

22/12 National Forest East Circuit
Charity registration number: 1133460

TRUSTEES' REPORT
and
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended
31 AUGUST 2025

Administrative Information

(current at the date of the signature on this report)

Circuit Ministers

Rev Louise Morrissey (Co-Superintendent)
Rev Phil Snelson (Co-Superintendent)
Rev Nikki Geeson

Children's & Family Worker

Mrs Claire Claringbull

Property Manager

Mr Steve Rice

Circuit Stewards

Mr David Allsop
Mrs Jackie Allsop
Mrs Julie Bromell
Mrs Sarah Chadwick
Mr Mark Dale
Mr Mark Bennett

Circuit Meeting Secretary

Ms Sue Draper

Circuit Administrator

Mrs Teresa Godwin
Circuit Office
c/o Marlborough Square Methodist Church
Coalville
Leicestershire
LE67 3WD
e-mail: nfe.circuit@btconnect.com
Telephone: 01530 830112

Independent Examiner

Mrs Christine Fox
5 Windsor Avenue
Melbourne
Derby DE73 8FN

Trustees' Report

Governance and Management

The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and shall be deemed to have been since the date of 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 purpose 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 or subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.

The Circuit is a group of local churches. Circuits combine to form 24 districts in Great Britain.

Although there is some autonomy all Methodist organisations in Great Britain are governed by statutes determined by the Methodist Conference and which are published in the Constitution,

Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church ('CPD'). Conference is the supreme body within the church: it delegates much of its authority to the Methodist Council. Both Conference and Council consist of lay and ordained members.

In setting objectives and planning activities, the Circuit Meeting, held three or four times each year, has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives as set out above.

During the year the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) - the Circuit Ministerial Staff and Circuit Stewards - met regularly to keep the life of the Circuit under review and to take forward the decisions of the Circuit Meeting.

Activities

Our mission is to bring people into a relationship with God, through Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We want to encourage discipleship, enable gifts, and transform individuals, reaching out with God's love to the lost and hurting, whilst seeking to be relevant in our local communities.

We desire to support and be visible at local community activities. We recognise that individuals are at different points in their faith journey and need to encourage people of all ages to fully participate in the life of the church, enabling our people to reach their full potential in Christ.

Our policy on leadership and ministry is to work as a collaborative team, taking opportunities to work ecumenically. There are formal staff meetings each month, and leadership team meetings at least quarterly.

A five year Mission Plan, updated annually, is shown on the Circuit's website (www.nfecircuit.org)

Organisational Structure

1. Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers in individual Circuits
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation
4. The Districts pass the control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, Ministerial staff, Circuit Stewards and others. Authority can be delegated by the Connexion and District to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters
5. The Circuit Meeting passes control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the Minister, the Church Stewards and other officers. The Church Councils act as Managing Trustees.
6. The Co-Superintendents share responsibility for chairing meetings of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) and the Circuit Meeting, which trustees are expected to attend. Policy decisions are taken at the Circuit Meeting which is the supreme body for deciding matters at Circuit Level. Some powers are delegated by the Circuit Meeting to the CLT and other groups.
7. Churches, Circuits and Districts are able to pass matters upwards for consideration, ultimately to the Conference, for consideration and implementation where appropriate.
8. The Methodist Connexional year runs from 1 September to 31 August.

Charity Registration

The National Forest East Methodist Circuit was created on September 1st 2012 when the Castle Donington Circuit joined the Ashby & Coalville Circuit, which was already registered as a charity (registration number 1133460).

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. Specifically:

- many churches make their premises available to other organisations that need somewhere to meet
- some churches have long term tenants
- uniformed organisations (scouts, cubs, beavers, guides, brownies and rainbows) are affiliated to some of our churches and meet at church premises
- other outreach activities
- raising money for other charities

Trustees

The following Trustees (some with dual roles) served during the course of the 2024-25 year. Records are held of the Trustees in post and attending meetings during the course of the year are maintained.

