

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

England & Wales · Charity number 1133721

Details

Other names	BURTON ON TRENT METHODIST CIRCUIT, TRENT AND DOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2010-01-25
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Website	https://essdmethodistcircuit.org/

Activities

Objects: 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;(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.

Activities: The purposes of the Methodist Church are the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Derbyshire
- Staffordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£447,464	£525,372	-	-
2024-08-31	£486,986	£602,837	-	-
2023-08-31	£530,362	£535,139	£3,297,108	8
2022-08-31	£826,636	£505,268	£3,302,771	3
2021-08-31	£323,239	£476,060	-	-
2020-08-31	£234,648	£271,153	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANDREW WOODING B.A. MBA		
Andrew Hawkins		2017-09-01
Angela Mary Bird		2020-09-01
BRIAN HILL		2013-09-01
CELIA HELEN RYAN		2013-09-01
CHRISTINE MARGARET DUNSBY		2014-03-01
DAVID MOORE		
DILYS HARPER		2020-09-01
Denise Hancock		2016-09-01
FRANCES ELIZABETH NAYLOR		2020-09-01
Fiona Panter		2013-09-01
HERMAN JOHANNES BONARDT		
Ian Stuart Gilbey		2019-03-13
JEAN GLORIA HOLLINS		
JENNIFER HEATHER ILLSLEY		2020-09-01
JOHN JONES		2013-04-10
Joan Barnett		2020-09-01
Julie Ann Hackett		2020-09-01
Karen Evans		2018-10-01
Kathleen Bates		2020-09-01
LYNN WRAGG		2013-09-01
MRS SUE MCLOUGHLIN B SC		2012-04-02
Martin John Kesterton		2020-09-01
RITA MARY WALTON		2020-09-01
RITA MAY STREET		
ROGER ROOKE		2013-09-01
ROSEMARY HANCOCK		2020-09-01

Name	Role	Appointed
Rachel Joy Wood		2022-09-01
Rev David G Palmer		2023-08-01
Rev STELLA FREDA MILLS		2013-09-01
SHIRLEY JUNE TOON		
STEPHEN JOHN RYAN		2013-09-01
SUSANNA RUTH NICKSON		
Susan Janet Palmer		2020-09-01
Susan Williams		2020-09-01
TERESA ANNE HAWKINS		2023-09-01
Teresa TILLEY		2024-03-12
Victor Appleby		2017-09-01
Wendy Knight		2012-09-01
Wendy Smith		2013-09-01

Accounts

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025



East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

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East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Reference and Administrative Details of the Circuit, its Trustees and Advisers For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Trustees

Rev Rachel Wood, Superintendent
 Rev Manoa Ratubalavu, Minister
 Rev Mike Redshaw, Minister (resigned 31/08/2025)
 Rev Rachel Moss, Minister
 Rev Dr Stella Mills, Supernumerary Minister
 Rev David Palmer, Supernumerary Minister (until 30/11/2025)
 Rev David Bonny, Supernumerary Minister (from 01/09/2025)
 Andrew Wooding, Finance Steward
 Denise Hancock, Circuit Steward, Synod Rep
 Andrew Hawkins, Circuit Steward
 Teresa Hawkins, Circuit Meeting Secretary
 Julie Green, Circuit Missions Methodist Women in Britain (resigned 01/03/2025)
 Sue Palmer, Circuit Missions Methodist Women in Britain and World Church (resigned 09/07/2025)
 Sue Nickson, Synod rep
 Su Cumpstone, Safeguarding Team (appointed 31/12/2025)
 Fiona Panter, Barton Rep
 David Moore, Barton Treasurer
 Ian Gilbey, Barton Rep
 Oliver Ball, Boylestone Steward (resigned 27/10/2024)
 Andrew Wood, Boylestone Treasurer (resigned 27/10/2024), Draycott Steward (appointed 01/01/2025)
 Terry Chandler, Church Gresley Steward
 Joyce Chilver, Church Gresley Treasurer
 Kay Holman, Church Gresley Rep
 Steve Ryan, Draycott Steward (resigned 01/01/2025)
 Lynn Wragg, Draycott Treasurer
 Celia Ryan, Draycott Rep (resigned 01/01/2025)
 Vic Appleby, Etwall Steward
 Herman Bonardt, Etwall Treasurer
 Wendy Smith, Etwall Rep
 Brian Hill, Hilton Steward
 Karen Evans, Hilton Treasurer
 Liz Holmes, Hilton Rep (resigned 01/11/2025)
 Chris Shaw, Hilton Rep (appointed 01/11/2025)
 Graham Meers, Hilton Rep (appointed 27/01/2026)
 Rosemary Hancock, Action for Children Rep and , Newhall Rep
 Susan Williams, Newhall Treasurer
 Karl Harper, Overseal Joint Treasurer (appointed 01/09/2025)
 June Hart, Overseal Joint Treasurer (appointed 01/09/2025)
 Dilys Harper, Overseal Rep
 Liz Merrick, St Thomas's Treasurer
 John Jones, St Thomas's Rep
 Sue McLoughlin, St Thomas's Rep

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Reference and Administrative Details of the Circuit, its Trustees and Advisers (continued)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Wendy Knight, Short Street Steward (resigned 20/03/2025)
Ruth Harrington, Short Street Steward (appointed 20/03/2025)
Rev Sue Rolls, Supernumerary Minister, Short Street Treasurer
Teresa Tilley, Stanton Steward
Julie Hackett, Stanton Rep
Shirley Toon, Stretton Treasurer
Jennifer Illsley, Ticknall Steward (resigned 10/02/2026)
Helen Baylis, Ticknall Steward (appointed 10/02/2026)
Kay Stretton, Ticknall Treasurer
Kathy Bates, Ticknall Rep
Rita Walton, Trinity Linton Heath Steward
Betty Naylor, Trinity Linton Heath Treasurer
Christine Sutton, Trinity Linton Heath Reserve
James Twynham, Uttoxeter Steward
Roger Rooke, Uttoxeter Treasurer
Sue Cattermole, Uttoxeter Rep
Peter Marriott (appointed 30/12/2025)
Adrian Cox (appointed 30/12/2025)

Charity registered number 1133721

Principal office Unit 6
The Delph Centre
Swadlincote
Derbyshire
DE11 9DA

Independent auditor Dains Audit Limited
2 Chamberlain Square
Birmingham
B3 3AX

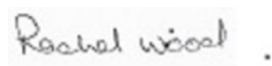
East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025.

Welcome from the Superintendent

Welcome to the Trustees' Annual Report for the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit.



Superintendent Minister of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit.

Introduction

There are 15 Churches within the ESSD Circuit across the counties of Derbyshire and Staffordshire, covering the towns of Uttoxeter, Burton upon Trent and Swadlincote (and surrounding villages). 'The Stream' digital Church has also continued to develop.

The Circuit Leadership Team, with support of the Circuit Meeting, continue to encourage local churches to realistically reflect on their future and are engaging in a process to consider governance across the circuit.

Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Circuit Trustees meet at least twice a year. These meetings plan and agree the activities of the Circuit and ensure it complies with Charity Commission guidance. The Circuit trustees have given authorisation to the Circuit Leadership Team to act on their behalf throughout the year.

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 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.

We do this in various ways including:

- The organisation and resourcing of regular acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.
- Offering different styles of worship e.g. café worship, Messy Church, reflective and bereavement services
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the ill and bereaved, and supporting the work of the hospital chaplaincy teams.
- Leading funeral, weddings and baptism services.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
- Engaging in community work such as supporting Foodbanks, and Christmas Shoebox appeals.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Objectives and activities (continued)

We are seeking to be a visionary Circuit glorifying God, sharing the mission and ministry of Jesus. This Circuit is called into being by the grace of God, led by Jesus Christ and is given the gifts for its work by and through the renewing power of the Holy Spirit to facilitate mission through worship, witness and service of the congregations and Circuit along with ecumenical co-operation and community engagement encouraging shared ministry with all parts of the Christian family.

Achievements and performance

a. Review of the year

The summer of 2025 has seen yet another change of staffing, meaning we now have 3 fulltime ministers (Presbyters). Laura Sharkey was employed as the circuit administrator on the 1st October, and our Lay pastor Graham Mizon left on the 31st August 2025.

All churches, apart from one (which meets twice a month) meet weekly on a Sunday. All churches have week day activities (either on a monthly or weekly basis) to support church members and reach out into the community, such as coffee mornings, lunches, baby and toddler groups, Messy Churches etc. The work of the Uttoxeter school's worker continues. He is employed by the Circuit although is supported financially and practically by the Anglican churches, Renew and the United Reformed Church in Uttoxeter. The multipurpose drop-in centre "Oasis" in Swadlincote remains open and also hosts the Circuit Office.

b. Plans for future years

The Circuit Leadership Team will continue to work with local churches as they reflect on The Way Forward documents and specifically options to shape the Circuit and local churches in terms of governance, mission and ministry.

c. Property

For the Connexional Year 2024 – 2025 the Circuit are the Managing Trustees for a total of 6 Manses. These are sited at Ashby Road, Burton, Elwyn Close, Stretton, Heathlands Drive, Uttoxeter, Tennyson Avenue, Midway, Lincote Way, Woodville. These Manses are all occupied by Presbyters. The 6th Manse is Wye Dale, Church Gresley. Following the approval of the Circuit Meeting to offer this property for sale it was duly marketed at the end of May 2025. An offer was accepted and completion of the sale is expected to be in September 2025, this being in the next financial year. Elwyn Close will be vacant from July following Helen Harrell's move to her new appointment.

The Circuit also has an operating lease with South Derbyshire District Council for Oasis (Offering a Sanctuary in Swadlincote) on The Delph where weekly activities are carried out. This is a three year lease expiring in December 2026.

The Circuit are also Managing Trustees for the following Investment Properties: The Well (formerly Rowland Memorial Methodist Church), Woodville Methodist Church, Blackfordby Methodist Church, Woodmill (St Pauls) Methodist Church and Acresford Methodist Church. During the year the Circuit has also taken over the responsibility of Boylestone Methodist Church following its closure for worship. It is likely that the Circuit Meeting will be asked to approve the sale of this property once we have the authorisation from Methodist Heritage as this is one of their named sites.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Achievements and performance (continued)

Hatton Methodist Church was also offered for sale but did not reach its reserve value at auction and was therefore not sold. The property has been re marketed and it was hoped a sale would be completed in the 2024 – 2025 Connexional Year. Despite offers being made on the property nothing has yet materialised in the form of a definitive sale.

Acresford Methodist Church is another site covered by Methodist Heritage and dialogue with them is ongoing. It is hoped to be able to sell this property in the future.

During the year Quinquennial Inspections have been carried out and the recommendations will be analysed and acted upon accordingly within the appropriate timelines.

Overall properties remain in a good state of repair. Appropriate figures are included in the Circuit Budget for repairs and maintenance on all properties

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's Annual Report and Accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 2019)—the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

The members of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of Circuit Office Holders, Ministers and Representatives appointed by the local churches. Full membership is shown under Objectives & Activities on page 2 of this Report.

Financial review

During the year, the Circuit has accounted for total income of £447,464 (2024: £486,986) and expenditure of £525,372 (2024: £602,837). Contained within the income figure is notional income of £125,000 which was received when Boylestone church, which closed to worship, became the management responsibility of the Circuit. This is now shown on the balance sheet as an investment property. Excluding this notional income and depreciation, the underlying, recurrent operating deficit of c£184,000 was significantly better than that planned of £342,000.

A large portion on the reduced deficit was because one of our Ministers was unable to work during the year. This resulted in the Circuit saving on the salary cost (the Minister was paid direct from the Methodist Church) and manse expenses.

The underlying deficit is due to an expected shortfall in shares due to church closures and the continuing inability of active churches to raise sufficient funds to cover all Circuit operational expenses.

The Circuit continues to actively manage its manses and investment properties to minimise cost and provide a good standard of accommodation for Ministers. Investment properties are planned to be sold at the earliest opportunity.

The Circuit considers itself to be a going concern. This is based on the levels of income (capital receipts from sale of investment properties and share payments from Churches) expected for the financial year 2025/26. Although the Circuit anticipates a continuation of church closures, it is confident it has sufficient reserves to meet any shortfall in income.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

The Circuit continues to work towards a position where operational expenses are fully covered by operational income without the reliance on property sales. To this end the Circuit has reduced the number of Presbyters stationed in the Circuit from 5.5 F.T.E. (Full Time Equivalents) at September 2020 to 3.0 F.T.E from 1 September 2025. Further action will be necessary by all churches working together to ensure long term financial stability.

There are no subsidiary undertakings.

The Circuit's main source of income continues to be shares received from the Churches within the Circuit, which in 2025 accounted for 53% of its operational income (2024: 33%).

Circuit income is used, in the main, to fund the stipends and associated costs of Ministers (3.0 full time equivalents during the year) and salaries and associated costs of lay staff (2.50 full time equivalents). In 2025 this accounted for 47% of total expenditure (2024: 45%). The balance of expenditure, in the main, is used to support the wider Methodist Church 19% (2024: 17%) and the running of the property within the Circuit, 22% (2024: 16%).

a. Investments

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 £20,000) bequests. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit.

Short term deposits are lodged with the Central Finance Board (CFB) where they attract interest.

b. Reserves policy

At the end of the year (31 August 2025) the Circuit held the following reserves;

		£
Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund	105,679
	General	2,939,507
	Sub-total unrestricted	3,045,186
Restricted	See below	33,348
Total Reserves		3,078,534

Restricted funds are held and used for the purposes for which they are given. It is the policy of the Circuit to use such funds for the purposes intended as soon as is practically possible. The balance held for restricted funds is allocated as follows;

	£
Fairer Choice	4,699
Stocks	905
Oasis	8,587
Woodville Burial Ground	528
Hunt's Charity	5,501
Benevolent Fund	90
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,135
Uttoxeter Youth & Schools Worker	10,904
Total	33,348

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

It is not the policy to hold significant reserves. However, sufficient reserves are held to continue funding those items of expenditure agreed by the Circuit and which cannot be funded from income.

The Circuit will, in the light of known and developing plans, continue to review the reserves held to ensure they are used in the best interest of the Circuit.

c. Financial risk management objectives and policies

As last year, the major risk to the Circuit and its churches remains one of an ageing congregation, reducing membership leading to reduced income, coupled with rising costs and increased property expenditure. Whilst some of our churches are growing in membership, others are shrinking, meaning that some difficult decisions will need to be made about the future of their buildings and explore different ways / spaces to worship. There is also a risk between balancing the needs of the Circuit (and local churches) along with the financial situation, which currently is reliant on sale of redundant church buildings.

Structure, governance and management

The governing document for the Circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the Annual Conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership Team.

a. Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is made available to all new Circuit meeting members as an induction to their role as trustees.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Structure, governance and management (continued)

b. Related party relationships

The Circuit is part of the Nottingham and Derby District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference. The Circuit is composed of the following Methodist Churches:

Barton under Needwood Methodist Church
Boylestone Methodist Church (Closed Oct 24)
Church Gresley Methodist Church
Draycott in the Clay Methodist Church
Etwall Methodist Church
Hilton Methodist Church
Newhall Methodist Church
Overseal C of E/Methodist Church
Short Street Methodist Church
Stanton Methodist Church
Stretton Methodist Church
St Thomas's Methodist Church
Ticknall Methodist Church
Trinity (Linton) Methodist Church
Uttoxeter Methodist Church
The Well

Although not formally recognised as a Methodist Church, worship also takes place online at The Stream.

c. Risk management

As last year, the major risk to the Circuit and its churches remains one of an ageing congregation, reducing membership leading to reduced income, coupled with rising costs and increased property expenditure. Whilst some of our churches are growing in membership, others are shrinking, meaning that some difficult decisions will need to be made about the future of their buildings and explore different ways / spaces to worship. There is also a risk between balancing the needs of the Circuit (and local churches) along with the financial situation, which currently is reliant on sale of redundant church buildings.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Safeguarding

Statement of Safeguarding Principles

It is the Methodist Church's intention to value every human being as part of God's creation and the whole people of God. At the heart of the Methodist community is a deep sense of the place of welcome, hospitality and openness, which demonstrates the nature of God's grace and love for all. Our church communities are called to be places where the transformational love of God is embodied and life in all its fullness is a gift, which is offered to all people.

Principles

Safeguarding is about the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will:

- promote the welfare of children, young people and adults
- work to prevent abuse from occurring
- seek to protect and respond well to those that have been abused.

We are committed to:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- safeguarding and protecting all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- establishing safe, caring communities, which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

We will:

- carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the church, in line with safer recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).
- respond without delay to every safeguarding concern, which suggests that a child, young person or adult may have been harmed, working in partnership with the police and social services in any investigation.
- seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- support risk assessment of those who present a safeguarding risk within a church environment. We will ensure appropriate pastoral care is offered and measures are taken to address identified risks including referral to statutory agencies, suspension and the use of safeguarding contracts.

In all these principles, we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

Summary

It remains to be a challenging time within the circuit, however there are signs of hope and things to give thanks for. The circuit contribute to the work of a schools worker in Uttoxeter who works in many schools across Uttoxeter and beyond. Other school work has developed in many places across the circuit including assemblies, open the book, Education Sunday services where schools take an active part in the service. Ministry among the Guiding groups of Swadlincote continue – most recently a Christmas carol service for over 100 girls was held. Over the last few months, we have tried new things, including an open space in an empty church building (which is used as our base for online services and meetings) as well as a craft day and film night. We continue to explore how that building can be used for mission and ministry, and we continue to encourage people across the circuit to engage with the Methodist Way of Life.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Circuit and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Circuit will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Circuit's transactions and 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 Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. 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.

Disclosure of information to auditor

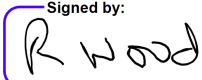
Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

The auditor, Dains Audit Limited, has indicated his willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditor at a meeting of the Trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

 F3BBED39E56C423...
Rev. Rachel Wood
 Superintendent

Date: 27-Apr-26 | 10:05 AM BST

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (continued)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (continued)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the senior statutory auditor ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the financial reporting legislation, Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation, anti-bribery, employment, and environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (continued)

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed by:

 43BC1C32A70A4BD...
Dains Audit Limited

Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

Birmingham

Date: 27-Apr-26 | 10:05 AM BST

Dains Audit Limited are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Statement of financial activities
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Note				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	4,170	63,076	67,246	20,715
Charitable activities	4	166,517	3,855	170,372	192,271
Investments	5	46,308	117	46,425	56,877
Other income	6	159,225	4,196	163,421	217,123
Total income		376,220	71,244	447,464	486,986
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	463,875	61,497	525,372	602,837
Total expenditure		463,875	61,497	525,372	602,837
Net (expenditure)/income before net gains/(losses) on investments		(87,655)	9,747	(77,908)	(115,851)
Net gains/(losses) on investments		40	-	40	(24,855)
Net (expenditure)/income		(87,615)	9,747	(77,868)	(140,706)
Transfers between funds	19	(5,145)	5,145	-	-
Net movement in funds		(92,760)	14,892	(77,868)	(140,706)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		3,137,946	18,456	3,156,402	3,297,108
Net movement in funds		(92,760)	14,892	(77,868)	(140,706)
Total funds carried forward		3,045,186	33,348	3,078,534	3,156,402

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 18 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

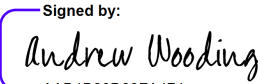
East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit
Registered number:

Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	1,183,400	1,202,636
Investment property	14	1,525,000	1,400,000
		2,708,400	2,602,636
Current assets			
Stocks	15	905	1,256
Debtors	16	20,600	18,590
Investments	17	108,272	106,746
Cash at bank and in hand		259,545	443,866
		389,322	570,458
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(19,188)	(16,692)
		370,134	553,766
Net current assets			
		3,078,534	3,156,402
Total net assets			
		3,078,534	3,156,402
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	19	33,348	18,456
Unrestricted funds	19	3,045,186	3,137,946
		3,078,534	3,156,402
Total funds			
		3,078,534	3,156,402

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:



AAD1B80D29FA474...

Andrew Wooding
Treasurer

Date: 27-Apr-26 | 10:05 AM BST

The notes on pages 18 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(219,220)	(56,786)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Interest received	36,425	56,877
Net cash provided by financing activities	36,425	56,877
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(182,795)	91
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	550,612	550,521
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	367,817	550,612

The notes on pages 18 to 38 form part of these financial statements

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

1. General information

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit is a charity registered with the charity commission in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Unit 6, The Delph Centre, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, DE11 9DA. The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union 1932 and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church. Further information regarding the Circuit's principal activities are set out in the Trustees' report.

2. Accounting policies**2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

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), and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The financial 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 the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire 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.

2.2 Income

All income is recognised once the Circuit has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Circuit's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.4 Investment property

From time to time the Circuit may hold property (formerly manses and/or chapels) which is surplus to requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used again for its prime purpose (residential property or place of worship), the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Property that is used as originally intended, i.e. for the continuation of ordinary Circuit business, is shown in the accounts at deemed cost, being the valuation on transition to FRS102 or at cost on date of purchase. Deemed cost and cost are split between land and buildings.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method. Trustees consider the current residual value of the manse buildings to be the same as their deemed cost or actual cost.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Circuit manses	- 2% straight line
Freehold land	- not depreciated

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

2. Accounting policies (continued)**2.6 Investments**

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.7 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Circuit anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Financial instruments

The Circuit only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Pensions

All Methodist Ministers in the Circuit are members of the Methodist Ministers’ Pension Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme. The Circuit is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme and therefore contributions are accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are therefore charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Circuit for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Donations			
Uttoxeter Churches for UY&SW	-	27,575	27,575
The Stream Donations	4,170	-	4,170
Donations	-	35,501	35,501

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

3. Income from donations and legacies (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations			
Uttoxeter Churches for UY&SW	-	19,390	19,390
Connexional Funds	-	350	350
Gift Aid	975	-	975
	<u>975</u>	<u>19,740</u>	<u>20,715</u>

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Assessments on Churches	162,507	-	162,507
Grants received	4,010	3,855	7,865
	<u>166,517</u>	<u>3,855</u>	<u>170,372</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Assessments on Churches	162,598	-	162,598
Grants received	5,885	23,788	29,673
	<u>168,483</u>	<u>23,788</u>	<u>192,271</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Grants received

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
District Advance Fund Grant for Uttoxeter Youth and Schools Worker	-	3,855	3,855
District Advance Fund Grant for Lay Pastor	4,010	-	4,010
	<u>4,010</u>	<u>3,855</u>	<u>7,865</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
District Advance Fund Grant for Uttoxeter Youth and Schools Worker	-	3,788	3,788
World Church Grant for Fijian Minister	-	20,000	20,000
Hunt's Charity Grant towards Diaconal Post	5,885	-	5,885
	<u>5,885</u>	<u>23,788</u>	<u>29,673</u>

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Rental income	17,783	-	17,783
Interest received	28,525	117	28,642
	<u>46,308</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>46,425</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

5. Investment income (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Rental income	20,874	-	20,874
Interest received	35,915	88	36,003
	<u>56,789</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>56,877</u>

6. Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Other income	34,225	4,196	38,421
New investment properties	125,000	-	125,000
	<u>159,225</u>	<u>4,196</u>	<u>163,421</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Other income	12,022	5,101	17,123
New investment properties	175,000	-	175,000
Gains on sale of investment properties	25,000	-	25,000
	<u>212,022</u>	<u>5,101</u>	<u>217,123</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

7. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Grants and donations	389	389

	Grants to Institutions 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Grants and donations	1,649	1,649

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Grants and donations	-	389	389
Property	115,272	-	115,272
District assessment and levy	101,778	-	101,778
Office and administration	19,359	9	19,368
Other outgoings	15,600	4,831	20,431
Depreciation	19,236	-	19,236
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	192,630	56,268	248,898
	463,875	61,497	525,372

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

Summary by fund type (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Grants and donations	-	1,649	1,649
Property	95,495	1,238	96,733
District assessment and levy	104,185	-	104,185
Office and administration	22,453	6	22,459
Other outgoings	84,653	4,041	88,694
Depreciation	19,932	-	19,932
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	218,892	50,293	269,185
	<u>545,610</u>	<u>57,227</u>	<u>602,837</u>

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Grant funding of activities 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Grants and donations	-	389	-	389
Property	-	-	115,272	115,272
District assessment and levy	101,778	-	-	101,778
Office and administration	-	-	19,368	19,368
Other outgoings	-	-	20,431	20,431
Depreciation	-	-	19,236	19,236
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	-	-	248,898	248,898
	<u>101,778</u>	<u>389</u>	<u>423,205</u>	<u>525,372</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Grant funding of activities 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Grants and donations	-	1,649	-	1,649
Property	-	-	96,733	96,733
District assessment and levy	104,185	-	-	104,185
Office and administration	-	-	22,459	22,459
Other outgoings	-	-	88,694	88,694
Depreciation	-	-	19,932	19,932
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	-	-	269,185	269,185
	104,185	1,649	497,003	602,837

10. Auditor’s remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the Circuit’s auditor for the audit of the Circuit’s annual accounts	10,900	10,125
Fees payable to the Circuit’s auditor in respect of:		
Non audit fees	2,000	1,850

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

11. Staff costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	202,331	209,649
Social security costs	18,325	17,985
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	28,242	41,551
	<u>248,898</u>	<u>269,185</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Circuit during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Ministers	4	6
Administration & mission	3	4
	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

12. Trustees’ remuneration and expenses

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Ministers and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team are considered as key management personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the Circuit Leadership Team and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Trustees of the Circuit.

