

# ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT

England & Wales · Charity number 1132338

## Details

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Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-10-26
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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**Address**                      Huntingdon Methodist Church  
17 High Street  
Huntingdon  
PE29 3TE

**Phone**                        01480454979

**Email**                        [snhmcc@outlook.com](mailto:snhmcc@outlook.com)

**Website**                     [www.snhm.org.uk](http://www.snhm.org.uk)

## Activities

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**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 circuit churches in the provision of regular public acts of worship, sacred space (buildings) for prayer and contemplation, pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved. The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services, sermons, courses and small groups. Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas financially and with prayer.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Cambridgeshire
- Central Bedfordshire

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£356,919	£306,726	-	-
2024-08-31	£460,749	£269,590	-	-
2023-08-31	£243,424	£253,855	-	-
2022-08-31	£209,448	£240,981	-	-
2021-08-31	£226,840	£233,356	-	-
2020-08-31	£216,947	£225,222	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev JOHN JAMES BAMBER MA MTH BSC	Chair	2016-09-01
ALAN BUTLER		
Adrian Besant B.Ed BA		2024-10-23
Alfred Ernest Cannon		2015-03-01
Barbara Spencer MB BS		2016-04-01
CAROL MAY SWEPSTONE		2013-02-25
Carol Ann Simpson AAT		2021-11-24
Christopher John Thompson		2021-02-01
DEACON S ROBERTS		
David Albert Whistler		2015-05-18
Deborah Venice Elizabeth Cannon		2023-03-30
Denise Janet Whatley		2017-12-01
Dr DAVID WARD PhD Cambs		2022-03-17
Dr Timothy Simon Kelby BA MSc PhD		2021-10-13
ERIKA JAYNE MONICA PRICE BA		2024-10-16
Helen Mary Tydda B ED		2019-05-01
JOHN KENNETH ROGERS		2012-03-15
Joanne Mary Anderton		2023-07-23
John Michael Green		2019-09-01
John Wrycroft FRICS		2019-12-01
Judith Mary Bainbridge		2015-06-18
Leonore Marigold Charlton		2019-09-01
MATTHEW COATES		2012-03-15
MISS E A CRACKNELL		
MR C G SMITH		
MR D M WATKINS		
MR P J BARKER		

Name	Role	Appointed
MR P R HORNSBY		
MR R WARD		
MRS H WOODS		
Martin Baker		2017-05-01
OLGA MAE WATKINS MCSP		
Pauline Rowena Zahner BA Hons		2015-07-07
REV HEATHER WALKER		2016-06-01
REV PAM SIDDALL		
ROSEMARY PARSONS		
ROSEMARY PIKE		2026-02-12
Rev LATIKA SINGH BA.		2025-08-30
Rev Nicholas Witham BA Hons		2019-09-01
Ruth Butler		2014-03-24
SHEILA MARY WHITFIELD MA		2026-02-24
Sue Hay		2016-12-06
VIVIEN JAYNE ALMOND		

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132338

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# Accounts

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**CONTENTS**

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	Page
<b>Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisers</b>	1 - 2
<b>Trustees' Report</b>	3 - 8
<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	9
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	10
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	11
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	12 - 26

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Trustees

Rev J J Bamber, Superintendent minister  
Rev S Baker, Minister (resigned 31 August 2025)  
Rev N Witham, Minister  
Rev P Siddall, Supernumerary minister  
Rev L Singh, Minister (appointed 1 September 2025)  
Ms A Pellatt, Circuit Steward (resigned 28 October 2025)  
Rev H Walker, Supernumerary minister  
Deacon S Roberts, Supernumerary deacon  
Mrs R Butler, Circuit Steward  
Mr N Bainbridge, Circuit Steward (resigned 10 September 2024)  
Mrs L M Charlton, Circuit Steward  
Miss E A Cracknell, Circuit Treasurer  
Mr R Ward, GDPR Champion  
Mrs P R Zahner, Circuit Mission and Ministry Support Co-ordinator  
Miss V J Almond, Circuit Safeguarding Officer  
Mrs J M Bainbridge, Methodist Women in Britain  
Mr P J Barker, World Mission Fund Treasurer  
Mr A Butler, Connexional Funds Treasurer  
Mr J M Green, Local Preacher's Secretary  
Mrs O M Watkins, Circuit Meeting Secretary  
Mr G E J Wrycroft, Circuit Property Steward

The following trustees are elected representatives from churches within the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit:

Berkley Street, St Neots - Mr A Besant (appointed December 2024), Mrs B K Spencer and Mr C J Thompson  
Brampton - Mr A E Cannon, Mrs D Cannon and Mrs R Parsons  
Buckden - Miss C M Swebstone and Mr W Thomas  
Hilton - Mrs S Hay, Mrs D J Whatley and Mrs H Woods  
Huntingdon - Mr P R Hornsby  
Over - Mr C G Smith and Mr D Ward  
Ramsey - Mrs H M Tydda, Mrs C Simpson and Mr D A Whistler  
Sawtry - Mrs J Anderton, Mr M Baker and Mr M Coates  
St Ives - Mr T Kelby, Mr J Knell (resigned December 2024), Mrs L E Knell (resigned December 2024), Mrs K Pickin, Mrs E Price (appointed December 2024) and Mrs M Marshall (appointed December 2024)  
Warboys - Mr J K Rogers and Mr D M Watkins

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
(CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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**Charity registered number**

1132338

**Principal office**

Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 3TE

**Accountants**

Moore, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**Bankers**

HSBC plc, 12 Allhallows, Bedford, Bedfordshire, MK40 1LJ

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

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

**Custodian Trustees**

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

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year from 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025.

#### Objectives and activities

##### a. Policies and objectives

The St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit (14/25) is part of the East Anglia District of the Methodist Church.

The Circuit continues to provide ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the Methodist churches in the St Neots and Huntingdon area at Berkley Street (St Neots), Brampton, Buckden, Hilton, Huntingdon, Over, Ramsey, Sawtry, St Ives and Warboys.

Following the closure of Eaton Ford chapel in January 2024, legal work continued to confirm the correct details had been recorded by the Land Registry and the property was sold in April 2025. Sale proceeds have been reflected in these accounts and Circuit officers continued to manage the financial affairs for Eaton Ford chapel throughout the year.

The Circuit held an Away Day which provided a God centred, bible based and growth focussed opportunity for many people from our congregations and churches to connect, pray, discuss and dream together, to reflect on, and inform planning for the future development of the Circuit. The Away Day focussed on Paul's words to Timothy – '...fan into flame the gift of God....' 2 Timothy 1: 6 to rekindle our embers, re-energise us and re-ignite our flames of faith, passion, and service. As disciples, we believe we are called to do many good things, but our primary purpose is to shine the light of Christ - to make Him known and so be beacons of hope. Fulfilling our present calling is not merely about doing more, but doing the right things.

The Circuit believes that members are called together by God to be Christ-centred, disciple-focussed and Spirit-led. As part of the Connexional Methodist Church, the Circuit's role is to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care; and
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

Members and churches are asked to:

- **PRAY** before each meeting and activity (coffee mornings children activities, fellowship groups etc), offering to be a channel through which God speaks to others
- **PUT** "a conversation about the work of God in this place" as the first item on every church council agenda
- **LIST**, at the end of every Church Council meeting, prayer points for the everyone in the church to pray for and ensure the list is circulated

The Circuit encourages each church to shape its life and witness in the communities they serve.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Objectives and activities (continued)

##### b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The Circuit recognises the wide range of activities being undertaken in local churches, either offering direct Christian teaching or creating an environment where people can share their faith with others. At the Away Day, just under 1600 events were recorded across the Circuit, including Sunday services, weekly and monthly groups, seasonal services/studies and external events where we reach out to our local communities or work alongside other organisations.

The Circuit churches have all been open for public worship during the year, providing an accessible and welcoming venue for all Christians, and those wishing to know more about the Christian faith, to meet, talk and worship together. The Circuit believes that the message of the Christian faith has an important role in helping communities to live together in peace and harmony.

The Circuit is fully committed to the Methodist Church's policy on safeguarding and continues to provide ongoing training and support for people undertaking leadership roles within the church, especially those working with children and young people, and/or vulnerable adults. Training in Unconscious Bias and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion continues to be offered as part of the Connexional Methodist Church's commitment to being a church which is inclusive and justice-seeking.

##### c. Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

The Circuit has considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and believes that the activities undertaken are for the benefit of all members of the Circuit churches and the wider community.

#### Structure, governance and management

##### a. Constitution

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit became a registered charity, number 1132338, on 26 October 2009.

##### b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the Circuit is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Trustee appointments include:

- All presbyters stationed within the Circuit (ex-officio)
- All supernumerary presbyters and deacons within the Circuit (if they wish to be appointed as a trustee)
- All Circuit Stewards, including the Circuit Treasurer and Chair of Manse Committee (if not a Circuit Steward)
- The Circuit Meeting Secretary, Circuit Safeguarding Officer, Local Preachers' Secretary, GDPR Champion, Methodist Women in Britain representatives and treasurers of Connexional Funds and the World Mission Fund
- Representatives from each church within the Circuit to include: a church steward, the treasurer and at least one church representative elected by the local church council. Churches with over 50 members are eligible to elect two representative members.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

##### c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The Board of Trustees is known as the Circuit Meeting and meets quarterly to receive reports and discuss the Circuit's activities. Circuit Meeting members comprise Circuit officers and representatives from member churches, as set out on page 1.

Day to day responsibility for the pastoral needs of the Circuit is delegated to the Superintendent minister, presbyters and other members of the ministerial team. Circuit Stewards exercise responsibility for property and finance, alongside pastoral ministry to the ministers and their families and sharing collective responsibility and oversight for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit.

##### d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are encouraged to read Charity Commission Guidance on the responsibilities of trustees under charity law and also to read and follow the procedures set out in the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church as well as undertaking training on Unconscious Bias and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

##### e. Pay policy for key management personnel

Stipends and allowances are paid to presbyters stationed in the Circuit, in accordance with the rates agreed by the Connexional Allowances Committee. Presbyters are only paid for their role within the church and not for their roles as charity trustees. Circuit Stewards and all other trustees act in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration.

##### f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the reputation, operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks wherever possible. Ongoing training in key areas helps to raise awareness of potential difficulties within the context of local churches and in the Circuit environment, and also provides opportunities to discuss ways of mitigating those risks wherever possible.

The most significant financial risk to the Circuit continues to be the challenge of meeting increased costs with reduced income following the closure of 3 churches in recent years. The premises used by Methodist churches in the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit are legally owned by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) but the Circuit is entitled to receive a proportion of proceeds from the sale of any church buildings. £40,000 of capital receipts from the sale of church buildings has been used to support the assessment contributions from ongoing churches in 2024/25 and, in June 2025, a commitment was made to making this an annual commitment for the following 6 years to enable the Circuit to maintain the current level of paid staff. All expenses continue to be closely monitored to seek to ensure that the Circuit, and the churches it supports, are able to continue to operate effectively and efficiently.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Achievements and performance

##### a. Main achievements of the charity

###### General activities

All churches within the Circuit meet for worship every Sunday, as well as offering other fellowship groups and activities to enable people of all ages to meet together to explore the Christian faith. Some churches are able to offer live-streaming of services and other events through Zoom and YouTube which enables those with digital access, who are unable to attend services, to continue to share in worship. Written worship materials are also circulated to those who are unable to attend worship or access online events.

Circuit activities continue to be financed by contributions made by each of the member churches, as agreed on approval of the Circuit budget. In 2024/25 assessment contributions of £186,000 were requested and a total of £186,415 was received.

The majority of Circuit expenditure continues to relate to the costs of employing the ministerial team and maintaining four Circuit manses (one of which is currently let to tenants). In addition, the Circuit is required to contribute towards the costs of the East Anglia District and the Connexional team via the district assessment and travel fund. The Circuit also oversees the training and development of Local Preachers, lay workers and volunteers so that they are also able to lead worship and lead the local church communities in their activities.

###### Outreach Ministry Project

Two children and families workers continued to serve at St Ives Methodist Church and Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots throughout 2024/25. In accordance with Methodist guidelines, the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit is the employing body for these appointments.

Both appointments are fixed term contracts, with the St Ives appointment being financed by a grant from the Circuit and funds raised by the local church, and the St Neots appointment being financed by a grant from the East Anglia District, the use of designated Circuit funds and funds raised by the local church. In both cases, funds raised by local churches to finance the outreach ministry appointments are held within the Circuit's restricted funds and any unused funds will be returned to those churches at the end of the project.

Both appointments are reporting growth in the development of ministry among young people and their families, with the paid workers being supported by teams of volunteers.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Financial review

##### a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

##### b. Reserves policy

An annual budget is prepared by the Circuit Treasurer and reviewed by treasurers from each of the churches within the Circuit, before being presented to the Circuit Meeting. The budget provides for ministerial and administrative support costs, contributions to District expenses and an allowance for the maintenance of the circuit's manses.

Details of all Circuit reserves are set out in note 12 to the financial statements but the key reserves are:

1. General fund - the Circuit aims to hold an average of six months operating expenditure in general reserves, currently expected to be a minimum of £100,000. In 2024/25, £32,213 (2023/24 £87,777) was transferred to the general fund from the Circuit Model Trust Fund. These transfers represent the contributions of £40,000 per annum for 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26. Similar transfers are expected to be made annually for the next 5 years in order to provide the necessary cashflow to support the current levels of activity.
2. Project fund - in previous years, income from the letting of the Ramsey manse was set aside in a Projects fund to enable the Circuit to grant support to local churches. In 2024/25, lettings income was used by the Circuit to support its own ministry costs. The balance of cash funds held by Eaton Ford chapel had not been finalised at the reporting date but will be added to the Projects fund to increase the Circuit's capacity to support other churches.

Other designated funds are maintained for the value of manses held as fixed assets and to facilitate operational costs, such as manse repairs and maintenance, removal costs and the benevolent fund.

##### c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal financial risk faced by the Circuit is uncertainty over future levels of active membership and funding. The Circuit trustees have chosen to use capital receipts from the sale of chapels at Tempsford, Great Barford and Eaton Ford to support the costs of three full-time presbyters as it seeks to reach out to new people and communities. Our hope is that we can increase the number of members in our churches and secure the long-term financial commitments needed to continue the work of the Methodist Church in this area, but there is an inherent uncertainty about the long-term future of the churches within the Circuit and, consequently, the Circuit itself.

The Circuit's insurance policy includes buildings insurance for the four Circuit manses, contents insurance for manse property belonging to the Circuit, trustee indemnity insurance and public liability insurance.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

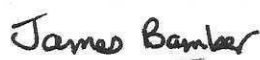
The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



**Rev J J Bamber**  
Superintendent minister  
Date: 11 March 2026



**Miss E A Cracknell FCCA**  
Circuit treasurer

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit ('the charity')

We report to the charity Trustees on our examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025.

#### Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

We report in respect of our examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out our examination we have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. We confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination because we are a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

We understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination giving us cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

We 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.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our work or for this report.

Signed:



Carolyn Rossiter

Dated:

27 MARCH 2026.

FCA

**Moore**

Chartered Accountants, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	118,631	23,646	142,277	258,600
Charitable activities	4	187,028	-	187,028	173,232
Other trading activities	5	11,050	-	11,050	11,700
Investments	6	16,564	-	16,564	17,217
<b>Total income</b>		<b>333,273</b>	<b>23,646</b>	<b>356,919</b>	<b>460,749</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities		266,209	40,517	306,726	269,590
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>266,209</b>	<b>40,517</b>	<b>306,726</b>	<b>269,590</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before net gains on investments</b>					
		<b>67,064</b>	<b>(16,871)</b>	<b>50,193</b>	<b>191,159</b>
Net gains on investments		3	-	3	535
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>67,067</b>	<b>(16,871)</b>	<b>50,196</b>	<b>191,694</b>
Transfers between funds	13	(14,607)	14,607	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>52,460</b>	<b>(2,264)</b>	<b>50,196</b>	<b>191,694</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		1,410,726	25,820	1,436,546	1,244,852
Net movement in funds		52,460	(2,264)	50,196	191,694
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,463,186</b>	<b>23,556</b>	<b>1,486,742</b>	<b>1,436,546</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 12 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025**

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	999,500	999,500
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	11	17,215	29,892
Cash at bank and in hand		527,466	452,465
		544,681	482,357
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(57,439)	(45,311)
<b>Net current assets</b>		487,242	437,046
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		1,486,742	1,436,546
<b>Total net assets</b>		1,486,742	1,436,546
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	13	23,556	25,820
Unrestricted funds	13	1,463,186	1,410,726
<b>Total funds</b>		1,486,742	1,436,546

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*James Bamber*

**Rev J J Bamber**  
Superintendent minister  
Date: 11 March 2026

*E A Cracknell*

**Miss E A Cracknell FCCA**  
Circuit treasurer

The notes on pages 12 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### 1. General information

St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Church Circuit is a charity registered in England and Wales (charity number 1132338). The Circuit office is based at Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TE.

#### 2. Accounting policies

##### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### 2.2 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

##### 2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

##### 2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 2.4 Expenditure (continued)

Grants are recognised in full once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefits to a third party. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

##### 2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

##### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost, net of any provision for impairment.

The charity's only assets are the four manses which are included at historic cost and held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees for the Circuit.

No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manses to be not less than cost. The manses are regularly inspected and there are no indications of impairment.

##### 2.7 Investments

The investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees, but represent short term cash deposits and are, therefore, included as cash at bank. 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 Statement of Financial Activities.

##### 2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

##### 2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

##### 2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.11 Pensions**

The charity contributes to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme, a defined benefit scheme for the benefit of presbyters stationed within the Circuit. It is not possible, in the normal course of events, to identify on a consistent and reasonable basis, the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit. As a consequence, the charity accounts for this scheme as if it was a defined contribution scheme and the amount charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represents contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

The charity also operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of lay employees which is administered by the TPT Retirement Solutions (formerly known as The Pensions Trust). Contributions payable in respect of the accounting period are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Berkley Street Methodist Church	-	-	-	6,000
St Ives Methodist Church	-	8,000	8,000	1,750
Great Barford church funds	-	-	-	16,911
Tempsford church funds	-	-	-	4,655
<b>Capital receipts</b>				
Sale of Great Barford chapel	-	-	-	67,950
Sale of Tempsford chapel	-	-	-	132,757
Sale of Eaton Ford chapel	112,608	-	112,608	-
<b>Grants</b>				
East Anglia District (St Neots)	-	4,650	4,650	3,824
Benefact Trust (Huntingdon/ Sawtry)	-	-	-	9,300
<b>Other donations</b>				
World Mission Fund	-	2,922	2,922	3,078
Connexional Funds	-	8,074	8,074	11,630
General donations	6,023	-	6,023	745
	<u>118,631</u>	<u>23,646</u>	<u>142,277</u>	<u>258,600</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>223,018</u>	<u>35,582</u>	<u>258,600</u>	

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

**4. Income from charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Assessment	186,416	<b>186,416</b>	173,232
Events	612	<b>612</b>	-
<b>Total 2025</b>	<u>187,028</u>	<u><b>187,028</b></u>	<u>173,232</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>173,232</u>	<u>173,232</u>	

**5. Income from other trading activities**

**Income from fundraising events**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Lettings income	11,050	<b>11,050</b>	11,700
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>11,700</u>	<u>11,700</u>	

**6. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Interest received	16,564	<b>16,564</b>	17,217
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>17,217</u>	<u>17,217</u>	

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

The Circuit is considered to have one activity but expenditure has been grouped under four headings, to separate expenditure according to income streams. Circuit Ministry is funded by the assessment, Outreach Ministry by local churches and District grants, CMTF Grants from reserves and Connexional Funds from specific donations which are administered centrally by Circuit officers.

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2025 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Circuit Ministry	266,283	<b>266,283</b>	222,220
Outreach Ministry	29,447	<b>29,447</b>	26,682
CMTF Grants	-	-	6,000
Connexional Funds	10,996	<b>10,996</b>	14,688
	<u>306,726</u>	<u><b>306,726</b></u>	<u>269,590</u>

Details of the actual costs incurred are shown in the following note:

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of direct costs**

	Circuit Ministry 2025 £	Outreach Ministry 2025 £	CMTF 2025 £	Connexion- al Funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	146,146	29,447	-	-	175,593	168,057
District Assessment	44,059	-	-	-	44,059	42,935
Methodist Church Fund	-	-	-	10,996	10,996	14,688
Telephone	5,805	-	-	-	5,805	7,724
Travel	8,425	-	-	-	8,425	6,335
Utilities	13,968	-	-	-	13,968	13,989
Maintenance of manses	28,426	-	-	-	28,426	4,977
Grants	1,075	-	-	-	1,075	6,000
Contributions to District Advance Fund	6,197	-	-	-	6,197	1,410
Removal expenses	4,131	-	-	-	4,131	-
Miscellaneous expenses	3,780	-	-	-	3,780	2,611
Training costs	350	-	-	-	350	-
Apprenticeship levy	711	-	-	-	711	667
Bank charges	190	-	-	-	190	197
Legal fees	3,020	-	-	-	3,020	-
	<u>266,283</u>	<u>29,447</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,996</u>	<u>306,726</u>	<u>269,590</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>222,220</u>	<u>26,682</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>14,688</u>	<u>269,590</u>	

Grants totalling £1,075 comprise £575 funding for the "I am Mark" event held at Huntingdon Methodist Church and £500 given to St Ives Methodist Church to support the cost of external works, both of which were taken from general funds. In 2024, a grant of £6,000 was given to Sawtry Methodist Church, from the CMTF, towards the costs of the latest stage of their building and development project.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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**8. Independent examiner's remuneration**

No fees have been charged by Moore for the independent examination of the accounts.

