

**THE METHODIST CHURCH**  
**STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

**NORTH WILTSHIRE**

**Circuit**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31 AUGUST 2023**

**BRISTOL**

**District**

**Circuit no**

**7/22**

**Registered Charity - Charity Registration number**

**1133989**

**Ministers:**

Rev David Gray

Rev Stephen Skinner

Rev Rachel Collins

Rev Andrew Bird

Deacon Stephen Roe

**Circuit Stewards:**

Lynda Thomson

Tom Wethers

Clifford Friend

Kay Ashlin

Peter Armitage

**Treasurer:**

**Joint Treasurers Lynda Thomson who produced this report and Simon Nuttall**

## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### Introduction

The North Wiltshire Methodist circuit covers Swindon, Marlborough, Chippenham and surrounding villages. It is made up of 11 Methodist churches and two stand alone Ecumenical Partnerships ( Dorcan and Pilgrim Centre Swindon).

Two of the churches worship in two buildings with one fellowship the "class" of the other.

One church , Bath Road Swindon, is part of an LEP with the URC and Anglicans in Old Town Swindon

### Aims and organisation

As Methodists, we seek to enact the calling of the message church, as we through worship, seek to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love. We share together to help people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care as we strive to be good neighbours to people in need and to challenge injustice and we witness eagerly to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

### Review of the year

The circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessments paid by the circuit churches and with the rental income from one of the circuit manses .

### Overall Financial Results

The total funds for the circuit increased by £631k from £2,102k to £2,733k over the year.

The circuit committed to use the proceeds of the sale of the Monkton Hill manse ( £258k) to be used as part payment for a new manse . The sale proceeds are included above.

General and other	8,419
District Levy on CMTF	(26,463)
Investment properties sold(see note14)	509,482
Revaluations of investment properties	(16,800)
Investment properties - closed churches (Luckington and Sherston)	157,000
Overall gain(loss)	631,638

The general and other includes £11k relating to professional fees and utilities on closed churches and manses and £ 5k for the purchase costs of the new manse. A connexional levy was refunded for £131,786 in December 2023 when the replacement manse was purchased.

As of 31st August 2023, the funds held in current accounts and the MTF were £1361k but £1103k after earmarking the funding for the new manse. This equates to about 30 months of expenditure.

## **Manses Review**

The circuit currently has six houses of which five are occupied by ministers (four Presbyters and a Deacon ) employed by the Methodist Church.

The circuit reviewed the manses as mentioned in the 20/21 report with the aim of consolidating the properties including the possible use of a manse as part of developing the mission of the circuit by moving into a new build project.

During the year to 31st August 23 the following decisions were made with the following outcomes:

### **(1) Chippenham manses**

Monkton Hill manse was sold in January 2023 and the circuit is using the proceeds to facilitate the purchase of a new manse on the Patterdown development as part of our outreach and mission focus and the New People New Places incentive. With a minister living in a manse in a new build area this could lead to the church being a blessing to the community whilst living incarnationally. The new manse completed in December 2023.

The manse at Frogwell will also need to be sold once it has been vacated, but the circuit can cover these funds out of reserves in the short term.

### **(2) Swindon Manses**

There are three manses in Swindon and no changes are expected in the foreseeable future. One is being kept as an investment property and is privately let and two are lived in by ministers.

It is unlikely that the circuit ministerial team will increase above the current five ministers.

## **Church buildings**

### **Wroughton Church**

The church was sold in July 2023 The cash received was £176k and the NBV at 31/8/23 was £79k.

### **Christchurch , Marlborough**

The church was sold in January 2023. The cash received was £288k. The congregation have mainly joined with St Mary's C of E in Marlborough and become Christchurch Methodist Fellowship.

### **Cleverton**

In September 2022 a building survey identified that Cleverton chapel was suffering from subsidence.

The cost of repairs was prohibitive and it was decided to close and sell the building.

The property was sold in June 2023 and cash received was £127k.

## **Church governance**

In September 2022 Sherston and Luckington congregations agreed to merge but agreement could not be reached on where the combined fellowship would worship. In December 2022 the Circuit meeting voted for both buildings to close and the fellowship now worships in a village hall.

Both buildings have been put up for sale with an expectation of sale in 2024.

