

WEST KIRBY METHODIST CHURCH
Trustees' Annual Report for year ended 31st August 2021 Pages 1-6

Governing Documents and Objectives

West Kirby Methodist Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of:

- a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church
- 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) West Kirby Methodist Church has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our church and to the wider local community.

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference.

The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers in the Circuits. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. West Kirby is part of the Wirral Circuit which is part of the Liverpool District.

The District passes control down to circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and circuit stewards.

At local church level authority is delegated to the Church Council as the decision making body. The policies of the Church Council are implemented by the Minister in Pastoral Charge supported by the Church Stewards. In addition to this, The Church Council is required to ensure all property and financial reports are submitted to the Circuit in a timely fashion.

Trustees

While the appointment of trustees is determined in accordance with Methodist procedures it is our aim to ensure that the Church Council has a broad level of experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters. Training for stewards and council members is available at circuit level.

It is the policy to reimburse trustees and others involved in the administration of church affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties.

Trustees of the Church who served during the year are listed at the end of this report.

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Church's financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently
- prepared accounts on a cash and receipts basis
- followed applicable accounting standards
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

Trustees

Rev'd Vivienne Gasteen, Elaine Phillips-senior steward, David Cross- property steward, Peter Connah- steward, Kate Warbrick- circuit steward, Ann Cross- church council secretary, Erica Rimmer- treasurer, Yvonne Gilbert- pastoral secretary, Sue Gladden, Ian Jackson- local preacher, Ray Ward, Carol Barnett, David Gane, Val Crichton, Jim Drake, Arthur Kilshaw and John Turner.

The Financial Statements and Reserves Policy for the year ended 31st August 2021 are attached to this Report and Reserves Policy

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

So far as each of the trustees is aware there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the Independent Examiner and each of the trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him/her aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

Staffing

Rev Vivienne Gasteen is the presbyter at West Kirby shared with Claremount on a half-time basis in total for the two churches. We also have Rev'd John Barnett, a supernumerary minister who is actively involved in church life.

One of the Circuit Stewards, Ms Kate Warbrick, attends our Church Council meetings, held three times each year. She takes note of issues raised at these meetings and reports back to the Circuit Leadership Team which offers encouragement and guidance as necessary.

West Kirby also employs Heather Playfer as an Admin Assistant and Bookings Secretary and Dirk Uitterdijk as a Community Engagement Worker.

Training

Training has continued on meeting the requirements of the Creating Safer Space Initiative under Methodist Church guidance.

The Church Property Committee has undertaken a risk assessment and all electrical appliances have been tested.

In the light of the Covid Pandemic, a full Risk Assessment of the premises was taken and the Church Council implemented a full set of procedures to be followed when using the building- with training for the stewards.

Worship

During the Pandemic there was a period of time when we could not gather in person for worship and we must all thank God for whoever it was that invented ZOOM for this enabled us to worship and keep in touch with each other.

One act of worship which we were all able to take part in was "Praise in the Park" with support from St Bridget's and the U.R.C. church since it was held in the open air on a day when the sun shone!

Sadly, when we were allowed back into the church the boiler failed. This meant that when our Sunday services were once again allowed it was necessary to worship in the hall. There were differing opinions re people's preference for church or hall, some found it "more together" in the hall.

However, we are all different and we respect each other's opinions.

Methodist Women in Britain Due to the Covid pandemic meetings and the ever popular lunch at The Adelphi Hotel did not take place during the church year September 2020-2021. The easter offering Service and The National Conference in October were both held via Zoom.

Elaine Philips

Baptisms / Weddings

There were no Baptisms during the pandemic and we received no requests for Weddings during this period.

Funerals

The following Funerals took place in the name of West Kirby Methodist Church

John Reginald Gilbert **19th August 2021**

Valerie Lyn Gane **22nd September 2021**

May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

Uniformed Organisations

Brownies, Guides, Scouts etc. were not able to meet indoors during the Pandemic and some activities continued in outdoor settings. Brownies were looking forward to meeting indoors again from October 2021.

