

Trustees Annual Report

For the year ended 31 August 2021

Introduction

The Charity is constituted according to the approved governing document issued by the Methodist Conference.

Trustees are appointed by the Churches in the Circuit, voted by Circuit Meeting and by virtue of position held, e.g. Ministers.

Aims and organisation

The aim of the charity is the advancement of the Christian Faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards of the Methodist Church.

Mission Statement: We are the Christian people of the Torridge Methodist Circuit, working to deepen our love of God through worship, service and nurturing new disciples of Jesus Christ.

The Circuit has ten thousand pounds (£10,000) set aside for Mission activities. On production of a completed application form, prepared by the leadership team, individual churches may access an amount for their mission. Local churches are able to contribute to the mission fund as and when they are able, or desire.

Review of the year

Activities undertaken – Normally, the ministers of the Circuit provide religious services, baptisms, weddings, and funerals for the benefit of the public together with general appropriate counselling. Covid 19 restrictions are still limiting hospital, sick and pastoral visiting. However, the Covid situation has improved and this has enabled some face to face meeting to take place. The regular monthly prayer meetings are still being conducted via Zoom. Holy Communion has now become possible. Some meetings, such as Church Councils and Circuit Meetings, are now being conducted face to face and also on Zoom which allows members to choose how they attend. Weekly services are published in the monthly newsletter which is emailed to those who have email (only 45% of the members have access to internet) and posted to the rest.

Income trends

Circuit income is mainly derived from the assessments paid by each of the churches. Each year a new budget is agreed, and assessments are then reviewed. Because of the reduced number of services income is still down; however, an increasing number of members are now paying by direct debit or cheque, and this has improved the situation.

Rental income is received from two properties within the Circuit.

Interest is received from TMCP trust funds.

Expenditure trends

Stipends rise each financial year in line with Conference approved increases.

A sum of £28,520 is the Circuit's contribution to the District and Connexional fund, a significant part of which is used for the work of the wider Methodist Church.

To assist the churches to meet their assessment costs it was agreed to pay the sum of £15,000 from reserves.

Funds held as a custodian

Circuit Model Trust Fund	Unrestricted	£271,399
Trust Funds	Restricted	£110,054

Plans for the future

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there continues to be two full time ordained staff, one full-time Pastoral worker and one part-time Families worker. It also anticipates cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district.

A study/training time will be started on a monthly basis to encourage those who lead worship. Subjects covered include using PowerPoint, encouraging mission and service and sharing resources.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102.

Full Name of Charity: *The Torridge Methodist Circuit*

Registration Charity Number: *1132638*

Date of registration

Main communication address: *Webbery Cross Cottage, Webbery, Bideford, EX39 4PU*

The members of the Torridge Methodist Circuit Meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Circuit Ministers and Officers

Active Circuit Ministers *Rev Robert Blackhall – Superintendent Minister*

Rev Andrew Vidamour

Lay Pastoral Worker *Mr Frank Watson*

Circuit Stewards *Mrs Rose Peard*

Mrs Elsie Potter

Mrs Beryl Oke

Mrs Hilda Harris

Mrs Jenny Thurston

Mr Dave Watson

Administrator *Mrs Sarah Richards*

Name of treasurer acting as the principal officer overseeing the day-to-day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year.

Mrs Elsie Potter

Independent examiner: *Revd Graham Thompson*

18 Velwell Road

Exeter

EX4 4LE

Investment Bankers *Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church*

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

Current Account *NatWest*

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 4 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manse and/or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Leadership Team with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

Income and Expenditure is monitored and compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis. This is done to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

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 re-creation 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 have been 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 Torridge Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Torridge Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure everyone is clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable. All officers in the churches and in the Circuit must attend a training course as soon as they are appointed.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31st August

2021

2020

INCOME

Assessments	112037	89850
Interest on Investments (net)	221	884
Lettings	10605	8967
Transfers from Circuit Model Trust Fund	120000	85000
Donations	1600	300
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	244463	185001

EXPENDITURE

Ministerial Stipends	74679	92208
Circuit Administrator	9463	8415
Circuit Pastoral Worker	10237	-
NEST - Circuit Staff Pension Scheme	654	-
District Assessment	28521	28745
Travelling Expenses	1505	4488
Preaching Costs	694	1216
Stationery, Software, Postage and Printing	8260	7906
Graveyard Maintenance (net)	667	1275
Quinquennial Inspections	850	-
Manse Maintenance	2245	1998
Shebbear Manse Costs	(394)	1998
Council Tax	3900	3739
Water Rates	711	761
Telephone and Internet	3906	3163
Insurance	2851	3581
Training	-	204
Hospitality and Gifts	310	359
Benevolent Fund	(340)	500
Recruitment Costs	426	-
Grants	60976	4796
Mission Fund (net)	3804	190
PPE and Office Equipment	437	123
Clovelly Project (net)	500	135
Miscellaneous	164	167
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	215026	165967