## **Staff changes**

Rev Rach Collins joined the circuit in August 2022 as a Probationary Presbyter.

Rev David Gray succeeded Rev Mark Barrett as Superintendent Minister from 1st September 2022.



## Trustees annual report on finance and governance

### Legal framework

Name of the charity: North Wiltshire Methodist circuit

Charity registration number: 1133989

Name of firm: UHY Ross Brooke - Chartered Accountants

Main communication address

Circuit Administrator

c/o Studley Methodist Church, Studley Lane, Studley, Calne SN11 9NH

The members of the North Wiltshire Methodist circuit meeting are the charities trustees, membership is made up of circuit office holders ministers and representatives appointed by the local church.

A full list of the membership is shown in appendix A to this report.

Mr. Simon Nuttall FCA acted as joint Circuit Treasurer with responsibility for day to day control.

Lynda Thomson was the circuit steward with overall responsibility for Finance.

Independent examiner for year ended 31st August 2023 is Lisa Hobbs of

UHY Ross Brooke - Chartered Accountants, 16 Dorcan Business Village, Murdock

Road Dorcan, Swindon, Wiltshire.

Investment Bankers Central - finance board of the Methodist church and

Trustees for Methodist church purposes.

### Aims and organisation

The charities objectives to act as a resource provider within the area around North Wiltshire for the Methodist church.

The purposes of the Methodist church are and have 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 the Connexional District circuit local church or other organization 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 the charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist church

This is achieved through the following:

- The resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike
- The teaching of Christianity through Sermons, courses, small groups and the other events
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools
- Promotion of Christianity through staging of events and services
- Provision of chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions

### Public benefit

We confirm the trustees have regard to the charity commissioners guidance on public benefit.

### **Structure governance and management**

The governing documents for the circuit are the Deed of Union (1932) and the 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, the Circuit Meeting and the local preachers meeting.

### **Trustee training**

A range of guidance is produced by the Methodist connexion to support the effective running of the circuit specifically the leaflet the role of the trustee in the Methodist church which is available to all new circuit meeting members as part of their induction as trustees.

### **Related parties**

The circuit is part of the Bristol District and is also accountable to the Methodist conference.

The circuit consists of the following churches:

Christchurch Methodist Fellowship

Pewsey

Aldbourne & Ramsbury with Chiseldon      Chiseldon is a class of Aldbourne

Central Chippenham

Lyneham

Studley

Trinity

Stratton

Bath Road

Chiseldon

Sheldon Road

St. Andrews and Rodbourne      Rodbourne is a class of St Andrews

Dorcan LEP of Anglican and Methodist

Central Swindon LEP of Baptist, URC and Methodist

### **Risk management**

Major risks are identified by the circuit leadership team who take professional advice where necessary.

Income and expenditure are reviewed regularly at circuit leadership meetings and circuit meetings where annual budgets are agreed and a review of activities undertaken.

### **Reserves policy**

The circuit holds the equivalent approx. 4 months funding for general purposes and lay worker activities in cash or near cash assuming no other major expenditure in the event of an inability to raise the full circuit assessment for the churches in the short term.

Including the Model Trust fund, the circuit holds two years of average expenditure and therefore the circuit trustees believe there are sufficient funds to secure the mid to long term ability to meet the liabilities of the circuit.

## 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:

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

The North Wiltshire 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 North Wiltshire circuit commits itself to a vision of support advice and training for lay and ordained people that ensures people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Approved on

20/2/24

Rev. David Gray



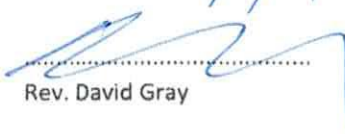
**THE NORTH WILTSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT  
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practise and

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practise have been followed, subject to any 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 charity will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them both to ascertain the financial position of the charity and that ensure that the financial statements comply with the applicable law, regulations and trust deeds. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved on 20/2/24

  
Rev. David Gray

## APPENDIX A

### NORTH WILTSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Year until end August 2023

#### MINISTERS

Rev David Gray	Trustee
Rev Stephen Skinner	Trustee
Rev Rach Collins	Trustee
Deacon Stephen Roe	Trustee
Rev Andrew Bird	Trustee