The stipends, employer’s NIC and employer’s pension contributions and other epxenses of the Ministers of the Circuit are paid by the Circuit.

During the year, one or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Circuit. The value of Trustees’ remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2025	2024
		£	£
Rev’d Helen Harrell	Remuneration	-	26,814
	Pension contributions paid	-	7,161
Rev’d Rachel Wood	Remuneration	34,417	32,562
	Pension contributions paid	6,220	7,678
Rev’d Mike Redshaw	Remuneration	28,642	29,399
	Pension contributions paid	5,687	7,678
Rev’d Manoa Ratubalavu	Remuneration	31,227	29,399
	Pension contributions paid	6,220	7,678
Rev’d Rachel Moss	Remuneration	31,485	29,399
	Pension contributions paid	6,220	7,678

During the year ended 31 August 2025, one Trustee has received expenses in relation to their work as a Trustee totalling £832 (2024 - £842).

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Manses £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2024	1,242,500
At 31 August 2025	1,242,500
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2024	39,864
Charge for the year	19,236
At 31 August 2025	59,100
Net book value	
At 31 August 2025	1,183,400
At 31 August 2024	1,202,636

During the year property managed by the Circuit comprised of 5 manses.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

14. Investment property

	Freehold investment property £
Valuation	
At 1 September 2024	1,400,000
Additions	125,000
At 31 August 2025	1,525,000

During the year Boylestone Church closed to worship during the year and their management transferred to the Circuit. The following Chapels are also closed to worship and managed by the Circuit; Rowland Memorial, Blackfordby, Prince Memorial, Woodmill and Woodville.

Contingent Liability

When trustees dispose of property on which a levy is chargeable under Standing Order 970 they shall, subject to Standing Order 973, contribute part of the proceeds to the fund as follows: (iA) up to £20,000 for the first £20,000 Nil (i) on any excess over £20,000 up to £100,000 20% (ii) on any excess over £100,000 40%.

The sum upon which the levy is calculated shall be the balance remaining after making the payments required under heads (i), (ii) and (iii) of Standing Order 916(1) or made for work to the property disposed of which has been undertaken on the advice of a qualified surveyor for the purpose of increasing the proceeds of the disposal. Proceeds go to the Connexional Priority Fund.

15. Stocks

	2025 £	2024 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	905	1,256

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

16. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Other debtors	4,661	-
Prepayments and accrued income	15,939	18,590
	<u>20,600</u>	<u>18,590</u>

17. Current asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Unlisted investments	108,272	106,746
	<u>108,272</u>	<u>106,746</u>

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals	19,188	16,692
	<u>19,188</u>	<u>16,692</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	3,033,732	371,926	(461,046)	(5,145)	40	2,939,507
Circuit Model Trust Fund	104,214	4,294	(2,829)	-	-	105,679
	<u>3,137,946</u>	<u>376,220</u>	<u>(463,875)</u>	<u>(5,145)</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>3,045,186</u>
Restricted funds						
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	598	41,430	(36,269)	5,145	-	10,904
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,048	94	(7)	-	-	2,135
Benevolent Fund	90	-	-	-	-	90
Internal Organisations	13,568	4,196	(4,830)	351	-	13,285
Shoe Box Appeal	389	-	(389)	-	-	-
Woodville Burial Ground	507	23	(2)	-	-	528
Stock	1,256	-	-	(351)	-	905
Hunt's Charity	-	25,501	(20,000)	-	-	5,501
	<u>18,456</u>	<u>71,244</u>	<u>(61,497)</u>	<u>5,145</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,348</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>3,156,402</u></u>	<u><u>447,464</u></u>	<u><u>(525,372)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>40</u></u>	<u><u>3,078,534</u></u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted funds exist to support specific expenditure. Each of the following Restricted funds are used for the purpose described:

Uttoxeter Schools Worker

To continue to jointly fund the School's Worker at Uttoxeter with the objective of bringing the good news of Jesus into schools within the Uttoxeter Pyramid of schools.

Hanbury Burial Ground

To fund maintenance of the Burial Ground at Hanbury.

Benevolent Fund

Primarily held for the relief of poverty and distress in the congregations and neighbourhood of the Circuit.

Internal Organisations

Funds held by a variety of organisations within individual Churches.

World Churches

To fund 50% of the costs of the Presbyter provided to minister to the Fijian community in the UK.

Shoe Box Appeal

To provide funds for the annual shoe box appeal.

Woodville Burial Ground

To fund maintenance of the Burial Ground at Woodville.

Hunt's Charity

To further the charitable purposes in connection with the Methodist Church in the South Derbyshire Circuit which is now part of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Circuit

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	3,045,761	423,124	(536,215)	125,917	(24,855)	3,033,732
Circuit Model Trust Fund	229,205	15,145	(9,395)	(130,741)	-	104,214
	<u>3,274,966</u>	<u>438,269</u>	<u>(545,610)</u>	<u>(4,824)</u>	<u>(24,855)</u>	<u>3,137,946</u>
Restricted funds						
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	3,415	23,178	(30,855)	4,860	-	598
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,001	88	(5)	(36)	-	2,048
Benevolent Fund	190	-	(100)	-	-	90
Connexional	-	350	(350)	-	-	-
Internal Organisations	12,077	5,101	(3,943)	333	-	13,568
World Churches	675	20,000	(20,675)	-	-	-
Shoe Box Appeal	1,688	-	(1,299)	-	-	389
Woodville Burial Ground	507	-	-	-	-	507
Stock	1,589	-	-	(333)	-	1,256
	<u>22,142</u>	<u>48,717</u>	<u>(57,227)</u>	<u>4,824</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,456</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>3,297,108</u></u>	<u><u>486,986</u></u>	<u><u>(602,837)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(24,855)</u></u>	<u><u>3,156,402</u></u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

20. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
General funds	3,137,946	376,220	(463,875)	(5,145)	40	3,045,186
Restricted funds	18,456	71,244	(61,497)	5,145	-	33,348
	<u>3,156,402</u>	<u>447,464</u>	<u>(525,372)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>3,078,534</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
General funds	3,274,966	438,269	(545,610)	(4,824)	(24,855)	3,137,946
Restricted funds	22,142	48,717	(57,227)	4,824	-	18,456
	<u>3,297,108</u>	<u>486,986</u>	<u>(602,837)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(24,855)</u>	<u>3,156,402</u>

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,183,400	-	1,183,400
Investment property	1,525,000	-	1,525,000
Current assets	355,974	33,348	389,322
Creditors due within one year	(19,188)	-	(19,188)
Total	<u>3,045,186</u>	<u>33,348</u>	<u>3,078,534</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

21. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,202,636	-	1,202,636
Investment property	1,400,000	-	1,400,000
Current assets	552,002	18,456	570,458
Creditors due within one year	(16,692)	-	(16,692)
Total	3,137,946	18,456	3,156,402

22. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(77,868)	(140,706)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	19,236	19,932
Additions of Investment Properties	(125,000)	(175,000)
Decrease in stocks	351	333
Increase/(decrease) in debtors	(2,010)	6,942
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	2,496	(7,810)
Investment income	(36,425)	(56,877)
Disposals of Investment Properties	-	270,000
Deficit on investment property	-	26,400
Net cash used in operating activities	(219,220)	(56,786)

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash in hand	367,817	550,612
Total cash and cash equivalents	367,817	550,612

24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024	Cash flows	At 31 August 2025
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	443,866	(184,321)	259,545
Liquid investments	106,746	1,526	108,272
	550,612	(182,795)	367,817

25. Capital commitments

There were no capital commitments at the year-end (2024 - £NIL).

26. Pension commitments

The Circuit operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Circuit in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Circuit to the fund and amount to £28,242 (2024 - £41,551). Contributions totalling £NIL (2024 - £NIL) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

27. Related party transactions

The Circuit has not entered into any related party transaction during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the Circuit at 31 August 2025.

Accounts

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024



East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

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East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Reference and Administrative Details of the Circuit, its Trustees and Advisers For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Trustees

Rev Rachel Wood, Superintendent
 Rev Helen Harrell, Minister (resigned 31/08/2024)
 Rev Rachel Moss, Minister
 Rev Manoa Ratubalavu, Minister
 Rev Mike Redshaw, Minister
 Rev Dr Stella Mills, Supernumerary Minister
 Revd David Palmer, Supernumerary Minister
 Rev Sue Rolls, Supernumerary Minister
 Teresa Hawkins, Circuit Meeting Secretary
 Denise Hancock, Circuit Steward
 Andrew Hawkins, Circuit Steward
 Andrew Wooding, Finance Steward
 Julie Green, Circuit Missions MVB
 John Jay (deceased 11/08/2024)
 Sue Palmer, Circuit Missions MVB and World Church
 Denis Barratt, Synod reps (resigned 28/02/2024)
 Sue Nickson, Synod reps
 Dorothy Twigg, Acresford Treasurer (resigned 01/01/2024)
 Michael Green, Acresford Rep (resigned 01/01/2024)
 David Moore, Barton Treasurer
 Ian Gilbey, Barton Rep
 Fiona Panter, Barton Rep
 Oliver Ball, Boylestone Stewart (resigned 27/10/2024)
 Andrew Wood, Boylestone Treasurer (appointed 01/03/2024)
 Eric Coates, Boylestone Rep
 Ann Medcalf, Church Gresley Treasurer (deceased 01/01/2024)
 Joyce Chilver, Church Gresley Treasurer (appointed 01/01/2024)
 Terry Chandler, Church Gresley Steward
 Eila Baugh, Church Gresley Steward (resigned 01/01/2024)
 Kay Holman, Church Gresley Rep (appointed 01/01/2024)
 Lynn Wragg, Draycott Treasurer
 Steve Ryan, Draycott Rep (resigned 04/02/2025)
 Celia Ryan, Draycott Rep (resigned 01/01/2025)
 Herman Bonardt, Etwall Treasurer
 Vic Appleby, Etwall Rep
 Wendy Smith, Etwall Rep
 Brian Hill, Hilton Steward
 Karen Evans, Hilton Treasurer
 Liz Holmes, Hilton Rep
 Susan Williams, Newhall Treasurer
 Rosemary Hancock, Action for Children Rep and , Newhall Rep
 Dilys Harper, Overseal Rep
 Liz Merrick, St Thomas's Treasurer
 John Jones, St Thomas's Rep

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Reference and Administrative Details of the Circuit, its Trustees and Advisers (continued)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Sue McLoughlin, St Thomas's Rep
Wendy Knight, Short Street Steward (resigned 20/03/2025)
Ruth Harrington, Short Street Steward (appointed 20/03/2025)
Susan Laws, Stanton Treasurer (resigned 01/01/2024)
Jean Hollins, Stanton Steward (resigned 01/03/2024)
Julie Hackett, Stanton Rep
Teresa Tilley, Stanton Steward (appointed 01/03/2024)
Shirley Toon, Stretton Treasurer
Kay Stretton, Ticknall Treasurer
Kathy Bates, Ticknall Rep
Angela Bird, Ticknall Rep
Jennifer Illsley, Ticknall Steward and Circuit Missions MHA (resigned 25/03/2025)
Betty Naylor, Trinity Linton Heath Treasurer
Rita Walton, Trinity Linton Heath Steward
Christine Sutton, Trinity Linton Heath Reserve
Roger Rooke, Uttoxeter Treasurer
James Twynham, Uttoxeter Steward
Sue Cattermole, Uttoxeter Rep
Denis Mansfield (resigned 01/01/2024)

Charity registered number 1133721

Principal office Unit 6
The Delph Centre
Swadlincote
Derbyshire
DE11 9DA

Independent auditor Dains Audit Limited
2 Chamberlain Square
Paradise Circus
Birmingham
B3 3AX

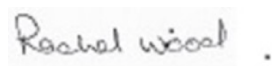
East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Welcome from the Superintendent

Welcome to the Trustees Annual Report for the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit.



Superintendent Minister of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit.

Introduction

At the start of the year 2023-24, there were 15 churches within the Circuit, across the counties of Derbyshire and Staffordshire, covering the towns of Uttoxeter, Burton upon Trent and Swadlincote (and surrounding villages). 'The Stream' digital Church has also continued to develop, including gaining new members from the church societies that have ceased to meet.

All churches, except 2 which meet twice a month, meet weekly on a Sunday. All churches have week day activities (either on a monthly or weekly basis) to support church members and reach out into the community, such as coffee mornings, warm spaces, Messy Churches etc. The multipurpose drop-in centre "Oasis" in Swadlincote remains open and also hosts the Circuit Office.

The Circuit Leadership Team, with support of the Circuit Meeting, have encouraged local churches to realistically reflect on their future, the results of which will be used to identify future mission and ministry.

Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Circuit Trustees meet at least twice a year. These meetings plan and agree the activities of the Circuit and ensure it complies with Charity Commission guidance. The Circuit trustees have given authorisation to the Circuit Leadership Team to act on their behalf throughout the year.

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:

The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;

Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Objectives and activities (continued)

We do this in various ways including:

- The organisation and resourcing of regular acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.
- Offering different styles of worship e.g. café worship, Messy Church, reflective and bereavement services
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the ill and bereaved, and supporting the work of the hospital chaplaincy teams.
- Leading funeral, weddings and baptism services.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
- Engaging in community work such as supporting Foodbanks, and Christmas Shoebox appeals.

We are seeking to be a visionary Circuit glorifying God, sharing the mission and ministry of Jesus. This Circuit is called into being by the grace of God, led by Jesus Christ and is given the gifts for its work by and through the renewing power of the Holy Spirit to facilitate mission through worship, witness and service of the congregations and Circuit along with ecumenical co-operation and community engagement encouraging shared ministry with all parts of the Christian family.

Achievements and performance

a. Review of the year

The summer of 2024 has seen yet another change of staffing, meaning we now have 4 fulltime ministers (Presbyters).

The 2 churches that did not fulfil Methodist criteria of having 12 trustees, were given a year to explore options. At the circuit meeting in July 24, one of the churches (Short Street) was given a year's extension as they had reached out to the community, in Mission and Outreach, including through the toddler group, and had increased the number of trustees to more than 12. The other (Boylestone) had not had the same opportunities, and outreach to the small village was not possible. They had a conversation with another church, to see if they could merge trusteeship, and a short extension was given, to allow the final vote to take place, on the understanding that if it was not successful, the circuit meeting would take on the trusteeship and vote to close the building.

The circuit administrator left on the 31st March 2024, and paperwork is being prepared to find a replacement.

Mission and ministry continues to happen across the local churches, through coffee mornings, warm space, school assemblies (including open the book), Messy Church and through the work of the Uttoxeter schools worker, who is now also being financially supported by the Anglican churches in Uttoxeter. His work continues to develop supporting the needs of the schools – staff and students. A new Part time temporary role (Lay Pastor) was created to support 2 churches in particular, as well as some work across the circuit. This started on the 1st February 2024.

b. Property

For the Connexional Year 2023 – 2024 the Circuit are the Managing Trustees for a total of 6 Manses. These are sited at Ashby Road, Burton, Elwyn Close, Stretton, Heathlands Drive, Uttoxeter, Tennyson Avenue, Midway, Lincote Way, Woodville. These Manses are all occupied by Presbyters. The 6th Manse is Wye Dale, Church Gresley and is currently vacant following the Rev Dave Bonny's move to another Circuit in September 2023. The Circuit Meeting held in March 2024 agreed that this property be offered for sale and that process is ongoing.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Achievements and performance (continued)

The Circuit are also Managing Trustees for the following Investment Properties: The Well (formerly Rowland Memorial Methodist Church), Woodville Methodist Church, Blackfordby Methodist Church, Woodmill (St Pauls) Methodist Church and Acresford Methodist Church.

During the year the churches at Stubwood and Winhill were sold by public auction. Hatton Methodist Church was also offered for sale but did not reach its reserve value at auction and was therefore not sold. The property has been re marketed and it is hoped a sale will be completed early in the 2024 – 2025 Connexional Year.

Acresford Methodist Church is a site covered by Methodist Heritage and dialogue with them is ongoing. It is hoped to be able to sell this property in the future.

c. Plans for future years

The Circuit Leadership Team will continue to work with local churches as they reflect on The Way Forward documents and the Methodist Way of Life (MWOL) offering space for and encouraging worship, discipleship and evangelism. The process to sell some of our redundant buildings has begun, the proceeds of which will support the local churches and the Circuit staff. Looking further ahead, there will be more changes in staffing, and so conversations about future ministry will need to take place. We are also committed to support mission projects (new and old including the Arts Church and Oasis) and to helping local communities in as many ways as we can. As we enter a new Connexional year, we acknowledge the difficult times, but look forward in faith and hope to what the New Year brings.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's Annual Report and Accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 2019)—the Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

The members of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of Circuit Office Holders, Ministers and Representatives appointed by the local churches. Full membership is shown under Objectives & Activities on page 2 of this Report.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Financial review

During the year, the Circuit has accounted for total income of £486,986 (2022/23 £530,362) and expenditure of £602,837 (2022/23 £535,139). Contained within the income figure is notional income of £175,000 which was received when Acresford church, which closed to worship, became the management responsibility of the Circuit. This is now shown on the balance sheet as an investment property. Excluding this notional income, the underlying, recurrent operating deficit of c£290,900 was slightly higher (£8,000) than that planned of £282,300.

The underlying deficit is due to an expected shortfall in shares due to church closures and the continuing inability of active churches to raise sufficient funds to cover all Circuit operational expenses.

The Circuit continues to actively manage its manses and investment properties to minimise cost and provide a good standard of accommodation for Ministers. Investment properties are planned to be sold at the earliest opportunity.

The Circuit considers itself to be a going concern. This is based on the levels of income (capital receipts from sale of investment properties and share payments from Churches) expected for the financial year 2025/26. Although the Circuit anticipates a continuation of church closures, it is confident it has sufficient reserves to meet any shortfall in income.

The Circuit continues to work towards a position where operational expenses are fully covered by operational income without the reliance on property sales. To this end the Circuit has reduced the number of Presbyters stationed in the Circuit from 5.5 F.T.E. (Full Time Equivalents) at September 2020 to 3.0 F.T.E from 1 September 2025. Further action will be necessary by all churches working together to ensure long term financial stability.

There are no subsidiary undertakings.

The Circuits main source of income continues to be shares received from the Churches within the Circuit, which in 2023/24 accounted for 33% of its operational income (2022/23, 38%).

Circuit income is used, in the main, to fund the stipends and associated costs of Ministers (5.0 full time equivalents during the year) and salaries and associated costs of lay staff (2.50 full time equivalents). In 2023/24 this accounted for 45% of total expenditure (2022/23, 52%). The balance of expenditure, in the main, is used to support the wider Methodist Church 17% (2022/23, 23%) and the running of the property within the Circuit, 16% (2022/23, 13%).

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

a. Reserves policy

At the end of the year (31 August 2024) the Circuit held the following reserves;

		£
Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund	104,214
	General	3,033,732
	Sub-total unrestricted	3,137,946
Restricted	See below	18,456
Total Reserves		3,156,402

Restricted funds are held and used for the purposes for which they are given. It is the policy of the Circuit to use such funds for the purposes intended as soon as is practically possible. The balance held for restricted funds is allocated as follows;

	£
Fairer Choice	5,206
Stocks	1,256
Oasis	8,362
Woodville Burial Ground	507
Shoe Boxes	389
Benevolent Fund	90
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,048
Uttoxeter Youth & Schools Worker	598
Total	18,456

It is not the policy to hold significant reserves. However, sufficient reserves are held to continue funding those items of expenditure agreed by the Circuit and which cannot be funded from income.

The Circuit will, in the light of known and developing plans, continue to review the reserves held to ensure they are used in the best interest of the Circuit.

b. Financial risk management objectives and policies

As last year, the major risk to the Circuit and its churches remains one of an ageing congregation, reducing membership leading to reduced income, coupled with rising costs and increased property expenditure. Whilst some of our churches are growing in membership, others are shrinking, meaning that some difficult decisions will need to be made about the future of their buildings and explore different ways / spaces to worship. There is also a risk between balancing the needs of the Circuit (and local churches) along with the financial situation, which currently is reliant on sale of redundant church buildings.

c. Investments

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 £20,000) bequests. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit.

Short term deposits are lodged with the Central Finance Board (CFB) where they attract interest.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Structure, governance and management

The governing document for the Circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership Team along with the Local Preachers Meeting.

a. Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is made available to all new Circuit meeting members as an induction to their role as trustees.

b. Related party relationships

The Circuit is part of the Nottingham and Derby District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference. The Circuit is composed of the following Methodist Churches:

Acresford Methodist Church (Closed Sept 23)
Barton under Needwood Methodist Church
Boylestone Methodist Church
Church Gresley Methodist Church
Draycott in the Clay Methodist Church
Etwall Methodist Church
Hilton Methodist Church
Newhall Methodist Church
Overseal C of E/Methodist Church
Short Street Methodist Church
Stanton Methodist Church
Stretton Methodist Church
St Thomas's Methodist Church
Ticknall Methodist Church
Trinity (Linton) Methodist Church
Uttoxeter Methodist Church
The Well
The Stream

c. Risk management

As last year, the major risk to the Circuit and its churches remains one of an ageing congregation, reducing membership leading to reduced income, coupled with rising costs and increased property expenditure. Whilst some of our churches are growing in membership, others are shrinking, meaning that some difficult decisions will need to be made about the future of their buildings and explore different ways / spaces to worship. There is also a risk between balancing the needs of the Circuit (and local churches) along with the financial situation, which currently is reliant on sale of redundant church buildings.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Safeguarding

Statement of Safeguarding Principles

It is the Methodist Church's intention to value every human being as part of God's creation and the whole people of God. At the heart of the Methodist community is a deep sense of the place of welcome, hospitality and openness, which demonstrates the nature of God's grace and love for all. Our church communities are called to be places where the transformational love of God is embodied and life in all its fullness is a gift, which is offered to all people.

Principles

Safeguarding is about the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will:

- promote the welfare of children, young people and adults
- work to prevent abuse from occurring
- seek to protect and respond well to those that have been abused.

We are committed to:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- safeguarding and protecting all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- establishing safe, caring communities, which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

We will:

- carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the church, in line with safer recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).
- respond without delay to every safeguarding concern, which suggests that a child, young person or adult may have been harmed, working in partnership with the police and social services in any investigation.
- seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- support risk assessment of those who present a safeguarding risk within a church environment. We will ensure appropriate pastoral care is offered and measures are taken to address identified risks including referral to statutory agencies, suspension and the use of safeguarding contracts.

In all these principles, we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

Summary

It remains to be a challenging time within the circuit, however there are signs of hope and things to give thanks for. The circuit contribute to the work of a schools worker in Uttoxeter who works in many schools across Uttoxeter and beyond. Other school work has developed in many places across the circuit including assemblies, open the book, Education Sunday services where schools take an active part in the service. Ministry among the Guiding groups of Swadlincote continue – most recently a Christmas carol service for over 100 girls was held. Over the last few months, we have tried new things, including an open space in an empty church building (which is used as our base for online services and meetings) as well as a craft day and film night. We continue to explore how that building can be used for mission and ministry, and we continue to encourage people across the circuit to engage with the Methodist Way of Life.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Circuit and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Circuit will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Circuit's transactions and 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 Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. 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.

Disclosure of information to auditor

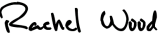
Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

The auditor, Dains Audit Limited, has indicated his willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditor at a meeting of the Trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 22 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

 F3BBED39E56C423...

Rev. Rachel Wood
Superintendent

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit
(continued)**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (continued)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the senior statutory auditor ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the financial reporting legislation, Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation, anti-bribery, employment, and environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (continued)

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed by:

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Dains Audit Limited

Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

Birmingham

22 April 2025

Dains Audit Limited are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Statement of financial activities
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
	Note				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	975	19,740	20,715	20,504
Charitable activities	4	168,483	23,788	192,271	219,935
Investments	5	56,789	88	56,877	33,196
Other income	6	212,022	5,101	217,123	256,727
Total income		438,269	48,717	486,986	530,362
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	545,610	57,227	602,837	535,139
Total expenditure		545,610	57,227	602,837	535,139
Net expenditure before net losses on investments		(107,341)	(8,510)	(115,851)	(4,777)
Net losses on investments		(24,855)	-	(24,855)	(886)
Net expenditure		(132,196)	(8,510)	(140,706)	(5,663)
Transfers between funds	19	(4,824)	4,824	-	-
Net movement in funds		(137,020)	(3,686)	(140,706)	(5,663)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		3,274,966	22,142	3,297,108	3,302,771
Net movement in funds		(137,020)	(3,686)	(140,706)	(5,663)
Total funds carried forward		3,137,946	18,456	3,156,402	3,297,108

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

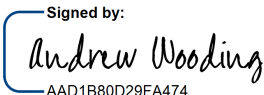
The notes on pages 18 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit
Registered number:

Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	1,202,636	1,443,968
Investment property	14	1,400,000	1,300,000
		<u>2,602,636</u>	<u>2,743,968</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	15	1,256	1,589
Debtors	16	18,590	25,532
Investments	17	106,746	231,712
Cash at bank and in hand		443,866	318,809
		<u>570,458</u>	<u>577,642</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(16,692)	(24,502)
		<u>553,766</u>	<u>553,140</u>
Net current assets			
		<u>3,156,402</u>	<u>3,297,108</u>
Total net assets			
		<u>3,156,402</u>	<u>3,297,108</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	19	18,456	22,142
Unrestricted funds	19	3,137,946	3,274,966
		<u>3,156,402</u>	<u>3,297,108</u>
Total funds			
		<u>3,156,402</u>	<u>3,297,108</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 22 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

AAD1B80D29FA474...
Andrew Wooding
Treasurer

The notes on pages 18 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(56,786)	(208,908)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Interest received	56,877	20,096
Net cash provided by financing activities	56,877	20,096
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	91	(188,812)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	550,521	739,333
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	550,612	550,521

The notes on pages 18 to 38 form part of these financial statements

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

1. General information

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit is a charity registered with the charity commission in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Uni 6, The Delph Centre, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, DE11 9DA. The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union 1932 and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church. Further information regarding the Circuit's principal activities are set out in the Trustees' report.