Surplus Income over Expenditure

29437

19034

RECONCILIATION

Balances as at 31st August 2020

NatWest Account	20186.44
CFB Account	44137.78
Prepayments	6525.39
Loan - Buckland Brewer	7000.00
	<hr/>
	77849.61
Creditors	26292.18
	<hr/>
	51557.43
Add: Surplus Income over Expenditure	29437.45
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	80994.88
	<hr/> <hr/>

Balances as at 31st August 2021

NatWest Account	41577.65
CFB Account	52927.51
Prepayments	6119.81
Loan - Buckland Brewer	7000.00
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	107624.97
Creditors	26630.09
	<hr/>
	80994.88
	<hr/> <hr/>

Circuit Model Trust Fund

Opening Balance		413139.79
Interest		1320.77
		<hr/>
		414460.56
Annual District Levy	22235.48	
TMCP Charge	826.28	
Transfer to General Fund	120000.00	
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		143061.76
		<hr/>
Closing Balance as at 31st August 2021		271398.80
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Funds Held by TMCP

Fund 5232 - William Pett Bequest Cemetery Fund

Set up for the benefit of Rowden graveyard but could be used for any other graveyard.

Opening Balance	1196.91
Interest and Dividends	14.23
Gains on Investments	124.27
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	1335.41
TMCP Charge	2.39
	<hr/>
Closing Balance as at 31st August 2021	1333.02
	<hr/> <hr/>

Fund 10087 - Annie G. Ford Bequest

Fund set up for the benefit of Siloam graveyard only.

Opening Balance	2040.35
Interest and Dividends	37.62
Gains on Investments	374.54
	<hr/>
	2452.51
TMCP Charge	4.08
Transfer to General Fund	33.54
	<hr/>
	37.62
	<hr/>
Closing Balance as at 31st August 2021	2414.89
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Fund 22443 - Margaret Joan Tribble Bequest

Fund set up for the benefit of Bradford graveyard.

Opening Balance	2004.33
Interest and Dividends	6.73
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	2011.06
TMCP Charge	4.01
	<hr/>
Closing Balance as at 31st August 2021	2007.05
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Funds Held by TMCP *[continued]*

Fund 12022 - Various Bequests

For the support of graveyards but balance can be used for other Methodist purposes.

Opening Balance		104322.09
Interest and Dividends		355.09
		<hr/>
		104677.18
Losses on Investments	23.29	
TMCP Charge	208.64	
Transfer to General Fund	146.45	
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Closing Balance as at 31st August 2021		104298.80
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Fund 13031 – Miss Mary Lemon Bequest

For the support of Ministers appointed to serve in the Torridge Circuit

Opening Balance		128116.75
Interest and Dividends		1882.08
Gains on Investments		17666.77
		<hr/>
		147665.60
TMCP Charge	256.23	
Transfer to General Fund	1621.52	
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Closing Balance as at 31st August 2021		145787.85
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Donations

During the year, the Circuit made a number of Donations. Large gifts were given to enable the ministry of the District Rural Support Worker (£40,000) and Youth Genesis (£20,000). Smaller gifts were made to the Royal British Legion, the District Benevolent Fund, Methodist Homes, the South West Heritage Centre and the Family Friendly Churches Trust.

The General Fund also received £415 from churches that was then transferred to one of the charitable funds operated by the Methodist Church.

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

Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2020-21
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income						
1 Donations and legacies	1,600		710			2,310
2 Income from monetary investments	430	1,321		59	1,882	3,692
3 Income from investment properties	10,605					10,605
4 Assessments on Churches	112,037					112,037
5 Capital Receipts						0
6 Grants received						0
7 Other charitable income						
8 Total income	124,672	1,321	710	59	1,882	128,644
Expenditure						
9 Grants and donations	60,976		3,464			64,440
10 Salaries and associated costs	95,727					95,727
11 Property maintenance	10,163					10,163
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy						0
13 District Assessment & Levy	28,521	22,236				50,757
14 Depreciation						0
15 Office expenses	12,603					12,603
16 Other outgoings	4,350	826	1,792	11	260	7,239
17 Total charitable expenditure	212,340	23,062	5,256	11	260	240,929
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	23			499	17,667	18,143
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						
20 Net income/(expenditure)	-87,691	-21,741	-4,546	547	19,289	-94,142
21 Transfers between funds	121,655	120,000		33	1,622	0
22 Other gains/(losses)						
23 Net movement in funds	33,964	-141,741	-4,546	514	17,667	-94,142
24 Total funds brought forward	1,192,213	413,140	73,666	5,241	128,117	1,812,377
25 Total funds carried forward	1,226,177	271,399	69,120	5,755	145,784	1,718,235

