

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1134148

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2010-02-05
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Stockton Heath Methodist Church Heath Street Stockton Heath Warrington WA4 6LP
Phone	01925266701
Email	enquiries@shmc.org.uk
Website	www.shmc.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: Holding acts of worship at both Stockton Heath and Antrobus open to all to enable ordinary people to come to know the Lord Jesus;Meeting together in fellowship;Providing space and facilitating community activities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Cheshire West & Chester
- Warrington

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£112,604	£124,621	-	-
2024-08-31	£133,893	£114,222	-	-
2023-08-31	£142,627	£82,468	-	-
2022-08-31	£62,500	£107,721	-	-
2021-08-31	£65,598	£65,678	-	-
2020-08-31	£65,654	£57,246	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ALAN JAMES ROGERS		2012-03-13
Ann Bolshaw		2023-05-01
Barbara Florence Maddock		2024-10-17
CHRISTOPHER ARDERN		2012-03-13
David Henry Maki		2020-10-12
Dr Stephen John Bentley FRCP		2023-05-01
Dr Trevor Rhodes		2023-09-01
Ellen Julia Whitfield		2014-10-14
Fiona Christobel Morton		2020-10-12
GEOFFREY SIMON CLARKE		2012-03-13
HAZEL RUTH BRADLEY		
JOHN ALAN STOTT		2013-09-01
JOHN DAVID HUMBLES		
James Frederick Walker		2024-10-17
Karen Margaret Dixon-Maki		2022-02-14
Kathleen Elizabeth Hankey		2023-05-01
MRS CHRIS PARK		
Margot Elizabeth Fairley Strong		2016-09-01
Rev Mark Harwood		2022-09-01
Richard Verrill		2012-03-13
Vivien Palmer		2016-10-10

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1134148

Accounts

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
(worshipping in Stockton Heath & Antrobus)



**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025**

Charity Number 1134148

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

CONTENTS	PAGE
Trustees Annual Report:	1
Our purposes and activities	1
Achievements and performance	1
Financial review	3
Plans for future periods	4
Reference and administrative details	6
Structure, governance and management	7
Trustees' responsibilities relating to the financial statements	7
 Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees	 8
 Standard Form of Accounts:	 9
Church receipts and payments	9
Summary of Church Accounts and Internal Organisations	10
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	10
Declarations	11
 Notes to the Financial Statements	 12

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2025.

On 1st April 2023 Stockton Heath and Antrobus Methodist Churches merged to form a single society worshipping on two sites under the title of Stockton Heath Methodist Church.

Our purposes and activities

The church adopted a vision and mission statement in January 2015. This states:

The mission of Stockton Heath Methodist Church is to make and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ and explore and build the Kingdom of God.

We aim to become:

A vibrant church to which all our members are pleased to belong and where everyone feels able to contribute for the greater good of all.

A church which is growing numerically and spiritually in which the love of God is shown to all and ministry is supportive, challenging and outward looking.

Having agreed the above statement the Church Stewards and other groups were tasked with setting targets and objectives, which could then be measured.

Our main activities include:

- Holding acts of worship open to all to enable ordinary people to come to know the Lord Jesus;
- Meeting together in fellowship; and
- Providing space for and facilitating community activities.

We confirm that we have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and, specifically, the guidance relating to charities for the advancement of religion.

The Charity wishes to thank all those who volunteer their time to enable the Charity to carry out its activities and look after its buildings.

Achievements and performance

Stockton Heath

Church activities continued with regular worship every Sunday morning and a monthly evening service that was joint with the Anglicans and alternated between St Mary Magdalene's and our Church. The Sunday morning services were varied, and the pattern incorporated both a monthly Holy Communion service and a Family Worship which also happened monthly often coinciding with significant events in the religious calendar. We continued to offer services on Zoom with up to ten people watching. Our church was on the rota for Circuit Live Streaming of Sunday services. Sunday evening services happened most weeks at our sister Chapel in the neighbouring village of Antrobus. We shared a leadership team; members of both communities including stewards served on joint committees.

We were pleased that Reverend Jeremy Tresise, his wife and family lived in Stockton Heath

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

and worshiped regularly with us. Jeremy broadly looked after the south side of the Sankey Valley Circuit which included Stockton Heath, Antrobus and from summer 2025, Lymm. He also had other commitments across the Circuit. He also increased his work with the local primary school and this culminated in inviting Year 1 children to our Church just before Christmas to hear the Nativity story.

Our Church was involved with several programs for young people; Tot's Time for the very young, Sunday Club, and a young people's drama group, to name just three.

A notice in the Hall listed many internal clubs and outside organizations using the premises on a weekly basis, from Alcoholics Anonymous to Yoga with occasional bookings for one-off parties or other events.

Our Church continued to participate in Bridgewater Churches Together (BCT), an ecumenical council which organised various religious celebrations, such as an annual Christmas Carol Service at St Thomas led by preachers from various BCT churches. BCT also coordinated a scheme in which ministers and lay people preach to another church's congregation and have a chance to meet each other in Christian fellowship.

As usual in July, several Stockton Heath members acted as marshals for the Churches Together Walking Day which involved many from around eight Churches in the area walking through the village with banners celebrating Christian messages.

Also in July, one of our much loved members and local preachers, prepared a magnificent celebration service of music, readings and drama, marking the 500th Anniversary of William Tyndale's Bible (1525-1535). This was the first English translation to come directly from Hebrew and Greek texts and the first to be mass-produced via the printing press.

Members of the Stockton Heath congregation attended the Antrobus Harvest Festival, the Book Sale and various other services at Antrobus Chapel. Good fellowship and cake were enjoyed by all.

On August 3rd a Sunday afternoon reflective Meditation Walk around the village of Antrobus was held as an alternative to standard evening worship in the Chapel. Approximately 30 people went on the walk which visited St Mark's Church and several fields including one with inquisitive Alpacas. We were thinking about the land, nature and animals so was very appropriate. It was a well received act of worship and one that will be repeated. We engaged with several members of the public en-route who thought it was a lovely idea.

Several members of our Church continued to be active in another ecumenical event "We Are The Church" at Creamfields Festival, Daresbury. Around 70 Christians from about 20 local churches volunteered as pastors staffing two tents continuously for over 90 hours in August for the Annual electronic music festival which attracts over 50,000 people over the 4-days. It was a chance to speak to a group of people (mostly 18-40s) who are unlikely to come through the doors of our church building but appreciated the support we gave to them at the festival. Stockton Heath once again hosted a prayer get-together for the volunteers, on the Sunday before the festival.

Stockton Heath Methodist continued to be a very charitable congregation, collecting for various charities in addition to the three Circuit charities. There was a programme of monthly retiring collections, in addition to various other fundraising events such as the successful Christmas Fair at the end of November. 10% of giving was allocated to charities. We also supported the Disaster's Emergency Committee appeals. A full list of charities supported was listed on both the Church and Hall noticeboards.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

Antrobus

We had a stable and regular attendance of eleven at Antrobus and yet remained a recognised and respected part of the Antrobus Village Community; maintaining good ecumenical relations with St Marks Parish Church. We refreshed the kitchen decoration over the last year and continued with our 'traditions' of a February Jumble Sale, Easter, Harvest and Carol Services and Carol Singing for charity. We advertised our activities in our Village News and Grapevine to remind people of our presence.

Financial review

There was an overall deficit of £12,500 in the year, compared with a surplus of £17,000 in 2023/24 which had included a refund of the £20,000 donation to the Methodist Church Ministers Pension Fund Reserve made in 2022 which the Connexion no longer needed.

On our General Fund, we had a surplus in 2024/25 of £4,000 after transferring £5,000 into the Repairs Fund to cover the estimated costs of repairs at Antrobus Methodist Church reported in a quinquennial inspection. This compares to a surplus of £5,000 in 2023/24. Our lettings income was £3,000 higher than the previous year at £20,000. The cumulative General Fund balance at 31st August 2025 was £49,500.

At the end of the year, we held £151,000 in Unrestricted Designated Funds of which £41,000 was invested through TMCP in managed equity and fixed interest funds. Of the total Unrestricted Designated Funds, £51,000 is in a Capital Reserve for redevelopment and engaging a Lay Employee, £34,000 is in the Memorial Fund and £63,000 in the Repairs Fund (See Note 2 to the Accounts for the purpose of these funds.). A sum of £16,000 was paid in the year from the Repairs Fund for the replacement of the Stockton Heath Church heating boiler.

There are in addition, £19,000 of Restricted Funds which are detailed in Notes 1 and 4 to the Accounts.

Principal Funding Resources

The principal funding source of the Charity is voluntary offerings by our members. In addition, the church receives income from outside organisations (mainly not-for-profit) for use of its Stockton Heath premises.

Investment Powers

Under Methodist Standing Orders any moneys received from the sale of property must be invested with TMCP. Other funds not immediately required are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church.

Reserves Policy

The Charity requires reserves to ensure that it can cover timing differences between receipts and payments and to fund unexpected costs particularly in respect of its property. The Charity is planning to use its Capital Reserves to fund redevelopment works in its church building. In addition, the Charity has specific reserves to cover identified repair works to its property and the refurbishment of its organ.

The Church Council considers that an appropriate level of General Reserve is between three and four and a half months payments, which equates to £22,000 to £32,000. At 31 August 2025, the Church held £49,000. Part of the excess will be used to fund a projected budget

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

deficit of £6,000 in 2025/26.

Our reserves policy is reviewed annually in the light of year end balances and commitments.

Going Concern Basis

The Trustees confirm that there is a reasonable expectation that the Charity will continue to receive offerings from its members and can therefore continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the going concern basis has been adopted in preparing the Charity's financial statements.

Plans for future periods

Stockton Heath

Stockton Heath Methodist Church will continue its active relationship with Bridgewater Churches Together (BCT) as local Christians unite in purpose. Apart from Walking Day in the summer and a united service on Good Friday in Victoria Square there are several other occasions we plan to meet together. These include a united Christmas service in St Thomas' which this year is to be led by Appleton Independent Methodists; a new outdoor Christmas Celebration service in Victoria Square by the large Christmas Tree on December 22nd; a service at St Wilfrid's for the week of prayer for Christian Unity on January 18th 2026 and the Women's World Day of Prayer service on March 6th 2026 based on work of an ecumenical group of Christian women from Nigeria.

We plan to have a wide variety of styles of worship, led by lay and ordained preachers and worship leaders as well as the church stewards. We will have fewer worship leaders and local preachers available for the forthcoming year which will mean an increased need to invite guest preachers and have more local arranged services. One speaker booked for October is a pastor associated with Appleton Thorn prison.

We will continue to hold a monthly mid-week communion service mainly on the last Tuesday of the month, but this is flexible and incorporated into other events in the calendar such as Advent, Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday. These will be more reflective and intimate services with between 10 and 20 people attending.

We will continue to support a variety of charities, which will allow us to build up a relationship with both the charity and the causes they support. We have speakers coming to lead worship covering some charities including Shelter UK, the homeless charity.

Our Sankey Valley Circuit has launched a Circuit Purpose and Action Plan for the period 2025 – 2030. This has four elements to it under the themes of Worship, Evangelism, Learning & Caring and Service. Underpinning the mission priorities are prayer, responsible and sustainable financial practices and a desire for everyone's gifts to be expressed and affirmed. We as a Church will need to look to the future and determine the changes necessary to play our part in enabling the action plan.

Our minister plans to work to strengthen our ties with our nearby primary school, with regular visits to lead school assemblies and help in religious education lessons. Due to positive feedback the visit of children is due to be repeated for a Nativity tableau in December 2025 and a chance to cover the Easter story in March 2026.

In November 2025, we plan to celebrate 120 years of our church building. This will include a week of five special events and services to mark the occasion including a history evening, a music evening, an exhibition and two services. The Sunday morning service is to be led by

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

the Chair of the North West District, Rev James Tebbutt, which will include a symbolic "cutting a ribbon" by our newest member, remembering the past but looking to the future. The evening service is planned to be a café style ecumenical service on the theme of light and dark.

As there are some issues with contractors who are due to decorate the inside of the Church, we will be asking for help from Church members to work actively with the painting. Over 500 hours of volunteer time is likely to be needed along with a much smaller amount of contractor input for the ceiling to complete the redecoration scheme. The painting with a fresh colour scheme is to be followed by installing new carpets across the whole worship space. Ideally the work will be completed in time for the special Celebration 120 events. The refurbishment includes an upgrade of our audio-visual equipment and IT resources. These will enable us to improve the quality of our live-streamed services as well as improve the worship experience for those attending in person.

Antrobus

We aim to continue to be an active Christian presence in our community, with members of our congregation involved in the Governing of the Village School, Shop and Tea Room, the Womens Institute, the Friendship Club and actively supporting events at the Community Village Hall.

All of these activities will give us the opportunity for quiet mission and to be able to offer support to our village friends. We aim to reintroduce the flower giving so that we will be able to reach out to those in need of some comfort and cheer.