From Sept 22

#### MINISTERS IN OTHER APPOINTMENTS

#### MINISTER WITHOUT APPOINTMENT

#### SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS

Rev Tony Barnes	Expressed wish not to attend meetings this year
Rev Pam Stranks	Expressed wish not to attend meetings this year
Rev Susan Howe	Expressed wish not to attend meetings this year
Rev Mark Barrett	Trustee To attend from June 2023
Rev A Ward Jones	Trustee
Rev Geoffrey Floyd	Trustee
Rev Janet Evans	Trustee

#### CIRCUIT STEWARDS

Tom Wethers	Trustee
Kay Ashlin	Trustee
Lynda Thomson	Trustee
Peter Armitage	Trustee
Clifford Friend	Trustee From December 2022

#### CIRCUIT SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR

Mrs Allison Burchell

#### LOCAL PREACHERS MEETING SECRETARY

Geoffrey Rhodes	Trustee
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#### CHURCH CIRCUIT MEETING REPRESENTATIVES

##### Aldbourn & Ramsbury

Richard Osbourne	Trustee
Liz Osbourne	Trustee
Julie Coe	Trustee

##### Bath Road

George Kennedy	Trustee
Matt Vatcher	Trustee
Sharon Vatcher	Trustee From March 2023
Central, Chippenham	
Wyn Walters	Trustee
Lorna Cocking	Trustee
Marilyn Dixon	Trustee

##### Central, Swindon

Judith Furse	Trustee
Christine Durant	Trustee

##### Chiseldon



## 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
		£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>							
1 Donations and legacies	note 3						0
2 Income from monetary investments	note 5	1,230	26,105	737	114		28,186
3 Income from investment properties	note 4	11,679					11,679
4 Assessments on Churches		319,587					319,587
5 Capital Receipts							0
6 Grants received							0
7 Other charitable income	note 16	5,420					5,420
8 <b>Total income</b>		<b>337,916</b>	<b>26,105</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>364,872</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
9 Grants and donations		4,250					4,250
10 Salaries and associated costs	note 6	215,750					215,750
11 Property maintenance		38,482					38,482
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy			432,279				432,279
13 District Assessment & Levy		65,492					65,492
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses		14,523					14,523
16 Other outgoings		16,021	1,338	98	10		17,467
17 <b>Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>354,518</b>	<b>433,617</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>788,243</b>
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments			-	489			-489
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		199,800	1,255,298				1,055,498
20 <b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>-216,402</b>	<b>847,786</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>631,638</b>
21 Transfers between funds		98,336	-	228	108		0
22 Other gains/(losses)							0
23 <b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>-118,066</b>	<b>749,786</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>631,638</b>
24 Total funds brought forward		1,594,542	469,510	34,471	3,592	-	2,102,114
25 <b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,476,476</b>	<b>1,219,296</b>	<b>34,393</b>	<b>3,588</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,733,752</b>

Paul Kohn	Trustee	
David Easter	Trustee	
Clifford Friend from Mar 21	Trustee	Swapped to Circuit Steward Dec 22
Christchurch		
Jonathan Lyle	Trustee	
David Wylie	Trustee	Until March 2023
Sandra Wylie	Trustee	From June 2023
Dorcan		
Tony Prichard	Trustee	
Nathalie Marshall	Trustee	
Lyneham		
Wilma Goodfellow	Trustee	
Ann Allen	Trustee	
Pewsey		
Pete Whittington	Trustee	
Robert Woods	Trustee	
Bert Venman	Trustee	From March 2023
Sheldon Road		
John Davis	Trustee	
Simon Nuttall ( Joint Circuit Treasurer)	Trustee	
Adrian Foster	Trustee	Until December 2022
Trevor Durston	Trustee	
Annette Foster	Trustee	
St. Andrews & Rodbourne		
Denise Topp	Trustee	Until March 2023
Jackie Snyder	Trustee	
David Holder	Trustee	
Hilary Franklin	Trustee	From December 2022
Dianne Slater		From June 2023
Stratton		
Graham Crawshaw	Trustee	
Keith Harmer	Trustee	
Studley		
Christina Clifford	Trustee	
Richard French	Trustee	Deceased Feb 2023
Linda Morley	Trustee	
Bryant Vincent	Trustee	From December 2022
Great Somerford (formerly Trinity)		
Paul Webb	Trustee	
Tony Webb	Trustee	Until March 2023
Andy Grey	Trustee	Until March 2023

