31.08.20 |
| | | | | | | £ |
| General Fund | 561,289 | 200,708 | 252,406 | 80,207 | 28,510 | 589,799 |
| District Advance Fund | 759 | 268,788 | 13,092 | -77,474 | 178,222 | 178,981 |
| Manse (Designated) | 16,381 | 117 | | -2,733 | -2,616 | 13,764 |
| Training (Designated) | 7,493 | 54 | | | 54 | 7,547 |
| Education and Youth (Designated) | 550 | 4 | | | 4 | 554 |
| Total designated | 24,424 | 174 | | -2,733 | -2,559 | 21,865 |
| Local Preachers Fund (Restricted) | 11,923 | 85 | | | 85 | 12,009 |
| Ministerial Training Fund (Restricted) | 8,096 | 54 | | | 58 | 8,154 |
| Benevolence Fund (Restricted) | 1,982 | 383 | 770 | | -387 | 1,595 |
| Overstone Chaplain (Restricted) | 0 | 25,000 | 25,000 | | | 0 |
| Young Leaders' Scheme Bursaries | 0 | 10,000 | 10,000 | | | 0 |
| Total restricted | 22,002 | 35,526 | 35,770 | | -243 | 21,865 |
| Total Funds | 608,475 | 505,196 | 301,267 | 0 | 203,929 | 812,404 |

22 Connected organisations and related parties

Connected organisations include the Methodist Connexion, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, the Methodist Ministers' Children's Relief Association, the Northampton District of Methodist Women in Britain CFB and TMCP. All these entities have their own trustees or directors and autonomous administration such that this District has no significant influence over any of them, nor they over any District. Therefore, they are not considered related parties.

The related parties of the District are the twenty-two Circuits, their Chapels and Manses, which are based in the counties of Buckinghamshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire together with parts of several adjoining Counties. They are contactable by the District web site www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk. Funds are transferred from Circuits to the District on a quarterly basis.

During the year, the following transactions took place with related parties (as defined by Financial Reporting Standard No 8) Expenses were reimbursed by the charity to Revd Canon Helen D. Cameron, Revd Jill Marsh and other trustees in respect of motor and travel expenses, postage, supplies and repairs and have been included in the figures set out above.

23 Volunteer contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit, Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. Principally this contribution is by serving on committees of the District that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, grants, training, development. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment.

24 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31.08.20

A C Lewis
District Treasurer
April 2021

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) £ | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Designated Funds (unrestricted) £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds | Total 2019-20 £ |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 368 | | 368 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 38,747 | | | | 38,747 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 703 | 6,432 | 174 | 158 | | 7,468 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 157,000 | | | | | 157,000 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 223,608 | | | | 223,608 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | 3 | 40,825 | | | | | 40,825 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | 5 | 2,180 | | | 35,000 | | 37,180 |
| Total income | | 200,708 | 268,788 | 174 | 35,526 | 0 | 505,196 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 | | -216,350 | | | | -216,350 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2020-21 | 5 | -4,323 | 197,100 | | 8,000 | | 200,777 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2020-21 | 5 | | 31,100 | | 25,000 | | 56,100 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 138,360 | | | | | 138,360 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 45,997 | | | | | 45,997 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 11,733 | | | | | 11,733 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 14,134 | 1,242 | | | | 15,376 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 5,976 | | | | | 5,976 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 7,351 | | | | | 7,351 |
| 16 Professional fees | | | | | | | 0 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 11 | 33,178 | | | 2,770 | | 35,948 |
| Total expenditure | | 252,406 | 13,092 | 0 | 35,770 | 0 | 301,267 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | | |
| | | -51,698 | 255,696 | 174 | -243 | 0 | 203,929 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -51,698 | 255,696 | 174 | -243 | 0 | 203,929 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | | 80,207 | -77,474 | -2,733 | | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net movement in funds | | 28,510 | 178,222 | -2,559 | -243 | 0 | 203,929 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 561,289 | 759 | 24,424 | 22,002 | | 608,475 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 589,799 | 178,981 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 812,404 |

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

| Notes to the Accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | Restricted Funds | Endowment Funds | Totals 2019/20 | Totals 2018/19 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |

Fixed Assets

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| Tangible fixed assets | 13 | 552,000 | | | | 552,000 | 552,000 |
| Investment properties | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed assets | | 552,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 552,000 | 552,000 |

Current Assets

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Debtors | 16 | 10,468 | | | | 10,468 | 5,142 |
| Loans by the District | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Investments with TMCP | | | 700,381 | | | 700,381 | 620,959 |
| Central Finance Board Deposits | | 39,626 | | 21,865 | 77,259 | 138,750 | 86,454 |
| Cash at Bank and in hand | | 2,796 | | | | 2,796 | 6,752 |
| Total current assets | | 52,891 | 700,381 | 21,865 | 77,259 | 852,396 | 719,307 |

Current liabilities

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| Creditors (due in under 1 year) | 17 | 292 | | | 28,000 | 28,292 | 1,010 |
| Grants payable in 2020-21 | 5 | 14,800 | 329,800 | | 27,500 | 372,100 | 368,622 |
| Total current liabilities | | 15,092 | 329,800 | 0 | 55,500 | 400,392 | 369,632 |
| Net current assets/liabilities | | 37,799 | 370,581 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 349,675 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------|------------------|----------------|
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 589,799 | 370,581 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 1,004,004 | 901,675 |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------|------------------|----------------|

