

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025  
FOR  
BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

J W Hinks LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
19 Highfield Road  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham  
West Midlands  
B15 3BH

**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The Birmingham (West) and Oldbury Circuit is a part of the West Midlands Methodist District. West Midlands Methodist District is a new family of Methodist churches and circuits in the West Midlands, launched in September 2025.

The Circuit continues to support ordained and lay ministry in local churches and their communities. Care and support is given to those of all communities and faiths as we follow Christ's command to love our neighbours.

The Circuit is responsible for 10 churches providing religious activities for their members in Birmingham, Dudley and Sandwell. These activities are supervised by the circuit ministers, lay workers and appointed lay preachers and worship leaders, the majority of whom are volunteers.

**Mission statement**

The aim of this circuit is to enable the churches and Christians in the area covered by the circuit to:

1. Live the Christian faith in local communities in relevant ways
2. Stimulate and broaden their mission by:
  - (a) leading people into a loving relationship with Christ
  - (b) serving the community and working for social justice
3. Create a policy relevant to the local situation
4. Develop a sense of belonging to the wider church of Christ - ecumenically, connexionally and internationally
5. Support and encourage one another and share resources - people, property, finances and worship.

**Review of the year**

Throughout the year there were 10 churches: Causeway Green, City Road, Court Oak, Ladywood, Quinton, Ridgacre, Rounds Green, St Johns, Warley Woods and West Smethwick.

There were three full-time ministers throughout the year under review. Rev Nutan Suray, a full-time minister, left the circuit on 31 August 2025. Rev Ann Varker, FTE 75%, joined the circuit on 1 September 2025.

At 31 August 2025 the circuit owned three manses. No investment properties were held during the year. No properties were sold during the year.

Mrs Rebekah Button, the circuit administrator, increased her hours from FTE 60% to FTE 80% on 1 September 2025, to reflect an additional responsibility for Safeguarding matters.

Several churches face challenges relating to membership numbers, buildings and difficulty in finding volunteers to fill key roles. The circuit leadership team continues to review the mission life of the circuit.

All churches have paid their assessments in 2024-25. However, it is recognised that money raised from church assessments does not cover circuit costs. The circuit meeting has agreed that the Circuit Model Trust Fund (an unrestricted fund in which capital transactions are recorded) may be used, in the short term, to subsidise the General Fund. During 2024-25 £70,000 was transferred from the Circuit Model Trust Fund to the General Fund.

**Public benefit**

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial position**

During the year, the circuit recorded total income from all sources amounting to £234K (2024 - £247K). The circuit disbursed £320K (2024 - £492K), giving a net deficit of expenditure over income of £86K (2024 - £245K). Total reserves at 31 August 2025 were £2,068K (2024 - £2,154K). £913K represents Freehold Land & Buildings (2024 - £913K). £56K (2024 - £48K) represent restricted funds.

No fund was in deficit at 31 August 2025.

## **BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Investment policy and performance**

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, money for long term investment is lodged with TMCP "Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes" or with CFB "Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church. TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. CFB manages a common deposit fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain. Interest rates from deposits with TMCP and CFB reflect deposit rates available elsewhere. The investment policy of the circuit is aligned with those of TMCP and CFB, who take into account the social, environmental and ethical considerations that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Interest received during the year ended 31 August 2025 was £54K (2024 - £72K).

##### **Reserves policy**

"Free Reserves" represent the balance on the General Fund, the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Bequests Fund: £2,012K (2024 - £2,106K). Total reserves at 31 August 2025 were £2,068K (2024 - £2,154K). £913K (2024 - £913K) represent Freehold Land & Buildings. £55K (2024 - £48K) represent restricted funds.

The General Fund derives its income principally from church contributions (also known as assessments). This income goes towards financing the day-to-day running costs of the circuit. The trustees believe that the balance on the General Fund should, under normal circumstances, be in the region of £80K - £110K, to cover four to six months of circuit running costs. In order to maintain this level, the circuit meeting has agreed that transfers from the Circuit Model Trust Fund into the General Fund can be made, to reflect the fact that income from church assessments does not currently cover the running costs of the circuit.

