

# **Trustees' Annual Report for the period 01/09/2020 to 31/08/2021 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 2020/21 worship and events in the Circuit were greatly impacted by the pandemic. Worship was provided during the months of lockdown via recorded YouTube and Zoom services and Zoom Bible studies. Where possible, outreach such as Messy Church and the church uniformed groups met over Zoom, and pastoral care and community engagement continued through phone calls, online and paper notices and letters, and in person doorstep-visiting where appropriate.

During the 2020/21 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 has carried out its oversight of the churches through 4 meetings of the Circuit
- 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 £139,254.00 (2018-19: £140,460.00) and dispersed £138,668.00 (2018-19 £1146,949.00). 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 holds 4 freehold properties, 2 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**

<i>Type of governing document</i>	Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)
<i>How the charity is constituted</i>	Act of Parliament
<i>Trustee selection methods</i>	Appointed by local churches and existing trustees. Ministers are automatically trustees
<i>Additional governance issues</i>	None
<i>Induction/Training</i>	A range of guidance is produced by Methodist Connexion. Leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to each trustee.
<i>Structure</i>	Part of the Plymouth and Exeter Methodist District. Accountable to the Methodist Conference.
<i>Related Parties</i>	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
Ian Rossiter	*Virginia Pearson
Hazel Burnett	*Richard Sillett
Frances Lewis	Brenda Lamberton
*Carol Stowe	Kevi Boseley
Peter Thomas	Sue Parker
Sandy Rogers	Chris Downing
Merlyn Brown	Pauline Steward
Janet Sillett	Louise Wright
Merlyn Brown	Robert Ormesher
Lynda Kazer	Doreen Marks
Marlene Burnell	Margaret Sweet

Margaret Walters	Daphne Gilham
Kevin Boseley	Barbara Poole
Joanne Pinguenet	Valerie Pearson
Glenys Allinson	David Clitheroe
Denise Eggington	Graham Dickinson
Peter Crew	Tony Cox
Anthony Huxtable	Robin Hutt
Roy Crouch	Brian Stocks
Lynda Kazer	Robert Ormesher
David Clitheroe	

\* 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**

**Natalie Knight**

Full name(s) Chris Brown

Natalie Knight

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
-----------------------------------	---------

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 AUGUST 2021**

Plymouth and Exeter	District	Circuit no	24/15
---------------------	----------	------------	-------

**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 Christoper Brown
Rev Deborah Kirk

Circuit Stewards:

Richard Sillett
Carol Stowe
Ian Rossiter

Treasurer:

Peter Thomas
--------------

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share		109,237			109,237	111,648
a3	Capital receipts						
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		61	14	64	138	684
a5	Grants						
a6	Other receipts		29,722		158	29,879	28,128
a7	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>139,020</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>139,254 (a8)</b>	<b>140,460</b>

SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		75,159			75,159	76,648
b3	Manse Costs		14,294			14,294	16,289
b4	Administration etc		4,056			4,056	4,778
b5	District Assessment		29,359	248		29,607	31,661
b6	Grants & donations		7,505			7,505	7,705
b7							
b8	Other payments		8,027	20		8,047	9,868
b9	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>138,400</b>	<b>268</b>		<b>138,668 (b9)</b>	<b>146,949</b>

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	620	(255)	221	586	(6,489)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		57,588	9,932	42,832	110,352 (c6)	116,841
c3	<b>Sub total</b>	<b>(c1+c2)</b>	<b>58,208</b>	<b>9,677</b>	<b>43,053</b>	<b>110,938</b>	<b>110,352</b>
c4	Transfers and adjustments		7,069	(7,005)	(64)		
c5	<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>(c3+c4)</b>	<b>65,276</b>	<b>2,672</b>	<b>42,990</b>	<b>110,938 (c8)</b>	<b>110,352 (c6)</b>

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					1,471	1,471
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations						
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations						
d4	<b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)</b>					<b>1,471</b>	<b>1,471</b>

**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 2021 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)	139,254 (a8)	138,668 (b9)	586 (c7)	110,352 (c6)	110,938 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	139,254	138,668	586	110,352 (x)	110,938 (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS			

**SECTION F**
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**
**CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1		
f2	4,197	12,568
f3		
f4	55,182	54,499
f5	50,973	43,871
f6		
f7	110,352 (c6)	110,938 (c8)
f8	(e11)	(e12)
f9	110,352 (x)	110,938 (y)

**SECTION G**
**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1		
g2	1,387,849	1,422,536
g3		
g4		
g5		

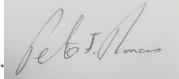
f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

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)

## Declarations and Scrutiny

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

Signature of treasurer .....  ..... Date 12 12 2021

Name and address of treasurer ...Peter Thomas.....

8 Inwell Green, TAUNTON..... Post Code...TA1 2TA

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 will be presented to the Circuit meeting held on March 24th 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ....  .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Christopher Brown Date .12.2021

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

#### Taunton Deane and 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 and South Sedgemoor Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 1 to 3. 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



### 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 .....David Hawkings.....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner .....C Math.....

Name of firm (where appropriate) .....

Address .....5 Hither Acre, ILMINSTER.....

Post Code ...TA19 9DA.....

Date 12th Deecember 2021