

Trustees' Annual Report for the period 01/09/2019 to 31/08/2020

Taunton Deane and South Sedgemoor Methodist Circuit

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the Methodist Church are the advancement of:

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

The Circuit acts as an umbrella body for the 7 Methodist Churches, which fall within the Circuit's area. The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure regular acts of worship take place at each of those 7 churches. These are open to all people without charge.

Achievements and Performance.

The trustees have taken note of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and in particular their guidance on charities for the advancement of religion, when planning their activities. The actions taken by the circuit meet the requirement for there to be an identifiable public benefit or benefits and that such benefit is to the public or a section of the public.

During the 2019/20 financial year the Circuit has used its funds raised from the churches in the following ways:

- Our ministers together with local preachers provide regular Sunday worship in our churches. Such services are freely available to their local communities and every effort is made to make the experience of worship welcoming and meaningful to visitors.
- The Circuit has provided courses for those requiring Safeguarding training, and has ensured that DBS checks have been completed for those whose voluntary posts require them. The Circuit has adopted and regularly revises a Safeguarding Policy - covering both children and vulnerable adults - and has ensured it is rolled out to the churches.
- The Circuit continues to support local churches in their work with young people.
- The Circuit encourages its churches to engage with their local communities.
- The Circuit Estates Worker continues to seek ways to build links in one of the local housing Developments.

- The Circuit has carried out its oversight of the churches through 3 meetings of the Circuit, and by requiring a written report of activity from each church.
- There is a regular review process carried out by the Leadership Team to ensure that the Charity is fulfilling its objectives.
- Risks to the Circuit are considered by the Circuit Leadership Team (*see below) who oversee the day to day running of the charity and report to the full meeting of Trustees. Professional advice is taken as required.

Financial review

During the year the Circuit received total receipts of 152k (2018-19: £141k) and dispersed £153k (2018-19 £153k). This financial position was much as expected – making use of the proceeds of sale in the previous years of one house, which was no longer needed for use by the Circuit. These are being used over a period of 3 years to enable the Circuit to maintain its current complement of staff, without demanding more money from the churches than they can easily raise.

The trustees of the Circuit have every reason to believe that the Circuit is a going concern, principally because churches continue to meet the assessments required of them. The Circuit has adequate reserves to cover any unforeseen events.

Trustees do not foresee any factors that will significantly affect the financial performance or position in the next year or two.

The Circuit continues to hold 5 freehold properties, 3 being used to house the Ministers of the Circuit and 2 being rented out to supplement the income produced by assessment.

The Circuit has the following principal sources of funds:

- Assessments on Churches within the Circuit
- Interest on investments
- Rents paid for the 2 additional houses owned and rented out.

These sums are used primarily to pay the Ministerial staff of the Circuit, to pay their expenses and to maintain the houses of the Circuit. Smaller sums are used to support particular mission initiatives undertaken by churches.

Reserves Policy

- The Reserves Policy for the Taunton Deane and South Sedgemoor Circuit is to hold a sum equivalent to 6 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and to be able to continue in the short term funding planned activities in the event of the closure of a large church or an inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.
- It is necessary to hold sufficient working capital to enable the quarterly payment of stipends and business expenses for 2 paid ministers, part time workers and to cover our contribution to the District and the Connexion.

- Details of funds materially in deficit.

There are none.

Structure governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

How the charity is constituted Act of Parliament

Trustee selection methods Appointed by local churches and existing trustees.
Ministers are automatically trustees

Additional governance issues None

Induction/Training A range of guidance is produced by Methodist Connexion.
Leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to each trustee.

Structure Part of the Plymouth and Exeter Methodist District.
Accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Related Parties None

Reference and administration details

Charity Name The Taunton Deane and South Sedgemoor Methodist Circuit.

Registered Charity Number 1133126.

Charity's Principal Address Temple Methodist Church, Upper High Street, Taunton TA1 3PY

Names of the Charity Trustees who manage the charity.

The Charity Trustees are the members of the Taunton Deane and South Sedgemoor Circuit Meeting. This comprised during the year of this report.