Name	Surname	Representing	Prime role
David	Allsop	Circuit	circuit steward
Jackie	Allsop	Circuit	circuit steward
Mark	Bennett	Circuit	circuit steward
Sandra	Bennett	New Sawley	treasurer
Dawn	Bishop	Whitwick	representative
Julie	Bromell	Circuit	circuit steward
Adrian	Buesnel	New Sawley	steward
Linda	Buesnel	New Sawley	representative
Sarah	Chadwick	Circuit	circuit steward
Val	Chadwin	Sutton Bonington	representative
Mark	Dale	Circuit	circuit steward
Tina	Dale	Melbourne	representative
Ron	Davies	Ashby	treasurer
Steve	Draper	Melbourne	representative
Sue	Draper	Circuit	CM secretary
Linda	Francis	Ashby	representative
Nikki	Geeson	Circuit	minister
Pam	Goodenough	Marlborough Square	representative
Katie	Hawkins	Circuit	LWP secretary
Rob	Hawkins	Circuit	supernumerary minister
David	Haywood	Circuit	supernumerary minister
Wendy	Haywood	Hugglescote	representative
John	Hudson	Circuit	supernumerary minister
Christine	Hunt	Marlborough Square	steward
Rosemary	Jameson	Ashby	steward
Kay	Jeffries	Melbourne	representative
Alan	Jones	Circuit	circuit steward
Irene	Jones	Hugglescote	representative
Christine	Lee	Melbourne	steward
Matt	Lee	Circuit	circuit treasurer
Natalie	Missenden	Hall Lane	steward
Louise	Morrissey	Circuit	co-superintendent minister
Elspeth	Myles	Marlborough Square	treasurer
John	Peace	Whitwick	treasurer

Name	Surname	Representing	Prime role
Claire	Pickering	Hugglescote	steward
John	Rutter	Castle Donington	steward
Dennis	Smith	Circuit	supernumerary minister
Becky	Snelson	Circuit	safeguarding officer
Phil	Snelson	Circuit	co-superintendent minister
Ian	Stanton	Hugglescote	treasurer
Gillian	Stent	Hall Lane	representative
John	Stent	Hall Lane	treasurer
Deborah	Stevenson	Melbourne	representative
Jean	Whitmore	Whitwick	steward
Angela	Wilson	Sutton Bonington	treasurer

Safeguarding

The Church of England and the Methodist Church work in partnership with other Christian Churches and other agencies in delivering safeguarding. The Circuit supports the following statement of principles agreed by the denominations:

Commitment to:

- The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and all adults
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and all adults
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse

Each church in the Circuit is requested to appoint a safeguarding representative and the Circuit appoints a Safeguarding Officer to coordinate policies, practices and training which promotes safe practice amongst children and vulnerable adults.

Staff Responsibilities & Changes

Revs Louise Morrissey and Phil Snelson operate as Co-Superintendent Ministers of the Circuit.

Revd. Phil Snelson joined the Circuit on 1st September 2021 and continues in pastoral care of the following churches: Hugglescote, Hall Lane (Whitwick), Whitwick, and Marlborough Square (Coalville).

Revd. Louise Morrissey joined the Circuit in September 2022 and continues in pastoral responsibility for Ashby, Moira Centenary, Castle Donington, and the Measham Garden Fellowship.

Revd. Nikki Geeson, a Probationer Minister, joined the circuit on 1st September 2024 and has pastoral care of the churches at Melbourne, Weston, Sutton Bonington and New Sawley.

A number of retired ("supernumerary") ministers live and worship within the Circuit and carry out varying activities on behalf of the Circuit from time to time.

Mrs Claire Claringbull joined the Circuit in February 2017, working 15 hours a week during term time as Worker With Children & Families.

Mrs Teresa Godwin continues to carry out the part-time paid role of Circuit Administrator based in an office rented from the Marlborough Square Church.

Mr Steve Rice was appointed in July 2022 to carry out the role of part-time Property Manager.

