



Trustees' Annual Report
and
Accounts
for the year ended
31st August 2025

Introduction

The Trustees of the Wharfedale & Aireborough Circuit of the Methodist Church are pleased to present their Report for the year ended 31st August 2025.

Review of the Year

The full Circuit Meeting (Trustee Body) was held on 4 occasions during the year (3 times in person and once via Zoom), with an additional one item meeting by Zoom in July; the full Circuit Leadership Team met on 8 occasions (7 times in person and one via Zoom), with an additional meeting at the Superintendent Minister's Manse in October 2024. The main focus throughout the year has continued to be the "Planning for Growth" document; this has resulted in further conversations to determine the most appropriate way forward for the Circuit and the church congregations and has led to the setting up of two new multi-site churches (Ilkley Moor and Chevin) from 1st September 2025, with the Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) at Christchurch, Ilkley retaining its independence whilst working in partnership with the new Ilkley Moor multi-site church. The emphasis has been on 3 key themes of being Transformational, Missional & Sustainable, which recognise the scarcity of resources – financial and human – and the need to ensure the number of Trustee Bodies and buildings is relevant to the present age. The Chevin church is taking on the charity registration of the former Otley Church and the Ilkley Moor church is being registered as a new charity; Christchurch, Ilkley retains its existing registration.

The annual statistics of church membership has shown a continuing decline and this will have implications for future ministerial staffing levels. The setting up of multi-site churches allows a more collaborative approach to ministerial cover. There has also been a further reduction in the number of Local Preachers, resulting in a greater number of "Local Arrangement" services. We are grateful to both our Local Preachers and our active supernumerary ministers for their continuing faithful service to the circuit. Whilst the majority of meetings are face to face we still take advantage of Zoom, particularly during the winter months, to reduce the need to travel. The Circuit ministerial team comprised 4.7 ministers throughout the reporting period, with a part time minister being employed from January through to August to help the investigation of a New Places for New People (NPNP) project in Otley. There were 5 Circuit Lay roles, with a full time Circuit Manager and part time Communications Officer, CAP Debt Centre Manager, and two support workers. There are currently 3 Circuit Stewards, one acting as Circuit Treasurer and another taking the lead on property issues, but the lack of volunteers to take on these – and other key – roles is an ongoing cause of great concern.

Throughout the reporting period Hawksworth was a class of the church at Burley in Wharfedale and the congregation at Norwood a class of Otley; both will become members of the new Chevin multi-site church. The building at Norwood also acts as a Retreat Centre in an attractive part of the Circuit; this has its own management team, with the finances currently being under circuit control.

The number of young people attending regular church services is generally low, but the lay workers at three of our churches work together to provide opportunities for young people to meet together and test their faith. The church at Burley in Wharfedale has purchased a mobile catering unit which is being used as a pizza outlet to provide a meeting place for youngsters; this is proving to be a facility with a much greater reach. Other less traditional offerings are Forest Church and Breathe, which are attracting people from across the circuit. During the year, usually coinciding with festival times, zoom study groups have been on offer and well received; there have also been retreats at Norwood.

The Methodist Church is committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030 and a number of churches have obtained bronze or silver Eco Awards from AROCHA. It is the intention to seek an appropriate Eco award for the Circuit. We have fitted solar panels, with batteries and charging points, at 4 of our manses and the benefits are now being felt in reduced electricity consumption for the occupants and export tariff payments to the Circuit. With a change of occupant at Ilkley the opportunity has been taken to purchase a new manse with a much-improved energy rating; it is planned to fit solar panels to this property also.

The Methodist Church is committed to safeguarding as an integral part of its life and ministry. Safeguarding is about the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will:

- promote the welfare of children, young people and adults
- work to prevent abuse from occurring
- seek to protect and respond well to those that have been abused

Those people across the Circuit whose roles require it must undertake Safeguarding Training at Foundation and / or Advanced level. It is also mandatory that, where required, EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) Training is undertaken.

The purchase of the new Ilkley Manse was completed in July at a cost of £845,000. We were able to reclaim some levies from past sales which enabled us to make a cash purchase without recourse to a bridging loan; however, our Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) balance was much depleted as at 31st August 2025. The former manse will be marketed as early as possible and its sale will boost the CMTF, albeit after the deduction of the Connexional Priority Fund levy. We anticipate a market value of £775k which, after the deduction of sales costs and the Connexional Priority Fund (CPF) Levy would add around £470k to the Circuit Model Trust Fund. After a protracted process, the sale of the former church premises at Otley was completed to the Community Group shortly after the year end. The sales proceeds (£296k after the deduction of the CPF levy) have been paid into the CMTF and the loans received by the Otley Church from the Circuit to cover pre-sales costs have been

repaid. The church premises at Addingham have also been marketed for sale, with the requirement to offer them for community use before they can go onto the open market; a purchase offer has now been accepted with completion expected during the 2025-2026 financial year.

Since September 2024 our Superintendent Minister, Rev Tim Perkins, has filled the same role for the Skipton & Grassington Circuit, spending 70% of his time in the Wharfedale & Aireborough Circuit, where he continued to have pastoral charge of the church at Burley in Wharfedale, and 30% in the Skipton & Grassington Circuit. Rev Dr Roberta Topham and Rev Roger Smith left the Circuit in 2025 with a new minister joining us from America from September 2025; the former Methodist minister at Christchurch, Ilkley is due to be replaced by a URC minister, but this position has yet to be filled (an appointment has been made that should start in August 2026).

The Circuit's Funds:

The Circuit operates 4 unrestricted and 3 restricted separate, open funds within its Accounts; three restricted funds have been closed during the year with their small balances being used for the purposes intended. The purpose of each remaining Fund is summarised below:

The **General Fund** deals with all the day-to-day expenditure of the Circuit; primarily it meets the cost of the presbyters and employees of the Circuit, contributes to District and Connexion costs and meets the cost of running and maintaining the manse; to pay for these costs the Circuit raises Assessments on each Church in the Circuit with the intention to raise just sufficient income to cover the budgeted expenditure.