2. Accounting policies**2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

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), and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The financial 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 the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire 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.

2.2 Income

All income is recognised once the Circuit has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Circuit's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.4 Investment property

From time to time the Circuit may hold property (formerly manses and/or chapels) which is surplus to requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used again for its prime purpose (residential property or place of worship), the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Property that is used as originally intended, i.e. for the continuation of ordinary Circuit business, is shown in the accounts at deemed cost, being the valuation on transition to FRS102 or at cost on date of purchase. Deemed cost and cost are split between land and buildings.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method. Trustees consider the current residual value of the manse buildings to be the same as their deemed cost or actual cost.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Circuit manses	- 2% straight line
Freehold land	- not depreciated

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

2. Accounting policies (continued)**2.6 Investments**

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.7 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Circuit anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Financial instruments

The Circuit only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Pensions

All Methodist Ministers in the Circuit are members of the Methodist Ministers’ Pension Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme. The Circuit is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme and therefore contributions are accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are therefore charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Circuit for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations			
Uttoxeter Churches for UY&SW	-	19,390	19,390
Connexional Funds	-	350	350
Gift Aid	975	-	975
	975	19,740	20,715

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

3. Income from donations and legacies (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations			
General donations	4,175	-	4,175
Uttoxeter Churches for UY&SW	-	14,995	14,995
Connexional Funds	-	525	525
Gift Aid	809	-	809
	<u>4,984</u>	<u>15,520</u>	<u>20,504</u>

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Assessments on Churches	162,598	-	162,598
Grants received	5,885	23,788	29,673
	<u>168,483</u>	<u>23,788</u>	<u>192,271</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Assessments on Churches	196,214	-	196,214
Grants received	-	23,721	23,721
	<u>196,214</u>	<u>23,721</u>	<u>219,935</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Grants received			
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
District Advance Fund Grant for UY&SW	-	3,788	3,788
World Church Grant for Fijian Minister	-	20,000	20,000
General grants	5,885	-	5,885
	5,885	23,788	29,673

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
District Advance Fund Grant for UY&SW	3,721	3,721
World Church Grant for Fijian Minister	20,000	20,000
	23,721	23,721

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Rental income	20,874	-	20,874
Interest received	35,915	88	36,003
	56,789	88	56,877

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

5. Investment income (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Rental income	3,100	-	3,100
Interest received	30,033	63	30,096
	<u>33,133</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>33,196</u>

6. Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Other income	12,022	5,101	17,123
New investment properties	175,000	-	175,000
Gains on sale of investment properties	25,000	-	25,000
	<u>212,022</u>	<u>5,101</u>	<u>217,123</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Other income	3,148	5,159	8,307
New investment properties	225,000	-	225,000
Balances transferred from closed churches	23,420	-	23,420
	<u>251,568</u>	<u>5,159</u>	<u>256,727</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

7. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Grants and donations	1,649	1,649

	Grants to Institutions 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Grants and donations	1,848	1,848

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Grants and donations	-	1,649	1,649
Property	95,495	1,238	96,733
District assessment and levy	104,185	-	104,185
Office and administration	22,453	6	22,459
Other outgoings	84,653	4,041	88,694
Depreciation	19,932	-	19,932
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	218,892	50,293	269,185
	545,610	57,227	602,837

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

Summary by fund type (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Grants and donations	330	1,518	1,848
Property	66,922	2,527	69,449
District assessment and levy	122,969	-	122,969
Office and administration	28,555	6	28,561
Other outgoings	5,495	5,654	11,149
Depreciation	23,532	-	23,532
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	233,508	44,123	277,631
	<u>481,311</u>	<u>53,828</u>	<u>535,139</u>

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Grant funding of activities 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Grants and donations	-	1,649	-	1,649
Property	-	-	96,733	96,733
District assessment and levy	104,185	-	-	104,185
Office and administration	-	-	22,459	22,459
Other outgoings	-	-	88,694	88,694
Depreciation	-	-	19,932	19,932
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	-	-	269,185	269,185
	<u>104,185</u>	<u>1,649</u>	<u>497,003</u>	<u>602,837</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Grant funding of activities 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Grants and donations	-	1,848	-	1,848
Property	-	-	69,449	69,449
District assessment and levy	122,969	-	-	122,969
Office and administration	-	-	28,561	28,561
Other outgoings	-	-	11,149	11,149
Depreciation	-	-	23,532	23,532
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	-	-	277,631	277,631
	<u>122,969</u>	<u>1,848</u>	<u>410,322</u>	<u>535,139</u>

10. Auditor’s remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the Circuit’s auditor for the audit of the Circuit’s annual accounts	10,125	9,900
Fees payable to the Circuit’s auditor in respect of:		
Non audit fees	<u>1,850</u>	<u>1,750</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

11. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	209,649	216,406
Social security costs	17,985	16,653
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	41,551	44,572
	<u>269,185</u>	<u>277,631</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Circuit during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Ministers	6	6
Administration & mission	4	4
	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Ministers and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team are considered as key management personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the Circuit Leadership Team and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Trustees of the Circuit.

The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Ministers of the Circuit are paid by the Circuit.

During the year, one or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Circuit. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2024	2023
		£	£
Rev'd Dave Bonny	Remuneration	-	27,324
	Pension contributions paid	-	6,640
Rev'd Helen Harrell	Remuneration	26,814	27,280
	Pension contributions paid	7,161	7,291
Rev'd Rachel Wood	Remuneration	32,562	27,280
	Pension contributions paid	7,678	7,291
Rev'd Mike Redshaw	Remuneration	29,399	27,280
	Pension contributions paid	7,678	7,291
Rev'd Manoa Ratubalavu	Remuneration	29,399	27,280
	Pension contributions paid	7,678	7,291
Rev'd Rachel Moss	Remuneration	29,399	27,280
	Pension contributions paid	7,678	7,291

During the year ended 31 August 2024, one Trustee has received expenses in relation to their work as a Trustee totalling £842 (2023 - £NIL).

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Manses £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2023	1,467,500
Transfers between classes	(225,000)
At 31 August 2024	1,242,500
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2023	23,532
Charge for the year	19,932
Transfers between classes	(3,600)
At 31 August 2024	39,864
Net book value	
At 31 August 2024	1,202,636
At 31 August 2023	1,443,968

During the year property managed by the Circuit comprised of 6 manses. One of these is now sellable and has been transferred to investment property.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

14. Investment property

	Freehold investment property £
Valuation	
At 1 September 2023	1,300,000
Additions	175,000
Disposals	(270,000)
Deficit on revaluation	(26,400)
Transfers between classes	221,400
At 31 August 2024	1,400,000

During the year Acresford Church closed to worship during the year and their management transferred to the Circuit. The following Chapels are also closed to worship and managed by the Circuit; Rowland Memorial, Blackfordby, Prince Memorial, Woodmill and Woodville.

Stubwood Chapel and Winshill Church were sold during the year.

Contingent Liability

When trustees dispose of property on which a levy is chargeable under Standing Order 970 they shall, subject to Standing Order 973, contribute part of the proceeds to the fund as follows: (iA) up to £20,000 or the first £20,000 Nil (i) on any excess over £20,000 up to £100,000 20% (ii) on any excess over £100,000 40%..

The sum upon which the levy is calculated shall be the balance remaining after making the payments required under heads (i), (ii) and (iii) of Standing Order 916(1) or made for work to the property disposed of which has been undertaken on the advice of a qualified surveyor for the purpose of increasing the proceeds of the disposal. Proceeds go to the Connexional Priority Fund.

15. Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	1,256	1,589

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

16. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due within one year		
Prepayments and accrued income	18,590	25,532

17. Current asset investments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Unlisted investments	106,746	231,712

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	16,692	24,502

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	3,045,761	423,124	(536,215)	125,917	(24,855)	3,033,732
Circuit Model Trust Fund	229,205	15,145	(9,395)	(130,741)	-	104,214
	<u>3,274,966</u>	<u>438,269</u>	<u>(545,610)</u>	<u>(4,824)</u>	<u>(24,855)</u>	<u>3,137,946</u>
Restricted funds						
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	3,415	23,178	(30,855)	4,860	-	598
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,001	88	(5)	(36)	-	2,048
Benevolent Fund	190	-	(100)	-	-	90
Connexional	-	350	(350)	-	-	-
Internal Organisations	12,077	5,101	(3,943)	333	-	13,568
World Churches	675	20,000	(20,675)	-	-	-
Shoe Box Appeal	1,688	-	(1,299)	-	-	389
Woodville Burial Ground	507	-	-	-	-	507
Stock	1,589	-	-	(333)	-	1,256
	<u>22,142</u>	<u>48,717</u>	<u>(57,227)</u>	<u>4,824</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,456</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>3,297,108</u></u>	<u><u>486,986</u></u>	<u><u>(602,837)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(24,855)</u></u>	<u><u>3,156,402</u></u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted funds exist to support specific expenditure. Each of the following Restricted funds are used for the purpose described:

Uttoxeter Schools Worker

To continue to jointly fund the School's Worker at Uttoxeter with the objective of bringing the good news of Jesus into schools within the Uttoxeter Pyramid of schools.

Hanbury Burial Ground

To fund maintenance of the Burial Ground at Hanbury.

Benevolent Fund

Primarily held for the relief of poverty and distress in the congregations and neighbourhood of the Circuit.

Internal Organisations

Funds held by a variety of organisations within individual Churches.

World Churches

To fund 50% of the costs of the Presbyter provided to minister to the Fijian community in the UK.

Shoe Box Appeal

To provide funds for the annual shoe box appeal.

Woodville Burial Ground

To fund maintenance of the Burial Ground at Woodville.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	2,672,507	469,903	(443,547)	347,784	(886)	3,045,761
Circuit Model Trust Fund	602,478	15,996	(37,764)	(351,505)	-	229,205
Restricted funds						
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	6,373	18,716	(25,173)	3,499	-	3,415
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,002	63	(4)	(60)	-	2,001
Benevolent Fund	190	-	-	-	-	190
Connexional	-	525	(300)	(225)	-	-
Internal Organisations	12,090	5,159	(5,654)	482	-	12,077
World Churches	2,154	20,000	(21,479)	-	-	675
Shoe Box Appeal	2,906	-	(1,218)	-	-	1,688
Woodville Burial Ground	-	-	-	507	-	507
Stock	2,071	-	-	(482)	-	1,589
Total Restricted funds	27,786	44,463	(53,828)	3,721	-	22,142
Total of funds	3,302,771	530,362	(535,139)	-	(886)	3,297,108

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

20. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
General funds	3,274,966	438,269	(545,610)	(4,824)	(24,855)	3,137,946
Restricted funds	22,142	48,717	(57,227)	4,824	-	18,456
	<u>3,297,108</u>	<u>486,986</u>	<u>(602,837)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(24,855)</u>	<u>3,156,402</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
General funds	3,274,985	485,899	(481,311)	(3,721)	(886)	3,274,966
Restricted funds	27,786	44,463	(53,828)	3,721	-	22,142
	<u>3,302,771</u>	<u>530,362</u>	<u>(535,139)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(886)</u>	<u>3,297,108</u>

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,202,636	-	1,202,636
Investment property	1,400,000	-	1,400,000
Current assets	552,002	18,456	570,458
Creditors due within one year	(16,692)	-	(16,692)
Total	<u>3,137,946</u>	<u>18,456</u>	<u>3,156,402</u>

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

21. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,443,968	-	1,443,968
Investment property	1,300,000	-	1,300,000
Current assets	555,233	22,409	577,642
Creditors due within one year	(24,235)	(267)	(24,502)
Total	3,274,966	22,142	3,297,108

22. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net expenditure for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(140,706)	(5,663)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	19,932	23,532
Additions of Investment Properties	(175,000)	(225,000)
Decrease in stocks	333	482
Increase in debtors	6,942	2,475
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(7,810)	15,362
Investment income	(56,877)	(33,196)
Disposals of Investment Properties	270,000	-
Deficit on investment property	26,400	-
Net cash used in operating activities	(56,786)	(222,008)

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash in hand	550,612	550,521
Total cash and cash equivalents	550,612	550,521

24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2023	Cash flows	At 31 August 2024
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	318,809	125,057	443,866
Liquid investments	231,712	(124,966)	106,746
	550,521	91	550,612

25. Capital commitments

There were no capital commitments at the year-end (2023 - £NIL).

26. Pension commitments

The Circuit operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Circuit in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Circuit to the fund and amount to £41,551 (2023 - £44,572). Contributions totalling £NIL (2023 - £NIL) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

27. Related party transactions

The East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit has not entered into any related party transaction during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit at 31 August 2024.

Accounts

Charity number: 1133721

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023



EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

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EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Reference and Administrative Details of the Circuit, its Trustees and Advisers For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Trustees

Rev Rachel Wood, Superintendent (appointed 01/09/2023)
Rev David Bonny, Superintendent (01/09/2022 to 31/08/2023)
Rev Helen Harrell, Minister
Rev Manoa Ratubalavu, Minister
Rev Mike Redshaw, Minister
Rev Rachel Moss, Minister
Rev Maurice Whittaker, Supernumerary Minister (01/09/2022 to 30/09/2023)
Rev Dr Stella Mills, Supernumerary Minister (appointed 01/03/2023)
Rev Dr David Palmer, Supernumerary Minister (appointed 01/03/2023)
Rev Sue Rolls, Supernumerary Minister (appointed 01/01/2024)
Jordan Lambert, Lay Worker
Graham Mizon, Lay Worker (appointed 01/03/2024)
Andrew Wooding, Finance Steward
Denise Hancock, Circuit Steward
Andrew Hawkins, Circuit Steward
Heather Simm, Circuit Steward LP, Synod Rep (resigned 23/12/2022)
Celia Ryan, Circuit Meeting Secretary (01/09/2022 to 30/08/2023)
Teresa Hawkins, Circuit Meeting Secretary (appointed 01/09/2023)
Richard House, Safeguarding Advisor (resigned 31/08/2023)
Susan Shakespear, Family Action Team (resigned 28/02/2023)
Rosemary Hancock, Action for Children
John Jay, Circuit Missions
Jenny Illsley, Circuit Missions MHA
Bryan Wild, Circuit Missions MHA (resigned 31/08/2023)
Julie Green, Circuit Missions MWB
Sue Palmer, MWB and World Church
Sue Williams, Fijian Liaison
Sue Nickson, Synod Rep
Denis Barratt, Synod Rep (resigned 28/02/2024)
Dorothy Twigg, Acresford Treasurer, Synod Rep (resigned 01/01/2024)
Michael Green, Acresford Rep (resigned 01/01/2024)
Fiona Panter, Barton Steward
David Moore, Barton Treasurer
Ian Gilby, Barton Rep
Oliver Ball, Boylestone Steward
Rev Dr Stella Mills, Boylestone Treasurer
Eric Coates, Boylestone Rep
Terry Chandler, Church Gresley Steward
Ann Medcalf, Church Gresley Treasurer (resigned 01/01/2024)
Eila Baugh, Church Gresley Rep (resigned 01/01/2024)
Joyce Chilver, Church Gresley Rep (appointed 01/01/2024)
Kay Holman, Church Gresley Rep (appointed 01/01/2024)
Lynn Wragg, Draycott Treasurer
Steve Ryan, Draycott Rep
Vic Appleby, Etwall Steward
Herman J Bonardt, Etwall Treasurer
Wendy Smith, Etwall Rep
Brian Hill, Hilton Steward
Karen Evans, Hilton Treasurer
Liz Holmes, Hilton Rep (appointed 01/09/2023)
Nigel Sharpe, Newhall Rep (resigned 01/03/2023)

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Reference and Administrative Details of the Circuit, its Trustees and Advisers (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Linda Leadbetter, Overseal Treasurer
Dilys Harper, Overseal Rep
Liz Merrick, St Thomas's Treasurer
John Jones, St Thomas's Rep
Sue McLoughlin, St Thomas's Rep
Wendy Knight, Short Street Steward
Susan Laws, Short Street Treasurer (appointed 01/09/2023)
Jean Hollins, Stanton Steward
Rita Street, Stanton Treasurer (resigned 01/09/2023)
Julie Hackett, Stanton Rep
Shirley Toon, Stretton Treasurer
Angela Bird, Ticknall Rep
Kathy Bates, Ticknall Rep
Rita Walton, Trinity Linton Heath Steward
Betty Naylor, Trinity Linton Heath Treasurer
Martin Kesterton, Trinity Linton Heath Rep (resigned 01/03/2023)
Denis Mansfield, Trinity Linton Heath Rep (01/09/2023 to 01/01/2024)
Christine Sutton, Trinity Linton Heath Rep (appointed 01/01/2024)
Roger Rooke, Uttoxeter Treasurer
John Darby, Uttoxeter Rep
Roy Ward, Woodmill Treasurer (resigned 01/06/2023)
Brian Parker, Woodville Treasurer (resigned 01/06/2023)
Joan Barnett, Woodville Rep (resigned 01/06/2023)

**Charity registered
number**

1133721

Principal office

Unit 6
The Delph Centre
Swadlincote
Derbyshire
DE11 9DA

Independent auditors

Dains Audit Limited
15 Colmore Row
Birmingham
B3 2BH

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Welcome from the Superintendent

A change of staffing in the summer of 2023 means that the Superintendent of the Circuit for the reporting year is no longer in the Circuit, so as incoming Superintendent from September, I, along with Property and Finance colleagues write this report.

The Circuit Leadership Team, with support of the Circuit Meeting, have encouraged local churches to realistically reflect on their future, the results of which will be used to identify future mission and ministry.

Rachael Wood

Superintendent Minister of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit.

Introduction

At the start of the year 2022-23, there were 18 churches within the Circuit, across the counties of Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire, covering the towns of Uttoxeter, Burton upon Trent and Swadlincote (and surrounding villages).

The Circuit is slowly recovering from the effects of the Covid Lockdowns and new ordained and lay staff have brought new gifts and skills to the Circuit, including developing "The Stream" a Digital Church, following on from the Zoom worship happening in the previous years.

Throughout the year 3 more churches were given formal permission to close or "cease to meet" in Methodist language (Acresford, Woodmill and Woodville). 2 of the remaining churches meet twice a month, whilst the rest meet weekly on a Sunday. All churches have week day activities (either on a monthly or weekly basis) to support church members and reach out into the community, such as coffee mornings, warm spaces, Messy Churches etc. The multipurpose drop-in centre "Oasis" in Swadlincote remains open, and also hosts the new Circuit Office.

Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Circuit Trustees meet at least twice a year. These meetings plan and agree the activities of the Circuit and ensure it complies with Charity Commission guidance. The Circuit trustees have given authorisation to the Circuit Leadership Team to act on their behalf throughout the year.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Objectives and activities (continued)

A list of Trustees, the Churches they represent, and the positions held is given below:

Superintendent	Rev Rachel Wood (appointed 01/09/2023)
Superintendent	Rev David Bonny (01/09/2022 to 31/08/2023)
Minister	Rev Helen Harrell
Minister	Rev Manoa Ratubalavu
Minister	Rev Mike Redshaw
Minister	Rev Rachel Moss
Minister	Rev Rachel Wood (01/09/2022 to 01/09/2023)
Supernumerary Minister	Rev Maurice Whittaker (01/09/2022 to 30/09/2023)
Supernumerary Minister	Rev Dr Stella Mills (appointed 01/03/2023)
Supernumerary Minister	Rev Dr David Palmer (appointed 01/03/2023)
Supernumerary Minister	Rev Sue Rolls (appointed 01/01/2024)
Lay Worker	Jordan Lambert
Lay Worker	Graham Mizon (appointed 01/03/2024)
Finance Steward	Andrew Wooding
Circuit Steward	Denise Hancock
Circuit Steward	Andrew Hawkins
Circuit Steward LP, Synod Rep	Heather Simm (resigned 23/12/2022)
Circuit Meeting Secretary	Celia Ryan (01/09/2022 to 30/08/2023)
Circuit Meeting Secretary	Teresa Hawkins (appointed 01/09/2023)
Safeguarding Advisor	Richard House (resigned 31/08/2023)
Family Action Team	Susan Shakespeare (resigned 28/02/2023)
Action for Children	Rosemary Hancock
Circuit Missions	John Jay
Circuit Missions MHA	Jenny Illsley
Circuit Missions MHA	Bryan Wild (resigned 31/08/2023)
Circuit Missions MHB	Julie Green
MWB and World Church	Sue Palmer
Fijian Liaison	Sue Williams
Synod Rep	Sue Nickson
Synod Rep	Denis Barratt (resigned 28/02/2024)
Acresford Methodist Church (closed September 2023)	
Treasurer, Synod Rep	Dorothy Twigg (resigned 01/01/2024)
Rep	Michael Green (resigned 01/01/2024)
Barton Under Needwood Methodist Church	
Steward	Fiona Panter
Treasurer	David Moore
Rep	Ian Gilby
Boylestone Methodist Church	
Steward	Oliver Ball
Treasurer	Rev Dr Stella Mills
Rep	Eric Coates'
Church Gresley Methodist Church	
Steward	Terry Chandler
Treasurer	Ann Medcalf (resigned 01/01/2024)
Rep	Eila Baugh (resigned 01/01/2024)
Rep	Joyce Chilver (appointed 01/01/2024)
Rep	Kay Holman (appointed 01/01/2024)
Draycott (in the Clay) Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Lynn Wragg
Rep	Steve Ryan
Etwell Methodist Church	
Steward	Vic Appleby
Treasurer	Herman J Bonardt
Rep	Wendy Smith

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Objectives and activities (continued)

Hilton Methodist Church	
Steward	Brian Hill
Treasurer	Karen Evans
Rep	Liz Holmes (appointed 01/09/2023)
Newhall Methodist Church	
Rep	Nigel Sharpe (resigned 01/03/2023)
Overseal CofE/Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Linda Leadbetter
Rep	Dilys Harper
St Thomas's Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Liz Merrick
Rep	John Jones
Rep	Sue McLoughlin
Short Street Methodist Church	
Steward	Wendy Knight
Treasurer	Susan Laws (appointed 01/09/2023)
Stanton Methodist Church	
Steward	Jean Hollins
Treasurer	Rita Street (resigned 01/09/2023)
Rep	Julie Hackett
Stretton Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Shirley Toon
Ticknall Methodist Church	
Rep	Angela Bird
Rep	Kathy Bates
Trinity Linton Heath Methodist Church	
Steward	Rita Walton
Treasurer	Betty Naylor
Rep	Martin Kesterton (resigned 01/03/2023)
Rep	Denis Mansfield (01/09/2023 to 01/01/2024)
Rep	Christine Sutton (appointed 01/01/2024)
Uttoxeter Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Roger Rooke
Rep	John Darby
Woodmill (St Paul's) Methodist Church (closed September 2022)	
Treasurer	Roy Ward (resigned 01/06/2023)
Woodville Methodist Church (closed April 2023)	
Treasurer	Brian Parker (resigned 01/06/2023)
Rep	Joan Barnett (resigned 01/06/2023)

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:

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

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Objectives and activities (continued)

We do this in various ways including:

- The organisation and resourcing of regular acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.
- Offering different styles of worship e.g. café worship, Messy Church, reflective and bereavement services
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the ill and bereaved, and supporting the work of the hospital chaplaincy teams.
- Leading funeral, weddings and baptism services.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
- Engaging in community work such as supporting Foodbanks, and Christmas Shoebox appeals.

We are seeking to be a visionary Circuit glorifying God, sharing the mission and ministry of Jesus. This Circuit is called into being by the grace of God, led by Jesus Christ and is given the gifts for its work by and through the renewing power of the Holy Spirit to facilitate mission through worship, witness and service of the congregations and Circuit along with ecumenical co-operation and community engagement encouraging shared ministry with all parts of the Christian family.

Achievements and performance

a. Review of the year

The year has brought about change in staffing, as 2 new staff, a presbyter and probationer joined the team after 3 of the previous ministers sat down (retired) or moved on. The year has brought joys and sadness – with the growth the Stream, our digital worship, and the formal closure of 3 more churches (Acresford, Woodmill and Woodville). The buildings and money, have been transferred to Circuit responsibility, while many of the people have joined the Stream, or moved elsewhere.

Using a document called 'The Way Forward', a series of proposals were agreed by the Circuit trustees, to help the Circuit and churches look to the future and explore what their ministry and mission is. This has involved all local churches writing a document about their immediate and future plans. 4 churches, did not meet the Methodist criteria of having 12 trustees – however 2 of these are now compliant, the other 2 continue to have discussions about their future. A new Circuit Administrator was appointed in April 2023, and she has quickly become a valuable member of staff.