Risk Management

Risks faced by the Circuit have been considered by its leadership team. Where appropriate risks are insured – currently with the Methodist Insurance Company. The security and safety of our churches is largely for those churches to determine and to mitigate, taking advice from Circuit Officers and

Insurers as appropriate.

All churches and manse are the subject of quinquennial inspections and the reports on each are reviewed by the Circuit as well as the local trustees. Action is taken to reduce the risks of injury to all who have a legitimate purpose to be on those premises.

All Churches have been surveyed for the presence of asbestos, mainly by Insulation & Environmental Services Ltd of Wigston in 2013. Reports were sent to each church for consideration in November 2013.

We have considered the resilience of churches and the risk that they will not meet their assessments. We judge that there are sufficient resources to cover any possible shortfall in the following year.

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 to provide guidance on changes that could affect the Circuit.

Trustees' Expenses

With the exception of the ministerial staff and supernumerary ministers who can claim for travel and administrative expenses, and a very small number of claims for reimbursement of small-value administration costs, members of the Circuit Meeting received neither payment nor reimbursement of their expenses in connection with their function as trustees.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently using the receipts and payments method
- made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- followed applicable accounting standards
- prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Circuit and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Trustees have a right to advise the independent examiner of their concerns, but none has done so. The CLT concludes, therefore, that there are no issues to be advised to the independent examiner.

Financial Arrangements

The Circuit prepares receipts and payments accounts. They are not a consolidation of the accounts of churches in the Circuit. The Circuit budget is prepared by first anticipating the expenditure for the forthcoming year and then determining how that sum will be raised.

The Circuit adopted the following policy for reserves in the 2024-25 year:

Reserves policy for General Funds

General funds will be used for the day-to-day running expenses of the Circuit and will be supplemented as required by transfers from the Model Trust Fund.

Policy for Restricted Funds

The Circuit Meeting has agreed that a request should be made to close all Trust Funds (other than the Model trust Fund) and transfer the proceeds into general funds. This will save administrative effort, and the original purposes of the trusts have largely been forgotten.

Terms relating to Endowment Funds & Model Trust Fund held

Transfers from the Model Trust Fund into the General Fund are required to maintain the current level of activity. The funds are also available to use for new projects or mission initiatives. The reserve level will therefore be maintained at the highest possible level to allow current activity to continue as appropriate for at least three more years. If total reserves fall below £200,000 a further review will be held.

Capital Assets

The proceeds of sale of the premises of any Methodist Church or manse within the Circuit is generally credited to the Circuit. There is, however, a substantial levy paid to the Connexion (the Methodist Church in GB) so not all of the proceeds are received by the Circuit.

The Circuit continues to own a house in Castle Donington, formerly a manse, which is let out through letting agents.

The Circuit took over responsibility for the Castle Donington Church when the decision was made to stop using the buildings and the congregation moved to rented premises for Sunday worship. The Church buildings were subsequently sold in November 2024.

Funding of the Circuit's Costs

This is achieved primarily by making an assessment on each church within the Circuit. If any church closes that church's assessment ceases to be paid to the Circuit. The Circuit's costs – principally the stipends and housing costs of the ministers – would continue and there would be a need to draw on reserves to meet the shortfall in income.

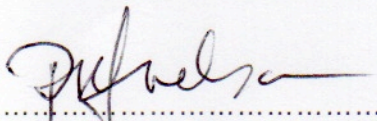
Annual costs

The Circuit believes that it should ensure that it has income and reserves sufficient to cover the stipends and manse costs of three ministers. The costs of other paid staff are currently met from reserves.

Approvals

The examiner signed the Financial Statements on 01 November 2025 to confirm she had completed the inspection satisfactorily. The Financial Statements of the Circuit were approved by the Circuit Meeting held on 19 November 2025, together with the written report.