The Beginagen 2 Fund holds money given specifically for that project within a ring-fenced fund. The donor's wishes are that the money be used for community projects. Grants have been made from the fund during 2024-25. The balance of the money remains ring-fenced for future projects.

##### **Going concern**

The trustees of the circuit have every reason to believe that the circuit is a going concern. The churches continue to meet their assessments. However, assessment income received from the churches is not sufficient to cover costs of the circuit. The sale of various properties during 2022-23 means that the circuit has considerable funds held within the Circuit Model Trust Fund. Recognising the fact that assessment income from the churches is not sufficient to cover the annual costs of the General Fund, transfers from the Circuit Model Trust Fund into the General Fund will be available and necessary for the foreseeable future. Reserves policies are reviewed annually.

There are no subsidiary undertakings.

#### **FUTURE EVENTS**

After the end of the financial year, the following developments are reported:

- Rev Nutan Suray left the circuit on 31 August 2025.
- Rev Ann Varker, FTE 75%, joined the circuit on 31 August 2025.
- The stationing process is underway for a new appointment in September 2026, as Rev Ilidio de Oliveira is due to leave the circuit on 31 August 2026.
- A Mission Review meeting in November 2025 received reports from all 10 churches. The meeting reflected positivity and hope for the future. All churches are being encouraged to increase their membership.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976 and the Deed of Union 1932.

##### **Governance**

The district operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders.

**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Organisational structure**

Individual Methodist churches are grouped within circuits, which are in turn grouped within districts. All districts, circuits and churches are part of the Methodist "Connexion" (see **related parties** below). Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference, which meets once a year. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) within circuits. Connexional decisions are passed to the districts for implementation.

The District Synod meets twice a year.

**Management**

The circuit is governed by the trustees consisting of the circuit officers and representatives of each of the churches. The trustees hold at least three meetings each year. The responsibilities of the Circuit Meeting are laid down in Methodist Standing Orders. The circuit meeting is supported by the leadership team which consist of the ministers, lay worker and circuit stewards, which meets before each circuit meeting to fix the agenda and make recommendations. Other committees report to the circuit meeting on finance, property and any other matters which the circuit meeting so decides.

The circuit supports 3 full time presbyters to exercise pastoral oversight of the churches that make up the circuit. There is a salaried Operations Manager and a self-employed Finance Officer. The circuit also provides voluntary support and leadership in the form of local preachers, a lay minister, circuit stewards and trustees. Other office holders support the churches with help and advice on property, finance, worship and work with young people. We continue to serve the changing communities where the churches are located.

**Related parties**

Methodist Church in Britain ("the Connexion")

Birmingham Methodist District to 31 August 2025

West Midlands Methodist District from 1 September 2025

The churches within the circuit during 2024-25 were:

Causeway Green Methodist Church

City Road Methodist Church

Court Oak Methodist Church

Ladywood Methodist Church

Quinton Methodist Church

Ridgacre Methodist Church

Rounds Green Methodist Church

St Johns Methodist Church

Warley Woods Methodist Church

West Smethwick Methodist Church

Details of transactions with related parties are shown in Note 14 to the accounts.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**

1133064

**Principal address**

9 Leahouse Gardens

Oldbury

B68 8PX

**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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**Trustees**

The members of the Birmingham (West) and Oldbury 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**

Trustees who served between 1 September 2024 and signing date of accounts to 31 August 2025:

**Circuit staff**

Rev M Chisvo  
Rev N Suray (resigned 31 August 2025)  
Rev I Christino de Oliveira Jr  
Rev A Varker (appointed 1 September 2025)  
Rev B Taylor  
Mr J Cowan

**Other trustees**

Mrs J Tolley  
Mr F Marius  
Mr H Njoh  
Mr T Ding  
Mr J Larwood  
Mr C Haynes  
Mr E Hall  
Mrs A Davis  
Mr R Atkiss  
Mr L Hamilton  
Mrs J James  
Mrs V Gadd  
Mrs C Hallam  
Mr D Hallam  
Miss M Scott  
Miss C Scott  
Miss J Thompson  
Mr L Parkes  
Mr A Burridge  
Mrs F Houten  
Mrs R Bissell  
Mrs A Mansell  
Mrs D Knott  
Mr P Knott  
Mrs I Nott  
Miss V Leocque  
Mrs K Darby  
Mrs H Butler  
Mr G Taylor  
Mrs K Dell  
Mrs J Mosedale  
Miss E Homer  
Ms J Hall (appointed 1 September 2025)  
Mrs I Clarke  
Mrs D Black  
Miss O Wilson  
Mrs V Wilson

