

BRIGHTON AND HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.

England & Wales · Charity number 1134137

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-02-05

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address The Circuit Office
c/o Hove Methodist Church
Portland Road
Hove
East Sussex

Phone 01273324600

Email office@hovemethodistchurch.co.uk

Website <https://brightonhovemethodistcircuit.org.uk>

Activities

Objects: The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of -(a) the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church;(b) any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;(c) any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;(d) any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.

Activities: Pastoral care of church congregations; charitable support to many organisations such as children's charities, local hospice for care of terminally ill, support for refugees and asylum seekers.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Brighton And Hove

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£209,689	£239,275	-	-
2023-08-31	£159,650	£205,647	-	-
2022-08-31	£159,989	£232,182	-	-
2021-08-31	£173,632	£180,194	-	-
2020-08-31	£187,070	£210,331	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev ANDREW LOWE	Chair	2015-09-01
ANN ELISABETH COLLINS		
BEULAH SABINA CELESTINE FLETCHER B.ED M.ED		
CATHERINE ELLEN ODD HAYWARD		2016-09-01
ERNEST ROYLE JONES		
GEOFFREY HARRINGTON		
JENNIFER STEVENS		
JOAN HOPKINS		
Jonathan Digby Gravestock MA VetMB		2014-09-01
KAY VIRGINIA HARWOOD		
KENNETH SMITH		
MARGARET SYMES		
MARGARET TAYLOR		
MARIAN CLARE HAMMOND		2016-09-01
MICHAEL ROBERT HICKMAN B.ED		
Peter Farley		2023-09-18
RICHARD FLETCHER		2015-09-01
ROBERT ANDREW PATCHING		2016-09-01
ROSEMARY CUTHBERT		2017-09-01
Rev CYNTHIA PARK		
Rev HEATHER ALISON LEAKE DATE BSC,MSC		
STELLA GODDARD		2019-09-19
TERRY HAMMOND		

BRIGHTON AND HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.

England & Wales - Charity number 1134137

Accounts

BRIGHTON and HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT
Registered Charity 1134137

Trustees' Annual Report
For the Connexional Year 2023 – 2024

The Trustees of the Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit welcome readers of their Annual Report covering the Financial Year ended 31 August 2024.

1. Aim and Purpose

- a) All our churches are committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in word and action. We aim to increase awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love; be good neighbours to people in need and to challenge injustice; make more followers of Christ; and help people to learn and grow in faith. We offer safe and caring communities of nurture and respect that are committed to the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- b) The Circuit is the primary unit in which local churches express and experience their interconnexion as the body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help.
- c) It is to the Circuit that presbyters and probationers are stationed and in which local preachers are trained, admitted and exercise their calling.
- d) The purposes of the Circuit include the effective deployment of the resources for ministry which include people, property and finance.

2. Objectives and Activities

- a) In planning its activities, the Circuit has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion together with the 'Our Calling' framework as defined by the Methodist Church of Great Britain. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament as we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of the wider community.

3. Achievements and Performance

a) Worship

- i. Throughout the year all churches offered an onsite Sunday morning service.
- ii. A Circuit online service called Thinking Aloud with a progressive focus is held monthly.
- iii. A Circuit Together Service continues to be scheduled quarterly, held in one of the five churches with all members from across the circuit meeting together for unified worship and fellowship.
- iv. An evening Healing Service is now held monthly at Dorset Gardens Methodist Church, led by the Rev Cynthia Park and Shirley Veater. This quiet, meditative service includes communion and the opportunity for the laying on of hands.
- v. At an All-Saints Day service held on 1st November at Stanford Avenue Methodist Church, over fifty family members and friends remembered 32 people who died over the previous twelve months.
- vi. All churches held a full range of special services marking the key Christian festivals of Easter and Christmas.

b) Service

- i. Every effort is made by all our churches to provide pastoral care and engage both with the family of faith and the wider community. This has included lunch clubs, coffee groups, arts and crafts, a range of children's activities and facilitating in person contact with all members.
- ii. **University Chaplaincy**
Historically the Brighton & Hove Methodist Circuit has supported Chaplaincy work at The University of Sussex and the University of Brighton and is part of the Student Christian

Movement (SCM). Whilst Student Development Worker Sue Harrington retired at the end of August 2022, she maintains contact, particularly at Sussex where there is a dedicated Chaplaincy Hub and helps as a volunteer as required. She also still administers the Brighton Facebook group and is happy for the Faith and Spirituality Advisors to refer any Methodist enquiries to her.

c) **Mission and Evangelism**

i. *Circuit Refugee Project*

Vision

Launched on 1 January 2022, the Circuit Refugee Project was born from a shared vision: *To make our Circuit a Sanctuary for All — a place where everyone feels safe and welcomed, including those fleeing violence, conflict, and persecution.*

Through this initiative, we aim to live out God's purpose and mission by offering hospitality, kindness, love, and sanctuary to all. We are committed to creating a culture of outreach and service, responding to the needs of individuals and families experiencing relocation and displacement. Our goal is to support and advocate for refugees by working in partnership with individuals, churches, and community groups — especially with those who have lived experience of displacement.

Ongoing Work and Impact

Following the Circuit receiving the *Church of Sanctuary* award in Spring 2023, all churches have continued to deepen their commitment to refugee support. Activities have included:

- Hosting events such as Refugee Sunday in June, where refugees are invited to share their stories.
- Organising educational initiatives to challenge and change negative perceptions of migrants.
- Collecting and distributing clothing for newly arrived asylum seekers in local hotels.
- Contributing to food banks and hosting community social events for refugees.

Fundraising Highlight: Journey4Sanctuary

Our major fundraising event, **Journey4Sanctuary**, took place on 18 May 2024 and raised over **£2,100**. These funds were shared among six local charities dedicated to supporting and welcoming asylum seekers and refugees in Brighton & Hove:

- Care4Calais Brighton
- The Jollof Cafe (Sussex Refugee & Migrant Self Support Group)
- The Network of International Women, Brighton & Hove
- Sanctuary on Sea
- Thousand for Thousand (T4K)
- Voices in Exile

Gratitude from Our Partners

We were humbled to receive messages of thanks from our partner organisations:

"What a fantastic achievement. Thank you so much to everyone for this support and for the awareness you have brought to vulnerable asylum seekers and refugees in our community. We are very grateful for this money and would like to buy food and toiletries for our food bank. Also, thank you for the two bags of food donations this week — all very much appreciated!"

— Stephen Cummiskey, Food Bank Coordinator, Voices in Exile

"This is wonderful, wow! Thank you so much for all your amazing work in getting the walk to happen, and for raising so much money. We will certainly let you know what we do with it so you can feed that back."

— Cathy Maxwell, Network of International Women

Through this project, we continue to walk alongside those seeking sanctuary — offering not only practical support, but also solidarity, hope, and welcome.

4. Financial Review

a) Income & Expenditure

- (i) The single largest expense is that relates to the employment of ministerial staff. This includes stipends; National Insurance contributions; pension contributions and the provision and maintenance of the manses. Expenditure for this year remained within the budget forecast. Circuit income was in line with budget projections.
- (ii) Following the reduction in the number of ministers appointed to the circuit, it was decided to let the manse at Surrenden Road. The Circuit Meeting approved the use of reserves for the refurbishment of the property which was completed in October 2023.

b) Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy was reviewed and updated.