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

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Totals 2019/20	£
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General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2020/21
£	£	£	£	£	£

Notes to the
Accounts

Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	680,000				680,000
Investment properties	430,000				430,000
Investments	1,209			113,909	115,118
Total fixed assets	1,111,209	0	0	113,909	1,225,118

Current Assets

Debtors	6,120				6,120
Loans by the Circuit	7,000				7,000
Investments with TMCP	33,973	271,399	69,120	31,875	412,122
Central Finance Board Deposits	52,927				52,927
Cash at Bank and in hand	41,578				41,578
Total current assets	141,598	271,399	69,120	31,875	519,747

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	26,630				26,630
Grants payable within 2020-21					0
Total current liabilities	26,630	0	0	0	26,630
Net current assets/liabilities	114,968	271,399	69,120	31,875	493,117

Total assets less current liabilities	1,226,177
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Total assets less current liabilities	1,226,177
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Total assets less current liabilities	1,226,177
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Long term liabilities

(due after more than one year)					
Grants payable after 2020-21					0
Loans to the Circuit					0
Net assets	1,226,177	271,399	69,120	145,784	1,718,235

Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)	1,226,177				1,226,177
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)		271,399			271,399
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			69,120		69,120
Total Unrestricted Funds					1,566,696
Restricted Funds				5,755	5,755
Endowment Funds				145,784	145,784
Total Funds	1,226,177	271,399	69,120	5,755	1,718,235

Total Funds	1,226,177
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Total Funds	1,226,177
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Total Funds	1,226,177
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Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2019-20 £
Income							
1	Donations and legacies	300		514	2,000		2,814
2	Income from monetary investments	857	2,646		63	2,211	5,777
3	Income from investment properties	8,967					8,967
4	Assessments on Churches	89,850					89,850
5	Capital Receipts						0
6	Grants received						0
7	Other charitable income			150			150
8	Total income	99,974	2,646	664	2,063	2,211	107,558
Expenditure							
9	Grants and donations	6,747					6,747
10	Salaries and associated costs	101,839					101,839
11	Property maintenance	12,077					12,077
12	Connexional assessment & model trust levy	120,465					120,465
13	District Assessment & Levy	28,745	12,055				40,800
14	Depreciation						0
15	Office expenses	11,192					11,192
16	Other outgoings	5,353	555	2,629	6	260	8,803
17	Total charitable expenditure	286,418	12,610	2,629	6	260	301,923
18	Gains/(losses) on monetary investments				49	1,728	-1,777
19	Gains/(losses) on investment properties						-8,836
20	Net income/(expenditure)	-195,280	-9,964	-1,965	2,008	223	-204,978
21	Transfers between funds	-	143,711	145,699	-	37	1,951
22	Other gains/(losses)						0
23	Net movement in funds	-338,991	135,735	-1,965	1,971	-1,728	-204,978
24	Total funds brought forward	1,531,204	277,405	75,631	3,270	129,845	2,017,355
25	Total funds carried forward	1,192,213	413,140	73,666	5,241	128,117	1,812,377

Declarations and Scrutiny

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

Signature of treasurer *E. S. Potter* Date *10 March 22*

Name and address of treasurer Mrs Elsie Potter

..... Webbery Cross Cottage, Webbery, Bideford, Devon..... Post Code EX39 4PU

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 10th March 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Robert J Blackhall*

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev'd Robert Blackhall

Date *10/3/22*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

.....**SEE SEPARATE SHEET**.....

Charity Number

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages ... to As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Torridge Methodist Circuit

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Torridge Circuit (the Trust) for the year ended 31st August 2021

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

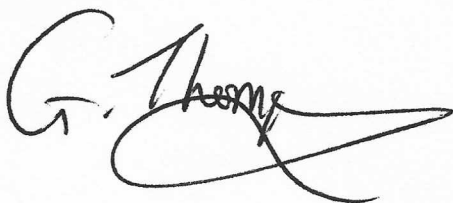
Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Signed:



Name: Revd. Canon Graham Thompson

Address: 18 Velwell Road
Exeter
EX4 4LE

Date: 14th January 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Torridge Methodist Circuit

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Torridge Circuit (the Trust) for the year ended 31st August 2021

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
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Signed:



Name: Revd. Canon Graham Thompson

Address: 18 Velwell Road
Exeter
EX4 4LE

Date: 14th January 2022