**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Independent Examiner**

James Cruse FCA, FCCA

J W Hinks LLP

Chartered Accountants

19 Highfield Road

Edgbaston

Birmingham

West Midlands

B15 3BH

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 17 March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev M Chisvo - Trustee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Chisvo', with three horizontal lines underneath.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

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**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Birmingham (West) & Oldbury Methodist Circuit**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Birmingham (West) & Oldbury Methodist Circuit (the Trust) for the year ended 31 August 2025.

**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 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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.



James Cruse FCA, FCCA

J W Hinks LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
19 Highfield Road  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham  
West Midlands  
B15 3BH

17 March 2026



**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

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

|                                    |       | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2025<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2024<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                    | Notes |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| <b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>  |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>       | 3     |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Assessments from churches          |       | 165,000                    | -                        | 165,000                     | 159,440                     |
| Donations                          |       | 1,368                      | 10,005                   | 11,373                      | 10,005                      |
| Other                              |       | 3,216                      | -                        | 3,216                       | 5,336                       |
| Investment income                  | 2     | 54,559                     | -                        | 54,559                      | 72,222                      |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <b>224,143</b>             | <b>10,005</b>            | <b>234,148</b>              | <b>247,003</b>              |
| <b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>              |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>       | 4     |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Support costs                      |       | 203,804                    | -                        | 203,804                     | 277,981                     |
| Contribution to Methodist funds    |       | 107,638                    | -                        | 107,638                     | 147,474                     |
| Grants and donations               |       | 6,403                      | 2,650                    | 9,053                       | 66,998                      |
| <b>Total</b>                       |       | <b>317,845</b>             | <b>2,650</b>             | <b>320,495</b>              | <b>492,453</b>              |
| <b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>    |       | <b>(93,702)</b>            | <b>7,355</b>             | <b>(86,347)</b>             | <b>(245,450)</b>            |
| <b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>     |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Total funds brought forward        |       | 2,105,746                  | 48,252                   | 2,153,998                   | 2,399,448                   |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b> |       | <b>2,012,044</b>           | <b>55,607</b>            | <b>2,067,651</b>            | <b>2,153,998</b>            |

The notes form part of these financial statements

**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

**BALANCE SHEET  
31 AUGUST 2025**

|  | Notes | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | 2025<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ | 2024<br>Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|--|-------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                          |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Tangible assets                              | 8     | 913,381                    | -                        | 913,381                     | 913,381                     |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                        |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Debtors                                      | 9     | 12,329                     | -                        | 12,329                      | 15,023                      |
| Cash at bank                                 |       | 1,093,581                  | 55,607                   | 1,149,188                   | 1,229,466                   |
|  |       | <u>1,105,910</u>           | <u>55,607</u>            | <u>1,161,517</u>            | <u>1,244,489</u>            |
| <b>CREDITORS</b>                             |       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Amounts falling due within one year          | 10    | (7,247)                    | -                        | (7,247)                     | (3,872)                     |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>                    |       | <u>1,098,663</u>           | <u>55,607</u>            | <u>1,154,270</u>            | <u>1,240,617</u>            |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b> |       | <u>2,012,044</u>           | <u>55,607</u>            | <u>2,067,651</u>            | <u>2,153,998</u>            |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                            |       | <u>2,012,044</u>           | <u>55,607</u>            | <u>2,067,651</u>            | <u>2,153,998</u>            |
| <b>FUNDS</b>                                 | 11    |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Unrestricted funds                           |       |                            |                          | 2,012,044                   | 2,105,746                   |
| Restricted funds                             |       |                            |                          | 55,607                      | 48,252                      |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                           |       |                            |                          | <u>2,067,651</u>            | <u>2,153,998</u>            |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 17 March 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