5. Structure, Governance and Management

a) The Circuit Meeting

- (i) The Circuit Meeting of the Brighton and Hove Circuit is the body of Managing Trustees and is responsible for the affairs of the Circuit and the development of Circuit Policy. The Circuit Meeting together with the Superintendent Minister and the Circuit Leadership team exercises that combination of spiritual leadership and administrative efficiency which enables the Circuit to fulfil its purposes as set out in the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The Circuit Meeting acts as the focal point of the working fellowship of the churches in the Circuit, overseeing their pastoral, training and evangelistic work.
- (ii) Circuit Archive set up at Dorset Gardens Methodist Church
This Archive is of material relating to the history of all branches of Methodism in Brighton and Hove that has been collected over the years. Much of it was used for writing histories of the Circuit and various Methodist Churches in the city. Researchers are most welcome.
<https://brightonhovemethodistcircuit.org.uk/methodist-archive/>
- (iii) *General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)*
We strive to ensure that our circuit and each of our churches and particularly all managing trustees complete their Annual GDPR Checklist to be compliant with the requirement from the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).
- (iv) The Circuit Meeting met on four occasions, on 18th September and 23rd November 2023 and 18th March and 27th June 2024

b) Churches

Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit www.brightonhovemethodistcircuit.org.uk

There are five churches in the Circuit:

Dorset Gardens Methodist Church www.dgmc.org.uk

Hove Methodist Church www.hovemethodistchurch.co.uk

Patcham Methodist Church www.patchammethodistchurch.co.uk

Stanford Avenue Methodist Church www.stanfordavenuemeth.co.uk

Woodingdean Methodist Church www.woodingdeanmethodistchurch.co.uk

On 1 Nov. 2023 the Circuit had 279 members

c) Staffing

Revd. Andrew Lowe, Circuit Superintendent,

Revd. Dan Woodhouse

Steve Preston, Circuit Operations Manager

6. Administrative Information

a) Safeguarding

Rosemary Cuthbert continues as Circuit Safeguarding Officer.

We continue to promote training & education via the *Creating Safer Space* methodist foundation/refresher and Advanced training modules or utilising the online Church of England 'Foundations' course.

No Safeguarding issues were reported during the period.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Brighton and Hove	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2024**

South East	District	Circuit no	36/12
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134137

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

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

Ministers:

Reverend Andy Lowe (Superintendent)
Reverend Daniel Woodhouse
Reverend Heather Leake-Date

Circuit Stewards:

Ann Collins (Senior Steward)
Stella Goddard
Jonathan Gravestock

Treasurer:

Stella Goddard

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS					
a2	Assessment/Share	172,742			172,742	159,144
a3	Capital receipts					
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	580	2,117		2,697	3,584
a5	Grants					
a6	Other receipts Manse rental income	34,250			34,250	
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS	207,572	2,117		209,689 (a8)	162,728

SECTION B						
		£	£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs	84,530			84,530	115,136
b3	Manse Costs	36,444			36,444	15,499
b4	Administration etc	31,052			31,052	27,361
b5	District Assessment	42,233			42,233	40,219
b6	Grants & donations		1,549		1,549	4,990
b7	Surrenden Road Renal refurbishment	40,117			40,117	
b8	Other payments	3,350			3,350	31,930
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS	237,726	1,549		239,275 (b9)	235,135

SECTION C						
		£	£	£	£	£
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	(30,154)	568	(29,586)	(72,407)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	(3,808)	61,952		58,144 (c6)	130,551
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	(33,962)	62,520	28,558	58,144
c4	Transfers and adjustments	38,595	(38,595)			
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	4,633	23,925	28,558 (c8)	58,144 (c6)

SECTION D					
		£	£	£	£
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)				
d1	Balance brought forward from last year			3,037	1,353
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			3,036	2,704
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			4,007	1,020
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)			2,066	3,037

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING**SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds				(e11)	(e12)
e9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)				58,144 (c6)	28,558 (c8)
e10	209,689 (a8)	239,275 (b9)	(29,586)	(c7)	58,144 (x)	28,558 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

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

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1		
f2	11,943	29,775
f3		
f4	22,287	10,098
f5	70,470	23,924
f6	(46,556)	(35,239)
f7	58,144 (c6)	28,558 (c8)
f8		(e12)
f9	58,144 (x)	28,558 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1		
g2	2,100,000	
g3		
g4	46,000	34,500
g5		


f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

Declarations and Scrutiny


I confirm that these Receipt and Payment 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 28/11/24

Name and address of treasurer Mrs Stella Goddard 28 Crest Way Portslade
..... Post Code.. BN41 2EY

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were presented to the Circuit meeting held 28th November 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting .. Rev Andrew Lowe Date 28th November 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

..... Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1134137

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Brighton and Hove Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages ... to As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit Brighton and Hove

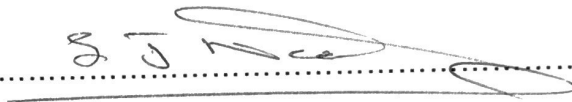
Independent Examiner's Statement

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.

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 

Name of independent examiner S J Neate

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FMAAT

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 23 Surrenden Lodge Surrenden Road Brighton

..... Post Code BN1 6QB

Date 1st January 2024


* delete or circle as appropriate

Form reviewed

May-23

Declarations and Scrutiny


I confirm that these Receipt and Payment 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 28/11/24

Name and address of treasurer Mrs Stella Goddard 28 Crest Way Portslade
..... Post Code.. BN41 2EY

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

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Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting .. Rev Andrew Lowe Date 28th November 2024

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Name of Circuit Brighton and Hove

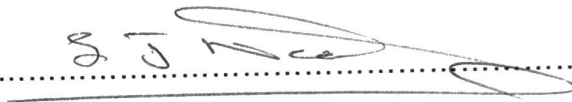
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Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner S J Neate

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FMAAT

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 23 Surrenden Lodge Surrenden Road Brighton

..... Post Code BN1 6QB

Date 1st January 2024

* delete or circle as appropriate

Form reviewed

May-23

BRIGHTON AND HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.

England & Wales - Charity number 1134137

Accounts

BRIGHTON & HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT
CIRCUIT MEETING
23rd November 2023



CIRCUIT TREASURER'S REPORT

The accounts for the year ending August 2023 have been adjusted for accruals and inspected by Stuart Neate who very kindly provides professional oversight of our financial reporting.

Headlines

1) *2022/23 Income & Expenditure*

- a) This is the second, and final, year that the Circuit has used Reserves to reduce the Circuit Assessments and the subsequent financial burden as the churches recover their income streams post pandemic. For 2023/24, the Circuit Assessments have been increased to cover the full cost of circuit outgoings.
- b) Income from circuit assessments was in line with the budget at £159,144. Income from interest on deposit accounts was significantly increased at £3,463 but offset by the District Advance Fund Levy and Administration costs.
- c) The final deficit once accrual adjustments were implemented stands at -£45K

2) *Receipts & Payments*

- a) Analysis of outgoing expenditure indicates minor variances against most budget items.
- b) The cost of employing the Circuit Operations Manager has been included in the budget which results in a significant variance against the Lay Staff budget.

3) *Circuit Reserves*

- a) The Balance sheet has been revised to reflect the Circuits liabilities. As at 31/8/2023 the reserves stood at £61,181 and are held in deposit accounts with TMCP and the Central Finance Bank.

4) *Circuit Liabilities*

- a) Refurbishment of 155 Surrenden Avenue £56,721
- b) Loan from DG for COMS salary for 2021-2023. to be repaid over 4 years
at £11,500 per annum. £46,000

These liabilities are set against the rental income from 155 Surrenden Road as per the plan agreed at the Circuit Meeting in May 2023.