**9. Staff costs**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	<b>142,091</b>	132,854
Social security costs	<b>13,317</b>	10,306
Pension contributions	<b>20,185</b>	24,897
	<u><b>175,593</b></u>	<u>168,057</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Presbyters	<b>3</b>	3
Outreach workers	<b>3</b>	3
Administrative staff	<b>1</b>	1
	<u><b>7</b></u>	<u>7</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Presbyters	<b>3</b>	3
Outreach workers	<b>1</b>	1
	<u><b>4</b></u>	<u>4</u>

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### 9. Staff costs (continued)

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Circuit Stewards and other trustees are all voluntary positions, but reimbursement of mileage and other expenses incurred on behalf of the charity may be claimed from the Circuit.

As presbyters are members of Circuit Meeting, they are also trustees of the charity. Presbyters receive a stipend and the benefit of work-related accommodation through the provision of a manse, in respect of their work for the Methodist Church. No remuneration is paid in respect of their position as trustees of the charity.

Remuneration paid to key management personnel (including pension contributions) during the year amounted to £125,875 (2024 £122,779) paid to 3 full time presbyters.

#### 10. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 September 2024	999,500
At 31 August 2025	<u>999,500</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 August 2025	<u>999,500</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>999,500</u>

#### 11. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>17,215</u>	<u>29,892</u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

**12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>57,439</u>	<u>45,311</u>

Deferred income represents Circuit assessment contributions received in advance totalling £46,262 (2024 £42,642).

**13. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	10,368	-	(28,426)	12,000	-	(6,058)
Removals	9,800	-	(4,131)	1,331	-	7,000
Outreach - Berkley St	14,711	-	-	(1,759)	-	12,952
Outreach - St Ives	9,294	-	-	(48)	-	9,246
Benevolent	848	-	(135)	-	-	713
Projects	35,634	-	-	-	-	35,634
Youth fund	-	146	-	-	-	146
	<u>1,080,155</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>(32,692)</u>	<u>11,524</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,059,133</u>
<b>General:</b>						
General	156,634	209,975	(226,755)	13,582	-	153,436
CMTF	173,937	123,152	(6,762)	(39,713)	3	250,617
	<u>330,571</u>	<u>333,127</u>	<u>(233,517)</u>	<u>(26,131)</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>404,053</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,410,726</u>	<u>333,273</u>	<u>(266,209)</u>	<u>(14,607)</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1,463,186</u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
WMF	-	2,922	(2,922)	-	-	-
Connexional funds	39	8,074	(8,148)	200	-	165
St Ives - Church	2,384	8,000	(15,095)	7,548	-	2,837
Berkley Street - District	2,000	4,650	-	(4,650)	-	2,000
Berkley Street - Church	12,097	-	(14,352)	11,509	-	9,254
Huntingdon/ Sawtry - Benefact Trust	9,300	-	-	-	-	9,300
	<u>25,820</u>	<u>23,646</u>	<u>(40,517)</u>	<u>14,607</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,556</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>1,436,546</u></u>	<u><u>356,919</u></u>	<u><u>(306,726)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>3</u></u>	<u><u>1,486,742</u></u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024 £</i>
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	3,345	-	(4,977)	12,000	-	10,368
Removals	8,400	-	-	1,400	-	9,800
Outreach - Berkley St	21,201	-	-	(6,490)	-	14,711
Outreach - St Ives	9,133	-	-	161	-	9,294
Benevolent	958	-	(110)	-	-	848
Ministry	7,649	-	-	(7,649)	-	-
Projects	14,068	-	-	21,566	-	35,634
	<u>1,064,254</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,087)</u>	<u>20,988</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,080,155</u>
<b>General:</b>						
General	111,620	200,209	(215,655)	60,460	-	156,634
CMTF	50,631	224,958	(7,410)	(94,777)	535	173,937
	<u>162,251</u>	<u>425,167</u>	<u>(223,065)</u>	<u>(34,317)</u>	<u>535</u>	<u>330,571</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,226,505</u>	<u>425,167</u>	<u>(228,152)</u>	<u>(13,329)</u>	<u>535</u>	<u>1,410,726</u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024 £</i>
<b>Restricted:</b>						
WMF	-	3,078	(3,078)	-	-	-
Connexional funds	87	11,630	(11,678)	-	-	39
St Ives - Church	7,474	1,750	(13,679)	6,839	-	2,384
Berkley Street - District	2,000	3,824	-	(3,824)	-	2,000
Berkley Street - Church	8,786	6,000	(13,003)	10,314	-	12,097
Huntingdon/ Sawtry - Benefact Trust	-	9,300	-	-	-	9,300
	<u>18,347</u>	<u>35,582</u>	<u>(41,438)</u>	<u>13,329</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,820</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>1,244,852</u></u>	<u><u>460,749</u></u>	<u><u>(269,590)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>535</u></u>	<u><u>1,436,546</u></u>

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### 13. Statement of funds (continued)

##### **Unrestricted - Designated Funds:**

**Manse Fund** - the manse fund represents the value of the Circuit's four manses, held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees.

**Manse repair Fund** - the manse repair reserve ensures that funds are available for repairs and maintenance, when the need arises, funded by transfers from general funds.

**Removal Fund** - the removal reserve ensures that funds are available for the Circuit to pay removal expenses and the relocation allowance for ministers joining the Circuit staff, funded by an annual transfer from general funds.

**Outreach Ministry** - the Circuit transferred funds from the Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) to support the cost of outreach workers in the Circuit. These funds have been used to support the children and families worker appointed to Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots and St Ives Methodist Church.

**Benevolent Fund** - the benevolent fund is available for use at the discretion of presbyters and Circuit Stewards to help anyone in need across the Circuit.

**Ministry and Training Fund** - surplus funds arising from the difference between planned and actual expenditure on stipends and lay employment were transferred to the ministry and training fund in previous years and released to pay for lay and ordained staff costs. The funds were fully utilised in 2023/24.

**Projects Fund** - net income generated by letting of the Circuit's spare manse has been credited to the projects fund in previous years, to enable the Circuit to show its support for local church building and other projects as the balance committed from the CMTF became depleted. In 2024/25, lettings income was used to support the Circuit's activities.

##### **Unrestricted - General Funds:**

**General Fund** - funds held in the general reserve are free reserves available to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit that have not been designated for any specific purpose.

**Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)** - the CMTF contains proceeds from the sale of properties belonging to the Methodist Church in the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit and is only available to support projects undertaken within the Circuit. Applications for CMTF grants are made to the Circuit Leadership Team so that the level of funding can be assessed before a decision is made by the Circuit Meeting. Current commitments from the CMTF are shown in note 15.

##### **Restricted Funds:**

**Connexional Funds and World Mission Fund (WMF)** - the Circuit collates and forwards contributions from local churches to Connexional Funds and the World Mission Fund. Annual statements are prepared for the Circuit Meeting detailing the contributions made by individual churches and the totals passed on to the appropriate organisations.

**St Ives** - the Circuit is the employing body for the children and families outreach worker in St Ives. The church contributed a further £8,000 towards employment costs and received a contribution of £7,548 from Circuit funds. Total salary cost of £15,095 have been charged to the restricted fund.

**Berkley Street, St Neots** - the Circuit is the employing body for the children and families outreach worker at Berkley Street church in St Neots. The Circuit received £4,050 of district funding towards this post and made a contribution of £7,459 from Circuit funds towards the salary cost of £14,352.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

Huntingdon/Sawtry - The Circuit received a grant of £9,300 from the Benefact Trust in the previous financial year as a contribution towards the proposed costs of employing a pioneer outreach worker at the Huntingdon and Sawtry churches. The Circuit and the East Anglia District have both committed funds to the project and a new worker was appointed from 1 October 2025.

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	<b>999,500</b>
Current assets	521,125	23,556	<b>544,681</b>
Creditors due within one year	(57,439)	-	<b>(57,439)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,463,186</b>	<b>23,556</b>	<b>1,486,742</b>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	999,500
Current assets	456,537	25,820	482,357
Creditors due within one year	(45,311)	-	(45,311)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,410,726</b>	<b>25,820</b>	<b>1,436,546</b>

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### 15. Grant commitments

At the reporting date, the Circuit had the following commitments from CMTF:

Buckden Methodist Church £5,000 (2024 £5,000) towards the costs of installing glass doors  
Ramsey Methodist Church - £5,000 (2024 £5,000) for their building project  
Sawtry Methodist Church - £12,400 (2024 £12,400) for their building project  
Circuit Outreach ministry projects - £nil (2024 £7,126 which was withdrawn in 2025 for the St Ives outreach worker)  
Circuit core costs - £200,000 (2024 £112,223) committed to be used for the Circuit's core employment costs over a 5 year period. £32,223 was withdrawn in 2025 and a further allocation of £120,000 was made to confirm the ongoing ministry costs for the next 5 years.

#### 16. Related party transactions

During the year the charity continued to employ close family members of two trustees:

- Mrs E Witham, wife of Rev N Witham, one of the Circuit presbyters and a charity trustee, was employed as the Children and Families worker in St Ives Methodist Church. In the year ended 31 August 2025 the total remuneration (including employer pension and national insurance contributions) paid to Mrs E Witham was £15,095 (2024 £13,679).
- Miss A Cracknell, sister to the Circuit Treasurer, was employed as the Children and Families worker at Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. In the year ended 31 August 2025 the total remuneration (including employer pension and national insurance contributions) paid to Miss A Cracknell was £14,352 (2024 £13,003).

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132338

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# Accounts

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**CONTENTS**

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	Page
<b>Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisers</b>	1 - 2
<b>Trustees' Report</b>	3 - 8
<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	9
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	10
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	11
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	12 - 26

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### Trustees

Rev J J Bamber, Superintendent minister  
Rev S Baker, Minister  
Rev N Witham, Minister  
Rev P Siddall, Supernumerary minister  
Ms A Pellatt, Circuit Steward (appointed 11 June 2024)  
Rev H Walker, Supernumerary minister  
Deacon S Roberts, Supernumerary deacon  
Mrs R Butler, Circuit Steward  
Mr N Bainbridge, Circuit Steward (resigned 10 September 2024)  
Mrs L M Charlton, Circuit Steward  
Miss E A Cracknell, Circuit Treasurer  
Mr R Ward, GDPR Champion  
Mrs P R Zahner, Circuit Mission and Ministry Support Co-ordinator  
Miss V J Almond, Circuit Safeguarding Officer  
Mrs J M Bainbridge, Methodist Women in Britain  
Mr P J Barker, World Mission Fund Treasurer  
Mr A Butler, Connexional Funds Treasurer  
Mr J M Green, Local Preacher's Secretary  
Mrs O M Watkins, Circuit Meeting Secretary  
Mr G E J Wrycroft, Circuit Property Steward

The following trustees are elected representatives from churches within the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit:

Berkley Street, St Neots - Mrs B K Spencer and Mr C J Thompson  
Brampton - Mr A E Cannon, Mrs D Cannon and Mrs R Parsons  
Buckden - Miss C M Swepstone and Mr W Thomas  
Eaton Ford - Mr B Gardiner (resigned 6 December 2023)  
Hilton - Mrs S Hay, Mrs D J Whatley and Mrs H Woods  
Huntingdon - Mr P R Hornsby  
Over - Mr C G Smith and Mr D Ward  
Ramsey - Mrs H M Tydda, Mrs C Simpson and Mr D A Whistler  
Sawtry - Mrs J Anderton (appointed September 2023), Mr M Baker and Mr M Coates  
St Ives - Mr T Kelby, Mr J Knell, Mrs L E Knell and Mrs K Pickin  
Warboys - Mr J K Rogers and Mr D M Watkins

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
(CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Charity registered number**

1132338

**Principal office**

Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 3TE

**Accountants**

Moore, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**Bankers**

HSBC plc, 12 Allhallows, Bedford, Bedfordshire, MK40 1LJ

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

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

**Custodian Trustees**

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

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

#### Objectives and activities

##### a. Policies and objectives

The St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit (14/25) is part of the East Anglia District of the Methodist Church.

The Circuit continues to provide ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the Methodist churches in the St Neots and Huntingdon area at Berkley Street (St Neots), Brampton, Buckden, Hilton, Huntingdon, Over, Ramsey, Sawtry, St Ives and Warboys.

Following the closure of Great Barford and Tempsford churches in 2022/23, both chapel buildings were sold in September 2023 and the Circuit received its share of the sale proceeds. The cash balances of both chapels were transferred to the Circuit and have been added to the projects fund.

Eaton Ford church held its final service in January 2024 but the chapel building cannot be advertised for sale until the land Registry are satisfied that the property is correctly registered. The building continues to be used by another free church and Circuit officers have taken over responsibility for managing the finance and property for Eaton Ford.

The Circuit's mission policy and priorities were confirmed in 2022/23. The Circuit believes that members are called together by God to be Christ-centred, disciple-focussed and Spirit-led. As part of the connexional Methodist Church, the Circuit's role is to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care; and
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

Members and churches are asked to:

- **PRAY** before each meeting and activity (coffee mornings children activities, fellowship groups etc), offering to be a channel through which God speaks to others
- **PUT** "a conversation about the work of God in this place" as the first item on every church council agenda
- **LIST**, at the end of every Church Council meeting, prayer points for the everyone in the church to pray for and ensure the list is circulated

The Circuit encourages each church to shape its life and witness in the communities they serve.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### Objectives and activities (continued)

##### b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The Circuit recognises the wide range of activities being undertaken in local churches, either offering direct Christian teaching or creating an environment where people can share their faith with others.

The Circuit churches which remain active have all been open for public worship during the year, providing an accessible and welcoming venue for all Christians, and those wishing to know more about the Christian faith, to meet, talk and worship together. The Circuit believes that the message of the Christian faith has an important role in helping communities to live together in peace and harmony.

The Circuit is fully committed to the Methodist Church's policy on safeguarding and continues to provide ongoing training and support for people undertaking leadership roles within the church, especially those working with children and young people, and/or vulnerable adults. Training in Unconscious Bias and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion continues to be offered as part of the Connexional Methodist Church's commitment to being a church which is inclusive and justice-seeking.

##### c. Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

The Circuit has considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and believes that the activities undertaken are for the benefit of all members of the Circuit churches and the wider community.

#### Structure, governance and management

##### a. Constitution

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit became a registered charity, number 1132338, on 26 October 2009.

##### b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the Circuit is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Trustee appointments include:

- All presbyters stationed within the Circuit (ex-officio)
- All supernumerary presbyters and deacons within the Circuit (if they wish to be appointed as a trustee)
- All Circuit Stewards, including the Circuit Treasurer and Chair of Manse Committee (if not a Circuit Steward)
- The Circuit Meeting Secretary, Circuit Safeguarding Officer, Local Preachers' Secretary, GDPR Champion, Methodist Women in Britain representatives and treasurers of Connexional Funds and the World Mission Fund
- Representatives from each church within the Circuit to include: a church steward, the treasurer and at least one church representative elected by the local church council. Churches with over 50 members are eligible to elect two representative members.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

##### c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The Board of Trustees is known as the Circuit Meeting and meets quarterly to receive reports and discuss the Circuit's activities. Circuit Meeting members comprise Circuit officers and representatives from member churches, as set out on page 1.

Day to day responsibility for the pastoral needs of the Circuit is delegated to the Superintendent minister, presbyters and other members of the ministerial team. Circuit Stewards exercise responsibility for property and finance, alongside pastoral ministry to the ministers and their families and sharing collective responsibility and oversight for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit.

##### d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are encouraged to read Charity Commission Guidance on the responsibilities of trustees under charity law and also to read and follow the procedures set out in the Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Church as well as undertaking training on Unconscious Bias and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

##### e. Pay policy for key management personnel

Stipends and allowances are paid to presbyters stationed in the Circuit, in accordance with the rates agreed by the Connexional Pay and Allowances Committee. Presbyters are only paid for their role within the church and not for their roles as charity trustees. Circuit Stewards and all other trustees act in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration.

##### f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the reputation, operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks wherever possible. Ongoing training in key areas helps to raise awareness of potential difficulties within the context of local churches and in the Circuit environment, and also provides opportunities to discuss ways of mitigating those risks wherever possible.

The most significant financial risk to the Circuit in 2023/24 was the challenge of meeting increased costs with reduced income following the closure of 3 churches in recent years. The premises used by Methodist churches in the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit are legally owned by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) but the Circuit is entitled to receive a proportion of proceeds from the sale of any church buildings. As noted above, income from the sale of Great Barford and Tempsford chapels was received in 2023/24 and £40,000 of these capital receipts has been used to support the assessment contributions from ongoing churches. A similar share of capital income is expected to be used over the following 4 years to enable the Circuit to maintain the current level of paid staff. All expenses continue to be closely monitored to seek to ensure that the Circuit, and the churches it supports, are able to continue to operate effectively and efficiently.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### Achievements and performance

##### a. Main achievements of the charity

###### General activities

All churches within the Circuit meet for worship every Sunday, as well as offering other fellowship groups and activities to enable people of all ages to meet together to explore the Christian faith. Some churches are able to offer live-streaming of services and other events through Zoom and YouTube which enables those with digital access, who are unable to attend services, to continue to share in worship. Written worship materials are also circulated to those who are unable to attend worship or access online events.

Circuit activities continue to be financed by contributions made by each of the member churches, as agreed on approval of the Circuit budget. In 2023/24 assessment contributions of £175,000 were requested and a total of £173,232 was received.

The majority of Circuit expenditure continues to relate to the costs of employing the ministerial team and maintaining the four Circuit manses. In addition, the Circuit is required to contribute towards the costs of the East Anglia District and the Connexional team via the district assessment and travel fund. The Circuit also oversees the training and development of Local Preachers, lay workers and volunteers so that they are also able to lead worship and lead the local church communities in their activities.

###### Outreach Ministry Project

Two children and families workers continue to serve at St Ives Methodist Church and Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. In accordance with Methodist guidelines, the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit is the employing body for these appointments.

Both appointments are fixed term contracts, with the St Ives appointment being financed by a grant from the Circuit and funds raised by the local church, and the St Neots appointment being financed by a grant from the East Anglia District, the use of designated Circuit funds and funds raised by the local church. In both cases, funds raised by local churches to finance the outreach ministry appointments are held within the Circuit's restricted funds and any unused funds will be returned to those churches at the end of the project.

Both appointments are reporting growth in the development of ministry among young people and their families, with the paid workers being supported by teams of volunteers.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### Financial review

##### a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

##### b. Reserves policy

An annual budget is prepared by the Circuit Treasurer and reviewed by treasurers from each of the churches within the Circuit, before being presented to the Circuit Meeting. The budget provides for ministerial and administrative support costs, contributions to District expenses and an allowance for the maintenance of the circuit's manses.

Details of all Circuit reserves are set out in note 12 to the financial statements but the key reserves are:

1. General fund - the Circuit aims to hold an average of six months operating expenditure in general reserves, currently expected to be a minimum of £100,000. In 2023/24, £87,777 was transferred to the general fund from the Circuit Model Trust Fund, £40,000 being the contribution agreed for 2023/24 and the balance being an advance to support ministry in forthcoming years. Similar transfers are expected to be made annually for the next 3 years in order to provide the necessary cashflow to support the current levels of activity.
2. Ministry and training fund - a separate fund was created several years ago when the costs of stipends and lay employment were lower than planned due to unforeseen staffing changes. Surplus funds were transferred into a Ministry and training fund, and used to offset the rise in costs when new staff were appointed. The fund was fully utilised in 2023/24.
3. Project fund - in previous years, income from the letting of the Ramsey manse was set aside in a Projects fund to enable the Circuit to grant support to local churches. In 2023/24, lettings income has been used by the Circuit to support its own ministry costs but the balance of funds held by Great Barford and Tempsford churches has been added to the Projects fund to increase the Circuit's capacity to support other churches.

Other designated funds are maintained for the value of manses held as fixed assets and to facilitate operational costs, such as manse repairs and maintenance, removal costs and the benevolent fund.