M Chisvo - Trustee



The notes form part of these financial statements

**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

|   | Notes | 2025<br>£               | 2024<br>£               |
|---|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                               |       |                         |                         |
| Cash generated from operations  | 1     | <u>(134,837)</u>        | <u>(192,945)</u>        |
| Net cash used in operating activities                                     |       | <u>(134,837)</u>        | <u>(192,945)</u>        |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                               |       |                         |                         |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets   |       | -                       | (452,391)               |
| Interest received   |       | <u>54,559</u>           | <u>72,222</u>           |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities                       |       | <u>54,559</u>           | <u>(380,169)</u>        |
| <b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>        |       | <u>(80,278)</u>         | <u>(573,114)</u>        |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b> |       | <u>1,229,466</u>        | <u>1,802,580</u>        |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>       |       | <u><u>1,149,188</u></u> | <u><u>1,229,466</u></u> |

The notes form part of these financial statements

**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

**NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

**1. RECONCILIATION OF NET EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

|  | <b>2025</b>      | <b>2024</b>      |
|--|------------------|------------------|
|  | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>         |
| <b>Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b> | <b>(86,347)</b>  | <b>(245,450)</b> |
| <b>Adjustments for:</b>  |                  |                  |
| Interest received  | (54,559)         | (72,222)         |
| Decrease in debtors  | 2,694            | 144,182          |
| Increase/(decrease) in creditors   | 3,375            | (19,455)         |
| <b>Net cash used in operations</b>   | <b>(134,837)</b> | <b>(192,945)</b> |

**2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

|                 | <b>At 1.9.24</b> | <b>Cash flow</b> | <b>At 31.8.25</b> |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                 | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>          |
| <b>Net cash</b> |                  |                  |                   |
| Cash at bank    | 1,229,466        | (80,278)         | 1,149,188         |
|                 | <u>1,229,466</u> | <u>(80,278)</u>  | <u>1,149,188</u>  |
| <b>Total</b>    | <u>1,229,466</u> | <u>(80,278)</u>  | <u>1,149,188</u>  |

The notes form part of these financial statements

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

**INCOME RECOGNITION**

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue to the circuit. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers.

**RESOURCES EXPENDED**

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

**GOVERNANCE COSTS**

These are costs associated with the general running of the charity and its strategic management, rather than the costs of its charitable activities and day to day management.

**TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

Fixed assets and investment properties are recognised at cost or fair valuation.

**DEPRECIATION**

Depreciation was charged on freehold property up until 31 August 2020 at 2% straight line method. Depreciation is no longer charged on freehold property as the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the properties in their present conditions to be no less than the value as which they are stated in the Balance Sheet. In the absence of any evidence of impairment, any potential depreciation charges on the properties would be immaterial.

The three manse (freehold properties), where circuit ministers reside, are: 9 Leahouse Gardens, 2 Wall Close, Smethwick and 8 Hickmans Close, Halesowen.

**TAXATION**

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**FUND ACCOUNTING**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for specified purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specified purposes.

**PENSION COSTS AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS**

The Methodist Church operates a defined benefit pension scheme for its ministers. A defined contribution scheme is operated for lay employees. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

**VAT**

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

**GOING CONCERN**

**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

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

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the charity has adequate monetary assets and human resources available to continue in operation as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**CONSOLIDATION**

Birmingham (West) & Oldbury Methodist Circuit oversees the work of ministers and lay workers in the churches within the circuit but does not have financial control over those churches. For this reason, the financial statements of the churches within the circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

**DEBTORS**

Debtors are recorded at transaction price.

**CREDITORS**

Creditors are recorded at transaction price.