Mission and ministry continues to happen across the local churches, though coffee mornings, warm space, school assemblies (including open the book), Messy Church and through the work of the Uttoxeter schools worker, who is now also being financially supported by the Anglican churches in Uttoxeter. His work continues to develop supporting the needs of the schools – staff and students.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. Property

During the period of this report the Circuit are currently the Managing Trustees for a total of 6 Manses each occupied by a Minister. These are sited at Ashby Road, Burton, Elwyn Close, Stretton, Heathlands Drive, Uttoxeter, Tennyson Avenue, Midway, Wye Dale, Church Gresley and Lincote Way, Woodville. In addition to the Manses, the Circuit holds a number of Investment Properties as follows: Rowland Memorial Methodist Church (The Well), Winhill Methodist Church, Stubwood Methodist Church, Woodville Methodist Church, Blackfordby Methodist Church, Hatton Methodist Church and Woodmill Methodist Church.

Also during the 2022/2023 Connexional year Acresford Methodist Church made the difficult decision to cease to meet. However full Synod approval was not given until September 2023 and therefore the 2023/2024 Connexional year. The Circuit also leases Unit 6, the Delph Centre, Swadlincote from South Derbyshire District Council on a 5 year lease expiring December 2023. Having been given delegated authority by the Circuit Meeting, the Circuit Leadership Team began the sales process on four properties namely: Stubwood Methodist Church, Hatton Methodist Church, Winhill Methodist Church and Blackfordby Methodist Church. This is not a straightforward process, however it is anticipated that sales may be completed in the 2023/2024 Connexional year by the end of Quarter 2 (February 2024). The Circuit Meeting will be updated as appropriate.

c. Plans for future years

The Circuit Leadership Team will continue to work with local churches as they reflect on The Way Forward documents and the Methodist Way of Life (MWOL) offering space for and encouraging worship, discipleship and evangelism. The process to sell some of our redundant buildings has begun, the proceeds of which will support the local churches and the Circuit staff. Looking further ahead, there will be more changes in staffing, and so conversations about future ministry will need to take place. We are also committed to support mission projects (new and old including the Arts Church and Oasis) and to helping local communities in as many ways as we can. As we enter a new Connexional year, we acknowledge the difficult times, but look forward in faith and hope to what the New Year brings.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's Annual Report and Accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 2019)—the Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

The members of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of Circuit Office Holders, Ministers and Representatives appointed by the local churches. Full membership is shown under Objectives & Activities on page 2 of this Report.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Financial review

During the year, the Circuit has accounted for total income of £530,362 (2022 - £1,094,612) and expenditure of £535,139 (2022 - £505,268). Contained within the income figure is notional income of £225,000 which was received when a further 2 churches, which have closed to worship, became the management responsibility of the Circuit. These are now shown on the balance sheet as investment properties. Excluding this notional income, the underlying, recurrent operating deficit of c£229,800 was only £800 higher than that planned of £229,000.

The underlying deficit is due to an expected shortfall in shares due to church closures and the continuing inability of active churches to raise sufficient funds to cover all Circuit operational expenses (£118,000) and payments to the Methodist Church from balances held (£111,000).

The Circuit continues to actively manage its manses and investment properties to minimise cost and provide a good standard of accommodation for Ministers. Investment properties are planned to be sold at the earliest opportunity.

The Circuit considers itself to be a going concern. This is based on the levels of income (mainly share payments from Churches) promised for the financial year 2023/24. Although the Circuit expects a continuation of church closures, it is confident it has sufficient reserves to meet any shortfall in income.

There are no subsidiary undertakings.

The Circuit's main source of income continues to be shares received from the Churches within the Circuit, which in 2022/23 accounted for 38% of its operational income (2022 - 68%).

Circuit income is used, in the main, to fund the stipends and associated costs of Ministers (6.0 full time equivalents during the year) and salaries and associated costs of lay staff (1.25 full time equivalents). In 2023 this accounted for 52% of total expenditure (2022 - 59%). The balance of expenditure, in the main, is used to support the wider Methodist Church 23% (2022 - 24%) and the running of the property within the Circuit, 13% (2022, 11%).

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

a. Reserves policy

At the end of the year (31 August 2023) the Circuit held the following reserves:

		£
Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund	229,205
	General	3,045,761
	Sub-total unrestricted	3,274,966
Restricted	See below	22,142
Total Reserves		3,297,108

Restricted funds are held and used for the purposes for which they are given. It is the policy of the Circuit to use such funds for the purposes intended as soon as is practically possible. The balance held for restricted funds is allocated as follows;

	£
Fairer Choice	6,400
Oasis	7,266
Woodville Burial Ground	507
World Church	675
Shoe Boxes	1,688
Benevolent Fund	190
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,001
Uttoxeter Youth & Schools Worker	3,415
Total	22,142

It is not the policy to hold significant reserves. However, sufficient reserves are held to continue funding those items of expenditure agreed by the Circuit and which cannot be funded from income.

The Circuit will, in the light of known and developing plans, continue to review the reserves held to ensure they are used in the best interest of the Circuit.

b. Investments

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 £20,000) bequests. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit.

Short term deposits are lodged with the Central Finance Board (CFB) where they attract interest.

Structure, governance and management

The governing document for the Circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership Team along with the Local Preachers Meeting.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Structure, governance and management (continued)

a. Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is made available to all new Circuit meeting members as an induction to their role as trustees.

b. Related party relationships

The Circuit is part of the Nottingham and Derby District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference. The Circuit is composed of the following Methodist Churches:

Acresford Methodist Church (Closed Sept 23)
Barton under Needwood Methodist Church
Boylestone Methodist Church
Church Gresley Methodist Church
Draycott in the Clay Methodist Church
Etwall Methodist Church
Hilton Methodist Church
Newhall Methodist Church
Overseal C of E/Methodist Church
Short Street Methodist Church
Stanton Methodist Church
Stretton Methodist Church
St Thomas's Methodist Church
Ticknall Methodist Church
Trinity (Linton) Methodist Church
Uttoxeter Methodist Church
Woodmill (St Paul's) Methodist Church (Closed August 2022)
Woodville Methodist Church (Closed April 2023)

Closed Churches

Blackfordby Methodist Church
Hatton Methodist Church
Rowland Memorial Methodist Church
Stubwood Methodist Church
Winhill Methodist Church

c. Risk management

As last year, the major risk to the Circuit and its churches remains one of an ageing congregation, reducing membership leading to reduced income, coupled with rising costs and increased property expenditure. Whilst some of our churches are growing in membership, others are shrinking, meaning that some difficult decisions will need to be made about the future of their buildings and explore different ways / spaces to worship. There is also a risk between balancing the needs of the Circuit (and local churches) along with the financial situation, which currently is reliant on sale of redundant church buildings.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm. Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults;
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable;
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse;
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes;
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation;
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care;
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust;
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult;
- In all these principles, we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the Circuit and in the churches.

The East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit also commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Summary

The mission of the Circuit has continued through the leadership of our dedicated ministers, lay employees and those appointed, on a voluntary basis, to the many and varied offices. Challenging times lie ahead as we realign our churches and congregations as we emerge from a period of closure. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct us in our thoughts, words and deeds.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Circuit and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Circuit will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Circuit's transactions and 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 Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust deed. 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.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, Dains Audit Limited, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 12 March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Rev. Mike Redshaw
Acting Superintendent

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (continued)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (continued)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the senior statutory auditor ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the financial reporting legislation, Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation, anti-bribery, employment, and environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (continued)

- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Dains Audit Limited

Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

Birmingham

12 March 2024

Dains Audit Limited are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Statement of financial activities For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	4,984	15,520	20,504	22,535
Charitable activities	4	196,214	23,721	219,935	266,922
Investments	5	33,133	63	33,196	4,629
Other income	6	251,568	5,159	256,727	800,526
Total income		485,899	44,463	530,362	1,094,612
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	481,311	53,828	535,139	505,268
Total expenditure		481,311	53,828	535,139	505,268
Net income/(expenditure) before net (losses)/gains on investments		4,588	(9,365)	(4,777)	589,344
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(886)	-	(886)	50,929
Net income/(expenditure)		3,702	(9,365)	(5,663)	640,273
Transfers between funds	19	(3,721)	3,721	-	-
Net movement in funds		(19)	(5,644)	(5,663)	640,273
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		3,274,985	27,786	3,302,771	2,662,498
Net movement in funds		(19)	(5,644)	(5,663)	640,273
Total funds carried forward		3,274,966	22,142	3,297,108	3,302,771

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 20 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

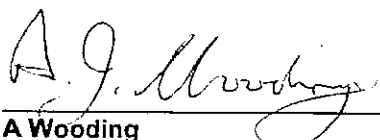
Registered number:

Balance Sheet

As at 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	1,443,968	1,467,500
Investments		-	20,873
Investment property	14	1,300,000	1,075,000
		<u>2,743,968</u>	<u>2,563,373</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	15	1,589	2,071
Debtors	16	25,532	28,007
Investments	17	231,712	582,529
Cash at bank and in hand		318,809	135,931
		<u>577,642</u>	<u>748,538</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(24,502)	(9,140)
Net current assets		<u>553,140</u>	<u>739,398</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>3,297,108</u></u>	<u><u>3,302,771</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	19	22,142	27,786
Unrestricted funds	19	3,274,966	3,274,985
Total funds		<u><u>3,297,108</u></u>	<u><u>3,302,771</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 12 March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:


A Wooding
 Treasurer

The notes on pages 20 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT**Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(222,008)	(206,565)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	104,528
Net cash provided by investing activities	-	104,528
Cash flows from financing activities		
Interest received	33,196	3,575
Net cash provided by financing activities	33,196	3,575
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(188,812)	(98,462)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	739,333	837,795
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	550,521	739,333

The notes on pages 20 to 39 form part of these financial statements

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

1. General Information

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit is a charity registered with the charity commission in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 3 Heathlands Drive, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, ST14 7BL. The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union 1932 and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church. Further information regarding the Circuit's principal activities are set out in the Trustees' report.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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), and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The financial 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 the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire 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.

2.2 Income

All income is recognised once the Circuit has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

2.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Expenditure (continued)

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Circuit's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.4 Investment property

From time to time the Circuit may hold property (formerly manses and/or chapels) which is surplus to requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used again for its prime purpose (residential property or place of worship), the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Property that is used as originally intended, i.e. for the continuation of ordinary Circuit business, is shown in the accounts at deemed cost, being the valuation on transition to FRS102 or at cost on date of purchase. Deemed cost and cost are split between land and buildings.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method. Trustees consider the current residual value of the manse buildings to be the same as their deemed cost or actual cost.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Circuit manses	- 4% straight line
Freehold land	- not depreciated

2.6 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.7 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Circuit anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Financial instruments

The Circuit only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.12 Pensions

All Methodist Ministers in the Circuit are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme. The Circuit is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme and therefore contributions are accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are therefore charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Circuit for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations			
General donations	4,175	-	4,175
Uttoxeter Churches for UY&SW	-	14,995	14,995
Connexional Funds	-	525	525
Gift Aid	809	-	809
Grants	-	(23,721)	(23,721)
	<u>4,984</u>	<u>15,520</u>	<u>20,504</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations			
General donations	3,038	-	3,038
Uttoxeter Churches for UY&SW	-	14,800	14,800
Trent and Dove Churches	-	3,020	3,020
Connexional Funds	-	835	835
Gift Aid	842	-	842
	<u>3,880</u>	<u>18,655</u>	<u>22,535</u>

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Assessments on Churches	196,214	-	196,214
Grants received	-	23,721	23,721
	<u>196,214</u>	<u>23,721</u>	<u>219,935</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Assessments on Churches	217,777	-	217,777
Grants received	-	49,145	49,145
	<u>217,777</u>	<u>49,145</u>	<u>266,922</u>

Grants received

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
District Advance Fund Grant for UY&SW	3,721	3,721
World Church Grant for Fijian Minister	20,000	20,000
	<u>23,721</u>	<u>23,721</u>

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
District Advance Fund Grant for UY&SW	4,145	4,145
World Church Grant for Fijian Minister	20,000	20,000
Hunt's Charity Grant towards Diaconal Post	25,000	25,000
	<u>49,145</u>	<u>49,145</u>

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

5. Investment Income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Rental income	3,100	-	3,100
Interest received	30,033	63	30,096
	<u>33,133</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>33,196</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Rental income	1,054	-	1,054
Interest received	3,566	9	3,575
	<u>4,620</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>4,629</u>

6. Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Other income	3,148	5,159	8,307
New investment properties	225,000	-	225,000
Balances transferred from closed churches	23,420	-	23,420
	<u>251,568</u>	<u>5,159</u>	<u>256,727</u>

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

6. Other incoming resources (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Other income	3,956	6,023	9,979
New investment properties	775,000	-	775,000
Balances transferred from closed churches	15,547	-	15,547
	<u>794,503</u>	<u>6,023</u>	<u>800,526</u>

7. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Grants and donations	<u>1,848</u>	<u>1,848</u>

	Grants to Institutions 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Grants and donations	<u>2,576</u>	<u>2,576</u>

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Grants and donations	330	1,518	1,848
Property	66,922	2,527	69,449
District assessment and levy	122,969	-	122,969
Office and administration	28,555	6	28,561
Other outgoings	5,495	5,654	11,149
Depreciation	23,532	-	23,532
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	233,508	44,123	277,631
	481,311	53,828	535,139

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Grants and donations	-	2,576	2,576
Property	56,104	1,860	57,964
District assessment and levy	123,059	-	123,059
Office and administration	13,387	6	13,393
Other outgoings	5,485	4,812	10,297
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	229,557	68,422	297,979
	427,592	77,676	505,268

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Grant funding of activities 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Grants and donations	-	1,848	-	1,848
Property	-	-	69,449	69,449
District assessment and levy	122,969	-	-	122,969
Office and administration	-	-	28,561	28,561
Other outgoings	-	-	11,149	11,149
Depreciation	-	-	23,532	23,532
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	-	-	277,631	277,631
	<u>122,969</u>	<u>1,848</u>	<u>410,322</u>	<u>535,139</u>

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Grant funding of activities 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Grants and donations	-	2,576	-	2,576
Property	-	-	57,964	57,964
District assessment and levy	123,059	-	-	123,059
Office and administration	-	-	13,393	13,393
Other outgoings	-	-	10,297	10,297
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	-	-	297,979	297,979
	<u>123,059</u>	<u>2,576</u>	<u>379,633</u>	<u>505,268</u>

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

10. Auditors' remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the Circuit's auditor for the audit of the Circuit's annual accounts	9,900	9,000
Fees payable to the Circuit's auditor in respect of: Non audit fees	1,750	-

11. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	216,406	235,463
Social security costs	16,653	17,916
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	44,572	44,600
	277,631	297,979

The average number of persons employed by the Circuit during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Ministers	6	6
Administration & mission	4	3
	10	9

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Ministers and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team are considered as key management personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the Circuit Leadership Team and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Trustees of the Circuit.

The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Ministers of the Circuit are paid by the Circuit.

During the year, one or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Circuit. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2023 £	2022 £
Rev'd Dave Bonny	Remuneration	27,324	25,824
	Pension contributions paid	6,640	6,947
Rev'd Helen Harrell	Remuneration	27,280	25,824
	Pension contributions paid	7,291	6,947
Rev'd Rachel Wood	Remuneration	27,280	-
	Pension contributions paid	7,291	-
Rev'd Mike Redshaw	Remuneration	27,280	25,824
	Pension contributions paid	7,291	6,947
Rev'd Manoa Ratubalavu	Remuneration	27,280	25,824
	Pension contributions paid	7,291	6,947
Rev'd Rachel Moss	Remuneration	27,280	-
	Pension contributions paid	7,291	-
Jordan Lambert	Remuneration	18,500	17,300
	Pension contributions paid	1,110	1,038

During the year ended 31 August 2023, no Trustee has received any expenses in relation to their work as a Trustee (2022 - £NIL).

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Manses £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2022	1,467,500
At 31 August 2023	<u>1,467,500</u>
Depreciation	
Charge for the year	23,532
At 31 August 2023	<u>23,532</u>
Net book value	
At 31 August 2023	<u>1,443,968</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>1,467,500</u>

14. Investment property

	Freehold investment property £
Valuation	
At 1 September 2022	1,075,000
Additions	225,000
At 31 August 2023	<u>1,300,000</u>

During the year property managed by the Circuit comprised of 6 manses. Woodmill and Woodville Churches both closed to worship during the year and their management transferred to the Circuit. The following Chapels are also closed to worship and managed by the Circuit; Rowland Memorial, Winhill, Blackfordby, Prince Memorial, Stubwood and Church Broughton.

No properties were sold during the year.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

15. Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	1,589	2,071

16. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Other debtors	-	5,000
Prepayments and accrued income	25,532	23,007
	25,532	28,007

17. Current asset investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Unlisted investments	231,712	582,529

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals	24,502	9,140

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	2,672,507	469,903	(443,547)	347,784	(886)	3,045,761
Circuit Model Trust Fund	602,478	15,996	(37,764)	(351,505)	-	229,205
	<u>3,274,985</u>	<u>485,899</u>	<u>(481,311)</u>	<u>(3,721)</u>	<u>(886)</u>	<u>3,274,966</u>
Restricted funds						
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	6,373	18,716	(25,173)	3,499	-	3,415
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,002	63	(4)	(60)	-	2,001
Benevolent Fund	190	-	-	-	-	190
Connexional	-	525	(300)	(225)	-	-
Internal Organisations	12,090	5,159	(5,654)	482	-	12,077
World Churches	2,154	20,000	(21,479)	-	-	675
Shoe Box Appeal	2,906	-	(1,218)	-	-	1,688
Woodville Burial Ground	-	-	-	507	-	507
Stock	2,071	-	-	(482)	-	1,589
	<u>27,786</u>	<u>44,463</u>	<u>(53,828)</u>	<u>3,721</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,142</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>3,302,771</u></u>	<u><u>530,362</u></u>	<u><u>(535,139)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(886)</u></u>	<u><u>3,297,108</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted funds exist to support specific expenditure. Each of the following Restricted funds are used for the purpose described:

Uttoxeter Schools Worker

To continue to jointly fund the School's Worker at Uttoxeter with the objective of bringing the good news of Jesus into schools within the Uttoxeter Pyramid of schools.

Hanbury Burial Ground

To fund maintenance of the Burial Ground at Hanbury.

Benevolent Fund

Primarily held for the relief of poverty and distress in the congregations and neighbourhood of the Circuit.

Internal Organisations

Funds held by a variety of organisations within individual Churches.

World Churches

To fund 50% of the costs of the Presbyter provided to minister to the Fijian community in the UK.

Shoe Box Appeal

To provide funds for the annual shoe box appeal.

Woodville Burial Ground

To fund maintenance of the Burial Ground at Woodville.

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Designated Funds	22,644	-	-	(22,644)	-	-
CMTF	87,229	-	-	(87,229)	-	-
General funds						
General Funds	1,920,948	1,017,537	(382,999)	117,021	-	2,672,507
Circuit Model Trust Fund	602,959	3,243	(44,592)	(10,061)	50,929	602,478
Total Unrestricted funds	2,633,780	1,020,780	(427,591)	(2,913)	50,929	3,274,985
Restricted funds						
Family Worker	-	3,020	(3,020)	-	-	-
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	5,874	18,945	(21,360)	2,914	-	6,373
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,000	9	(6)	(1)	-	2,002
Education & Youth	339	-	(339)	-	-	-
Benevolent Fund	690	-	(500)	-	-	190
Connexional	-	835	(835)	-	-	-
Internal Organisations	10,788	6,023	(5,110)	389	-	12,090
World Churches	2,553	20,000	(20,399)	-	-	2,154
Shoe Box Appeal	4,011	-	(1,105)	-	-	2,906
Hunt's Charity	3	25,000	(25,003)	-	-	-
Stock	2,460	-	-	(389)	-	2,071
Total Restricted funds	28,718	73,832	(77,677)	2,913	-	27,786
Total of funds	2,662,498	1,094,612	(505,268)	-	50,929	3,302,771

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

20. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers In/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
General funds	3,274,985	485,899	(481,311)	(3,721)	(886)	3,274,966
Restricted funds	27,786	44,463	(53,828)	3,721	-	22,142
	<u>3,302,771</u>	<u>530,362</u>	<u>(535,139)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(886)</u>	<u>3,297,108</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Designated funds	109,873	-	-	(109,873)	-	-
General funds	2,523,907	1,020,780	(427,591)	106,960	50,929	3,274,985
Restricted funds	28,718	73,832	(77,677)	2,913	-	27,786
	<u>2,662,498</u>	<u>1,094,612</u>	<u>(505,268)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,929</u>	<u>3,302,771</u>

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,443,968	-	1,443,968
Investment property	1,300,000	-	1,300,000
Current assets	555,233	22,409	577,642
Creditors due within one year	(24,235)	(267)	(24,502)
Total	<u>3,274,966</u>	<u>22,142</u>	<u>3,297,108</u>

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

21. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,467,500	-	1,467,500
Fixed asset investments	20,873	-	20,873
Investment property	1,075,000	-	1,075,000
Current assets	720,657	27,881	748,538
Creditors due within one year	(9,045)	(95)	(9,140)
Total	3,274,985	27,786	3,302,771

22. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(5,663)	640,273
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	23,532	-
Additions of Investment Properties	(225,000)	(775,000)
Disposals of tangible fixed assets	-	(52,328)
Decrease in stocks	482	389
Investment income	(33,196)	(3,575)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	2,475	(3,496)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	15,362	(17,828)
Increase/(decrease) in loans outstanding	-	5,000
Net cash used in operating activities	(222,008)	(206,565)

23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand	550,521	739,333
Total cash and cash equivalents	550,521	739,333

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	135,931	182,878	318,809
Liquid investments	582,529	(350,817)	231,712
	<u>718,460</u>	<u>(167,939)</u>	<u>550,521</u>

25. Capital commitments

There were no capital commitments at the year-end (2022 - £NIL).

EAST STAFFORDSHIRE AND SOUTH DERBYSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

26. Pension commitments

The Circuit operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Circuit in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Circuit to the fund and amount to £44,572 (2022 - £44,600). Contributions totalling £NIL (2022 - £NIL) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

27. Related party transactions

The East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit has not entered into any related party transaction during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit at 31 August 2023.

Accounts

The Methodist Church



Trustees Annual Report & Accounts

East Staffordshire & South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Charity Registration Number 1133721

Circuit Reference 22/16



September 2021 – August 2022

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Welcome from the Superintendent

After the formation of this Methodist Circuit early in the covid crisis, no one could have predicted that the lockdown would last as long as it did. Throughout that time the staff produced weekly worship sheets and still do so, for those unable to get to a Church service. In some places Zoom services have become the 'norm' and people have begun to see the benefits of modern technology and how it can enable worship to take place.

As was predicted in last year's report, more Churches have indeed closed with the inevitable knock-on effect on circuit finances. However, the leadership team have managed the finances well and are still looking for growth in 2022/23. Inevitably hard decisions will have to be taken, but will be taken in accordance with a stated desire to see the purpose of the church fulfilled.

Mike Redshaw

Superintendent Minister of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Introduction

The Circuit was formed in September 2020 following a merger of the Trent and Dove and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuits. At the beginning of the year 2021-22 there were 22 churches in the Circuit, covering an area from the Leicestershire Border at Acresford, through Swadlincote, Burton-upon-Trent and Etwall, to Uttoxeter and Stubwood. There is also a multipurpose drop-in centre and shop, 'Oasis', in Swadlincote Town Centre.

However, during the course of the year, four churches ceased to worship and closed their buildings: Hatton and Stubwood (October 2021), Winhill (January 2022), and Blackfordby (June 2022). The remaining churches have all reopened after the Pandemic, some on a fortnightly basis, though Woodville remained online for the connexional year.