## 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 £
<b>Income</b>							
1 Donations and legacies							0
2 Income from monetary investments		224	2,201	150	17		2,593
3 Income from investment properties		11,203					11,203
4 Assessments on Churches		321,673					321,673
5 Capital Receipts							0
6 Grants received							0
7 Other charitable income		1,609					1,609
<b>8 Total income</b>		<b>334,710</b>	<b>2,201</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>337,078</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
9 Grants and donations		2,000					2,000
10 Salaries and associated costs		209,775					209,775
11 Property maintenance		81,194					81,194
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy			92,605				92,605
13 District Assessment & Levy		70,668					70,668
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses		10,529					10,529
16 Other outgoings		36,324	1,172	102	10		37,608
<b>17 Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>410,490</b>	<b>93,777</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>504,379</b>
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		-	-	1,183			-1,183
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		-	73,996				-35,004
<b>20 Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>-184,780</b>	<b>-17,580</b>	<b>-1,134</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-203,488</b>
21 Transfers between funds		-	92,300	48	3		0
22 Other gains/(losses)		16,369	16,369				0
<b>23 Net movement in funds</b>		<b>-260,660</b>	<b>58,351</b>	<b>-1,182</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-203,488</b>
24 Total funds brought forward		1,855,202	411,158	35,653	3,589		2,305,602
<b>25 Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,594,542</b>	<b>469,510</b>	<b>34,471</b>	<b>3,592</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,102,114</b>



## Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals	
	£	£	£	£	£	2022/23	2021/22

Notes to the  
Accounts

## Fixed Assets

Circuit Menses & Equipment	883,900					883,900	
Investment Properties	434,200					434,200	
Investments						0	
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	<b>1,318,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,318,100</b>	

## Current Assets

Debtors	12	85,248				85,248	
Loans by the Circuit	12					0	
Investments with TMCP		1,219,296	34,393	3,588		1,257,277	
Central Finance Board Deposits	12	39,002				39,002	
Cash at Bank and in hand	12	102,913				102,913	
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>227,163</b>	<b>34,393</b>	<b>3,588</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,484,440</b>	

## Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	13	68,788				68,788	
Grants payable within 2023-24		68,788	0	0	0	68,788	
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>137,576</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>137,576</b>	
<b>Net current assets/liabilities</b>		<b>137,576</b>	<b>34,393</b>	<b>3,588</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,415,652</b>	
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>1,476,475</b>	<b>34,393</b>	<b>3,588</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,733,752</b>	

## Long term liabilities

(due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2018-19						0	
Loans to the Circuit							
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>1,476,475</b>	<b>34,393</b>	<b>3,588</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,733,752</b>	

## Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)		1,476,475				1,476,475	
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			1,219,296			1,219,296	
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				34,393		34,393	
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>						<b>2,730,164</b>	
Restricted Funds				3,588		3,588	
Endowment Funds				0	0	0	
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>SOFA</b>	<b>1,476,475</b>	<b>1,219,296</b>	<b>34,393</b>	<b>3,588</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,733,752</b>

Signed

Circuit Treasurer



## THE NORTH WILTSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 1 Basis of accounting and accounting policies

##### i Accounting standard

The financial statements are prepared in compliance with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRS102), and FRS102, The Financial Reporting Standard, applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

##### ii Public benefit entity

The North Wiltshire circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognized at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

##### iii 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, on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

##### iv Content

The financial information presented is relevant reliable and comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience research and judgment. The accounts are expressed in £ Sterling rounded to the nearest pound.

##### v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31st of August 2023 the trustees believe that the circuit is a going concern.

##### vii 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 churches within the circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

##### viii Income

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.

##### ix Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or where a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measured and it is considered more likely than not there will be an outflow of economic activity.

##### x 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.

##### xi VAT

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

#### xi Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

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

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2016 deemed values, of which the land component is deemed to be £700,000. No depreciation is provided on the building 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.