The **Circuit Model Trust Fund** exists to meet the need for major expenditure on Circuit property or to meet Circuit or church projects, all of which require the ultimate approval of the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP"). We received refunds of levies on past sales totalling £295,724 which were used to meet the costs of purchasing a new manse in Ilkley (£845,000 plus fees). Two very small trusts held in the name of Rawdon Methodist Church were transferred to the Circuit following the Methodist withdrawal from the Rawdon Trinity Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP), a further two require Charity Commission agreement to change their terms of use and have been the subject of resolutions to the September 2025 District Synod. As at 31st August 2025 the cash balance of the CMTF was £20,697. The annual levy to the Yorkshire West District (taken on 1st September) was £517, with the annual administration charge of £58 and when future commitments are taken into account the available funds show a shortfall of £252. However, the sale of the Otley Church premises has replenished the fund with the receipt of £296,452, after the deduction of the Connexional Priority Fund Levy; this will enable immediate commitments to be met until the manse at 48 Bolling Road, Ilkley is sold, but an equivalent sum will be earmarked for missional work in with the Otley Community. In addition to the manse purchase, grants of £28,250 were made to churches for lay employment and property projects, and £35,000 was transferred to the General Fund to cover the costs of two part-time lay employees.

With the full depletion of three **Restricted Funds**, three remain and with the forthcoming changes to the organisation of churches across the Circuit it is possible the Small Buildings' Fund will be re-allocated to the appropriate multi-site church.

The **CAP Debt Centre Fund** created in 2019 has been defined as restricted as monies donated for this purpose are ring fenced to be used to pay for the operation of a Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Debt Centre. Following a period of inactivity whilst a new Debt Centre Manager was appointed this vital service is again meeting the needs of local people who are experiencing financial challenges. Grants & donations of £15.6k were received with expenditure of £19.5k, made up of the costs of employing a part-time Debt Centre Manager and the monthly fee payable to CAP. The Circuit has been awarded a grant from the Yorkshire West District to cover 40% of the anticipated cost of this project over the next 3 years and, whilst any shortfall will be underwritten by the Circuit, it is hoped other funds can be raised to meet the remaining 60%.

The **Fund for the Norwood Chapel and Retreat Centre** was created in 2014 when the funds of the Norwood Church were transferred to the Circuit and the congregation became a class of Otley Church. A decision was made at the Circuit Meeting in February 2018 to continue worship at Norwood and maintain a meeting facility. To support the upkeep of the building and running costs, Norwood cottage is let at a commercial rent under an Assured Short-Term Tenancy and further income is generated from organisations hiring the Retreat Centre. The fund reduced by almost £1.3k during the year to £21k. As part of the multi-site church structure being implemented during 2025-2026 Norwood will become part of the Chevin Church and the funds will be transferred to that body.

The value of all of the Restricted Funds as at 31st August 2025 was £28.3k, a reduction of £6.6k.

In addition to the **Circuit Model Trust Fund**, there are 2 more unrestricted funds which are treated as **Designated Funds** and recorded separately. These are:

The **Property Fund** was established in 2011 and exists to deal with the uneven incidence of maintenance and repair costs at the Circuit's manses. This is currently being maintained at £12,500 - £2,500 per manse. The Circuit currently has two manses in Ilkley, having taken the opportunity to purchase a more eco-friendly property with a change of minister. An offer to purchase the former manse at 48 Bolling Road has been accepted with completion due in early summer 2026; the new property at 87 King's Road awaits the appointment of a new minister to serve the Christchurch LEP.

The **Beamsley Fund** was created in 2010 when the surplus funds of the Beamsley Chapel were transferred to the Circuit following the closure of the chapel. Since that time the Fund has been augmented by rents received from the tenants at the chapel. The fund increased by almost £10k during the year to £40.2k. It has been traditional to take £4,000 a year from this fund to cover General Fund expenditure, but this has not been

the case in the past two years and it is planned to take £12k in 2025-2026. The next rent review is due to take place in 2026 and will be based on the movement of the Consumer Prices' Index (CPI) since the previous review in 2024.

In Aggregate the Circuit's total Funds as at 31st August 2025, including the value of 6 manses, a burial ground and the Beamsley Centre, stood at £3,334k, an increase of £254k over the year; this reflects the purchase of the additional manse in Ilkley.

Plans for 2025-2026

At the time the Budget for 2025-2026 was prepared it was envisaged that there would be 2 full time ministers, a part-time minister for 0.7fte, a part-time minister for 0.3fte and 0.7fte of the Superintendent Minister's time, with the remaining 0.3fte of the Superintendent's time being spent in the Skipton & Grassington Circuit; the vacant position at the Christchurch LEP should be covered by a minister from the United Reformed Church, with the costs being covered by the LEP. In anticipation of the implementation of the new multi-site church structure two former church employed lay workers have moved on to the Circuit payroll, although their costs continue to be covered by their respective churches; two other Circuit lay employees have had their hours temporarily increased by 5 per week with these additional costs being covered by the local church. In total there are 7 lay employees on the Circuit payroll supporting administration (37 hours per week), communications (10 hours per week), CAP Debt Centre (16 hours per week), an Activities Organiser (20 hours a week), a Children's/Family Worker (20 hours a week), a Youth/Family Worker (35 hours a week) and a Discipleship & Outreach Worker (20 hours a week) - the equivalent of 4.5 full time employees. Account was taken of known stipend and salary increases for 2025/26 (ensuring pay rates remain above the Real Living Wage) and the known change in District and Connexion costs; sensible estimates were made about all other Circuit costs. It was agreed the cost of 15 hours per week for both the Activities Organiser and Children's/Family Worker should continue to be covered from the Circuit Model Trust Fund.

