



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			To	Period end date		
From	01	09		2021	31	08

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Linacre Methodist Mission & Neighbourhood Centre

Other names charity is known by

☐

Registered charity number (if any)

1134158

Charity's principal address

123-129 Linacre Road

Litherland

Liverpool

Postcode

L21 8NS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

		Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
	1	Rev John Hayes	Chair		Ex Officio
	2	Rev Neil Stubbens			Ex Officio
	3	John Langton	Secretary		Church Council
	4	Jean Barnes	Treasurer		Church Council
	5	Sandra Bell	Church Steward		Church Council
	6	Paul Black	Church Steward		Church Council
	7	Brenda Coates			General Church Meeting (GCM)
	8	Valerie Cousins			GCM
	9	Joan Cumming	Chr N/H Cttee		GCM
	10	Valerie Gee	Church Steward		Church Council
	11	Nigel Harrison			GCM
	12	Margaret Langton	AWP Project Manager		GCM
	13	Viv Marriott	Church Steward		Church Council
	14	Linda Murphy			GCM
	15	Liz Shaw	Pastoral Sec		Church Council
	16	Keith Tatlock	Church Steward		Church Council
	17	Margaret Wheeler	AWP Treasurer		GCM
	18	Bryan Heath-	Circuit Steward		Circuit Meeting

		Dodd			
	19				
	20				
	21				
	Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)				
	Name		Dates acted if not for whole year		

	Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)
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Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Act of Parliament
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by General Church meeting and Circuit meeting, some ex officio and existing trustees.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

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

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

Induction/Training

Range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion, including a leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' given to each trustee.

Structure

We are part of the Liverpool North Circuit which is part of the Liverpool Methodist District which is in turn accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Related Parties We do not use a professional fundraiser or work with a commercial participator,

Risks

- Considered by the Church Council.
- Take professional advice as required.
- Regular review process.
- Adopted the following policies: Confidentiality, Conflict of interest, Data Protection, Equal Opportunities, Health & Safety, Lone Worker, Safeguarding, Volunteering, Reserves.

Equal Opportunities Statement

The trustees are committed to making every effort to ensure that all members of the community have an equal opportunity to join in activities and events in the Church and Neighbourhood Centre, avoiding any unlawful discrimination.

The Church and Neighbourhood Centre strives to ensure that the environment is free of harassment and bullying, and that everyone is treated with dignity and respect. Particular care will be taken to deal effectively with any complaints of discrimination, harassment or bullying.

Safeguarding Statement

It is the Methodist Church's intention to value every human being as part of God's creation and the whole people of God. At the heart of the Methodist community is a deep sense of the place of welcome, hospitality and openness, which demonstrates the nature of God's grace and love for all. Our church communities are called to be places where the transformational love of God is embodied and life in all its fullness is a gift, which is offered to all people.

Safeguarding of all people who use the premises continues to be a high priority and we remain diligent in applying all safeguarding measures of the Methodist Church. All Trustees, employees and volunteers undergo DBS checks, 'Creating Safer Space' training & Safer Recruitment as and when appropriate.

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

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

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

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

- ☐ To carry out religious activities.
- ☐ To provide premises for use by a wide range of community groups and activities.
- ☐ To carry out youth work, uniformed and non-uniformed.

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

We have not had any serious incidents which require reporting to the Charity Commission.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

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

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

Linacre Methodist Mission is a faith-based organisation, managing a Grade II Listed Building that has stood at the heart of the neighbourhood, known locally as Linacre, for over 100 years. The Main Worship Hall's architecture was revolutionary in style, when it was built in 1905, resulting in a building that was regarded as one of the most striking in the North of England. The interior was arranged in amphitheatre style to seat 1,250 people and had a large platform with seating for 100 in the choir. Although the Hall has been modernised, much of the original structure remains.

The spaciousness of the Hall, the magnificent mosaic text above the choir created by Italian craftsmen and the richly decorated ceiling can still be admired.

We believe that in Jesus, God showed us how life could be lived to the full. Christianity is not about some dour, dull, and repressed lifestyle, but about delighting in the world that God has made, rejoicing in the friendships he gives and celebrating the joy that comes through knowing Jesus. Our programme here at Linacre seeks to reflect the 'fullness of life' that Jesus wants us to know. Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

The geographical area of Litherland is an area with a high level of social deprivation, above average mortality rates for both male and female and a higher percentage of persons with below average mental wellbeing in comparison with the rest of the Borough of Sefton. Therefore, in addition to our faith activity, Linacre Mission is fully committed to serving and supporting the local community, to tackle its general needs and enhance its quality of life. At present the building delivers activities for older people, children and young people and family-based activities. This facility is vast, with over 1,600 sq.m² of floor space distributed throughout a diverse series of community rooms and large halls. The building has been identified as an important landmark in the area.

It is the vision of Linacre Mission, in partnership with the local community and other key stakeholders, to be a 'beacon' for local community engagement and support, as well as a strategic facility providing wider benefits to the surrounding South Sefton environs and engaging in local social and economic regeneration in this key focus of multiple deprivation in Merseyside. All activities within Linacre are carried out by volunteers. We have a regular core group of approximately 8 volunteers supported by a less regular group of approximately 6 people.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

In September we welcomed a new Superintendent Minister, the Revd John Hayes and his wife Irene who is a Local Preacher. On the 4th of September we held a Circuit service at Linacre to welcome John & Irene and on 18th September we met as a Circuit at their home for fellowship and cake.