##### c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal financial risk faced by the Circuit is uncertainty over future levels of funding. The Circuit has chosen to invest the capital receipts from the sale of Great Barford and Tempsford chapels into maintaining current staffing levels to support mission and outreach activities. The Circuit is seeking to reach out to new people and communities to increase the number of members, but there is an inherent uncertainty about the long-term future of the churches within the Circuit and, consequently, the Circuit itself.

The Circuit's insurance policy includes buildings insurance for the four Circuit manses, contents insurance for manse property belonging to the Circuit, trustee indemnity insurance and public liability insurance.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



**Rev J J Bamber**  
Superintendent minister  
Date: 12 March 2025



**Miss E A Cracknell FCCA**  
Circuit treasurer

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit ('the charity')

We report to the charity Trustees on our examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024.

#### Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

We report in respect of our examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out our examination we have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. We confirm that we are qualified to undertake the examination because we are a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

We understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination giving us cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

We 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.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our work or for this report.

Signed:   
Carolyn Rossiter

Dated: 28/4/2025  
FCA

#### Moore

Chartered Accountants, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	223,018	35,582	258,600	28,462
Charitable activities	4	173,232	-	173,232	196,155
Other trading activities	5	11,700	-	11,700	11,175
Investments	6	17,217	-	17,217	7,632
<b>Total income</b>		<b>425,167</b>	<b>35,582</b>	<b>460,749</b>	<b>243,424</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	7	228,152	41,438	269,590	253,855
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>228,152</b>	<b>41,438</b>	<b>269,590</b>	<b>253,855</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before net gains/(losses) on investments</b>		<b>197,015</b>	<b>(5,856)</b>	<b>191,159</b>	<b>(10,431)</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		535	-	535	(306)
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>197,550</b>	<b>(5,856)</b>	<b>191,694</b>	<b>(10,737)</b>
Transfers between funds	13	(13,329)	13,329	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>184,221</b>	<b>7,473</b>	<b>191,694</b>	<b>(10,737)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		1,226,505	18,347	1,244,852	1,255,589
Net movement in funds		184,221	7,473	191,694	(10,737)
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,410,726</b>	<b>25,820</b>	<b>1,436,546</b>	<b>1,244,852</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 12 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	999,500	999,500
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	11	29,892	16,169
Cash at bank and in hand		452,465	272,976
		482,357	289,145
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(45,311)	(43,793)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>437,046</b>	<b>245,352</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>1,436,546</b>	<b>1,244,852</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>1,436,546</b>	<b>1,244,852</b>
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	13	25,820	18,347
Unrestricted funds	13	1,410,726	1,226,505
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>1,436,546</b>	<b>1,244,852</b>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*James Bamber*

*E A Cracknell*

**Rev J J Bamber**  
Superintendent minister  
Date: 12 March 2025

**Miss E A Cracknell FCCA**  
Circuit treasurer

The notes on pages 12 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### 1. General information

St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Church Circuit is a charity registered in England and Wales (charity number 1132338). The Circuit office is based at Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TE.

#### 2. Accounting policies

##### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### 2.2 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

##### 2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

##### 2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 2.4 Expenditure (continued)

Grants are recognised in full once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefits to a third party. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

##### 2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

##### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost, net of any provision for impairment.

The charity's only assets are the four manses which are included at historic cost and held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees for the Circuit.

No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manses to be not less than cost. The manses are regularly inspected and there are no indications of impairment.

##### 2.7 Investments

The investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees, but represent short term cash deposits and are, therefore, included as cash at bank. 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 Statement of Financial Activities.

##### 2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

##### 2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

##### 2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.11 Pensions**

The charity contributes to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme, a defined benefit scheme for the benefit of presbyters stationed within the Circuit. It is not possible, in the normal course of events, to identify on a consistent and reasonable basis, the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit. As a consequence, the charity accounts for this scheme as if it was a defined contribution scheme and the amount charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represents contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

The charity also operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of lay employees which is administered by the TPT Retirement Solutions (formerly known as The Pensions Trust). Contributions payable in respect of the accounting period are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
<b>Donations</b>				
Berkley Street Methodist Church	-	6,000	<b>6,000</b>	-
St Ives Methodist Church	-	1,750	<b>1,750</b>	-
Great Barford church funds	16,911	-	<b>16,911</b>	-
Tempsford church funds	4,655	-	<b>4,655</b>	-
<b>Capital receipts</b>				
Sale of Great Barford chapel	67,950	-	<b>67,950</b>	-
Sale of Tempsford chapel	132,757	-	<b>132,757</b>	-
<b>Grants</b>				
East Anglia District (St Neots)	-	3,824	<b>3,824</b>	2,000
Benefact Trust (Huntingdon/ Sawtry)	-	9,300	<b>9,300</b>	-
<b>Other donations</b>				
World Mission Fund	-	3,078	<b>3,078</b>	3,060
Connexional Funds	-	11,630	<b>11,630</b>	11,804
General donations	745	-	<b>745</b>	11,598
	<u>223,018</u>	<u>35,582</u>	<u><b>258,600</b></u>	<u>28,462</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>11,598</u>	<u>16,864</u>	<u>28,462</u>	

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**4. Income from charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Assessment	173,232	<b>173,232</b>	196,155
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>196,155</u>	<u>196,155</u>	

**5. Income from other trading activities**

**Income from fundraising events**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Lettings income	11,700	<b>11,700</b>	11,175
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>11,175</u>	<u>11,175</u>	

**6. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Interest received	17,217	<b>17,217</b>	7,632
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>7,632</u>	<u>7,632</u>	

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

The Circuit is considered to have one activity but expenditure has been grouped under four headings, to separate expenditure according to income streams. Circuit Ministry is funded by the assessment, Outreach Ministry by local churches and District grants, CMTF Grants from reserves and Connexional Funds from specific donations which are administered centrally by Circuit officers.

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Circuit Ministry	222,220	<b>222,220</b>	215,187
Outreach Ministry	26,682	<b>26,682</b>	23,801
CMTF Grants	6,000	<b>6,000</b>	-
Connexional Funds	14,688	<b>14,688</b>	14,867
	<hr/> <b>269,590</b> <hr/>	<hr/> <b>269,590</b> <hr/>	<hr/> <b>253,855</b> <hr/>

Details of the actual costs incurred are shown in the following note:

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of direct costs**

	<b>Circuit Ministry 2024 £</b>	<b>Outreach Ministry 2024 £</b>	<b>CMTF 2024 £</b>	<b>Connexion- al Funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Staff costs	141,375	26,682	-	-	<b>168,057</b>	156,124
District Assessment	42,935	-	-	-	<b>42,935</b>	41,916
Methodist Church Fund	-	-	-	14,688	<b>14,688</b>	14,867
Telephone	7,724	-	-	-	<b>7,724</b>	8,609
Travel	6,335	-	-	-	<b>6,335</b>	5,535
Utilities	13,989	-	-	-	<b>13,989</b>	12,233
Maintenance of manses	4,977	-	-	-	<b>4,977</b>	6,209
Grants	-	-	6,000	-	<b>6,000</b>	3,544
Contributions to District Advance Fund	1,410	-	-	-	<b>1,410</b>	1,604
Miscellaneous expenses	2,611	-	-	-	<b>2,611</b>	2,379
Apprenticeship levy	667	-	-	-	<b>667</b>	626
Bank charges	197	-	-	-	<b>197</b>	209
	<u>222,220</u>	<u>26,682</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>14,688</u>	<b><u>269,590</u></b>	<u>253,855</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u><u>215,187</u></u>	<u><u>23,801</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>14,867</u></u>	<u><u>253,855</u></u>	

The £6,000 CMTF grant was to Sawtry Methodist Church, for the latest stage of their building and development project.

**8. Independent examiner's remuneration**

No fees have been charged by Moore for the independent examination of the accounts.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**9. Staff costs**

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	132,854	124,149
Social security costs	10,306	9,307
Pension contributions	24,897	22,668
	168,057	156,124

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Presbyters	3	3
Outreach workers	3	3
Administrative staff	1	1
	7	7

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Presbyters	3	3
Outreach workers	1	1
	4	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Circuit Stewards and other trustees are all voluntary positions, but reimbursement of mileage and other expenses incurred on behalf of the charity may be claimed from the Circuit.

As presbyters are members of Circuit Meeting, they are also trustees of the charity. Presbyters receive a stipend and the benefit of work-related accommodation through the provision of a manse, in respect of their work for the Methodist Church. No remuneration is paid in respect of their position as trustees of the charity.

Remuneration paid to key management personnel (including pension contributions) during the year amounted to £122,779 (2023 £113,385) paid to 3 full time presbyters.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**10. Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Freehold property £</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 September 2023	<b>999,500</b>
At 31 August 2024	<b>999,500</b>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 August 2024	<b>999,500</b>
<i>At 31 August 2023</i>	<i>999,500</i>

**11. Debtors**

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>29,892</b>	<b>16,169</b>

**12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Accruals and deferred income	<b>45,311</b>	<b>43,793</b>

Deferred income represents Circuit assessment contributions received in advance totalling £42,642 (2023 £40,080).

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**13. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	3,345	-	(4,977)	12,000	-	10,368
Removals	8,400	-	-	1,400	-	9,800
Outreach - Berkley St	21,201	-	-	(6,490)	-	14,711
Outreach - St Ives	9,133	-	-	161	-	9,294
Benevolent	958	-	(110)	-	-	848
Ministry Projects	7,649 14,068	- -	- -	(7,649) 21,566	- -	- 35,634
	<u>1,064,254</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,087)</u>	<u>20,988</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,080,155</u>
<b>General:</b>						
General	111,620	200,209	(215,655)	60,460	-	156,634
CMTF	50,631	224,958	(7,410)	(94,777)	535	173,937
	<u>162,251</u>	<u>425,167</u>	<u>(223,065)</u>	<u>(34,317)</u>	<u>535</u>	<u>330,571</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,226,505</u>	<u>425,167</u>	<u>(228,152)</u>	<u>(13,329)</u>	<u>535</u>	<u>1,410,726</u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
WMF	-	3,078	(3,078)	-	-	-
Connexional funds	87	11,630	(11,678)	-	-	39
St Ives - Church	7,474	1,750	(13,679)	6,839	-	2,384
Berkley Street - District	2,000	3,824	-	(3,824)	-	2,000
Berkley Street - Church	8,786	6,000	(13,003)	10,314	-	12,097
Huntingdon/ Sawtry - Benefact Trust	-	9,300	-	-	-	9,300
	<u>18,347</u>	<u>35,582</u>	<u>(41,438)</u>	<u>13,329</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,820</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>1,244,852</u></u>	<u><u>460,749</u></u>	<u><u>(269,590)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>535</u></u>	<u><u>1,436,546</u></u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2022</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers in/out</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2023</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	(1,996)	-	(6,209)	11,550	-	3,345
Removals	7,000	-	-	1,400	-	8,400
Outreach - Berkley St	27,946	-	-	(6,745)	-	21,201
Outreach - St Ives	-	-	-	9,133	-	9,133
Benevolent	1,065	-	(107)	-	-	958
Ministry Projects	14,437	-	-	(6,788)	-	7,649
	14,068	-	-	-	-	14,068
	<u>1,062,020</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,316)</u>	<u>8,550</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,064,254</u>
<b>General:</b>						
General	100,299	224,567	(207,073)	(6,173)	-	111,620
CMTF	64,142	1,993	(1,798)	(13,400)	(306)	50,631
	<u>164,441</u>	<u>226,560</u>	<u>(208,871)</u>	<u>(19,573)</u>	<u>(306)</u>	<u>162,251</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,226,461</u>	<u>226,560</u>	<u>(215,187)</u>	<u>(11,023)</u>	<u>(306)</u>	<u>1,226,505</u>

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2022</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers in/out</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2023</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted:</b>						
WMF	-	3,060	(3,060)	-	-	-
Connexional funds	79	11,804	(11,807)	11	-	87
St Ives - Church	15,468	-	(12,261)	4,267	-	7,474
Berkley Street - District	2,000	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	2,000
Berkley Street - Church	11,581	-	(11,540)	8,745	-	8,786
	<u>29,128</u>	<u>16,864</u>	<u>(38,668)</u>	<u>11,023</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,347</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>1,255,589</u></u>	<u><u>243,424</u></u>	<u><u>(253,855)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(306)</u></u>	<u><u>1,244,852</u></u>

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### 13. Statement of funds (continued)

##### **Unrestricted - Designated Funds:**

Manse Fund - the manse fund represents the value of the Circuit's four manses, held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees.

Manse repair Fund - the manse repair reserve ensures that funds are available for repairs and maintenance, when the need arises, funded by transfers from general funds.

Removal Fund - the removal reserve ensures that funds are available for the Circuit to pay removal expenses and the relocation allowance for ministers joining the Circuit staff, funded by an annual transfer from general funds.

Outreach Ministry - the Circuit transferred funds from the Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) to support the cost of outreach workers in the Circuit. These funds have been used to support the children and families worker appointed to Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots and St Ives Methodist Church.

Benevolent Fund - the benevolent fund is available for use at the discretion of presbyters and Circuit Stewards to help anyone in need across the Circuit.

Ministry and Training Fund - surplus funds arising from the difference between planned and actual expenditure on stipends and lay employment were transferred to the ministry and training fund in previous years and released to pay for lay and ordained staff costs. The funds were fully utilised in 2023/24.

Projects Fund - net income generated by letting of the Circuit's spare manse has been credited to the projects fund in previous years, to enable the Circuit to show its support for local church building and other projects as the balance committed from the CMTF became depleted. In 2023/24, lettings income has been used to support the Circuit's activities but the balance of funds held by Great Barford and Tempsford churches has been added to the fund.

##### **Unrestricted - General Funds:**

General Fund - funds held in the general reserve are free reserves available to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit that have not been designated for any specific purpose.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) - the CMTF contains proceeds from the sale of properties belonging to the Methodist Church in the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit and is only available to support projects undertaken within the Circuit. Applications for CMTF grants are made to the Circuit Leadership Team so that the level of funding can be assessed before a decision is made by the Circuit Meeting. Current commitments from the CMTF are shown in note 15.

##### **Restricted Funds:**

Connexional Funds and World Mission Fund (WMF) - the Circuit collates and forwards contributions from local churches to Connexional Funds and the World Mission Fund. Annual statements are prepared for the Circuit Meeting detailing the contributions made by individual churches and the totals passed on to the appropriate organisations.

St Ives - the Circuit is the employing body for the children and families outreach worker in St Ives. The church contributed a further £1,750 towards employment costs and received a contribution of £6,839 from Circuit funds. Total salary cost of £13,679 have been charged to the restricted fund.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

Berkley Street, St Neots - the Circuit is the employing body for the children and families outreach worker at Berkley Street church in St Neots. The church contributed a further £6,000 towards employment costs, and received £3,824 of district funding a contribution of £6,490 from Circuit funds. Total salary cost of £13,003 have been charged to the restricted fund.

Huntingdon/Sawtry - The Circuit received a grant of £9,300 from the Benefact Trust as a contribution towards the proposed costs of employing a pioneer outreach worker at the Huntingdon and Sawtry churches. Since the year end, the Circuit and the East Anglia District have committed additional funds to the project enabling the recruitment process to commence in 2024/25.

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current period**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	<b>999,500</b>
Current assets	456,537	25,820	<b>482,357</b>
Creditors due within one year	(45,311)	-	<b>(45,311)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,410,726</b>	<b>25,820</b>	<b>1,436,546</b>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2023 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	999,500
Current assets	270,798	18,347	289,145
Creditors due within one year	(43,793)	-	(43,793)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,226,505</b>	<b>18,347</b>	<b>1,244,852</b>

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### 15. Grant commitments

At the reporting date, the Circuit had the following commitments from CMTF:

Buckden Methodist Church £5,000 (agreed September 2023) towards the costs of installing glass doors  
Ramsey Methodist Church - £5,000 (2023 £5,000) for their building project  
Sawtry Methodist Church - £12,400 (2023 £18,400) for their building project  
Circuit Outreach ministry projects - £7,126 (£7,000 having been drawn in the year for the St Ives outreach worker costs in 2025)  
Circuit core costs - £112,223 (£200,000 was agreed to be used for the Circuit's core employment costs over a 5 year period, of which £87,777 was withdrawn as the contribution for 2023/24 and 2024/25).

#### 16. Related party transactions

During the year the charity continued to employ close family members of two trustees:

- Mrs E Witham, wife of Rev N Witham, one of the Circuit presbyters and a charity trustee, was employed as the Children and Families worker in St Ives Methodist Church. In the year ended 31 August 2024 the total remuneration (including employer pension and national insurance contributions) paid to Mrs E Witham was £13,679 (2023 £12,261).
- Miss A Cracknell, sister to the Circuit Treasurer, was employed as the Children and Families worker at Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. In the year ended 31 August 2024 the total remuneration (including employer pension and national insurance contributions) paid to Miss A Cracknell was £13,003 (2023 £11,541).

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132338

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# Accounts

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**CONTENTS**

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	Page
<b>Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisers</b>	1 - 2
<b>Trustees' Report</b>	3 - 7
<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	8
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	9
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	10
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	11 - 24

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### Trustees

Rev J J Bamber, Superintendent minister  
Rev S Baker, Minister  
Rev N Witham, Minister  
Rev P Siddall, Supernumerary minister  
Rev W G F Vivian, Supernumerary minister (died 5 December 2022)  
Rev H Walker, Supernumerary minister  
Deacon S Roberts, Supernumerary deacon  
Mrs R Butler, Circuit Steward  
Mr N Bainbridge, Circuit Steward  
Mrs L M Charlton, Circuit Steward  
Miss E A Cracknell, Circuit Treasurer  
Mr R Ward, GDPR Champion  
Mrs P R Zahner, Circuit Mission and Ministry Support Co-ordinator  
Miss V J Almond, Circuit Safeguarding Officer  
Mrs J M Bainbridge, Methodist Women in Britain  
Mr P J Barker, World Mission Fund Treasurer  
Mr A Butler, Connexional Funds Treasurer  
Mr J M Green, Local Preacher's Secretary  
Mrs O M Watkins, Circuit Meeting Secretary  
Mr G E J Wrycroft, Circuit Property Steward

The following trustees are elected representatives from churches within the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit:

Alconbury - Mrs H Purbrick (resigned November 2022)  
Berkley Street, St Neots - Miss A M Cracknell (resigned March 2023), Mrs B K Spencer and Mr C J Thompson  
Brampton - Mr A E Cannon, Mrs D Cannon (appointed May 2023) and Mrs R Parsons  
Buckden - Mr A R Baxter (resigned May 2023), Miss C M Swepstone and West Thomas (appointed June 2023)  
Eaton Ford - Mr B Gardiner  
Great Barford - Mr A G Besant (resigned September 2022) and Mrs S M Dowman (resigned September 2022)  
Hilton - Mrs S Hay, Mrs D J Whatley and Mrs H Woods  
Huntingdon - Mr I O Chinnappa (resigned May 2023), Mr P R Hornsby and Mr A J Sainsbury (resigned May 2023)  
Over - Mr C G Smith and Mr D Ward (appointed May 2022)  
Ramsey - Mrs H M Tydda, Mrs C Simpson and Mr D A Whistler  
Sawtry - Mrs J Anderton (appointed September 2023), Mr M Baker, Mr M Coates and Miss K A Paterson (resigned August 2023)  
St Ives - Mr T Kelby, Mr J Knell, Mrs L E Knell and Mrs K Pickin  
Tempsford - Mr S C Gosling (resigned June 2022), Mrs C A Gosling (resigned June 2022) and Mrs E Knott (resigned June 2022)  
Warboys - Mr J K Rogers and Mr D M Watkins

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
(CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**Charity registered number**

1132338

**Principal office**

Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 3TE

**Accountants**

Moore, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**Bankers**

HSBC plc, 12 Allhallows, Bedford, Bedfordshire, MK40 1LJ

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

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

**Custodian Trustees**

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

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023.

#### Objectives and activities

##### a. Policies and objectives

The St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit (14/25) is part of the East Anglia District of the Methodist Church.

The Circuit continues to provide ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the Methodist churches in the St Neots and Huntingdon area. Great Barford and Tempsford churches voted to close in the previous connexional year and final services celebrating the life and witness of these communities were held in September 2022 and June 2023, respectively. Since the year end, Eaton Ford church has also voted to close and the final service of celebration for Eaton Ford chapel was held in January 2024.

The Methodist Churches which remain within the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit are: Berkley Street (St Neots), Brampton, Buckden, Hilton, Huntingdon, Over, Ramsey, Sawtry, St Ives and Warboys.

The Circuit reviewed its mission policy and priorities during the year and re-committed itself to the belief that we are called together by God to be Christ-centred, disciple-focussed and Spirit-led.