5) *Fixed Assets*

The value of the Circuit Manses will be reassessed in coming financial year.

6) *Reserves 'Policy*

The draft policy is attached. It has been amended to reflect the reduction in the reserves and the commercial letting of the Surrenden road Manse.

7) *Inspection of Accounts*

The Meeting is asked to agree that Stuart Neate be asked to oversee the Circuit Accounts for the Financial period commencing September 2023.

BRIGHTON & HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT (36/12) (Reg Charity 1134137)
FINANCIAL STATEMENT : 31st August 2023

2021-22		ACTUAL	BUDGET
£	INCOMING RESOURCES		<i>Assessments</i>
145,476	Assessment from Circuit Churches	£159,144	£ 160,298
131	Interest Received (less admin)	£ 506	£ 131
<u>145,607</u>		£ 159,650	£ 160,429
	OUTGOING RESOURCES		
	<i>MINISTERIAL</i>		
111,999	Stipends	£116,818	£ 119,179
(14,190)	District Contribution	-£ 14,770	-£ 14,474
564	Apprenticeship Levy	£ 565	£ 664
1,203	Travel	£ 2,404	£ 1,135
1,558	Telephones	£ 1,805	£ 1,765
228	Pulpit Supply	£ 240	£ 94
294	Other	£ 298	£ 606
-	Sabbatical Expenses	£ -	£ 500
8,023	Council Tax	£ 8,134	£ 7,719
<u>109,679</u>		£ 115,494	£ 117,188
	<i>LAYSTAFF</i>		
27,337	Circuit Ops Manager	£ 19,874	£ -
	Laystaff	£ 10,119	£ 8,130
5,395	Expenses	£ -	<u>8,130</u>
<u>32,732</u>		£ 29,993	£ 8,130
	<i>DISTRICT & CONNEXION</i>		
8,552	District Assessment	£ 9,022	£ 9,022
31,818	Methodist Church Fund	£ 31,197	£ 31,197
<u>40,370</u>		£ 40,219	£ 40,219
	<i>MANSES</i>		
3,768	Maintenance	£ 1,696	£ 12,000
6,058	Insurance	£ 4,382	£ 3,403
	Services	£ 1,287	£ 2,314
<u>9,826</u>		£ 7,365	£ 17,717
	<i>CIRCUIT</i>		
957	Activities	£ 2,097	£ 804
5,017	Administration	£ 5,682	£ 5,466
-	University Chaplaincy	£ -	£ 1,579
	Grants	£ 2,500	£ -
900	Quinquennials	£ -	£ 500
-	Place for Hope	£ 2,297	£ -
<u>6,874</u>		£ 12,576	£ 8,349
199,481		205,647	£ 191,603
3000	Connexional Funds Contribution	£ -	£ 3,000
(56,874)	Surplus/(Deficit)	(45,997)	(34,174)

BRIGHTON & HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT (36/12) (Reg Charity 1134137)
BALANCE SHEET AT: 31st August 2023

31/08/2022

£	FUNDS HELD:	Notes	£	£
2,100,000	Fixed Assets		2,100,000	
	Properties - 3 x Manses			
	Circuit General Fund			
45,441	Balance brought forward		(24,341)	
(69,782)	Surplus/(deficit) for the year		(45,997)	

(24,341)	Balance Carried Forward			(70,338)
	Other Circuit Accounts			
99,606	Model Trust Fund	(1)	61,952	
8,276	Maud Gill Bequest	(2)	8,518	
47,012	Brian Kirkwood Community Mission Fund	(3)	47,012	
0	Surrenden Road	(4)	11,000	
1,300	Circuit Project	(5)	2,774	
53	Other Methodist Charities (World Mission, JMA)	(6)	263	

				131,519

131,906	Total Funds			61,181
				=====
	REPRESENTED BY:			
12,564	Barclays Community Account		11,943	
27,230	Methodist Central Finance Board (CFB)		22,287	
107,882	Trust for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)		70,470	
10,530	Debtors and Prepayments		6,876	

158,206				111,576
3,300	less Creditors			4,395
23,000	Loan Dorset Gardens			46,000

26,300				50,395

131,906	Net Assets Excluding Fixed Assets)			61,181
				=====

2021-22	NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS		2022-23	
£			£	£
99,605		CIRCUIT MODEL TRUST FUND (Held by T M C P)	(1)	
		Brought Forward	99,605	
		Circuit /District pyt Levy	(2,490)	
		Interest less Admin Charge	2,837	
-----	99,605		-----	99,951
0		Contributions to: General Fund	(38,000)	
-----	0		-----	(38,000)
-----	99,605	Balance carried forward		-----
=====	=====			=====
		MAUD GILL BEQUEST (Held by T M C P)	(2)	
8,276		Brought Forward		8,276
		Interest less Admin Charge		242
		Tranferred to General Fund		0
-----	8,276	Balance carried forward		-----
=====	=====			=====
		BRIAN KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY MISSION FUND	(3)	
		(Designated)		
47,012		Brought Forward		47,012
0		Receipts		0
		Transfers		0
-----	47,012			-----
=====	=====			=====
=====	=====			=====
		Surrenden road		
0		Brought forward		-
		Transferred from reserves		38,000
		Refurbishment costs		(27,000)

				11,000
		Circuit Project	(5)	
1,300		Brought Forward commenced 1.9.2021		1,300
		Funds Received		2,494
		Donations		(1,020)
-----	1,300	Balance carried forward Creditors		-----
=====	=====			=====
		CONNEXIONAL FUNDS	(6)	
0		Brought Forward		0
		Received from Circuit Churches in year		0
1,000		<i>Paid to:</i> Fund for Support of Presbyters & Deacons		0
1,000		Mission in Britain Fund		0
1,000		Property Fund		0
-----	3,000	Paid during year		-----
=====	=====			=====

Name of Circuit Brighton and Hove


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.

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  (FMAAT)

Name of independent examiner S J Neate

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FMAAT

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 23 Surrenden Lodge Surrenden Road Brighton

..... Post Code BN1 6QB

Date 1st January 2024

* delete or circle as appropriate

BRIGHTON & HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT (36/12) (“Circuit”) (Registered Charity 1134137) RESERVES’ POLICY 2023

This Reserves’ Policy is in respect of all funds held by the Circuit which are controlled by the meetings of Circuit Trustees.

1. AIMS:

- a. To secure and sustain the Circuit’s viability and future.
- b. To give assurance to the general public that the Circuit, which is registered with the Charity Commission, intends to use all moneys received by the Circuit for the purpose of the charity.

2. MISSION POLICY

The Circuit’s Mission Policy provides for:

- a. The ministerial oversight and pastoral care of two Presbyters (one of whom is engaged for 2/3 WTE.
- b. Circuit Operations Manager .
- c. The maintenance of the Circuit manses
- d. Contributions to the wider work of District and Connexion

3. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

a. Assessments

The Circuit Assessment which determines the contribution made to the Circuit by each Church is reviewed annually. It is currently based upon a formula using Church income (95%) and Cash & Investments (5%)

b. Property

The Circuit has three manses and provision is made in the General Fund, for the annual maintenance programme, currently at a rate of £4,000 per manse. If extraordinary costs arise within the financial year these are met from reserves.

One manse is currently a commercial let the net income from which will be added to the reserves..

4. STANDING ORDERS

- a. Methodist Constitutional Practice and Discipline (“CPD”) requires the Circuit to meet financial obligations regarding the support of Ministers and maintenance of manses.