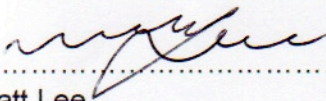
Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Revd Phil Snelson

19/11/25

Co-Superintendent Minister



Matt Lee

19/11/25

Treasurer (to 31 August 2025)

RESERVES POLICY of

National Forest East

Circuit Meeting

1.	General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/25	£160,494
2.	Restricted Funds held "	£791,741
3.	Endowment Funds held "	£0

4. Reserves policy for General Funds

General funds will be maintained at a level that is sufficient to meet the day to day running costs of the circuit. Any additional costs will be financed by transferred from the Model Trust Fund as required.

5. Policy for Restricted Funds

Model Trust Fund

Material withdrawals of funds will be necessary in forthcoming years to

a Maintain current levels of activity within the circuit,

b Support mission work within the circuit's churches by the granting of funds, where such work is supported by a current mission plan.

c Support the work of the circuit in the delivery of its own mission plan.

To this end the circuit policy is to maintain funds at £835k, reviewing the level on an annual basis. If funds fall below £200k there will be an immediate review.

6. Terms relating to Endowment Funds held

Not applicable , no such funds are held.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

National Forest East

Circuit Meeting

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name Julia E Bromell	Full Name David Arthur Lussol
Signature Julia Bromell	Signature D.A. Lussol

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

National Forest East Circuit

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2025**

Nottingham & Derby District	Circuit number	22	12
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1133460

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

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(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:

Revd Louise Morrissey (Co-Superintendent)
Revd Phil Snelson (Co-Superintendent)
Revd Nikki Geeson

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Circuit Stewards:

David Allsop
Jackie Allsop
Mark Bennett
Julie Bromell
Sarah Chadwick
Mark Dale

Treasurer:

Matthew Lee (to 31 August 2025)

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 2025 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)	369,492 (a8)	415,385 (b9)	(45,893)	(c7)	998,128 (c6)	952,235 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	369,492	415,385	(45,893)		998,128 (x)	952,235 (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 2025

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Accounts	6,167	6,535
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	133,477	153,959
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	858,484	791,741
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	998,128 (c6)	952,235 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	998,128 (x)	952,235 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	11,000,277	1,717,485
g3 Other Assets	175,000	116,125
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	10,111	
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)

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share		130,646		130,646	137,481
a3	Capital receipts			158,679	158,679	167,691
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		2,754	42,121	44,875	51,699
a5	Grants					
a6	Other receipts		35,293		35,293	85,024
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		168,692	200,800	369,492 (a8)	441,895

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		168,215		168,215	166,412
b3	Manse Costs		18,577		18,577	16,028
b4	Administration etc		6,427	2,790	9,217	7,715
b5	District Assessment		58,768		58,768	54,924
b6	Grants & donations		46,436		46,436	128,358
b7						
b8	Other payments		19,064	95,108	114,172	124,102
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		317,487	97,898	415,385 (b9)	497,538

SECTION C		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	(148,795)	102,902	(45,893)	(55,643)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		139,644	858,484	998,128 (c6)	1,053,770
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	(9,151)	961,386	952,235	998,128
c4	Transfers and adjustments		169,645	(169,645)		
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	160,494	791,741	952,235 (c8)	998,128 (c6)

SECTION D		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
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					
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				2,270	2,372
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				2,270	2,372
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)					

Name of Circuit **National Forest East**
Charity no. **1133460**

No. **22/12**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the Circuit's records and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer *[Signature]* Date **22.9.25**

Name and address of treasurer : **Matthew Lee, 80 Derby Road, Melbourne, Derby, DE73 8FL**

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were/will be*

presented to the Circuit meeting held on **19 November 2025**

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *[Signature]* *[Signature]*

Name of the Chair of the meeting **Rev P. K. SNELSON** Date **19/11/25**

Rev. L. Morrissey

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Circuit

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 2025 set out on pages 2 and 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.

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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Signature of independent examiner *[Signature]*

Name of independent examiner **CHRISTINE FOX**

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner **RETIRED ACCOUNTANT**

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address **5 WINDSOR AVENUE, MELBOURNE, DERBY**

Post Code **DE73 8FN**

Date **1st November 2025**