

DERBYSHIRE NORTH EAST METHODIST CIRCUIT
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

DERBYSHIRE NORTH EAST METHODIST CIRCUIT

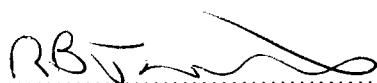
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

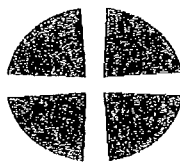
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

CLIENT'S CERTIFICATE

We approve the financial statements of the Chesterfield Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the standard form of accounts and the related notes.

Signed on behalf of the Circuit Meeting on 13 December 2023


.....
Mr R Jones – Treasurer



Circuit
Accruals Accounts
2022-2023

THE METHODIST CHURCH
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2023

Derbyshire North East Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity - Registration number

1133796

District No / Circuit No 25 . 02

Ministers

Rev Sean Adair
Rev Margaret Mwallu
Rev Tracey Harris
Rev Richard Harris
Rev Mark Carrick

Circuit Stewards

Mr Roger Jones
Mr Norman Buck
Mrs Gill Daly
Mrs June Cope

Circuit Treasurer

Mr Roger Jones

Name of Circuit

Derbyshire North East Methodist Circuit

Circuit No 25 / 02

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022-23 £
Income							
1 Donations and legacies	4	30,094					30,094
2 Income from monetary investments	5	2,449	9,743				12,192
3 Income from investment properties	6	10,000					10,000
4 Assessments on Churches		219,808					219,808
5 Capital Receipts	7		0				0
6 Grants received				29,600			29,600
7 Other charitable income		0					0
8 Total income		262,351	9,743	29,600	0	0	301,694
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	8	1,283	1,333				2,616
10 Salaries and associated costs	11	258,881		39,377			298,258
11 Property maintenance	12	37,165					37,165
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy							0
13 District Assessment & Levy		66,038	15,097				81,135
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses		3,972					3,972
16 Other outgoings		10,433	906	1,328			12,667
17 Total charitable expenditure		377,772	17,336	40,705	0	0	435,813
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments			(558)				(558)
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties					47,550		47,550
20 Net Income/(expenditure)		(115,421)	(8,151)	(11,105)	47,550	0	(87,127)
21 Transfers between funds		50,000	(65,000)	15,000			0
22 Other gains/(losses)					387,205		387,205
23 Net movement in funds		(65,421)	(73,151)	3,895	434,755	0	300,078
24 Total funds brought forward		206,677	317,960	28,666	2,568,000		3,121,303
25 Total funds carried forward		141,256	244,809	32,561	3,002,755	0	3,421,381

Name of Circuit

Derbyshire North East Methodist Circuit

Circuit No

25 / 02

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021-22 £
Income							
1 Donations and legacies	4	35,084					35,084
2 Income from monetary investments	5	395	1,413				1,808
3 Income from investment properties	6	7,500					7,500
4 Assessments on Churches		280,926					280,926
5 Capital Receipts	7		352,793				352,793
6 Grants received				25,000			25,000
7 Other charitable income		9,619					9,619
8 Total Income		333,524	354,206	25,000	0	0	712,730
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	8	310	23,327				23,637
10 Salaries and associated costs	11	246,075		11,882			257,957
11 Property maintenance	12	37,964					37,964
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy			117,117				117,117
13 District Assessment & Levy		66,038	5,080				71,118
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses		3,068					3,068
16 Other outgoings		8,371	432	452			9,255
17 Total charitable expenditure		361,826	145,956	12,334	0	0	520,116
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments			(880)				(880)
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties					10,139		10,139
20 Net income/(expenditure)		(28,302)	207,370	12,666	10,139	0	201,873
21 Transfers between funds		25,000	(41,000)	16,000			0
22 Other gains/(losses)					412,640		412,640
23 Net movement in funds		(3,302)	166,370	28,666	422,779	0	614,513
24 Total funds brought forward		209,979	151,590		2,145,221		2,506,790
25 Total funds carried forward		206,677	317,960	28,666	2,568,000	0	3,121,303