As part of the connexional Methodist Church the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit exists, inter alia, to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care; and
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

The Circuit Leadership Team asked members and churches to:

- **PRAY** before each meeting and activity (coffee mornings children activities, fellowship groups etc), offering to be a channel through which God speaks to others
- **PUT** "a conversation about the work of God in this place" as the first item on every church council agenda
- **LIST**, at the end of every Church Council meeting, prayer points for the everyone in the church to pray for and ensure the list is circulated

The Circuit encourages each church to shape its life and witness in the communities they serve.

##### b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The Circuit recognises the wide range of activities being undertaken in local churches, either offering direct Christian teaching or creating an environment where people can share their faith with others.

The Circuit churches which remain active have all been open for public worship during the year, providing an accessible and welcoming venue for all Christians, and those wishing to know more about the Christian faith, to meet, talk and worship together. The Circuit believes that the message of the Christian faith has an important role in helping communities to live together in peace and harmony.

The Circuit is fully committed to the Methodist Church's policy on safeguarding and continues to provide ongoing training and support for people undertaking leadership roles within the church, especially those working with children and young people, and/or vulnerable adults. Training has also been provided in Unconscious Bias and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion as part of the Connexional Methodist Church's commitment to being a church which is inclusive and justice-seeking.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### Objectives and activities (continued)

##### c. Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

The Circuit has considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and believes that the activities undertaken are for the benefit of all members of the Circuit churches and the wider community.

#### Structure, governance and management

##### a. Constitution

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit became a registered charity, number 1132338, on 26 October 2009.

##### b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the Circuit is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Trustee appointments include:

- All presbyters stationed within the Circuit (ex-officio)
- All supernumerary presbyters and deacons within the Circuit (if they wish to be appointed as a trustee)
- All Circuit Stewards, including the Circuit Treasurer and Chair of Manse Committee (if not a Circuit Steward)
- The Circuit Meeting Secretary, Circuit Safeguarding Officer, Local Preachers' Secretary, GDPR Champion, Methodist Women in Britain representatives and treasurers of Connexional Funds and the World Mission Fund
- Representatives from each church within the Circuit to include: a church steward, the treasurer and at least one church representative elected by the local church council. Churches with over 50 members are eligible to elect two representative members.

##### c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The Board of Trustees is known as the Circuit Meeting and meets quarterly to receive reports and discuss the Circuit's activities. Circuit Meeting members comprise Circuit officers and representatives from member churches, as set out on page 1.

Day to day responsibility for the pastoral needs of the Circuit is delegated to the Superintendent minister, presbyters and other members of the ministerial team. Circuit Stewards exercise responsibility for the more practical aspects of ministry, including property and finance, alongside pastoral ministry to the ministers and their families and sharing collective responsibility and oversight for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit.

##### d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are encouraged to read Charity Commission Guidance on the responsibilities of trustees under charity law and also to read and follow the procedures set out in the Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Church. New trustees will also be required to undertake training on Unconscious Bias and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

##### e. Pay policy for key management personnel

Stipends and allowances are paid to presbyters stationed in the Circuit, in accordance with the rates agreed by the Connexional Pay and Allowances Committee. Presbyters are only paid for their role within the church and not for their roles as charity trustees. Circuit Stewards and all other trustees act in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration.

##### f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the reputation, operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks wherever possible. Ongoing training in key areas helps to raise awareness of potential difficulties within the context of local churches and in the Circuit environment, and also provides opportunities to discuss ways of mitigating those risks wherever possible.

The long term impact of the covid-19 pandemic on church attendance continues to be monitored and has been a contributory factor in the closure of the three churches in 2022/23 and 2023/24. The Circuit is, therefore, faced with the challenge of meeting increased costs with reduced income. The premises used by Methodist churches in the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit are legally owned by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) and the Circuit is entitled to receive a proportion of proceeds from the sale of church buildings in Great Barford, Tempsford and Eaton Ford. During 2022/23, it was agreed that the Circuit's share of proceeds from the sale of these properties should be used to support the assessment contributions in order to maintain the current level of paid staff. All expenses continue to be closely monitored to seek to ensure that the Circuit, and the churches it supports, are able to continue to operate effectively and efficiently.

#### Achievements and performance

##### a. Main achievements of the charity

###### General activities

Most churches within the Circuit are worshipping regularly every Sunday, as well as offering other fellowship groups and activities which enable people of all ages to meet together to explore the Christian faith. Some churches have also been able to offer live-streaming of services and other events through Zoom, YouTube and Facebook live. In addition, written worship materials are circulated for those who are unable to attend worship or access online events, as we continue to explore different ways working alongside the established patterns of worship.

Circuit activities continue to be financed by contributions made by each of the member churches, as agreed on approval of the Circuit budget. In 2021/22 assessment contributions of £174,250 were requested and £175,161 was received, with the deficit being covered from a planned use of Circuit reserves. In 2022/23, it was agreed that the Circuit would request assessment contributions totalling £198,950, returning to pre-pandemic levels, as surplus Circuit reserves had been fully utilised. However, with reduced income across the Circuit, assessment income only amounted to £196,155. It was noted that a number of local churches were only able to meet the higher level of assessment for the year by using their own reserves and, as such, the financial model needed to change to ensure that both the Circuit and its member churches remain financially viable for the future.

The majority of Circuit expenditure continues to relate to the costs of employing the ministerial team and maintaining the four Circuit manses. In addition, the Circuit is required to contribute towards the costs of the East Anglia District and the Connexional team via the district assessment and travel fund. The Circuit also oversees the training and development of Local Preachers, lay workers and volunteers so that they are also able to lead worship and lead the local church communities in their activities.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### Achievements and performance (continued)

##### Outreach Ministry Project

Two children and families workers continue to serve at St Ives Methodist Church and Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. In accordance with Methodist guidelines, the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit is the employing body for these appointments.

Both appointments are fixed term contracts, with the St Ives appointment being financed by a grant from the Circuit and funds raised by the local church, and the St Neots appointment being financed by a grant from the East Anglia District, the use of designated Circuit funds and funds raised by the local church. In both cases, funds raised by local churches to finance the outreach ministry appointments are held within the Circuit's restricted funds and any unused funds will be returned to those churches at the end of the project.

Both appointments are reporting growth in the development of ministry among young people and their families, with the paid workers being supported by teams of volunteers.

#### Financial review

##### a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

##### b. Reserves policy

An annual budget is prepared by the Circuit Treasurer and reviewed by treasurers from each of the churches within the Circuit, before being presented to the Circuit Meeting. The budget provides for ministerial and administrative support costs, contributions to District expenses and an allowance for the maintenance of the circuit's manses.

Details of all Circuit reserves are set out in note 12 to the financial statements but the key reserves are:

1. General fund - the Circuit aims to hold an average of six months operating expenditure in general reserves, currently expected to be a minimum of £100,000. The level of the general reserve has been reduced in recent years, as funds have been released to support churches in response to the coronavirus pandemic, but needs to be maintained at the current level in order to provide the necessary cashflow to support current levels of activity.
2. Ministry and training fund - a separate fund was created several years ago when the costs of stipends and lay employment were lower than planned due to unforeseen staffing changes. The surplus funds were transferred to a Ministry and training fund, and have been used to offset the rise in costs since new staff were appointed in 2020/21. The fund continued to be used throughout the year and is expected to be fully utilised by August 2024.
3. Project fund - income from the letting of the Ramsey manse has been set aside in a Projects fund to enable the Circuit to grant support to local churches.

Other designated funds are maintained for the value of manses held as fixed assets and to facilitate operational costs, such as manse repairs and maintenance, removal costs and the benevolent fund.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal financial risk faced by the Circuit is uncertainty over future levels of funding. As noted in this report, two churches held their final services of worship during the year and a third chapel has confirmed its decision to close. Many Methodist churches are facing similar challenges, with an increase in the average age of congregations and a limited number of active members putting additional pressure on a small number of people within each church community.

The coronavirus outbreak has exacerbated underlying difficulties as church attendance and activities have not returned to their previous levels. Whilst mission and outreach activities continue in an attempt to reach new people and increase the number of members, there is an inherent uncertainty about the long-term future of the churches within the Circuit and, consequently, the Circuit itself.

The Circuit's insurance policy includes buildings insurance for the four Circuit manses, contents insurance for manse property belonging to the Circuit, trustee indemnity insurance and public liability insurance.

#### Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

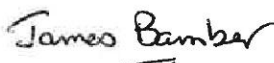
The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

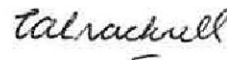
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



**Rev J J Bamber**  
Superintendent minister  
Date: 7 March 2024



**Miss E A Cracknell FCCA**  
Circuit treasurer

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit ('the charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023.

#### Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:

Carolyn Rossiter

Dated:

FCA

24/06/2024

**Moore**

Chartered Accountants, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	11,598	16,864	28,462	22,258
Charitable activities	4	196,155	-	196,155	175,161
Other trading activities	5	11,175	-	11,175	10,800
Investments	6	7,632	-	7,632	1,229
<b>Total income</b>		<b>226,560</b>	<b>16,864</b>	<b>243,424</b>	<b>209,448</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	7	215,187	38,668	253,855	240,981
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>215,187</b>	<b>38,668</b>	<b>253,855</b>	<b>240,981</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before net losses on investments</b>					
		11,373	(21,804)	(10,431)	(31,533)
Net losses on investments		(306)	-	(306)	(484)
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>11,067</b>	<b>(21,804)</b>	<b>(10,737)</b>	<b>(32,017)</b>
Transfers between funds	13	(11,023)	11,023	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>44</b>	<b>(10,781)</b>	<b>(10,737)</b>	<b>(32,017)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		1,226,461	29,128	1,255,589	1,287,606
Net movement in funds		44	(10,781)	(10,737)	(32,017)
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,226,505</b>	<b>18,347</b>	<b>1,244,852</b>	<b>1,255,589</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 11 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

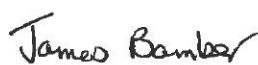
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**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023**

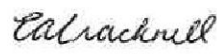
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	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	999,500	999,500
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	11	16,169	10,270
Cash at bank and in hand		272,976	286,051
		<u>289,145</u>	<u>296,321</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(43,793)	(40,232)
		<u>245,352</u>	<u>256,089</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>245,352</u>	<u>256,089</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>1,244,852</u>	<u>1,255,589</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u>1,244,852</u>	<u>1,255,589</u>
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	13	18,347	29,128
Unrestricted funds	13	1,226,505	1,226,461
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>1,244,852</u>	<u>1,255,589</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 07 March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



**Rev J J Bamber**



**Miss E A Cracknell**

The notes on pages 11 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### 1. General information

St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Church Circuit is a charity registered in England and Wales (charity number 1132338). The Circuit office is based at Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TE.

#### 2. Accounting policies

##### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### 2.2 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

##### 2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

##### 2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 2.4 Expenditure (continued)

Grants are recognised in full once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefits to a third party. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

##### 2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

##### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost, net of any provision for impairment.

The charity's only assets are the four manses which are included at historic cost and held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees for the Circuit.

No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manses to be not less than cost. The manses are regularly inspected and there are no indications of impairment.

##### 2.7 Investments

The investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees, but represent short term cash deposits and are, therefore, included as cash at bank. 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 Statement of Financial Activities.

##### 2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

##### 2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

##### 2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.11 Pensions**

The charity contributes to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme, a defined benefit scheme for the benefit of presbyters stationed within the Circuit. It is not possible, in the normal course of events, to identify on a consistent and reasonable basis, the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit. As a consequence, the charity accounts for this scheme as if it was a defined contribution scheme and the amount charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represents contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

The charity also operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of lay employees which is administered by the TPT Retirement Solutions (formerly known as The Pensions Trust). Contributions payable in respect of the accounting period are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
<b>Grants</b>				
East Anglia District (St Neots)	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>	<i>2,000</i>
<b>Donations</b>				
World Mission Fund	-	3,060	<b>3,060</b>	<i>3,122</i>
Connexional Funds	-	11,804	<b>11,804</b>	<i>12,250</i>
General donations	11,598	-	<b>11,598</b>	<i>4,886</i>
	<u>11,598</u>	<u>16,864</u>	<u><b>28,462</b></u>	<u><i>22,258</i></u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u><u>4,886</u></u>	<u><u>17,372</u></u>	<u><u>22,258</u></u>	

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**4. Income from charitable activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Assessment	196,155	<b>196,155</b>	175,161
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>175,161</u>	<u>175,161</u>	

**5. Income from other trading activities**

**Income from fundraising events**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Lettings income	11,175	<b>11,175</b>	10,800
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>10,800</u>	<u>10,800</u>	

**6. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Interest received	7,632	<b>7,632</b>	1,229
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>1,229</u>	<u>1,229</u>	

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

The Circuit is considered to have one activity but expenditure has been grouped under four headings, to separate expenditure according to income streams. Circuit Ministry is funded by the assessment, Outreach Ministry by local churches and District grants, CMTF Grants from reserves and Connexional Funds from specific donations which are administered centrally by Circuit officers.

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Circuit Ministry	215,187	<b>215,187</b>	213,644
Outreach Ministry	23,801	<b>23,801</b>	11,965
Connexional Funds	14,867	<b>14,867</b>	15,372
	<hr/> <b>253,855</b> <hr/>	<hr/> <b>253,855</b> <hr/>	<hr/> <b>240,981</b> <hr/>

Details of the actual costs incurred are shown in the following note:

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of direct costs**

	Circuit Ministry 2023 £	Outreach Ministry 2023 £	Connexion Funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	132,323	23,801	-	156,124	136,803
District Assessment	41,916	-	-	41,916	40,674
Methodist Church Fund	-	-	14,867	14,867	15,372
Telephone	8,609	-	-	8,609	8,603
Travel	5,535	-	-	5,535	5,740
Utilities	12,233	-	-	12,233	11,377
Maintenance of manses	6,209	-	-	6,209	10,254
Grants	3,544	-	-	3,544	7,535
Contributions to District Advance Fund	1,604	-	-	1,604	1,650
Miscellaneous expenses	2,379	-	-	2,379	2,322
Apprenticeship levy	626	-	-	626	537
Bank charges	209	-	-	209	114
	<u>215,187</u>	<u>23,801</u>	<u>14,867</u>	<u>253,855</u>	<u>240,981</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>213,644</u>	<u>11,965</u>	<u>15,372</u>	<u>240,981</u>	

No Mission and Education Fund grants were paid in 2022/23, but a total of £3,544 of Circuit funds was used to meet insurance and urgent repair costs at Great Barford and Tempsford Churches.

**8. Independent examiner's remuneration**

No fees have been charged by Moore for the independent examination of the accounts.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**9. Staff costs**

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	124,149	107,309
Social security costs	9,307	8,279
Pension contributions	22,668	21,215
	156,124	136,803

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Presbyters	3	3
Outreach workers	3	3
Administrative staff	1	1
	7	7

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Presbyters	3	3
Outreach workers	1	1
	4	4

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Circuit Stewards and other trustees are all voluntary positions, but reimbursement of mileage and other expenses incurred on behalf of the charity may be claimed from the Circuit.

As presbyters are members of Circuit Meeting, they are also trustees of the charity. Presbyters receive a stipend and the benefit of work-related accommodation through the provision of a manse, in respect of their work for the Methodist Church. No remuneration is paid in respect of their position as trustees of the charity.

Remuneration paid to key management personnel (including pension contributions) during the year amounted to £113,835 (2022 £109,049) paid to 3 full time presbyters.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**10. Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Freehold property £</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 September 2022	999,500
At 31 August 2023	999,500
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 August 2023	999,500
At 31 August 2022	999,500

**11. Debtors**

	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Prepayments and accrued income	16,169	10,270

**12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
Accruals and deferred income	43,793	40,232

Deferred income represents Circuit assessment contributions received in advance totalling £40,080 (2022 £37,501).

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**13. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	(1,996)	-	(6,209)	11,550	-	3,345
Removals	7,000	-	-	1,400	-	8,400
Outreach - Berkley St	27,946	-	-	(6,745)	-	21,201
Outreach - St Ives	-	-	-	9,133	-	9,133
Benevolent	1,065	-	(107)	-	-	958
Ministry	14,437	-	-	(6,788)	-	7,649
Projects	14,068	-	-	-	-	14,068
	<u>1,062,020</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,316)</u>	<u>8,550</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,064,254</u>
<b>General:</b>						
General	100,299	224,567	(207,073)	(6,173)	-	111,620
CMTF	64,142	1,993	(1,798)	(13,400)	(306)	50,631
	<u>164,441</u>	<u>226,560</u>	<u>(208,871)</u>	<u>(19,573)</u>	<u>(306)</u>	<u>162,251</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,226,461</u>	<u>226,560</u>	<u>(215,187)</u>	<u>(11,023)</u>	<u>(306)</u>	<u>1,226,505</u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
WMF	-	3,060	(3,060)	-	-	-
Connexional	79	11,804	(11,807)	11	-	87
St Ives-Church	15,468	-	(12,261)	4,267	-	7,474
Berkley Street - District	2,000	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	2,000
Berkley Street - Church	11,581	-	(11,540)	8,745	-	8,786
	<u>29,128</u>	<u>16,864</u>	<u>(38,668)</u>	<u>11,023</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,347</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>1,255,589</u></u>	<u><u>243,424</u></u>	<u><u>(253,855)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(306)</u></u>	<u><u>1,244,852</u></u>

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	(2,742)	-	(10,254)	11,000	-	(1,996)
Removals	5,600	-	-	1,400	-	7,000
Outreach - Berkley St	28,499	-	-	(553)	-	27,946
Outreach - St Ives	1,065	-	-	-	-	1,065
Benevolent	24,467	-	-	(10,030)	-	14,437
Ministry	13,695	-	(6,885)	7,258	-	14,068
	<u>1,070,084</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(17,139)</u>	<u>9,075</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,062,020</u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2022 £</i>
<b>General:</b>						
General	113,030	191,623	(194,667)	(9,687)	-	100,299
CMTF	66,011	453	(1,838)	-	(484)	64,142
	<u>179,041</u>	<u>192,076</u>	<u>(196,505)</u>	<u>(9,687)</u>	<u>(484)</u>	<u>164,441</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,249,125</u>	<u>192,076</u>	<u>(213,644)</u>	<u>(612)</u>	<u>(484)</u>	<u>1,226,461</u>
<b>Restricted:</b>						
WMF	-	3,122	(3,122)	-	-	-
Connexional	20	12,250	(12,250)	59	-	79
St Ives-District	6,812	-	(6,812)	-	-	-
St Ives-Church	19,635	-	(4,167)	-	-	15,468
Berkley Street - District	-	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
Berkley Street - Church	12,014	-	(986)	553	-	11,581
	<u>38,481</u>	<u>17,372</u>	<u>(27,337)</u>	<u>612</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,128</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>1,287,606</u></u>	<u><u>209,448</u></u>	<u><u>(240,981)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(484)</u></u>	<u><u>1,255,589</u></u>

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### 13. Statement of funds (continued)

##### **Unrestricted - Designated Funds:**

**Manse Fund** - the manse fund represents the value of the Circuit's four manses, held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees.

**Manse repair Fund** - the manse repair reserve ensures that funds are available for repairs and maintenance, when the need arises, funded by transfers from general funds. Additional costs were incurred in 2019/20, resulting in the fund becoming overdrawn in that year. The total fund has been brought back into a positive reserve balance from annual budget allocations and careful management of costs.

**Removal Fund** - the removal reserve ensures that funds are available for the Circuit to pay removal expenses and the relocation allowance for ministers joining the Circuit staff, funded by an annual transfer from general funds.

**Outreach Ministry** - the Circuit transferred funds from the Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) to support the cost of outreach workers in the Circuit. These funds have been used to support the children and families worker appointed to Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots.

**Benevolent Fund** - the benevolent fund is available for use at the discretion of presbyters and Circuit Stewards to help anyone in need across the Circuit.

**Ministry and Training Fund** - surplus funds arising from the difference between planned and actual expenditure on stipends and lay employment have been transferred to the ministry and training fund, to pay for lay or ordained staff costs, or additional training needs, in the future.

**Projects Fund** - the net income generated by letting of spare manses has been credited to the projects fund, to enable the Circuit to show its support for local church building and other projects as the balance committed from the CMTF became depleted.

##### **Unrestricted - General Funds:**

**General Fund** - funds held in the general reserve are free reserves available to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit that have not been designated for any specific purpose.

**Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)** - the CMTF contains proceeds from the sale of properties belonging to the Methodist Church in the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit and is only available to support projects undertaken within the Circuit. Applications for CMTF grants are made to the Circuit Leadership Team so that the level of funding can be assessed before a decision is made by the Circuit Meeting. Current commitments from the CMTF are shown in note 15.

##### **Restricted Funds:**

**Outreach Ministry Project** - the balance of funds received from the East Anglia District and London Mission Fund for the outreach worker appointment in Huntingdon were used during the year.

