

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period 01/09/2021 to 31/08/2022**

### **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 mission statement of TDSS Circuit is** 'To be Pilgrim People – on a journey: honouring God, sharing our faith, respecting and helping all.'

Our circuit priorities: worked out through the Circuit Meeting and the Circuit Leadership Team are:

- God-centred worship and prayer
- Action to help where there is need
- Developing confidence to share our faith with others
- Encouraging fresh ways of being church
- Care, respect, inclusion and love for all
- Belief that we have a future

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 2021/22 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 encourages its churches as they continue to rebuild and recover from the challenges of the Covid pandemic, reviewing their position in their communities, and envisioning new ways of engaging and connecting with new people.

- 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 reviews its 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 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.
- A Church and Community worker is employed by one of the churches, to manage the lettings of the building, to engage with the local community, and to support the minister in the day to day life of the church.
- The Circuit continues to prioritise the commitments of Our Calling as it encourages its members to grow in discipleship and share God's love in their contexts.

### **Financial review**

During the year the Circuit received total receipts of £142,063 (2020-21 £139,241.00) and dispersed £151,306 (2020-21 £144,478.00)

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 5 freehold properties, 2 being used to house the Ministers of the Circuit and 3 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 3 additional houses owned and rented out.

These sums are used primarily to cover the various expenses of the Circuit budget, including the ministers' stipends.

### **Reserves Policy**

- The Reserves Policy for the Taunton Deane and South Sedgemoor Circuit is to hold liquid assets 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, to fund any lay 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**

<i>Charity Name</i>	Taunton Deane and South Sedgemoor Methodist Circuit.
<i>Registered Charity Number</i>	1133126.
<i>Charity's Principal Address</i>	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.

Some of these need to be adjusted for 21-22

*Rev Christopher Brown	*Peter Thomas
*Rev Deborah Kirk	*Carol Stowe
*Richard Sillett	*Ian Rossiter
Hazel Burnett	Joanne Pinguenet
Francis Lewis	Chris Downing

Brenda Lamberton	Elaine Dew
Marlene Burnell	Janet Sillett
Virginia Pearson	Merlyn Brown
Roy Crouch	Jane Allin
Margaret Walters	Barbara Poole
Sue Parker	Kevin Boseley
John Haines	Peter Crew
Graham Dickinson	Anthony Huxtable
Doreen Marks	Robin Hutt
Lynda Kazer	Tony Cox
David Clitheroe	Michael Parsons
Anne Jordan	Lynne Mayers
Christopher Mitchell	Valerie Pearson
Glenys Allinson	Denise Eggington

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

*Custodian trustees*  
Purposes Manchester

Trustees for Methodist Church

### **Declaration**

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

**Deborah Kirk**

**Natalie Knight**

Full name(s)

Deborah Kirk

Natalie Knight

Position

Chair 2023

Secretary

Date

31.05.23

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 2022**

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 Christopher 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		105,427		105,427	109,237
a3	Capital receipts					
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		158	1	103	138
a5	Grants					
a6	Other receipts		29,553		29,553	29,879
a7	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>135,137</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>139,254</b>

SECTION B		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		82,396		82,396	75,159
b3	Manse Costs		15,435		15,435	14,294
b4	Administration etc		2,863		2,863	4,056
b5	District Assessment		29,971	67	30,038	29,607
b6	Grants & donations			2,500	2,500	7,505
b7						
b8	Other payments		11,176	8	64	8,047
b9	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>141,840</b>	<b>2,574</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>138,668</b>

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	(6,702)	(2,574)	39	(9,237)	586
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		65,276	2,672	42,990	110,938 (c6)	110,352
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	58,574	98	43,028	101,701	110,938
c4	Transfers and adjustments		1,572		(1,572)		(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	60,146	98	41,457	101,701 (c8)	110,938 (c6)

SECTION D		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
<b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS</b>						
d	(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				1,471	
d4	<b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)</b>					1,471

**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 2022 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)					
	135,241 (a8)	144,478 (b9)	(9,237)	(c7)	110,938 (c6)	101,701 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT					
	135,241	144,478	(9,237)		110,938 (x)	101,701 (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 2022**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	12,568	9,452
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	54,499	51,015
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	43,871	41,234
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	110,938 (c6)	101,701 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	110,938 (x)	101,701 (y)

**SECTION G**

**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,422,536	1,668,635
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)



## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 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 ..... *Peter Thomas* ..... Date *19/11/22* .....

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

8 Irwell Green, TAUNTON TA2 1TA

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were ~~not~~ presented to the Circuit meeting held on *December 1<sup>st</sup> 2022*

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ..... *Deborah Kirk* ..... x

Name of the Chair of the meeting ... Deborah Kirk ..... Date *1/12/22* .....

## 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 2022 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

Name of Circuit Taunton Deane and South Sedgemoor No 25/15

### 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) .....

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

Post Code TA19 9DA

Date ..... 18 / 11 / 22 .....

\* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-22