Name of Circuit

Derbyshire North East Methodist Circuit

Circuit No 25 / 02

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2022/23 £	Totals 2021/22 £	
Fixed Assets									
Circuit Manses & Equipment	13				2,485,205		2,485,205	2,098,000	R
Investment properties	14				517,550		517,550	470,000	R
Investments									
Total fixed assets					3,002,755		3,002,755	2,568,000	
Current Assets									
Debtors	15	16,829					16,829	18,040	S
Loans by the Circuit									
Investments with TMCP	15		244,809				244,809	317,960	T
Central Finance Board Deposits	15	90,841					90,841	119,105	
Cash at Bank and in hand	15	73,534		32,561			106,095	144,671	
Total current assets		181,204	244,809	32,561			458,574	599,776	
Current liabilities									
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	16	39,948					39,948	46,473	U
Grants payable within 2021-22									V
Total current liabilities		39,948					39,948	46,473	
Net current assets/liabilities		141,256	244,809	32,561			418,626	553,303	
Total assets less current liabilities		141,256	244,809	32,561	3,002,755		3,421,381	3,121,303	
Long term liabilities									
(due after more than one year)									V
Grants payable after 2021-22									
Loans to the Circuit									
Net assets		141,256	244,809	32,561	3,002,755		3,421,381	3,121,303	W
Funds of the Circuit									
General Fund (Unrestricted)		141,256					141,256	208,677	W
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			244,809				244,809	317,960	
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				32,561			32,561	28,666	
Total Unrestricted Funds							418,626	553,303	
Restricted Funds					3,002,755		3,002,755	2,568,000	
Endowment Funds									
Total Funds		141,256	244,809	32,561	3,002,755		3,421,381	3,121,303	

Signed

RBJ

Circuit Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Account and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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) issued 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.

2 Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are no Endowment funds. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost, modified to include certain items at fair value, on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Income Recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. The freehold property is shown in the accounts at fair market value. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

Investment Properties

Investment property is held for the long term purposes of the charity and is stated at fair market value, with any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end included in the SOFA.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors and prepayments are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discounts offered.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions 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 settlement can be estimated reliably.

Derbyshire North East Methodist Circuit

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	30,094			30,094	35,084
Legacies				-	
Total	30,094	-	-	30,094	35,084

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Central Finance Board	2,449			2,449	395
Other		9,743		9,743	1,413
Total	2,449	9,743	-	12,192	1,808

6. Income from investment properties

	Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Rent received	10,000			10,000	7,500
Total	10,000	-	-	10,000	7,500

7. Capital receipts

The capital receipt in 2022 related to the sale of the former Barlow & Cutthorpe church. The levy arising on disposal of £11,117 was included within expenditure.

	Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Sale proceeds	-	-	-	-	352,793
Total	-	-	-	-	352,793

Derbyshire North East Methodist Circuit

8 Grants and Donations

Grants and donations as listed below were agreed and paid during the year

Local churches	£	1,333.00
Mission grants fund	£	960.00
Other donations	£	323.00

9. Payments to Trustees

This year Last year

Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting

£

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Number of trustees who were paid expenses

None	None
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Nature of the expenses

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel and computing costs

Total amount paid

£

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10. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts

£

984	963
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Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the Independent examiner or auditor

£

246	231
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11. Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind

Employer's National Insurance costs

Pension costs

Redundancy cost

Total staff costs

£	221,183	192,214
£	18,296	16,438
£	41,059	38,881
£		
£	280,538	247,533

Average number of staff employed during the year were:

10	9
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No employees received employment benefit of more than £60,000

Other staff costs paid during the year were:

Travel

Telephone

Resources

Total other staff costs

£	8,379	5,109
£	5,751	5,315
£	3,590	
£	17,720	10,424

Total staff salaries and associated costs

£	298,258	257,957
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12 Property costs