The assessment calculation using our previously agreed format for the offering to be made by each church had become unsustainable following past restrictions during and after the Covid pandemic which had caused calculated requirements to be significantly different from current giving in a number of cases. The situation has been further complicated by the anticipated stationing of a URC Minister at Christchurch, Ilkley and the changes in funding by that church to the Methodists and URC; this resulted in a call to churches to make freewill offerings for 2025-2026 based on the needs of the Circuit and their ability to pay. Although this resulted in a shortfall of £6.3k before depreciation costs are taken into account, it is felt to be manageable with any shortfall able to be covered from the Circuit Model Trust Fund.

The significant tasks being faced for 2025-2026 are all guided by a desire to see a growth in our influence and community involvement across the circuit, based on sound Christian principles:

- Multi-Site Churches – The Trustee bodies for the new multi-site churches will be built up during the year as the formation of the two churches proceeds and the workload of volunteers in the individual congregations is reduced. It is recognised that some of the multi-site church roles will be such that they will have to be undertaken by paid employees. The Circuit will support the churches as the new structures are developed.
- New Place for New People (NPNP) – With the sale of the Otley church premises in October 2025 central funding has been awarded for an NPNP project in Otley to discern how Methodism may flourish in and beyond the town. A Missional Wellbeing Pioneer has been appointed to lead this work.
- Staffing – The anticipated URC Minister for Christchurch has yet to materialise and a long interregnum may need to be managed, from the perspectives of pastoral support for the Christchurch congregation and the use of the newly acquired manse in Ilkley. The Superintendent and one other minister are due for re-invitation in 2027; the stationing invitations process will take place during this Connexional year.
- Working with other circuits – Having a shared superintendent, the Wharfedale & Aireborough and Skipton & Grassington Circuits are working closely together to make the most effective use of resources (human and other) within the two circuits. There are also conversations taking place with other circuits to investigate areas where joint working will be beneficial.
- Addingham Congregation – The congregation at Addingham has made the courageous decision to leave their church building and offer it for sale. Whilst the sales process is ongoing, there is discernment about the most appropriate way forward.
- Saving the planet – We will continue our quest to achieve net zero by 2030, encouraging lifestyle changes that reduce our carbon footprint. We will also take action to improve our buildings with better insulation and more efficient heating systems, and fitting solar panels where this is a realistic option – for example in the newly acquired manse at Ilkley.

There are ongoing concerns about the number of Local Preachers, Circuit Stewards and volunteers for other key roles in the running of the Circuit. The Circuit will continue to provide support through provision of both resources and training for local churches to be able to offer appropriate services of worship when preachers are not available, working with the newly formed multi-site churches to ensure there are appropriate worshipping opportunities each week. We will continue to seek suitable volunteers for other roles or look for alternative means of

ensuring we meet all of our legal and regulatory obligations. We continue to be grateful to a number of active supernumerary ministers who take a significant number of services each quarter.

The church employed Youth & Family Workers have formed an effective team and by working together across the Circuit they are making an impact in our engagement with young people at times other than normal Sunday services. A significant contributor to this work is the Slice of Life Project at Burley in Wharfedale where a mobile Pizza trailer offers a place for young people to meet and eat; the project is attracting attention from the wider community both within and outside the Methodist Church. It is our aim to establish a Circuit Youth & Children's Team to improve collaboration and support for youth and children across the circuit.

We will continue to investigate how best to manage the Greenhills Burial Ground in a way that minimises the ongoing cost for the circuit and causes the least amount of nuisance to neighbouring properties; the ideal outcome will be disposal of the site.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS (102))).

Full name of Charity	The Wharfedale & Aireborough Methodist Circuit
Registered Charity Number	1132357
Date of registration	2011
Main communication address	Circuit Office 39 Main Street, Menston, ILKLEY, LS29 6NB.

Circuit Ministers and Officers

Active Circuit Ministers

Rev. Shannon DeLaurel (Full time until 31st August 2025 & 0.67 from 1st September 2025)

Rev. Timothy Perkins (Superintendent Minister – 0.7; shared with the Skipton & Grassington Circuit)

Rev Cameron Stirk

Rev. Roger Smith (until 31st August 2025)

Rev. Dr. Roberta Topham (until 31st August 2025)

Rev. Annie Baker-Streevy (from 1st September 2025)

Rev. Wendy Walker (0.33 from 1st September 2025)

As Superintendent Minister, the Reverend Timothy Perkins acted as chair of the Circuit Meeting.

Circuit Employees

During the year, the Circuit employed Mrs Juliana Caukwell as a full time Circuit Administrator, Mr Michael Fawcett as a part-time Circuit Communications Officer, Mrs Hester Ayling as a part-time Children's Worker, Ms Jean Snaith as a part time Activities Organiser and Mr Michael Dodd as the part-time CAP Debt Centre Manager. From 1st September 2025 Ms Jo Dixon, Discipleship & Outreach Worker, and Ms Fiona Thomson, Youth & Children's Worker have become Circuit employees, although their pay costs continue to be covered by their respective churches.

Circuit Stewards

The Circuit Stewards in office in the year ended 31st August 2025 were as follows:

Mrs Hilary Murden

Mr Richard Lowe

Mr Alan Sheath

The Members of the Wharfedale & Aireborough Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of Circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by local churches.

Trustees:

Superintendent Minister / Chair of Trustee Body

Rev Timothy M Perkins

Mr Joost Aarste Tuyn

Rev Rita Armitage

Mr George Auterson

Rev Annie Baker-Streevy

Mrs Patsy Bastow

Mr Peter Bastow

Mrs Joan Bosomworth

Until 31st August 2025

From 1st September 2025

From 1st September 2025

Until 31st August 2025

Until 31st August 2025

Mr David Brown	Until 31 st August 2025
Mr Ken Brown	Until 31 st August 2025
Mr John Burland	
Mrs Juliana Caukwell	
Deacon Elizabeth Day	
Rev Shannon DeLaurel	
Mr Lionel Derry	From 1 st September 2025
Mrs Judith Ellis	From 1 st September 2025
Miss Marjorie Emsley	
Mr Michael Fawcett	
Ms Margaret Fielding	
Mr David Gouldesbrough	
Mrs Sue Gray	Until 31 st August 2025
Mrs Penny Gwilt	
Rev David Halstead	From 1 st September 2024
Mrs Elizabeth Hoyle	Until 31 st August 2025
Mrs Lindsey Hurst	
Mrs Jalna Jenkins	From 1 st September 2025
Mr Steve Jennings	
Mrs Val Lamond	From 1 st September 2025
Ms Kate Ling	From 1 st September 2025
Mr Richard Lowe	
Mrs Gillian MacIntosh	Until 31 st August 2025
Mr Chris MacIntosh-Dixon	From 1 st September 2025
Mrs Debbie Mashiter	Deceased 12 th May 2025
Mr Neil Mofoot	
Mrs Sarah Morrish	
Mr Thomas Morrish	Until 31 st August 2025
Mrs Hilary Murden	
Mr Bernard Neville	From 1 st September 2025
Mrs Heather Newell	From 1 st September 2025
Mrs Carol Newton	
Mr Michael Noble	

Mrs Judith Nordby	
Mrs Angela Pearson	Until 31 st August 2025
Mrs Vivien Pitts	
Mr Alan Pratt	Until 31 st August 2025
Rev Keith Reed	From 1 st September 2025
Mrs Marion Rider	Until 31 st August 2025
Mr Alan Sheath	
Mrs Pam Smith	
Rev Roger Smith	Until 31 st August 2025
Ms Jean Snaith	From 1 st September 2025
Mr Chris Solomon	Until 31 st August 2025
Rev M Cameron Stirk	
Mr Norman Sykes	
Mrs Pauline Tate	Until 31 st August 2025
Mr John Tattersall	
Mrs Janet Thompson	
Rev Roberta Topham	
Mr Jon Walker	
Rev Wendy Walker	From 22 nd November 2024
Ms Susan Ward	Until 31 st August 2025

The Auditor is Xeinadin Audit Ltd, 5 Robin Hood Lane, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 2SW.

The Circuit's Investment Bankers are the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and Trustees for Methodist Church purposes.

The Circuit's bank account is held at CAF Bank Ltd.

Aims and Organisation

The Charity's objective is to act as a resource provider for the Methodist Church within an area north west of Leeds between Guiseley to the south, Pool-in-Wharfedale to the east, Norwood to the north, and Ilkley and Addingham to the west.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

- a. The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of the Methodist Church;

- b. Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;
 - c. Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;
 - d. Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church
-
- The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.
 - The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
 - The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved
 - Taking religious assemblies in local schools
 - Promoting of Christianity through the staging of events and services
 - Provision of chaplaincy services to local institutions

Public benefit

We confirm the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit

Structure, governance and Management

The governing document for the Circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) are the custodian trustees of the Circuit Properties.

Day to day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership Team, as follows:

Rev. Timothy Perkins
Rev. Annie Baker-Streevy
Rev. Shannon DeLaureal
Rev. Cameron Stirk
Rev. Wendy Walker
Mrs Juliana Caukwell
Mr Mike Fawcett

Mrs Hilary Murden
Mr Richard Lowe
Mr Alan Sheath
Mrs Carol Newton

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by the Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Circuit specifically the leaflet “The Five Golden Rules of being a Trustee” has been given to all Circuit Meeting members.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the Yorkshire West District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the Circuit. From 1st September 2025 they are being formed into Multi-site Churches.

ILKLEY MOOR METHODIST CHURCH (with congregations at):

Addingham Methodist Church
Ben Rhydding Methodist Church
Burley-in-Wharfedale Methodist Church

CHEVIN METHODIST CHURCH (with congregations at):

Bramhope Methodist Church
Guiseley Methodist Church
Hawthorn Methodist Church
Menston Methodist Church
Norwood Chapel and Day Retreat Centre
Otley Methodist Church
Pool-in-Wharfedale Methodist Church
Yeadon Methodist Church

CHRISTCHURCH, ILKLEY LEP

Christchurch, Ilkley operates as part of a Local Ecumenical Partnership (“LEP”), involving Methodists and the United Reformed Church.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Circuit Finance and Property Committees with professional advice taken as required. There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded. Income and expenditure are being monitored in total and compared with the approved annual Budget on a quarterly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves. The Circuit also monitors the finances of local churches to ensure their ability to pay the Circuit Assessment. The Circuit Model Trust fund (CMTF) enables agreed spend on missional and property projects across the Circuit that cannot be covered from other financial resources; whilst this fund has been depleted with the purchase of the new manse in Ilkley the balance will increase with the completion of the sale of the Otley Church premises, the Addingham Church premises and the old manse in Ilkley.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God’s own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God’s recreation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults

the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable

the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse

- we will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the church in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes
- we will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may be harmed, cooperating with the Police and Local Authority in any investigation
- we will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care
- we will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust

- we will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult
- in all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Wharfedale & Aireborough Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, Government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the Circuit and in the Churches. Additionally, it commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable

Circuit Reserves & Policy

As at 31st August 2025 Debtors & Prepayments were £16,449 and, additionally, the Circuit has made loans of £19,457 which were repaid after the year end following the sale of the Church buildings at Otley. Creditors, including future commitments, at 31st August 2025 were £121.5k.

The bulk of the income coming to the Circuit is from the Assessment placed on churches, which is agreed annually with Church Treasurers. This ensures a high degree of certainty going forward as it takes account of each church's ability to pay. However, the Circuit considers it prudent to hold sufficient reserves to enable it to overcome any short notice financial crisis.

Our main source of back up is the Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF); at 31st August 2025 there was a balance of £20.7k following the purchase of the new manse in Ilkley, which was insufficient to cover the agreed future commitments of £21k. However, the proceeds from the sale of the Otley Church premises (less fees and the Connexional Priority Fund Levy) have been paid into the CMTF adding £296,452; the former manse at Ilkley is being marketed for sale and the proceeds (after costs and the Connexional Priority Fund Levy) will also go into the CMTF. (There may also be additional funds from the sale of the church building at Addingham and following our withdrawal from the Local Ecumenical Partnership at Rawdon). This Fund is managed on behalf of the Circuit by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP), but is readily available subject to the recorded agreement of the Trustees (Circuit Meeting) for appropriate purposes. The Trustees seek to ensure there is sufficient money (or firm plans for deposits, as previously outlined) in the CMTF to meet all known future grant and Circuit funding commitments.