Objectives and Activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Circuit Trustees meet at least twice a year. These meetings plan and agree the activities of the Circuit and ensure it complies with Charity Commission guidance. A list of Trustees, the Churches they represent, and the positions held is given below:

Circuit Representatives

Ministers
Rev'd Moira Biggins
Rev'd David Bonny
Rev'd Helen Harrell
Rev'd Stella Mills
Rev'd Manoa Ratubalavu
Rev'd Mike Redshaw

Deacon
Deacon Janice Hacon
Circuit Meeting Secretary
Celia Ryan
Circuit Local Preachers & Worship Leaders Representative:
Susan Laws

Supernumerary Ministers
Rev'd Doug Allen
Rev'd Ann Bolas
Rev'd Lynda Coates
Rev'd Derek Morton
Rev'd Susan Rolls
Rev'd Maurice Whittaker
Rev'd David Palmer
Lay Workers
Caroline Green
Jordon Lambert
Miss Susan Laws
Circuit Stewards
Steve Dobson
Denise Hancock
Andrew Hawkins
Heather Simm
Miss Wendy Smith
Andrew Wooding
Action For Children
Rosemary Hancock

Family Action Team
Sue Shakespeare
Circuit Missions
Julie Green (MWB)
Jenny Illsley (MHA)
John Jay
Sue Palmer (MWB & World Church)
Shirley Wagstaff
Bryan Wild (MHA)
Sue Williams (Fijian Liaison)
Gwen Wortley
Circuit Safeguarding Coordinator
Caroline Green
Circuit Safeguarding Advisor
Richard House
LP Elected Rep
Joyce Greenwood
Synod Reps
Denis Barratt
Sue Nickson

Circuit Church Representatives

Acresford Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Dorothy Twigg
Rep	Michael Green

Barton under Needwood Methodist Church	
Treasurer	David Moore
Rep	Ian Gilby
Rep	Fiona Panter
Reserve	John Wright

Blackfordby Methodist Church Closed June 2022	
Treasurer	Denis Mansfield
Rep	Lorna Armson
Rep	Anne Harrison
Rep	Jean Mason

Boylestone Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Oliver Ball
Rep	Oliver Ball
Reserve	

Church Gresley Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Ann Metcalf
Rep	Terry Chandler
Rep	Eila Baugh
Reserve	Denis Barratt

Draycott Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Lynn Wragg
Rep	Marion Rowe
Rep	Stephen Ryan

Etwall Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Herman Bonardt
Rep	Vic Appleby
Rep	Wendy Smith

Hatton Methodist Church Closed October 2021	
Treasurer	
Rep	Eunice Watson

Hilton Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Karen Evans
Rep	Brian Hill
Rep	

Newhall Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Steve Smith
Rep	Rosemary Hancock
Rep	Nigel Sharpe

Overseal CofE/Methodist Church	
Treasurer	-
Rep	Ian Coles
Rep	Dilys Harper

Short Street Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Graham Meers
Rep	Wendy Knight
Reserve	

Stanton Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Miss Rita Street
Rep	Julie Hackett
Rep	Jean Hollins
Reserve	Elaine Tagg

Stretton Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Shirley Toon
Rep	Christine Dunsby
Reserve	Rita Hartshorn

St Thomas's Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Liz Merrick
Rep	John Jones
Rep	Sue McLoughlin

Stubwood Methodist Church Closed October 2021	
Treasurer	Teresa Hawkins
Rep	Susanne Smith
Rep	Shirley Wagstaff

Ticknall Methodist Church	
Treasurer	
Rep	Kathy Bates
Rep	Angela Bird
Rep	Jennifer Illsley

Trinity (Linton) Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Betty Naylor
Rep	Martin Kesterton
Rep	Rita Walton
Reserve	Mick Bell

Uttoxeter Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Roger Rooke
Rep	John Darby
Rep	Anne Dobson
Rep	Julie Green

Winshill Methodist Church Closed January 2022	
Treasurer	Graham Meers
Rep	Linda Latham
Rep	Jenny Meers
Rep	Moya Middleton

Woodmill (St Paul's) Methodist Church Closed August 2022	
Treasurer	Roy Ward
Rep	Les Fellows
Rep	Alan Richardson

Woodville Methodist Church Worshipping On-line	
Treasurer	Brian Parker
Rep	Joan Barnett
Rep	

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 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 organisation and resourcing of regular acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike. The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups. The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the ill and bereaved. Taking religious assemblies in local schools. Chaplaincy is offered at East Midlands Airport, and the Agricultural community, as well as chaplaincy support at Queens Hospital.

We are seeking to be a visionary Circuit glorifying God, sharing the mission and ministry of Jesus. This Circuit is called into being by the grace of God, led by Jesus Christ and is given the gifts for its work by and through the renewing power of the Holy Spirit to facilitate mission through worship, witness and service of the congregations and circuit along with ecumenical co-operation and community engagement encouraging shared ministry with all parts of the Christian family.

Review of the Year

The year saw many of the Circuit's churches reopen after lockdowns came to an end. This was a piecemeal process managed by the local trustees as they deemed it safe to do so. Four churches found that they could not sustain their mission and ministry, whether because of too few personnel, too little finance or problems with property. Each closed with a service of thanksgiving for all that each community had achieved across the years. Some of the members attached themselves to new fellowships quickly, while others are still seeking a new spiritual home.

The value of online services and meetings had been proved during lockdown, and both continue and have the Circuit's commitment to do so in the future. A number of Bible Studies and events have also taken place online, and business meetings have varied in style, including in person, digital or

hybrid platforms. The original section-based range of digital Sunday worship was curtailed by the reopening of services on site, until there were just a few regular opportunities to gather digitally each week.

The required governance for the circuit is continually being reviewed, monitored and modified as required. Though not without difficulty in the earlier parts of the year, Safeguarding continues to be managed by the Superintendent and the Circuit Administrator, and training offered by the Circuit and District Training teams, all of whom have attended the appropriate training. Communications across the Circuit has been maintained through the Circuit website and weekly notices. And in planning for the future, the circuit was successful in seeking two ministers to join the team for September 2022, as three of the existing ministers moved on or retired, and the remaining staff were involved in decisions about future oversight in the light of changing needs. After a period of illness, our circuit Administrator resigned at the end of August 2022, and the Summer Circuit Meeting instructed the Leadership Team to seek a replacement as soon as practicable.

While it became possible to restart Messy Church within the Circuit, the continuing issues with Covid in schools have meant that "Open the Book" in schools, in and around Uttoxeter and Hilton, has not been able to recommence its mission.

The Uttoxeter Schools worker continued his work, being jointly supported by The Renew Church in Uttoxeter, the United Reformed Church in Uttoxeter and the Methodist Church. Although he was not able to go into schools during the period they were closed, he was able to take on line assemblies and produced some excellent video work for use in the schools' work with the children of key workers and their on-line teaching programmes. Many of the Uttoxeter School Pyramid took part in these and because of that there was a significant impact in those schools. Towards the end of the year he was able to begin a number of programmes in some of the schools in the hope of being fully operational across the pyramid in 2022-23.

The Family Worker sustained the work with toddlers and their carers and some Messy Church groups across the year. The work is such that in some places it was almost a fresh beginning, as families had moved beyond the age range for the activities on offer, but some of the groups continued to flourish. Taizé evenings and Julian Meetings on zoom took place for the whole of the year. At the beginning of August 2022 the Family Worker resigned her role, and the Circuit is reviewing its staffing needs for the future.

The Oasis Centre in Swadlincote is a Town Centre Work, a place for meeting people as well as an outlet for the sale of Fair Trade Goods, gradually reopened when it was safe for staff and volunteers to enable it to do so.

Despite difficult times, we pray that God will continue to bless in the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit, as it faces the challenges of diminished resources whilst looking at new opportunities for its mission in the communities where it is set.



Property

We have provision for six manses in the Circuit and five presbyters plus one Deacon occupying those properties. Towards the end of the Connexional Year the Circuit completed the sale of Church Broughton Methodist Church after a very lengthy process. The successful bidder was Church Broughton Parish Council with whom we had worked very closely. The Circuit also has responsibility for both the Oasis Centre (Unit 6) and Rowland Memorial Church, Midway now renamed as 'The Well'. The Oasis Centre is on a 5-year lease from South Derbyshire District Council which expires in December 2023. Four churches, Stubwood, Hatton, Winhill and Blackfordby made the difficult decision to cease to meet during the year. These properties are now identified as Investment Properties and are under the stewardship of the Circuit. The CLT has delegated authority from the Circuit Meeting to decide on the future of these properties.

Plans for Future Years

In the light of the number of congregations that did not reopen after Covid lockdown, we are in the process of restructuring in terms of finance and personnel to provide stability for any potential future growth. The expected changes in staffing at the end of August 2022 will allow us to restructure our digital ministry of worship, study and fellowship and to put renewed energy into the more rural churches to the North West of the Circuit.

Beyond that, we are planning to develop a plan for development and innovation so that our mission will progress and the remaining churches grow for the future. We are investing in new projects, such as the Arts Church, as well as continuing the work of OASIS, and we are committed to helping local communities in as many ways as we can.

Of course we have issues of declining membership, reducing income and ageing property to deal with. But we move forward in hope and faith.

Basis of Preparation and Legal Framework

The Charity's Annual Report and Accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 2019) – the Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

The members of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of Circuit Office Holders, Ministers and Representatives appointed by the local churches. Full membership is shown under Objectives & Activities on page 2 of this Report.



ESSD Methodist Circuit Trustees' Annual Report & Accounts

The Charity's full name is:	East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit
Charity Registration Number:	1133721
Date of Registration:	1st September 2020
Main Point of Contact:	Circuit Office,
Main Point of Contact Address:	Winhill Methodist Church, High Bank Road, Winhill, Burton on Trent, Staffordshire, DE15 0NL
Telephone Number:	01283 337649
Email Address:	caroline.essd.mc@gmail.com /office.essd.mc@gmail.com

<u>Circuit Ministers and Officers</u>		
Active Circuit Ministers:	Rev'd Mike Redshaw (<i>Superintendent</i>)	
	Rev'd Moira Biggins	
	Rev'd Dave Bonny	
	Rev'd Helen Harrell	
	Rev'd Stella Mills	
	Rev'd Manoa Ratubalavu	
Deacon:	Deacon Janice Hacon	
Circuit Lay Workers:	Mrs Caroline Green (until end of August 2022)	
	Mr Jordan Lambert	
	Miss Susan Laws(until end of August 2022)	
Circuit Stewards:	Mr Steve Dobson	
	Mrs Denise Hancock	
	Mr Andrew Hawkins	
	Mrs Heather Simms	
	Miss Wendy Smith	
	* Mr Andrew Wooding	
Circuit Meetings Secretary:	Mrs Celia Ryan	
* Financial Steward		
<u>Bankers:</u> HSBC 18 High Street, Burton on Trent Staffordshire, DE14 1JD	<u>Investment Managers:</u> Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 9 Bonhill Street, London, EC2A 9PE	<u>Custodian Trustees:</u> Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings Oldham Street Manchester, M1 1JQ
<u>Auditors:</u> Dains Audit Limited 15 Colmore Row, Birmingham, B3 2BH		

Financial Review

During the year, the Circuit has accounted for total income of £1,094,612 (2020/21 £323,239) and expenditure of £505,268 (2020/21 £476,060). Contained within the income figure is notional income of £775,000 which was received when a further four churches, which have closed to worship, became the management responsibility of the Circuit. These are now shown on the balance sheet as investment properties. Excluding this notional income, the underlying, recurrent operating deficit of c£185,700 was higher than that planned for of £125,300. In the main, the increase was due to reduced income from shares (£61,000) which was primarily the result of COVID 19 continuing to have a significant impact on individual Churches income and therefore their ability to pay the full share requirement. Ultimately, this led to the closure of the four churches referred to above.

The underlying deficit is due to planned funding from balances of the following; Family Worker (£23,490), Circuit Administrator (£11,600), Uttoxeter Schools Worker (£2,914), support for continued Ministry (£26,000), planned shortfall in shares (£15,700) and payments to the Methodist Church (£44,400).

The Circuit continues to actively manage its manses to minimise cost and provide a good standard of living accommodation for Ministers. Investment properties are planned to be sold. During 2021/22 the Circuit sold one investment property, Church Broughton Chapel, and made a gain of c£52,000 from the sale proceeds.

The Circuit considers itself to be a going concern. This is based on the levels of income (mainly share payments from Churches) promised for the financial year 2022/23. Although the pandemic has impacted on the income of Churches within the Circuit, the Circuit is confident it has sufficient reserves to meet any shortfall in income.

There are no subsidiary undertakings.

The Circuits main source of income continues to be shares received from the Churches within the Circuit, which in 2021/22 accounted for 68% of its operational income (2020/21, 76%).

Circuit income is used, in the main, to fund the stipends and associated costs of Ministers (6.0 full time equivalents during the year) and salaries and associated costs of lay staff (2.0 full time equivalents). In 2021/22 this accounted for 59% of total expenditure (2020/21, 58%). The balance of expenditure, in the main, is used to support the wider Methodist Church 24% (2020/21, 25%) and the running of the property within the Circuit, 11% (2020/21, 11%).

Investments

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 £20,000) bequests. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit.

Short term deposits are lodged with the Central Finance Board (CFB) where they attract interest.



Reserves Level and Policy

The Circuit currently holds significant free reserves. At the end of the year (31 August 2022) these were as follows;

		£
<i>Unrestricted:</i>	Circuit Model Trust Fund	602,478
	General	130,007
	Sub-total Unrestricted	732,485
<i>Restricted</i>	General	27,786
Total Reserves		760,271

The Circuit no longer holds any designated funds as the items previously included under this category now form part of day to day budgets.

Restricted funds are held and used for the purposes for which they are given. It is the policy of the Circuit to use such funds for the purposes intended as soon as is practically possible. The balance held for restricted funds is allocated as follows;

Fund	£	Each of the following Restricted funds are used for the purpose described;
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	6,374	To continue to jointly fund the School's Worker at Uttoxeter with the objective of bringing the good news of Jesus into schools within the Uttoxeter Pyramid of schools.
Benevolent Fund	190	Primarily held for the relief of poverty and distress in the congregations and neighbourhood of the Circuit.
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,002	To fund maintenance of the Burial Ground at Hanbury.
Internal Organisations	14,159	Funds held by a variety of organisations within Individual Churches.
World Church Grant	2,155	To fund 50% of the costs of the Presbyter provided to minister to the Fijian community in the UK.
Shoe Box Appeal	2,906	To provide funds for the annual shoe box appeal.

It is not the policy to hold significant reserves. However, sufficient reserves are held to continue funding those items of expenditure agreed by the Circuit.

The Circuit will, in the light of known and developing plans, continue to review the reserves held to ensure they are used in the best interest of the Circuit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is made available to all new Circuit meeting members as an induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the Nottingham and Derby District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The Circuit is comprised of the following Methodist Churches:

Acresford Methodist Church
Barton under Needwood Methodist Church
Blackfordby Methodist Church (Closed June 2022)
Boylestone Methodist Church
Church Gresley Methodist Church
Draycott in the Clay Methodist Church
Etwall Methodist Church
Hatton Methodist Church (Closed October 2021)
Hilton Methodist Church
Newhall Methodist Church
Oasis Centre, Swadlincote
Overseal C of E/Methodist Church
Short Street Methodist Church
Stanton Methodist Church
Stretton Methodist Church
St Thomas's Methodist Church
Stubwood Methodist Church
Ticknall Methodist Church
Trinity (Linton) Methodist Church
Uttoxeter Methodist Church
Winhill Methodist Church (Closed January 2022)
Woodmill (St Paul's) Methodist Church
Woodville Methodist Church

Churches currently Closed:

Church Broughton Methodist Church
Rowland Memorial Methodist Church

Risk Management

The major risk to the circuit and its churches remains one of an ageing congregation, reducing membership leading to reduced income, coupled with rising costs and increased property expenditure. Some churches are still deciding on their future, bearing in mind the above facts. It remains therefore that finding new ways to increase membership, coupled with excellent stewardship of finances and resources continues to be of paramount importance not only at circuit level but also in the churches themselves.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a quarterly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles, we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

ESSD Methodist Circuit Trustees' Annual Report & Accounts

The East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit also commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Summary

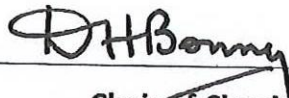
The mission of the circuit has continued through the leadership of our dedicated ministers, lay employees and those appointed, on a voluntary basis, to the many and varied offices. Challenging times lie ahead as we realign our churches and congregations as we emerge from a period of closure. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct us in our thoughts, words and deeds.

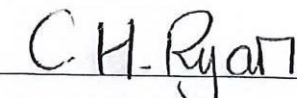
Approvals

The Trustees' Report was approved by the Circuit Meeting, held on

Date: 22/3/2023

at ROWLAND
MEMORIAL Methodist Church


Chair of Circuit Meeting


Secretary to the Circuit Meeting



Annual Accounts

for the year ended 31 August 2022



ESSD Methodist Circuit Trustees' Annual Report & Accounts

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

		Unrestricted Funds		Designated Funds		Restricted Funds	Totals	Totals
	Notes	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust	Circuit Model Trust	General		2021-22	2020-21
		£	£	£	£		£	£
Income and Endowments								
1	Donations and legacies	3,880				18,655	22,535	25,644
2	Income from monetary investments	323	3,243			9	3,575	2,522
3	Income from investment properties	1,054					1,054	893
4	Assessments on Churches	217,777					217,777	247,306
5	Grants received					49,145	49,145	36,375
6	Other charitable activities						0	0
7	Total from charitable activities	223,034	3,243	-	-	67,809	294,086	312,740
8	Other income	794,503				6,023	800,526	10,499
9	Total income and endowments	1,017,537	3,243	-	-	73,832	1,094,612	323,239
Expenditure								
11	Grants and donations					2,576	2,576	11,457
12	Stipends, Salaries and associated costs	229,557				68,422	297,979	275,186
13	Property	56,104				1,860	57,964	54,222
14	District Assessment & Levy	80,420	42,639				123,059	118,205
15	Depreciation	0					0	0
16	Office and administration	11,434	1,953			6	13,393	10,921
17	Other outgoings	5,485				4,812	10,297	6,069
18	Total charitable expenditure	383,000	44,592	0	0	77,676	505,268	476,060
19	Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0	3,454
20	Gains on Revaluation of Fixed Assets		-1,399				-1,399	0
21	Gains/(losses) on investment properties		52,328				52,328	0
22	Net income/(expenditure)	634,537	9,580	0	0	-3,844	640,273	-149,367
23	Transfers between funds	117,022	-10,061	-87,229	-22,644	2,912	0	0
24	Net movement in funds	751,559	-481	-87,229	-22,644	-932	640,273	-149,367
25	Total funds brought forward	1,920,948	602,959	87,229	22,644	28,718	2,662,498	2,811,865
26	Total funds carried forward	2,672,507	602,478	0	0	27,786	3,302,771	2,662,498

ESSD Methodist Circuit Trustees' Annual Report & Accounts

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

		Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Totals 2022	Totals 2021
		General Fund £	Circuit Model Trusts £	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	Notes						
Circuit Manses & Equipment	15	1,467,500				1,467,500	1,467,500
Investment properties	15	1,075,000				1,075,000	352,200
Investments	16		20,873			20,873	22,272
Total fixed assets		2,542,500	20,873	0		2,563,373	1,841,972
Current Assets							
Debtors & Prepayments	17	23,007				23,007	19,511
Loans	18		5,000			5,000	10,000
Investments with TMCP	16	3,922	576,605	2,002		582,529	668,831
Central Finance Board Deposits	19	100,132		8,719		108,851	92,273
Cash at Bank and in hand	19	11,991		15,089		27,080	54,419
Stock	20			2,071		2,071	2,460
Total current assets		139,052	581,605	27,881		748,538	847,494
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	21	9,045		95		9,140	26,968
Total current liabilities		9,045	0	95		9,140	26,968
Net current assets/liabilities		130,007	581,605	27,786		739,398	820,526
Total assets less current liabilities		2,672,507	602,478	27,786		3,302,771	2,662,498
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)		0	0	0		0	0
Net assets		2,672,507	602,478	27,786		3,302,771	2,662,498
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund		2,672,507				2,672,507	1,920,948
Circuit Model Trust Fund			602,478			602,478	602,959
Designated Funds					0	0	109,873
Total Unrestricted Funds		2,672,507	602,478			3,274,985	2,633,780
Restricted Funds				27,786		27,786	28,718
Total Funds		2,672,507	602,478	27,786		3,302,771	2,662,498

Signed

A J Wooding

Circuit Treasurer

1 August 2023

Cash Flow Statement

	31.8.2022	31.8.2021
	£	£
Cash Generated from Operations	<u>-206,565</u>	<u>-132,381</u>
Cashflows from investing activities:		
Disposal of tangible fixed assets	<u>104,528</u>	<u>0</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>104,528</u>	<u>0</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Interest received	<u>3,575</u>	<u>2,522</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	<u>3,575</u>	<u>2,522</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	-98,462	-129,859
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	837,795	967,654
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	<u>739,333</u>	<u>837,795</u>

Note to Cash Flow Statement	31.8.2022	31.8.2021
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	640,273	-149,367
<i>Adjustments for;</i>		
Additions of tangible fixed assets	-775,000	
Disposals of tangible fixed assets	-52,328	
Stock movement	389	
Interest Received	-3,575	-2,522
Decrease/(increase -) in debtors	-3,496	324
Decrease/(increase -) in loans outstanding	5,000	-5,000
(Decrease -)/increase in creditors	-17,828	24,184
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>-206,565</u>	<u>-132,381</u>



1 Accounting Framework and Accounting Policies

1.1 Accounting Standard

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities, the 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 issued in October 2019 and effective from 01 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK General Accepted Accounting Practice.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

1.2 Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. 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.

1.3 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.

1.4 Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable charity law in England. This being the Charities Act 2011 and SI 2008/629 (Charities Accounting and Reporting Regulations) and, pending the making of replacement regulations specific to SORP 2015 in accordance with Reg. 8(4)(d) of SI 2008/629, the charity trustees have departed from the requirement of Reg.8(5) by following SORP(FRS102) instead of SORP 2005 to the extent necessary to give a true and fair view in the circumstances.

1.5 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 the Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

1.6 Income Recognition

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

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Circuit acts as agent in one matter:

- The collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church – "Connexional Funds"

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), 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.

1.7 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.

1.8 Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions.

1.9 VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.



1.10 Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

Property that is used as originally intended, i.e. for the continuation of ordinary Circuit business, is shown in the accounts at deemed cost, being the valuation on transition to FRS102 or at cost on date of purchase. Deemed cost and cost are split between land and buildings. Depreciation is provided on buildings at a rate of 4% per annum on a straight-line basis after deducting their estimated residual value. The Trustees consider the current residual value of the manse buildings to be the same as their deemed cost or actual cost.

Investment property is included in the financial statements at fair value, such value being obtained at the time of re-categorisation or every 5 years where the property remains unsold at that time

1.11a Monetary Investments

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as basic financial instruments under FRS102 and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

1.11b Investment Property

From time to time the Circuit may hold property (formerly manses and/or chapels) which is surplus to requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used again for its prime purpose (residential property or place of worship), the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

1.12 Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash (Basic financial Instruments)

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or the amount advanced to the Circuit. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at the realisable values.

1.13 Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits and these are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuits raise assessments

against Churches in the Circuit. The District quarterly 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 of various funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church. These are detailed in Note 24 below.

1.14 Pensions

All Methodist Ministers in the Circuit are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme. The Charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme and therefore contributions are accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme. Contributions are therefore charged in the accounts as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

1.15 Fund Accounting

The Charity operates three types of fund – Unrestricted, Restricted and Designated.

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds are general funds which the Trustees, have at their discretion allocated for specific purposes, these may be added to or reduced at the discretion of the Trustees.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2 Glossary of Terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain and provides investment advice to those entities

Church: a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 50.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30

Circuit Meeting: the Trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Churches and others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Churches.

CLT (Circuit Leadership Team): a group (comprising mostly but not, necessarily, exclusively) of Circuit Trustees responsible for the day to day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Generally, the CLT comprises the Presbyters stationed within the Circuit and Circuit Stewards.

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund

Connexion: The Methodist Church in GB which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches in Great Britain.

District: a group of contiguous Circuits, usually between 15 and 30.

DAF: District Advance Fund.

Lay Employees: personnel employed by the Circuit on generally accepted commercial employment terms

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme

Pensions Trust: the organisation through which the Circuit arranges pension schemes for its Lay employees.

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or Ordained Methodist Ministers and/or Deacons who have pastoral and administrative responsibility for the Churches within the Circuit.

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice



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TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds.

3 Notes to the Accounts

Note 1 Donations Received

Table 1 Donations Received

Received From	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Various	3,038				3,038	3,142
Utttoxeter Churches for UY&SW				14,800	14,800	13,788
Trent and Dove Churches				3,020	3,020	3,870
Connexional Funds				835	835	4,119
Gift Aid	842				842	725
Totals	3,880	0	0	18,655	22,535	25,644

Note 2 Income from Monetary Investments

Table 2 Income from Monetary Investments

Investment	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Interest Fund		3,243			3,243	2,312
Burial Ground				9	9	7
Various Bequests	18				18	13
CFB Account	305				305	190
Totals	323	3,243	0	9	3,575	2,522

Note 3 Income from Investment Property

Table 3 Income from Investment Property

Property	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church Broughton Chapel	600				600	893
Rowland Memorial	229				229	0
Blackfordby Chapel	225				225	0
Totals	1,054	0	0	0	1,054	893

The Trustees have determined that these churches will not be returned to use as a place of worship. They have therefore been classified as Investment

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Property. There is some rental income as they continue to be used for other purposes.

Note 4 Assessments on Churches

The Circuit is currently comprised of 22 Churches and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall running costs of the Circuit. In making this assessment, the Circuit considers income it may receive from other sources. The pandemic continues to have an adverse effect on the income of Churches. Consequently, not all Churches were able to meet the full assessment required from them. This explains, in the main, why the overall amount recovered this way is less than the previous year.