5. FUNDS - on 31 August 2022

- a. Circuit General Fund - Unrestricted
- b. Model Trust Fund - Unrestricted
- c. Maude Gill Bequest - Unrestricted (Circuit Designated “Mission”)
- d. Brian Kirkwood Community Mission Fund - Unrestricted
- e. Circuit Operations Manager - restricted
- f. Circuit Project - restricted
- g. (Unrestricted Funds may be used for any purposes of the Circuit. Restricted Funds must be used for specified purposes)

6. POLICY

The Circuit will hold reserves amounting to approximately four month's expenditure which is estimated to be £60000. Funds in excess of this amount will be available to support the mission work undertaken by churches across the Circuit.

BRIGHTON and HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT
Registered Charity 1134137

Trustees' Annual Report
For the Connexional Year 2022 – 2023

The Trustees of the Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit welcome readers of their Annual Report covering the Financial Year ended 31 August 2023.

1. Aim and Purpose

- a) All our churches are committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in word and action. We aim to increase awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love; be good neighbours to people in need and to challenge injustice; make more followers of Christ; and help people to learn and grow in faith. We offer safe and caring communities of nurture and respect that are committed to the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- b) The Circuit is the primary unit in which local churches express and experience their interconnexion as the body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help.
- c) It is to the Circuit that presbyters and probationers are stationed and in which local preachers are trained, admitted and exercise their calling.
- d) The purposes of the Circuit include the effective deployment of the resources for ministry which include people, property and finance.

2. Objectives and Activities

- a) In planning its activities, the Circuit has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion together with the 'Our Calling' framework as defined by the Methodist Church of Great Britain. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament as we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of the wider community.

3. Achievements and Performance

a) Worship

- i. Throughout the year all churches offered an onsite Sunday morning service.
- ii. Two Circuit online services are offered monthly: one called Thinking Aloud with a progressive focus and the second Prayer & Meditation quiet & reflective in style.
- iii. A Circuit Together Service continues to be scheduled quarterly, held in one of the five churches with all members from across the circuit meeting together for unified worship and fellowship.
- iv. At an All-Saints Day service held on 1st November at Stanford Avenue Methodist Church, over sixty family members and friends remembered 40 people who died over the previous twelve months.
- v. All churches held a full range of special services marking the key Christian festivals of Easter and Christmas.
- vi. On 12th March 2023 local preacher Ken Smith celebrated 60 years to the day that he received his accreditation as a Local Preacher and was presented with his long service certificate signed by the President of the Methodist Conference.
- vii. From January 2023 Hove Methodist Church started a monthly Friday after school Messy Church, whilst Patcham Church started monthly family fun days on a Sunday afternoon.

b) Service

- i. Every effort is made by all our churches to provide pastoral care and engage both with the family of faith and the wider community. This has included lunch clubs, coffee groups, arts and crafts, a range of children's activities and facilitating in person contact with all members.

ii. *University Chaplaincy.*

Historically the Brighton & Hove Methodist Circuit has supported Chaplaincy work at The University of Sussex and the University of Brighton and is part of the Student Christian Movement (SCM). Whilst Student Development Worker Sue Harrington retired at the end of August 2022, she maintains contact, particularly at Sussex where there is a dedicated Chaplaincy Hub and helps as a volunteer as required. She also still administers the Brighton Facebook group and is happy for the Faith and Spirituality Advisors to refer any Methodist enquiries to her.

Both universities have moved to face-to-face meetings but still used Teams for online meetings where necessary or to save time and travel. The Sussex Meeting House is resuming its pivotal role with Freshers week much busier again and the foodbank continues via Administrator, Janine.

The Brighton Faith & Spirituality End Of Year Prize was given to the student pro bono law clinic where law students practise, supervised by qualified lawyers, helping people in the community. The prize acknowledges the student that gets the most from the clinic and demonstrated strong academic achievement on the Justice and Practice module.

c) **Mission and Evangelism**

i. *Circuit Refugee Project*

This project was launched from 1 January 2022 with the following vision:

To make our Circuit a Sanctuary for All, where all feel safe and welcomed, including those fleeing violence, conflict and persecution. We will live out God's purpose and mission and offer hospitality, kindness, love and sanctuary to all through witness and service. We seek to build a culture of outreach and service by identifying and responding to the needs of those experiencing relocation and displacement. Through this project we will share our commitment to support and advocate for refugees and their families, working collaboratively in partnership with individuals and groups, particularly with refugees.

At a special service that took place at Dorset Gardens Methodist Church on Sunday 12th March 2023, all five Methodist churches from the Brighton & Hove Methodist Circuit received the Church of Sanctuary award; Dorset Gardens, Patcham, Stanford Avenue, Woodingdean and Hove. They are the first Methodist churches in Britain to achieve Church of Sanctuary status.

The City of Sanctuary movement began in 2007, when Sheffield became the UK's first ever City of Sanctuary. Since then, hundreds of local councils, schools, universities, libraries, theatres and more have been awarded with Sanctuary status, pledging to create a culture of solidarity, inclusivity and welcome. Brighton and Hove became a City of Sanctuary in 2015.

Revd Andy Lowe, Superintendent Minister of the Circuit, commented, "As individual churches and as a circuit we feel that there is a gospel call for us to be places where welcome, hospitality and inclusion are the norm. Loving our neighbour whoever they are, wherever they come from, is central to our faith and must be at the heart of all we do. Receiving these certificates and recognition is not an end in itself but just a mark in an ongoing journey to live out that command to love."

The founder of the City of Sanctuary movement, the Revd Inderjit Bhogal, preached at the service to celebrate the awards and commented, "This recognition of the support that these churches offer migrants comes at an important time when our government is making coming to the UK seeking sanctuary increasingly difficult. Applying for 'asylum' is not a crime, but criminalising people for even trying to get to a safe place is a crime against humanity. Detaining and deporting them without even considering their story and claim is immoral and unethical. Those who exploit already vulnerable people making money from them are those committing crime. Stop them, don't stop the boats. Government also should halt inhumane responses to a human catastrophe, and already vulnerable human beings."

Angie Lynn is the local Lead for Schools of Sanctuary and for Churches of Sanctuary in Brighton and Hove. She commented, "Brighton and Hove City of Sanctuary, also known as Sanctuary on Sea, has been proud to support the Methodist Circuit to achieve these

well-earned awards. We are delighted to applaud them as the first Churches of Sanctuary in our city for their work and ongoing commitment to engage with refugees and asylum seekers, celebrating their positive contribution to our lives together in Brighton and Hove. The work of the five churches is inspirational, and more vital than ever as our government continues to foster hostility where we want to nurture compassion and welcome. We look forward to the Methodist circuit helping to support other churches and faith centres to achieve Sanctuary Awards in the near future."

The five churches have all pledged their commitment to support refugees, inviting them to church to share about their fears and their lives. Church members have collected clothing for the newly arrived asylum seekers living in hotels while church buildings have been opened to host refugee social events. Some church members have offered accommodation to Ukrainian families seeking safety from the war. Refugees with an urgent need for practical help, such as assistance with school uniform and equipment for children, have been supported and food banks were established in each of the churches to provide for those living with no immigration status or seeking asylum.

The churches have also been working to change the conversation around migrants which has included participation in the annual Refugee Sunday in June 2023 as well as holding education events such as a "myth-busting community breakfast" which was held to hear the stories of refugees.