We are really looking forward to having them with us again soon and hope to see a return to Parade Services.

Jennie Jones (Brownie Guider)

Little Lambs

The church run toddler group had to close its doors in March 2020 as the whole country went into lockdown because of the Covid pandemic. Thankfully, we had put plans in place to re-open at the first opportunity. However, more about this in next year's Annual report which will be looking at the year September 2020 to August 2021.

Elaine Phillips

Community Outreach Group

Throughout the Pandemic the Church Pavement Window provided a message of hope to those passing by with an almost continually lighted candle as a reminder that even in the darkest of times Jesus is the Light of the World. We have reminded people of the seasons of the church year and the rolling screen by the Hilda Shore entrance provided information on our activities.

Graham Gladden

Shared Reading Group

Which Sue Gladden originally had the vision for and Sue & Dirk received training for has continued to be a blessing. We phone and email around 16 people, many of whom live on their own. With SR we all read a fifteen minute chapter + a poem and reflect on this on the call. Many conversations lasted more than half an hour and it gave the 'right' to ring people every week, to also ask how they were doing. The group even grew during this last year!

Joan moved into Lear House and Phyl now lives in South Wales but continues to appreciate contact with us. Sadly, Olive died and others in the group have had health problems. Another member lost her husband. Some are difficult to contact

as they prefer to have face to face contact and others struggle with mental health issues due to the continued COVID restrictions and lockdown.

Siobhan and Debbie joined the Alpha course, which was great.

Other activities:

- December was a month of delivering lots of Christmassy presents but also flowers and chocolates to members of Sue's Carers group and Shared Reading people. These were invariably well received. Dirk found it a challenge not to be able to visit West Kirby from mid-December until April.
- In November we received more copies of the pink 'A Little Aloud with Love' book from The Reader Organisation. Dirk picked apples from Graham and Sue's garden and distributed these to many in the group, along with a copy of the new book.
Before Christmas we also used some Christmassy stories from the first white "A Little Aloud" book.
- We did an experimental SR group get together on August 10th to see how this could work in September.
- Starting SR up again in the church could be tricky, because of continuing wariness of infections and some people wanting to continue to be contacted by telephone and or email. We will aim to accommodate people in whatever way they are able to participate. Rooms have been booked to enable us to hold two groups at the same time if the numbers warrant it.

Sue Gladden

Carers Soup 'n' Support

Carers Soup 'n' Support held its last meeting in March 2020 and since then we have had to cancel all our meetings.

We have tried to keep in touch with as many people as possible by phone, text and e-mail and the offer of individual help to anyone who needs it is always there. We also, with Dirk's help, distributed flowers and chocolates which were much appreciated. At Christmas and Easter all our regular members received a gift and a card.

I attended the online BRIDGE forum for third sector organisations, facilitated by Healthwatch Wirral, on a monthly basis. This gives up to date information on Health and Social Care provision and was one way I could identify suitable speakers for when we were able to start again.

We met once August in a different format – beginning at 11.00 with tea/coffee and cakes then lunch at 12.00 with just soup and bread and fruit. This was a chance for our regular members plus anyone from church who had become a carer to get together and catch up with each other. Hopefully we will be able to offer a full programme again from September.

Sue Gladden

Jennifer Pantall has given up organising the flower donors and arrangers' rotas and Jean Drake has given up organising the distributors.

Once we are able to be back in church Erica and Kim will organise the donors and the distributors and Sue will organise the arrangers. We have identified that We have a shortage of flower arrangers and distributors.

Most weeks still have donors but there are some gaps, particularly in the first half of the year. We will therefore be using artificial flowers more often. The main festivals are still able to be covered.