Table 4 Assessments on Churches

Church	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Acresford	5,000				5,000	6,250
Barton	13,260				13,260	12,668
Blackfordby	3,375				3,375	4,875
Boylestone	5,340				5,340	5,104
Church Gresley	12,000				12,000	10,000
Draycott-in-the-Clay	8,000				8,000	8,621
Etwall	17,864				17,864	17,064
Hatton	5,940				5,940	7,566
Hilton	16,937				16,937	16,362
Newhall	12,000				12,000	20,774
Overseal (St. Mathews)	1,178				1,178	1,500
Short St.	4,788				4,788	4,576
St Paul's Woodmill	4,800				4,800	4,572
St Thomas'	32,468				32,468	31,464
Stanton	8,656				8,656	8,268
Stretton	18,416				18,416	17,596
Stubwood	4,424				4,424	5,900
Ticknall	4,000				4,000	5,600
Trinity	8,000				8,000	8,000
Uttoxeter	13,200				13,200	23,052
Winshill	8,631				8,631	16,494
Woodville	9,500				9,500	11,000
Totals	217,777				217,777	247,306

Note 5 Grants Received

Table 5 Grants Received

	General £	CMTF £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	2021 £
District Advance Fund Grant for UY&SW				4,145	4,145	4,039
Covid Re Start Grant					0	2,667
Hunt's Charity Grant towards Diaconal Post				25,000	25,000	0
Closed For Business Grant					0	9,669
World Church Grant for Fijian Minister				20,000	20,000	20,000
Totals	0	0	0	49,145	49,145	36,375

This is the third year of a 3 year contribution from the District Advance Fund towards the Uttoxeter Youth & Schools Worker. The Circuit is also grateful for the grants received from Hunt's Charity and the World Church

Note 6 Other Income

Table 6 Other Income

	General £	CMTF £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	2021 £
Hatton Manse Insurance Refund					0	334
Received from Rowland Memorial on Closure					0	7,525
Ashby Road Manse Water Refund					0	277
Other	1,184				1,184	450
Internal Organisations				6,023	6,023	1,913
Stubwood Chapel	110,000				110,000	0
Prince Memorial Chapel	225,000				225,000	0
Blackfordby Chapel	280,000				280,000	0
Closing Balance from Stubwood Chapel	123				123	0
Reimbursement of QSR on Church Broughton	1,210				1,210	0
Winshill Chapel	160,000				160,000	0
Winshill Chapel closing money transferred	15,424				15,424	0
Sale of Stubwood Pews	600				600	0
Leaving Collection	962				962	0
Totals	794,503	0	0	6,023	800,526	10,499

During the year four churches closed to worship and are now accounted for as investment properties. These were Stubwood, Prince Memorial, Winshill and Blackfordby. They are now valued on the balance sheet at an 'open market' valuation and placing them on the balance sheet was accompanied by notional income as shown in the table.

Note 7 Grants and Donations

Grants and donations as listed on the next page were made during the year. The support costs for grant funding are insignificant and are not separately disclosed.

Table 7 Grants and Donations Paid

Grants and Donations Paid to;	General £	CMTF £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	2021 £
Connexional Funds				835	835	4,119
To Barton Church for Building Alterations					0	5,000
Tearfund for Cyclone Yasa in Fiji					0	240
Shoe Boxes				1,105	1,105	300
Grants to Churches for Technology					0	1,640
Education and Youth Fund				339	339	0
Methodist Women in Britain				297	297	0
Man to Man					0	158
	0	0	0	2,576	2,576	11,457

Note 8 Salaries and Associated Costs

8.1 Stipends

Stipends were paid to 6 full time Ministers and were as shown in the following table;

Table 8 Stipends and Associated Staff Costs

	Full Time £	Part Time £	General £	Unrest. £	CMTF Designated £	Other Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	2021 £
Ministerial Staff									
National Insurance	14,917		12,111				2,806	14,917	13,456
Pension Fund Contributions	41,680		33,580				8,100	41,680	39,479
Stipends	158,552		126,859				31,693	158,552	149,315
Relocation Expenses	7,299		7,299					7,299	0
Sundry Expenses	5,943		4,771				1,173	5,943	4,636
Telephone and Broadband	4,410		4,140				270	4,410	3,639
Travelling	8,461		8,461					8,461	3,872
	241,262	0	197,221	0	0	0	44,042	241,262	214,397

8.2 Lay Staff

The Circuit employs Lay staff involved in both Mission and Administrative work. The costs of these staff are shown in the following 2 tables.

8.2a Mission Staff

Table 9 Salaries and Associated Staff Costs – Other Mission Staff

	Full Time £	Part Time £	General £	Unrest. £	CMTF Designated £	Other Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	2021 £
Mission Staff									
National Insurance		2,340	959				1,381	2,340	2,778
Pension Fund Contributions		2,055	847				1,208	2,055	2,266
Salary		34,250	14,286				19,964	34,250	37,755
Travel		1,701	615				1,086	1,701	404
Other		901	160				741	901	405
	0	41,247	16,867	0	0	0	24,380	41,247	43,608

8.2b Administrative Staff

Table 10 Salaries and Associated Staff Costs – Administrative Staff

	Full Time £	Part Time £	General £	Unrest. £	CMTF Designated £	Other Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	2021 £
Administrative Staff									
National Insurance		659	659					659	592
Pension Fund Contributions		865	865					865	655
Salary		13,785	13,785					13,785	15,775
Other		160	160					160	160
	0	15,469	15,469	0	0	0	0	15,469	17,182

8.3 Total Stipends and Salary Costs

Table 11 Total Salaries and Associated Staff Costs

	Full Time £	Part Time £	General £	CMTF Designated £	Other Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	2021 £
Stipends, Salaries and Associated Costs	241,262	56,716	229,557	0	0	68,422	297,979	275,186

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

8.4 Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist 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 and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

On the other hand, lay employees are contractually employees and have the option of joining a pensions scheme which the circuit has arranged with TPT Retirement Solutions (previously known as The Pensions Trust). This is a defined benefit scheme and the Circuit contributes as employer to this scheme.

The Connexion accounts for both pension schemes and shows the figures in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented.

8.5a Cost of Superintendent, Ministers and Trustees.

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Ministers and the remaining members of CLT are considered as key management personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. The

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members of the Circuit Meeting are the Trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Ministers of the Circuit are paid by the Circuit.

The manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains the property. The value of the Council Tax and water charges paid by the Circuit is not disclosed here as HMRC does not regard this as a benefit in kind in the hands of the Minister.

Table 12 Cost of Ministerial Staff

	Total	2021
	£	£
Stipends of Ministers	158,552	149,315
Employer's Pension Fund Contributions	41,680	39,479
Employer's National Insurance Contributions	14,917	13,456
Totals	215,149	202,250

It is generally Circuit policy to reimburse non Ministerial members of the CLT, Circuit Meeting and others involved in Administration of the Circuit for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The Ministers carry out the primary executive roles within the Circuit. Apart from the Ministers and Lay staff, no member of the CLT or Circuit Meeting was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the Circuit.

No Trustee has received any expenses in relation to their work as a Trustee.

8.5b Employed Trustees

The following Trustees are also employees of the Circuit;

Mrs Caroline Green, employed as the Circuit Administrator and member of the CLT.

Miss Susan Laws, employed as the Circuit Family Worker and member of the CLT.

Mr Jordan Lambert, employed as the Circuit Youth and Schools Worker.

Members of the CLT are considered key management personnel and the total remuneration cost of the 2 CLT members named above was £34,581. (2020/21 £39,194)

Note 9 Property Expenses

During the year the Circuit was Managing Trustee for 6 manses, all of which were occupied by Ministers stationed in the Circuit.

For manses which are occupied by Ministers or are vacant, the Circuit is responsible for the payment of council tax, water charges and buildings insurance.

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During the year the Circuit was also Managing Trustee for a Burial Ground and the following chapels; Rowland Memorial, Winhill, Blackfordby, Prince Memorial, Stubwood and Church Broughton for either all or part of the year. As Managing Trustee the Circuit is responsible for all the costs relating to these buildings.

The Circuit also rents a property known as Unit 6.

The following table outlines the expenditure on property.

Table 13 Property Expenses

	Council									
	Tax	Ins.	Maint.	Water	Energy	Other	General	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Manses										
Elwyn Close	1,797	602	677	245			3,321		3,321	2,450
Ashby Road	2,373	652	622	216			3,863		3,863	18,075
Heathlands Drive	2,408	488	2,640	538			6,074		6,074	5,138
Tennyson Avenue	1,900	611	5,465	419			6,535	1,860	8,395	2,913
Wyedale	1,422	678	258	292			2,650		2,650	2,825
Lincote Way	1,454	655	3,111	259			5,479		5,479	2,691
	11,354	3,686	12,773	1,969	0	0	27,922	1,860	29,782	34,092
	Council									
	Tax	Ins.	Maint.	Water	Energy	Other	General	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Other Property Expenses										
Unit 6	566	328	481	299	1,137	12,900	15,711		15,711	14,483
Hanbury Burial Ground			475	0			475		475	610
	566	328	956	299	1,137	12,900	16,186	0	16,186	15,093
	Council									
	Tax	Ins.	Maint.	Water	Energy	Other	General	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Investment Properties										
<i>Chapels</i>										
Church Broughton		613			1,331	834	2,778		2,778	1,994
Rowland Memorial		1,422			1,812	366	3,600		3,600	3,043
Blackfordby		145			76	600	821		821	0
Prince Memorial Hatton		340	1,046		410		1,796		1,796	0
Stubwood		513	266	109	734		1,622		1,622	0
Winhill		429		64	286	600	1,379		1,379	0
	0	3,462	1,312	173	4,649	2,400	11,996	0	11,996	5,037
Property Totals	11,920	7,476	15,041	2,441	5,786	15,300	56,104	1,860	57,964	54,222

Note 10 District Assessment and Levy

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the number of Churches, Presbyterian and Mission staff of all the Circuits in the Nottingham and Derby District.

The levy is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuit's CMTF account balance as the 31st August the previous accounting year.

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Table 14 District Assessment and Levy

	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
District Assessment	11,836				11,836	11,086
Methodist Church Fund	68,584				68,584	63,394
Levy on CMTF		42,639			42,639	43,725
	80,420	42,639	0	0	123,059	118,205

Note 11 Office and Administration Costs

Table 15 Office and Administration Costs

	General	CMTF	Other	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	Unrest. £	Designated £	Designated £	£	£
Telephone and Internet	1,722				1,722	1,590
Computing	323				323	310
Stationery	4				4	883
Postage	19				19	356
Circuit Insurances	478				478	478
Independent Examination of Accounts	5,000				5,000	1,048
TMCP Admin/Investment Management Fee	11	1,953			1,970	1,524
Photocopier	3,345				3,345	4,498
Ledger	180				180	0
Bank Charges	104				104	0
Other	248				248	234
Totals	11,434	1,953	0	0	13,393	10,921

Note 12 Other Outgoings

Items included in 'Other Outgoings' and individually costing more than £100 are listed in the following table (Table 16). Items costing less than £100 are considered less material and shown combined under 'Other'.

Table 16 Other Outgoings

	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Preaching fees and travel	1,103				1,103	0
Other	2,443				2,443	158
Bible Month Booklets					0	150
Apprenticeship Levy	1,030				1,030	1,014
Hatton Manse					0	385
Blackfordby Legal					0	486
Website	173				173	242
Internal Organisations				4,812	4,812	2,841
Roots Subscription for Churches	736				736	793
Totals	5,485	0	0	4,812	10,297	6,069

Note 13 Investment Management

During the year the Circuit paid TMCP, the custodians of the Circuit's investments, management charges based on 0.2% of the value of the individual funds at the beginning of the year.

Note 14 Reclassification of Funds

No restricted funds have been reclassified during the year. Some funds previously considered as designated have had the designated status removed and the funds reclassified as unrestricted (see note 21.4)

Note 15 Circuit Manses, Investment Properties & Equipment

During the year property managed by the Circuit comprised of 6 manses, Church Broughton and Rowland Memorial Chapels which had both closed to worship in a prior year. The following chapels also closed to worship during the year and their management transferred to the Circuit; Rowland Memorial, Winshill, Blackfordby, Prince Memorial, Stubwood and Church Broughton.

The Chapel at Church Broughton was sold in August 2022. See table 18a on the following page.

No equipment has been capitalised.



Table 18a Sale of Church Broughton Chapel

Church Broughton Sale		£	£
Income			
	Sale Price		<u>140,000</u>
Cost of Sales;			
	Auction Costs	-1,920	
	Survey Fees	-360	
	Legal Fees	<u>-3,507</u>	-5,787
Balance Sheet Value Brought Forward			-52,200
Paid to TMCP			<u>-29,685</u>
Profit on Sale (line 21 on SOFA)			<u><u>52,328</u></u>
Cash Retained by Circuit			
	Sale Proceeds received by TMCP		<u>134,214</u>
	Retained by TMCP		29,685
	Retained by Circuit		<u>104,528</u>
			<u>134,214</u>



Table 18b Property Valuation

Properties	Investment Property £	Land £	Buildings £	Equipment £	Total £
Balance Brought Forward;	352,200	290,900	1,176,600	0	1,819,700
Additions in the Year;					
Winshill Church	160,000				160,000
Stubwood Church	110,000				110,000
Prince Memorial Church	225,000				225,000
Blackfordby Church	280,000				280,000
Less Disposals;					
Church Broughton Chapel	-52,200				-52,200
Balance Carried Forward	<u>1,075,000</u>	<u>290,900</u>	<u>1,176,600</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,542,500</u>

As property is transferred to Investment property it is revalued.

The following table provides a schedule of manses and investment property held by the circuit.

Table 19 Schedule of Property

Properties	Investment Property £	Land £	Buildings £	Equipment £	Total £
<i>Manse at;</i>					
Tennyson Avenue		50,400	189,600		240,000
Lincote Drive		42,500	172,000		214,500
Wye Dale		45,000	180,000		225,000
Stretton		35,000	205,000		240,000
Heathlands Dr.		78,000	210,000		288,000
Ashby Road		40,000	220,000		260,000
<i>Chapels;</i>					
Rowland Memorial	300,000				300,000
Winshill Chapel	160,000				160,000
Stubwood Chapel	110,000				110,000
Prince Memorial Church	225,000				225,000
Blackfordby Chapel	280,000				280,000
	<u>1,075,000</u>	<u>290,900</u>	<u>1,176,600</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,542,500</u>

Note 16 Investment Assets (and TMCP)

The funds that support the circuit Model Trust Fund and the Circuit's other funds (as listed below) are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest and /or Managed Equity Funds on which interest and dividends are credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long-term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Table 20 Schedule of Investments

	CMTF Trust 6842 General £	Dove Valley Burial Ground Trust 15473 Restricted £	Various Bequests Trust 16439 General £	Grand Total £	2021 £
CFB Managed Mixed Fund 2C100	20,873			20,873	22,272
Trustees Interest Fund 2C110	576,605	2,002	3,922	582,529	668,831
	597,478	2,002	3,922	603,402	691,103

Note 17 Debtors and Prepayments

All sums due as debtors as at 1 September 2021 were received during the following year. All sums paid in advance at 1 September 2021 were for activities that have been held during 2021/22. Similarly, it is expected that payments in advance at 1 September 2022 will be expended in 2022/23.

Table 21 Debtors and Prepayments

	General £	CMTF £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	2021 £
<i>Prepayments</i>						
Stipends, Pension & NI	18,687				18,687	17,802
Circuit Website	314				314	24
Various Building Insurances	2,249				2,249	44
Apprenticeship Levy Recharge	68				68	66
Unit 6 Rent	1,075				1,075	1,075
Other	164				164	0
<i>Debtors</i>						0
Hire of Rowland Memorial	30				30	0
Gift Aid	420				420	500
	23,007	0	0	0	23,007	19,511

Note 18 Loans

The Circuit has one loan outstanding. This was made to Ticknall Church for £5,000. The terms of the loan are zero interest and was initially for 12 months. However, the impact of the pandemic has made repayment impossible in that time period. The Circuit will review the loan annually.

Note 19 Central Finance Board and Bank Balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and at the HSBC bank plc are all available on demand without loss of interest. The split of these balances is shown below.

Table 22 CFB and Bank Balances

	General £	Restricted £	Total £	2021 £
Central Finance Board	100,132	8,719	108,851	92,273
HSBC Bank	11,991	2,906	14,897	43,619
Cash in Hand		12,183	12,183	10,800
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>11,991</i>	<i>15,089</i>	<i>27,080</i>	<i>54,419</i>
Totals	112,123	23,808	135,931	146,692

Note 20 Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance.

It is expected that all sums accrued at 31 August 2022 will be paid during the year to 31 August 2023.

Table 23 Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

	General £	CMTF £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	2021 £
<i>Income Received in Advance</i>						
Hunt's Charity For J Hacon Salary					0	25,000
<i>Creditors</i>						
For External Organisations					0	14
Audit of Accounts	5,000				5,000	1000
Lay Staff Expenses					0	6
Presbyteral & Lay Expenses	2,707				2,707	948
Property Valuations	1,200				1,200	0
Other	138			95	233	0
Totals	9,045	0	0	95	9,140	26,968

Note 21 Unrestricted Funds

Note 21.1 General Fund

Table 24 General Fund Balance

	31 August 2022	31 August 2021
	£	£
Balance	2,672,507	1,920,948

The purpose of this fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes. About 95% of this fund is held as freehold property, being manses for Ministers and investment property.

Note 21.2 Circuit Model Trust Fund (Not Designated)

Table 25 CMTF Balance (Not Designated)

	31 August 2022	31 August 2021
	£	£
Balance	602,478	602,959

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

Although this is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise these funds. Methodist Standing orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

Note 21.3 Circuit Model Trust Fund (Designated)

Designated funds are to serve specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone.

Table 26 CMTF Balance (Designated)

	31 August 2022	31 August 2021
	£	£
Balance	0	87,229



Note 21.4 Other Designated Funds

Table 27 Other Designated Funds

	31 August 2022	31 August 2021
	£	£
Balance	0	22,644

As all funds previously held as designated have now been included in operational budgets, Trustees have agreed to transfer any remaining designated funds to general funds.

Note 21.5 Restricted Funds

Restricted funds exist to support specific expenditure. The circuit has no endowment funds.

Table 28 Restricted Funds

	31 August 2022	31 August 2021
	£	£
Balance	27,786	28,718

This balance is income received to fund future expenditure on items shown in the following table.

Table 29 Restricted Funds

Fund	£	Each of the following Restricted funds are used for the purpose described;
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	6,374	To continue to jointly fund the School's Worker at Uttoxeter with the objective of bringing the good news of Jesus into schools within the Uttoxeter Pyramid of schools.
Benevolent Fund	190	Primarily held for the relief of poverty and distress in the congregations and neighbourhood of the C
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,002	To fund maintenance of the Burial Ground at Hanbury.
Internal Organisations	14,159	Funds held by a variety of organisations within individual Churches.
World Church Grant	2,155	To fund 50% of the costs of the Presbyter provided to minister to the Fijian community if the UK.
Shoe Box Appeal	2,906	To provide funds for the annual shoe box appeal.

Note 22 Summary of Fund Movements

Table 30 Fund Movements

Fund	Balance at 31 August 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/ Losses	Balance at 31 August 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General	1,920,948	1,017,537	-382,999	117,021		2,672,507
Designated	22,644	0	0	-22,644		0
CMTF Unrestricted	602,959	3,243	-44,592	-10,061	50,929	602,478
Designated	87,229	0	0	-87,229		0
Totals Unrestricted	2,633,780	1,020,780	-427,591	-2,913	50,929	3,274,985
Family Worker	0	3,020	-3,020			0
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	5,874	18,945	-21,360	2,914		6,373
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,000	9	-6	-1		2,002
Education & Youth	339	0	-339			0
Benevolent	690	0	-500			190
Connexional	0	835	-835			0
Internal Organisations	10,788	6,023	-5,110	389		12,090
World Church	2,553	20,000	-20,399			2,154
Shoe Boxes	4,011	0	-1,105			2,906
Hunt's Charity	3	25,000	-25,003			0
Stock	2,460	0	0	-389		2,071
Totals Restricted	28,718	73,832	-77,677	2,913	0	27,786
Totals of All Funds	2,662,498	1,094,612	-505,268	0	50,929	3,302,771

Note 23 Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

Fund balances at 31 August are represented as shown in the following table.

Table 31 Analysis of Net Assets

	General	CMTF	Restricted	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,467,500	20,873	0	1,488,373	1,467,500
Fixed Asset Investments	1,075,000			1,075,000	352,200
Investments	3,922	576,605	2,002	582,529	22,272
Current Assets	135,130	5,000	25,879	166,009	847,494
Current Liabilities	-9,045	0	-95	-9,140	-26,968
Totals	2,672,507	602,478	27,786	3,302,771	2,662,498

Note 24 Related Parties

Table 32 Payments to Related Parties

Name of related party	Party	Payments £
District Assessment	Connexion	11,836
Methodist Church Fund	Connexion	68,584
Methodist Church Fund for Support of Presbyters & Deacons	Connexion	380
Methodist Church Fund for Property	Connexion	455
District Advance Fund	Connexion	42,639
Total		123,894

Note 25 Capital Commitments and Contingent liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities at the year end.

Note 26 Going Concern

The Circuit considers itself to be a going concern. This is based on the levels of income (mainly share payments from Churches) promised for the financial year 2022/23. Although the pandemic has impacted on the income of Churches within the Circuit (and this is expected to continue into the next financial year) the Circuit is confident it has sufficient reserves to meet any shortfall in income. To date, the Circuit has not received any formal requests for financial support from any of its Churches.

Note 27 Audit of Accounts

An accrual has been made for the Auditor and this is shown in Table 23 under Note 20.

Name of Circuit East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire

No 22/16

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-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

A G Wooding

Date

1/8/2023

Name and address of treasurer Andrew Wooding

35 Church Road

Rolleston on Dove

Burton on Trent

DE13 9BG

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will*be presented to the Circuit meeting held on: *22/03/2023*

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:

D H Bonny

Name of the Chair of the meeting:

DAVID H. BONNY

Date *1/8/2023*

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.



Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of charity law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material



misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the senior statutory auditor ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the financial reporting legislation, Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation, anti-bribery, employment, and environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the charity's legal advisors

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Dains Audit Limited

Dains Audit Limited

Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

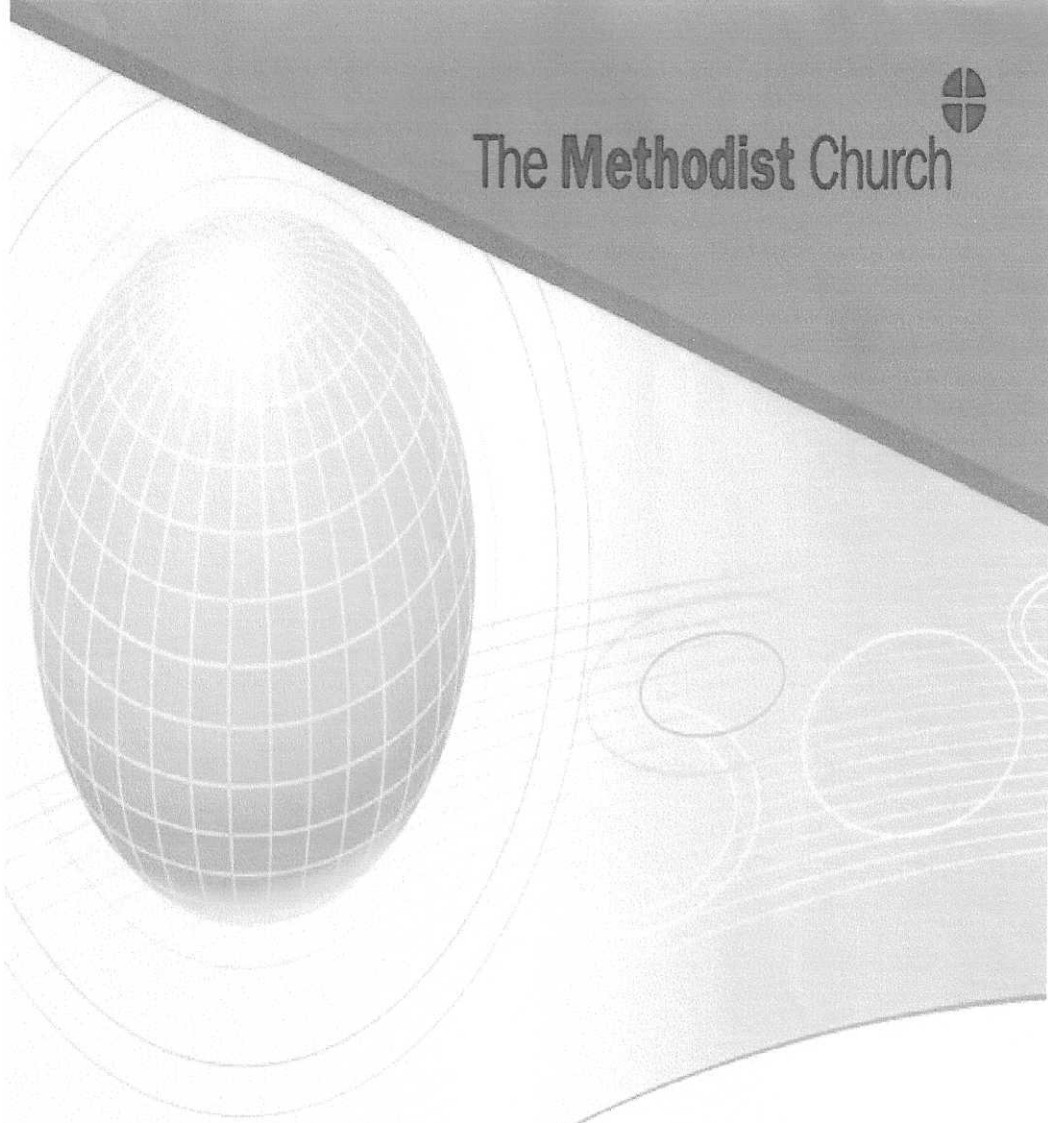
Birmingham

Date: 1 August 2023

Dains Audit Limited are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.