4. **Financial Review**

a) **Income & Expenditure**

- (i) The single largest expense is that relating to the employment of ministerial staff. This includes stipends; National Insurance contributions; pension contributions and the provision and maintenance of the manses. Expenditure for this year remained within the budget forecast. Circuit income was in line with budget projections.
- (ii) The Covid recovery plan continued providing stability for churches until the restrictions were lifted. The impact of this was the reduction of the Circuit reserves by £35000. This is the second, and final, year that the Circuit will use Reserves to the churches as they recover their income streams post the pandemic.

b) **Reserves Policy**

The Reserves Policy was reviewed and updated.

5. **Structure, Governance and Management**

a) **The Circuit Meeting**

- (i) The Circuit Meeting of the Brighton and Hove Circuit is the body of Managing Trustees and is responsible for the affairs of the Circuit and the development of Circuit Policy. The Circuit Meeting together with the Superintendent Minister and the Circuit Leadership team exercises that combination of spiritual leadership and administrative efficiency which enables the Circuit to fulfil its purposes as set out in the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The Circuit Meeting acts as the focal point of the working fellowship of the churches in the Circuit, overseeing their pastoral, training and evangelistic work.
- (ii) Following earlier consultations about the future structure and organisation of the circuit, a detailed exploration was carried out on the concept of one combined Society covering multiple sites replacing the current structure of five individual societies plus circuit infrastructure. The consensus by the Autumn of 2022 was that the benefits of the one society concept do not outweigh the complexities/difficulties identified and reservations/resistance expressed. There will be additional financial costs to the change, churches still want separate control of their money; worship will not change fundamentally; and the governance idea of a single society meeting is not deemed suitable to serve the needs of each location/community. Therefore, the conclusion is that we maintain the focus as is, whilst maximising any opportunities/benefits to working together, within the existing unchanged circuit structure.

(iii) *General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)*

Considerable effort was made to ensure that our circuit and each of our churches and particularly all managing trustees was able to complete their 2023 GDPR Annual Checklist to be compliant with the requirement from the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). Ongoing education around best practice has also continued.

(iv) The Circuit Meeting met on four occasions, on 13th September and 23rd November 2022 and 23rd March and 20th June 2023

b) **Churches**

Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit www.brightonhovemethodistcircuit.org.uk

There are five churches in the Circuit:

Dorset Gardens Methodist Church www.dgmc.org.uk

Hove Methodist Church www.hovemethodistchurch.co.uk

Patcham Methodist Church www.patchammethodistchurch.co.uk

Stanford Avenue Methodist Church www.stanfordavenuemeth.co.uk

Woodingdean Methodist Church www.woodingdeanmethodistchurch.co.uk

On 1 Nov. 2022 the Circuit had 275 members

c) **Staffing**

Revd. Andrew Lowe, Circuit Superintendent,

Revd. Deborah Cornish,

Revd. Dan Woodhouse

Steve Preston, Circuit Operations Manager

6. **Administrative Information**

a) **Safeguarding**

Rosemary Cuthbert continues as Circuit Safeguarding Officer.

There has been a strong emphasis on training & education and during the year *Creating Safer Space* methodist foundation and refresher training sessions were held at Hove, Patcham and Woodingdean churches. In September 2022, the Local Preachers gathered at Patcham and did an on-line Advanced Training together.

This now completes our circuit compliance of safeguarding training which must be refreshed every four years. Over this period 75 circuit folk have completed/renewed their training, which includes completing the online Church of England 'Foundations' course and the Methodist Creating Safer Space: Advanced training module which is only offered via the district.

No Safeguarding issues were reported during the period.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.

England & Wales - Charity number 1134137

Accounts

BRIGHTON and HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT
Registered Charity 1134137

Trustees' Annual Report
For the Connexional Year 2021 – 2022

The Trustees of the Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit welcome readers of their Annual Report covering the Financial Year ended 31 August 2022.

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- b) The Circuit is the primary unit in which local churches express and experience their interconnexion as the body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help.
- c) It is to the Circuit that presbyters and probationers are stationed and in which local preachers are trained, admitted and exercise their calling.
- d) The purposes of the Circuit include the effective deployment of the resources for ministry which include people, property and finance.

2. Objectives and Activities

- a) In planning its activities, the Circuit has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion together with the 'Our Calling' framework as defined by the Methodist Church of Great Britain. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament as we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of the wider community.

3. Achievements and Performance

a) Worship

- i. From September 2021 all churches resumed an onsite Sunday morning service, although national pandemic restrictions had been lifted, there remained a high rate of infection so socially distanced seating and mask wearing during worship continued.
- ii. At the same time a weekly Circuit online service was offered, particularly for those isolating or of restricted mobility.
- iii. A Circuit Together Service was held in one of the five churches with all members from across the circuit invited for unified worship and fellowship. This was held monthly until February 2022 when it moved to every quarter.
- iv. All churches were able to hold their own onsite Covenant Service during January 2022.
- v. During the year local preachers Wynn Funnell and Connie Croly celebrated 60 years of preaching with Geoff Harrington marking 30 years.
- vi. In June 2021 the Methodist Conference voted to confirm provisional resolutions on the principles or qualities of good relating, understanding of cohabitation and same sex marriages conducted on Methodist premises or by Methodist officeholders. A year later Hove Methodist was the first in the circuit to celebrate a same sex marriage ceremony in the church.

b) Service

- i. As people have returned to our buildings, every effort was made to provide pastoral care and engage both with the family of faith and the wider community. This has included the resumption of lunch clubs, coffee groups, children's activities and facilitating in person contact in whatever way was possible.
- ii. *University Chaplaincy.*
The Brighton & Hove Methodist Circuit continues to support Chaplaincy work at The University of Sussex and the University of Brighton and is part of the Student Christian

Movement (SCM). The work is very different in the two locations because Sussex University is campus-based locally at Falmer, whereas Brighton University is spread across the city, so work is covered as a team.

There has been a gradual move to more face-to-face meetings although some have remained online to make them as accessible as possible. For example, the University of Brighton Crafty Drop-Ins continue, both online and on-site in a blended format, on-site following whatever COVID protocols the University has in place.

Activities offered included a green Wellbeing event held in October 2021 at National Trust's Saddlescombe Farm with the Grow project was an immensely enriching experience; weekly drop ins; Christmas online carol service; and food and hospitality linked to Christmas, Fairtrade fortnight, Shrove Tuesday, One World Week and Interfaith Week.

The Methodist team was led by Student Development Worker Sue Harrington, who retired at the end of August 2022 after eleven years of service and the Revd Cynthia Park retired from her chaplaincy role at the University of Brighton. Tribute was paid to both for championing the cause of Chaplaincy, building strong relationships and providing pastoral care as well as extensive hospitality. The Circuit will review how the chaplaincy will continue in 2022/23.

c) **Mission and Evangelism**

i. *Circuit Refugee Project*

After early discussions about the possibility of supporting Afghan refugee university students and their families arriving from Afghanistan, a circuit project was launched from 1 January 2022 with the following vision:

To make our Circuit a Sanctuary for All, where all feel safe and welcomed, including those fleeing violence, conflict and persecution. We will live out God's purpose and mission and offer hospitality, kindness, love and sanctuary to all through witness and service. We seek to build a culture of outreach and service by identifying and responding to the needs of those experiencing relocation and displacement. Through this project we will share our commitment to support and advocate for refugees and their families, working collaboratively in partnership with individuals and groups, particularly with refugees.

Mrs Sue Harrington and Dr Deeptima Massey were appointed to lead the Circuit Project. A launch Myth-Busting Breakfast was held at Hove on 5 March to help all understand the plight of refugees and asylum-seekers. This was followed by an online talk "Sanctuary: working with refugees" with the Rev Dr Inderjit Bhogal OBE, founder and President of the City of Sanctuary movement and former President of the Methodist Conference.