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------|----------------|
| Long term liabilities (due after more than one year) | | | | | | | |
| Grants payable after 2020-21 | | | 191,600 | | | 191,600 | 293,200 |
| Loans to the District | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Net assets | | 589,799 | 178,981 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 608,475 |

Funds of the District

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| General Fund (Unrestricted) | | 589,799 | | | | 589,799 | 561,289 |
| District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) | | | 178,981 | | | 178,981 | 759 |
| Designated Funds (Unrestricted) | | | | 21,865 | | 21,865 | 24,424 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | | | | | | 790,645 | 586,472 |
| Restricted Funds | | | | | 21,759 | 21,759 | 22,002 |
| Endowment Funds | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total Funds | | 589,799 | 178,981 | 21,865 | 21,759 | 0 | 608,475 |

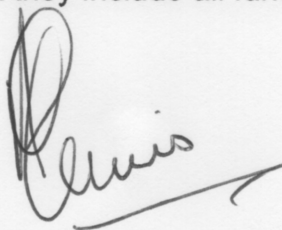
Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2019

| | Notes to the accounts | General Fund (Unrestricted) £ | District Advance Fund (Unrestricted) £ | Designated Funds (unrestricted) £ | Restricted Funds £ | Endowment Funds | Total 2018-19 £ |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Income from | | | | | | | |
| 1 Donations and legacies | | | | | 466 | | 466 |
| 2 Connexional Advance & Property Fund | | | 35,050 | | | | 35,050 |
| 3 Income from investments | | 345 | 5,893 | 184 | 156 | | 6,578 |
| Income from charitable activities | | | | | | | |
| 4 Assessments on circuits | 2 | 130,700 | | | | | 130,700 |
| 5 From Circuit Model Trust Funds | | | 206,154 | | | | 206,154 |
| 6 Contribution to the cost of the Chair | | 41,347 | | | | | 41,347 |
| 7 Other charitable activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 8 Income from other trading activities | | | | | | | 0 |
| 9 Other income | | | 50,000 | | 22,500 | | 72,500 |
| Total income | | 172,392 | 297,098 | 184 | 23,122 | 0 | 492,796 |
| Expenditure | | | | | | | |
| 9 Grants and donations | 5 & 18 | 8,400 | -47,755 | | | | -39,355 |
| 9a Grants and donations in 2019-20 | 5 | 947 | 184,800 | | 22,500 | | 208,247 |
| 9b Grants and donations after 2019-20 | | | 252,700 | | | | 252,700 |
| 10 Salaries and associated costs | 6 | 124,817 | | | | | 124,817 |
| 11 Cost of the Chair | 3 | 50,378 | | | | | 50,378 |
| 12 Property Maintenance | 7 | 9,614 | | | | | 9,614 |
| 13 Office expenses | 8 | 19,054 | 1,285 | | | | 20,339 |
| 14 Synods, committees, Conference | 9 | 11,283 | | | | | 11,283 |
| 15 Training | 10 | 11,492 | | | | | 11,492 |
| 16 Professional fees | | | | | | | 0 |
| 17 Other outgoings | 11 | 30,789 | | | 1,292 | | 32,081 |
| Total expenditure | | 266,774 | 391,030 | 0 | 23,792 | 0 | 681,596 |
| Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments | | | | | | | |
| | | -94,382 | -93,932 | 184 | -670 | 0 | -188,800 |
| 18 Net gains/(losses) on investments | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | -94,382 | -93,932 | 184 | -670 | 0 | -188,800 |
| 19 Transfers between funds | | 84,931 | -82,250 | -2,681 | | | 0 |
| 20 Other gains/(losses) | | | | | | | 0 |
| Net movement in funds | | -9,451 | -176,182 | -2,497 | -670 | 0 | -188,800 |
| Total funds brought forward | | 570,741 | 176,941 | 26,921 | 22,672 | 0 | 797,275 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 561,289 | 759 | 24,424 | 22,002 | 0 | 608,475 |

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 have been prepared from the records of the District and that they include all funds under the control of the District Policy Committee.

Signature of treasurer:



Date: 23rd April 2021

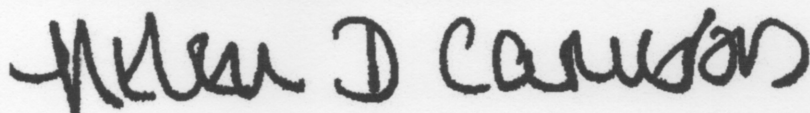
Name and address of treasurer:

Andrew Lewis, "Cassiopeia", 3 Kings Lane, Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire
Post Code: NN6 6LX

Presentation to the District Policy Committee

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were presented to the District Policy Committee held on 14th June 2021

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:



Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd. Canon Helen D. Cameron

Date: 14th June 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Northampton District

Charity Number 1130373

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Northampton Methodist District for the year ended 31 August 2020 set out on pages ... to As the District'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 District'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


[The District's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of *(insert name of applicable listed body)*]. Delete [] if not applicable.

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; or
- 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 *Delete if not applicable ie all R&P accounts*
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts *Delete if not applicable ie all R&P accounts.*

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 

Name of independent examiner: D.J. Briscoe

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACMA

Name of firm: AIMS Accountants for Business

Address : 11 De Montfort Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire
Post Code : LE10 1LQ

Date 06/05/2021

* delete or circle as appropriate