#### xii Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors relate to the payment of Ministers stipends in August that relates to September.

#### xiii Creditors

Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter assessment received in August.

#### xiv Impact of Accounting Changes

There have been no Accounting Changes during this year.

#### xv 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.

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Manses fund are held by TMCP in interest funds on which interest is 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 charities law or Methodist policy as determined by the Methodist conference.

#### xvi Investment Properties

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly Manses) which is surplus to requirements.

#### xvi Methodist Connexional funds

The Methodist church connexion raises assessments against the circuit's these are paid quarterly to the Districts.

A small sum is retained by the District to meet its own cost otherwise these assessments are paid quarterly to the connexion.

The circuit raises assessments on circuit churches which are paid quarterly to the circuit.

These cover mainly the cost of running the circuit including staffing and the District assessment above. The circuit may act as an agent for ad hoc collections for various funds controlled and then administered by the Methodist church

## 2 Funds

The funds held constitute a General Fund 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 are held for a narrower purpose.

Details for each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts.

Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

### 3 Donations and legacies

Trust Fund	Unrest ricted	Circuit Model Trust fund	Restricted	2023	2022
Donations			0	0	0
Legacies			0	0	0
Total			0	0	0

### 4 Income from properties

	Unrest ricted	Circuit Model Trust fund	Restricted	2022	2022
105 Ermin street	11679			11,679	11,203
Total	11679	0	0	11,679	11203

### 5 Investment income

	Unrest ricted	Circuit Model Trust fund	Restricted	2023	2022
Central Finance Board	1,967		114	2,081	391
Circuit Advance Fund		26,105		26,105	2,201
Total	1,967	26,105	114	28,186	2,593

### 6 Payment to staff

	2023	2022
Ministers , Admin and other lay workers.		
Stipends	162,706	158,593
Nat Insurance	17,116	14,240
Pension	35,928	36,943
Travel/phone /other	9,162	10,501
Total staff	224,912	220,276



Staff numbers ( average no employed)

Ministers	5	5
Admin	1	1
Lay workers		
Lay workers part time		
Total staff	6	6
At 31 August 2023 there were no lay workers		
Lay/Admin workers included above:		
Payroll	28,118	27,288
Travel/phone /other	433	298
Total	<u>28,551</u>	<u>27,586</u>

During 2022/2023 6 people were employed all the time.

The circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, council tax and water rates. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

#### 7 Payment to trustees

No trustees receive any salaries, expenses or benefits as trustees.

However, the following trustees are also ministers and in that capacity receive stipends as ministers and the benefit of job related accommodation.

During 2022/2023 there were five ministers employed by the circuit who all are trustees :

2023	2022
Rev David Gray	Rev Mark Barrett
Rev Stephen Skinner	Rev Stephen Skinner
Rev Rachel Collins	Rev David Gray
Deacon Stephen Roe	Deacon Stephen Roe
Rev Andrew Bird	Rev Andrew Bird

Their costs which are included in the staff costs above are :

	2023	2022
Stipends	138,213	134,925
Nat Insurance	14,961	12,829
Pension	34,458	34,733
Travel/phone /other	8,729	7,049
Total staff	<u>196,361</u>	<u>189,537</u>

Other trustee payments

	2023	2022
Circuit cost of manses occupied by ministers:	47,378	81,194
Number of manses	5	5

Trustees who are not staff members received the following

Telephone costs	47
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## 8 Fees for examination of accounts

A fee of £1,440 is payable this year which is a creditor at 31 August 2023.

## 9 Loans

The circuit had no loans at 31st August 2023 (nil last year).

## 10 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

The circuit had no capital commitments at 31st August 2023 (nil last year).

No contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2023 (nil last year).

## 11 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost or Valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Residential	Other	Manse	Investment	Other	Fixtures	Total
	Land	Land		Properties	Fixed	Fittings	
Balance b/f			883,900	634,000			1,517,900
Additions				157,000			157,000
Revaluations				-16,800			-16,800
Disposals				-340,000			-340,000
Transfers							
Balance c/f	0	0	883,900	434,200	0	0	1,318,100
Accumulated Depreciation							
Balance b/f			0				0
Additions							
Revaluations							0
Disposals							
Transfers							
Balance c/f	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Two properties held as investment properties at 31/8/22 were sold in 22/23

Two other church buildings closed during the year and these were sold in the year (see note 14)

Two others were closed and these are brought in at the values below at market less connexional levy.