Property Costs - Manses

Repairs

Refurbishment

Insurance

Council Tax

Water

Other

Total Manse expenditure

£	6,281	8,476
£		
£	5,337	6,086
£	11,992	11,557
£	2,727	3,222
£	10,828	3,351
£	37,165	32,692

Other property costs

Investment property costs

Costs in respect of property sold during the year

Total other property costs

£		
£		5,272
£		5,272

Total property costs

£	37,165	37,964
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13 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost or valuation

	Residential Land £	Other Land £	Manses £	Other buildings £	Other fixed assets including motor vehicles £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Payments on account and assets under construction £	Total £
Balance brought forward			2,098,000					2,098,000
Acquired on merger								
Revaluations (+/-)			387,205					387,205
Disposals (-)								
Transfers * (+/-)								
Balance carried forward			2,485,205					2,485,205
Accumulated depreciation								
			SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB		
** Basis								
** Rate								
Balance brought forward								
Depreciation charge for year (-)								
Revaluations (+/-)								
Disposals (-)								
Transfers* (+/-)								
Balance carried forward								
Net book value								
Brought forward	-	-	2,098,000	-	-	-	-	2,098,000
Carried forward	-	-	2,485,205	-	-	-	-	2,485,205

The manses acquired on merger represent the properties previously held by the Bolsover and Staveley Circuit.

14 Investment property

Hillstown Methodist Church

	Total £
Balance brought forward	
Acquired on merger	470,000
Revaluations (+/-)	47,550
Disposals (-)	
Transfers * (+/-)	
Balance carried forward	517,550

15 Analysis of current assets

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Debtors and prepayments		
Pre paid assessments		
Accrued income		2,425
Other debtors	16,829	15,615
Total debtors and prepayments	16,829	18,040

Investments with TMCP

Trustees interest fund	232,239	304,833
CFB managed mixed fund	12,570	13,127
Total Investments with TMCP	244,809	317,960

Change in investment values

Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	13,127	14,008
Add: additions to investments at cost		
Less: disposals at carrying value		
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	-557	-881
Carrying (market) value at end of year	12,570	13,127

Analysis of cash at bank

Bank balance held in CAF	106,095	144,671
Bank balance held in CFB	90,841	119,105
Total Cash and Bank	196,936	263,776

16 Analysis of current liabilities and long term creditors

Income in Advance	£ 39,252	45,633
Other Creditors	£ 696	840
Total Current Liabilities	£ 39,948	46,473

17 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31 st August 2023 the Circuit has no capital commitments.

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2023.

18 Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted Funds				Purpose of the fund	
Unrestricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between Funds	Closing Balance
General	153,786	262,351	377,772	50,000	88,365
Contingency Fund	52,891				52,891
Model Trust	317,960	9,743	17,894	-65,000	244,809
Designated Fund	28,666	29,600	40,705	15,000	32,561
Totals	553,303	301,694	436,371		418,626

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds						
Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Gains/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Property	2,568,000			434,755	3,002,755	Enablement of the Circuit's Objectives
Totals	2,568,000			434,755	3,002,755	

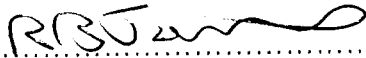
Endowment Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital	Annual income	What the income was used for
Totals				

The reasons for the transfers between funds were as follows:

Name of Circuit ...DERBYSHIRE NORTH EAST METHODIST CIRCUIT No..25.02

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

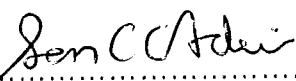
Signature of treasurer  Date...13.12.2023

Name and address of treasurer ...Roger Jones.....

...2 Cuttholme Close, Chesterfield Post Code...S40 4PZ.....

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 13 December 2023

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting ...Rev Sean Adair..... Date ...13/12/23

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

DERBYSHIRE NORTH EAST METHODIST Circuit

Charity Number 1133796

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Derbyshire North East Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 2 to 10. 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.

