

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1133077

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022
for
GORDANO VALLEY METHODIST CIRCUIT**

GORDANO VALLEY METHODIST CIRCUIT
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31ST August 2022

The Trustees present their report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2022.

1 Objectives and activities

In setting the objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit Meeting (under the leadership of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT), meets twice in each year, has 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 and conforms to the Charity Act 2011.

Our aim is to encourage and enable people of all ages to become followers of Jesus Christ, and to learn and grow in Christian faith.

The Gordano Valley Circuit is committed to celebrating and sharing the good news of the Gospel; that God loves us, Jesus died for our sins and is risen, and the Holy Spirit gives us strength and inspiration in our daily lives. We seek growth and renewal through the centrality of prayer and scripture, worship, and sacrament.

We aim to do this by:

Passing it on

- By encouraging mission and outreach as an integral part of the life of every Christian and every congregation.
- By offering appropriate pastoral care to those inside and outside the Church.
- By continuing to develop God-glorifying worship and teaching which is engaging and relevant to people of all ages and abilities.

People

- By recognizing that everyone is valuable and has something to offer and by encouraging everyone's gifts.
- By placing a priority on the work with children and young people, while recognizing the needs of all generations.
- By working in local communities to build bridges with those outside Church lives.
- By resourcing ministers and lay staff to work in mission alongside Circuit Stewards and the congregation of the Circuit's churches.
- By working ecumenically and with other circuits where appropriate.
- By identifying and resourcing training needs within the Circuit.

Property

- By prioritising 'good practice' in all things including the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, risk assessment, health and safety, employment and trusteeship.
- By making sure that churches in the Circuit are well maintained, well resourced, and welcoming to all through good stewardship of the money and buildings which have been entrusted to us.
- By linking into District and Connexional resources of the Methodist Church.

2 Achievements and performance

Over the last year the churches in the Circuit have gradually and cautiously been returning to pre-Covid activity, reopening the buildings and resuming activity. Sunday worship has gradually been resumed on site, with various restrictions being lifted in carefully monitored stages, with some online presence continuing. Midweek activity has also gradually been returning, and lettings to community groups has slowly started to return. Many members have been very slow to return but have been very carefully watched over pastorally. Conversely, a lot of new people have started coming to some of the churches and are entering into active membership. Challenges remain, not least financial, having suffered much under lockdown, but there are also signs of new growth.

One person has been accredited as a local preacher and is now about to offer for ordination in the Methodist Church. The Circuit continues to train three others – one of whom has just commenced in the last year.

The building project at Portishead, creating a community café and hub on the High Street, has now been completed and is starting to get up and running.

Volunteers

Almost all of the work undertaken by the churches is that of volunteers, from preaching and leading worship to youth and children's work, pastoral visiting, stewardship of finance and buildings, right through to administration and forming of mission policy. The Circuit continues to seek to engage everyone in the churches to discern their own sense of calling and to live it out in local service.

2.1 Plans for future years

1. The circuit has a Mission Action Plan around the four aspects of the Methodist Church 'Our Calling' statement, and this will be used to continue to monitor ongoing work.
2. Over the next 12 months, to strategically evaluate the size of the staff team, its deployment and the configuration of churches, with a view to maximizing the most effective mission strategy, mindful that two of the staff are due to go through the invitations process towards the end of this next year.
3. To continue to develop the growing culture of being outward looking as churches.
4. To help support Portishead High Street in implementing new outreach work now the new building project has been completed.
5. To help support Kenn Road Church in Clevedon as it appoints a new Community Outreach Worker.
6. To ensure that new community engagement / outreach initiatives are sustainable.
7. To continue to grow leadership especially through the vocation of local preachers and worship leaders.
8. To continue to ensure that the Circuit and all the churches within it are kept updated with training and resource for safeguarding.
9. To continue to focus on the priority of growing the work with children and young people across the Circuit, resourcing the churches and making the most of opportunities both in District and Connexional Methodism and the wider Church.
10. To support all eight churches in seeking ways to be Church effectively in a post-lockdown world.