We will be celebrating 90 years of the current chapel building in 2026 and plan to have some social and musical events and religious services over the year. We plan to invite people with previous links to the chapel through Sunday School, Christenings, Weddings and Funerals. Many of our past and present friends and neighbours already have fond memories, and we hope to create more.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Stockton Heath Methodist Church
Charity registration number	1134148
Principal Office	Stockton Heath Methodist Church Heath Street Stockton Heath Warrington WA4 6LP

Our trustees

The Trustees as at 31 August 2025 were:

Circuit Superintendent Minister (Appointed by Circuit)	Revd Andy Moffoot
Circuit Minister (<i>Appointed by Circuit</i>)	Revd Jeremy Tresise (Chair)
Circuit Minister (Appointed by Circuit)	Revd Mark Harwood
Circuit Steward (<i>Appointed by Circuit</i>)	Mr Trevor Rhodes
Church Council Secretary	Mr Alan Rogers
Church Stewards	Mr David Maki (Senior)
	Mr Chris Arden
	Mrs Ann Bolshaw (Antrobus)
	Mr Geoff Clarke
	Mrs Fiona Morton
	Mrs Vivien Palmer
	Mr James Walker
	Mr John Humbles
Church Treasurer	Mrs Chris Park
Pastoral Secretary	Mr John Stott
Property / Redevelopment Convenor	Mr Richard Verrill
Worship Consultation Convenor	Mr Chris Arden
Health & Safety	Mrs Karen Maki
Safeguarding	Mrs Hazel Bradley
Elected Representatives	Mrs Barbara Maddock
(<i>Appointed by Church Meetings</i>)	Mrs Joyce Roe
	Mrs Margot Strong
	Miss Julia Whitfield
	Mrs Kath Hankey (Antrobus)
	Mr Stephen Bentley (Antrobus)

Except where indicated, Trustees are appointed by the Church Council.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes act as Custodian Trustees for the Charity's property.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

Structure, governance and management

Stockton Heath Methodist Church comprises buildings in Stockton Heath and Antrobus. It is part of the Sankey Valley Methodist Circuit and is governed by the Deed of Union 1932, Methodist Church Act 1932 and by the Methodist Church's Standing Orders. It is a registered charity.

The decision making body for the Charity (who are its Trustees) is the Church Council which is made up of the Circuit Superintendent Minister, another Circuit Minister, a Circuit Steward, the Church Stewards and Church Treasurer, Pastoral Committee Secretary, representatives elected by the General Church Meetings, and others to ensure that all areas of church life are adequately represented. At least one Church Steward must be from Antrobus together with two elected representatives from their General Church Meeting.

The Church Council is responsible for setting the strategy for the Charity and monitoring its achievement. In addition, there are committees to take forward our work in specific areas – Finance & Property, Worship and Pastoral.

Trustees responsibilities relating to the financial statements

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

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Circuit Minister / Chair of Church Council

Date: 12th February 2026

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st August 2025 set out on pages 8-9 and 11-12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement.

Independent examiner's statement

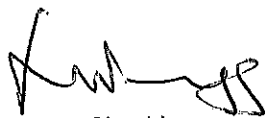
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Name: Mr G Pegg

Qualification: FCMA

Signed:



Date:

14/4/26.

Address: Lymm, Cheshire

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Previous Year £
RECEIPTS					
Offerings and tax recovered		54,345	-	54,345	54,898
Bank, CFB interest and investment income		8,013	-	8,013	9,629
Lettings		25,999	-	25,999	21,408
Other receipts		6,462	5,830	12,292	31,568
Total Receipts		94,819	5,830	100,649	117,503
PAYMENTS					
Circuit assessment		51,600	-	51,600	50,500
Donations		4,500	7,570	12,070	9,406
Repairs and maintenance		25,211	2,602	27,813	27,031
Insurance and utilities		14,721	-	14,721	10,343
Other payments		6,814	172	6,986	3,380
Total Payments		102,846	10,344	113,190	100,660
NET RECEIPTS / PAYMENTS		(8,027)	(4,514)	(12,541)	16,843
Total funds brought forward		167,978	19,299	187,277	170,434
SUB-TOTAL		159,951	14,785	174,736	187,277
Transfers between Funds	3	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	1 – 2	159,951	14,785	174,736	187,277

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO CHURCH COUNCIL

	Receipts	Payments	Net receipts / Payments	Opening Balances	Closing Balances
	£	£	£	£	£
Badminton Club	296	(200)	96	654	750
Dramatic Society	7,005	(5,445)	1,560	8,159	9,719
Loving Hearts & Hands	3,711	(3,617)	94	520	614
Tots Time	943	(1,954)	(1,011)	2,520	1,509
Others	-	(215)	(215)	502	287
Total Internal Orgs. Funds	11,955	(11,431)	524	12,355	12,879
Church Accounts	100,649	(113,190)	(12,541)	187,277	174,736
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	112,604	(124,621)	(12,017)	199,632	187,615

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CASH FUNDS HELD	As at 1 Sep. 24 £	As at 31 Aug. 25 £
Current Accounts	36,392	19,902
CFB - Deposit Account	131,457	135,220
TMCP - Trustees Interest Fund	19,428	19,429
Cash in hand	-	185
Sub Total – Church Accounts	187,277	174,736
Funds held by Internal Organisations	12,355	12,879
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	199,632	187,615

OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	As at 1 Sep. 24 £	As at 31 Aug. 25 £
Investments (Note 4)	45,791	46,178
Land and Buildings	5,390,967	5,531,151
Other Assets	179,098	183,756
Loans & Other Liabilities	-	-

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

DECLARATIONS

Church Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of Treasurer

J D Humbles

Date

20th October 2025

Name

J D Humbles CPFA

Presentation to Church Council for Approval

I confirm that the accounts have been presented to the Stockton Heath Church Council on 12th February 2026 and were approved.

Signature of Chair of Meeting

Jeremy Tresise

Date

12th February 2026

Name of Chair of Meeting

Revd Jeremy Tresise

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

1 RESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-24 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Aug-25 £
Benevolence Fund	152	-	(137)	-	15
Capital Reserve	5,018	-	-	-	5,018
Charity Fund	1,956	1,920	(1,940)	-	1,937
Defibrillator Fund	731	-	(174)	-	557
Emmanuel Sale Fund	4,700	-	-	-	4,700
Flower Fund	660	-	(35)	-	625
Memorial Fund	2,186	-	(2,186)	-	-
Special Collections Fund	3,320	3,910	(5,630)	-	1,600
Tech Grant	575	-	(242)	-	333
Total Restricted Funds	19,298	5,830	(10,344)	-	14,785

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

Benevolence Fund - This fund is maintained for the relief of poverty and distress in accordance with Standing Order 651 of the Methodist Church. A separate collection is no longer taken at the celebration of the sacrament of Holy Communion so once this Fund is expended, costs will be charged to the General Fund.

Capital Reserve - These monies relate to the balance of the sale of some land in 1975, the capital for which can only be used for major works to our property. The monies are being utilised to partly fund redevelopment of the Stockton Heath (SH) Church building.

Charity Fund – Monies raised by the church for external charitable purposes. Charities to be supported from the fund are proposed by the Annual General Church Meeting.

Defibrillator Fund – monies given to purchase/maintain defibrillators at Stockton Heath.

Emmanuel Sale Fund – monies from Antrobus Methodist Church which can only be spent on a capital scheme approved by the Methodist Church Property division.

Flower Fund - Monies given at Stockton Heath for buying flowers to decorate the church each Sunday which are then taken out to the unwell, housebound or bereaved.

Memorial Fund - Monies given in memory where the donor has specified either how the money is to be used or that they wish to approve its proposed use.

Special Collections Fund – This fund holds monies from retiring collections and other fund-raising activities. The balance held at 31st August 2024 included monies for "Active Hope" which will be available for use during 2024/25.

Tech Grant – This fund holds monies received from the Circuit which must be spent on upgrading the Stockton Heath Church's facilities for streaming its services.

The funds held by our **Internal Organisations** are also Restricted Funds.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2025

2 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-24	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31-Aug-25
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated Funds:					
Capital Reserve	9,710	-	-	-	9,710
Memorial Fund	34,516	1,000	(1,844)	-	33,672
Music Fund	263	-	-	-	263
Refreshments	3,572	328	(428)	-	3,452
Repairs Fund	74,087	-	(16,070)	5,000	63,017
	122,148	1,328	(18,362)	5,000	110,114
General Fund	45,831	93,479	(84,484)	(5,000)	49,837
Total Unrestricted Funds	167,979	110,912	(93,919)	-	159,951

Purposes of Unrestricted Designated Funds:

Capital Reserve – These monies arose from the sale of two cottages and is designated for church improvements and employing a lay worker. During the year, monies donated in January 2022 to the Methodist Ministers Pension Fund Reserve were returned.

Memorial Fund - Money given in memory where the donor has not specified how the money is to be spent. The fund is used for purchasing items of furniture and equipment.

Music Fund – Monies to be used for the purchase of music.

Refreshments - Monies from individuals and groups towards provision of fair-trade refreshments in the SH Church and Community Hall.

Repairs Fund - £5,000 was transferred into this fund to cover repairs listed in the quinquennial report for Antrobus church. £16,000 was expended on the replacement of the SH Church boiler. The remaining balance is in respect of the refurbishment of the SH organ, resurfacing of the SH car park and various other anticipated repairs to the SH Church building.

3 TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

The reasons for the transfers between funds was as follows:

From Fund	To Fund	Reason	Amount
General Fund	Repairs Fund	Quinquennial repairs at Antrobus Church	£5,000

4 INVESTMENTS

The Church's investments are held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes and relate to:

- the balance from the sale of two cottages in Stockton Heath (£42k) which is an Unrestricted Capital Reserve;
- a Memorial Gift to Antrobus Church (£2k) – Restricted Capital Reserve
- a Permanent Endowment to Antrobus Church (£2k) - Restricted Trust

The value of these investments increased by £500 in the year, after increasing by £4,000 in 2023/24.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1134148

Accounts

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
(worshipping in Stockton Heath & Antrobus)



ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

Charity Number 1134148

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

CONTENTS	PAGE
Trustees Annual Report:	1
Our purposes and activities	1
Achievements and performance	2
Financial review	3
Plans for future periods	4
Reference and administrative details	5
Structure, governance and management	6
Trustees' responsibilities relating to the financial statements	6
 Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees	 7
 Standard Form of Accounts:	 8
Church receipts and payments	8
Summary of Church Accounts and Internal Organisations	9
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	9
Declarations	10
 Notes to the Financial Statements	 11

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2024.

On 1st April 2023 Stockton Heath and Antrobus Methodist Churches merged to form a single society worshipping on two sites under the title of Stockton Heath Methodist Church.

Our purposes and activities

The church adopted a vision and mission statement in January 2015. This states:

The mission of Stockton Heath Methodist Church is to make and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ and explore and build the Kingdom of God.

We aim to become:

A vibrant church to which all our members are pleased to belong and where everyone feels able to contribute for the greater good of all.

A church which is growing numerically and spiritually in which the love of God is shown to all and ministry is supportive, challenging and outward looking.

Having agreed the above statement the Church Stewards and other groups were tasked with setting targets and objectives, which could then be measured.

Our main activities include:

- Holding acts of worship open to all to enable ordinary people to come to know the Lord Jesus;
- Meeting together in fellowship; and
- Providing space for and facilitating community activities.

We confirm that we have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and, specifically, the guidance relating to charities for the advancement of religion.

The Charity wishes to thank all those who volunteer their time to enable the Charity to carry out its activities and look after its buildings.

Achievements and performance

Stockton Heath

As COVID, or at least the restrictions, for practical purposes became a bad memory, all activities at our church continued to roll along. An announcement board in the Hall listed about twenty outside organizations using the Hall, from Alcoholics Anonymous to Yoga. The Church offered regular worship every Sunday with occasional All Age Worship. We continued to offer services on Zoom with about ten folk watching on average. Our church was also on the rota for Circuit Live Streaming of Sunday services.

Reverend Jeremy Tresise is well-integrated and well-liked in the Stockton Heath community and also preached at our sister Church in Antrobus. The Antrobus Church steward, met with

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

the Stockton Heath stewards. Jeremy kept both sides aware of the other church's needs and doings providing for excellent communication. Many of the Stockton Heath congregation attended the Harvest Festival and the Book Sale at Antrobus Church. Good fellowship and excellent eating were enjoyed by all.

The Christmas Angels program, organized by Hazel Bradley and Jane Otterson, is a scheme in which our church members were able to help prisoners provide gifts for their children. About twenty children were helped to a Happy Christmas through our efforts.

In July, several Stockton Heath Congregants acted as marshals for Walking Day while many of our Church walked that long parade in the rain celebrating Christianity up and down the streets of the Village.

Our Church was involved with several programs for young people; Tot's Time for the very young, Sunday Club, and a young people's drama group, to name just three. Tot's Time has seen some reduction in the number of children seen, due it is thought to a new Government scheme offering financial support for nursery time for children nine months and older.

Our Church continued to participate in Bridgewater Churches Together (BCT), an ecumenical council, which organises various religious celebrations, such as an annual Christmas Carol Service at St Thomas led by preachers from various BCT churches. BCT also coordinates a scheme in which ministers preach to another church's congregation and lay people have a chance to meet each other in Christian Fellowship.

Our Church was very active in "We Are The Church" at Creamfields Festival this year. Six people (up from three) volunteered as pastors with a member loaning the Creamfields Church an enormous marquee, which was unfortunately damaged in a horrific windstorm. Stockton Heath hosted a prayer get-together for the volunteers where Jeremy stopped by to offer a blessing. Just FYI, more than 1,400 packets of Jammy Dodgers were distributed this year.

Stockton Heath Methodist continues to be a very charitable congregation, collecting for; Halton Haven Hospice, Warrington Food Bank, Embrace, Christian Aid, Lend with Care, World Mission Fund, Action for Children, and a Leprosy charity. In addition, donations were made through the Disasters Emergency Committee in support of tragedies in Libya and Gaza.

In July, a magnificent celebration of Isaac Watt's 350th birthday was held at our Church with one of our lay preachers organizing a circuit-wide celebration in song. The choir had some forty voices singing to a packed church. An excellent time was had by all. A retiring collection was directed to the Circuit charities.