Accounts



The Methodist Church

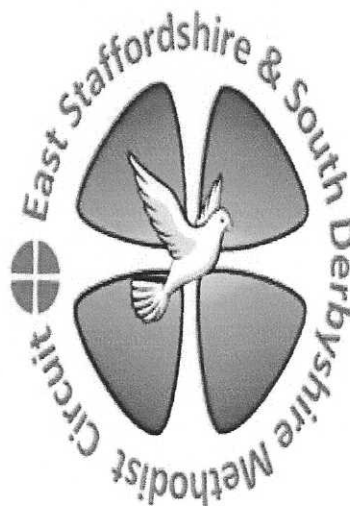


Trustees Annual Report & Accounts

East Staffordshire & South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Charity Registration Number 1133721

Circuit Reference 22/16



September 2020 – August 2021

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Welcome from the Superintendent

This year saw the launch of the amalgamation of the former South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit with the former Trent and Dove Methodist Circuit to form a new Circuit called the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit. Launched on September 1st 2020 and finding ourselves only 6 months old when the full effects of the Covid 19 pandemic began to bite and Churches (like society) went into lockdown and new ways of Worshipping had to be found. The staff have produced weekly worship sheets for 18 months now sending them to everyone in the Circuit; at the same time regular Zoom services and telephone calls have been made.

This has been very draining upon the staff and the newly formed Circuit Leadership Team but they have all coped admirably, adapting to new ways of working.

Sadly, some Churches have closed during the year and there may be more in 2021/22 and a part of the work of the Leadership and staff has been about helping Churches towards that decision, so its been a difficult year but there is real hope as new opportunities have arisen. Consequently, the mission of the Circuit remains to serve the various communities we serve with the love of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour

Mike Redshaw

Superintendent Minister of East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit

Introduction

The Circuit was formed in September 2020 following a merger of the Trent and Dove and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuits. Currently there are 22 churches in the Circuit which are distributed evenly across the Circuit, an area from the Leicestershire Border at Acresford, through Swadlincote, Burton-upon-Trent and Etwell, to Uttoxeter and Stubwood. There is also a multipurpose drop in centre and shop, 'Oasis', in Swadlincote Town Centre.

As the new Circuit is considered to have been created following a merger of the two previous charities referred to, the accounting treatment has followed the guidelines in FRSA 102. Specifically, this has involved combining the 2019/20 final accounts of South Derbyshire and Trent and Dove together to provide the 'Combined 2020' figures shown in the accounts. This was further complicated as South Derbyshire completed Receipts and Payments accounts which were converted to an accruals basis before combining.

Objectives and Activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Circuit Trustees meet at least twice a year. These meetings plan and agree the activities of the Circuit and ensure it complies with Charity Commission guidance. A list of Trustees, the Churches they represent, and the positions held is given below:

Circuit Representatives

Ministers	Deacon
Rev'd Moira Biggins	Deacon Janice Hacon
Rev'd David Bonny	Circuit Meeting Secretary
Rev'd Helen Harrell	Celia Ryan
Rev'd Stella Mills	Circuit Local Preachers & Worship Leaders Representative:
Rev'd Manoa Ratubalavu	Susan Laws
Rev'd Mike Redshaw	

Supernumerary Ministers	Family Action Team
Rev'd Doug Allen	Sue Shakespeare
Rev'd Ann Bolas	Circuit Missions
Rev'd Lynda Coates	Julie Green (MWB)
Rev'd Derek Morton	Jenny Illsley (MHA)
Rev'd Susan Rolls	John Jay
Rev'd Maurice Whittaker	Sue Palmer (MWB & World Church)
Lay Workers	Shirley Wagstaff
Caroline Green	Bryan Wild (MHA)
Jordon Lambert	Sue Williams (Fijian Liaison)
Miss Susan Laws	Gwen Wortley
Circuit Stewards	Circuit Safeguarding Coordinator
Steve Dobson	Caroline Green
Denise Hancock	Circuit Safeguarding Advisor
Andrew Hawkins	Richard House
Heather Simm	LP Elected Rep
Miss Wendy Smith	Joyce Greenwood
Andrew Wooding	Synod Reps
Action For Children	Denis Barratt
Rosemary Hancock	Sue Nickson

Circuit Church Representatives

Acresford Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Dorothy Twigg
Rep	Michael Green

Barton under Needwood Methodist Church	
Treasurer	David Moore
Rep	Ian Gilby
Rep	Fiona Panter
Reserve	John Wright

Blackfordby Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Denis Mansfield
Rep	Lorna Armson
Rep	Anne Harrison
Rep	Jean Mason

Boylestone Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Paul Rimmer
Rep	Oliver Ball
Reserve	Sheila Wilton

Church Gresley Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Ann Metcalf
Rep	Terry Chandler
Rep	Eila Baugh
Reserve	Denis Barratt

Draycott Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Lynn Wragg
Rep	Marion Rowe
Rep	Stephen Ryan

Etwall Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Herman Bonardt
Rep	Vic Appleby
Rep	Miss Wendy Smith

Hatton Methodist Church	
Treasurer	
Rep	Eunice Watson

Hilton Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Karen Evans
Rep	Brian Hill
Rep	

Newhall Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Steve Smith
Rep	Rosemary Hancock
Rep	Nigel Sharpe

Overseal CofE/Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Trevor Leadbetter
Rep	Ian Coles
Rep	Dilys Harper

Short Street Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Graham Meers
Rep	Wendy Knight
Reserve	

Stanton Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Miss Rita Street
Rep	Julie Hackett
Rep	Jean Hollins
Reserve	Elaine Tagg

Stretton Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Shirley Toon
Rep	Christine Dunsby
Reserve	Rita Hartshorn

St Thomas's Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Liz Merrick
Rep	John Jones
Rep	Sue McLoughlin

Stubwood Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Teresa Hawkins
Rep	Susanne Smith
Rep	Shirley Wagstaff

Ticknall Methodist Church	
Treasurer	
Rep	Kathy Bates
Rep	Angela Bird
Rep	Jennifer Illsley

Trinity (Linton) Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Betty Naylor
Rep	Martin Kesterton
Rep	Rita Walton
Reserve	Beryl Greening

Uttoxeter Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Roger Rooke
Rep	John Darby
Rep	Anne Dobson
Rep	Julie Green

Winshill Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Graham Meers
Rep	Linda Latham
Rep	Jenny Meers
Rep	Moya Middleton

Woodmill (St Paul's) Methodist Church		Woodville Methodist Church	
Treasurer	Roy Ward	Treasurer	Brian Parker
Rep	Les Fellows	Rep	Joan Barnett
Rep	Alan Richardson	Rep	

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 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 organisation and resourcing of regular acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike. The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups. The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the ill and bereaved. Taking religious assemblies in local schools. Chaplaincy is offered at East Midlands Airport, and the Agricultural community, as well as chaplaincy support at Queens Hospital.

We are seeking to be a visionary Circuit glorifying God, sharing the mission and ministry of Jesus. This Circuit is called into being by the grace of God, led by Jesus Christ and is given the gifts for its work by and through the renewing power of the Holy Spirit to facilitate mission through worship, witness and service of the congregations and circuit along with ecumenical co-operation and community engagement encouraging shared ministry with all parts of the Christian family.

Review of the Year

As mentioned in last year's Report, this new Circuit was formed on September 1st 2020, by the merger of the Trent and Dove (Circuit No. 22/16 and Charity Registration No. 1133721) and the South Derbyshire (Circuit No. 22/28 and Charity Registration No. 1134197) Methodist Circuits. A celebration of this merger took place on September 6th 2020 to mark this occasion. Although Covid-19 prevented in person meetings throughout the year, using Zoom allowed us to fulfil the obligations of closing down the Trent and Dove and the South Derbyshire Circuits in a controlled way with all those members able to join Zoom meetings either by laptop, tablet or by dial in on the phone.

This merger of the two circuits led to the existing staff of the Trent and Dove Circuit and the South Derbyshire Circuit joining together to give the Ministers mentioned above. The Rev'd Sue Rolls retired from the South Derbyshire Circuit and was not Replaced.

The main work of the new circuit has been directly affected by Covid-19, with all churches continuing to be closed from September onwards, some were opened briefly in October 2020, but then all closed and remained so until relaxation of lockdown allowed churches to be opened in Summer 2021. At the end of August, 7 of the 22 churches were holding in person services, wearing masks and socially distanced, with some of these services being held outside.

New methods of worshipping were continued, enabling a significant number of members, and also others who perhaps would not normally attend worship, to join in services from the comfort of their own homes, using Zoom and Facebook Live. Five separate services were held by the circuit staff on Sunday mornings, using identical material which was also distributed to those who were not able to connect into electronic services. An additional service was held on Sunday afternoons. Additional bible studies were carried out on line and around 20 people took part in A Study on Ephesians and one on the New Testament book, 1 Peter, all taking place using Zoom technology. Plans are in place to continue this on-line worship and study now that lockdown has ended. Additionally, at least one Service is being live streamed, and anyone not able to attend in person can participate using Zoom. Several churches took up the offer to upgrade their church technology to enable them to have an online presence after returning to in person worship.

The required governance for the new circuit is being reviewed, monitored and modified as required. Safeguarding continues to be managed by the Superintendent and the Circuit Administrator, both of whom have attended the appropriate training. Communications across the Circuit has been maintained through the Circuit website and weekly notices.

It was not possible to hold Messy Church(es) or "Open the Book" in schools in and around Uttoxeter and Hilton, due to lockdown.

The Uttoxeter Schools worker continued his work, being jointly supported by The Renew Church in Uttoxeter, the United Reformed Church in Uttoxeter and the Methodist Church. Although he was not able to go into schools during the period they were closed, he was able to take on line assemblies and produced some excellent video work for use in the schools' work with the children of key workers and their on-line teaching programmes. Many of the Uttoxeter School Pyramid took part in these and because of that there was a significant impact in those schools.

The Family Worker started Toddler Groups in June/July 2021 with many attending, though with Covid restrictions, it's not been possible to go in to lead school assemblies, or to read Bible story

and sing songs with the younger children. Youtube videos have been produced and sent to both families and Schools. Messy Church and Toddler Group Zoom sessions also took place. At Christmas and Easter Toddler Group and Messy Church families were visited with a goodie bag of crafts, chocolate and other items and families have been texted and emailed with craft ideas for them to do at home each month. Taizé evenings and Julian Meetings on zoom took place for the whole of the year.

The Oasis Centre in Swadlincote is a Town Centre Work, and is a centre for meeting people as well as an outlet for the sale of Fair Trade Goods, which has been closed during most of the year. This Centre will reopen and restart its work as soon as people feel safe to meet in person. Deacon Janice and a team of volunteers run this vital work in Swadlincote.

There is still some hesitancy about meeting in person, and some churches have taken the difficult decision to close, as the age profile of the congregations increase. This will be reflected in next year's Report. Despite difficult times, we pray that God will continue to bless our work for Him in the new East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit, looking at new opportunities of carrying out the mission of the new circuit, introduced to us by lockdown.

Property

We have provision for six manses in the Circuit and five presbyters plus one Deacon. Discussions continue to take place with village leaders in Church Broughton as to the future of the church building in Church Broughton. We are, hopefully, close to achieving a sale to Church Broughton Parish Council subject to TMCP approval. The Circuit also has responsibility for both the Oasis Centre (Unit 6) and Rowland Memorial Church, Midway. The Oasis Centre is on a 5-year lease from South Derbyshire District Council which expires in December 2023. Please see below for details of plans for Rowland Memorial Church.

Plans for Future Years

As the Churches reopen, the newly formed circuit has begun to discuss the direction that it would like to move in, and from September 2022 there will be a reshuffle of staff, some staff will retire, and it is hoped that new staff will be able to join. The start of an exciting new 'Arts Church' venture is being planned, centred on the currently closed Rowland Memorial Church in Midway. Other plans will address issues such as a reducing membership, reducing income, ageing property and the opportunities presented with new housing projects in the circuit. Over this period, the newly formed Circuit will also manage the turnover of Presbyteral staff and maintain the required level of lay staff.

Basis of Preparation and Legal Framework

The Charity's Annual Report and Accounts have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – the Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

The members of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of Circuit Office Holders, Ministers and Representatives appointed by the local churches. Full membership is shown under Objectives & Activities on page 2 of this Report.



The Charities full name is:	East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit
Charity Registration Number:	1133721
Date of Registration:	1 st September 2020
Main Point of Contact:	Circuit Office,
Main Point of Contact Address:	Winhill Methodist Church, High Bank Road, Winhill, Burton on Trent, Staffordshire, DE15 0NL
Telephone Number:	01283 337649
Email Address:	caroline.essd.mc@gmail.com / office.essd.mc@gmail.com

<u>Circuit Ministers and Officers</u>		
Active Circuit Ministers:	Rev'd Mike Redshaw (<i>Superintendent</i>)	
	Rev'd Moira Biggins	
	Rev'd Dave Bonny	
	Rev'd Helen Harrell	
	Rev'd Stella Mills	
	Rev'd Manoa Ratubalavu	
Deacon:	Deacon Janice Hacon	
Circuit Lay Workers:	Mrs Caroline Green	
	Mr Jordan Lambert	
	Miss Susan Laws	
Circuit Stewards:	Mr Steve Dobson	
	Mrs Denise Hancock	
	Mr Andrew Hawkins	
	Mrs Heather Simms	
	Miss Wendy Smith	
	* Mr Andrew Wooding	
Circuit Meetings Secretary:	Mrs Celia Ryan	
<i>* Financial Steward</i>		
<u>Bankers:</u> HSBC 18 High Street, Burton on Trent Staffordshire, DE14 1JD	<u>Investment Managers:</u> Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 9 Bonhill Street, London, EC2A 9PE	<u>Custodian Trustees:</u> Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings Oldham Street Manchester, M1 1JQ
<u>Independent Examiner:</u> Mrs B J Whale F.C.A. Holly Berry House, Hamstall Ridware, Rugeley, Staffordshire, WS15 3SQ		

Financial Review

The 2019/20 annual accounts for South Derbyshire were on a Receipts and Payments basis and those for Trent and Dove were on an accruals basis. To enable the combined figures for 2019/20 to be included in the accounts for ESSD for comparative purposes, the accounts for South Derbyshire have been restated on an accruals basis complete with balance sheet. These have then been combined with those for Trent and Dove to provide the combined figures for 2019/20 shown in the accounts.

During the year, the Circuit has accounted for total income of £323,239 (2019/20 £354,979) and expenditure of £476,060 (2019/20 £452,894). The operating deficit of c£153,000 was slightly higher than that planned for of £135,540. In the main, the increase was due to reduced income from shares which was primarily the result of COVID 19 having a significant impact of individual Churches income and therefore their ability to pay the full share requirement. The underlying deficit is due to planned funding from balances of the Family Worker (£23,180), Circuit Administrator (£12,540), Uttoxeter Schools Worker (£3,120), Deacon (£25,000) support to continued Ministry (£31,700) and payments to the Methodist Church (40,000).

The Circuit continues to actively manage its property to minimise cost and provide a good standard of living accommodation for Ministers.

The Circuit considers itself to be a going concern. This is based on the levels of income (mainly share payments from Churches) promised for the financial year 2021/22. Although the pandemic has impacted (and will continue to) on the income of Churches within the Circuit, the Circuit is confident it has sufficient reserves to meet any shortfall in income. To date, the Circuit has not received any formal requests for financial support from any of its Churches.

There are no subsidiary undertakings.

The Circuits main source of income continues to be shares received from the Churches within the Circuit, which in 2020/21 accounted for 76% of its income. (2019/20, 72%)

Circuit income is used, in the main, to fund the stipends and associated costs of Ministers (5.75 full time equivalents during the year) and salaries and associated costs of lay staff (2.0 full time equivalents). In 2020/21 this accounted for 58% of total expenditure (2019/20, 59%). The balance of expenditure, in the main, is used to support the wider Methodist Church 25% (2019/20, 21%) and the running of the property within the Circuit, 11% (2019/20, 11%).

Investments

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 £20,000) bequests. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit.

Short term deposits are lodged with the Central Finance Board (CFB) where they attract interest.

Reserves Level and Policy

The Circuit currently holds significant reserves. At the end of the year (31 August 2021) these were as follows;

		£
<i>Unrestricted</i>	Circuit Model Trust Fund	602,959
	General	101,248
	<i>Sub-total Unrestricted</i>	<i>704,207</i>
<i>Designated</i>	Circuit Model Trust Fund	87,229
	General	22,644
	<i>Sub-total Designated</i>	<i>109,873</i>
<i>Restricted</i>	General	26,258
	Stocks	2,460
	<i>Sub-total Restricted</i>	<i>28,718</i>
<i>Property</i>		1,819,700
Total Reserves		2,662,498

Designated funds are held for agreed commitments in the continuation of the Mission work of the Circuit. Specifically, they are held for continuation of the Uttoxeter Youth and Schools Worker post for 2021/22 (£16,263), various personnel issues (£6,381) continuation of the Circuit Family Worker (2021/22) £29,272 and funding town centre ministry (£57,957).

Restricted funds are held and used for the purposes for which they are given. It is the policy of the Circuit to use such funds for the purposes intended as soon as is practically possible. The balance held for restricted funds is allocated as follows;

	£
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	5,874
Benevolent Fund	690
Education and Youth	339
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,000
Internal Organisations	10,788
Hunt's Charity Donation	3
World Church Grant	2,553
Shoe Box Appeal	4,011
Total	26,258

In addition, internal organisations hold a stock balance of £2,460.

It is not the policy to hold significant reserves. However, sufficient reserves are held to continue funding those items of expenditure agreed by the Circuit, namely the Family Worker, Administrator and Uttoxeter Youth and Schools Worker.

The Circuit will, in the light of known and developing plans, continue to review the reserves held to ensure they are used in the best interest of the Circuit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is made available to all new Circuit meeting members as an induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the Nottingham and Derby District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The Circuit is comprised of the following Methodist Churches:

Acresford Methodist Church
Barton under Needwood Methodist Church
Blackfordby Methodist Church
Boylestone Methodist Church
Church Gresley Methodist Church
Draycott in the Clay Methodist Church
Etwall Methodist Church
Hatton Methodist Church
Hilton Methodist Church
Newhall Methodist Church
Oasis Centre, Swadlincote
Overseal C of E/Methodist Church
Short Street Methodist Church
Stanton Methodist Church

Stretton Methodist Church
St Thomas's Methodist Church
Stubwood Methodist Church
Ticknall Methodist Church
Trinity (Linton) Methodist Church
Uttoxeter Methodist Church
Winshill Methodist Church
Woodmill (St Paul's) Methodist Church
Woodville Methodist Church

Churches currently Closed:
Church Broughton Methodist Church
Rowland Memorial Methodist Church

Risk Management

The major risk to the circuit and its churches remains one of an ageing congregation, reducing membership leading to reduced income, coupled with rising costs and increased property expenditure. Some churches are still deciding on their future, bearing in mind the above facts. It remains therefore that finding new ways to increase membership, coupled with excellent stewardship of finances and resources continues to be of paramount importance not only at circuit level but also in the churches themselves.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a quarterly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles, we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit also commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Summary

The mission of the circuit has continued through the leadership of our dedicated ministers, lay employees and those appointed, on a voluntary basis, to the many and varied offices. Challenging times lie ahead as we realign our churches and congregations as we emerge from a period of closure. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct us in our thoughts, words and deeds.

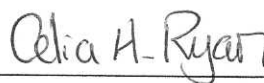
Approvals

The Trustees' Report was approved by the Circuit Meeting, held on

Date: 9 / 3 / 2022 at Uttoxeter Methodist Church



Chair of Circuit Meeting



Secretary to the Circuit Meeting

**East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist
Circuit**

Annual Accounts

(ACCRUALS BASIS)

for the year ended 31 August 2021

1 Introduction

These are the annual accounts and financial statements of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit.

This is a new Circuit which came into being on 1 September 2020. The Circuit was created following the merger of 2 Methodist Circuits – South Derbyshire (Circuit No. 22/28 and Charity Registration No. 1134197) and Trent and Dove (Circuit No. 22/16 and Charity Registration No. 1133721)

The 2019/20 annual accounts for South Derbyshire were on a Receipts and Payments basis and those for Trent and Dove were on an accruals basis. To enable the combined figures for 2019/20 to be included in these accounts for comparative purposes, the accounts for South Derbyshire have been restated on an accruals basis complete with balance sheet. These have then been combined with those for Trent and Dove to provide the combined figures for 2019/20 shown in these accounts.

2 Accounting Framework and Accounting Policies

2.1 Accounting Standard

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – the Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

2.2 Public Benefit Entity

The East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Methodist Circuit (ESSD) 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.

We have referred to Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our objectives and in planning our future activities.

2.3 Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. 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.

2.4 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.

2.5 Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable charity law in England. This being the Charities Act 2011 and SI 2008/629 (Charities Accounting and Reporting Regulations) and, pending the making of Replacement regulations specific to SORP 2015 in accordance with Reg. 8(4)(d) of SI 2008/629, the charity trustees have departed from the requirement of Reg.8(5) by following SORP(FRS102) instead of SORP 2005 to the extent necessary to give a true and fair view in the circumstances.

2.6 Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2021, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

2.7 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 the Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

2.8 Income Recognition

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

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Circuit acts as agent in one matter:

- The collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church – “Connexional Funds”

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), 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.

2.9 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.

2.10 Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions.

2.11 VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

2.12 Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

Property that is used as originally intended, i.e. for the continuation of ordinary Circuit business, is shown in the accounts at deemed cost, being the valuation on transition to FRS102 or at cost on date of purchase. Deemed cost and cost are split between land and buildings. Depreciation is provided on buildings at a rate of 4% per annum on a straight-line basis after deducting their estimated residual value. The Trustees consider the current residual value of the manse buildings to be the same as their deemed cost or actual cost.

Investment property is included in the financial statements at fair value, such value being obtained at the time of re-categorisation or every 5 years where the property remains unsold at that time.

2.13a Monetary Investments

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as basic financial instruments under FRS102 and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

2.13b Investment Property

From time to time the Circuit may hold property (formerly manses and/or chapels) which is surplus to requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used again for its prime purpose (residential property or place of worship), the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

2.14 Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash (Basic financial Instruments)

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or the amount advanced to the Circuit. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at the realisable values.

2.15 Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits and these are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuits raise assessments

against Churches in the Circuit. The District quarterly 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 of various funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church. These are detailed in Note 24 below.

3 Glossary of Terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 50.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30

Circuit Meeting: the Trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Churches and others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Churches.

CLT (Circuit Leadership Team): a group (comprising mostly but not, necessarily, exclusively) of Circuit Trustees responsible for the day to day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Generally, the CLT comprises the Presbyters stationed within the Circuit and Circuit Stewards.

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund

Connexion: The Methodist Church in GB which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches in Great Britain.

District: a group of contiguous Circuits, usually between 15 and 30.

DAF: District Advance Fund.

Lay Employees: personnel employed by the Circuit on generally accepted commercial employment terms

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme

Pensions Trust: the organisation through which the Circuit arranges pension schemes for its Lay employees.

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or Ordained Methodist Ministers and/or Deacons who have pastoral and administrative responsibility for the Churches within the Circuit.

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds.

4 Financial Statements**Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021**

		General Fund	Circuit Model Trust	Circuit Model Trust	Other Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Combined Total
	Notes	(Unrestricted)	(Unrestricted)	(Designated)			2020-21	2019-20
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments								
1 Donations and legacies	1	3,867				21,777	25,644	35,120
2 Income from monetary investments	2	194	2,312			16	2,522	6,997
3 Income from investment properties	3	893					893	2,008
4 Assessments on Churches	4	247,306					247,306	255,416
5 Grants received	5	12,336				24,039	36,375	39,118
6 Other charitable activities							0	0
7 Total from charitable activities		264,596	2,312	-	-	45,832	312,740	338,659
8 Other income	6	8,586				1,913	10,499	16,320
9 Total income and endowments		273,182	2,312	-	-	47,745	323,239	354,979
Expenditure								
11 Grants and donations	7	1,880			5,000	4,577	11,457	4,929
12 Stipends, Salaries and associated cost	8	171,888		37,286		66,012	275,186	266,865
13 Property	9	38,265			14,500	1,457	54,222	47,665
14 District Assessment & Levy	10	74,480	43,725				118,205	95,779
15 Depreciation							0	0
16 Office and administration	11	9,405	1,512			4	10,921	9,462
17 Other outgoings	12	3,228				2,841	6,069	28,194
18 Total charitable expenditure		299,146	45,237	37,286	19,500	74,891	476,060	452,894
19 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments			3,454				3,454	-338
20 Gains on Revaluation of Fixed Assets							0	0
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties							0	-83,695
22 Net income/(expenditure)		-25,964	-39,471	-37,286	-19,500	-27,146	-149,367	-181,948
23 Transfers between funds		33,926	490,000	-514,434	-12,345	2,853	0	0
24 Other gains/(losses)								
25 Net movement in funds		7,962	450,529	-551,720	-31,845	-24,293	-149,367	-181,948
26 Total funds brought forward		1,912,986	152,430	638,949	54,489	53,011	2,811,865	2,993,813
27 Total funds carried forward		1,920,948	602,959	87,229	22,644	28,718	2,662,498	2,811,865

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

Notes	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Designated)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Totals 2021	Combined Totals 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	15	1,467,500				1,467,500	1,467,500
Investment properties	15	352,200				352,200	352,200
Investments	16		22,272			22,272	18,818
Total fixed assets		1,819,700	22,272	0	0	1,841,972	1,838,518

Current Assets

Debtors & Prepayments	17	18,048			1,463	19,511	19,835
Loans	18	5,000	5,000			10,000	5,000
Investments with TMCP	16	3,915	575,687	87,229	2,000	668,831	773,171
Central Finance Board	19						
Deposits		38,495		22,644	31,134	92,273	112,974
Cash at Bank and in hand	19	37,738			16,681	54,419	62,691
Stock	20				2,460	2,460	2,460
Total current assets		103,196	580,687	87,229	22,644	53,738	976,131

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	21	1,948			25,020	26,968	2,784
Grants payable after 2018-19						0	
Total current liabilities		1,948			25,020	26,968	2,784
Net current assets/liabilities		101,248	580,687	87,229	22,644	28,718	973,347

Total assets less current liabilities		1,920,948	602,959	87,229	22,644	28,718	2,662,498	2,811,865
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)								
Grants payable after 2018-19						0	0	
						0	0	
						0	0	
Net assets		1,920,948	602,959	87,229	22,644	28,718	2,662,498	2,811,865

Funds of the Circuit

Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		1,920,948				1,920,948	1,912,986
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			602,959			602,959	152,430
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Designated)				87,229		87,229	638,949
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)					22,644	22,644	54,489
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,633,780	2,758,854
Restricted Funds						28,718	28,718
Total Funds		1,920,948	602,959	87,229	22,644	28,718	2,662,498
							2,811,865

Signed

A. G. Moody

Circuit Treasurer

5 Notes to the Accounts

Note 1 Donations Received

Table 1 Donations Received

Received From	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Notts & Derby District					0	6,500
Various	3,142				3,142	5,353
Uttoxeter Churches for UY&SW				13,788	13,788	14,736
Trent and Dove Churches				3,870	3,870	3,870
Connexional Funds				4,119	4,119	625
Man to Man				0	0	370
Gift Aid	725				725	3,666
Totals	3,867	0	0	21,777	25,644	35,120

Note 2 Income from Monetary Investments

Table 2 Income from Monetary Investments

Investment	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Interest Fund		2,312			2,312	6,004
Burial Ground				7	7	17
Various Bequests	13				13	55
CFB Accounts	181			9	190	921
Totals	194	2,312	0	16	2,522	6,997

Note 3 Income from Investment Property

Table 3 Income from Investment Property

Property	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church Broughton Chapel	893				893	2,008
Totals	893	0	0	0	893	2,008

The Trustees have determined that the church at Church Broughton will not be returned to use as a place of worship. This property has therefore been classified as Investment Property. There is some rental income as residents of the village continue to use the building for a variety of purposes.