3 Financial review

During the year, the Circuit received total income of £295,724 (2020-21 £279,712) and dispersed £291,794 (2020-21 £283,419). The Trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern. Churches meet their assessments, and the Circuit has reserves to cover a shortfall in anticipated income. The ongoing financial effects of Covid 19 and the subsequent energy crisis on individual church finances is uncertain with some loss of income from giving and lettings and the effects of rising inflation.

The Circuit has the following principal sources of funds:

- Assessments on churches within the Circuit
- Contributions towards the cost of Lay Workers by churches

3.1 Investment Policy and Performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by circuits and for all large (over £20K) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the Circuit. Currently, the circuit has no funds lodged with TMCP.

Short term deposits are held in a deposit account at the Central Finance Board (CFB) at rates of interest that reflect the financial market.

3.2 Reserves

The Circuit has agreed to maintain a minimum reserve based four months' expenditure (excluding Ministers' stipends), half of which to be held by the Circuit with half to be held by circuit churches, plus approximately one year's budgeted expenditure on manse maintenance, a £1,000 allowance for mission initiatives and an allowance for future stationing costs. The reserves at 31st August were

	2022	2021
Policy Minimum Reserves	£46,612	£45,494
Actual Reserves	£62,929	£58,998

3.3 Collaborative arrangements with connected charities

The Circuit's main source of income is the assessments obtained from each church within the Circuit based on free will giving plus Gift Aid and membership, split 60% on income and 40% on membership worked on a three-year average. Part of the assessment paid by churches includes the District assessment on the Circuit in respect of central costs of the Connexion and the District's own costs.

GORDANO VALLEY METHODIST CIRCUIT
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31ST August 2022

4 Trustees' responsibilities

4.1 Risk

The Circuit is largely risk free, insofar as its costs are covered by the assessment on local churches. The main financial risk would be a shortfall in income should a church be unable to meet its assessment. During the year the Circuit has reviewed its policies for

- Safeguarding
- Conflict of Interest
- Risk Management
- Social Media
- Complaints
- Reserves
- Lay Employment
- Methodist Church Privacy Notice
- Privacy Notice and Data Mapping
- Volunteer Management

5 Structure, governance, and management

The Circuit is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 2nd December 2009.

5.1 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of churches; Circuits pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the churches in the Circuit; most decisions are made or ratified at the Circuit meeting. A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at the half yearly synods. The Methodist conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist churches.

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

5.2 Purpose of the Circuit

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

- a. The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church, and
- b. Any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and
- c. Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and
- d. Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of the Circuit is to advance the mission of the Church in the Gordano Valley area of North Somerset;

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

The Circuit serves the local churches and the District and the Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church, and in programs of training.

5.3 Governance

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

Trustees are members of the Circuit meeting and are appointed as per the Constitution Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Methodist Church, Standing order 510. The officers and representatives of the constitutive churches are elected from those respective churches. The circuit officers – namely Circuit Stewards, Treasurer, Secretary, Property Secretary, Safeguarding Officer, Local Preachers Secretary, and any other officers that may be appointed are nominated and elected by Circuit Meeting members.

The membership of the Circuit Leadership Team includes the ministers of the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards and Circuit Treasurer who are appointed by vote of the Circuit Meeting for a continuous term not normally exceeding six years. The Superintendent Minister is *ex officio* chair of the CLT. When a position becomes vacant on the CLT nominations are invited from the ministers and lay members of the churches they represent. The Superintendent Minister then shares with them what the role involves. If they wish to be considered for the role, their names are taken to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

The CLT normally meets every two months and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees finance, property, stationing, safeguarding and training.