The circuit churches have started collaborating with organisations and churches that are currently involved in supporting refugees. We are exploring ways of working with them. Sunday 19 June 2022 was designated as Refugee Sunday in all our five churches and a range of related resources and ideas were shared to utilise in the services. We are continuing to fundraise by selling cards designed by Shirley Veater at various events and in social gatherings, and by collecting essential items (toiletries etc) for students and their families and a few others we know who have no immigration status yet.

4. **Financial Review**

a) **Income & Expenditure**

- (i) The single largest expense is that relating to employment of ministerial staff. These include stipends; National Insurance contributions; pension contributions and the provision and maintenance of the manses. Expenditure for this year remained within the budget forecast. Circuit income was in line with budget projections.
- (ii) The Covid recovery plan provided stability for churches until the restrictions were lifted by reducing the Circuit reserves by around £35000. It was agreed to continue the financial support, albeit reduced, for a further year.
- (iii) The Circuit Operations Manager was appointed in September 2021. This post now provides support to the Ministerial Staff and stewards and the local churches, enabling the Circuit to ensure compliance with legislation such as GDPR, Safeguarding and employment practice.

(iv) The Circuit Meeting agreed to support the Methodist Pension Reserve Fund by contribution of £6644 from the Circuit non committed reserves fund.

c) **Reserves Policy**

The Reserves Policy is attached in the appendices.

5. **Structure, Governance and Management**

a) **The Circuit Meeting**

(i) The Circuit Meeting of the Brighton and Hove Circuit is the body of Managing Trustees and is responsible for the affairs of the Circuit and the development of Circuit Policy. The Circuit Meeting together with the Superintendent Minister and the Circuit Leadership team exercises that combination of spiritual leadership and administrative efficiency which enables the Circuit to fulfil its purposes as set out in the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The Circuit Meeting acts as the focal point of the working fellowship of the churches in the Circuit, overseeing their pastoral, training and evangelistic work.

(ii) During the autumn of 2021 the Circuit held a Roadshow and series of consultations about the future structure and organisation to determine how best the communities might be served post pandemic. 100 folk attended, representing all our five churches and over 25 pages of feedback was received. After much consideration, it was decided that the concept of one combined Society covering multiple sites should be seriously explored as an alternative of our current Brighton & Hove Circuit structure consisting of five individual societies plus circuit infrastructure. To examine this in detail a series of working groups covering Mission, Growth and Structures was convened with conclusions to be reported back in the autumn of 2022.

(iii) *General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)*

Considerable effort was made to ensure that our circuit and each of our churches and particularly all managing trustees was able to complete their 2022 GDPR Annual Checklist to be compliant with the requirement from the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). Ongoing education around best practice has also continued.

(iv) The Circuit Meeting met on four occasions, on 16th September and 25th November 2021 and 22nd March and 16th June 2022

(v) On 22 August 2022 there were 37 members of the Circuit Meeting

b) **Churches**

Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit www.brightonhovemethodistcircuit.org.uk

There are five churches in the Circuit:

Dorset Gardens Methodist Church www.dgmc.org.uk

Hove Methodist Church www.hovemethodistchurch.co.uk

Patcham Methodist Church www.patchammethodistchurch.co.uk

Stanford Avenue Methodist Church www.stanfordavenuemeth.co.uk

Woodingdean Methodist Church www.woodingdeanmethodistchurch.co.uk

On 1 Nov. 2021 the Circuit had 305 members

c) **Staffing**

Revd. Andrew Lowe, Circuit Superintendent,

Revd. Deborah Cornish,

Revd. Dan Woodhouse

Steve Preston, Circuit Operations Manager

6. **Administrative Information**

a) **Appointments**

At the meeting on 16 June 2022 all membership of Circuit Officer roles and committees was reviewed and approved.

As Steve Preston stepped down as Circuit Steward, the circuit welcomed Jonathan Gravestock as a new Circuit Steward.

b) **Safeguarding**

In March 2022 Rosemary Cuthbert was appointed as Circuit Safeguarding Officer.

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) issued its report in September 2021 of the investigation into Child Protection in Religious Organisations and Settings. The secretary of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, welcomed the report

and said: "The report makes recommendations on policy, procedures and training; this largely reflects our existing policy and procedures and stresses the need for regular updates."

With this in mind the Circuit promoted the Methodist online Creating Safer Space: Advanced training module and launched the first of a classroom Foundations course in Hove in July 2022. All church and circuit stewards are invited as well as encouraging anyone working with children or vulnerable adults to attend.

No Safeguarding issues were reported during the period.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Brighton and Hove	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2022**

South East	District	Circuit no	36/12
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134137

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

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

Ministers:

Reverend Andrew Lowe (Superintendent)
Reverend Deborah Cornish
Reverend Daniel Woodhouse
Reverend Heather Leake-Date

Circuit Stewards:

Ann Collins (Senior Steward)
Stella Goddard
Jonathon Gravestock

Treasurer:

Stella Goddard

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share	145,476			145,476	173,289
a3	Capital receipts				0	
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	146	177		323	212
a5	Grants	14,190			14,190	13,860
a6	Other receipts				0	57
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS	159,812	177	0	159,989 (a8)	187,418

SECTION B		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS	£	£	£	£	£
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs	146,498			146,498	122,174
b3	Manse Costs	18,749			18,749	21,317
b4	Administration etc	6,869			6,869	8,757
b5	District Assessment	40,370			40,370	40,329
b6	Grants & donations	3,000	2,602		5,602	3,470
b7	Pension Contribution		6,644		6,644	
b8	Other payments	7,450			7,450	1,474
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS	222,936	9,246	0	232,182 (b9)	197,521

SECTION C		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	£	£	£	£	£
c1	(a7-b9)	(63,124)	(9,069)	0	(72,193)	(10,103)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	100,713	102,031		202,744 (c6)	212,847
c3	Sub total	37,589	92,962	0	130,551	202,744
c4	Transfers and adjustments				0 (c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	37,589	92,962	0	130,551 (c8)	202,744 (c6)

SECTION D		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)	£	£	£	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				8,553	8
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				2,400	9,946
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				9,600	1,401
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)				1,353	8,553

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING**SECTION E** Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1			0			0
e2			0			0
e3			0			0
e4			0			0
e5			0			0
e6			0			0
e7			0			0
e8	0	0	0	0	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
e9	159,989 (a8)	232,182 (b9)	(72,193)	0 (c7)	202,744 (c6)	130,551 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	159,989	232,182	(72,193)	202,744 (x)	130,551 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

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

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2022**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1		
f2	65,132	12,562
f3		
f4	30,279	27,230
f5	110,292	107,881
f6	(2,959)	(17,122)
f7	202,744 (c6)	130,551 (c8)
f8	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
f9	202,744 (x)	130,551 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1		
g2		
g3		
g4		
g5		

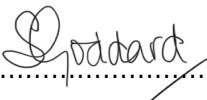
f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer  Date..... 03/12/2023

Name and address of treasure 28 Crest Way, Portslade, BRIGHTON
..... Post Code..... BN41 2EY

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 have been presented to the Circuit meeting held 23rd March 2023

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ..  ..

Name of the Chair of the meeti Rev Andrew Lowe 03/23/2023

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.

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

Name of independent exami Stuart J Neate

Relevant professional qualification of independent exam FMAAT retired

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 23 Surrenden Road Brighton

..... Post Code BN1 6QB

Date Mar 12, 23

Signed copy scanned and attached as PDF

* delete or circle as appropriate

09/22

Name of Circuit BRIGHTON & HOVE No 36/12

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.