Antrobus

At our church at Antrobus we held our annual jumble sale for church funds involving the whole village (Feb 2024). We carried out carol singing throughout the village with members of St Mark's church and other villagers (Dec 2023). We held a well-attended Harvest Service with donations sent to the local Food Bank. A Summer Book sale was held in August 2024.

We continued to hold a united act of worship once a month with St Mark's Anglican Church, alternately at each location; and try to keep a variety of Service styles over the year. We actively worked together with St Mark's on Village Events. Annual joint services include Mothering Sunday, Easter; Good Friday Frugal Meal and the Rose Queen Fete service.

We continue to use the Screen technology when needed and have an excellent Wi-Fi reception in the church building.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

Financial review

There was an overall surplus of £17,000 in the year, which included a refund of the £20,000 donation to the Methodist Church Ministers Pension Fund Reserve made in January 2022 which the Connexion no longer needed. The 2023/24 surplus compares with a surplus of £60,000 in 2022/23, which had included transfers from Antrobus Church when the two churches united.

On our General Fund, we had a surplus in 2023/24 of £8,000 after transferring £16,000 into the Repairs Fund to cover the quoted cost of a replacement heating boiler in the Stockton Heath church building. This compares to a deficit of £8,000 in 2022/23. Both our collections and lettings income were slightly higher than the previous year. The cumulative General Fund balance at 31st August 2024 was £49,000.

At the end of the year, we held £163,000 in Unrestricted Designated Funds of which £41,000 was invested through TMCP in managed equity and fixed interest funds. Of the total Unrestricted Designated Funds, £51,000 is in a Capital Reserve for redevelopment and engaging a Lay Employee, £35,000 is in the Memorial Fund and £74,000 in the Repairs Fund (See Note 2 to the Accounts for the purpose of these funds.). A sum of £12,000 was paid in the year from the Repairs Fund for the replacement of the Stockton Heath Hall heating boiler.

There is in addition, £19,000 of Restricted Funds which are detailed in Note 1 to the Accounts.

Principal Funding Resources

The principal funding source of the Charity is voluntary offerings by our members. In addition, the church receives income from outside organisations (mainly not-for-profit) for use of its Stockton Heath premises.

Investment Powers

Under Methodist Standing Orders any moneys received from the sale of property must be invested with TMCP. Other funds not immediately required are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church.

Reserves Policy

The Charity requires reserves to ensure that it can cover timing differences between receipts and payments and to fund unexpected costs particularly in respect of its property. The Charity is planning to use its Capital Reserves to fund redevelopment works in its church building. In addition, the Charity has specific reserves to cover identified repair works to its property and the refurbishment of its organ.

The Church Council considers that an appropriate level of General Reserve is between three and four and a half months payments, which equates to £19,000 to £29,000. At 31 August 2024, the Church held £41,000. Part of the excess will be used to fund a projected budget deficit of £7,000 in 2023/24.

Our reserves policy is reviewed annually in the light of year end balances and commitments.

Going Concern Basis

The Trustees confirm that there is a reasonable expectation that the Charity will continue to receive offerings from its members and can therefore continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the going concern basis has been adopted in preparing the Charity's financial statements.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

Plans for future periods

Stockton Heath

Stockton Heath Methodist Church will continue its active relationship with Bridgewater Churches Together as local Christians united in purpose.

We continue to enjoy a wide variety of styles of worship, led by both lay and ordained preachers and worship leaders as well as the church stewards being responsible for Local Arrangements.

We now hold a monthly mid-week communion service on the last Tuesday of the month. These are more reflective and intimate services with up to 15 people attending.

Stockton Heath church is home for many activities; Drama group, Tot's time, home bible study, and pastoral visitors to name just a few. All these activities are functioning well and will be encouraged to continue providing amusement, education, human interaction, and worship activities for the church membership and the community in which we live.

We will continue to support a variety of charities, concentrating on a smaller number, which allows us to build up a relationship with both the charity and the causes they support. We continue to explore new opportunities to share our abundance with those in sore need. "He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever; his strength is exalted in honour." {Psalm 112:9}

Our Circuit at present is in a period of Discernment, initiated through the help of the Methodist Learning Network. This is an opportunity to deepen our attentiveness to God, to better develop a more prayerful and God-centered approach as we discuss how we see the church of the future and determine the changes necessary to enable this to happen.

We will continue to strengthen our ties with our nearby primary school, with visits by Year 1 and 2 pupils to the church at Christmas and Easter, and regular visits by our Minister to school to lead school assemblies and help in RE lessons.

In June 2025, we will participate once more in Bible Month, when we will be using the resources published by the Methodist Church to study in greater depth, the gospel of John.

In November 2025, we will celebrate 120 years of our church building's present location. This will include a weekend of special events to mark the occasion and a looking forward to the future. We are also working actively to complete the refurbishment scheme for our worship space in time for these special events. These refurbishments include an upgrade of our audio-visual equipment and IT resources. These will enable us to improve the quality of our live-streamed services as well as improve the worship experience of those attending in person. Refurbishment of the décor is also envisaged with a fresh colour scheme and carpeting throughout.

Antrobus

We are now an integral part of Stockton Heath Methodist Church and plan to join in various joint services through the year.

We aim to be an active Christian presence in our community, with members of our congregation involved in the life of the Village School, Shop and Tea Room, the W.I., the Friendship Club and events at the Community Village Hall.

One of our members is a regular volunteer in the Village Shop which creates an excellent village hub. Another member continues to be a Foundation Governor at the Federation of Antrobus St Marks and Great Budworth and co-runs the Village Friendship Club.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

We are enjoying our new relationship as part of Stockton Heath Methodist but pleased that we still have a local identity in Antrobus Village. We feel that we are open to new ideas and approaches within the context of the church family and how best to support discipleship and Christian support locally.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Stockton Heath Methodist Church
Charity registration number	1134148
Principal Office	Stockton Heath Methodist Church Heath Street Stockton Heath Warrington WA4 6LP

Our trustees

The Trustees as at 31 August 2024 were:

Circuit Superintendent Minister (Appointed by Circuit)	Revd Andy Moffoot
Circuit Minister (Appointed by Circuit)	Revd Jeremy Tresise (Chair)
Circuit Minister (Appointed by Circuit)	Revd Mark Harwood
Circuit Steward (Appointed by Circuit)	Mr Alan Rogers
Church Council Secretary	Mr Trevor Rhodes
Church Stewards	Mr David Maki (Senior)
	Mr Chris Arden
	Mrs Ann Bolshaw (Antrobus)
	Mr Geoff Clarke
	Mrs Fiona Morton
	Mrs Vivien Palmer
Church Treasurer	Mr John Humbles
Pastoral Secretary	Mrs Chris Park
Property / Redevelopment Convenor	Mr John Stott
Worship Consultation Convenor	Mr Richard Verrill
Health & Safety	Mr Chris Arden
Safeguarding	Mrs Karen Maki
Elected Representatives	Mrs Hazel Bradley
(Appointed by Church Meetings)	Mrs Chris Park
	Mrs Margot Strong
	Miss Julia Whitfield
	Mrs Kath Hankey (Antrobus)
	Mr Stephen Bentley (Antrobus)

Except where indicated, Trustees are appointed by the Church Council.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes act as Custodian Trustees for the Charity's property.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

Structure, governance and management

Stockton Heath Methodist Church comprises buildings in Stockton Heath and Antrobus. It is part of the Sankey Valley Methodist Circuit and is governed by the Deed of Union 1932, Methodist Church Act 1932 and by the Methodist Church's Standing Orders. It is a registered charity.

The decision making body for the Charity (who are its Trustees) is the Church Council which is made up of the Circuit Superintendent Minister, another Circuit Minister, a Circuit Steward, the Church Stewards and Church Treasurer, Pastoral Committee Secretary, representatives elected by the General Church Meetings, and others to ensure that all areas of church life are adequately represented. At least one Church Steward must be from Antrobus together with two elected representatives from their General Church Meeting.

The Church Council is responsible for setting the strategy for the Charity and monitoring its achievement. In addition, there are committees to take forward our work in specific areas – Finance & Property, Worship and Pastoral.

Trustees responsibilities relating to the financial statements

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

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Circuit Minister / Chair of Church Council

Date: 20th February 2025

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st August 2024 set out on pages 8-9 and 11-12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement.

Independent examiner's statement

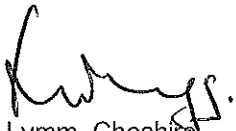
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Name: Mr G Pegg

Qualification: FCMA

Signed:



Date:

14 April 2025.

Address: Lymm, Cheshire

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Previous Year £
RECEIPTS					
Offerings and tax recovered		54,898	-	54,898	51,094
Bank, CFB interest and investment income		9,629	-	9,629	4,366
Lettings		21,408	-	21,408	24,296
Sale of Investments		-	-	-	30,011
Other receipts		24,977	6,591	31,568	32,860
Total Receipts		110,912	6,591	117,503	142,627
PAYMENTS					
Circuit assessment		50,500	-	50,500	40,350
Donations		4,500	4,906	9,406	11,061
Repairs and maintenance		25,264	1,767	27,031	18,225
Insurance and utilities		10,343	-	10,343	9,526
Other payments		3,312	68	3,380	3,306
Total Payments		93,919	6,741	100,660	82,468
NET RECEIPTS / PAYMENTS		16,993	(150)	16,843	60,159
Total funds brought forward		150,986	19,448	170,434	110,275
SUB-TOTAL		167,979	19,298	187,277	170,434
Transfers between Funds	3	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	1 – 2	167,979	19,298	187,277	170,434

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO CHURCH COUNCIL

	Receipts	Payments	Net receipts / Payments	Opening Balances	Closing Balances
	£	£	£	£	£
Badminton Club	301	(335)	(34)	688	654
Dramatic Society	11,791	(9,163)	2,628	5,531	8,159
Loving Hearts & Hands	3,083	(3,179)	(96)	616	520
Tots Time	1,215	(885)	330	2,190	2,520
Others	-0	-0	-	502	502
Total Internal Orgs. Funds	16,390	(13,562)	2,828	9,527	12,355
Church Accounts	117,503	(100,660)	16,843	170,434	187,277
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	133,893	(114,222)	19,671	179,961	199,632

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CASH FUNDS HELD	As at 1 Sep. 23 £	As at 31 Aug. 24 £
Current Accounts	40,837	36,392
CFB - Deposit Account	104,279	131,457
TMCP - Trustees Interest Fund	25,318	19,428
Sub Total – Church Accounts	170,434	187,277
Funds held by Internal Organisations	9,527	12,355
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	179,961	199,632

OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	As at 1 Sep. 23 £	As at 31 Aug. 24 £
Investments (Note 4)	41,708	45,791
Land and Buildings	5,178,848	5,390,967
Other Assets	170,743	179,098
Loans & Other Liabilities	-	-

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

DECLARATIONS

Church Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of Treasurer

J D Humbles

Date

23rd October 2024

Name

J D Humbles CPFA

Presentation to Church Council for Approval

I confirm that the accounts have been presented to the Stockton Heath Church Council on
February 2025 and were approved.

Signature of Chair of
Meeting

Jeremy Tresise

Date

February 2025

Name of Chair of Meeting

Revd Jeremy Tresise

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

1 RESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-23	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance 31-Aug-24
	£	£	£	£	£
Benevolence Fund	200	-	(48)	-	152
Capital Reserve	6,785	-	(1,767)	-	5,018
Charity Fund	1,801	1,955	(1,800)	-	1,956
Defibrillator Fund	731	-	-	-	731
Emmanuel Sale Fund	4,700	-	-	-	4,700
Flower Fund	680	-	(20)	-	660
Memorial Fund	2,186	-	-	-	2,186
Special Collections Fund	1,790	4,636	(3,106)	-	3,320
Tech Grant	575	-	-	-	575
Total Restricted Funds	19,448	6,591	(6,741)	-	19,298

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

Benevolence Fund - This fund is maintained for the relief of poverty and distress in accordance with Standing Order 651 of the Methodist Church. A separate collection is no longer taken at the celebration of the sacrament of Holy Communion so once this Fund is expended, costs will be charged to the General Fund.

Capital Reserve - These monies relate to the balance of the sale of some land in 1975, the capital for which can only be used for major works to our property. The monies are being utilised to partly fund redevelopment of the Stockton Heath (SH) Church building.

Charity Fund – Monies raised by the church for external charitable purposes. Charities to be supported from the fund are proposed by the Annual General Church Meeting.

Defibrillator Fund – monies given to purchase/maintain defibrillators at Stockton Heath.

Emmanuel Sale Fund – monies from Antrobus Methodist Church which can only be spent on a capital scheme approved by the Methodist Church Property division.

Flower Fund - Monies given at Stockton Heath for buying flowers to decorate the church each Sunday which are then taken out to the unwell, housebound or bereaved.

Memorial Fund - Monies given in memory where the donor has specified either how the money is to be used or that they wish to approve its proposed use.

Special Collections Fund – This fund holds monies from retiring collections and other fund-raising activities. The balance held at 31st August 2024 included monies for "Active Hope" which will be available for use during 2024/25.

Tech Grant – This fund holds monies received from the Circuit which must be spent on upgrading the Stockton Heath Church's facilities for streaming its services.