GORDANO VALLEY METHODIST CIRCUIT
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31ST August 2022

5.4 Responsibilities of the Circuit Leadership Team

1. To formulate and promote policies which will advance the mission of the Church in local churches and, in particular, to supervise the use of resources of personnel, property and finance and to assist local churches having exceptional problems.
2. To encourage ecumenical co-operation.
3. To act in an executive capacity in matters remitted to the Team by the Circuit Meeting.
4. To keep within its purview all circuit concerns not dealt with elsewhere.
5. To contribute and respond, as the case may be, to the development of Connexional policies as reflected in the work of the Conference and the Methodist council, and to carry out its other responsibilities with any such development in mind.
6. To be aware that the stipend of ministers is set currently by reference to the change over a year in the Consumer Price Index and to the annual change in the Average Weekly earnings index using a formula that was agreed by the Methodist Conference for all ministers within the Connexion.
7. Constantly to be aware of the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

6 Reference and Administrative Details

6.1 Name of the charity

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit, sometimes abbreviated to GVMC.

6.2 Charity registration number

1133077, registered in England and Wales on 2nd December 2009.

6.3 Principal Office

The Office
Christchurch
Chapel Hill
Clevedon
BS21 7LL

Tel. 01275 871483

www.gordanovalleymethodists.info

6.4 Names of Trustees

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

GORDANO VALLEY METHODIST CIRCUIT
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31ST August 2022

West Town, Backwell					
Miss V Sowerby	CH		Mrs C Lomas	CH	
Mrs H Bentley					
Christchurch L.E.P.					
Rev R Herbert	Min		Mr A Pett	CH	
Rev C Jennings	Min		Mrs K Dommett	CH	To 15/9/2021
Mrs M Sutherland	CS		Mr J Richards	Add	
Mr D G White	CT	To 15/9/2021	Mrs C Gale	CMS	
Mrs J McManus	CH				
Kenn Road, Clevedon					
Mrs J Bailey	CH		Mr P Evans	CH	To 14/3/2022
Mr C G Mills	CH		Rev P Andersen	Sup	
Nailsea					
Mr N Hardman	CS		Mr R Lancaster	CH	
Mr P Todd	CH		Mr A Emery	CH	
Mrs M Emery	LP		Rev D Mallett	Min	
Rev D Sharp	Sup		Rev M Pullan	Sup	
Mr D Markall	CT				
Pill					
Mrs L Powell	CH		Mrs E Marsh	CH	
Mr M Burnett	CH				
Portishead					
Rev N Moxon	Min		Mrs B Thompson	CH	
Mr K Gathergood	CH	To 9/8/2022	Rev H Noel-Smith	Sup	
Rev P Mortlock	Sup		Rev B Hunt	Sup	
Mrs J Morris- Thurgood	CH		Rev A Owen	Sup NV	
Redcliffe Bay					
Mr D Uncles	CH		Mrs S Mason	CH	
Rev D Harris	Sup		Mrs J Clote (Davis)	CH	To 9/8/2022
Mr A Reddrop	CS				
Yatton					
Mr T R Calderbank	CH		Rev I Bowley	Sup	
Mr M Buckley	Add		Rev J Flowers	Min	
Rev A Price	Sup		Mr K Woodham	CS	
Mrs B Hook	Add		Mr B Patch	CH	To 1/2/2022
Mr M Pryke	CH	To 31/8/2022	Mr Malcolm Fisher	CH	From 24/2/2022

Add	Additional Member	CH	Church Steward/Rep.	CMS	Circuit Meeting Secretary
CS	Circuit Steward	CT	Circuit treasurer	Min	Minister
LP	Local Preachers Rep.	Sup	Supernumerary Minister	NV	Non-Voting

GORDANO VALLEY METHODIST CIRCUIT
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31ST August 2022

6.7 Superintendent Minister's PA

Mrs Kathryn McManus-Jones

6.8 Bankers

National Westminster Bank PLC 89 High Street Weston-super-Mare North Somerset BS23 1HJ	Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 9 Bonhill Street London EC2A 4PE
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6.9 Investment managers and custodian trustees

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

6.10 Independent Examiner

Andrew Jordan
ICAEW
Haines Watts, Chartered Accountants
Bath House
6-8 Bath Street
Bristol
BS1 6HL

7 Approval

The trustees report was approved by the trustees on 28th September 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Revd Dr Russell Herbert
Superintendent Minister