Luckington Methodist Church, The Green Luckington, Chippenhar 28000

Sherston Methodist Church, Grove Road, Sherston 129000

## 12 Analysis of Current Assets

Debtors and Prepayments	2023	2022
Loans made to District & Churches	-	19,200
Accrued income		
Deposit on new manse prepaid	68,000	
Other Debtors	17,248	33,004
Total debtors and prepayments	85,248	52,204

Included in Loans made to District & Churches is £nil which is due after 1 year (2022 £16,600).

**Analysis of cash at bank**

	2023	2022
Bank Balance held in Lloyds Bank Current	52,892	52,134
Bank Balance held in Lloyds Bank Deposit	50,021	
Bank Balance held in Methodist Central Finance Board	39,002	44,344
Total Cash at bank	141,915	96,478

**13 Analysis of current liabilities**

	2023	2022
Trade Creditors		
Grants to Churches		
Grants received in advance		
Other Creditors	67,348	70,600
Independent Examiner	1,440	1,440
	68,788	72,040

**14 Tangible Fixed Assets: Properties sold**

	Sales Value	Connexional Levy	NBV at 31.8.23	Net proceeds
Investment properties in balance sheet at 31.8.22:-				
14, Monkton Hill				
Chippenham	389,465	- 131,786	- 261,000	- 3,321
Wroughton				
Methodist Church,				
High Street,				
Wroughton,				
Swindon	253,532	- 77,109	- 79,000	97,423
Sub total	642,997	- 208,895	- 340,000	94,102
Churches closed in 22/23 :-				
Cleverton				
Methodist Church,				
Cleverton	172,463	- 44,985	nil	127,478
Christchurch , New				
Road,				
Marlborough	439,838	- 151,935	nil	287,903
Sub total	612,301	- 196,920	-	415,380
Total	1,255,298	- 405,816	- 340,000	509,482

## 15 Activity analysis

	Income	Expend.	Net
General Fund	364,872	(339,482)	25,390
District Levy on CMTF		(26,463)	(26,463)
Cost of closed churches and manses for sale		(11,130)	(11,130)
Cost of new manses		(5,352)	(5,352)
Sub Total	<u>364,872</u>	<u>(382,427)</u>	<u>(17,555)</u>
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		(489)	(489)
Investment properties sold(see note14)	1,255,298	(745,816)	509,482
Revaluations of investment properties		(16,800)	(16,800)
Investment properties - closed churches (Luckington and Sherston)		157,000	157,000
Overall gain(loss) in SOFA	<u>1,620,170</u>	<u>(988,532)</u>	<u>631,638</u>

The circuit has committed to purchasing a replacement manse in Chippenham for £700,000.  
The sale proceeds of 14 Monkton Hill will be used as part of this purchase so these reserves are committed to that for 23/24

Overall gain(loss) in SOFA	631,638
Less net cash proceeds Monkton Hil as reserve for new manse	(257,679)
Increase in reserves net	373,959

## 16 Other income

	2023	2022
Rent on manse temporarily not used for a minister	11,679	11,203
Other	5,420	1,609
Total other income	<u>17,099</u>	<u>12,812</u>

## 17 Post Balance sheet events

The purchase of the Patterdown manse completed on 19th December 2023.

## 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..... 22-2-24

Name and address of treasurer Lynda Thomson 56 Deansfield, Cricklade, Swindon SN6 6BP

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 will be presented to the Circuit meeting held

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

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev. David Gray Date 20th March 2024

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the North Wiltshire Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1133989

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the North Wiltshire Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 1 to 21. 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.



## 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 Association of Chartered Certified Accountants)

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 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 ..... *Lisa Hobbs* .....

Name of independent examiner Mrs Lisa Hobbs

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner Chartered Certified Accountant

Name of firm: UHY Ross Brooke - Chartered Accountants:

Address: Unit 16, Dorcan Business Village, Murdock Road, Dorcan, Swindon, Wiltshire

Post Code SN3 5HY

Date .. *22nd February 2024* .....