**2. INVESTMENT INCOME**

|                          | 2025          | 2024          |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | £             | £             |
| Deposit account interest | <u>54,559</u> | <u>72,222</u> |

**3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

|                           | Activity                  | 2025           | 2024           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                           |                           | £              | £              |
| Assessments from churches | Assessments from churches | 165,000        | 159,440        |
| Donations                 | Donations                 | 11,373         | 10,005         |
| Other                     | Other                     | 3,216          | 5,336          |
|                           |                           | <u>179,589</u> | <u>174,781</u> |

**4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

|                                 | Direct<br>Costs<br>£ | Support<br>costs (see<br>note 5)<br>£ | Totals<br>£    |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Support costs                   | -                    | 203,804                               | 203,804        |
| Contribution to Methodist funds | 107,638              | -                                     | 107,638        |
| Grants and donations            | 9,053                | -                                     | 9,053          |
|                                 | <u>116,691</u>       | <u>203,804</u>                        | <u>320,495</u> |

**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

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

**5. SUPPORT COSTS**

|               | Other<br>£     | Governance<br>costs<br>£ | Totals<br>£    |
|---------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Support costs | <u>201,404</u> | <u>2,400</u>             | <u>203,804</u> |

**6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2025 nor for the year ended 31 August 2024.

**TRUSTEES' EXPENSES**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2025 nor for the year ended 31 August 2024.

**7. STAFF COSTS**

|                       | 2025<br>£      | 2024<br>£      |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Wages and salaries    | 117,735        | 104,929        |
| Social security costs | 12,283         | 9,750          |
| Other pension costs   | 19,807         | 24,239         |
|                       | <u>149,825</u> | <u>138,918</u> |

Staff costs include stipends paid to ministers and salaries paid to lay workers.

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

|               | 2025     | 2024     |
|---------------|----------|----------|
| Ministers     | 3        | 3        |
| Lay employees | 1        | 1        |
|               | <u>4</u> | <u>4</u> |

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

**8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

|  | Freehold<br>property<br>£ |
|--|---------------------------|
| <b>COST</b>                            |                           |
| At 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025 | <u>964,601</u>            |
| <b>DEPRECIATION</b>                    |                           |
| At 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025 | <u>51,220</u>             |
| <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>                  |                           |
| At 31 August 2025                      | <u>913,381</u>            |
| At 31 August 2024                      | <u>913,381</u>            |

As at 31 August 2025 the Circuit owned 3 manses (2024: 3).

**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

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

**9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

|               | 2025<br>£     | 2024<br>£     |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Other debtors | <u>12,329</u> | <u>15,023</u> |

**10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

|                 | 2025<br>£    | 2024<br>£    |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Other creditors | <u>7,247</u> | <u>3,872</u> |

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

|                           | At 1.9.24<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | Transfers<br>between<br>funds<br>£ | At<br>31.8.25<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                                    |                    |
| General fund              | 92,007           | (69,392)                         | 70,000                             | 92,615             |
| Circuit model trust fund  | 1,060,484        | (26,082)                         | (70,000)                           | 964,402            |
| Property fund             | 913,381          | -                                | -                                  | 913,381            |
| Bequests fund             | 39,874           | 1,772                            | -                                  | 41,646             |
|                           | <u>2,105,746</u> | <u>(93,702)</u>                  | <u>-</u>                           | <u>2,012,044</u>   |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                                    |                    |
| Beginagen 2 fund          | 48,252           | 7,355                            | -                                  | 55,607             |
|                           | <u>48,252</u>    | <u>7,355</u>                     | <u>-</u>                           | <u>55,607</u>      |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>2,153,998</u> | <u>(86,347)</u>                  | <u>-</u>                           | <u>2,067,651</u>   |

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 174,091                    | (243,483)                  | (69,392)                  |
| Circuit model trust fund  | 48,151                     | (74,233)                   | (26,082)                  |
| Bequests fund             | 1,901                      | (129)                      | 1,772                     |
|                           | <u>224,143</u>             | <u>(317,845)</u>           | <u>(93,702)</u>           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Beginagen 2 fund          | 10,005                     | (2,650)                    | 7,355                     |
|                           | <u>10,005</u>              | <u>(2,650)</u>             | <u>7,355</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>234,148</u>             | <u>(320,495)</u>           | <u>(86,347)</u>           |