David Markall
Circuit Treasurer

9th January 2023

9th January 2023

Gordano Valley Circuit

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

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	
		2021-22	2020-21
Income from:		£	£
Charitable Activities - Assessment on churches	2	249,180	230,982
Income from charitable activities			
Investments		242	86
Grants	3		
Other Income	4	46,302	48,644
Total Income and Endowments		295,724	279,712
Expenditure on charitable activities-			
Management of the Circuit			
Grants and donations	5	900	100
Salaries and associated costs	7	208,519	206,809
Property		26,867	19,848
Office Expenses		4,873	4,158
District Assessment	10	48,456	51,792
Other outgoings		2,178	712
Total charitable expenditure		291,793	283,419
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		3,931	(3,707)
Other gains/losses			
Net movement of funds		3,931	(3,707)
Total funds brought forward		2,046,854	2,050,561
Total funds carried forward		2,050,785	2,046,854

Gordano Valley Circuit
Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	
		2022	2021
		£	£
Fixed Assets			
Circuit Manse	BS1	1,987,856	1,987,856
Total fixed assets		1,987,856	1,987,856
Current Assets			
Debtors and prepayments	BS2	14,748	20,810
Central Finance Board Deposits	BS3	62,728	58,355
Cash at Bank and in hand	BS3	5,695	4,588
Total current assets		83,171	83,753
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	BS4	20,242	24,755
Net Current assets/liabilities		62,929	58,998
Total assets less current liabilities		2,050,785	2,046,854
Creditors and Accruals including any loans (due after more than 1 year)			
Net assets		2,050,785	2,046,854
Funds of the Circuit			
General fund (Unrestricted)		2,050,785	39,551
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			2,007,303
Total Unrestricted Funds		2,050,785	2,046,854
Restricted Funds			
Total Funds		2,050,785	2,046,854

The financial statements were approved by the Circuit Trustees on 28th September 2022
and were signed on its behalf by:

Revd Dr Russell Herbert

David Markall

9th January 2023

9th January 2023

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit
Notes to the accounts for year ending 31 August 2022

1 Basis of accounting and accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

The statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following 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) (effective 1 January 2019) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

I. Public benefit entity

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

II. Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

III. Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research, and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

IV. Going Concern

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern. The trustees consider that the charity has sufficient cash reserves to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

V. Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit
Notes to the accounts for year ending 31 August 2022

VI. Income recognition

Income is brought into account when there is entitlement, and the amount is reliably measurable once it is more than likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.

The Circuit acts as agent in the collection from churches and payment over of their contributions to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church – “Connexional Funds” In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or churches as appropriate. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

VII. Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable, and it is considered more likely than not that there will be an outflow of economic benefit.

VIII. VAT

The Circuit is not VAT registered. VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

IX. Tangible fixed assets

- a. These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.
- b. The Freehold property (4 manses) were valued at a deemed cost of £1,945,000 as at 1st September 2015 by professional valuation, plus subsequent additions at a cost of £42,856. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residential 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 cost to date. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

X. Basic Financial Instruments

The charity has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

XI. Debtors and Creditors

- a. Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.
- b. Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will normally result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount.

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit
Notes to the accounts for year ending 31 August 2022

XII. Short term liquid investments and cash

Cash at bank is held to meet short-term cash commitments as they fall due rather than for investment purposes and includes all cash equivalents held in the form of short-term highly liquid investments. Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

XIII. Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against circuits, and these are paid monthly to their districts. The circuits raise assessments against churches in the Circuit. The District remits to The Methodist Church Fund most of the sum received from circuits. A small sum is retained by the district to meet its own costs. The Circuit may act as agent for ad hoc collections for various funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church.

XIV. Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, council tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

XV. Funds

Up to 31st August 2021 funds held constituted unrestricted general funds held for any charitable purpose of the Circuit, and unrestricted designated funds held for specific purposes. The trustees have reconsidered the need for separate funds and concluded that designation is no longer required.

XVI. Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

No judgements (apart from those involving estimates) have been made in the process of applying the above accounting policies.