Holy Communion

For a long time during the Pandemic we were unable to celebrate Holy Communion, even after we were allowed "back into church". Once this was allowed the Communion stewards West Kirby devised a system of pouring wine into individual glasses as normal but also by carefully using hand gel and plastic gloves to cut bread and place a morsel into other small communion glasses. These were then taken round to the congregation who only needed to touch the glasses they were using.

We owe our thanks for being able to continue to receive Holy Communion to our Communion Stewards: Sue, Steve, Gillian, Dianne and Anne

Ann Cross

Beacon Report

Throughout the pandemic The Beacon has continued to be printed but, because of the lack of activities, it has been half its normal size – just one double sided sheet of A4. As we only needed about 50 – 60 these have been printed at home. These were placed in the boxes outside church and sent to church members/ adherents and community group attendees who don't have access to the internet. Those who do have access were sent copies electronically.

Hopefully we can revert to the bigger version once all our activities are back up and running.

Sue Gladden

Church Community Worker

Lego Church was not able to continue during Lockdown and we were all looking forward to it starting up again. It is a tremendous opportunity to share Bible stories with the children who have so little knowledge of them. We are looking forward to starting up again in September 2021 and wish to thank, Arthur and Carole who will be staffing the kitchen and Gillian along with Colin who are also volunteering to help out.

Techy Coffee We are all looking forward to getting going again with this. I shall be advertising this on the international website "Next Door" and lots of Wirral residents are part of this. Dave & Ray are our star Age UK volunteers and people will really appreciate their expertise.

Bread Making Although this stopped on a Saturday morning we are all looking forward to starting again as soon as restrictions are lifted.

Churches Together in West Kirby I will be taking over as Chair of Churches together in West Kirby from September 2021 and am really looking forward to this. Carole is also a member of this group and we were all really looking forward to sharing in Carol singing together with the Happiness Band in the station courtyard in December 2021.

Impromptu Dancing We shall be holding dancing in the Hall on some Wednesdays from 1pm to 3pm in a very open way. Anyone who would like to come along watch this space from September 2021. I have very much enjoyed my work with West Kirby Methodist Church. We turn to God, who is Master at doing the unexpected and I intend to retire in 2024 So let's work together and give it our best shot in the year ahead.

Dirk Uitterdijk

Social Badminton Group

The Social Badminton Group were only able to meet sporadically between September 2020 and August 2021 due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

However, we were all looking forward to starting again in September 2021- numbers have reduced and we are on the look out for new players-so you may like to come and have a game or two! No experience required, just the desire to have a good time with some gentle exercise thrown in.

Jim Drake

Church Administrator The year has been a difficult one in the life of the church and impacted heavily on Heather's job as she works with the church groups and other organisations which make up the life of our community. When groups have been able to use the premises extra work has been involved to ensure that everyone was aware of the restrictions and that guidance was clear- and followed!

As well as the more obvious aspects of the job being on the end of the church phone means that unexpected calls can be received. As a consequence, there is a pastoral element to the role giving both immediate support and acting as a pointer for further help.

Following a review of her work, Heather's hours have been increased to 15 hours per week and as things get back to something like normal we will be looking at ways to ensure that she is able to cover the full range of her job description. The balance of her job description has needed to evolve and change over time with the needs of the church, extra demands of Covid, changes in congregation and ministers, changes in availability of congregational member involvement and the ways forward for the church. This has also impacted the type of role needed and also the amount of time that is realistically needed for the needs of the church and the demands for her role.

I would like to thank Heather for her contribution to our church life.

Graham Gladden

So where do we go from here?

This church and its members have been worshipping and serving The Lord in many ways over the years. What does God have planned for us; how shall we be church into the future? We look for new and exciting ways of worshipping and serving our Lord and making new disciples of Jesus Christ. The future starts here and now! and God wants each and every one of us to play our part.