In October we celebrated the Church Anniversary and were blest by the ministry of Revd Liz Wills on Anniversary Sunday. As part of the Anniversary celebrations, we formally opened the newly refurbished Albert Walker Hall on the Saturday. This was very appropriate as the project had been conceived & started by Mary Cotton & Linda Wills (sister-in-law of Revd Liz Wills.) Both these ladies had died unexpectedly within months of each other. We were also privileged to have a talk from the project architect on the restoration of the hall and its place in history.

In December we were able to celebrate the birth of Christ at our Candlelit Carol Service. This is always well attended by those who use our building as well as by Church attendees.

It was good to be able to celebrate Christmas and Easter after the disruption of Covid and also our annual Covenant Service.

As a Church we continued to participate in Bible Study, looking at the book of Isaiah as part of Bible Month and during Lent we looked at Rembrandt's painting, The Prodigal Son and related it to our understanding of the parable.

A number of us undertook pastoral training in December.

Sadly, Revd John Hayes decided to curtail his appointment and with heavy hearts we held a farewell service for him and Irene at the beginning of August.

Sadly, over the year, 4 of our congregation passed away. We were able to celebrate their lives and dedication. On a happier note we also celebrated the Baptism of a baby.

Neighbourhood Centre Review

Throughout difficult pandemic period, the Neighbourhood Centre had continued to do as much as it could to support the community. It was wonderful to be able to restart activities such as the community bingo and Place of Welcome. Both activities are well attended and continue to grow in number. Food Bank also continues with a reduced number of volunteers as established during the pandemic. Sadly, Food Bank continues to be busy. As a church we also keep a stock of food provided through monetary donations to provide food for those who cannot access food vouchers.

We continue to access grants which enabled us to provide food hampers during school holidays. These were targeted at families in need, identified by our local schools. The hampers were distributed for school holidays to offset the

lack of provision of school meals. We gave in excess of 100 hampers at Christmas. We were also able to send a number of shoe boxes through Samaritans Purse to Eastern Europe at Christmas time.

REACH men's group continued to meet on our premises until December when they were able to rent their own premises. We continue to have ties with Reach as a number of their member attend Place of Welcome. The Feelgood mental health drop-in group and Child & Family Connect continue to use our premises. The NHS prostate support group continues to meet monthly, and we hosted a 6 week Weigh Forward course looking at healthy eating and lifestyle. Rainbow Guides continues to meet weekly and is flourishing. Party Troopers, a private enterprise, also continues to rent space from us.

In February, the local Higher education college, Hugh Baird held their graduation ceremony in our Main Hall. It was amazing to see the main hall filled to capacity.

In September we welcomed St. John Ambulance onto our premises as a regular rental.

This year we were able to provide the facilities to open a community Pantry on a Thursday. Paying a small fee clients can select several items including fresh meat, fruit and veg. The Pantry is open to anyone in the postcode area.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Aims

- (1) To secure and sustain the church's viability and future.
- (2) To give reassurance to the general public that the church, which is a charity, intends to use all of the money coming into its care for the purposes of the charity.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

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

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

Financial plans

Linacre Mission building is over 100 years old and although it had a major upgrade using the Big Lottery in 2010/2011, there are still areas to be attended to and there will always be a need for maintenance.

Due to the pandemic, income was lost due to the building being closed to hirers. However, we were able to obtain some grants to offset these losses. The fire alarm and lifts continue to cause a strain on our finances. On a Grade II listed building of this size, the cost of any maintenance contracts and repairs are high and therefore contingency finance has to be in place. Increasing costs of ministry are likely to result in increased assessments being paid to the Liverpool North Circuit. The aim is to generate income from Gift Aid and through increased rental income now that the building has reopened, and to be able to put aside donations that are given to the church.

General Fund (Unrestricted)

The reserves policy is to hold at least six months expenditure in hand. Based on the proposed budget for 2022/2023 these reserves are believed to be reasonable, and a balanced budget is proposed.

Contracts

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

**The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

Signature(s)

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Full name(s)

Revd Ian Hu	John Langton
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Position (e.g., Secretary, Chair, etc).

Chair	Sec
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Date

21st Feb 2023

21st Feb 2023

6.11

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc

335-339 Stanley Rd,

Boothle

L20 3EB

EC2A 4PE

London

9 Bonhill Street

Methodist Church

Central Finance Board of the

6.12

Investment managers and custodian trustees

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

Central Buildings

Oldham Street

Manchester

M1 1JQ

6.13

Independent Examiner

Mrs Elizabeth Caldwell

Approvals

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the Church Council on

Signed on behalf of the Church Council, as authorised:

S. Edwards

(signed)

S. Edwards

(signed)

Pr Rev Ian Hu

Pr Rev Ian Hu

Rev Ian Hu
Supt Minister

Date: 20th June 2022

Date:

20th June 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of LMMNC, named above

LMMNC's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 present a true and fair view of LMMNC's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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 with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the trustees concerning 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. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than as disclosed below*)

- (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
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011

have 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.