Note 4 Assessments on Churches

The Circuit is currently comprised of 22 Churches and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall running costs of the Circuit. In making this assessment, the Circuit considers income it may receive from other sources. The pandemic had a significant adverse effect on the income of Churches during the year. Consequently, not all Churches were able to meet the full assessment required from them. This explains, in the main, why the overall amount recovered this way is less than the previous year.

Table 4 Assessments on Churches

Church	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Combined	
					Total	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Acresford	6,250				6,250	3,750
Barton	12,668				12,668	13,404
Blackfordby	4,875				4,875	4,875
Boylestone	5,104				5,104	5,136
Church Gresley	10,000				10,000	13,101
Draycott-in-the-Clay	8,621				8,621	7,933
Etwall	17,064				17,064	14,548
Hatton	7,566				7,566	7,536
Hilton	16,362				16,362	21,174
Newhall	20,774				20,774	18,402
Overseal (St. Mathew)	1,500				1,500	960
Short St.	4,576				4,576	5,404
St Paul's Woodmill	4,572				4,572	3,996
St Thomas'	31,464				31,464	29,716
Stanton	8,268				8,268	11,096
Stretton	17,596				17,596	18,304
Stubwood	5,900				5,900	7,303
Ticknall	5,600				5,600	5,850
Trinity	8,000				8,000	6,000
Uttoxeter	23,052				23,052	22,680
Winshill	16,494				16,494	22,248
Woodville	11,000				11,000	12,000
Totals	247,306				247,306	255,416

Note 5 Grants Received

Table 5 Grants Received

	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Combined	
					Total	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
District Advance Fund Grant for UY&SW				4,039	4,039	4,118
Covid Re Start Grant	2,667				2,667	
Hunt's Charity Grant towards Diaconal Post					0	25,000
Closed For Business Grant	9,669				9,669	10,000
World Church Grant for Fijian Minister				20,000	20,000	
Totals	12,336	0	0	24,039	36,375	39,118

The Circuit was successful in bids for grants to help alleviate the effect of the pandemic (Covid Restart and Closed for Business). This is the second year of a three year contribution from the District Advance Fund towards the Uttoxeter Youth & Schools Worker. The Circuit is also grateful for the grants received from Hunt's Charity and the World Church

Note 6 Other Income

Table 6 Other Income

	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Hatton Manse insurance Refund	334				334	0
Received from Rowland Memorial on Closure	7,525				7,525	0
Legacy					0	5,000
Ashby Road Manse Water Refund	277				277	0
Other	450				450	491
Internal Organisations				1,913	1,913	5,255
Circuit Service Offerings					0	161
Staff telephone contributions					0	360
Methodist Insurance Refund - Rowland Memorial					0	3,455
Methodist Insurance Refund - Manses					0	1,502
Connexion - Refund overpayment Apprenticeship Levy					0	96
Totals	8,586	0	0	1,913	10,499	16,320

Note 7 Grants and Donations

Grants and donations as listed were made during the year. The support costs for grant funding are insignificant and are not separately disclosed.

Table 7 Grants and Donations Paid

Grants and Donations Paid to;	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Connexional Funds				4,119	4,119	625
To Barton Church for Building Alterations			5,000		5,000	0
To Winshill Church for Audio System					0	2,500
Tearfund for Cyclone Yasa in Fiji	240				240	0
Shoe Boxes				300	300	1,138
Grants to Churches for Technology	1,640				1,640	0
Man to Man				158	158	316
East Midlands Airport Chaplaincy						250
Other					0	100
	1,880	0	5,000	4,577	11,457	4,929

Note 8 Salaries and Associated Costs**8.1 Stipends**

Stipends were paid to 5 full time and 1 part time Ministers and were as shown in the following table;

Table 8 Stipends and Associated Staff Costs

	Full Time	Part Time	General	CMTF Unrest.	Designated	Other Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ministerial Staff									
National Insurance	12,006	1,450	10,895				2,561	13,456	12,810
Pension Fund Contributions	34,330	5,149	31,088				8,391	39,479	37,465
Stipends	130,172	19,143	118,121				31,194	149,315	139,691
Relocation Expenses								0	1,098
Sundry Expenses	4,098	538	4,497				139	4,636	2,896
Telephone and Broadband	3,328	311	3,416				223	3,639	3,783
Travelling	3,872	0	3,872					3,872	8,366
	187,806	26,591	171,889	0	0	0	42,508	214,397	206,109

8.2 Lay Staff

The Circuit employs Lay staff involved in both Mission and Administrative work. The costs of these staff are shown in the following 2 tables.

8.2a Mission Staff*Table 9 Salaries and Associated Staff Costs – Other Mission Staff*

	Full Time	Part Time	General	CMTF Unrest.	Designated	Other Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Mission Staff									
National Insurance	1,655	1,123			1,385		1,393	2,778	2,859
Pension Fund Contributions	1,248	1,017			1,045		1,221	2,266	2,236
Salary	20,805	16,950			17,409		20,346	37,755	38,100
Travel	105	299			105		299	404	1,162
Other	160	245			160		245	405	489
	23,973	19,634	0	0	20,104	0	23,504	43,608	44,846
Contracted Hours (pw)	40	20							

8.2b Administrative Staff

Table 10 Salaries and Associated Staff Costs – Administrative Staff

	Full Time £	Part Time £	General £	Unrest. £	CMTF Designated £	Other Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	Combined 2020 £
Administrative Staff									
National Insurance		592			592			592	196
Pension Fund Contributions		655			655			655	574
Salary		15,775			15,775			15,775	14,843
Other		160			160			160	296
	0	17,182	0	0	17,182	0	0	17,182	15,909
Contracted Hours (pw)		20							
		10							

8.3 Total Stipends and Salary Costs

Table 11 Total Salaries and Associated Staff Costs

	Full Time £	Part Time £	General £	CMTF Designated £	Other Designated £	Restricted £	Total £	Combined 2020 £
Stipends, Salaries and Associated Costs	211,779	63,407	171,888	37,286	0	66,012	275,186	266,865

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

8.4 Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist 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 and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

On the other hand, lay employees are contractually employees and have the option of joining a pensions scheme which the circuit has arranged with TPT Retirement Solutions (previously known as The Pensions Trust). This is a defined benefit scheme and the Circuit contributes as employer to this scheme.

The Connexion accounts for both pension schemes and shows the figures in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented.

8.5a Cost of Superintendent, Ministers and Trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Ministers and the remaining members of CLT are considered as key management personnel. The Superintendent chairs

meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Ministers of the Circuit are paid by the Circuit.

The manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains the property. The value of the Council Tax and water charges paid by the Circuit is not disclosed here as HMRC does not regard this as a benefit in kind in the hands of the Minister.

Table 12 Cost of Ministerial Staff

	Combined	
	Total	2020
	£	£
Stipends of Ministers (2021 5.0 full time & 1 0.75. 2020 5.0 full time & 1 0.75)	149,315	139,690
Employer's Pension Fund Contributions	39,479	37,465
Employer's National Insurance Contributions	13,456	12,810
Totals	202,250	189,965

It is generally Circuit policy to reimburse non-Ministerial members of the CLT, Circuit Meeting and others involved in Administration of the Circuit for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The Ministers carry out the primary executive roles within the Circuit. Apart from the Ministers and Lay staff, no member of the CLT or Circuit Meeting was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the Circuit.

No Trustee has received any expenses in relation to their work as a Trustee.

8.5b Employed Trustees

The following Trustees are also employees of the Circuit;

Mrs Caroline Green, employed as the Circuit Administrator and member of the CLT.
Miss Susan Laws, employed as the Circuit Family Worker and member of the CLT.
Mr Jordan Lambert, employed as the Circuit Youth and Schools Worker.

Members of the CLT are considered key management personnel and the total remuneration cost of the 2 CLT members named above was £39,194. (2019/20 £35,463)

Note 9 Property Expenses

During the year the Circuit was Managing Trustee for 6 manses, all of which were occupied by Ministers stationed in the Circuit.

For manses which are occupied by Ministers or are vacant, the Circuit is responsible for the payment of council tax, water charges and buildings insurance.

During the year the Circuit was also Managing Trustee for a Burial Ground and the Church Broughton and Rowland Memorial Chapels.

The following table outlines the expenditure on property.

Table 13 Property Expenses

	Council										Combined	
	Tax	Ins.	Maint.	Water	Energy	Other	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Manse												
Elwyn Close	1,165	582	435	268			2,450				2,450	3,115
Ashby Road	2,282	632	14,929	232			3,575		14,500		18,075	4,079
Heathlands Drive	2,329	473	1,660	676			5,138				5,138	3,442
Tennyson Avenue	1,905	593	291	124			1,456			1,457	2,913	3,770
Wyedale	1,384	659	508	274			2,825				2,825	4,475
Lincote Way	1,412	636	349	294			2,691				2,691	3,428
General							0				0	168
	10,477	3,575	18,172	1,868	0	0	18,135	0	14,500	1,457	34,092	22,477
	Council										Combined	
	Tax	Ins.	Maint.	Water	Energy	Other	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Other Property Expenses												
Unit 6	81	218	294	343	647	12,900	14,483				14,483	14,586
Hanbury Burial Ground			610				610				610	430
	81	218	904	343	647	12,900	15,093	0	0	0	15,093	15,016
	Council										Combined	
	Tax	Ins.	Maint.	Water	Energy	Other	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Investment Properties												
<i>Manse</i>												
Station Road, Hatton											0	2,934
<i>Chapels</i>												
Church Broughton		979			636	379	1,994				1,994	2,480
Rowland Memorial		1,374			1,431	238	3,043				3,043	4,758
	0	2,353	0	0	2,067	617	5,037	0	0	0	5,037	10,172
Property Totals	10,558	6,146	19,076	2,211	2,714	13,517	38,265	0	14,500	1,457	54,222	47,665

Note 10 District Assessment and Levy

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the number of Churches, Presbyterian and Mission staff of all the circuits in the Nottingham and Derby District.

The levy is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuit's CMTF account balance as the 31st August the previous accounting year.

Table 14 District Assessment and Levy

	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
District Assessment	11,086				11,086	12,811
Methodist Church Fund	63,394				63,394	43,529
Levy on CMTF		43,725			43,725	39,439
	74,480	43,725	0	0	118,205	95,779

Note 11 Office and Administration Costs

Table 15 Office and Administration Costs

	General	CMTF		Other		Restricted	Total	Combined
	£	Unrest.	Designated	Designated		£	£	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Telephone and Internet	1,590						1,590	1,481
Computing	310						310	282
Stationery	883						883	959
Postage	356						356	333
Circuit Insurances	478						478	170
Independent Examination of Accounts	1,048						1,048	500
TMCP Admin/Investment Management Fee	8	1,512			4		1,524	1,502
Photocopier	4,498						4,498	2,986
Copyright Licences							0	333
Other	234						234	916
Totals	9,405	1,512	0	0	4		10,921	9,462

Note 12 Other Outgoings

Items included in 'Other Outgoings' and individually costing more than £100 are listed in the following table (Table 16). Items costing less than £100 are considered less material and shown combined under 'Other'.

Table 16 Other Outgoings

	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Preaching fees and travel					0	1,198
Other	158				158	876
Bible Month Booklets	150				150	0
Apprenticeship Levy	1,014				1,014	983
Hatton Manse	385				385	0
Blackfordby Legal	486				486	0
Conference Minutes and CPD					0	573
Website	242				242	136
Welcome Service					0	250
Repayment of Savings to Churches due to Staff Vacancies					0	17,000
Manse valuations					0	1,080
Rowland Memorial valuation					0	600
Training					0	250
Internal Organisations				2,841	2,841	4,521
The Vine Subscription for Churches					0	200
Roots Subscription for Churches	793				793	527
Totals	3,228	0	0	2,841	6,069	28,194

Note 13 Investment Management

During the year the Circuit paid TMCP, the custodians of the Circuit's investments, management charges based on 0.2% of the value of the individual funds at the beginning of the year.

Note 14 Reclassification of Funds

No restricted funds have been reclassified during the year.

Note 15 Circuit Manses, Investment Properties & Equipment

At the start of the year property managed by the Circuit comprised of 6 manses.

During the year Church Broughton and Rowland Memorial Chapels remained closed to worship and the Circuit continues to manage them.

No equipment has been capitalised.

Table 17 Property Valuation

Properties		Investment Property £	Land £	Buildings £	Equipment £	Total £
Balance Brought Forward;	T&D	352,200	290,900	1,176,600	0	1,467,500
Additions in the Year;		0	0	0		0
Revaluations;		0				0
Transfers Between Categories;		0				0
Less Disposals;		0				0
Balance Carried Forward		<u>352,200</u>	<u>290,900</u>	<u>1,176,600</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,467,500</u>

As property is transferred to Investment property it is revalued. Church Broughton Chapel was valued in April 2019 and Rowland memorial was valued in 2020.

The table on the next page provides a schedule of manses and investment property held by the circuit.

Table 18 Schedule of Property

Properties	Investment			
	Property	Land	Buildings	Equipment
	£	£	£	£
<i>Manses at;</i>				
Tennyson Avenue		50,400	189,600	240,000
Lincote Drive		42,500	172,000	214,500
Wye Dale		45,000	180,000	225,000
Stretton		35,000	205,000	240,000
Heathlands Dr.		78,000	210,000	288,000
Ashby Road		40,000	220,000	260,000
<i>Chapels;</i>				
Church Broughton	52,200			
Rowland Memorial	300,000			
	<u>352,200</u>	<u>290,900</u>	<u>1,176,600</u>	<u>0 1,467,500</u>

Note 16 Investment Assets (and TMCP)

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Circuit's other funds (as listed below) are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest and /or Managed Equity Funds on which interest and dividends are credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long-term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Table 19 Schedule of Investments

	CMTF		Dove Valley	Various	Grand	Combined
	Trust	Trust	Burial Ground	Bequests		
	6842	15473	16439	Trust	Total	2020
	General	Designated	Restricted	General		
	£		£	£	£	£
CFB Managed Mixed Fund 2C100	22,272				22,272	18,818
Trustees Interest Fund 2C110	575,687	87,229	2,000	3,915	668,831	773,171
	<u>597,959</u>	<u>87,229</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>3,915</u>	<u>691,103</u>	<u>791,989</u>

Note 17 Debtors and Prepayments

All sums due as debtors as at 1 September 2020 were received during the following year. All sums paid in advance at 1 September 2020 were for activities that have been

held during 2020/21. Similarly, it is expected that payments in advance at 1 September 2021 will be expended in 2021/22.

Table 20 Debtors and Prepayments

	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Prepayments</i>						
Stipends, Pension & NI	16,339			1,463	17,802	16,844
Circuit Website	24				24	230
Church Broughton Chapel Insurance					0	394
Circuit Zoom Subscription September					0	14
Insurance re Unit 6 2021/22	44				44	0
Apprenticeship Levy Recharge	66				66	0
Unit 6 Rent (See note below)	1,075				1,075	1,075
<i>Debtors</i>						
CMTF Interest Due					0	300
SDDC Hatton Manse Council Tax					0	248
Shell Energy - Hatton Manse					0	40
Gift Aid	500				500	690
	18,048	0	0	1,463	19,511	19,835

Unit 6 Rent – Note

Unit 6 is a property leased for 5 years from South Derbyshire District Council. The lease runs until 5 December 2023.

Note 18 Loans

The Circuit has extended 2 loans to a couple of Churches. These are Ticknall and Newhall. Both have been loaned £5,000 each. The terms of the loan are zero interest with repayment at a time when the churches can afford to do so. Initially, both loans were for 12 months but the impact of the pandemic has made repayment impossible in that time period. The Circuit will review these loans annually.

Note 19 Central Finance Board and Bank Balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and at the HSBC bank plc are all available on demand without loss of interest. The split of these balances is shown on the next page.

Table 21 CFB and Bank Balances

	General	Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Central Finance Board	38,495	22,644	31,134	92,273	112,974
HSBC Bank	37,738	0	5,881	43,619	50,692
Cash in Hand			10,800	10,800	11,999
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>37,738</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>16,681</i>	<i>54,419</i>	<i>62,691</i>
Totals	76,233	22,644	47,815	146,692	175,665

Note 20 Stock

The stock figure, £2,460, is stock held by the Internal Organisation Oasis.

Note 21 Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance.

It is expected that all sums accrued at 31 August 2021 will be paid during the year to 31 August 2022.

Table 22 Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

	General	CMTF	Designated	Restricted	Total	Combined 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Income Received in Advance</i>						
Acresford Shares					0	1250
Church Broughton Chapel Insurance					0	393
Hunt's Charity For J Hacon Salary				25,000	25,000	0
<i>Creditors</i>						
For External Organisations				14	14	128
Investment Property					0	55
Independent Examiner	1,000				1,000	500
Lay Staff Expenses				6	6	0
Presbyteral & Lay Expenses	948				948	458
Totals	1,948	0	0	25,020	26,968	2,784

Note 22 Unrestricted Funds

Note 22.1 General Fund

Table 23 General Fund Balance

	Combined	
	31 August 2021	31 August 2020
	£	£
Balance	1,920,948	1,912,986

The purpose of this fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other

purposes. About 95% of this fund is held as freehold property, being manse for Ministers and investment property.

Note 22.2 Circuit Model Trust Fund (Not Designated)

Table 24 CMTF Balance (Not Designated)

	Combined	
	31 August 2021	31 August 2020
	£	£
Balance	602,959	152,430

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

Although this is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise these funds. Methodist Standing orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

This fund is significantly higher than last year. This is mainly due to the Circuit transferring £500,000 from CMTF previously considered as designated, This was possible as the money was designated for the purchase of a manse which is no longer considered necessary.

Note 22.3 Circuit Model Trust Fund (Designated)

Designated funds are to serve specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone.

Table 25 CMTF Balance (Designated)

	Combined	
	31 August 2021	31 August 2020
	£	£
Balance	87,229	638,949

This balance is to fund future expenditure agreed by the Circuit Meeting on the Circuit Family Worker (2021/22) £29,272 and funding town centre ministry (£57,957). The significant reduction from the previous year is explained in note 22.2.

Note 22.4 Other Designated Funds

Table 26 Other Designated Funds

	Combined	
	31 August 2021	31 August 2020
	£	£
Balance	22,644	54,489

This is to fund future expenditure on a couple of items. The Uttoxeter Youth & Schools Worker (£16,263), other personnel costs (£6,381).

Note 22.5 Restricted Funds

Restricted funds exist to support specific expenditure. Amounts held are shown in tables 27 and 28, which also shows the purpose of each fund.
The circuit has no endowment funds.

Table 27 Restricted Funds

	Combined	
	31 August 2021	31 August 2020
	£	£
Balance	28,718	53,011

Table 28 Restricted Funds - Purpose

Fund	£	Purpose
<i>Uttoxeter Schools Worker</i>	5,874	To continue to jointly fund the School's Worker at Uttoxeter with the objective of bringing the good news of Jesus into schools within the Uttoxeter pyramid of schools.
<i>Benevolent Fund</i>	690	Primarily held for the relief of poverty and distress in the congregations and neighbourhood of the Circuit
<i>Education and Youth</i>	339	Used to fund training for leaders and helpers involved in work with young people, for young people's activities, Circuit and Church family events within the Circuit.
<i>Hanbury Burial Ground</i>	2,000	To help fund maintenance at the Hanbury Burial Ground.
<i>Internal Organisations</i>	13,248	Funds held by a variety of organisations within individual Churches. This is a combination of cash and stock.
<i>Hunt's Charity Donation</i>	3	To further the charitable purposes in connection with the Methodist Church in South Derbyshire
<i>World Church Grant</i>	2,553	To fund up to 50% of the costs of the Presbyter here to minister to the Fijian community in the UK.
<i>Shoe Box Appeal</i>	4,011	To provide funds for the annual shoe box appeal.

Note 23 Summary of Fund Movements

Table 29 Fund Movements

Fund	Balance at 31 August 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains/ Losses	Balance at 31 August 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General	1,912,986	273,182	-299,146	33,926		1,920,948
Designated	54,489	0	-19,500	-12,345		22,644
CMTF Unrestricted	152,430	2,312	-45,237	490,000	3,454	602,959
Designated	638,949	0	-37,286	-514,434		87,229
Totals Unrestricted	2,758,854	275,494	-401,169	-2,853	3,454	2,633,780
Family Worker	0	3,870	-3,870			0
Uttoxeter Schools Worker	4,824	17,830	-19,635	2,855		5,874
Hanbury Burial Ground	2,000	7	-5	-2		2,000
Education & Youth	339		0			339
Benevolent	689	1	0			690
Connexional	0	4,119	-4,119			0
Internal Organisations	11,872	1,913	-2,997			10,788
World Church	1,732	20,001	-19,180			2,553
Shoe Boxes	4,310	1	-300			4,011
Hunt's Charity	24,785	3	-24,785			3
Stock	2,460	0	0			2,460
Totals Restricted	53,011	47,745	-74,891	2,853	0	28,718
Totals of All Funds	2,811,865	323,239	-476,060	0	3,454	2,662,498

Note 24 Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

Fund balances at 31 August are Represented as shown in the following table.

Table 30 Analysis of Net Assets

	CMTF (Unrestricted)			General		Combined	
	General	Non Designated	Designated	Designated	Restricted	Total	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,467,500					1,467,500	1,467,500
Fixed Asset Investments	352,200					352,200	352,200
Investments		22,272				22,272	18,818
Current Assets	103,196	580,687	87,229	22,644	53,738	847,494	976,131
Current Liabilities	-1,948				-25,020	-26,968	-2,784
Totals	1,920,948	602,959	87,229	22,644	28,718	2,662,498	2,811,865

Note 25 Related Parties

Table 31 Payments to Related Parties

Name of related party	Party	Payments	Adjustments	Amounts owed to/from related
		£	£	£
District Assessment	Connexion	63,394		
Methodist Church Fund	Connexion	11,086		
Methodist Church Fund for Support of Presbyters & Deacons	Connexion	1,957		
Methodist Church Fund for Property	Connexion	2,162		
District Advance Fund	Connexion	43,726		
Total		122,325	0	0

Note 26 Capital Commitments and Contingent liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities at the year end.

Note 27 Going Concern

The Circuit considers itself to be a going concern. This is based on the levels of income (mainly share payments from Churches) promised for the financial year 2021/22. Although the pandemic has impacted on the income of Churches within the Circuit (and this is expected to continue into the next financial year) the Circuit is confident it has sufficient reserves to meet any shortfall in income. To date, the Circuit has not received any formal requests for financial support from any of its Churches.

Note 28 Independent Examiner

An accrual has been made for the Independent Examiner and this is shown in Table 22 under Note 21.

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-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 9/3/22

Name and address of treasurer ...Andrew Wooding, 35 Church Road, Rolleston on Dove, Burton on Trent DE13 9BG

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual Report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be*

presented to the Circuit meeting held on 9/3/22

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

.....

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Andrew Wooding Date 9/3/22
M. Redshaw

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Circuit

Charity Number 1133721

Responsibilities and basis of Report

I Report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 16 to 23. 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; East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire, Circuit No 22/16

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; or
- 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
- the trustees' annual Report is not consistent with the accounts.

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

Barbara J Whale

Name of independent examiner

MRS B. J. WHALE

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

F.C.A.

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Whale & Company

Address

*The Barn, Holly Berry House,
Rough Park, Hansteele, Ridware WS15 3SQ*

Date

21/03/2022