Name of Circuit ...DERBYSHIRE NORTH EAST METHODIST CIRCUIT..... No ...25.02....

Independent Examiner's Statement

The Circuit's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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 not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner ...Julie Holderness

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Name of firm: ...Roddis Taylor Robinson.....

Address ...Unit 6 Acorn Business Park, Woodseats Close, Sheffield.....

..... Post Code S8 0TB

Date21/12/2023.....



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date Period end date
From 01 09 2022 31 08 2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Derbyshire North East Methodist Circuit		
Other names charity is known by	None		
Registered charity number (if any)	1133796		
Charity's principal address	Central Methodist Church		
	CHESTERFIELD		
	Derbyshire		
	Postcode	S40 1UH	

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Alison Adair			Circuit Meeting
2	Revd Sean Adair	Superintendent Minister and Chair of Trustees		Connexion
3	Clarice Alvey		Until 07.12.22	Circuit Meeting
4	Gillian Ashton			Circuit Meeting
5	Steven Atkins			Circuit Meeting
6	Frank Bacon			Circuit Meeting
7	Yvonne Birchmore	Circuit Steward	Until 12.09.2022	Circuit Meeting
8	Revd Michael Bowman	Supernumerary Minister		Circuit Meeting
9	Norman Buck	Circuit Steward		Circuit Meeting
10	Revd Mark Carrick	Circuit Minister		Connexion
11	Margaret Chinnery			Circuit Meeting
12	Terry Clarke			Circuit Meeting
13	Glenys Clinton	Safeguarding Officer		Circuit Meeting
14	Hazel Collins			Circuit Meeting
15	June Cope	Circuit Steward	From 21.02.23	Circuit Meeting
16	John Cowie	Circuit Meeting Secretary		Circuit Meeting
17	Gillian Daly	Circuit Steward		Circuit Meeting
18	Valerie Davies			Circuit Meeting
19	Vivien Dent			Circuit Meeting
20	John Fidler			Circuit Meeting
21	Revd Geoffrey Fisher	Supernumerary Minister		Circuit Meeting
22	Jean Fisher			Circuit Meeting
23	Alyson Franks	Circuit Pastoral Worker		Circuit Meeting

24	Richard Gostling		Until 12.06.23	Circuit Meeting
25	Norma Graham			Circuit Meeting
26	Valerie Gratton			Circuit Meeting
27	David Green			Circuit Meeting
28	Sheila Green			Circuit Meeting
29	June Hancock		Until 07.12.22	Circuit Meeting
30	Revd Richard Harris	Circuit Minister		Connexion
31	Revd Tracey Harris	Circuit Minister		Connexion
32	John Hawkins			Circuit Meeting
33	Jonathan Hood	Circuit Community Pioneer		Circuit Meeting
34	Allison Hunt			Circuit Meeting
35	Roger Jones	Circuit Steward		Circuit Meeting
36	Jill King			Circuit Meeting
37	Revd Paul King	Supernumerary Minister and Ecumenical Officer		Circuit Meeting
38	George Lewis			Circuit Meeting
39	Hazel Madin			Circuit Meeting
40	Jean Metcalf			Circuit Meeting
41	Adam Milner		Until 07.12.22	Circuit Meeting
42	Louise Mount		From 07.12.22	Circuit Meeting
43	Sarah Mount			Circuit Meeting
44	Gillian Mountford		Until 12.06.23	Circuit Meeting
45	Revd Margaret Mwailu	Circuit Minister		Connexion
46	Lois Newton			Circuit Meeting
47	Ruth Oscroft			Circuit Meeting
48	Jill Ramsdale			Circuit Meeting
49	Christine Richardson		Until 07.12.22	Circuit Meeting
50	David Riley			Circuit Meeting
51	Timothy Rossell	Circuit Youth Pastor		Circuit Meeting
52	Lauren Rossell		Until 07.12.22	Circuit Meeting
52	Margaret Rowley	Safeguarding Officer		Circuit Meeting
53	Patrick Sabin			Circuit Meeting
54	Ruth Sadler			Circuit Meeting
55	David Slater			Circuit Meeting
56	Michael Spriggs			Circuit Meeting
57	Hazel Stimpson			Circuit Meeting
58	Agnes Tranter	Safeguarding Officer		Circuit Meeting
59	Eric Vaughan			Circuit Meeting
60	Richard Vintin	Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Secretary		Circuit Meeting
61	Angela Walker			Circuit Meeting
62	Malcolm Webster			Circuit Meeting
63	Nicholas Whitworth		From 12.06.23	Circuit Meeting
64	Linda Wickens			Circuit Meeting
65	Noeline Wilkins			Circuit Meeting