The value of the 3 Restricted Funds is £28.4k, the largest being the Fund for the Norwood Chapel and Retreat Centre at £21k; these receive their funding from external sources. The Norwood Chapel and Retreat Centre will become part of the Chevin Church during 2025-2026.

In addition to the CMTF the Circuit has cash holdings with the CAF Bank (current account) and Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (deposit account). There is a separate Manses' Reserve Fund of £12,500 as at 31st August 2025 and the Circuit considers it suitably prudent to maintain sufficient Funds within its General Fund to pay 25% of the succeeding year's budgeted expenditure. The Circuit will hold cash reserves in its current account or deposit account at Central Finance Board (CFB) equivalent to 3 months' General Fund expenditure plus the fund balance of total Restricted Funds. Regular monitoring is required to ensure adherence to policy and if necessary, to put into place a plan to augment the Circuit's funds.

Reserves Test as at 31st August 2025

Required:	£
25% of General Fund Expenditure Budget 2025/2026	102,682
Total Restricted Funds Value	<u>27,541</u>
	<u>130,223</u>
 Total Cash at Bank & CFB 31/8/2025	 <u>153,124</u>
 Surplus	 22,901

Responsibilities of trustees under charity law

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

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

1. select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;


4. state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. 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.

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer

..... Date: 1st May 2026

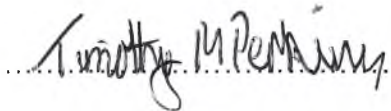
Name and address of treasurer **Richard F Lowe**

3 The Robins, Burley-in-Wharfedale, ILKLEY Post Code...LS29 7PR

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 8th June 2026

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

.....

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev Timothy M Perkins

Date 8th June 2026

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Wharfedale & Aireborough Methodist Church Circuit

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Wharfedale & Aireborough Methodist Church Circuit (the "Charity") for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 August 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to employment and financial reporting legislation and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities Act 2011.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by making enquiries of management, considering the internal controls in place and discussion amongst the engagement team.

We determined that the principal risks were related to management bias in accounting estimates, presentation of separately disclosed items, disclosure of related party transactions and management override of controls.

In response to the risks identified we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to reviewing trustees minutes, challenging significant accounting estimates, evaluating the internal controls, agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation, reviewing related party information and identifying and testing journal entries.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matter

The charity's income was below the threshold where an audit was required in the prior year therefore the comparative figures are not audited.

Use of our report

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 audit 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 auditor'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 audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Xeinadin Audit Limited
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants



5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Dated: 9 June 2026
.....

WHARFEDALE & AIREBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	1,200	18,489	19,689	19,354
Charitable activities	4	705,015	-	705,015	403,726
Investments	5	31,807	840	32,647	27,782
Other Trading Activities	6	9,312	11,925	21,237	19,574
Other income	7	-	-	-	261,006
Total income and endowments		747,334	31,254	778,588	731,441
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	8	490,549	34,069	524,618	700,469
Total expenditure		490,549	34,069	524,618	700,469
Net gains on investments		185	-	185	108
Net income/(expenditure)		256,970	(2,815)	254,155	31,080
Transfers between funds	17	3,800	(3,800)	-	-
Net movement in funds		260,770	(6,615)	254,155	31,080
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		3,044,967	34,997	3,079,963	3,048,883
Total funds carried forward	17	3,305,737	28,381	3,334,118	3,079,963

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on page 27-48 form part of these accounts.

WHARFEDALE & AIREBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	3,245,876	-	3,245,876	2,400,911
		<u>3,245,876</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,245,876</u>	<u>2,400,911</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	35,056	850	35,906	39,124
Investments	13	20,697	-	20,697	648,969
Cash at bank and in hand	14	125,562	27,562	153,124	170,087
		181,315	28,412	209,727	858,180
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(121,454)	(31)	(121,485)	(179,128)
Net current assets		<u>59,861</u>	<u>28,381</u>	<u>88,242</u>	<u>679,052</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>3,305,737</u>	<u>28,381</u>	<u>3,334,118</u>	<u>3,079,963</u>

WHARFEDALE & AIREBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
FUND BALANCES	17				
Unrestricted Funds					
General funds		3,253,261	-	3,253,261	2,415,671
Designated funds		52,476	-	52,476	629,295
		<u>3,305,737</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,305,737</u>	<u>3,044,966</u>
Restricted Funds		-	28,381	28,381	34,997
		<u>3,305,737</u>	<u>28,381</u>	<u>3,334,118</u>	<u>3,079,963</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:


REV. TIMOTHY PERKINS

Date: 8th June 2026,

Charity number: 1132357

The notes on pages 27 to 48 form part of these accounts.

WHARFEDALE & AIREBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
<i>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</i>	a	<u>152,197</u>	<u>(257,695)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		53,884	47,356
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		-	511,006
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		<u>(851,315)</u>	<u>(50,800)</u>
<i>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</i>		<u>(797,431)</u>	<u>507,562</u>
<i>Change in cash and equivalents in the reporting period</i>		(645,234)	249,867
Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year	b	<u>819,056</u>	<u>569,189</u>
<i>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</i>	b	<u>173,822</u>	<u>819,056</u>

Analysis of changes in net debt:

	At start of year £	Cash-flows £	At end of year £
Cash and cash equivalents	819,056	(645,234)	173,822
Total net funds / (debt)	<u>819,056</u>	<u>(645,234)</u>	<u>173,822</u>

WHARFEDALE & AIREBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Note a: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
<i>Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</i>	254,155	31,080
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges and provisions for impairment	6,350	6,350
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(53,884)	(47,356)
Loss/(profit) on the sale of fixed assets	-	(261,006)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	3,218	(1,024)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(57,642)	14,260
<i>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</i>	<u>152,197</u>	<u>(257,695)</u>

Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	3,574	4,456
Notice deposits (with a term of three months or less)	149,551	165,631
Current asset investments	20,697	648,969
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>173,822</u>	<u>819,056</u>

WHARFEDALE & AIREBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

1 Statutory Information

The charity is trust registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number is 1132357 and its principal address is 39 Main Street, Menston, ILKLEY, LS29 6NB.