**Connexional Funds and World Mission Fund (WMF)** - the Circuit collates and forwards contributions from local churches. Annual statements are prepared for the Circuit Meeting detailing the contributions made by individual churches and the totals passed on to the appropriate organisations

**St Ives** - the Circuit receives grant income from the East Anglia District to fund the employment of a children and families outreach worker in St Ives, with the balance of costs being met from funds raised by St Ives Methodist Church. All costs have been charged to the restricted fund as this is a local church project, and overseen by the Circuit due to Methodist Church requirements for all employment contracts to be administered by the Circuit.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

St Neots - the Circuit receives grant income from the East Anglia District to help fund the employment of a children and families outreach worker in St Neots, with the balance of costs being met from the designated Outreach Ministry fund and funds raised by Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. All costs have been charged to the restricted fund as this is a local church project, and overseen by the Circuit due to Methodist Church requirements for all employment contracts to be administered by the Circuit.

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	999,500
Current assets	270,798	18,347	289,145
Creditors due within one year	(43,793)	-	(43,793)
<b>Total</b>	<u>1,226,505</u>	<u>18,347</u>	<u>1,244,852</u>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	999,500
Current assets	267,193	29,128	296,321
Creditors due within one year	(40,232)	-	(40,232)
<b>Total</b>	<u>1,226,461</u>	<u>29,128</u>	<u>1,255,589</u>

**15. Grant commitments**

At the reporting date, the Circuit had the following commitments from CMTF:

Ramsey Methodist Church - £5,000 for their building project  
 Sawtry Methodist Church - £18,400 for their building project  
 Circuit Outreach ministry projects - £14,126 (£13,400 having been utilised for the St Ives Methodist Church outreach worker in 2023 and 2024)

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**16. Related party transactions**

During the year the charity continued to employ Mrs E Witham, wife of Rev N Witham, one of the Circuit presbyters and a charity trustee, as the Children and Families worker in St Ives Methodist Church. In the year ended 31 August 2023 the total remuneration (including employer pension and national insurance contributions) paid to Mrs E Witham was £12,261 (2022 £10,979).

In September 2022, Miss A Cracknell, a trustee and sister to the Circuit Treasurer, was employed as the Children and Families worker at Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. The employment followed normal recruitment procedures. In the year ended 31 August 2023 the total remuneration (including employer pension and national insurance contributions) paid to Miss A Cracknell was £11,541.

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132338

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# Accounts

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**CONTENTS**

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	Page
<b>Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisers</b>	1 - 2
<b>Trustees' Report</b>	3 - 7
<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	8
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	9
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	10
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	11 - 24

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### Trustees

Rev J J Bamber, Superintendent minister  
Rev S Baker, Minister  
Rev N Witham, Minister  
Rev P Siddall, Supernumerary minister  
Rev W G F Vivian, Supernumerary minister (died 5 December 2022)  
Rev H Walker, Supernumerary minister  
Deacon S Roberts, Supernumerary deacon  
Mrs R Butler, Circuit Steward  
Mr N Bainbridge, Circuit Steward (appointed 22 September 2021)  
Mrs L M Charlton, Circuit Steward  
Miss E A Cracknell, Circuit Treasurer  
Mr R Ward, GDPR Champion  
Mrs P R Zahner, Circuit Mission and Ministry Support Co-ordinator  
Miss V J Almond, Circuit Safeguarding Officer (appointed 1 November 2021)  
Mrs G Andrew, Circuit Safeguarding Officer (resigned 31 October 2021)  
Mrs J M Bainbridge, Methodist Women in Britain  
Mr P J Barker, World Mission Fund Treasurer  
Mr A Butler, Connexional Funds Treasurer  
Mr J M Green, Local Preacher's Secretary  
Mrs O M Watkins, Circuit Meeting Secretary  
Mr G E J Wrycroft, Circuit Property Steward

The following trustees are elected representatives from churches within the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit:

Alconbury - Mrs H Purbrick (resigned November 2022)  
Berkley Street, St Neots - Miss A M Cracknell, Mrs B K Spencer and Mr C J Thompson  
Brampton - Mr A E Cannon and Mrs R Parsons  
Buckden - Mr A R Baxter and Miss C M Swebstone  
Eaton Ford - Mr B Gardiner and Miss E Hines (resigned January 2022)  
Great Barford - Mr A G Besant and Mrs S M Dowman  
Hilton - Mrs S Hay, Mrs D J Whatley and Mrs H Woods  
Huntingdon - Mr I O Chinnappa, Mr P R Hornsby and Mr A J Sainsbury  
Over - Mr C G Smith and Mr D Ward (appointed May 2022)  
Ramsey - Mrs H M Tydda, Mrs C Simpson and Mr D A Whistler  
Sawtry - Mr M Baker, Mr M Coates and Miss K A Paterson  
St Ives - Dr P Dean (resigned 18 October 2021), Mr T Kelby (appointed 18 October 2021), Mr J Knell (appointed 18 October 2021), Mrs L E Knell and Mrs K Pickin  
Tempsford - Mr S C Gosling, Mrs C A Gosling and Mrs E Knott  
Warboys - Mr J K Rogers, Mrs J Rogers and Mr D M Watkins

#### Charity registered number

1123338

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
(CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**Principal office**

Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 3TE

**Accountants**

Moore, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**Bankers**

HSBC plc, 5 High Street, St Neots, Cambs, PE19 1DE

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

**Custodian Trustees**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purpose (TMCP), Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### **a. Policies and objectives**

The St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit (14/25) is part of the East Anglia District of the Methodist Church. The Circuit provided ministerial oversight and pastoral care of 14 churches in the St Neots and Huntingdon area in 2021/22. During the year, two churches voted to close and final services for both were held in September 2022.

The Circuit's mission policy and priorities, as adopted by the Circuit Meeting in September 2017, is as follows: We believe that we are called together by God to be Christ-centred, disciple-focussed and Spirit-led. This belief shapes our decision making, vision, allocation of our God-given resources and mission priorities.

As a Circuit, we seek to support and resource initiatives which can be church or Circuit led and which meet one or more of the following priorities:

- Undergird all we are, and all we seek to do in prayer;
- Make new disciples and nurture existing ones;
- Offer creative and different opportunities for inspiring worship throughout the week;
- Create authentic, welcoming communities which are accessible to all;
- Embed a culture of teamwork, encouragement and nurture among both lay and ordained leaders;
- Practise radical hospitality;
- Enable effective governance and communication;
- Maintain an outward focus;
- Identify what we do well and do it;
- Empower ministry to be collaborative and affirm the giftedness of all;
- Invest in leaders that they might invest in others.

In en fleshing these priorities - and in common with the whole Methodist Church - we will work in partnership with others wherever possible.

We will encourage each of our churches to shape its life and witness around these priorities.

##### **b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives**

The Circuit recognises the wide range of activities being undertaken in local churches, either offering direct Christian teaching or creating an environment where people can share their faith with others.

All the Circuit churches remained open for public worship throughout 2021/22, providing an accessible and welcoming venue for all Christians, and those wishing to know more about the Christian faith, to meet, talk and worship together. The Circuit believes that the message of the Christian faith has an important role in helping communities to live together in peace and harmony.

The Circuit is fully committed to the Methodist Church's policy on safeguarding and continues to provide ongoing training and support for people undertaking leadership roles within the church, especially those working with children and young people, and/or vulnerable adults.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### Objectives and activities (continued)

##### c. Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

The Circuit has considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and believes that the activities undertaken are for the benefit of all members of the Circuit churches and the wider community.

#### Structure, governance and management

##### a. Constitution

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit became a registered charity, number 1132338, on 26 October 2009.

##### b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the Circuit is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Trustee appointments include:

- All presbyters stationed within the Circuit (ex-officio)
- All supernumerary presbyters and deacons within the Circuit (if they wish to be appointed as a trustee)
- All Circuit Stewards, including the Circuit Treasurer and Chair of Manse Committee (if not a Circuit Steward)
- The Circuit Meeting Secretary, Circuit Safeguarding Officer, Local Preachers' Secretary, GDPR Champion, Methodist Women in Britain representatives and treasurers of Connexional Funds and the World Mission Fund
- Representatives from each church within the Circuit to include: a church steward, the treasurer and at least one church representative elected by the local church council. Churches with over 50 members are eligible to elect two representative members.

##### c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The Board of Trustees is known as the Circuit Meeting and meets quarterly to receive reports and discuss the Circuit's activities. Circuit Meeting members comprise Circuit officers and representatives from member churches, as set out on page 1.

Day to day responsibility for the pastoral needs of the Circuit is delegated to the Superintendent minister, presbyters and other members of the ministerial team. Circuit Stewards exercise responsibility for the more practical aspects of ministry, including property and finance, alongside pastoral ministry to the ministers and their families and sharing collective responsibility and oversight for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit.

##### d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are encouraged to read Charity Commission Guidance on the responsibilities of trustees under charity law and also to read and follow the procedures set out in the Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

##### e. Pay policy for key management personnel

Stipends and allowances are paid to presbyters stationed in the Circuit, in accordance with the rates agreed by the Connexional Pay and Allowances Committee. Presbyters are only paid for their role within the church and not for their roles as charity trustees. Circuit Stewards and all other trustees act in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration.

##### f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the reputation, operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks wherever possible.

The financial risks have increased, as the longer term impact of the covid-19 pandemic on church attendance and income from lettings and other activities becomes clearer. As the income received by local churches has reduced compared to pre-pandemic levels, the churches are less able to contribute to the Circuit assessment. At the same time, the Circuit and its churches are faced with the challenge of meeting increased costs due to inflation and the general economic situation. All expenditure is monitored closely, to seek to ensure that the Circuit, and the churches it supports, are able to continue to operate effectively and efficiently.

#### Achievements and performance

##### a. Main achievements of the charity

###### General activities

Most churches within the Circuit returned mainly to face to face activities during the year, with some churches also being able to offer live-streaming of services and other events through Zoom, YouTube and Facebook live. The Circuit has also tried to provide written worship material for those who are unable to attend worship or access the online events. The activities undertaken recognise that there is a need to continue developing new ways of working as well as supporting established patterns of worship. The Circuit was delighted to share in the ordination service for Rev S Baker-Maher in June 2022, following successful completion of her probationer studies. Some members were able to travel to Shrewsbury for the service whilst others were able to join online.

Circuit activities continue to be financed by contributions made by each of the member churches, as agreed on approval of the Circuit budget. The Circuit requested assessment contributions totalling £174,250 and received £175,161 (in 2020/21 Circuit assessment of £174,250 was requested and received). The budget and assessment contributions agreed for 2021/22 included a planned use of Circuit reserves for the second consecutive year. The Circuit has used reserves available to help churches maintain the same level of ministry whilst waiting to see whether their income from donations, lettings and other activities returns to the levels seen before the coronavirus pandemic.

The majority of Circuit expenditure continues to relate to the costs of employing the ministerial team and maintaining the four Circuit manses. In addition, the Circuit is required to contribute towards the costs of the East Anglia District and the Connexional team via the district assessment and travel fund. The Circuit also oversees the training and development of Local Preachers, lay workers and volunteers so that they are also able to lead worship and lead the local church communities in their activities.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### **Achievements and performance (continued)**

##### Outreach Ministry Project

The children and families worker appointed to St Ives Methodist Church continued throughout the year and, in September 2022, a new children and families worker was appointed to Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. In accordance with Methodist guidelines, the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit is the employing body for these appointments.

Both appointments are fixed term contracts, with the St Ives appointment being financed by a grant from the East Anglia District and funds raised by the local church and the St Neots appointment being financed by a grant from the East Anglia District, the use of designated Circuit funds and funds raised by the local church. In both cases, funds raised by local churches to finance the outreach ministry work are held within the Circuit's restricted funds and any unused funds will be returned to the local churches at the end of the project.

Both appointments are reporting growth in the development of ministry among young people and their families, with the paid workers being supported by teams of volunteers.

#### **Financial review**

##### **a. Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

##### **b. Reserves policy**

An annual budget is prepared by the Circuit Treasurer and reviewed by treasurers from each of the churches within the Circuit, before being presented to the Circuit Meeting. The budget provides for ministerial and administrative support costs, contributions to District expenses and an allowance for the maintenance of the circuit's manses.

Details of all Circuit reserves are set out in note 12 to the financial statements but the key reserves are:

1. General fund - the Circuit aims to hold an average of six months operating expenditure in general reserves, currently expected to be a minimum of £100,000. In recent years, the level of general reserves has been higher than the reserves policy, as actual expenditure over a number of years was lower than forecast due to careful budgeting and management of costs. However, the level of the general reserve has now reduced as funds have been released to support churches in response to the coronavirus pandemic and the challenge is now to establish a sustainable level of activity for the future without allowing reserves to fall too low.
2. Ministry and training fund - a separate fund was created when the costs of stipends and lay employment were lower than planned due to unforeseen staffing changes. The surplus funds were transferred to a Ministry and training fund, and have been used to offset the rise in costs since new staff were appointed in 2020/21. The fund continues to be used in 2021/22 and is expected to be fully utilised by August 2023.
3. Project fund - income from the letting of the Ramsey manse has been set aside in a Projects fund to enable the Circuit to grant support to local churches. Grants have previously been made from the Circuit Model Trust Fund, but the balance on the fund is low and will only be increased if/when a church closes and the building is sold.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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Other designated funds are maintained for the value of manse held as fixed assets and to facilitate operational costs, such as manse repairs and maintenance, removal costs and the benevolent fund.

#### **c. Principal risks and uncertainties**

The principal financial risk faced by the Circuit is uncertainty over future levels of funding. As noted in this report, two churches ceased worship as independent societies in 2021/22 and a third chapel has since confirmed its decision to close. Many Methodist churches are facing similar challenges, with an increase in the average age of congregations and a limited number of active members putting additional pressure on a small number of people within each church community.

The coronavirus outbreak has exacerbated underlying difficulties as church attendance and activities have not returned to their previous levels and, whilst mission and outreach activities continue in an attempt to reach new people and increase the number of members, there is an inherent uncertainty about the long-term future of the churches within the Circuit and, consequently, the Circuit itself.

The Circuit's insurance policy includes buildings insurance for the four Circuit manse, contents insurance for manse property belonging to the Circuit, trustee indemnity insurance and public liability insurance.

#### **Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

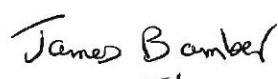
The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



**Rev J J Bamber**  
Superintendent minister  
Date: 9 March 2023



**Miss E A Cracknell FCCA**  
Circuit treasurer

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit ('the charity')**

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2022.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:



Carolyn Rossiter

Dated:

11<sup>th</sup> May 2023

FCA

**Moore**

Chartered Accountants, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	4,886	17,372	22,258	40,942
Charitable activities	4	175,161	-	175,161	174,250
Other trading activities	5	10,800	-	10,800	11,059
Investments	6	1,229	-	1,229	589
<b>Total income</b>		<b>192,076</b>	<b>17,372</b>	<b>209,448</b>	<b>226,840</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities		213,644	27,337	240,981	233,356
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>213,644</b>	<b>27,337</b>	<b>240,981</b>	<b>233,356</b>
<b>Net expenditure before net (losses)/gains on investments</b>					
		(21,568)	(9,965)	(31,533)	(6,516)
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(484)	-	(484)	1,195
<b>Net expenditure</b>		<b>(22,052)</b>	<b>(9,965)</b>	<b>(32,017)</b>	<b>(5,321)</b>
Transfers between funds	13	(612)	612	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(22,664)</b>	<b>(9,353)</b>	<b>(32,017)</b>	<b>(5,321)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		1,249,125	38,481	1,287,606	1,292,927
Net movement in funds		(22,664)	(9,353)	(32,017)	(5,321)
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,226,461</b>	<b>29,128</b>	<b>1,255,589</b>	<b>1,287,606</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 11 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	999,500	999,500
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	11	10,270	9,757
Cash at bank and in hand		286,051	320,031
		296,321	329,788
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(40,232)	(41,682)
<b>Net current assets</b>		256,089	288,106
<b>Total net assets</b>		1,255,589	1,287,606
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	13	29,128	38,481
Unrestricted funds	13	1,226,461	1,249,125
<b>Total funds</b>		1,255,589	1,287,606

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*James Bamber*

**Rev J J Bamber**  
Superintendent minister  
Date: 9 March 2023

*E A Cracknell*

**Miss E A Cracknell FCCA**  
Circuit treasurer

The notes on pages 11 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### 1. General information

St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Church Circuit is a charity registered in England and Wales (charity number 1132338). The Circuit office is based at Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TE.

#### 2. Accounting policies

##### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### 2.2 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

##### 2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

##### 2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 2.4 Expenditure (continued)

Grants are recognised in full once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefits to a third party. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

##### 2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

##### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost, net of any provision for impairment.

The charity's only assets are the four manses which are included at historic cost and held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees for the Circuit.

No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manses to be not less than cost. The manses are regularly inspected and there are no indications of impairment.

##### 2.7 Investments

The investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees, but represent short term cash deposits and are, therefore, included as cash at bank. 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 Statement of Financial Activities.

##### 2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

##### 2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

##### 2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.11 Pensions**

The charity contributes to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme, a defined benefit scheme for the benefit of presbyters stationed within the Circuit. It is not possible, in the normal course of events, to identify on a consistent and reasonable basis, the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit. As a consequence, the charity accounts for this scheme as if it was a defined contribution scheme and the amount charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represents contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

The charity also operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of lay employees which is administered by the TPT Retirement Solutions (formerly known as The Pensions Trust). Contributions payable in respect of the accounting period are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
<b>Donations</b>				
Berkley Street Methodist Church	-	-	-	15,000
<b>Grants</b>				
East Anglia District (St Ives)	-	-	-	6,705
East Anglia District (St Neots)	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
<b>Donations to Connexion</b>				
World Mission Fund	-	3,122	3,122	4,671
Connexional Funds	-	12,250	12,250	12,566
General donations	4,886	-	4,886	-
	<u>4,886</u>	<u>17,372</u>	<u>22,258</u>	<u>40,942</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,942</u>	<u>40,942</u>	

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Assessment	175,161	<b>175,161</b>	174,250
<i>Total 2021</i>	174,250	174,250	

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Lettings income	10,800	<b>10,800</b>	11,059
<i>Total 2021</i>	11,059	11,059	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Interest received	1,229	<b>1,229</b>	589
<i>Total 2021</i>	589	589	

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

The Circuit is considered to have one activity but expenditure has been grouped under four headings, to separate expenditure according to income streams. Circuit Ministry is funded by the assessment, Outreach Ministry by local churches and District grants, CMTF Grants from reserves and Connexional Funds from specific donations which are administered centrally by Circuit officers.

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2022 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Circuit Ministry	213,644	<b>213,644</b>	193,310
Outreach Ministry	11,965	<b>11,965</b>	22,809
Connexional Funds	15,372	<b>15,372</b>	17,237
	<hr/> <b>240,981</b> <hr/>	<hr/> <b>240,981</b> <hr/>	<hr/> <b>233,356</b> <hr/>

Details of the actual costs incurred are shown in the following note:

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of direct costs**

	<b>Circuit Ministry 2022 £</b>	<b>Outreach Ministry 2022 £</b>	<b>Connexion Funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Staff costs	124,838	11,965	-	<b>136,803</b>	145,052
District Assessment	40,674	-	-	<b>40,674</b>	38,014
Methodist Church Fund	-	-	15,372	<b>15,372</b>	17,237
Telephone	8,603	-	-	<b>8,603</b>	6,838
Travel	5,740	-	-	<b>5,740</b>	3,985
Utilities	11,377	-	-	<b>11,377</b>	10,830
Maintenance of manses	10,254	-	-	<b>10,254</b>	5,851
Grants	7,535	-	-	<b>7,535</b>	536
Contributions to District Advance Fund	1,650	-	-	<b>1,650</b>	1,657
Removal expenses	-	-	-	-	236
Miscellaneous expenses	2,322	-	-	<b>2,322</b>	2,507
Apprenticeship levy	537	-	-	<b>537</b>	613
Bank charges	114	-	-	<b>114</b>	-
	<u>213,644</u>	<u>11,965</u>	<u>15,372</u>	<b><u>240,981</u></b>	<u>233,356</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>193,310</u>	<u>22,809</u>	<u>17,237</u>	<u>233,356</u>	

In 2020/21, Mission and Education Fund grants were paid to:

- St Ives Methodist Church - £500 to develop 'Sports Church' initiative

In 2021/22, grants were paid from the Mission and Education fund to:

- Warboys Methodist Church - £50 for the purchase of a heated trolley and £500 towards an upgrade to the kitchen
- Berkley Street Methodist Church - £100 towards the first WAVE (We're All Valued Equally) event, designed and co-led by people with learning disabilities

and from the Projects fund to:

- Huntingdon Methodist Church - £4,885 to support their building project
- Buckden Methodist Church - £2,000 towards legal costs incurred in relation to their building

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**8. Independent examiner's remuneration**

No fees have been charged by Moore for the independent examination of the accounts.