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A	N/A	N/A

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

The Circuit Leadership Team consists of the Circuit Superintendent, other Circuit ministers, Circuit Youth Pastor, Circuit Community Pioneer and Circuit Stewards (as named above).

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(see incorporated constitution)

The governing document of the Methodist Church is the Methodist Church Act 1976.

How the charity is constituted
(see incorporated constitution)

The Derbyshire North East Methodist Circuit is governed in accordance with the Constitution, Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Methodist Connexion, in which it is the second of four tiers,

- Individual Churches whose governance is exercised by Church Councils;
- Circuits (geographical groups of Churches) whose governance is exercised by Circuit Meetings;
- Districts (geographical groups of Circuits) whose governance is exercised by Synods); and
- The Connexion, directed by the Conference.

Trustee selection methods
(see incorporated constitution)

Circuit managing trustees are appointed by a) the Methodist Connexion, b) the Circuit Meeting and c) Church Councils of the individual churches which constitute the Circuit.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Among the managing trustees are four circuit stewards, appointed for terms of up to six years (or longer with Circuit Meeting agreement), having day-to-day oversight of Circuit matters. They, together with Presbyters stationed in the Circuit and certain lay employees form the Circuit Leadership Team which has responsibility for advising the Circuit Meeting.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Circuit's Charitable objectives are those of the Methodist Church, set out in the Methodist Church Act 1976:

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.*

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Much of the detailed activity in relation to the above objectives is undertaken by local churches, which are interconnected at Circuit level for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement, and help.

The tasks of the Circuit are:

- a) to make invitations to Ministers
- b) to appoint and manage lay employees
- c) organisation of preachers, including accreditation of new preachers, ongoing review, and allocation of accredited preachers to take all services
- d) to maintain a strategic Circuit Policy, in support of the above objectives
- e) to promote new initiatives in line with Circuit Policy, but outside the scope of existing churches acting individually
- f) to facilitate the sharing of activities and resources across the churches of the Circuit
- g) to manage the Circuit Budget to develop new initiatives, and to enable financial contributions to support the work of District and Connexion.
- h) to provide Manses of appropriate standard for Presbyters stationed within the Circuit
- i) to encourage the sharing together in complementary ways of lay and ordained staff in every part of the work of ministry
- j) to provide practical help in training and equipping churches for the tasks which they undertake.
- k) to ensure that the procedures for safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults are strictly followed.

In undertaking these activities, the Circuit Trustees exercise due regard in ensuring compliance with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and on charities for the advancement of religion.

The ongoing activities of the fourteen individual churches, which with one exception (Central) are exempted charities, included:

1. Public acts of worship on Sundays at churches, or online. (At year end the combined church membership stood provisionally at 635.) Services are led by ministers, local (lay) preachers and worship leaders.
2. Activities for children and young people across various churches within the circuit.
3. Public availability of pastoral assistance.
4. Arrangement of weddings, baptisms, and funerals.
5. Availability of church premises for lettings for approved purposes to external organisations, subject to individual church councils' agreement.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grant making.
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The Circuit may from time to time make grants to its constituent churches and to external beneficiaries in support of any purpose consistent with the provisions of CPD and the Calling of the Methodist Church, subject to the agreement of the Circuit Meeting and that of the District and Connexion where relevant.