2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) ("the Charities SORP 2019"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

2 Accounting Policies (continued)

a) Going concern

The trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income including investment income is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part, income is generally recognised when it is received. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from Circuit Assessments on churches and other incidental activities.

Investment income represents income generated by the charity's assets and includes income from letting the charity's property and bank interest.

Other income comprises gains arising from the disposal of tangible fixed assets.

The charity has taken the view that it has only one charitable activity, namely the advancement of the Christian faith, and all income from donations, legacies and charitable activities is in respect of this one activity.

2 Accounting Policies (continued)

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

The cost of raising funds is not significant and has not been separately disclosed.

The Charities SORP requires charities with income over £500,000 to allocate costs to the various activities undertaken by the charity. The nature of the work of the charity is considered to be so integrated that the core charitable activity costs are considered to be for the one activity.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

2 Accounting Policies (continued)

d) 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. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects. Endowment funds are donations that are retained as capital in accordance with the donor's wishes. The nature of the restriction determines whether the endowments represent permanent endowments or expendable endowments.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £1,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Freehold land	Is not depreciated (because it is not consumed by use)
Freehold buildings	Over 50 years after taking account of the building's residual value
Property improvements	Over 5 to 25 years after taking account of the improvement's residual value
Leasehold improvements	Over the lease term or, if shorter, expected useful life
Equipment	Over 3 to 7 years

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

2 Accounting Policies (continued)

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2019 deemed values, values were determined by reference to local estate agents in 2014, except where a later purchase was made, then purchase price is used. First time adoption of FRS 102 allows for values to be deemed as the values held 1 Sep 2015. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

f) Investments

Fixed asset investments are held to generate income and / or for their investment potential. Current asset investments are investments that are held specifically for sale or are investments that the charity expects to sell by the next balance sheet date. Investments, other than social investments (see below), are valued as follows:

- i) Investment property and listed investments are valued at their market value (fair value) at the balance sheet date.
- ii) Unlisted investments are measured at cost less impairment where it becomes apparent that the amount that could be realised is less than cost.

Impairment losses and losses arising on the disposal of social investments are included in the Statement of Financial Activities under the heading 'Expenditure on charitable activities'. Gains arising on the disposal of social investments are included in the Statement of Financial Activities under the heading 'Other income'. All other gains and losses on investment assets are included in the Statement of Financial Activities under the heading 'Net gains / (losses) on investments'.

g) Pension scheme arrangements

The Charity makes payments to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme '(MMPS)' which is a defined benefit scheme operated by The Methodist Church. The Circuit accounts for contributions paid for by the ministers and the circuit as a defined contribution as no liability for past service sits with the circuit. A defined contribution pension scheme operates for the lay staff. All circuit contributions to the scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period to which they relate.

2 Accounting Policies (continued)

h) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

i) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).

j) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

3 Donations and legacies

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations of cash and similar	8,118	5,538
Grants	11,571	13,816
	<u>19,689</u>	<u>19,354</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Assessments on Churches	399,665	394,224
Model trust levy refunded	295,724	-
Other income	9,626	9,502
	<u>705,015</u>	<u>403,726</u>

5 Investment income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Interest and dividends	32,647	27,782
	<u>32,647</u>	<u>27,782</u>

6 Other Trading Activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Property letting	21,237	19,574
	<u>21,237</u>	<u>19,574</u>

7 Other income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gains on disposal of: tangible fixed assets	-	261,006
	<u>-</u>	<u>261,006</u>

8 Charitable expenditure

	2025 £	2024 £
a Costs incurred directly on specific activities		
Salaries, Employer's national insurance and pension contributions of presbyters and deacons	202,620	202,535
Telephone, utilities, travel and expenses of presbyters and deacons	16,343	15,421
Salaries, Employer's national insurance and pension contributions of lay workers	85,343	67,963
Expenses of lay workers	1,347	2,280
Mission and ministry	2,380	3,120
Property maintenance	30,760	32,975
Other property costs	36,543	35,071
District assessment	16,220	15,434
Connexional costs	72,580	69,054
Model trust levy	-	179,562
District advance fund	517	39,923
CAP project costs	6,093	4,386
	<u>470,746</u>	<u>667,723</u>
Grants payable (note 8c)	25,475	10,150
	<u>496,221</u>	<u>677,873</u>

8 Charitable expenditure (continued)

b Costs incurred on support & administration

Governance costs

Audit / Independent examiner's fees

9,000 3,420

Other

2,400 -

11,400 3,420

Subscriptions and professional fees

60 60

Other administration expenses

5,076 7,249

Insurance

4,529 4,358

Miscellaneous expenses

982 1,159

Depreciation of tangible fixed assets

6,350 6,350

28,397 22,596

Total expenditure

524,618 700,469

The fee payable to the auditor was £9,000 (2024: £3,420 for examination and accounts preparation).