The funds held by our **Internal Organisations** are also Restricted Funds.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

2 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-23 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31-Aug-24 £
Designated Funds:					
Capital Reserve	3,375	9,500	(3,165)	-	9,710
Memorial Fund	34,516	-	-	-	34,516
Music Fund	263	-	-	-	263
Refreshments	2,437	1,267	(132)	-	3,572
Repairs Fund	69,313	3,000	(14,226)	16,000	74,087
	109,904	13,767	(17,523)	16,000	122,148
General Fund	41,082	97,145	(76,396)	(16,000)	45,831
Total Unrestricted Funds	150,986	110,912	(93,919)	-	167,979

Purposes of Unrestricted Designated Funds:

Capital Reserve – These monies arose from the sale of two cottages and is designated for church improvements and employing a lay worker. During the year, monies donated in January 2022 to the Methodist Ministers Pension Fund Reserve were returned.

Memorial Fund - Money given in memory where the donor has not specified how the money is to be spent. The fund is used for purchasing items of furniture and equipment.

Music Fund – Monies to be used for the purchase of music.

Refreshments - Monies from individuals and groups towards provision of fair-trade refreshments in the SH Church and Community Hall.

Repairs Fund - £16,000 was transferred into this fund in respect of the quoted cost of replacing the SH church boiler. £14,000 was expended on the SH Community Hall boiler. The remaining balance is in respect of the refurbishment of the SH organ, resurfacing of the SH car park and various other anticipated repairs to the SH Church building.

3 TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

The reasons for the transfers between funds was as follows:

From Fund	To Fund	Reason	Amount
General Fund	Repairs Fund	Quoted cost of replacement of SH Church boiler	£16,000

4 INVESTMENTS

The Church's investments are held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes and relate to:

- the balance from the sale of two cottages in SH (£41k) which is an Unrestricted Capital Reserve;
- a Memorial Gift to Antrobus Church (£2k) – Restricted Capital Reserve
- a Permanent Endowment to Antrobus Church (£2k) - Restricted Trust

The value of the investments increased by £4,000 in the year, after falling £10,000 in 2022/23.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1134148

Accounts

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
(worshipping in Stockton Heath & Antrobus)



**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**
FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

Charity Number 1134148

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

CONTENTS	PAGE
Trustees Annual Report:	1
Our purposes and activities	1
Achievements and performance	1
Financial review	3
Plans for future periods	4
Reference and administrative details	5
Structure, governance and management	6
Trustees' responsibilities relating to the financial statements	6
 Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees	 7
 Standard Form of Accounts:	 8
Church receipts and payments	8
Summary of Church Accounts and Internal Organisations	9
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	9
Declarations	10
 Notes to the Financial Statements	 11

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2023.

On 1st April 2023 Stockton Heath and Antrobus Methodist Churches merged to form a single society worshipping on two sites under the title of Stockton Heath Methodist Church.

Our purposes and activities

The church adopted a vision and mission statement in January 2015. This states:

The mission of Stockton Heath Methodist Church is to make and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ and explore and build the Kingdom of God.

We aim to become:

A vibrant church to which all our members are pleased to belong and where everyone feels able to contribute for the greater good of all.

A church which is growing numerically and spiritually in which the love of God is shown to all and ministry is supportive, challenging and outward looking.

Having agreed the above statement the Church Stewards and other groups were tasked with setting targets and objectives, which could then be measured.

Our main activities include:

- Holding acts of worship open to all to enable ordinary people to come to know the Lord Jesus;
- Meeting together in fellowship; and
- Providing space for and facilitating community activities.

We confirm that we have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and, specifically, the guidance relating to charities for the advancement of religion.

The Charity wishes to thank all those who volunteer their time to enable the Charity to carry out its activities and look after its buildings.

Achievements and performance

Although Covid remained a threat to the community at large, all activities at church, whether worship, celebration, or use by outside organizations largely returned to pre-Covid levels. The church continued to air services via Zoom, benefitting those who were not able to be present in person for worship. In addition, our service was occasionally shared as a You Tube presentation across the Circuit.

On 1st April 2023, Antrobus Church formally merged with Stockton Heath Church forming a single society worshipping on two sites. This was celebrated at a joint service and meal at Antrobus Church. One of their members joined the Stockton Heath stewards to ensure church-to-church communication.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

Our churches looked forward to a new minister, Reverend Jeremy Tresise, who was to have pastoral charge from 1st September 2023. As the existing manse was deemed unsuitable, a new one was purchased for Jeremy and his family by the Circuit. Many church members volunteered their time to sprucing up the house and grounds.

The Coronation of King Charles III was celebrated with a festive, well-attended meal at Stockton Heath church whilst Antrobus were involved in a Village Coronation Service at St Marks and the Village Coronation Street Party.

Our church donated £500 to St Thomas's Church to help support a Warm Welcome program. The point of this program was to provide a warm, non-threatening space and a light meal to those in need. Further, it was also a place for social interaction for people suffering loneliness for any reason. In addition to funds, several members of our church volunteered to greet people, serve food and tea, and so forth. Unfortunately, very few people used these services.

Stockton Heath church once again participated in the annual Walking Day celebration, whilst Antrobus hosted a Village Fete Service and welcomed the Rose Queen and Rose King.

At the Stockton Heath Annual Church Meeting a vote was taken on God In Love Unites Us. The congregation voted to allow same-sex marriage in the church. Antrobus Church had agreed to do so prior to the merger.

In early 2023, a few male members of the congregation attempted to develop friendly relations with refugees lodging at the Fir Grove Hotel. It was hoped that their presence would provide some human warmth for these men and perhaps an opportunity for them to practice English. At this time the news was full of items about protests at various refugee accommodations. Unfortunately, the residents chose not to associate with their visitors over several visits, hence the scheme was abandoned.

As the demand on the Warrington Food Bank had skyrocketed under a poor economy, the church has continued its support.

The Church obtained a Cashless card machine. The stewards operate this device which allows donations to be made by card to the church account. So far, its main use has been for special collections.

With the closure of Bold Street church, about six people joined us for worship at Stockton Heath. In addition, our remaining pews were removed, and the Bold Street chairs were bought from the Circuit. This allows more flexibility in the seating arrangements.

In August 2023, two church members attended the Creamfields music festival in a pastoral role, along with many other Christians, through the ecumenical organization "We Are The Church". The purpose of this group was to provide water, Jammy Dodgers, and spiritual comfort to concert goers in need. In addition to a regular money donation, the congregation donated two or three hundred boxes of Jammy Dodgers, the signature snack offered at the tents.

Our church continued to participate in Bridgewater Churches Together (BCT), an ecumenical council, which organizes various celebrations. BCT also coordinates a scheme in which ministers preach to another church's congregation and lay people have an opportunity to meet each other in Christian fellowship.

Our church remained involved with several programs for youth; Tot's Time, Sunday Club, and a young people's drama group, to name just three. All are well attended.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

Our churches continued to support many charities in both an on-going and emergency basis. Antrobus Hosted a Good Friday Charity Frugal Meal in the Village Hall with donations going direct to a 'Childrens Waiting Area at Northwich Victoria Infirmary'.

Financial review

There was an overall surplus of £60,000 in the year, which compares with a deficit of £45,000 in the previous year. This surplus included the transfer in of £23,000 from Antrobus Church and £30,000 from the sale of investments.

On our General Fund, we had a surplus of £10,000. after transferring £28,500 into the Repairs Fund to work anticipated works at Stockton Heath Church - car park re-surfacing (£1,500), Hall boiler (£12,000), and church roof tiling (£15,000). This compares to a deficit of £4,000 in 2021/22. Our collections remained steady whilst our lettings income recovered to the pre-covid level. The cumulative General Fund balance at 31st August 2023 was £41,000.

At the end of the year, we held £148,000 in Unrestricted Designated Funds of which £38,000 was invested through TMCP in managed equity and fixed interest funds. In the year, £11,000 was spent on the Stockton Heath church redevelopment scheme. Of the total Unrestricted Designated Funds, £41,000 is in a Capital Reserve for redevelopment and engaging a Lay Employee, £34,000 is in the Memorial Fund and £69,000 in the Repairs Fund (See Note 2 to the Accounts for the purpose of these funds.).

There is in addition, a restricted Capital Reserve of £7,000 held in a cash fund with TMCP which can only be used for approved property schemes, and is ear-marked for use towards completing our church redevelopment scheme.

Principal Funding Resources

The principal funding source of the Charity is voluntary offerings by our members. In addition, the church receives income from outside organisations (mainly not-for-profit) for use of its Stockton Heath premises.

Investment Powers

Under Methodist standing Orders any moneys received from the sale of property must be invested with TMCP. Other funds not immediately required are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church.

Reserves Policy

The Charity requires reserves to ensure that it can cover timing differences between receipts and payments and to fund unexpected costs particularly in respect of its property. The Charity is planning to use its Capital Reserves to fund redevelopment works in its church building and the appointment of a family and children's worker. In addition, the Charity has specific reserves to cover identified repair works to its property and the refurbishment of its organ.

The Church Council considers that an appropriate level of General Reserve is between three and four and a half months payments, which equates to £19,000 to £29,000. At 31 August 2023, we held £41,000. Part of the excess will be used to fund a projected budget deficit of £7,000 in 2023/24.

Our reserves policy is reviewed annually in the light of year end balances and commitments.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

Going Concern Basis

The Trustees confirm that there is a reasonable expectation that the Charity will continue to receive offerings from its members and can therefore continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the going concern basis has been adopted in preparing the Charity's financial statements.

Plans for future periods

Sankey Valley Circuit recently made a presentation on the need for growth in its churches. In response, our church has formed a committee to examine our practices, especially in our interaction with the general community. The thrust is to bring more people into God's house and share the joy that comes with active Christian faith.

We will support our new minister, Revd Jeremy Tresise, as we and he come to know each other more closely, and to know each other's needs more clearly, as time proceeds.

We will seek ways in which our two churches can meet together for both worship and fellowship.

As the economy shows little sign of imminent improvement Warrington Food Bank will surely see further demand for food. Hopefully, our church members will increase the amount of food, money, and volunteer time to help the Food Bank meet the needs of its clients. Closer interaction with the Food Bank Church Ambassador should clarify exactly what needs doing.

We will continue to support charities we have histories with, support those in dire need as we are able, and explore new opportunities to share our abundance with those in sore need. "Truly, I say unto you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."

Our church will continue to provide volunteers, funds, and Jammy Dodgers to support those in spiritual need at Creamfields.

Our church will continue our relationship with BCT as Christians united in purpose and both Stockton Heath and Antrobus churches will develop their relationships with their parish churches.

Stockton Heath church is home for many activities; Drama Group, Tot's time, home bible study, and pastoral visitors to name a few. All these are functioning well and ought to be encouraged to continue providing amusement, education, and human interaction for the church membership and the community at large.

We will endeavour to find new ways to relate to our community, to help those in either economic or spiritual need, and so spread the good news of the Gospel and the peaceful joy of having Christ in your life.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Stockton Heath Methodist Church
Charity registration number	1134148
Principal Office	Stockton Heath Methodist Church Heath Street Stockton Heath Warrington WA4 6LP

Our trustees

The Trustees as at 31 August 2023 were:

Circuit Superintendent Minister (Appointed by Circuit)	Revd Andy Moffoot
Circuit Minister (<i>Appointed by Circuit</i>)	Revd Linda Bishop (Chair)
Circuit Minister (Appointed by Circuit)	Revd Mark Harwood
Circuit Steward (<i>Appointed by Circuit</i>)	Mr Alan Rogers
Church Council Secretary	Mr Alan Rogers
Church Stewards	Mrs Ann Eggboro (Senior) Mrs Catherine Ardern Mrs Ann Bolshaw (Antrobus) Mr David Maki Mrs Fiona Morton Mrs Vivien Palmer
Church Treasurer	Mr John Humbles
Pastoral Secretary	Mrs Angela Huntley
Property / Redevelopment Convenor	Mr John Stott
Worship Consultation Convenor	Mr Richard Verrill
Health & Safety	Mr Chris Ardern
Safeguarding	Mrs Karen Maki
Elected Representatives (<i>Appointed by Church Meetings</i>)	Mrs Hazel Bradley Mr Geoff Clarke Mrs Chris Park Mrs Margot Strong Miss Julia Whitfield Mrs Kath Hankey Mr Stephen Bentley

Except where indicated, Trustees are appointed by the Church Council.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes act as Custodian Trustees for the Charity's property.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

Structure, governance and management

Stockton Heath Methodist Church is part of the Sankey Valley Methodist Circuit and is governed by the Deed of Union 1932, Methodist Church Act 1932 and by the Methodist Church's Standing Orders. It is a registered charity.

The decision making body for the Charity (who are its Trustees) is the Church Council which is made up of the Circuit Superintendent Minister, another Circuit Minister, a Circuit Steward, the Church Stewards and Church Treasurer, Pastoral Committee Secretary, representatives elected by the General Church Meetings, and others to ensure that all areas of church life are adequately represented. At least one Church Steward must be from Antrobus together with two elected representatives from their General Church Meeting.

The Church Council is responsible for setting the strategy for the Charity and monitoring its achievement. In addition, there are committees to take forward our work in specific areas - Worship, Pastoral and Property.