All managing trustees serve in an unpaid voluntary capacity except for presbyters stationed within the circuit who receive stipends and four lay employees (Circuit Youth Pastor, Circuit Pastoral Worker, Circuit Community Pioneer and Circuit Administrator) who each receive a salary from the Circuit.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

1. Public acts of worship were held regularly on Sundays at each church in the Circuit.
2. The local church at Duckmanton was transferred to the managing trusteeship of Bolsover Methodist Church, but a public act of worship continues to take place every month.
3. Online Sunday evening worship has continued on Zoom, and some physical services are regularly streamed on YouTube.
4. Other activities such as prayer meetings and certain church or circuit business meetings have from time to time continued to be held on Zoom.
5. Training and monitoring of local preachers took place across the Circuit through the quarterly Circuit Local Preachers' and Worship Leaders' meeting.
6. A good number of mission-oriented activities that typically take place in local churches, such as children's activities, toddler groups, 'Messy Church' events, and other initiatives have continued to take place across the Circuit.
7. Churches across the Circuit continued to serve the community by providing meeting spaces for a variety of external groups and organisations, many of which enjoy a close relationship with the churches beyond the formal letting arrangements which apply.

8. The five manses for which the Circuit is responsible were maintained to a good standard to ensure that the accommodation needs of presbyters and their families were met. Various maintenance and repair activities were undertaken during the year.
9. A further series of quinquennial inspections was undertaken at four churches, one manse and one former church building at Hillstown (see below). The Circuit includes in its five-year rolling programme all local church buildings as well as its own properties.
10. The Circuit has continued to work in partnership with Freedom Community Project, a Christian charity working to support people who are struggling with poverty in Bolsover. During the year, the former Hillstown Methodist Church building continued to accommodate the charity's foodbank and administrative offices.
11. Safeguarding training and DBS checks were carried out as required for presbyters, lay employees and volunteers across the Circuit and its churches in accordance with the safeguarding policies of the Connexion, the Circuit, and local churches.
12. At the year end the Circuit Youth Pastor left resigned to pursue full-time teacher training and it was agreed both to review how best to replace that post and to consider wider needs.
13. Accordingly, agreement was reached towards the end of the year to make two new part-time lay appointments: a Circuit Young People's Pioneer and a Circuit Operations Manager, both expected to be recruited in 2023-2024.
14. The expected reduction in Circuit ministry from September 2024 was confirmed by a decision of the Trustees to station three (currently five) presbyters in the Circuit from that point.
15. Consultative commenced in summer 2023 following confirmation that three existing presbyters, including the superintendent minister, expected to leave the circuit, creating the need to seek a replacement superintendent to join two remaining presbyters in 2024. One of these, the Revd Mark Carrick requested the Circuit to consider a re-invitation from September 2024 until August 2030, and following due consultation, this was supported by a recommendation of the Circuit Invitation Committee.
16. A review of oversight and trusteeship across the Circuit, possibly through creation of multi-site churches, was deferred pending staffing changes in 2024, after which the Circuit has agreed to re-visit the matter.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

It is the policy of the Circuit to maintain liquid funds equivalent to at least six months' operational expenditure. Operational expenditure is principally the costs of the ministers' stipends, lay employees' salaries, routine property maintenance, travel and other expenses and the payment of the District Assessment. During the year, the Circuit was able to maintain reserves above the policy minimum although year-on-year cash balances have declined.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Circuit is funded principally by contributions from its individual local churches.

Section F

Other optional information

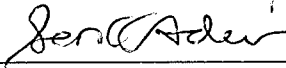
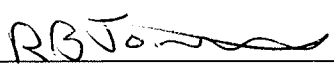
None.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Revd Sean Adair	Mr Roger Jones
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Trustees	Circuit Steward and Named Treasurer
Date	13.12.2023	13.12.2023