8 Charitable expenditure (continued)

c Grants payable

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2025 £
Grants for UK and overseas mission	25,475	-	25,475
	<u>25,475</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,475</u>

The comparatives for the previous year are as follows:

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2024 £
Grants for UK and overseas mission	10,150	-	10,150
	<u>10,150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,150</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2025 £	2024 £
Burley-in-Wharfedale Methodist Church	5,000	-
Christchurch Ilkley LEP	20,475	9,750
Acts 435	-	400
	<u>25,475</u>	<u>10,150</u>

9 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	231,067	210,203
Social security	22,944	18,939
Pension costs	33,952	41,356
	<u>287,963</u>	<u>270,497</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 11 (2024: 9). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the key staff named on the Charity Information page. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows:

	Wages & salaries	Employer's National Insurance	Employer's Pension Contributions	2025 £
Trustees:				
Rev Roger Smith (Presbyter)	31,020	3,346	6,204	40,570
Rev Timothy Perkins (Superintendent & Presbyter)	23,885	2,651	4,343	30,879
Rev Roberta Topham (Presbyter)	31,020	3,346	6,204	40,570
Rev Shannon DeLaurel (Presbyter)	31,020	3,447	6,204	40,671
Rev Cameron Stirk (Presbyter)	31,020	3,346	6,204	40,570
Rev Wendy Walker (Presbyter)	6,724	377	1,379	8,480
Juliana Caukwell (Circuit Administrator)	33,768	3,761	2,015	39,544
Michael Fawcett (Circuit Communications Officer)	7,523	165	-	7,688
				<u>248,972</u>

9 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration (continued)

The following amounts were payable in the previous year:

	Wages & salaries	Employer's National Insurance	Employer's Pension Contributions	2024 £
Trustees:				
Rev Roger Smith (Presbyter)	29,040	2,779	7,812	39,631
Rev Timothy Perkins (Superintendent & Presbyter)	31,944	3,263	7,812	43,018
Rev Roberta Topham (Presbyter)	29,040	2,779	7,812	39,631
Rev Shannon DeLaureal (Presbyter)	29,040	2,979	7,812	39,831
Rev Cameron Stirk (Presbyter)	29,040	2,779	7,812	39,631
Juliana Caukwell (Circuit Administrator)	31,561	3,075	1,883	36,519
Michael Fawcett (Circuit Communications Officer)	7,030	-	-	7,030
				<u>245,291</u>

All of the above named individuals received the above payments for serving in the stated capacities, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

In addition the charity incurred expenditure totalling £47,011 (2024: £48,963) in respect of the customary provision of accommodation to Presbyters and Deacons, so that they could better perform their duties.

10 Acting as agent

On occasion the charity receives money on behalf of other charities, which it banks and then pays out to these charities. This income is received as agent for these other charities and the income, and the related payments, are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities; any money that has not been distributed by the year end is recognised as a creditor.

During the year the charity acted as agent for related Methodist charities and, in that capacity:

- a) received £150 (2024: £nil) and paid £150 (2024: £nil)
- b) at the year end the charity owed £nil (2024: £nil) by to these related charities

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Property Improvements £	Total 2025 £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 September 2024	2,356,461	50,800	2,407,261
Additions	851,315	-	851,315
At 31 August 2025	<u>3,207,776</u>	<u>50,800</u>	<u>3,258,576</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 September 2024	-	6,350	6,350
Charge for the year	-	6,350	6,350
At 31 August 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>12,700</u>	<u>12,700</u>
Net book value			
At 31 August 2025	<u>3,207,776</u>	<u>38,100</u>	<u>3,245,876</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>2,356,461</u>	<u>44,450</u>	<u>2,400,911</u>

At the beginning of the financial year, the Circuit owned 5 manses. All the manses then held were informally valued by reference to local estate agents as at 31st August 2014. The new Manses at Far Mead Croft and at St Oswald's Walk, Turner Lane Addingham and East Busk Lane acquired in 2014, 2015, 2018 and 2022 respectively are included at cost. A new manse at King's Road, Ilkley, was acquired in 2025 and is also included at cost. The old manse in Ilkley is expected to be sold in the year ending 31 August 2026.

The freehold on residential property is shown at deemed historical cost representing each property's gross carrying value at 1 September 2015 per the transitioning relief allowed under first time adoption of FRS102.

The Beamsley Church has been included at a value reflecting its current use; its income is limited to a market agreed rent charged to the Beamsley Project charity. For insurance purposes it has a replacement cost value of £2,496,000.

The Greenhill Cemetary site is owned by the Circuit, it is insured and maintained at the Circuit's expense.

12 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	911	-
Prepayments and accrued income	15,538	20,612
Loans	19,457	18,512
Total debtors	<u>35,906</u>	<u>39,124</u>

13 Current asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
TMCP Holdings	<u>20,697</u>	<u>648,969</u>
	<u>20,697</u>	<u>648,969</u>

14 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	3,573	4,456
Central Finance Board Deposits	<u>149,551</u>	<u>165,631</u>
	<u>153,124</u>	<u>170,087</u>

15 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	714	1,429
Accruals	18,906	54,533
Deferred income	81,390	99,916
Grant obligations	<u>20,475</u>	<u>23,250</u>
	<u>121,485</u>	<u>179,128</u>

16 Pension commitments

Summary of pension contributions payable for year:

The charity's pension contributions were as follows

	2025	2024
	£	£
to the Methodist Ministers' Pension scheme (defined benefit)	30,537	39,059
to defined contribution pension schemes	3,415	2,297
	<u>33,952</u>	<u>41,356</u>

Summary of pension liabilities at the year end:

The charity's pension liabilities at the end of the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
in respect of defined benefit pension arrangements	-	-
in respect of defined contribution pension arrangements	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

17 Funds

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2025 £	Income 2025 £	Expenditure 2025 £	Transfers in the year 2025 £	Gains and losses 2025 £	Closing balance 2025 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
The Circuit Model Trust Fund	586,499	323,275	(26,050)	(884,160)	185	(252)
The Property Fund	12,500	-	-	-	-	12,500
The Beamsley Fund	30,296	14,795	(4,863)	-	-	40,228
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	629,295	338,069	(30,913)	(884,160)	185	52,476
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,415,671	409,265	(459,636)	887,960	-	3,253,261
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Unrestricted Funds	3,044,967	747,334	(490,549)	3,800	185	3,305,737

The Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) is held with the Trustees For Methodist Church purposes (TMCP) as a Trust Account. It receives funding from Property Sales which can be used for the general purposes of the charity - with agreement.

The Property Fund is a Reserve, held in case of unexpected significant expenditure on Manses.