2 Assessment on Churches

The Circuit comprises eight churches and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall net costs of the Circuit. In making its assessment the budgeted income from investment income and property letting, confirmed external grants and contribution from churches towards the cost of lay employees is considered. The Circuit aims to cover all its core costs from the assessment.

An Assessment on churches is determined by the Circuit each year, using a formula which takes into account the relative number of members in each church and its freewill giving plus gift aid receipts. Assessments on churches are generally paid monthly in advance and treated as pre-payments in the balance sheet.

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit
Notes to the accounts for year ending 31 August 2022

3 Grants Received

No grants were received by the Circuit during this period.

4 Other income comprises the following:

Contribution from churches towards lay workers

Contribution from Ministers for private use of telephone and broadband

Other

Total Other income

2021/22	2020/21
£	£
45,895	48,334
257	310
150	-
46,302	48,644

5 Grants and Donations

Grants are recognised in full when the award is made once the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or constructive obligation to make the payment and that payment is probable.

Grants totalling £900 to two organisations were made in the year.

6 Model Trust

The Circuit does not have a model trust fund balance. During the year, arising from a right of light issue at Nailsea, compensation of £3,000 was received from a property developer. The Circuit meeting agreed that this sum could be retained by the Nailsea Methodist Church towards lighting improvements. To comply with Standing Orders the £3,000 was passed by Nailsea MC to TMCP, withdrawn from TMCP by the Circuit and paid back to Nailsea MC by the Circuit.

7 Stipends and Salaries and Associated Costs

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

Gross wages, salaries, and benefits in kind

Employer's National Insurance costs

Pension costs

Other employment costs

Total Staff Costs

2021/22	2020/21
£	£
155,449	156,813
14,105	13,921
30,252	30,364
8,713	5,711
208,519	206,809

No employees received employee benefits of more than £60,000. No accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial. The holiday year ends on 31 August 2022. Staff are paid at or above the living wage.

Total number of staff

Full time equivalent

2021/22	2020/21
7	7
6.33	6.33

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit
Notes to the accounts for year ending 31 August 2022

Four trustees are presbyters of the Circuit in receipt of a salary, costs of £144,416 (2021 - £141,795), travel costs of £2,911 (2021 - £1,508), telephone and broadband costs of £2,654 (2021 - £2,463) and training of £300 (2021 - £0).

Pensions

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

Lay employees are contractually employees and have the option of joining a pension scheme which the Circuit has arranged with NEST. This is a defined contribution scheme, and the Circuit contributes as employer to this scheme.

The MMPS is in deficit. The Methodist Conference has put in place a plan for addressing the deficit and is undertaking a review of the scheme during 2022-23.

8 Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting, excluding stipends are as follows:

	2021/22	2020/21
Number of Trustees	0	0
Total amount	£0	£0

9 Fee for examination of the accounts

	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£
Independent Examiner for reporting on the accounts	2,520	2,496
Other fees (e.g.: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor: Accountancy Software	152	144

10 District Assessment

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the number of Presbyters and full time equivalent lay staff, less administrative staff, of all Circuits in the Bristol District.

11 Volunteer Contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit, Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time, and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, training, and safeguarding. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit
Notes to the accounts for year ending 31 August 2022

12 Connected Organisations and Related Parties

None of the Circuit trustees made donations direct to the Circuit during the year or the preceding year. All the Circuit trustees are members of a Church within the Circuit and may be trustees of their Churches. Connected organisations include the Methodist Connexion, the Bristol District and Churches within the Circuit, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP. All these entities have their own trustees or directors and autonomous administration such that the Circuit has no significant influence over any of them, nor they over the Circuit. They are therefore, not considered related parties.