Trustees responsibilities relating to the financial statements

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

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Circuit Minister / Chair of Church Council

Date: 29th February 2024

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st August 2023 set out on pages 8-9 and 11-12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Name: Mr G Pegg

Qualification: FCMA

Signed:

Date:

Address: Lymm, Cheshire

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Previous Year £
RECEIPTS					
Offerings and tax recovered		51,094		51,094	40,908
Bank, CFB interest and investment income		4,366		4,366	1,519
Lettings		24,296		24,296	12,543
Sale of investments		30,011		30,011	
Other receipts		21,039	11,821	32,860	7,630
Total Receipts		130,806	11,821	142,627	62,600
PAYMENTS					
Circuit assessment		40,350		40,350	39,000
Donations		4,000	7,061	11,061	8,644
Repairs and maintenance		15,558	2,667	18,225	32,685
Insurance and utilities		9,526		9,526	7,397
Other payments		3,272	34	3,306	19,995
Total Payments		72,706	9,762	82,468	107,721
NET RECEIPTS / PAYMENTS		58,100	2,069	60,159	(45,121)
Total funds brought forward		93,039	17,236	110,275	155,396
SUB-TOTAL		151,139	19,295	170,434	110,275
Transfers between Funds	3	(153)	153	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	1 – 2	150,986	19,448	170,434	110,275

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO CHURCH COUNCIL

	Receipts	Payments	Net receipts / Payments	Opening Balances	Closing Balances
	£	£	£	£	£
Badminton Club	390	(420)	(30)	718	688
Dramatic Society	15,271	(13,324)	1,947	3,584	5,531
Loving Hearts & Hands	2,556	(2,377)	179	437	616
Sunday Club Special Fund	-	(234)	(234)	530	296
Tots Time	1,520	(2,863)	(1,343)	3,533	2,190
Others	-	(84)	(84)	290	206
Total Internal Orgs. Funds	19,737	(19,302)	435	9,092	9,527
Church Accounts	142,627	(82,468)	60,159	110,275	170,434
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	162,364	(101,770)	60,594	119,367	179,961

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CASH FUNDS HELD	As at 1 Sep. 22	As at 31 Aug. 23
	£	£
Cash in Hand	18	-
Current Accounts	38,477	40,837
CFB - Deposit Account	63,342	104,279
TMCP - Trustees Interest Fund	8,438	25,318
Sub Total – Church Accounts	110,275	170,434
Funds held by Internal Organisations	9,092	9,527
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	119,367	179,961

OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	As at 1 Sep. 22	As at 31 Aug. 23
	£	£
Investments (Note 4)	68,288	41,708
Land and Buildings	3,683,639	5,178,848
Other Assets	99,082	170,743
Loans & Other Liabilities	-	-

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

DECLARATIONS

Church Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of Treasurer



Date

30th October 2023

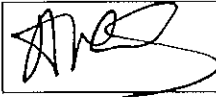
Name

J D Humbles CPFA

Presentation to Church Council for Approval

I confirm that the accounts have been presented to the Stockton Heath Church Council on February 2024 and were approved.

Signature of Chair of Meeting



Date

29th February 2024

Name of Chair of Meeting

Revd Jeremy Tresise

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

1 RESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-22	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance 31-Aug-23
	£	£	£	£	£
Benevolence Fund	47	-		153	200
Capital Reserve	6,785	-	-		6,785
Charity Fund	1,900	1,801	(1,900)	-	1,801
Defibrillator Fund	731	-	-	-	731
Emmanuel Sale Fund	-	4,700	-	-	4,700
Flower Fund	713		(33)	-	680
Memorial Fund	3,281	-	(1,095)	-	2,186
Special Collections Fund	1,631	5,320	(5,161)	-	1,790
Tech Grant	2,148	-	(1,573)		575
Total Restricted Funds	17,236	11,821	(9,762)	153	19,448

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

Benevolence Fund - This fund is maintained for the relief of poverty and distress in accordance with Standing Order 651 of the Methodist Church. As a separate collection is no longer taken at the celebration of the sacrament of Holy Communion, it is funded by transfers from the General Fund.

Capital Reserve - These monies relate to the balance of the sale of some land in 1975, the capital for which can only be used for major works to our property. The monies are being utilised to fund redevelopment of the Stockton Heath Church building.

Charity Fund – Monies raised by the church for external charitable purposes. Charities to be supported from the fund are agreed by the Annual General Church Meeting.

Defibrillator Fund – monies given to purchase a defibrillator at Stockton Heath.

Emmanuel Sale Fund – monies from Antrobus Methodist Church which can only be spent on a capital scheme approved by the Methodist Church Property division.

Flower Fund - Monies given at Stockton Heath for buying flowers to decorate the church each Sunday which are then taken out to the unwell, housebound or bereaved.

Memorial Fund - Monies given in memory where the donor has specified either how the money is to be used or that they wish to approve its proposed use.

Special Collections Fund – This fund holds monies from retiring collections and other fund-raising activities. The balance held at 31st August 2023 included monies for "Active Hope" and "Angel Tree Project" which will be available for use during 2023/24.

Tech Grant – This fund holds monies received from the Circuit which must be spent on upgrading the Stockton Heath Church's facilities for streaming its services.

The funds held by our **Internal Organisations** are also Restricted Funds.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2023

2 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-22 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31-Aug-23 £
Designated Funds:					
Capital Reserve	(16,682)	30,011	(10,650)	696	3,375
Memorial Fund	33,796	720	-	-	34,516
Music Fund	263	-	-	-	263
Refreshments	2,429	309	(301)	-	2,437
Repairs Fund	42,135	-	(1,322)	28,500	69,313
	61,941	31,040	(12,273)	29,196	109,904
General Fund	31,098	99,766	(60,433)	(29,349)	41,082
Total Unrestricted Funds	93,039	130,806	(72,706)	(153)	150,986

Purposes of Unrestricted Designated Funds:

Capital Reserve – These monies arose from the sale of two cottages and is designated for church improvements and employing a lay worker. During the year, investments were converted to cash (30k) and a payment made for new church windows (£11k).

Memorial Fund - Money given in memory where the donor has not specified how the money is to be spent. The fund is used for purchasing items of furniture and equipment.

Music Fund – Monies to be used for purchase of music.

Refreshments - Monies from individuals and groups towards provision of fair-trade refreshments in the Stockton Heath Church and Community Hall.

Repairs Fund - This fund is in respect of the refurbishment of the SH organ, resurfacing of the SH car park, replacement of the SH Community Hall boiler and various anticipated repairs to the SH Church building.

3 TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

The reasons for the transfers between funds was as follows:

From Fund	To Fund	Reason	Amount
General Fund	Repairs Fund	Anticipated cost of replacement of SH Community Hall boiler	£12,000
General Fund	Repairs Fund	Anticipated cost of tiling work to SH Church roof	£15,000
General Fund	Repairs Fund	Annual transfer towards anticipated cost of SH car park resurfacing	£1,500

4 INVESTMENTS

The Church's investments at 31 August 2023 of £42k are held by TMCP and relate to:

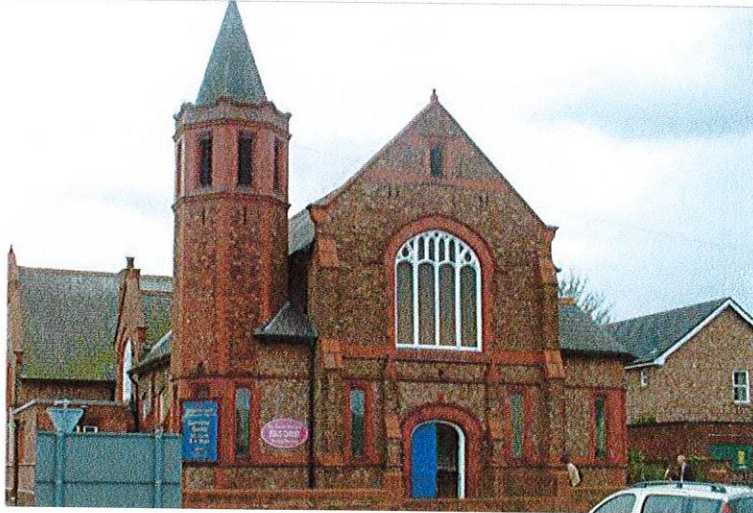
- a) the sale of two cottages at Stockton Heath in 1999 and 2001 (£38k) which is an Unrestricted Capital Reserve;
- b) a Restricted Trust relating to Antrobus Church (£2k); and
- c) a Permanent Endowment relating to Antrobus Church (£2k)

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1134148

Accounts

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH



ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

DRAFT for CC approval

Charity Number 1134148

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

CONTENTS	PAGE
Trustees Annual Report:	1
Our purposes and activities	1
Achievements and performance	1
Financial review	2
Plans for future periods	3
Reference and administrative details	4
Structure, governance and management	5
Trustees' responsibilities relating to the financial statements	5
 Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees	 6
 Standard Form of Accounts:	 7
Church receipts and payments	7
Summary of Church Accounts and Internal Organisations	8
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	8
Declarations	9
 Notes to the Financial Statements	 10

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2022.

Our purposes and activities

The church's vision and mission statement states:

The mission of Stockton Heath Methodist Church is to make and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ and explore and build the Kingdom of God.

We aim to become:

A vibrant church to which all our members are pleased to belong and where everyone feels able to contribute for the greater good of all.

A church which is growing numerically and spiritually in which the love of God is shown to all and ministry is supportive, challenging and outward looking.

Having agreed the above statement the Church Stewards and other groups were tasked with setting targets and objectives, which could then be measured.

Our main activities include:

- Holding acts of worship open to all to enable ordinary people to come to know the Lord Jesus;
- Meeting together in fellowship; and
- Providing space for and facilitating community activities.

We confirm that we have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and, specifically, the guidance relating to charities for the advancement of religion.

The Charity wishes to thank all those who volunteer their time to enable the Charity to carry out its activities and look after its buildings.

Achievements and performance

By March 2022 most of the Covid-19 restrictions had been lifted allowing our church buildings to fully re-open and church activities to resume. The church recognises, however, that there are people who are extremely vulnerable to Covid19 who need to continue to take precautions.

Our main achievements during the year included:

- We continued to Zoom services to those at home who felt unable to join in person.
- Our regular weekday activities mostly recommenced and the hall once again became well utilised by groups from the community.
- Our Sunday Club had about 6-8 youngsters who attended regularly and came to All Age Worship once a month. Other groups – Tots time, Banjos music group for little ones resumed.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

- A Lent course was held online – Life on the Breadline and we again supported the Good Friday ecumenical outdoor service and the summer Walking Day parade with Bridgewater Churches Together.
- Friday Coffee mornings continued on zoom for around half a dozen and quizzes continued while everyone was using zoom. Bible study continued on zoom as it was more convenient and included people who might not want to come out in the evenings or were a distance away.
- Theatre Workshop, our young people's drama group recommenced and was planning its next production as was our adult drama group.
- In addition to our support of Methodist Connexional Funds, we continued our ongoing support for our nominated charities, "Active Hope" and "All we Can (Methodist Relief and Development Fund)" project, through our Charity Fund. We also raised money for many other charities in the year including the Action for Children, Christian Aid, Claire House Hospice, Halton Haven Hospice, Warrington Foodbank, Warrington Mencap and the Sankey Valley Methodist Circuit Charity - The Epiphany Trust.
- We continued to be involved with CARE UK - a local charity that helps refugees here and in Syria & Greece as well as local people needing help to set up home after prison or homelessness.

Financial review

There was a deficit of £45,000 in the year, which compares with Nil in the previous year. This deficit included a contribution of £20,000 towards the Ministers Pension Fund and £25,000 for church roof repairs.

On our General Fund, we had a deficit of £11,000. after charging £7,000 of the contribution to the Ministers Pension Fund Deficit and transferring £1,500 into the Repairs Fund to cover cyclical resurfacing of our car park. This compares to a deficit of £4,000 in 2020/21. Our collections remained steady whilst our lettings income recovered to the pre-covid figure. The cumulative General Fund balance at 31st August 2022 was £31,000.

At the end of the year, we held £130,000 in Unrestricted Designated Funds of which £68,000 was invested through TMCP in managed equity and fixed interest funds. In the year, £13,000 was contributed to the Methodist Ministers Pension Deficit and £25,000 was spent on repairs to the church roof. Of the total Unrestricted Designated Funds, £51,000 is in a Capital Reserve for redevelopment and engaging a Lay Employee, £68,000 is in the Memorial Fund and £42,000 in the Repairs Fund (See Note 2 to the Accounts for the purpose of these funds.).

There is in addition, a restricted Capital Reserve of £8,000 held in a cash fund with TMCP which can only be used for approved property schemes, and is ear-marked for use towards completing our church redevelopment scheme.

Principal Funding Resources

The principal funding source of the Charity is voluntary offerings by its members. The church also receives income from outside organisations (mainly not-for-profit) for use of its premises.

Investment Powers

Under Methodist standing Orders any moneys received from the sale of property must be invested with TMCP. Other funds not immediately required are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

Reserves Policy

The Charity requires reserves to ensure that it can cover timing differences between receipts and payments and to fund unexpected costs particularly in respect of its property. The Charity is planning to use its Capital Reserves to fund redevelopment works in its church building and the appointment of a family/children's worker. In addition, the Charity has specific reserves to cover identified repair works to its property and the refurbishment of its organ.

The Circuit has recommended that the appropriate level of General Reserve for churches is between three and four and a half months payments, which equates to £15,000 to £22,500. At 31 August 2022, the church held £31,000. The excess is to be used to fund a projected budget deficit of £8,500 in 2022/23.

Our reserves policy is reviewed annually in the light of year end balances and commitments.

Going Concern Basis

The Trustees confirm that there is a reasonable expectation that the Charity will continue to receive offerings from its members and can therefore continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the going concern basis has been adopted in preparing the Charity's financial statements.

Plans for future periods

We plan to continue to zoom services as well as meet in person every week, whilst ensuring that those wishing to be absent from the camera view have a safe space in which to sit. We look forward to being able to invite visiting preachers and speakers to our services to provide new insights and breadth to our worship.

We propose to provide a variety of opportunities for new visitors to come to our church by holding interesting activities and entertainment. The youngsters' theatre workshop and the adult dramatic society provide popular productions. Harvest celebrations will include Fairtrade stalls and plant sales and a film of wide interest.