*Rev Chris Brown	Elaine Dew
*Rev Deborah Kirk	Jane Allin
*John Haines	*Virginia Pearson
Hazel Burnett	*Richard Sillett
Dick Brewer	Brenda Lamberton
*Carol Stowe	Carolyn Lear
Sheila Baker	Sue Parker
Sandy Rogers	Chris Downing
Merlyn Brown	Pauline Steward
Janet Sillett	Louise Wright
Conrad Marks	Robert Ormesher
Lynda Kazer	Doreen Marks

Marlene Burnell	Margaret Sweet
Margaret Walters	Daphne Gillham
Kevin Boseley	Barbara Poole
Joanne Pinguet	Valerie Pearson
Glenys Allinson	David Clitheroe
Robert Blackhall	Ken Bird
Peter Crew	Tony Cox
Anthony Huxtable	Robin Hutt
Emmaline Kay	Brian Stocks

* indicates a member of the Circuit Leadership Team, who as a group manage the Circuit between full Circuit Meetings.

Custodian trustees

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Manchester

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Christopher Brown

Emmaline A Kay

Full name(s)	Chris Brown	Emmaline Kay
Position	Chair	Secretary
Date	23/03/2021	23/03/21

Appended to this report is the Statement of Financial Activity for the year concerned together with the Balance Sheet at year end.

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Taunton Deane and South Sedgemoor	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2020**

Plymouth and Exeter	District	Circuit no	24/15
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1133126

If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number**

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Ministers:

Rev Christopher Brown
Rev Deborah Kirk

Circuit Stewards:

John Haines
Richard Sillett
Carol Stowe

Treasurer:

Virginia Pearson

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share		111,648			111,648	108,025
a3	Capital receipts						
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		578	104	2	684	740
a5	Grants						
a6	Other receipts		33,425			33,425	32,391
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		145,651	104	2	145,757 (a8)	141,156

SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		76,648			76,648	77,026
b3	Manse Costs		16,289			16,289	13,392
b4	Administration etc		4,743	35		4,778	4,715
b5	District Assessment		31,229	432		31,661	31,797
b6	Grants & donations		7,705			7,705	7,005
b7							
b8	Other payments		15,024		139	15,163	19,300
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		151,638	467	139	152,244 (b9)	153,235

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	(5,987)	(363)	(137)	(6,487)	(12,079)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		56,573	17,300	42,969	116,841 (c6)	128,920
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	50,586	16,937	42,832	110,354	116,841
c4	Transfers and adjustments		7,005	(7,005)			
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	57,591	9,932	42,832	110,354 (c8)	116,841 (c6)

SECTION D						
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)					
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				2,784	2,986
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				2	798
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				139	1,000
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)				2,647	2,784

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					(e11)	(e12)
e9 Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	145,757 (a8)	152,244 (b9)	(6,487)	(c7)	116,841 (c6)	110,354 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	145,757	152,244	(6,487)		116,841 (x)	110,354 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2020

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	5,465	4,197
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	53,029	55,182
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	58,347	50,973
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	116,841 (c6)	110,352 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	116,841 (x)	110,352 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2019	At 31 August 2020
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,286,234	1,387,849
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

Name of Circuit No.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer Date.....

Name and address of treasurer

..... Post Code.....

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

..... Circuit

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 2020 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit No

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 (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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.

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner

Name of independent examiner

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

..... Post Code

Date

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-20

Name of Circuit Taunton Deane & South Sedgemoor No 24/15

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 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 Virginia Pearson Date 7.12.2020

Name and address of treasurer VIRGINIA PEARSON
69 TYNE PARK, TAUNTON, SOMERSET Post Code TA1 2RP

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 18th March 2021

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting CHRISTOPHER BROWN Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

TAUNTON DEANE & SOUTH SEDGEMOOR Circuit

Charity Number 1133126

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the TAUNTON DEANE & S. SEDGEMOOR Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2020 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit TAUNTON DEANE & SOUTH SEDGEMOOR No 24/15

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 (~~other than that disclosed below*~~) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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.

~~I have~~/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner D. Hawkings

Name of independent examiner DAVID HAWKINGS

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner C. MATH

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 5 HITHER ACRE

ILMINSTER Post Code TA19 9DA

Date 15/12/2020

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-20

RESERVES POLICY of

Taunton Deane & South SedgemoorCircuit Meeting ☐

1.	General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2020	£67,523
2.	Restricted Funds held “	£42832
3.	Endowment Funds held “	£

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds**

To maintain a balance of 50% of the circuit's annual expenditure in the General Account.
 To budget sufficient funds for the maintenance of the properties held directly by the circuit, and
 to hold the unspent amounts budgeted as a property reserve.


5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

Model trust is in respect of the sale of land at Pawlett. In accordance with Circuit Policy the
 interest received is passed to the General Account.

6. **Terms relating to Endowment Funds held**

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

Taunton Deane & South SedgemoorCircuit Meeting ☐

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name Virginia Pearson	Full Name John Haines
Signature 	Signature