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  FMAAT

Name of independent examiner Stuart J Neate

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FMAAT retired

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 23 Surrenden Road Brighton

..... Post Code BN1 6QB

Date 12-Mar-23

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-22

BRIGHTON AND HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.

England & Wales - Charity number 1134137

Accounts

BRIGHTON and HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT
Registered Charity 1134137

Trustees' Annual Report
For the Connexional Year 2020-2021

The Trustees of the Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit welcome readers of their Annual Report covering the Financial Year ended 31 August 2021.

1. Aim and Purpose

- a) All our churches are committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in word and action. We aim to increase awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love; be good neighbours to people in need and to challenge injustice; make more followers of Christ; and help people to learn and grow in faith. We offer safe and caring communities of nurture and respect that are committed to the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- b) The Circuit is the primary unit in which local churches express and experience their interconnexion as the body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help.
- c) It is to the Circuit that presbyters and probationers are stationed and in which local preachers are trained, admitted and exercise their calling.
- d) The purposes of the Circuit include the effective deployment of the resources for ministry which include people, property and finance.

2. Objectives and Activities

- a) In planning its activities, the Circuit has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion together with the 'Our Calling' framework as defined by the Methodist Church of Great Britain. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament as we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of the wider community

3. Achievements and Performance

a) Worship

Worship

- (i) The ongoing impact of the Coronavirus pandemic resulted in a flexible stance on worship throughout the year and relevant to national restrictions and local impact.
- (ii) Whilst the weekly Circuit online services continued, from September 2020 a physical service was held at one church every Sunday on a rotational basis. The service was limited to 45 minutes and included communion but no singing.
- (iii) The period included some notable online services including a Harvest Festival led by District Chair Revd David Hinchliffe at the beginning of October. On 1st November Jonathan Gravestock was recognised as a fully accredited Local Preacher and a previous Superintendent Minister of this Circuit, Revd Kathleen Allen was able to join this as well as some friends from the USA.
- (iv) By the end of November regional restrictions were being reintroduced and in line with recommendations all public acts of congregational worship were once more suspended and by Christmas 2020 a full national lockdown was in force, which lasted until Spring 2021.
- (v) As before online worship enabled many to join who would otherwise not have been able to be there in person and we were grateful for who shared their time, talent and technical expertise to enable these services to take place.
- (vi) From May 2021, plans were made to start to reintroduce physical services, albeit with the congregation wearing masks, socially distanced and no singing. Each church reopened when they were ready, and much effort was made on ensuring a safe and secure environment. There was much joy and rejoicing by congregations being able to connect together again.
- (vii) For those unable or unwilling to join a physical service online services have continued.

b) **Service**

During this year every effort was made to provide pastoral care and engage both with the family of faith and the wider community in whatever way was possible. Many will have experienced enhanced social isolation and anxiety and every safe method of communication and contact was utilised to support and reassure.

d) **Mission and Evangelism**

University Chaplaincy.

The Brighton & Hove Methodist Circuit continues to support Chaplaincy work at The University of Sussex and the University of Brighton and is part of the Student Christian Movement (SCM). The work is very different in the two locations because Sussex University is campus-based locally at Falmer, whereas Brighton University is spread, not only across the city, but also has campuses farther afield such as in Eastbourne, so we work very much as a team with colleagues to cover as much of the university as we can between us.

Historically much of what has been offered has been based around hospitality and the absence of students on site and COVID restrictions have paused these, however, a Christmas carol service (jointly hosted between the two universities) was held online. Chaplaincy activities are advertised on the University websites and on their Facebook groups contacts have been maintained in whatever ways possible including online one to one support.

Thanks to the Methodist team led by Student Development Worker Sue Harrington and supported by Revd Cynthia Park and the Revd Dan Woodhouse in these difficult times.

4. **Financial Review**

a) **Income Trends**

(i) Circuit income was in line with budget projections.

(iii) The Covid recovery plan provided stability for churches until the restrictions were lifted by Subsequently cost pressures were absorbed by Circuit Reserves.

b) **Expenditure Trends**

(i) The single largest expense is that relating to employment of ministerial staff. These include stipends; National Insurance contributions; pension contributions and the provision and maintenance of the manses. Expenditure for this year remained within the budget forecast.

(ii) Plans to fund a Circuit Operations Manager continued on hold during this period, however, following a bequest, one of the circuit churches offered a loan to cover the initial role cost and an advert, job description and person specification have been drawn up and recruitment process commenced with the aim of hiring by September/October 2021.

c) **Reserves Policy**

The Reserves Policy is attached in the appendices.

5. **Structure, Governance and Management**

a) **The Circuit Meeting**

(i) The Circuit Meeting of the Brighton and Hove Circuit is the body of Managing Trustees and is responsible for the affairs of the Circuit and the development of Circuit Policy. The Circuit Meeting together with the Superintendent Minister and the Circuit Leadership team exercises that combination of spiritual leadership and administrative efficiency which enables the Circuit to fulfil its purposes as set out in the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church. The Circuit Meeting acts as the focal point of the working fellowship of the churches in the Circuit, overseeing their pastoral, training and evangelistic work.

(ii) The Circuit Meeting met on four occasions, on 17th September and 26th November 2020 and 18th March and 16th June 2021 all via online meetings:

(iii) At 16 Jun. 2021 there were 35 members of the Circuit Meeting

b) **Churches**

Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit www.brightonhovemethodistcircuit.org.uk

There are five churches in the Circuit:

Dorset Gardens Methodist Church www.dgmc.org.uk

Hove Methodist Church www.hovemethodistchurch.co.uk

Patcham Methodist Church www.patchammethodistchurch.co.uk

Stanford Avenue Methodist Church www.stanfordavenuemeth.co.uk

Woodingdean Methodist Church www.woodingdeanmethodistchurch.co.uk

At 1 Nov. 2020 the Circuit had 305 members

c) **Staffing**

Revd. Andrew Lowe, Circuit Superintendent,

Revd. Deborah Cornish,

Revd. Dan Woodhouse

6. **Administrative Information**

a) **Appointments**

At the March 2021 Circuit Meeting Steve Preston was appointed as Circuit Steward with immediate effect and Richard Fletcher announced his retirement as Circuit Steward at the end of the Connexional year. Thanks were expressed to Richard, particularly as this was his second period in this office.

b) **Safeguarding**

The Circuit Meeting was very aware that it had no Safeguarding Officer and that all the Safeguarding matters in the Circuit were being conducted by the Safeguarding Officer in each Church. No Safeguarding issues were reported during the period.