We will continue with our evening Bible Study and look forward to a Lent course which could be studied ecumenically and in our own house group.

Now that Covid-19 restrictions are over, we will press on with the church redevelopment scheme – taking out the pews and pulpit to provide a more flexible space, with new windows, furnishings and upgraded technology.

We propose to continue to build our links with our charity partners Active Hope and "All We Can" (Methodist Relief and Development Fund). In addition, we will continue to support CARE UK and Warrington Foodbank, as well as the Circuit Charity, Epiphany Trust.

Other plans include:

- Working pro-actively with our minister, Revd Linda Bishop and supporting her in her busy schedule of activities as the Circuit copes with only having four presbyters.
- Joining with our ecumenical friends from 'Bridgewater Churches Together' in offering a 'Warm Welcome' space and applying for a Grant from the Methodist church.
- Providing a variety of worship and activities during the Christmas period, including child specific activities – Craft and games afternoon and Christingle service.
- Celebrating Fairtrade fortnight in February and March 2023

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

- Experimenting with a new venture – A Mini Eisteddfod – an arts celebration in April 2023.
- Taking part in Christian Aid Week.
- Supporting asylum seekers as they arrive in our area.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Stockton Heath Methodist Church

Charity registration number 1134148

Principal Office Stockton Heath Methodist Church
Heath Street
Stockton Heath
Warrington WA4 6LP

Our trustees

The Trustees as at 31 August 2022 were:

Circuit Superintendent Minister (<i>Ex-officio</i>)	Revd David Easton (Chairman)
Circuit Minister (<i>Appointed by Circuit</i>)	Revd Linda Bishop
Circuit Stewards (<i>Appointed by Circuit</i>)	Mr Alan Rogers Mrs Vivien Palmer
Church Council Secretary	Mr Alan Rogers
Church Stewards	Mrs Catherine Arden (Senior) Mrs Ann Eggboro Mrs Barbara Maddock Mr David Maki Mrs Fiona Morton Mrs Vivien Palmer Mrs Karen Park
Church Treasurer	Mr John Humbles
Pastoral Secretary	Mrs Angela Huntley
Property / Redevelopment Convenor	Mr John Stott
Worship Consultation Convenor	Mr Richard Verrill
Health & Safety	Mr Chris Arden
Safeguarding	Mrs Karen Maki
Elected Representatives (<i>Appointed by General Church Meeting</i>)	Mrs Hazel Bradley Mr Geoff Clarke Mrs Chris Park Mrs Margot Strong Miss Julia Whitfield

Except where indicated, Trustees are appointed by the Church Council.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes act as Custodian Trustees for the Charity's property.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management

Stockton Heath Methodist Church is part of the Sankey Valley Methodist Circuit and is governed by the Deed of Union 1932, Methodist Church Act 1932 and by the Methodist Church's Standing Orders. It is a registered charity.

The decision making body for the Charity (who are its Trustees) is the Church Council which is made up of the Circuit Superintendent Minister, another Circuit Minister, a Circuit Steward, the Church Stewards and Church Treasurer, Pastoral Committee Secretary, representatives elected by the General Church Meeting, and others to ensure that all areas of church life are adequately represented.

The Church Council is responsible for setting the strategy for the Charity and monitoring its achievement. In addition, there are committees to take forward our work in specific areas - Worship, Pastoral, Property and Vision & Mission.

Trustees responsibilities relating to the financial statements

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

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Circuit Minister / Chair of Church Council

Date: 21st February 2023

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st August 2022 set out on pages 7- 8 and 10-11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement.

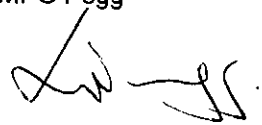
Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Name: Mr G Pegg

Qualification: FCMA

Signed: 

Date: 29 March 2023

Address: Lymm, Cheshire

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Previous Year £
RECEIPTS					
Offerings and tax recovered		40,908	-	40,908	40,159
Bank, CFB interest and investment income		1,519	-	1,519	1,199
Lettings		12,443	-	12,443	9,659
Other receipts		2,157	5,473	7,630	14,581
Total Receipts		57,027	5,473	62,500	65,598
PAYMENTS					
Circuit assessment		39,000	-	39,000	39,350
Donations		4,000	4,644	8,644	8,230
Repairs and maintenance		32,685	-	32,685	8,866
Insurance and utilities		7,397	-	7,397	7,213
Other payments		19,906	89	19,995	2,019
Total Payments		102,988	4,733	107,721	65,678
NET RECEIPTS / PAYMENTS		(45,961)	740	(45,221)	(80)
Total funds brought forward		138,900	16,496	155,396	155,476
SUB-TOTAL		92,939	17,236	110,175	155,396
Transfers between Funds	3	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	1 – 2	92,939	17,236	110,175	155,396

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO CHURCH COUNCIL

	Receipts	Payments	Net receipts / Payments	Opening Balances	Closing Balances
	£	£	£	£	£
Badminton Club	228	(160)	68	650	718
Dramatic Society	5,918	(3,645)	2,273	1,311	3,584
Loving Hearts & Hands	2,228	(2,212)	16	421	437
Sunday Club Special Fund	-	-	-	530	530
Tots Time	1,446	(890)	556	2,977	3,533
Others	-	(170)	(170)	460	290
Total Internal Orgs. Funds	9,820	(7,077)	2,743	6,349	9,092
Church Accounts	62,600	(107,721)	(45,121)	155,396	110,275
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	72,420	(114,798)	(42,378)	161,745	119,367

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CASH FUNDS HELD	As at 1 Sep. 21	As at 31 Aug. 22
	£	£
Cash in Hand	42	18
HSBC - Current Account	38,073	38,477
CFB - Deposit Account	108,843	63,342
TMCP - Trustees Interest Fund	8,438	8,438
Sub Total – Church Accounts	155,396	110,275
Funds held by Internal Organisations	6,349	9,092
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	161,745	119,367

OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	As at 1 Sep. 21	As at 31 Aug. 22
	£	£
Investments (Note 4)	78,051	68,288
Land and Buildings	3,433,004	3,683,639
Other Assets	92,340	99,082
Loans & Other Liabilities	-	-

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

DECLARATIONS

Church Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of Treasurer



Date

20th October 2022

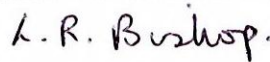
Name

J D Humbles CPFA

Presentation to Church Council for Approval

I confirm that the accounts have been presented to the Stockton Heath Church Council on 2023 and were approved.

Signature of Chair of Meeting



Date

21st February 2023

Name of Chair of Meeting

Revd Linda Bishop

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

1 RESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding Investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-21 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Aug-22 £
Benevolence Fund	83	-	(36)	-	47
Capital Reserve	6,785	-	-	-	6,785
Charity Fund	1,123	1,877	(1,100)	-	1,900
Defibrillator Fund	731	-	-	-	731
Flower Fund	731	35	(53)	-	713
Memorial Fund	3,281	-	-	-	3,281
Special Collections Fund	1,614	3,561	(3,544)	-	1,631
Tech Grant	2,148	-	-	-	2,148
Total Restricted Funds	16,496	5,473	(4,733)	-	17,236

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

Benevolence Fund - This fund is maintained for the relief of poverty and distress in accordance with Standing Order 651 of the Methodist Church. The source of the fund is a separate collection taken at the celebration of the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Capital Reserve - These monies relate to the balance of the sale of some land in 1975, the capital for which can only be used for major works to our property. The monies are being utilised to fund redevelopment of our Church building.

Charity Fund – Monies raised by the church for external charitable purposes. Charities to be supported from the fund are agreed by the Annual General Church Meeting.

Defibrillator Fund – monies given to purchase a defibrillator.

Flower Fund - This fund holds monies given for the purchase of flowers to decorate our church each Sunday which are then taken out to those who are unwell, housebound or bereaved.

Memorial Fund - Monies given in memory where the donor has specified either how the money is to be used or that they wish to approve its proposed use.

Special Collections Fund – This fund holds monies from retiring collections and other fund-raising activities. Most of the balance held at 31st August 2022 related to "Active Hope", one of the charities with which our church is pro-actively working and will be used to support future events arranged by the charity.

Tech Grant – This fund holds monies received from the Circuit which must be spent on upgrading the Church's facilities for streaming its services.

The funds held by our **Internal Organisations** are also Restricted Funds.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022

2 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-21 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31-Aug-22 £
Designated Funds:					
Capital Reserve	(7,182)	-	(9,500)	-	(16,682)
Memorial Fund	32,796	1,000	-	-	33,796
Music Fund	263	-	-	-	263
Refreshments	2,895	181	(646)	-	2,429
Repairs Fund	68,460	-	(27,826)	1,500	42,134
	97,232	1,181	(37,972)	1,500	61,941
General Fund	41,668	55,846	(65,016)	(1,500)	30,998
Total Unrestricted Funds	138,900	57,027	(102,988)	-	92,939

Purposes of Unrestricted Designated Funds:

Capital Reserve – The negative balance at 31st August 2022 represents costs which are to be funded from investments. (See Note 4).

Memorial Fund - Money given in memory where the donor has not specified how the money is to be spent. The fund is used for purchasing items of furniture and equipment.

Music Fund – Monies transferred from the former choir account to be used for purchase of music.

Refreshments - Monies from individuals and groups towards provision of fair-trade refreshments in the Church and Community Hall.

Repairs Fund - This fund is in respect of the refurbishment of the organ, resurfacing of the car park and various anticipated repairs to the church building. The monies spent in the year were on the church gable end.

3 TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

The reasons for the transfers between funds was as follows:

From Fund	To Fund	Reason	Amount
General Fund	Repairs Fund	Annual transfer towards anticipated cost of car park resurfacing	£1,500

4 INVESTMENTS

The Church's investments at 31 August 2022 of £68,288 are held by TMCP and relate to the sale of two cottages in 1999 and 2001 and is an Unrestricted Capital Reserve. The value of the investments fell by £10,000 in the year, after increasing by £9,000 in 2020/21.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1134148

Accounts

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH



ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

Charity Number 1134148

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

CONTENTS	PAGE
Trustees Annual Report:	1
Our purposes and activities	1
Achievements and performance	1
Financial review	2
Plans for future periods	3
Reference and administrative details	4
Structure, governance and management	5
Trustees' responsibilities relating to the financial statements	5
 Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees	 6
 Standard Form of Accounts:	 7
Church receipts and payments	7
Summary of Church Accounts and Internal Organisations	8
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	8
Declarations	9
 Notes to the Financial Statements	 10

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2021.

Our purposes and activities

The church adopted a vision and mission statement in January 2015. This states:

The mission of Stockton Heath Methodist Church is to make and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ and explore and build the Kingdom of God.

We aim to become:

A vibrant church to which all our members are pleased to belong and where everyone feels able to contribute for the greater good of all.

A church which is growing numerically and spiritually in which the love of God is shown to all and ministry is supportive, challenging and outward looking.

Having agreed the above statement the Church Stewards and other groups were tasked with setting targets and objectives, which could then be measured.

Our main activities include:

- Holding acts of worship open to all to enable ordinary people to come to know the Lord Jesus;
- Meeting together in fellowship; and
- Providing space for and facilitating community activities.

We confirm that we have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and, specifically, the guidance relating to charities for the advancement of religion.

The Charity wishes to thank all those who volunteer their time to enable the Charity to carry out its activities and look after its buildings.

Achievements and performance

Our church's activities were still severely impacted by the restrictions which the Government needed to implement in March 2020 in order to reduce the spread of Covid-19. Although our church building reopened on the 6th of September 2020 there were restrictions in place. We closed again during the month of November and opened during Advent. From the 9th January through to the end of March we were once again closed managing to open for Palm Sunday. During both periods of closure services continued to be zoomed. Our Community Hall had very limited use, again with restrictions in place, and some organisations remained on Zoom.

Our main achievements during the year were:

- When our church building closed for worship, we started a Zoom service each Sunday morning which was attended not only by our own members but members of other Circuit churches. When we were able to open our building we continued

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

zooming our services for those members who still felt unable to attend in person. For those members not able to use Zoom we provided a weekly message from our Minister which was taken out to homes and put on our Church website. Our Minister also put short talks on the Circuit You Tube channel.

- During Covid-19 restrictions, our Children's leaders have kept in regular touch with our young people and their families. Sunday Club started to zoom in September 2020, initially starting with weekly meetings however these moved to fortnightly from October. The times they met varied according to the time of year, 4.30pm during the Winter months and then reverting to their original time of 10am from the Spring. They started to meet face to face from July 2021. Sunday Club still managed to hold their annual Carols by Candlelight service although the congregation was restricted to their families. During the year the children have produced decorations for our church windows
- A Lent course was held on Zoom with a weekly reflection and spiritual conversation which was well attended and stimulated lots of discussion.
- The weekly coffee morning on Zoom, started the previous year, continued and various online socials and quizzes have taken place. Bible Studies have also taken place on Zoom.
- The leaders of our Theatre Workshop (our young people's drama group) kept in touch with their members but they were unable to meet physically. Our adult dramatic society continued to meet on Zoom for play readings and "performed" at Christmas on zoom.
- In addition to our support of Methodist Connexional Funds, we continued our ongoing support for our nominated charities, "Active Hope" and an "All we Can (Methodist Relief and Development Fund)" project, through our Charity Fund. We also support many other charities with donations given this year including the Warrington Foodbank, Action for Children and Medicines sans Frontière
- We have continued to be involved with CARE UK - a local charity that helps refugees here and in Syria & Greece as well as local people needing help to set up home after prison or homelessness.

Financial review

Receipts and payments were in balance in the year, which compares with a surplus of £8,000 in the previous year.