13 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	General Fund	Designated Funds	Total 2020-21
Income and Endowments from:		£	£	£
Charitable Activities - Assessment on churches	2	230,982	-	230,982
Income from charitable activities - lettings		-	-	-
Investments			86	86
Grants	3	-	-	-
Other Income	4	48,644	-	48,644
Total Income and Endowments		279,626	86	279,712
Expenditure				
Expenditure on charitable activities				
Management of the Circuit;				
Grants and donations	5	-	100	100
Salaries and associated costs	7	206,809	-	206,809
Property		14,839	5,009	19,848
Office Expenses		4,158	-	4,158
District Assessment	10	51,792	-	51,792
Other outgoings		712	-	712
Total charitable expenditure		278,310	5,109	283,419
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		1,316	(5,023)	(3,707)
Transfers between funds		(11,750)	11,750	-
Net movement of funds		(10,434)	6,727	(3,707)
Total funds brought forward		49,985	2,000,576	2,050,561
Total funds carried forward		39,551	2007,303	2,046,854

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit
Notes to the accounts for year ending 31 August 2022

BS1 Manses & Other Property

Buildings comprise of 4 manses located in Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead and Yatton.

	Property
Cost or valuation	£
Balance brought forward on 1 st Sep 2021 at 2015 valuation plus additions at cost	1,987,856
Balance carried forward	1,987,856

BS2 Debtors and Prepayments

	2022	2021
Prepayments	£	£
Stipends, Pension & NI	12,589	11,949
Insurance	2,159	1,970
Council Tax	-	6,360
Other prepayments	-	531
Totals	14,748	20,810

BS3 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Bank Balances

Balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and at National Westminster Bank plc are available on demand without loss of interest.

	2022	2021
	£	£
Central Finance Board	62,728	58,355
National Westminster Bank plc	5,695	4,588
Totals	68,423	62,943

BS4 Creditors, Accruals, and Income in Advance

All sums accrued as at 31st August 2022 are expected to be paid during the year to 31st August 2023.

	2022	2021
Income in advance	£	£
Assessments in advance	17,440	16,693
Creditors and Accruals		
Accounts Examination	2,500	2,500
Accounts payable	302	5,260
Other	-	302
Totals	20,242	24,755

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit
Notes to the accounts for year ending 31 August 2022

BS5 Summary of fund movements

Fund	Balance at 31/8/2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/Losses	Balance at 31/8/2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General	39,551	295,724	291,793	2,007,303		2,050,785
Designated-Manse maintenance	16,332	-	-	(16,332)		0
Designated - Mission	865	-	-	(865)		0
Designated-Stationing	2,250	-	-	(2,250)		0
Designated- Manses Property	1,987,856	-	-	(1,987,856)		0
Total funds	2,046,854	295,724	291,793	0	0	2,050,785

BS5a Comparative movements in funds

Fund	Balance at 31/8/2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/Losses	Balance at 31/8/2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General	49,985	279,626	278,310	(11,750)		39,551
Designated-Manse maintenance	10,255	86	(5009)	11,000		16,332
Designated - Mission	965	-	100			865
Designated-Stationing	1500	-	-	750		2,250
Designated- Manses Property	1,987,856	-	-	-		1,987,856
Total funds	2,050,561	279,712	283,419	0	0	2,046,854

BS6 Comparative analysis of net assets between funds

	General	Designated	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	1,987,856	1,987,856
Current Assets	64,306	19,447	83,753
Current liabilities	(24,755)		(24,755)
Totals	39,551	2,007,303	2,046,854

The Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit
Notes to the accounts for year ending 31 August 2022

Funds handled on behalf of others.

None of the figures tabulated below appear elsewhere in these accounts.

Related Party	Party	Balance at 31/8/21	Receipts	Payments	Balance at 31/8/2022
		£	£	£	£
World Mission Fund	Connexion	654	1,936	2,590	0
Mission in Britain	Connexion	-	566	566	0
Totals		654	2,502	3,156	0

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Gordano Valley Methodist Circuit (the Circuit) for the year ended 31 August 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Circuit 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 applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of ICAEW which is one of the listed bodies.

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 Circuit 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.

Andrew Jordan
ICAEW
Haines Watts
Chartered Accountants
Bath House
6 - 8 Bath Street
Bristol
BS1 6HL

Date: ...27th January 2023.....