"Thy kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth, as it is in heaven **Amen**

God Bless you all,

Viv Gasteen(reverend)

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

West Kirby	Church
------------	--------

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Wirral	Circuit	Circuit no	18/09/15
--------	---------	------------	----------

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134134

If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

Gift Aid number

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Since September 2021	Rev. Viv. Gasteert
----------------------	--------------------

Church Stewards:

Mrs Elaine Phillips
Mr David Cross

Treasurer:

Dr David Armitage

--

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

West Kirby Methodist

Church

SECTION A			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		Note	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS					
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		64,879	3,420	68,299	65,711
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		3,848	86	3,934	4,733
a4	Lettings		4,982		4,982	10,458
a5	Other receipts		7,840	132	7,972	10,292
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		81,550	3,637	85,187 (a7)	91,194

SECTION B			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		Note	£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		55,072		55,072	58,944
b3	Donations		1,764	1,133	2,897	2,751
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		5,035		5,035	3,600
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		6,991		6,991	10,791
b6	outreach		23,859		23,859	
b7	Other payments		14,172		14,172	39,392
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		106,894	1,133	108,027 (b9)	115,478

SECTION C			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		Note	£	£	£	£
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(25,344)	2,504	(22,840)	(24,284)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		42,018	1,248	43,266 (c6)	47,550
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	16,674	3,752	20,426	23,266
c4	Transfers and adjustments	note 1	20,000		20,000 (c7)	20,000
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF	(c3+c4)	36,674	3,752	40,426 (c8)	43,266 (c6)

SECTION D			Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		Note	£	£	£	£
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)					
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				(5)	253
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				1,816	1,210
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				1,756	1,468
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			55	(5)

Note 1

This is the net amount received from TMCP.

Total transfers into CFB shown as £35,000 includes £15,000 transferred from HSBC

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E****Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	Careers Group	70	207	(137)	9	561	433
e2	Grant WBC			0		135	135
e3	Women's Fellowship	0	40	(40)		196	156
e4				0			0
e5				0			0
e6				0			0
e7				0			0
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	70	247	(177)	9	892 (e11)	724 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	85,187 (a7)	108,027 (b9)	(22,840)	20,000	43,266 (c6)	40,426 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	85,257	108,274	(23,017)	20,009	44,158 (x)	41,150 (y)

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS
-----------------------	-----------------------

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021**

f1	Cash in hand
f2	Bank Current Account
f3	Bank Deposit Account
f4	Central Finance Board
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
f6	Other funds
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts
f8	closing balance total from above) (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH

OPENING BALANCES

12,703	
30,558	
892	
44,153 (c6)	
5 (e11)	
44,158 (x)	

CLOSING BALANCES

13,581	
26,899	
724	
41,205 (c8)	
(55) (e12)	
41,150 (y)	

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

g1	Investments (include Endowments)
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)
g3	Other Assets
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end
g5	Other Liabilities

At
1 September 2020

265,831
4,890,286

At
31 August 2021

288,985
4,983,204
3,991

Over payment on room lettings repaid in 21-22

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer *D. Armitage* Date *7/3/22*

Name and address of treasurer David Armitage

..... 25 Ludlow Drive, West Kirby, Wirral CH48 3JG

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/~~will be~~* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 2nd March 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Vivien Gasteen*

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev'd Vivien^{ne} Gasteen Date *30/3/22*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

..... *West Kirby* Church

Charity Number 1134134.....

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the West Kirby Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 2 to 3 As the Church'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 Church'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 Church West Kirby Methodist Church No 18/09/15

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

[the [the

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 *J. M. Hall*

Name of independent examiner *J. M. Hall*

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address *49 Hill Hill Road, Irbay, Wrexham*

..... *Wrexham* Post Code *CH61 4XA*

Date *17/3/2022*

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-20

Name of Church West Kirby Methodist Church No 18/09/15

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

[the [the

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 I. M. Hall

Name of independent examiner I. M. Hall

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 49 Hill Hill Road, Ioby, Wirral

Wesley Post Code CH61 4XA

Date 17/3/2022

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-20