On our General Fund, we had a deficit of £4,000 after transferring £1,500 into the Repairs Fund to cover cyclical resurfacing of our car park. This compares to a surplus of £8,000 in 2019/20. The cumulative General Fund balance at 31 August 2021 was £42,000.

Despite the continuing impact of the pandemic on church services, our collections held up very well due to the high incidence of offerings made by Bank Standing Order. However, there was a further reduction in lettings income of £4,000. Making a reduction of £9,000 over two years.

At the end of the year, we held £139,000 in Unrestricted Funds of which £33,000 is in the Memorial Fund and £68,000 in the Repairs Fund (See Note 2 to the Accounts for the purpose of these funds.). A further £78,000 of Unrestricted Funds is invested by TMCP in managed equity and fixed interest funds.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

There is in addition, a restricted Capital Reserve of £7,000 held in a cash fund with TMCP which can only be used for approved property schemes, and is ear-marked for use in completing our church redevelopment scheme.

Principal Funding Resources

The principal funding source of the Charity is voluntary offerings by our members. In addition, the church receives income from outside organisations (mainly not-for-profit) for use of its premises.

Investment Powers

Under Methodist standing Orders any moneys received from the sale of property must be invested with TMCP. Other funds not immediately required are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church.

Reserves Policy

The Charity requires reserves to ensure that it can cover timing differences between receipts and payments and to fund unexpected costs particularly in respect of its property. The Charity is planning to use its Capital Reserves to fund redevelopment works in its church building and the appointment of a family and children's worker. In addition, the Charity has specific reserves to cover identified repair works to its property and the refurbishment of its organ.

The Church Council considers that an appropriate level of General Reserve is between three and six months payments, which equates to £15,000 to £30,000. At 31 August 2021, we held £42,000. The excess will be used to fund a projected budget deficit of £15,000 in 2021/22 caused by the expected reduction in income due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Our reserves policy is reviewed annually in the light of year end balances and commitments.

Going Concern Basis

The Trustees confirm that there is a reasonable expectation that the Charity will continue to receive offerings from its members and can therefore continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the going concern basis has been adopted in preparing the Charity's financial statements.

Plans for future periods

We plan to carry on putting our services on Zoom for those who do not wish to attend in person because of the risks associated with Covid-19 or are housebound for other reasons. As a growth Church we have benefited from a grant to enable us to increase our technical equipment and this will enable us to share our services within the Circuit.

We are seeking to complete the church redevelopment scheme with new windows, furnishings and upgraded technology.

We propose to continue to build our links with our charity partners Active Hope and "All We Can" (Methodist Relief and Development Fund). In addition, we will continue to support other local charities such as CARE UK and Warrington Foodbank, as well as the Circuit Charity.

Other plans include:

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

- Planning for a period of change when the minister with pastoral charge for our church retires in August 2022, particularly as there is a possibility that the Circuit may be unsuccessful in the stationing process in which case there will be one less minister to cover 18 churches.
- Holding a Lent study course and continuing our weekly bible study group and house group using Zoom where we cannot meet in person.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Stockton Heath Methodist Church
Charity registration number	1134148
Principal Office	Stockton Heath Methodist Church Heath Street Stockton Heath Warrington WA4 6LP

Our trustees

The Trustees as at 31 August 2021 were:

Circuit Superintendent Minister (<i>Ex-officio</i>)	Revd David Easton (Chairman)
Circuit Minister (<i>Appointed by Circuit</i>)	Revd Linda Bishop
Circuit Steward (<i>Appointed by Circuit</i>)	Mr Alan Rogers
Church Council Secretary	Mr Alan Rogers
Church Stewards	Mrs Vivien Palmer (Senior) Mrs Ann Eggboro Mrs Catherine Arden Mrs Barbara Maddock Mrs Fiona Morton Mr David Maki Mrs Karen Park
Church Treasurer	Mr John Humbles
Pastoral Secretary	Mrs Angela Huntley
Property / Redevelopment Convenor	Mr John Stott
Worship Consultation Convenor	Mr Richard Verrill
Mission and Vision Convenor	Mr Geoff Clarke
Health & Safety	Mr Chris Arden
Safeguarding	Miss Gillian Rigby
Elected Representatives (<i>Appointed by General Church Meeting</i>)	Mrs Hazel Bradley Mrs Chris Park Mrs Margot Strong Miss Julia Whitfield

Except where indicated, Trustees are appointed by the Church Council.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes act as Custodian Trustees for the Charity's property.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

Structure, governance and management

Stockton Heath Methodist Church is part of the Sankey Valley Methodist Circuit and is governed by the Deed of Union 1932, Methodist Church Act 1932 and by the Methodist Church's Standing Orders. It is a registered charity.

The decision making body for the Charity (who are its Trustees) is the Church Council which is made up of the Circuit Superintendent Minister, another Circuit Minister, a Circuit Steward, the Church Stewards and Church Treasurer, Pastoral Committee Secretary, representatives elected by the General Church Meeting, and others to ensure that all areas of church life are adequately represented.

The Church Council is responsible for setting the strategy for the Charity and monitoring its achievement. In addition, there are committees to take forward our work in specific areas - Worship, Pastoral, Property and Vision & Mission.

Trustees responsibilities relating to the financial statements

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

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

David Eerton

Circuit Minister / Chair of Church Council

Date:

June 2022

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st August 2021 set out on pages 7- 8 and 10-11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Name: Mr G Pegg

Qualification: FCMA

Signed:



Date:

23/6/22

Address: Lymm, Cheshire

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Previous Year £
RECEIPTS					
Offerings and tax recovered		40,159	-	40,159	40,721
Bank, CFB interest and investment income		1,199	-	1,199	2,006
Lettings		9,659	-	9,659	16,034
Other receipts		3,532	11,049	14,581	6,893
Total Receipts		54,549	11,049	65,598	65,654
PAYMENTS					
Circuit assessment		39,350	-	39,350	28,408
Donations		4,100	4,130	8,230	14,494
Repairs and maintenance		3,231	5,635	8,866	3,817
Insurance and utilities		7,213	-	7,213	8,642
Other payments		1,881	138	2,019	1,885
Total Payments		55,775	9,903	65,678	57,246
NET RECEIPTS / PAYMENTS		(1,226)	1,146	(80)	8,408
Total funds brought forward		140,126	15,350	155,476	147,068
SUB-TOTAL		138,900	16,496	155,396	155,476
Transfers between Funds	3	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	1 – 2	138,900	16,496	155,396	155,476

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO CHURCH COUNCIL

	Receipts	Payments	Net receipts / Payments	Opening Balances	Closing Balances
	£	£	£	£	£
Badminton Club	-	-	-	650	650
Café	-	-	-	170	170
Dramatic Society	-	(2,621)	(2,621)	3,932	1,311
Loving Hearts & Hands	311	(68)	243	178	421
Sunday Club Special Fund	-	-	-	530	530
Tots Time	-	-	-	2,977	2,977
Others	-	(174)	(174)	464	290
Total Internal Orgs. Funds	311	(2,863)	(2,552)	8,901	6,349
Church Accounts	65,598	(65,678)	(80)	155,476	155,396
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	65,909	(68,541)	(2,632)	164,377	161,745

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CASH FUNDS HELD	As at 1 Sep. 20	As at 31 Aug. 21
	£	£
Cash in Hand	560	42
HMRC Gift Aid	4,991	-
HSBC - Current Account	31,471	38,073
CFB - Deposit Account	110,016	108,843
TMCP - Trustees Interest Fund	8,438	8,438
Sub Total – Church Accounts	155,476	155,396
Funds held by Internal Organisations	8,901	6,349
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	164,377	161,745

OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	As at 1 Sep. 20	As at 31 Aug. 21
	£	£
Investments (Note 4)	69,244	78,051
Land and Buildings	3,433,000	3,683,639
Other Assets	92,000	99,082
Loans & Other Liabilities	-	-

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

DECLARATIONS

Church Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of Treasurer

J D Humbles

Date

29th January 2022

Name

J D Humbles CPFA

Presentation to Church Council for Approval

I confirm that the accounts have been presented to the Stockton Heath Church Council on 14th February 2022 and were approved.

Signature of Chair of Meeting

David Easton

Date

14th February 2022

Name of Chair of Meeting

Revd David Easton

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

1 RESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-20 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Aug-21 £
Benevolence Fund	213	-	(130)	-	83
Capital Reserve	6,785	-	-	-	6,785
Charity Fund	2,036	1,087	(2,000)	-	1,123
Defibrillator Fund	731	-	-	-	731
Flower Fund	693	46	(8)	-	731
Memorial Fund	3,564	-	(283)	-	3,281
Special Collections Fund	1,328	2,416	(2,130)	-	1,614
Tech Grant	-	7,500	(5,352)	-	2,148
Total Restricted Funds	15,350	11,049	(9,903)	-	16,496

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

Benevolence Fund - This fund is maintained for the relief of poverty and distress in accordance with Standing Order 651 of the Methodist Church. The source of the fund is a separate collection taken at the celebration of the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Capital Reserve - These monies relate to the balance of the sale of some land in 1975, the capital for which can only be used for major works to our property. The monies are being utilised to fund redevelopment of our Church building.

Charity Fund – Monies raised by the church for external charitable purposes. Charities to be supported from the fund are agreed by the Annual General Church Meeting.

Defibrillator Fund – monies given to purchase a defibrillator.

Flower Fund - This fund holds monies given for the purchase of flowers to decorate our church each Sunday which are then taken out to those who are unwell, housebound or bereaved.

Memorial Fund - Monies given in memory where the donor has specified either how the money is to be used or that they wish to approve its proposed use.

Special Collections Fund – This fund holds monies from retiring collections and other fund-raising activities. Most of the balance held at 31st August 2021 related to "Active Hope", one of the charities with which our church is pro-actively working and will be used to support future events arranged by the charity.

Tech Grant – This fund holds monies received from the Circuit which must be spent on upgrading the Church's facilities for streaming its services.

The funds held by our **Internal Organisations** are also Restricted Funds.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2021

2 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-20 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31-Aug-21 £
Designated Funds:					
Capital Reserve	(7,182)	-	-	-	(7,182)
Memorial Fund	31,534	1,262	-	-	32,796
Music Fund	387	-	(124)	-	263
Refreshments	2,830	90	(25)	-	2,895
Repairs Fund	66,960	-	-	1,500	68,460
	94,529	1,352	(149)	1,500	97,232
General Fund	45,597	53,197	(55,626)	(1,500)	41,668
Total Unrestricted Funds	140,126	54,549	(55,775)	-	138,900

Purposes of Unrestricted Designated Funds:

Capital Reserve – The negative balance at 31st August 2021 represents the costs of a Children and Families worker which will be funded from investments. (See Note 4).

Memorial Fund - Money given in memory where the donor has not specified how the money is to be spent. The fund is used for purchasing items of furniture and equipment.

Music Fund – Monies transferred from the former choir account to be used for purchase of music.

Refreshments - Monies from individuals and groups towards provision of fair-trade refreshments in the Church and Community Hall.

Repairs Fund - This fund is in respect of anticipated major repairs to the church slate roof, the refurbishment of the organ, resurfacing of the car park and various anticipated repairs to the church building.

3 TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

The reasons for the transfers between funds was as follows:

From Fund	To Fund	Reason	Amount
General Fund	Repairs Fund	Annual transfer towards anticipated cost of car park resurfacing	£1,500

4 INVESTMENTS

The Church's investments at 31 August 2021 of £78,051 are held by TMCP and relate to the sale of two cottages in 1999 and 2001 and is an Unrestricted Capital Reserve.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1134148

Accounts

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH



ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

Charity Number 1134148

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

CONTENTS	PAGE
Trustees Annual Report:	1
Our purposes and activities	1
Achievements and performance	1
Financial review	2
Plans for future periods	3
Reference and administrative details	4
Structure, governance and management	5
Trustees' responsibilities relating to the financial statements	5
 Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees	 6
 Standard Form of Accounts:	 7
Church receipts and payments	7
Summary of Church Accounts and Internal Organisations	8
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	8
Declarations	9
 Notes to the Financial Statements	 10

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2020.

Our purposes and activities

The church adopted a vision and mission statement in January 2015. This states:

The mission of Stockton Heath Methodist Church is to make and nurture disciples of Jesus Christ and explore and build the Kingdom of God.

We aim to become:

A vibrant church to which all our members are pleased to belong and where everyone feels able to contribute for the greater good of all.

A church which is growing numerically and spiritually in which the love of God is shown to all and ministry is supportive, challenging and outward looking.

Having agreed the above statement the Church Stewards and other groups were tasked with setting targets and objectives, which could then be measured.

Our main activities include:

- Holding acts of worship open to all to enable ordinary people to come to know the Lord Jesus;
- Meeting together in fellowship; and
- Providing space for and facilitating community activities.

We confirm that we have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, and, specifically, the guidance relating to charities for the advancement of religion.

The Charity wishes to thank all those who volunteer their time to enable the Charity to carry out its activities and look after its buildings.

Achievements and performance

Our church's activities were severely impacted by the restrictions which the Government needed to implement in March 2020 in order to reduce the spread of Covid-19. Our church building closed as did our Community Hall with some of our activities moving onto Zoom. The Hall had limited use by outside organisations in July and August following a relaxation of some restrictions.

Our main achievements during the year were:

- Until March 2020, we continued to offer a variety of worship with All Age worship once a month and both traditional and contemporary services. When our church building closed for worship, we started a Zoom service each Sunday morning which was attended not only by our own members but members of other Circuit churches. For those members not able to use Zoom we provided a weekly message from our

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

Minister which was taken out to homes and put on our Church website. Our Minister also put short talks on the Circuit You Tube channel.