**BIRMINGHAM (WEST) & OLDBURY METHODIST  
CIRCUIT**

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

**11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

|                           | At 1.9.23<br>£          | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | Transfers<br>between<br>funds<br>£ | At<br>31.8.24<br>£      |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                         |                                  |                                    |                         |
| General fund              | 93,139                  | (198,293)                        | 197,161                            | 92,007                  |
| Circuit model trust fund  | 1,763,342               | (53,306)                         | (649,552)                          | 1,060,484               |
| Property fund             | 460,990                 | -                                | 452,391                            | 913,381                 |
| Bequests fund             | 37,932                  | 1,942                            | -                                  | 39,874                  |
|                           | <u>2,355,403</u>        | <u>(249,657)</u>                 | <u>-</u>                           | <u>2,105,746</u>        |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                         |                                  |                                    |                         |
| Beginagen 2 fund          | 44,045                  | 4,207                            | -                                  | 48,252                  |
|                           | <u>44,045</u>           | <u>4,207</u>                     | <u>-</u>                           | <u>48,252</u>           |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u><u>2,399,448</u></u> | <u><u>(245,450)</u></u>          | <u><u>-</u></u>                    | <u><u>2,153,998</u></u> |

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 170,593                    | (368,886)                  | (198,293)                 |
| Circuit model trust fund  | 64,356                     | (117,662)                  | (53,306)                  |
| Bequests fund             | 2,049                      | (107)                      | 1,942                     |
|                           | <u>236,998</u>             | <u>(486,655)</u>           | <u>(249,657)</u>          |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Beginagen 2 fund          | 10,005                     | (5,798)                    | 4,207                     |
|                           | <u>10,005</u>              | <u>(5,798)</u>             | <u>4,207</u>              |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u><u>247,003</u></u>      | <u><u>(492,453)</u></u>    | <u><u>(245,450)</u></u>   |

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

|                           | At 1.9.23<br>£   | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | Transfers<br>between<br>funds<br>£ | At<br>31.8.25<br>£ |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                  |                                  |                                    |                    |
| General fund              | 93,139           | (267,685)                        | 267,161                            | 92,615             |
| Circuit model trust fund  | 1,763,342        | (79,388)                         | (719,552)                          | 964,402            |
| Property fund             | 460,990          | -                                | 452,391                            | 913,381            |
| Bequests fund             | 37,932           | 3,714                            | -                                  | 41,646             |
|                           | <u>2,355,403</u> | <u>(343,359)</u>                 | <u>-</u>                           | <u>2,012,044</u>   |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                  |                                  |                                    |                    |
| Beginagen 2 fund          | 44,045           | 11,562                           | -                                  | 55,607             |
|                           | <u>44,045</u>    | <u>11,562</u>                    | <u>-</u>                           | <u>55,607</u>      |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>2,399,448</u> | <u>(331,797)</u>                 | <u>-</u>                           | <u>2,067,651</u>   |

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

|                           | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |                            |                            |                           |
| General fund              | 344,684                    | (612,369)                  | (267,685)                 |
| Circuit model trust fund  | 112,507                    | (191,895)                  | (79,388)                  |
| Bequests fund             | 3,950                      | (236)                      | 3,714                     |
|                           | <u>461,141</u>             | <u>(804,500)</u>           | <u>(343,359)</u>          |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>   |                            |                            |                           |
| Beginagen 2 fund          | 20,010                     | (8,448)                    | 11,562                    |
|                           | <u>20,010</u>              | <u>(8,448)</u>             | <u>11,562</u>             |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>        | <u>481,151</u>             | <u>(812,948)</u>           | <u>(331,797)</u>          |

**General fund**

The general fund represents the surplus free funds of the charity that are not designated for particular purposes and therefore available for the aims and objectives of the charity.

**Circuit model trust fund - designated**

The circuit model trust fund represents designated funds set aside for the furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

**Property fund - designated**

The property fund represents designated funds set aside in respect of properties (fixed and investment) held by the charity.

**Bequests fund - designated**

The bequests fund represents a designated funds set aside for any future bequests.

**Beginagen 2 fund - restricted**

The Beginagen 2 fund represents a restricted fund for community projects approved by the donor.

**12. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

No contingent liabilities were identified at 31 August 2025.

**13. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

At 31 August 2025 the Circuit had no capital commitments.

**14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

The Circuit received assessment income from the Methodist churches in the circuit totalling £165,000 (2024: £159,440). The circuit paid to Birmingham Methodist District £107,638 (2024: £147,474) for contributions to Methodist church funds at district and connexional level.