The Beamsley Fund receives the quarterly rental from the Beamsley Project, to whom the premises at Beamsley are let. There is little financial responsibility on the Circuit and surplus funds can be used for General Fund activity, by reducing the impact of the assessment on individual churches / congregations.

17 Funds (continued)

Restricted Funds

CAP Fund	8,812	15,619	(19,529)	-	-	4,902
The Norwood Chapel and Retreat Centre Fund	22,268	15,635	(13,124)	(3,800)	-	20,979
Other small restricted funds	3,916	-	(1,416)	-	-	2,500
	<u>34,997</u>	<u>31,254</u>	<u>(34,069)</u>	<u>(3,800)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,381</u>
Aggregate of funds	<u>3,079,963</u>	<u>778,588</u>	<u>(524,618)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>3,334,118</u>

The CAP Fund is the Circuit's support for a Debt Centre Manager working on behalf of Christians Against Poverty. The Manager's salary and expenses and a monthly payment to CAP are covered by the Circuit.

The Norwood Chapel & Retreat Centre is a Circuit project and there is a small worshipping congregation. The finances currently form part of the Circuit accounts, but will move to the Chevin Multi-site church during 2025-2026.

As at 31st August 2025 the only "Other small Restricted Fund" was an historic one for support of small churches. With the demise of such need the Trustees have agreed this Fund should be closed and made available for General Purposes within the the Circuit.

The transfers referred to above were made for the following reasons:

- Transfers from the Circuit Model Trust Fund to the General Fund to cover the purchase of the new manse in Ilkley.
- Transfers from the Circuit Model Trust Fund to the General Fund towards the funding of two lay workers.
- Transfer from the Norwood Chapel Fund to the General Fund to pay Circuit Assessments for the year.

17 Funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets by fund

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,245,876	-	-	3,245,876
Debtors	34,955	101	850	35,906
Investments held as current assets	-	20,697	-	20,697
Cash at bank and in hand	72,833	52,728	27,563	153,124
Creditors falling due within one year	(100,403)	(21,050)	(31)	(121,485)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,253,261	52,476	28,381	3,334,118
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

17 Funds (continued)

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2024 £	Incoming resources 2024 £	Outgoing resources 2024 £	Transfers in the year 2024 £	Gains and losses 2024 £	Closing balance 2024 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
The Circuit Model Trust Fund	372,020	22,689	(51,782)	243,464	108	586,499
The Property Fund	12,500	-	-	-	-	12,500
The Beamsley Fund	24,636	12,853	(7,193)	-	-	30,296
	<hr/> 409,156	<hr/> 35,542	<hr/> (58,975)	<hr/> 243,464	<hr/> 108	<hr/> 629,295
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	<hr/> 2,615,258	<hr/> 673,265	<hr/> (632,193)	<hr/> (240,660)	<hr/> -	<hr/> 2,415,671
Total Unrestricted Funds	<hr/> 3,024,415	<hr/> 708,807	<hr/> (691,167)	<hr/> 2,804	<hr/> 108	<hr/> 3,044,967

17 Funds (continued)

Restricted Funds

CAP Fund	2,185	16,427	(9,800)	-	-	8,812
The Norwood Chapel and Retreat Centre Fund	17,893	15,201	(8,022)	(2,804)	-	22,268
Other small restricted funds	4,390	-	(473)	-	-	3,916
	<u>24,468</u>	<u>31,628</u>	<u>(18,296)</u>	<u>(2,804)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,997</u>
Aggregate of funds	<u>3,048,883</u>	<u>740,435</u>	<u>(709,463)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>3,079,963</u>

Analysis of net assets by fund

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,400,911	-	-	2,400,911
Debtors	35,642	2,812	670	39,124
Investments held as current assets	62,470	586,499	-	648,969
Cash at bank and in hand	94,575	40,344	35,168	170,087
Creditors falling due within one year	(177,927)	(360)	(841)	(179,128)
	<u>2,415,671</u>	<u>629,295</u>	<u>34,997</u>	<u>3,079,963</u>

18 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity:

- a) received donations totalling £nil (2024: £612) from related parties (which includes trustees, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- b) paid no expenses (2024: £nil) for / to trustees for carrying out duties associated with being trustees; reimbursements for expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity or incurred when undertaking employment duties not connected with serving as a trustee are not included in this disclosure.

Except as disclosed in note 8 'Analysis of staff costs', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

WHARFEDALE & AIREBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH CIRCUIT
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Note	Unrestricted funds				Unrestricted funds				
	General	Designated	Restricted	Total	General	Designated	Restricted	Total	
	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024	2024	2024	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:									
Donations and legacies	3	1,200	-	18,489	19,689	1,140	-	18,214	19,354
Charitable activities	4	404,969	300,046	-	705,015	399,033	4,693	-	403,726
Investments	5	3,096	28,711	840	32,647	(16,481)	30,849	13,414	27,782
Other Trading Activities	6		9,312	11,925	21,237				
Other income	7	-	-	-	-	261,006	-	-	261,006
Total income and endowments		409,265	338,069	31,254	778,588	644,697	35,542	31,628	711,867
EXPENDITURE ON:									
Charitable activities:	8	459,636	30,913	34,069	524,618	623,199	58,975	18,296	700,469
Total Expenditure		459,636	30,913	34,069	524,618	623,199	58,975	18,296	700,469
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	185		185	-	108		108
Net income/(expenditure)		(50,371)	307,341	(2,815)	254,155	21,499	(23,325)	13,333	11,506
Transfers between funds	17	887,960	(884,160)	(3,800)	-	(240,660)	243,464	(2,804)	-
Net movement in funds		837,589	(576,819)	(6,615)	254,155	(219,161)	220,139	10,529	11,506
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds brought forward		2,396,097	629,295	34,997	3,060,389	2,615,258	409,156	24,468	3,048,883
Total funds carried forward	17	3,233,687	52,476	28,381	3,314,544	2,396,097	629,295	34,997	3,060,389