- Up until March 2020, our Sunday Club met each Sunday outside of All Age Worship Sundays with 12 or more children across the two age groups, under 7s and 7+, whilst "Tots Time" our mid-week club for little ones and their carers continued to be very popular. During Covid-19 restrictions, our Children's leaders have kept in regular touch with our young people and their families.
- A Lent course was held on Zoom with a weekly reflection and spiritual conversation which was well attended and stimulated lots of discussion.
- We commenced a weekly coffee morning on Zoom and held an online Social in August 2020. Bible Studies have also taken place on Zoom.
- Theatre Workshop (our young people's drama group) and our adult dramatic society put on several productions prior to March 2020 which were well attended by both church and community people. They have continued to meet on Zoom for play readings.
- In addition to our support of Methodist Connexional Funds, we continued our ongoing support for our nominated charities, "Active Hope" and an "All we Can (Methodist Relief and Development Fund)" project, through our Charity Fund. We also support many other charities with donations given this year including the Warrington Foodbank, Action for Children, Lifebox Foundation, Water Aid and the Sankey Valley Methodist Circuit Charity, Papyrus.
- We have continued to be involved with CARE UK - a local charity that helps refugees here and in Syria & Greece as well as local people needing help to set up home after prison or homelessness, and with The Angel Tree project at Thorn Cross Prison where we provided Christmas presents for the in-mates children.

Financial review

There was a surplus of £8,000 in the year, which compares with a deficit of £10,000 in the previous year.

On our General Fund, we had a surplus of £8,000 after transferring £1,500 into the Repairs Fund to cover cyclical resurfacing of our car park. This compares to a surplus of £1,000 in 2018/19. The cumulative balance at 31 August 2020 was £45,000.

Despite our church building being closed for almost six months, our collections held up very well due to the high incidence of offerings made by Bank Standing Order. However, there was a reduction in lettings income of £5,000 due to the closure of our Community Hall.

At the end of the year, we held £140,000 in Unrestricted Funds of which £31,500 is in the Memorial Fund and £67,000 in the Repairs Fund (See Note 2 to the Accounts for the purpose of these funds.). A further £69,000 of Unrestricted Funds is invested by TMCP in managed equity and fixed interest funds.

There is in addition, a restricted Capital Reserve of £7,000 held in a cash fund with TMCP which can only be used for approved property schemes, and is ear-marked for use in completing our church redevelopment scheme.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

Principal Funding Resources

The principal funding source of the Charity is voluntary offerings by our members. In addition, the church receives income from outside organisations (mainly not-for-profit) for use of its premises.

Investment Powers

Under Methodist standing Orders any moneys received from the sale of property must be invested with TMCP. Other funds not immediately required are deposited with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church.

Reserves Policy

The Charity requires reserves to ensure that it can cover timing differences between receipts and payments and to fund unexpected costs particularly in respect of its property. The Charity is planning to use its Capital Reserves to fund redevelopment works in its church building and the appointment of a family and children's worker. In addition, the Charity has specific reserves to cover identified repair works to its property and the refurbishment of its organ.

The Church Council considers that an appropriate level of General Reserve is between three and six months payments, which equates to £15,000 to £30,000. At 31 August 2020, we held £45,000. The excess will be used to fund a projected budget deficit of £15,000 in 2020/21 caused by expected reduced lettings income due to the pandemic restrictions.

Our reserves policy is reviewed annually in the light of year end balances and commitments.

Going Concern Basis

The Trustees confirm that there is a reasonable expectation that the Charity will continue to receive offerings from its members and can therefore continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the going concern basis has been adopted in preparing the Charity's financial statements.

Plans for future periods

When allowed to worship again in the church building, we will carry on putting our services on Zoom for those who do not wish to attend in person because of the risks associated with Covid-19. We will carry on using Zoom where practical to enable groups to carry on meeting and for socialising.

Once Covid-19 restrictions are over, we will seek to complete the church redevelopment scheme with new windows, furnishings and upgraded technology.

We propose to continue to build our links with our charity partners Active Hope and "All We Can" (Methodist Relief and Development Fund). In addition, we will continue to support the Angel Tree Project, CARE UK and Warrington Foodbank, as well as the Circuit Charity.

Other plans include:

- Working with our minister, Revd David Easton, and supporting him in his Circuit Superintendent role and whilst he is on Sabbatical.
- Holding a Lent study course and continuing our weekly bible study group and house group using Zoom where we cannot meet in person.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Stockton Heath Methodist Church

Charity registration number 1134148

Principal Office Stockton Heath Methodist Church
Heath Street
Stockton Heath
Warrington WA4 6LP

Our trustees

The Trustees as at 31 August 2020 were:

Circuit Superintendent Minister (<i>Ex-officio</i>)	Revd David Easton (Chairman)
Circuit Minister (<i>Appointed by Circuit</i>)	Revd Linda Bishop
Circuit Steward (<i>Appointed by Circuit</i>)	Mr Alan Rogers
Church Council Secretary	Mr Alan Rogers
Church Stewards	Mrs Vivien Palmer (Senior) Mrs Ann Eggboro Mrs Catherine Arden Mrs Barbara Maddock
Church Treasurer	Mr John Humbles
Pastoral Secretary	Mrs Angela Huntley
Property / Redevelopment Convenor	Mr John Stott
Worship Consultation Convenor	Mr Richard Verrill
Mission and Vision Convenor	Mr Geoff Clarke
Health & Safety	Mr Chris Arden
Safeguarding	Miss Gillian Rigby
Elected Representatives (<i>Appointed by General Church Meeting</i>)	Mrs Hazel Bradley Mrs Chris Park Mrs Margot Strong Miss Julia Whitfield

Except where indicated, Trustees are appointed by the Church Council.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes act as Custodian Trustees for the Charity's property.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

Structure, governance and management

Stockton Heath Methodist Church is part of the Sankey Valley Methodist Circuit and is governed by the Deed of Union 1932, Methodist Church Act 1932 and by the Methodist Church's Standing Orders. It is a registered charity.

The decision making body for the Charity (who are its Trustees) is the Church Council which is made up of the Circuit Superintendent Minister, another Circuit Minister, a Circuit Steward, the Church Stewards and Church Treasurer, Pastoral Committee Secretary, representatives elected by the General Church Meeting, and others to ensure that all areas of church life are adequately represented.

The Church Council is responsible for setting the strategy for the Charity and monitoring its achievement. In addition, there are committees to take forward our work in specific areas - Worship, Pastoral, Property and Vision & Mission.

Trustees responsibilities relating to the financial statements

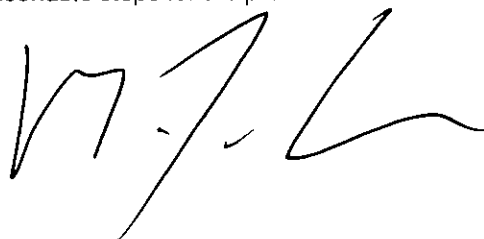
The Charity's Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Circuit Minister / Chair of Church Council

Date: 9th March 2021

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st August 2020 set out on pages 7- 8 and 10-11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.
- (3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Name: Mr G Pegg

Qualification: FCMA

Signed:



Date:

26/3/21.

Address: Lymm, Cheshire

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Previous Year £
RECEIPTS					
Offerings and tax recovered		40,657	64	40,721	40,543
Bank, CFB interest and investment income		2,006	-	2,006	2,158
Lettings		16,034	-	16,034	20,499
Other receipts		705	6,188	6,893	8,500
Total Receipts		59,402	6,252	65,654	71,700
PAYMENTS					
Circuit assessment		28,408	-	28,408	40,350
Donations		7,775	6,719	14,494	12,112
Repairs and maintenance		2,966	851	3,817	9,416
Insurance and utilities		8,642	-	8,642	10,061
Other payments		1,826	59	1,885	9,804
Total Payments		49,617	7,629	57,246	81,743
NET RECEIPTS / PAYMENTS		9,785	(1,377)	8,408	(10,043)
Total funds brought forward		130,341	16,727	147,068	157,111
SUB-TOTAL		140,126	15,350	155,476	147,068
Transfers between Funds	3	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	1 – 2	140,126	15,350	155,476	147,068

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO CHURCH COUNCIL

	Receipts	Payments	Net receipts / Payments	Opening Balances	Closing Balances
	£	£	£	£	£
Badminton Club	211	(158)	53	597	650
Café	1,574	(1,605)	(31)	201	170
Ch-unch	3,589	(3,559)	30	54	84
Church Flowers	605	(576)	29	31	60
Dramatic Society	3,372	(4,347)	(975)	4,907	3,932
Loving Hearts & Hands	899	(1,148)	(249)	427	178
Sunday Club Special Fund	-	-	-	530	530
Tots Time	869	(714)	155	2,822	2,977
Others	-	-	-	320	320
Total Internal Orgs. Funds	11,119	(12,107)	(988)	9,889	8,901
Church Accounts	65,654	(57,246)	8,408	147,068	155,476
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	76,773	(69,353)	7,420	156,957	164,377

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CASH FUNDS HELD	As at 1 Sep. 19	As at 31 Aug. 20
	£	£
Cash in Hand	143	560
HMRC Gift Aid	-	4,991
HSBC - Current Account	39,006	31,471
CFB - Deposit Account	99,481	110,016
TMCP - Trustees Interest Fund	8,438	8,438
Sub Total – Church Accounts	147,068	155,476
Funds held by Internal Organisations	9,889	8,901
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	156,957	164,377

OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	As at 1 Sep. 19	As at 31 Aug. 20
	£	£
Investments (Note 4)	72,711	69,244
Land and Buildings	3,346,000	3,433,000
Other Assets	90,000	92,000
Loans & Other Liabilities	-	-

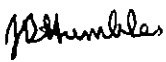
STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

DECLARATIONS

Church Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of Treasurer



Date

29th January 2021

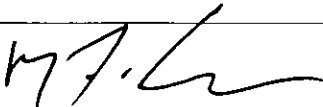
Name

J D Humbles CPFA

Presentation to Church Council for Approval

I confirm that the accounts have been presented to the Stockton Heath Church Council on 9th March 2021 and were approved.

Signature of Chair of Meeting



Date

9th March 2021

Name of Chair of Meeting

Revd Mark T. Coles

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

1 RESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-19	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance 31-Aug-20
	£	£	£	£	£
Benevolence Fund	173	64	(24)	-	213
Capital Reserve	7,136	-	(351)	-	6,785
Charity Fund	2,038	1,948	(1,950)	-	2,036
Defibrillator Fund	600	131	-	-	731
Flower Fund	639	89	(35)	-	693
Memorial Fund	4,014	50	(500)	-	3,564
Special Collections Fund	2,127	3,970	(4,769)	-	1,328
Total Restricted Funds	16,727	6,252	(7,629)	-	15,350

Purposes of Restricted Funds:

Benevolence Fund - This fund is maintained for the relief of poverty and distress in accordance with Standing Order 651 of the Methodist Church. The source of the fund is a separate collection taken at the celebration of the sacrament of Holy Communion.

Capital Reserve - These monies relate to the balance of the sale of some land in 1975, the capital for which can only be used for major works to our property. The monies are being utilised to fund redevelopment of our Church building.

Charity Fund – Monies raised by the church for external charitable purposes. Charities to be supported from the fund are agreed by the Annual General Church Meeting.

Defibrillator Fund – monies given to purchase a defibrillator.

Flower Fund - This fund holds monies given for the purchase of flowers to decorate our church each Sunday which are then taken out to those who are unwell, housebound or bereaved.

Memorial Fund - Monies given in memory where the donor has specified either how the money is to be used or that they wish to approve its proposed use.

Special Collections Fund – This fund holds monies from retiring collections and other fund-raising activities. Most of the balance held at 31st August 2020 related to "Active Hope", one of the charities with which our church is pro-actively working and will be used to support future events arranged by the charity.

The funds held by our **Internal Organisations** are also Restricted Funds.

STOCKTON HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2020

2 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (excluding investments)

	Balance 1-Sep-19 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31-Aug-20 £
Designated Funds:					
Capital Reserve	(7,182)	-	-	-	(7,182)
Memorial Fund	31,534	-	-	-	31,534
Music Fund	387	-	-	-	387
Refreshments	2,738	246	(154)	-	2,830
Repairs Fund	66,460	-	-	1,500	66,960
	92,937	246	(154)	1,500	94,529
General Fund	37,404	59,156	(49,463)	(1,500)	45,597
Total Unrestricted Funds	130,341	59,402	(49,617)	-	140,126

Purposes of Unrestricted Designated Funds:

Capital Reserve – The negative balance at 31st August 2020 represents the costs of a Children and Families worker which will be funded from investments. (See Note 4).

Memorial Fund - Money given in memory where the donor has not specified how the money is to be spent. The fund is used for purchasing items of furniture and equipment.

Music Fund – Monies transferred from the former choir account to be used for purchase of music.

Refreshments - Monies from individuals and groups towards provision of fair-trade refreshments in the Church and Community Hall.

Repairs Fund - This fund is in respect of anticipated major repairs to the church slate roof, the refurbishment of the organ, resurfacing of the car park and various anticipated repairs to the church building.

3 TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

The reasons for the transfers between funds was as follows:

From Fund	To Fund	Reason	Amount
General Fund	Repairs Fund	Annual transfer towards anticipated cost of car park resurfacing	£1,500

4 INVESTMENTS

The Church's investments at 31 August 2020 of £69,244 are held by TMCP and relate to the sale of two cottages in 1999 and 2001 and is an Unrestricted Capital Reserve.