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Circuit

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2021

South East	District	Circuit no	36/12
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134137

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

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

Ministers:

Reverend Andrew Lowe (Superintendent)
Reverend Deborah Cornish
Reverend Daniel Woodhouse
Reverend Heather Leake-Date

Circuit Stewards:

Ann Collins (Snr Steward)
Stella Goddard
Richard Fletcher
John Patching

Treasurer:

Stella Goddard

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share	173,504			173,504	172,529
a3	Capital receipts					
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	76	136		212	1,272
a5	Grants	13,860			13,860	13,269
a6	Other receipts	57			57	
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS	187,497	136		187,633 (a8)	187,070

SECTION B		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS	£	£	£	£	£
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs	122,174			122,174	131,583
b3	Manse Costs	21,317			21,317	26,299
b4	Administration etc	8,757			8,757	7,154
b5	District Assessment	40,329			40,329	42,135
b6	Grants & donations TMCP levy		2,731		2,731	2,839
b7						
b8	Other payments	1,474			1,474	321
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS	194,051	2,731		196,782 (b9)	210,331

SECTION C		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	£	£	£	£	£
c1	(a7-b9)	(6,554)	(2,595)		(9,149)	(23,261)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	110,187	104,626	(1,966)	212,847 (c6)	236,108
c3	Sub total	103,633 (c1+c2)	102,031	(1,966)	203,698	212,847
c4	Transfers and adjustments	(1,966)		1,966		
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	101,667 (c3+c4)	102,031		203,698 (c8)	212,847 (c6)

SECTION D		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)	£	£	£	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				8	
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				9,946	12,873
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				1,401	12,865
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)				8,553	8

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING**SECTION E** Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds				(e11)	(e12)
e9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)					
	187,633 (a8)	196,782 (b9)	(9,149)	(c7)	212,847 (c6)	203,698 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	187,633	196,782	(9,149)	212,847 (x)	203,698 (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS			

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

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1		
f2	53,010	65,132
f3		
f4	56,680	30,279
f5	112,879	110,292
f6	(9,722)	(2,005)
f7	212,847 (c6)	203,698 (c8)
f8	(e11)	(e12)
f9	212,847 (x)	203,698 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1		
g2	2,100,000	2,100,000
g3		
g4		
g5	19,829	13,020

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

Name of Circuit No.....

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 include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.



Signature of treasurer

Stella Goddard

..... Date... 28th March 2022

Name and address of treasurer

28 Crest Way, Portslade BRIGHTON. BN41 2EY

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 22nd March 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Andrew Lowe

28th March 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Brighton & Hove Methodist Circuit

Charity Number ... 1134137

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Brighton & Hove Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 1 to 4. As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit

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.

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

Name of independent examiner Stuart J Neate

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FMAAT Retired

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 23 Surrenden Lodge Surrenden Road Brighton

..... Post Code BN1 6QB

Date 15th February 2022

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-21

BRIGHTON AND HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.

England & Wales - Charity number 1134137

Accounts

Suggested framework for a Circuit Annual report

Introduction

A brief introduction welcoming readers to the report, don't forget the document is in the public domain on the Charity commission web site and could include a specific message from the Circuit Superintendent

Aims and organisation

Include the Circuit Mission statement

Brief financial review of the year

This should reflect circuit achievements against published plans from previous year.

Brief financial performance review, comment on spending in comparison to budget and any exceptional items, a possible framework is suggested below but could include a financial summary table within the section.

Income trends

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches.

The rental income relates to the rental of a manse..... and income generated from

Expenditure trends

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved

increases,add any other specific changes.
xx.x% of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a

significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.
The other expenditure includesreference any specifics for the year.

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2017 the net current assets of the Circuit were £xxxk, giving approximately x months cover for expenditure.

Plans for 2017/18

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remains x full time ordained staff with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district such that on average a x.x% assessment increase has been requested from the circuit churches.

Administrator: Mrs.....

Name of treasurer acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year.

Independent examiner Name and address

Investment Bankers Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Give bank details and also name other professional service advisors

Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around for the Methodist Church:

"The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

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

"

"The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike.

The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.

The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.

Taking religious assemblies in local schools.

Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.

Provision of chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions.

"

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

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

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

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting, the Circuit Finance and Property Committee and the Circuit Policy Committee.

"

Trustee Training

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

Related Parties

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

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit.....

Any other specific organisations with specific linkage." "

Risk Management

"The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Circuit Finance and Property Committee with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

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

"

Safeguarding

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

"Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

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

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

"

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

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 4 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

CIRCUIT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

BRIGHTON AND HOVE Circuit

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2020

SOUTH EAST District Circuit no 3

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number 1134137

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)

Ministers:

- Rev. Andrew Lowe - Superintendent
- Rev Deborah Cornish
- Rev Daniel Woodhead
- Rev Heather Leake Date
- Rev Cynthia Park (Supernumary)

Circuit Stewards:

- Ann Collins (Senior Steward)
- Richard Fletcher
- Stella Goddard
- John Patching

Treasurer:

Stella Goddard

20ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020			BRIGHTON AND HOVE			Circuit	
SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share		172,529			172,529	171,884
a3	Capital receipts					0	
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		589	683		1,272	1,409
a5	Grants		13,269			13,269	11,114
a6	Other receipts					0	
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		186,387	683	0	187,070 (a8)	184,407
check totals down and across (a8)							
TRUE							
SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		120,809		10,774	131,583	118,367
b3	Manse Costs		26,299			26,299	23,589
b4	Administration etc		7,154			7,154	8,498
b5	District Assessment		42,135			42,135	39,014
b6	Grants & donations					0	402
b7	Levy TCMP			2,839		2,839	3,379
b8	Other payments		321			321	1,388
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		196,718	2,839	10,774	210,331 (b9)	194,637
check totals down and across (b9)							
TRUE							
SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	(10,331)	(2,156)	(10,774)	(23,261)	(10,230)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		120,518	106,782	8,808	236,108 (c6)	246,338
check c6=c6 TRUE							
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	110,187	104,626	(1,966)	212,847	236,108
check totals down and across TRUE							
c4	Transfers and adjustments					0 (c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	110,187	104,626	(1,966)	212,847 (c8)	236,108 (c6)
check totals down and across TRUE							
SECTION D							
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS							
d	(these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)						
d1	Balance brought forward from last year						
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations					12,873	13,487
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations					12,873	13,487
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)					0	0
check last year's b/fwd TRUE							

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

=+P1 Front page!C10

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1			0			0
e2			0			0
e3			0			0
e4			0			0
e5			0			0
e6			0			0
e7			0			0
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0	0	0	0	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
e9 Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	187,070 (a8)	210,331 (b9)	(23,261)	0 (c7)	236,108 (c6)	212,847 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	187,070	210,331	(23,261)	0	236,108 (x)	212,847 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

BRIGHTON AND HOVE

check Int. Org. totals down & across (e12)

TRUE

check (c8) totals TRUE

check cash funds totals TRUE

SECTION F
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2020

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	36,735	53,010
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	85,052	56,680
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	122,441	112,879
f6 Other funds	(8,110)	
f7 SUB TOTAL	236,118 (c6)	222,569 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	236,118 (x)	222,569 (y)

check totals (c6) check totals (c8)

FALSE FALSE

check totals (x) check totals (y)

FALSE FALSE

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2019	At 31 August 2020
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)		
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

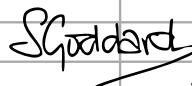
g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

Name of Circuit BRIGHTON AND HOVE

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 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 Stella Goddard



Name and address of treasurer

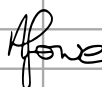
Stella Goddard, 28 Crest Way, Portslade,
Brighton

Post Code..... BN41 2EY

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on18th March 2021

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .. Andrew Lowe



Name of the Chair of the meeting Reverend Andrew Lowe.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Brighton & Hove Methodist

Circuit

Charity Number ... 1134137

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Brighton and Hove Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2020 set out on pages 1-3 . As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Name of Circuit	Brighton & Hove Methodist									
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 which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records. 										
I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.										
I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.										
Signature of independent examiner										
Name of independent examiner S J Neate										
Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner Fmaat retired										
Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A										
Address 23 Surrenden Lodge Surrenden Road Brighton										
..... Post Code BN1 6QB										
Date 24th January 2021										

Name of Circuit	Brighton & Hove Methodist									
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 which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or the accounts do not accord with the accounting records. 										
I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.										
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