**9. Staff costs**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	<b>107,309</b>	115,205
Social security costs	<b>8,279</b>	8,514
Pension contributions	<b>21,215</b>	21,333
	<u><b>136,803</b></u>	<u>145,052</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Presbyters	<b>3</b>	3
Outreach workers	<b>3</b>	3
Administrative staff	<b>1</b>	1
	<u><b>7</b></u>	<u>7</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Presbyters	<b>3</b>	3
Outreach workers	<b>1</b>	1
	<u><b>4</b></u>	<u>4</u>

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**9. Staff costs (continued)**

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Circuit Stewards and other trustees are all voluntary positions, but reimbursement of mileage and other expenses incurred on behalf of the charity may be claimed from the Circuit.

As presbyters are members of Circuit Meeting, they are also trustees of the charity. Presbyters receive a stipend and the benefit of work-related accommodation through the provision of a manse, in respect of their work for the Methodist Church. No remuneration is paid in respect of their position as trustees of the charity.

Remuneration paid to key management personnel (including pension contributions) during the year amounted to £109,049 (2021 £108,123) paid to 3 full time presbyters.

**10. Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Freehold property £</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 September 2021	<b>999,500</b>
At 31 August 2022	<b>999,500</b>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 August 2022	<b>999,500</b>
At 31 August 2021	<b>999,500</b>

**11. Debtors**

	<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>10,270</b>	<b>9,757</b>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>40,232</u>	<u>41,682</u>

Deferred income represents Circuit assessment contributions received in advance totalling £37,501 (2021 £41,234).

**13. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	(2,742)	-	(10,254)	11,000	-	(1,996)
Removals	5,600	-	-	1,400	-	7,000
Outreach	28,499	-	-	(553)	-	27,946
Benevolent	1,065	-	-	-	-	1,065
Ministry	24,467	-	-	(10,030)	-	14,437
Projects	13,695	-	(6,885)	7,258	-	14,068
	<u>1,070,084</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(17,139)</u>	<u>9,075</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,062,020</u>
<b>General:</b>						
General	113,030	191,623	(194,667)	(9,687)	-	100,299
CMTF	66,011	453	(1,838)	-	(484)	64,142
	<u>179,041</u>	<u>192,076</u>	<u>(196,505)</u>	<u>(9,687)</u>	<u>(484)</u>	<u>164,441</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,249,125</u>	<u>192,076</u>	<u>(213,644)</u>	<u>(612)</u>	<u>(484)</u>	<u>1,226,461</u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
WMF	-	3,122	(3,122)	-	-	-
Connexional	20	12,250	(12,250)	59	-	79
St Ives-District	6,812	-	(6,812)	-	-	-
St Ives-Church	19,635	-	(4,167)	-	-	15,468
Berkley Street - District	-	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
Berkley Street - Church	12,014	-	(986)	553	-	11,581
	<u>38,481</u>	<u>17,372</u>	<u>(27,337)</u>	<u>612</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,128</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u>1,287,606</u>	<u>209,448</u>	<u>(240,981)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(484)</u>	<u>1,255,589</u>

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	(7,390)	-	(5,852)	10,500	-	(2,742)
Removals	4,100	-	(235)	1,735	-	5,600
Outreach	35,584	-	-	(7,085)	-	28,499
Benevolent	1,065	-	-	-	-	1,065
Ministry	29,942	-	-	(5,475)	-	24,467
Projects	4,785	-	-	8,910	-	13,695
	<u>1,067,586</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,087)</u>	<u>8,585</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,070,084</u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2020</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers in/out</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2021</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>General:</b>						
General	128,552	185,581	(185,433)	(15,670)	-	113,030
CMTF	66,289	317	(1,790)	-	1,195	66,011
	<u>194,841</u>	<u>185,898</u>	<u>(187,223)</u>	<u>(15,670)</u>	<u>1,195</u>	<u>179,041</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,262,427</u>	<u>185,898</u>	<u>(193,310)</u>	<u>(7,085)</u>	<u>1,195</u>	<u>1,249,125</u>
<b>Restricted:</b>						
WMF	-	4,671	(4,671)	-	-	-
Connexional	20	12,566	(12,566)	-	-	20
St Ives-District	6,812	6,705	(6,705)	-	-	6,812
St Ives-Church	23,668	-	(4,033)	-	-	19,635
Berkley Street - District	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	-
Berkley Street - Church	-	15,000	(10,071)	7,085	-	12,014
	<u>30,500</u>	<u>40,942</u>	<u>(40,046)</u>	<u>7,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,481</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u>1,292,927</u>	<u>226,840</u>	<u>(233,356)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,195</u>	<u>1,287,606</u>

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### 13. Statement of funds (continued)

##### **Unrestricted - Designated Funds:**

Manse Fund - the manse fund represents the value of the Circuit's four manses, held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees.

Manse repair Fund - the manse repair reserve ensures that funds are available for repairs and maintenance, when the need arises, funded by transfers from general funds. Additional costs were incurred in 2019/20, resulting in the fund becoming overdrawn in that year. The fund is being brought back into a positive reserve balance from the budget allocations and management of costs.

Removal Fund - the removal reserve ensures that funds are available for the Circuit to pay removal expenses and the relocation allowance for ministers joining the Circuit staff, funded by an annual transfer from general funds.

Outreach Ministry - the Circuit transferred funds from the Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) to support the cost of outreach workers in the Circuit. These funds have been used to support the children and families worker appointed to Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots.

Benevolent Fund - the benevolent fund is available for use at the discretion of presbyters and Circuit Stewards to help anyone in need across the Circuit.

Ministry and Training Fund - surplus funds arising from the difference between planned and actual expenditure on stipends and lay employment have been transferred to the ministry and training fund, to pay for lay or ordained staff costs, or additional training needs, in the future.

Projects Fund - the net income generated by letting of spare manses has been credited to the projects fund, to enable the Circuit to show its support for local church building and other projects as the balance committed from the CMTF becomes depleted.

##### **Unrestricted - General Funds:**

General Fund - funds held in the general reserve are free reserves available to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit that have not been designated for any specific purpose.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) - the CMTF contains proceeds from the sale of properties belonging to the Methodist Church in the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit and is only available to support projects undertaken within the Circuit. Applications for CMTF grants are made to the Circuit Leadership Team so that the level of funding can be assessed before a decision is made by the Circuit Meeting. Current commitments from the CMTF are shown in note 15.

##### **Restricted Funds:**

Outreach Ministry Project - the balance of funds received from the East Anglia District and London Mission Fund for the outreach worker appointment in Huntingdon were used during the year.

Connexional Funds and World Mission Fund (WMF) - the Circuit collates and forwards contributions from local churches. Annual statements are prepared for the Circuit Meeting detailing the contributions made by individual churches and the totals passed on to the appropriate organisations

St Ives - the Circuit receives grant income from the East Anglia District to fund the employment of a children and families outreach worker in St Ives, with the balance of costs being met from funds raised by St Ives Methodist Church. All costs have been charged to the restricted fund as this is a local church project, and overseen by the Circuit due to Methodist Church requirements for all employment contracts to be administered by the Circuit.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

St Neots - the Circuit receives grant income from the East Anglia District to help fund the employment of a children and families outreach worker in St Neots, with the balance of costs being met from the designated Outreach Ministry fund and funds raised by Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. All costs have been charged to the restricted fund as this is a local church project, and overseen by the Circuit due to Methodist Church requirements for all employment contracts to be administered by the Circuit.

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	<b>999,500</b>
Current assets	267,193	29,128	<b>296,321</b>
Creditors due within one year	(40,232)	-	<b>(40,232)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<u>1,226,461</u>	<u>29,128</u>	<u><b>1,255,589</b></u>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	999,500
Current assets	291,307	38,481	329,788
Creditors due within one year	(41,682)	-	(41,682)
<b>Total</b>	<u>1,249,125</u>	<u>38,481</u>	<u>1,287,606</u>

**15. Grant commitments**

At the reporting date, the Circuit had the following commitments from CMTF:

Sawtry Methodist Church - £18,400 for their building project  
Circuit Outreach ministry projects - £27,946

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**16. Related party transactions**

During the year the charity employed Mrs E Witham, wife of Rev N Witham, one of the Circuit presbyters and a charity trustee, as the Children and Families worker in St Ives Methodist Church. The employment followed normal recruitment procedures. In the year ended 31 August 2022 the total remuneration (including employer pension and national insurance contributions) paid to Mrs E Witham was £10,979 (2021 £10,738)

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132338

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# Accounts

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**CONTENTS**

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	Page
<b>Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, Its Trustees and Advisers</b>	1 - 2
<b>Trustees' Report</b>	3 - 7
<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	8
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	9
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	10
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	11 - 24

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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#### Trustees

Rev J J Bamber, Superintendent minister  
Rev S Baker, Minister  
Rev N Witham, Minister  
Rev P Siddall, Supernumerary minister  
Rev W G F Vivian, Supernumerary minister  
Rev H Walker, Supernumerary minister  
Deacon S Roberts, Supernumerary deacon  
Mrs R Butler, Circuit Steward  
Mr N Bainbridge, Circuit Steward (appointed 22 September 2021)  
Mrs L M Charlton, Circuit Steward  
Miss E A Cracknell, Circuit Treasurer  
Mr B A Walker, Circuit Steward (resigned 31 August 2021)  
Mr R Ward, GDPR Champion  
Mrs P Wear, Circuit Steward (resigned 31 August 2021)  
Mrs P R Zahner, Circuit Steward  
Miss V J Almond, Circuit Safeguarding Officer (appointed 1 November 2021)  
Mrs G Andrew, Circuit Safeguarding Officer (resigned 31 October 2021)  
Mrs J M Bainbridge, Methodist Women in Britain  
Mr P J Barker, World Mission Fund Treasurer  
Mr A Butler, Connexional Funds Treasurer  
Mr J M Green, Local Preacher's Secretary  
Mrs O M Watkins, Circuit Meeting Secretary  
Mr G E J Wrycroft, Circuit Property Steward

The following trustees are elected representatives from churches within the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit:

Alconbury - Mrs H Purbrick  
Berkley Street, St Neots - Miss A M Cracknell, Mrs P A Garrod (resigned 10 December 2020, Mrs B K Spencer and Mr C J Thompson (appointed 11 March 2021)  
Brampton - Mr A E Cannon and Mrs R Parsons  
Buckden - Mr A R Baxter and Miss C M Swebstone  
Eaton Ford - Mr B Gardiner and Miss E Hines  
Great Barford - Mr A G Besant and Mrs S M Dowman  
Hilton - Mrs S Hay, Mrs D J Whatley and Mrs H Woods  
Huntingdon - Mr I O Chinnappa, Mr P R Hornsby and Mr A J Sainsbury  
Over - Mr C G Smith  
Ramsey - Mrs H M Tydda, Mr D M Watkins and Mr D A Whistler  
Sawtry - Mr M Baker, Mr M Coates and Miss K A Paterson  
St Ives - Dr P Dean (resigned 18 October 2021), Mr C W Jones (resigned 31 August 2021), Mr T Kelby (appointed 18 October 2021), Mr J Knell (appointed 18 October 2021), Mrs L E Knell and Mrs K Pickin (appointed 11 March 2021)  
Temsford - Mr S C Gosling, Mrs C A Gosling and Mrs E Knott  
Warboys - Mr J K Rogers and Mrs J Rogers

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
(CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**Charity registered number**

1132338

**Principal office**

Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 3TE

**Accountants**

Moore, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**Bankers**

HSBC plc, 5 High Street, St Neots, Cambs, PE19 1DE

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

**Custodian Trustees**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purpose (TMCP), Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### **a. Policies and objectives**

The St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit (14/25) is part of the East Anglia District of the Methodist Church. The Circuit provides ministerial oversight and pastoral care of 14 churches in the St Neots and Huntingdon area.

The Circuit's mission policy and priorities, as adopted by the Circuit Meeting in September 2017, is as follows: We believe that we are called together by God to be Christ-centred, disciple-focussed and Spirit-led. This belief shapes our decision making, vision, allocation of our God-given resources and mission priorities.

As a Circuit, we seek to support and resource initiatives which can be church or Circuit led and which meet one or more of the following priorities:

- Undergird all we are, and all we seek to do in prayer;
- Make new disciples and nurture existing ones;
- Offer creative and different opportunities for inspiring worship throughout the week;
- Create authentic, welcoming communities which are accessible to all;
- Embed a culture of teamwork, encouragement and nurture among both lay and ordained leaders;
- Practise radical hospitality;
- Enable effective governance and communication;
- Maintain an outward focus;
- Identify what we do well and do it;
- Empower ministry to be collaborative and affirm the giftedness of all;
- Invest in leaders that they might invest in others.

In enflashing these priorities - and in common with the whole Methodist Church - we will work in partnership with others wherever possible.

We will encourage each of our churches to shape its life and witness around these priorities.

##### **b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives**

The Circuit recognises the wide range of activities being undertaken in local churches, either offering direct Christian teaching or creating an environment where people can share their faith with others.

All the churches have remained active during the covid-19 pandemic, being open for public worship where possible, sharing in worship using printed worship sheets and recorded telephone services or meeting online via Zoom. The churches have continued to provide an accessible and welcoming venue for all Christians, or those who wish to know more about the Christian faith, to meet, talk and worship together. The Circuit believes that the message of the Christian faith has an important role in helping communities to live together in peace and harmony.

The Circuit is fully committed to the Methodist Church's policy on safeguarding and has provided ongoing training and support for people undertaking leadership roles within the church, especially those working with children and young people, and/or vulnerable adults.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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#### Objectives and activities (continued)

##### c. Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

The Circuit has considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and believes that the activities undertaken are for the benefit of all members of the Circuit churches and the wider community.

#### Structure, governance and management

##### a. Constitution

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit became a registered charity, number 1132338, on 26 October 2009.

##### b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the Circuit is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Trustee appointments include:

- All presbyters stationed within the Circuit (ex-officio)
- All supernumerary presbyters and deacons within the Circuit (if they wish to be appointed as a trustee)
- All Circuit Stewards, including the Circuit Treasurer and Chair of Manse Committee (if not a Circuit Steward)
- The Circuit Meeting Secretary, Circuit Safeguarding Officer, Local Preachers' Secretary, GDPR Champion, Methodist Women in Britain representatives and treasurers of Connexional Funds and the World Mission Fund
- Representatives from each church within the Circuit to include: a church steward, the treasurer and at least one church representative elected by the local church council. Churches with over 50 members are eligible to elect two representative members.

##### c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The Board of Trustees is known as the Circuit Meeting and meets quarterly to receive reports and discuss the Circuit's activities. Circuit Meeting members comprise Circuit officers and representatives from member churches, as set out on page 1.

Day to day responsibility for the pastoral needs of the Circuit is delegated to the Superintendent minister, presbyters and other members of the ministerial team. Circuit Stewards exercise responsibility for the more practical aspects of ministry, including property and finance, alongside pastoral ministry to the ministers and their families and sharing collective responsibility and oversight for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit.

##### d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are encouraged to read Charity Commission Guidance on the responsibilities of trustees under charity law and also to read and follow the procedures set out in the Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

##### e. Pay policy for key management personnel

Stipends and allowances are paid to presbyters stationed in the Circuit, in accordance with the rates agreed by the Connexional Pay and Allowances Committee. Presbyters are only paid for their role within the church and not for their roles as charity trustees. Circuit Stewards and all other trustees act in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

##### f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the reputation, operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks wherever possible.

In particular, the Circuit is continuing to monitor the situation regarding the covid-19 pandemic, the impact of the pandemic on lettings and other income received by local churches and their ability to contribute to the Circuit assessment. All expenditure is monitored closely, to seek to ensure that the Circuit, and the churches it supports, are able to continue to operate effectively and efficiently.

#### Achievements and performance

##### a. Main achievements of the charity

###### General activities

The Circuit has continued to adapt its worship and other activities, in response to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Whilst church premises were closed in accordance with government guidance, services and other groups have continued to meet online wherever possible, using Zoom, YouTube and Facebook live. Recorded telephone messages were made available throughout the year under review, alongside weekly service sheets for members to use at home.

As covid-19 restrictions have eased, each church has undertaken its own risk assessment and established procedures to enable services and other activities to resume on church premises, in a covid-secure environment.

Circuit activities continue to be financed by contributions made by each of the member churches, as agreed on approval of the Circuit budget. The Circuit requested assessment contributions totalling £174,250 and these were received as agreed (in 2019/20 Circuit assessment of £185,000 was requested and £185,516 received). The budget agreed for 2020/21 included a planned use of Circuit reserves, to enable the Circuit to maintain its level of ministry whilst recognising the loss of income in member churches. However, as some of the costs reduced more than expected, the loss for the year was less than forecast and a similar, planned use of reserves has been agreed for 2021/22.

The majority of Circuit expenditure continues to relate to the costs of employing the ministerial team and maintaining the four Circuit manses. In addition, the Circuit is required to contribute towards the costs of the East Anglia District and the Connexional team via the district assessment and travel fund. The Circuit also oversees the training and development of Local Preachers, lay workers and volunteers so that they are also able to lead worship and lead the local church communities in their activities.

Rev S Baker-Maher joined Rev J Bamber and Rev N Witham in September 2020, bringing the number of presbyters back to the desired level of three, full-time appointments. Pastoral oversight was re-arranged so that each church has its own, named presbyter and with Rev S Baker-Maher being allocated specific time to complete her probationer studies.

###### Outreach Ministry Project

The children and families worker appointed to St Ives Methodist Church in January 2020 continued throughout the year and, in October 2020, a new children and families worker was appointed to Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. In accordance with Methodist guidelines, the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit is the employing body for these appointments.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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#### **Achievements and performance (continued)**

Both appointments were initially offered for a five year period. The St Ives appointment is being financed by a grant from the East Anglia District and from funds raised by the local church. The St Neots appointment is being financed by a grant from the East Anglia District, the use of designated Circuit funds and funds raised by the local church. In both cases, the funds raised by local churches to finance the outreach ministry work are held within the Circuit's restricted funds and any unused funds will be returned to the local churches at the end of the project.

Whilst the St Ives appointment is continuing and the church is seeing growth in the development of its ministry amongst young people and their families, the worker appointed to St Neots resigned in September 2021. Work with children and young people in St Neots is, once again, being undertaken by a team of volunteers whilst the outreach ministry project is being re-assessed.

#### **Financial review**

##### **a. Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

##### **b. Reserves policy**

An annual budget is prepared by the Circuit Treasurer and reviewed by treasurers from each of the churches within the Circuit, before being presented to the Circuit Meeting. The budget provides for ministerial and administrative support costs, contributions to District expenses and an allowance for the maintenance of the circuit's manses.

The Circuit reviewed its reserves policies in 2018/19 and it was agreed that two new funds would be created:

1. Ministry and training fund - the Circuit's general funds have increased in recent years, due to unforeseen changes in presbyteral staffing levels. Where the planned expenditure on stipends and lay employment was not incurred as expected, surplus funds were transferred to a Ministry and training fund, to offset the future costs of lay or ordained staff or to fund additional training needs within the Circuit.
2. Project fund - income from the letting of the Ramsey manse has generated additional income and has been set aside in a Projects fund to enable the Circuit to grant support to local churches. Grants have previously been made from the Circuit Model Trust Fund, but the balance on the fund is low and will only be increased if a church closes and the building is sold.

The level of general reserves continues to be in excess of the policy to hold an average of six months operating expenditure, hence the policy adopted for 2020/21 to use some of the Ministry and training fund and the general fund to support Circuit ministry.

Details of all Circuit reserves are set out in note 12 to the financial statements.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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#### c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal financial risk faced by the Circuit is uncertainty over future levels of funding. Along with many Methodist churches, the average age of congregations is increasing, and a limited number of active members puts additional pressure on a small number of people within each church community. Whilst the Circuit seeks to encourage churches to engage in mission and outreach activities to increase the number of people at worship, the long-term future of the Circuit churches remains uncertain. The closure of church premises as a result of the coronavirus pandemic has added to the financial uncertainties within the Circuit and it is hoped that the risks can be mitigated by the ongoing management of the Circuit's reserves.

The Circuit's insurance policy includes buildings insurance for the four Circuit manses, contents insurance for manse property belonging to the Circuit, trustee indemnity insurance and public liability insurance.

Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, the Methodist Church has provided regular updates on the use of the premises and the activities which are permitted within acts of worship. Information has been disseminated through local church leadership teams and co-ordinated by a Circuit Covid-19 Responsible Officer.

#### Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



**Rev J J Bamber**  
Superintendent minister  
Date: 16 March 2022



**Miss E A Cracknell FCCA**  
Circuit treasurer

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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#### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit ('the charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2021.

#### Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### Independent Examiner's Statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: 

Carolyn Rossiter

Dated: 22 APRIL 2022

FCA

**Moore**

Chartered Accountants, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	-	40,942	40,942	20,415
Charitable activities	4	174,250	-	174,250	185,516
Other trading activities	5	11,059	-	11,059	8,692
Investments	6	589	-	589	2,324
<b>Total income</b>		<b>185,898</b>	<b>40,942</b>	<b>226,840</b>	<b>216,947</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	7	193,310	40,046	233,356	225,222
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>193,310</b>	<b>40,046</b>	<b>233,356</b>	<b>225,222</b>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income before net gains/(losses) on investments</b>					
		(7,412)	896	(6,516)	(8,275)
Net gains/(losses) on investments		1,195	-	1,195	(117)
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>		<b>(6,217)</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>(5,321)</b>	<b>(8,392)</b>
Transfers between funds	13	(7,085)	7,085	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(13,302)</b>	<b>7,981</b>	<b>(5,321)</b>	<b>(8,392)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		1,262,427	30,500	1,292,927	1,301,319
Net movement in funds		(13,302)	7,981	(5,321)	(8,392)
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,249,125</b>	<b>38,481</b>	<b>1,287,606</b>	<b>1,292,927</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 11 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	999,500	999,500
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	11	9,757	17,867
Cash at bank and in hand		320,031	325,764
		329,788	343,631
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(41,682)	(50,204)
<b>Net current assets</b>		288,106	293,427
<b>Total net assets</b>		1,287,606	1,292,927
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	13	38,481	30,500
Unrestricted funds	13	1,249,125	1,262,427
<b>Total funds</b>		1,287,606	1,292,927

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

*James Bamber*

**Rev J J Bamber**  
Superintendent minister  
Date: 16 March 2022

*E A Cracknell*

**Miss E A Cracknell FCCA**  
Circuit treasurer

The notes on pages 11 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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#### 1. General information

St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Church Circuit is a charity registered in England and Wales (charity number 1132338). The Circuit office is based at Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TE.

#### 2. Accounting policies

##### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### 2.2 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

##### 2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

##### 2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 2.4 Expenditure (continued)

Grants are recognised in full once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefits to a third party. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

##### 2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

##### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost, net of any provision for impairment.

The charity's only assets are the four manses which are included at historic cost and held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees for the Circuit.

No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manses to be not less than cost. The manses are regularly inspected and there are no indications of impairment.

##### 2.7 Investments

The investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees, but represent short term cash deposits and are, therefore, included as cash at bank. 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 Statement of Financial Activities.

##### 2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

##### 2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

##### 2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.11 Pensions**

The charity contributes to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme, a defined benefit scheme for the benefit of presbyters stationed within the Circuit. It is not possible, in the normal course of events, to identify on a consistent and reasonable basis, the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit. As a consequence, the charity accounts for this scheme as if it was a defined contribution scheme and the amount charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represents contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

The charity also operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of lay employees which is administered by the TPT Retirement Solutions (formerly known as The Pensions Trust). Contributions payable in respect of the accounting period are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
<b>Donations</b>				
Berkley Street Methodist Church	-	15,000	<b>15,000</b>	-
General donations	-	-	-	48
<b>Grants</b>				
East Anglia District (St Ives)	-	6,705	<b>6,705</b>	6,812
East Anglia District (St Neots)	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>	-
<b>Donations to Connexion</b>				
World Mission Fund	-	4,671	<b>4,671</b>	1,323
Connexional Funds	-	12,566	<b>12,566</b>	12,232
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	40,942	<b>40,942</b>	20,415
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total 2020</i>	48	20,367	20,415	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Assessment	174,250	174,250	185,516
<i>Total 2020</i>	185,516	185,516	

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Lettings income	11,059	11,059	8,692
<i>Total 2020</i>	8,692	8,692	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Interest received	589	589	2,324
<i>Total 2020</i>	2,324	2,324	

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

The Circuit is considered to have one activity but expenditure has been grouped under four headings, to separate expenditure according to income streams. Circuit Ministry is funded by the assessment, Outreach Ministry by local churches and District grants, CMTF Grants from reserves and Connexional Funds from specific donations which are administered centrally by Circuit officers.

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Circuit Ministry	193,310	<b>193,310</b>	188,127
Outreach Ministry	22,809	<b>22,809</b>	7,493
CMTF Grants	-	-	16,047
Connexional Funds	17,237	<b>17,237</b>	13,555
	<u>233,356</u>	<u><b>233,356</b></u>	<u>225,222</u>

Details of the actual costs incurred are shown in the following note:

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of direct costs**

	<b>Circuit Ministry 2021 £</b>	<b>Outreach Ministry 2021 £</b>	<b>CMTF Grants 2021 £</b>	<b>Connexion- al Funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Staff costs	122,243	22,809	-	-	<b>145,052</b>	105,447
District Assessment	38,014	-	-	-	<b>38,014</b>	40,526
Methodist Church Fund	-	-	-	17,237	<b>17,237</b>	13,555
Telephone	6,838	-	-	-	<b>6,838</b>	5,581
Travel	3,985	-	-	-	<b>3,985</b>	1,669
Utilities	10,830	-	-	-	<b>10,830</b>	8,434
Maintenance of manses	5,851	-	-	-	<b>5,851</b>	24,327
Grants	536	-	-	-	<b>536</b>	16,228
Contributions to District Advance Fund	1,657	-	-	-	<b>1,657</b>	2,356
Removal expenses	236	-	-	-	<b>236</b>	2,262
Miscellaneous expenses	2,507	-	-	-	<b>2,507</b>	3,659
Training costs	-	-	-	-	-	352
Apprenticeship levy	613	-	-	-	<b>613</b>	826
	<u>193,310</u>	<u>22,809</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,237</u>	<u><b>233,356</b></u>	<u>225,222</u>
<i>Total 2020</i>	<u><i>188,127</i></u>	<u><i>7,493</i></u>	<u><i>16,047</i></u>	<u><i>13,555</i></u>	<u><i>225,222</i></u>	

In 2020/21, the only grants paid were from the Mission and Education Fund, with £500 being awarded to St Ives Methodist Church to develop a 'Sports Church' initiative.

In 2019/20, grants were paid to:

St Ives Methodist Church - £5,000 towards the new heating system and £10,000 for Project 200

Sawtry Methodist Church - £1,047 towards the church refurbishment

Mission and Education Fund - total of £181 paid for four small projects

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**8. Independent examiner's remuneration**

No fees have been charged by Moore for the independent examination of the accounts.

**9. Staff costs**

	<b>2021</b>	<i>2020</i>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	<b>115,205</b>	<i>86,008</i>
Social security costs	<b>8,514</b>	<i>5,557</i>
Pension contributions	<b>21,333</b>	<i>13,882</i>
	<b>145,052</b>	<i>105,447</i>

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	<b>2021</b>	<i>2020</i>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Presbyters	<b>3</b>	<i>5</i>
Outreach workers	<b>3</b>	<i>2</i>
Administrative staff	<b>1</b>	<i>1</i>
	<b>7</b>	<i>8</i>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	<b>2021</b>	<i>2020</i>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Presbyters	<b>3</b>	<i>2</i>
Outreach workers	<b>1</b>	<i>1</i>
	<b>4</b>	<i>3</i>

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**9. Staff costs (continued)**

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Circuit Stewards and other trustees are all voluntary positions, but reimbursement of mileage and other expenses incurred on behalf of the charity may be claimed from the Circuit.

As presbyters are members of Circuit Meeting, they are also trustees of the charity. Presbyters receive a stipend and the benefit of work-related accommodation through the provision of a manse, in respect of their work for the Methodist Church. No remuneration is paid in respect of their position as trustees of the charity.

Remuneration paid to key management personnel (including pension contributions) during the year amounted to £108,123 paid to 3 full time presbyters (2020 £81,190 paid to 2 full time and 3 part-time presbyters).

**10. Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Freehold property £</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 September 2020	<b>999,500</b>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 August 2021	<b>999,500</b>
<i>At 31 August 2020</i>	<i>999,500</i>

**11. Debtors**

	<b>2021 £</b>	<b>2020 £</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>9,757</b>	<b>17,867</b>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	2021 £	2020 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>41,682</u>	<u>50,204</u>

Deferred income represents Circuit assessment contributions received in advance totalling £41,234 (2020 £42,522).

**13. Statement of funds**

**Statement of funds - current year**

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	(7,390)	-	(5,852)	10,500	-	(2,742)
Removals	4,100	-	(235)	1,735	-	5,600
Outreach	35,584	-	-	(7,085)	-	28,499
Benevolent	1,065	-	-	-	-	1,065
Ministry	29,942	-	-	(5,475)	-	24,467
Projects	4,785	-	-	8,910	-	13,695
	<u>1,067,586</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,087)</u>	<u>8,585</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,070,084</u>
<b>General:</b>						
General	128,552	185,581	(185,433)	(15,670)	-	113,030
CMTF	66,289	317	(1,790)	-	1,195	66,011
	<u>194,841</u>	<u>185,898</u>	<u>(187,223)</u>	<u>(15,670)</u>	<u>1,195</u>	<u>179,041</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,262,427</u>	<u>185,898</u>	<u>(193,310)</u>	<u>(7,085)</u>	<u>1,195</u>	<u>1,249,125</u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
WMF	-	4,671	(4,671)	-	-	-
Connexional	20	12,566	(12,566)	-	-	20
St Ives-District	6,812	6,705	(6,705)	-	-	6,812
St Ives-Church	23,668	-	(4,033)	-	-	19,635
Berkley Street - District	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	-
Berkley Street - Church	-	15,000	(10,071)	7,085	-	12,014
	<u>30,500</u>	<u>40,942</u>	<u>(40,046)</u>	<u>7,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,481</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>1,292,927</u></u>	<u><u>226,840</u></u>	<u><u>(233,356)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,195</u></u>	<u><u>1,287,606</u></u>

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2019 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2020 £</i>
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	6,937	-	(24,327)	10,000	-	(7,390)
Removals	6,000	-	(2,262)	362	-	4,100
Outreach	35,584	-	-	-	-	35,584
Benevolent	1,105	-	(40)	-	-	1,065
Ministry	10,863	-	-	19,079	-	29,942
Projects	208	-	-	4,577	-	4,785
	<u>1,060,197</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(26,629)</u>	<u>34,018</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,067,586</u>

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2019 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2020 £</i>
<b>General:</b>						
General	139,434	195,810	(172,674)	(34,018)	-	128,552
CMTF	70,507	770	(4,871)	-	(117)	66,289
	<u>209,941</u>	<u>196,580</u>	<u>(177,545)</u>	<u>(34,018)</u>	<u>(117)</u>	<u>194,841</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,270,138</u>	<u>196,580</u>	<u>(204,174)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(117)</u>	<u>1,262,427</u>
<b>Restricted:</b>						
Connexional	20	13,555	(13,555)	-	-	20
St Ives-District	6,598	6,812	(6,598)	-	-	6,812
St Ives-Church	24,563	-	(895)	-	-	23,668
	<u>31,181</u>	<u>20,367</u>	<u>(21,048)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,500</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>1,301,319</u></u>	<u><u>216,947</u></u>	<u><u>(225,222)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(117)</u></u>	<u><u>1,292,927</u></u>

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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#### 13. Statement of funds (continued)

##### **Unrestricted - Designated Funds:**

**Manse Fund** - the manse fund represents the value of the Circuit's four manses, held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees.

**Manse repair Fund** - the manse repair reserve ensures that funds are available for repairs and maintenance, when the need arises, funded by transfers from general funds. Additional costs were incurred in 2019/20, resulting in the fund becoming overdrawn in that year. The fund is being brought back into a positive reserve balance from the budget allocations in 2020/21 and 2021/22.

**Removal Fund** - the removal reserve ensures that funds are available for the Circuit to pay removal expenses and the relocation allowance for ministers joining the Circuit staff, funded by an annual transfer from general funds.

**Outreach Ministry** - the Circuit transferred funds from the Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) to support the cost of outreach workers in the Circuit. These funds have been used to support the children and families worker appointed to Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots in 2020/21.

**Benevolent Fund** - the benevolent fund is available for use at the discretion of presbyters and Circuit Stewards to help anyone in need across the Circuit.

**Ministry and Training Fund** - surplus funds arising from the difference between planned and actual expenditure on stipends and lay employment have been transferred to the ministry and training fund, to pay for lay or ordained staff costs, or additional training needs, in the future.

**Projects Fund** - the net income generated by letting of spare manses has been credited to the projects fund, to enable the Circuit to show its support for local church building and other projects as the balance committed from the CMTF becomes depleted.

##### **Unrestricted - General Funds:**

**General Fund** - funds held in the general reserve are free reserves available to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit that have not been designated for any specific purpose.

**Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)** - the CMTF contains proceeds from the sale of properties belonging to the Methodist Church in the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit and is only available to support projects undertaken within the Circuit. Applications for CMTF grants are made to the Circuit Leadership Team so that the level of funding can be assessed before a decision is made by the Circuit Meeting. Current commitments from the CMTF are shown in note 15.

##### **Restricted Funds:**

**Outreach Ministry Project** - the balance of funds received from the East Anglia District and London Mission Fund for the outreach worker appointment in Huntingdon were used during the year.

**Connexional Funds and World Mission Fund (WMF)** - the Circuit collates and forwards contributions from local churches. Annual statements are prepared for the Circuit Meeting detailing the contributions made by individual churches and the totals passed on to the appropriate organisations

**St Ives** - the Circuit receives grant income from the East Anglia District to fund the employment of a children and families outreach worker in St Ives, with the balance of costs being met from funds raised by St Ives Methodist Church. All costs have been charged to the restricted fund as this is a local church project, and overseen by the Circuit due to Methodist Church requirements for all employment contracts to be administered by the Circuit.

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**13. Statement of funds (continued)**

St Neots - the Circuit receives grant income from the East Anglia District to help fund the employment of a children and families outreach worker in St Neots, with the balance of costs being met from the designated Outreach Ministry fund and funds raised by Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. All costs have been charged to the restricted fund as this is a local church project, and overseen by the Circuit due to Methodist Church requirements for all employment contracts to be administered by the Circuit.

**14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	<b>999,500</b>
Current assets	291,307	38,481	<b>329,788</b>
Creditors due within one year	(41,682)	-	<b>(41,682)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,249,125</b>	<b>38,481</b>	<b>1,287,606</b>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	999,500
Current assets	313,131	30,500	343,631
Creditors due within one year	(50,204)	-	(50,204)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,262,427</b>	<b>30,500</b>	<b>1,292,927</b>

**15. Grant commitments**

At the reporting date, the Circuit had the following commitments from CMTF:

Sawtry Methodist Church - £18,400 for their building project  
Circuit Outreach ministry projects - £26,838

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**16. Related party transactions**

During the year the charity employed Mrs E Witham, wife of Rev N Witham, one of the Circuit presbyters and a charity trustee, as the Children and Families worker in St Ives Methodist Church. The employment followed normal recruitment procedures. In the year ended 31 August 2021 the total remuneration paid to Mrs E Witham was £10,738 (including employer pension and national insurance contributions).

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT**

England & Wales - Charity number 1132338

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# Accounts

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**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

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**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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CONTENTS

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	Page
Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees and Advisers	1 - 2
Trustees' Report	3 - 8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 - 23

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### Trustees

Rev J J Bamber, Superintendent minister  
Rev S Baker, Minister (appointed 1 September 2020)  
Rev N Witham, Minister (appointed 1 September 2019)  
Rev P Siddall, Supernumerary minister  
Rev A M Taylor, Supernumerary minister (resigned 31 August 2020)  
Rev W G F Vivian, Supernumerary minister  
Rev H Walker, Supernumerary minister  
Deacon S Roberts, Supernumerary deacon  
Mrs R Butler, Methodist Women in Britain (joint) and Circuit Steward from 1 September 2020  
Mrs L M Charlton, Circuit Steward from 1 September 2020  
Miss E A Cracknell, Circuit Treasurer  
Mr B A Walker, Circuit Steward  
Mr R Ward, Circuit Steward to 31 August 2020 and GDPR Champion  
Mrs P Wear, Circuit Steward  
Mr C Webber, Circuit Steward (resigned 31 August 2020)  
Mrs P R Zahner, Circuit Steward  
Mrs G Andrew, Circuit Safeguarding Officer  
Mrs J M Bainbridge, Methodist Women in Britain (joint)  
Mr P J Barker, World Mission Fund Treasurer  
Mr A Butler, Connexional Funds Treasurer  
Mr J M Green, Local Preacher's Secretary (appointed 1 September 2019)  
Mrs O M Watkins, Circuit Meeting Secretary  
Mr G E J Wrycroft (appointed 1 December 2019)

The following trustees are elected representatives from churches within the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit:

Alconbury - Mrs M Bond (resigned 31 August 2020), Mrs H Purbrick and Mr D Stowell (resigned 31 August 2020)  
Berkley Street, St Neots - Miss A M Cracknell, Mrs P A Garrod and Mrs B K Spencer  
Brampton - Mr A E Cannon and Mrs R Parsons  
Buckden - Mr A R Baxter and Miss C M Swebstone  
Eaton Ford - Miss V J Almond, Mr B Gardiner and Miss E Hines (appointed 1 December 2019)  
Great Barford - Mr A G Besant and Mrs S M Dowman  
Hilton - Mrs S Hay, Mrs D J Whatley and Mrs H Woods  
Huntingdon - Mr I O Chinnappa (appointed 1 September 2020), Mr A Foster (resigned 31 August 2020), Mr P R Hornsby and Mr A J Sainsbury  
Over - Mr C G Smith  
Ramsey - Mrs H M Tydda, Mr D M Watkins and Mr D A Whistler  
Sawtry - Mr M Baker, Mr M Coates and Miss K A Paterson  
St Ives - Mrs F Day (resigned 31 August 2020), Dr P Dean, Mrs P A Franklin (resigned 31 August 2020), Mr C W Jones and Mrs L E Knell (appointed 1 September 2020)  
Tempsford - Mr S C Gosling, Mrs C A Gosling and Mrs E Knott  
Warboys - Mr J K Rogers and Mrs J Rogers

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
(CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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**Charity registered number**

1132338

**Principal office**

Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 3TE

**Accountants**

Moore, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**Bankers**

HSBC plc, 5 High Street, St Neots, Cambs, PE19 1DE

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

**Custodian Trustees**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purpose (TMCP), Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester, M1 1JQ

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year from 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020.

#### Objectives and activities

##### a. Policies and objectives

The St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit (14/25) is part of the East Anglia District of the Methodist Church. The Circuit provides ministerial oversight and pastoral care of 14 churches in the St Neots and Huntingdon area.

The Circuit's mission policy and priorities, as adopted by the Circuit Meeting in September 2017, is as follows: We believe that we are called together by God to be Christ-centred, disciple-focussed and Spirit-led. This belief shapes our decision making, vision, allocation of our God-given resources and mission priorities.

As a Circuit, we seek to support and resource initiatives which can be church or Circuit led and which meet one or more of the following priorities:

- Undergird all we are, and all we seek to do in prayer;
- Make new disciples and nurture existing ones;
- Offer creative and different opportunities for inspiring worship throughout the week;
- Create authentic, welcoming communities which are accessible to all;
- Embed a culture of teamwork, encouragement and nurture among both lay and ordained leaders;
- Practice radical hospitality;
- Enable effective governance and communication;
- Maintain an outward focus;
- Identify what we do well and do it;
- Empower ministry to be collaborative and affirm the giftedness of all;
- Invest in leaders that they might invest in others.

In en fleshing these priorities - and in common with the whole Methodist Church - we will work in partnership with others wherever possible.

We will encourage each of our churches to shape its life and witness around these priorities.

##### b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The Circuit recognises the wide range of activities being undertaken in local churches, either offering direct Christian teaching or creating an environment where people can share their faith with others.

All the churches are open for public worship, seeking to provide an accessible and welcoming venue for all Christians, or those who wish to know more about the Christian faith, to meet and worship together. The Circuit believes that the message of the Christian faith has an important role in helping communities to live together in peace and harmony.

The Circuit is fully committed to the Methodist Church's policy on safeguarding and has provided ongoing training and support for people undertaking leadership roles within the church, especially those working with children and young people, and/or vulnerable adults.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### Objectives and activities (continued)

##### c. Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

The Circuit has considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and believes that the activities undertaken are for the benefit of all members of the Circuit churches and the wider community.

#### Structure, governance and management

##### a. Constitution

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit became a registered charity, number 1132338, on 26 October 2009.

##### b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the Circuit is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Trustee appointments include:

- All presbyters stationed within the Circuit (ex-officio)
- All supernumerary presbyters and deacons within the Circuit (if they wish to be appointed as a trustee)
- All Circuit Stewards, including the Circuit Treasurer and Chair of Manse Committee (if not a Circuit Steward)
- The Circuit Meeting Secretary, Circuit Safeguarding Officer, Local Preachers' Secretary, GDPR Champion, Methodist Women in Britain representatives and treasurers of Connexional Funds and the World Mission Fund
- Representatives from each church within the Circuit to include: a church steward, the treasurer and at least one church representative elected by the local church council. Churches with over 50 members are eligible to elect two representative members.

##### c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The Board of Trustees is known as the Circuit Meeting and meets quarterly to receive reports and discuss the Circuit's activities. Circuit Meeting members comprise Circuit officers and representatives from member churches, as set out on page 1.

Day to day responsibility for the pastoral needs of the Circuit is delegated to the Superintendent minister, presbyters and other members of the ministerial team. Circuit Stewards exercise responsibility for the more practical aspects of ministry, including property and finance, alongside pastoral ministry to the ministers and their families and sharing collective responsibility and oversight for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit.

##### d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees are encouraged to read Charity Commission Guidance on the responsibilities of trustees under charity law and also to read and follow the procedures set out in the Constitution and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

##### e. Pay policy for key management personnel

Stipends and allowances are paid to presbyters stationed in the Circuit, in accordance with the rates agreed by the Connexional Pay and Allowances Committee. Presbyters are only paid for their role within the church and not for their roles as charity trustees. Circuit Stewards and all other trustees act in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration.

##### f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

#### Achievements and performance

##### a. Main achievements of the charity

###### General activities

For the first half of the year, the Circuit's activities in the 14 member churches continued, through weekly Sunday worship and a variety of prayer, bible study and community activities. In March 2020, the UK experienced a pandemic of the coronavirus and, in accordance with government guidelines, all church premises were closed for public worship, fellowship and community groups, and lettings. The churches immediately sought to adapt their activities, with ministers establishing their own You tube channels and preaching sermons on Facebook live. Recorded telephone messages have also been available, as well as weekly service sheets for members to use at home for their own personal devotions.

In June 2020, the Circuit started to host a weekly 'Zoom service' which has been led by ministers and local preachers, with other church members contributing readings, prayers and drama. In addition, the conferencing facility has been used to facilitate online coffee mornings, house groups, prayer meetings, praise sessions, quiet days and business meetings. In July 2020, when regulations changed, each church that wished to re-open undertook a risk assessment and put procedures in place to ensure that congregations could, once again, meet in the church buildings in a covid-secure environment.

All these activities have been financed by the Circuit assessment contributions given by each of the member churches. The Circuit requested assessment contributions totalling £185,000 (2018/19 £205,000) but also asked churches to consider making an additional contribution to the costs of the Circuit wherever possible. Contributions from Circuit Assessment in the year amounted to £185,516 (2018/19 £205,141). The level of assessment was reduced in 2019/20 as changes in Circuit staffing in recent years led to unexpected surpluses and the accumulated general funds being in excess of the reserves policy. The budget agreed for 2020/21 includes a further, planned use of reserves in the current year which means that the Circuit can maintain the level of ministry offered at a time when the churches have seen a loss of income from the use of their buildings.

The majority of Circuit expenditure continues to relate to the costs of employing the ministerial team and maintaining the four Circuit manses. In addition, the Circuit is required to contribute towards the costs of the East Anglia District and the Connexional team via the district assessment and travel fund. The Circuit also oversees the training and development of Local Preachers, lay workers and volunteers so that they are also able to lead worship and lead the local church communities in their activities.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### **Achievements and performance (continued)**

Presbyters are usually invited to serve for a period of up to five years, after which the appointment is reviewed. However, in 2018/19, two of the Circuit's three presbyters left the Circuit early and, although Rev N Witham joined the Circuit in September 2019, it was not possible to appoint either a third full-time presbyter or a lay pastor to complete the ministerial team. The Circuit is indebted to three of its supernumerary ministers, who each agreed to accept a part-time role within the Circuit for 2019/20, to ensure that pastoral oversight could be maintained for all member churches.

In January 2020, the Circuit was delighted to be matched with Rev S Baker-Maher, who was appointed to serve as a probationer presbyter from September 2020.

#### Outreach Ministry Project

A new appointment was made in January 2020 for the post of children and families worker at St Ives Methodist Church, as part of a five year project which continues to be financed by a grant from the East Anglia District and from funds raised by the local church.

In Spring 2020, interviews were held to appoint a children and families worker at Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots. Although an appointment was made, a delayed start date of 1 October 2020 was agreed with the successful candidate due to the uncertainties over the coronavirus situation.

In accordance with Methodist guidelines, the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit is the employing body for these appointments. The funds raised by local churches to finance this work are held within the Circuit's restricted funds and any unused funds will be returned to the local churches at the end of the project.

#### **Financial review**

##### **a. Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### **b. Reserves policy**

An annual budget is prepared by the Circuit Treasurer and reviewed by treasurers from each of the churches within the Circuit, before being presented to the Circuit Meeting. The budget provides for ministerial and administrative support costs, contributions to District expenses and an allowance for the maintenance of the circuit's manses.

The Circuit reviewed its reserves policies in 2018/19 and it was agreed that two new funds would be created:

1. Ministry and training fund - as noted above, the Circuit's general funds have increased in recent years, due to unforeseen changes in staffing levels. Where the planned expenditure on stipends and lay employment has not been incurred as expected, the surplus funds have been transferred to a Ministry and training fund, to offset the costs of lay or ordained staff in the future, and to be available to meet additional training needs within the Circuit.
2. Project fund - income from the letting of the Ramsey manse has generated additional income in recent years. At the same time, the Circuit's capacity to show its support to local churches through contributions to building and other projects has become limited due to the low value of unallocated reserves within the Circuit Model Trust Fund. Rather than crediting surplus lettings income to general funds, it was agreed that any surplus arising would be designated as a project fund, thus enabling the Circuit to make further grants available.

The level of general reserves continues to be in excess of the policy to hold an average of six months operating expenditure. However, as noted above, the budget agreed for 2020/21 includes the planned use of both the ministry and training fund and the general fund to support Circuit ministry.

Details of all Circuit reserves are set out in note 12 to the financial statements.

#### **c. Principal risks and uncertainties**

The principal financial risk faced by the Circuit is uncertainty over future levels of funding. Along with many Methodist churches, the average age of congregations is increasing, and a limited number of active members puts additional pressure on a small number of people within each church community. Whilst the Circuit seeks to encourage churches to engage in mission and outreach activities to increase the number of people at worship, the long-term future of the Circuit churches remains uncertain. The closure of church premises as a result of the coronavirus pandemic has added to the financial uncertainties within the Circuit and it is hoped that the risks can be mitigated by the ongoing management of the Circuit's reserves.

The Circuit's insurance policy includes buildings insurance for the four Circuit manses, contents insurance for manse property belonging to the Circuit, trustee indemnity insurance and public liability insurance.

Throughout the coronavirus pandemic, the Methodist Church has provided regular updates on the use of the premises and the activities which are permitted within acts of worship. Information has been disseminated through local church leadership teams and co-ordinated by a newly appointed Circuit Covid-19 Responsible Officer.

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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**Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

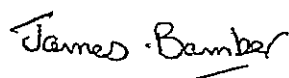
The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 10 December 2020 and signed on their behalf by:



Rev J J Bamber  
Superintendent minister



Miss E A Cracknell FCCA  
Circuit treasurer

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit ('the charity')**

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2020.

**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: 

Carolyn Rossiter

Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021

FCA

Moore

Chartered Accountants, Rutland House, Minerva Business Park, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6PZ

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	48	20,367	20,415	23,491
Charitable activities	4	185,516	-	185,516	205,141
Other trading activities	5	8,692	-	8,692	9,121
Investments	6	2,324	-	2,324	2,438
<b>Total income</b>		<b>196,580</b>	<b>20,367</b>	<b>216,947</b>	<b>240,191</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities		204,174	21,048	225,222	227,178
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>204,174</b>	<b>21,048</b>	<b>225,222</b>	<b>227,178</b>
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(117)	-	(117)	81
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(7,711)</b>	<b>(681)</b>	<b>(8,392)</b>	<b>13,094</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		1,270,138	31,181	1,301,319	1,288,225
Net movement in funds		(7,711)	(681)	(8,392)	13,094
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,262,427</b>	<b>30,500</b>	<b>1,292,927</b>	<b>1,301,319</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020**

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10	999,500	999,500
		<u>999,500</u>	<u>999,500</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	11	17,867	8,836
Cash at bank and in hand		325,764	357,844
		<u>343,631</u>	<u>366,680</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(50,204)	(64,861)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>293,427</u>	<u>301,819</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>1,292,927</u>	<u>1,301,319</u>
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset</b>		<u>1,292,927</u>	<u>1,301,319</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u><u>1,292,927</u></u>	<u><u>1,301,319</u></u>
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	13	30,500	31,181
Unrestricted funds	13	1,262,427	1,270,138
<b>Total funds</b>		<u><u>1,292,927</u></u>	<u><u>1,301,319</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 10 December 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

*James Bamber*  
**Rev J J Bamber**  
 Superintendent minister

*E A Cracknell*  
**Miss E A Cracknell FCCA**  
 Circuit treasurer

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### 1. General information

St Neots and Huntingdon Methodist Church Circuit is a charity registered in England and Wales (charity number 1132338). The Circuit office is based at Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TE.

#### 2. Accounting policies

##### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### 2.2 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

##### 2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

##### 2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 2.4 Expenditure (continued)

Grants are recognised in full once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefits to a third party. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

##### 2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

##### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost, net of any provision for impairment.

The charity's only assets are the four manses which are included at historic cost and held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees for the Circuit.

No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the manses to be not less than cost. The manses are regularly inspected and there are no indications of impairment.

##### 2.7 Investments

The investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees, but represent short term cash deposits and are, therefore, included as cash at bank. 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 Statement of Financial Activities.

##### 2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

##### 2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

##### 2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

**ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

**2. Accounting policies (continued)**

**2.11 Pensions**

The charity contributes to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme, a defined benefit scheme for the benefit of presbyters stationed within the Circuit. It is not possible, in the normal course of events, to identify on a consistent and reasonable basis, the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit. As a consequence, the charity accounts for this scheme as if it was a defined contribution scheme and the amount charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represents contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

The charity also operates a defined contribution pension scheme for the benefit of lay employees which is administered by the TPT Retirement Solutions (formerly known as The Pensions Trust). Contributions payable in respect of the accounting period are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

**3. Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
<b>Donations</b>				
General donations	48	-	48	94
<b>Grants</b>				
East Anglia District (St Ives)	-	6,812	6,812	6,598
Hunter Rowe Trust	-	-	-	2,000
<b>Donations to Connexion</b>				
World Mission Fund	-	1,323	1,323	4,118
Connexional Funds	-	12,232	12,232	10,681
	48	20,367	20,415	23,491
	48	20,367	20,415	23,491
<i>Total 2019</i>	94	23,397	23,491	

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Assessment	185,516	185,516	205,141

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Lettings income	8,692	8,692	9,121

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Interest received	2,324	2,324	2,438

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

The Circuit is considered to have one activity but expenditure has been grouped under four headings, to separate expenditure according to income streams. Circuit Ministry is funded by the assessment, Outreach Ministry by local churches and District grants, CMTF Grants from reserves and Connexional Funds from specific donations which are administered centrally by Circuit officers.

	Activities undertaken directly 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Circuit Ministry	188,127	188,127	211,180
Outreach Ministry	7,493	7,493	10,636
CMTF Grants	16,047	16,047	(9,447)
Connexional Funds	13,555	13,555	14,809
	<u>225,222</u>	<u>225,222</u>	<u>227,178</u>

Details of the actual costs incurred are shown in the following note:

ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Circuit Ministry 2020 £	Outreach Ministry 2020 £	CMTF Grants 2020 £	Connexion- al Funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Staff costs	97,954	7,493	-	-	105,447	113,732
District Assessment	40,526	-	-	-	40,526	43,553
Methodist Church Fund	-	-	-	13,555	13,555	14,809
Telephone	5,581	-	-	-	5,581	3,797
Travel	1,669	-	-	-	1,669	9,503
Utilities	8,434	-	-	-	8,434	10,540
Maintenance of manses	24,327	-	-	-	24,327	24,677
Grants	181	-	16,047	-	16,228	(5,055)
Other expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	1,333
Contributions to District Advance Fund	2,356	-	-	-	2,356	2,395
Removal expenses	2,262	-	-	-	2,262	3,785
Miscellaneous expenses	3,659	-	-	-	3,659	2,864
Training costs	352	-	-	-	352	590
Apprenticeship levy	826	-	-	-	826	655
	<u>188,127</u>	<u>7,493</u>	<u>16,047</u>	<u>13,555</u>	<u>225,222</u>	<u>227,178</u>
<i>Total 2019</i>	<u>211,180</u>	<u>10,636</u>	<u>(9,447)</u>	<u>14,809</u>	<u>227,178</u>	

In 2018/19, the Circuit reviewed its grant-making policies and £19,447 of a £30,000 grant previously allocated to Sawtry Methodist Church was removed and shown as a commitment from CMTF whilst the project was reconsidered. As a consequence, there was a net credit to grant expenditure in 2018/19.

In 2019/20 the following grants were paid:

St Ives Methodist Church - £5,000 towards the new heating system and £10,000 for Project 200  
Sawtry Methodist Church - £1,047 towards the church refurbishment  
Mission and Education Fund - total of £181 paid for four small projects

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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8. Independent examiner's remuneration

No fees have been charged by Moore for the independent examination of the accounts.

9. Staff costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	86,008	90,471
Social security costs	5,557	6,195
Pension contributions	13,882	17,066
	<u>105,447</u>	<u>113,732</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Presbyters	5	3
Outreach workers	2	1
Administrative staff	1	1
	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Presbyters	2	3
Outreach workers	1	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Circuit Stewards and other trustees are all voluntary positions, but reimbursement of mileage and other expenses incurred on behalf of the charity may be claimed from the Circuit.

As presbyters are members of Circuit Meeting, they are also trustees of the charity. Presbyters receive a stipend and the benefit of work-related accommodation through the provision of a manse, in respect of their work for the Methodist Church. No remuneration is paid in respect of their position as trustees of the charity.

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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9. Staff costs (continued)

Remuneration paid to key management personnel (including pension contributions) during the year amounted to £81,190 (2019 £88,633).

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 September 2019	999,500
At 31 August 2020	<u>999,500</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 August 2020	<u>999,500</u>
At 31 August 2019	<u>999,500</u>

11. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Prepayments and accrued income	17,867	8,836
	<u>17,867</u>	<u>8,836</u>

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Accruals and deferred income	50,204	64,861
	<u>50,204</u>	<u>64,861</u>

Deferred income represents Circuit assessment contributions received in advance totalling £42,522 (2019 £44,803).

ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

13. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	6,937	-	(24,327)	10,000	-	(7,390)
Removals	6,000	-	(2,262)	362	-	4,100
Outreach	35,584	-	-	-	-	35,584
Benevolent	1,105	-	(40)	-	-	1,065
Ministry	10,863	-	-	19,079	-	29,942
Projects	208	-	-	4,577	-	4,785
	<u>1,060,197</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(26,629)</u>	<u>34,018</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,067,586</u>
<b>General:</b>						
General	139,434	196,810	(172,674)	(34,018)	-	128,552
CMTF	70,507	770	(4,871)	-	(117)	66,289
	<u>209,941</u>	<u>196,580</u>	<u>(177,545)</u>	<u>(34,018)</u>	<u>(117)</u>	<u>194,841</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,270,138</u>	<u>196,580</u>	<u>(204,174)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(117)</u>	<u>1,262,427</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Connexional	20	13,555	(13,555)	-	-	20
St Ives-District	6,598	6,812	(6,598)	-	-	6,812
St Ives-Church	24,563	-	(895)	-	-	23,668
	<u>31,181</u>	<u>20,367</u>	<u>(21,048)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,500</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u>1,301,319</u>	<u>216,947</u>	<u>(225,222)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(117)</u>	<u>1,292,927</u>

ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

13. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2018 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2019 £</i>
<b>Unrestricted</b>						
<b>Designated:</b>						
Manses	999,500	-	-	-	-	999,500
Manse repairs	11,879	-	(24,677)	19,735	-	6,937
Removals	7,500	-	(3,785)	2,285	-	6,000
Outreach	35,584	-	-	-	-	35,584
Benevolent	1,105	-	-	-	-	1,105
Ministry	-	-	-	10,863	-	10,863
Projects	-	-	-	208	-	208
	<u>1,055,568</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(28,462)</u>	<u>33,091</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,060,197</u>
<b>General:</b>						
General	121,080	215,856	(164,411)	(33,091)	-	139,434
CMTF	76,348	938	(6,860)	-	81	70,507
	<u>197,428</u>	<u>216,794</u>	<u>(171,271)</u>	<u>(33,091)</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>209,941</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,252,996</u>	<u>216,794</u>	<u>(199,733)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>1,270,138</u>
<b>Restricted:</b>						
Outreach	1,333	-	(1,333)	-	-	-
WMF	-	4,118	(4,118)	-	-	-
Connexional	30	10,681	(10,691)	-	-	20
St Ives-District	6,495	6,598	(6,495)	-	-	6,598
St Ives-Church	27,371	-	(2,808)	-	-	24,563
Other	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-	-
	<u>35,229</u>	<u>23,397</u>	<u>(27,445)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,181</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u>1,288,225</u>	<u>240,191</u>	<u>(227,178)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>1,301,319</u>

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## ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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#### 13. Statement of funds (continued)

##### **Unrestricted - Designated Funds:**

**Manse Fund** - the manse fund represents the value of the Circuit's four manses, held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees.

**Manse repair Fund** - the manse repair reserve ensures that funds are available for repairs and maintenance, when the need arises, funded by transfers from general funds. Additional costs were incurred in 2019/20, resulting in the fund becoming overdrawn at the reporting date, and the fund will be brought back into a positive reserve by the budget allocation in 2020/21 and 2021/22.

**Removal Fund** - the removal reserve ensures that funds are available for the Circuit to pay removal expenses and the relocation allowance for ministers joining the Circuit staff, funded by an annual transfer from general funds.

**Outreach Ministry** - the Circuit transferred funds from the Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) to support the cost of outreach workers in the Circuit. These funds will be used to support the new children and families worker appointed to start at Berkley Street Methodist Church in St Neots in October 2020.

**Benevolent Fund** - the benevolent fund is available for use at the discretion of presbyters and Circuit Stewards to help anyone in need across the Circuit.

**Ministry and Training Fund** - surplus funds arising from the difference between planned and actual expenditure on stipends and lay employment have been transferred to the ministry and training fund, to pay for lay or ordained staff costs, or additional training needs, in the future.

**Projects Fund** - the net income generated by letting of spare manses has been credited to the projects fund to enable the Circuit to show its support for local church building and other projects as the balance committed from the CMTF becomes depleted.

##### **Unrestricted - General Funds:**

**General Fund** - funds held in the general reserve are free reserves available to the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit that have not been designated for any specific purpose.

**Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)** - the CMTF contains proceeds from the sale of properties belonging to the Methodist Church in the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit and is only available to support projects undertaken within the Circuit. Applications for CMTF grants are made to the Circuit Leadership Team so that the level of funding can be assessed before a decision is made by the Circuit Meeting. Current commitments from the CMTF are shown in note 15.

##### **Restricted Funds:**

**Outreach Ministry Project** - the balance of funds received from the East Anglia District and London Mission Fund for the outreach worker appointment in Huntingdon were used during the year.

**Connexional Funds and World Mission Fund (WMF)** - the Circuit collates and forwards contributions from local churches. Annual statements are prepared for the Circuit Meeting detailing the contributions made by individual churches and the totals passed on to the appropriate organisations

**St Ives** - the Circuit receives grant income from the East Anglia District to fund the employment of a children and families outreach worker in St Ives, with the balance of costs being met from funds raised by St Ives Methodist Church. All costs have been charged to the restricted fund as this is a local church project, and overseen by the Circuit due to Methodist Church requirements for all employment contracts to be administered by the Circuit.

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ST NEOTS AND HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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14. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	999,500
Current assets	313,131	30,500	343,631
Creditors due within one year	(50,204)	-	(50,204)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,262,427</b>	<b>30,500</b>	<b>1,292,927</b>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Tangible fixed assets	999,500	-	999,500
Current assets	335,499	31,181	366,680
Creditors due within one year	(64,861)	-	(64,861)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,270,138</b>	<b>31,181</b>	<b>1,301,319</b>

15. Grant commitments

At the reporting date, the Circuit had the following commitments from CMTF:

Sawtry Methodist Church - £18,400 for their building project  
Circuit Outreach ministry projects - £26,838

16. Related party transactions

The charity had no transactions with related parties during the year.