

Winchester, Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit; Circuit 26/2
Registered Charity Number 1134173
Report to the Charity Commission for the year ended 31st August 2025

Trustees Annual Report of Winchester, Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit for the year 1st September 2024 – 31st August 2025

The report covers the main areas of business including:

1. Effective Governance
2. Implementation of the annual priorities within the Circuit Strategy
3. Main areas of work approved by the circuit through the quarterly circuit meetings

1. Effective Governance

The Winchester Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain. An Act of Parliament constitutes the Methodist Church. Its principal governing documents are the Deed of Union 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976. These together with other relevant governing documents can be found in The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes delegate responsibility to the Circuit Meeting for the effective deployment of the resources of ministry, which include people, property and finance as they relate to the Methodist Churches in the Circuit.

Trustee selection methods

All members of the Circuit meeting are trustees of Winchester Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit. Membership of the Circuit Meeting is prescribed in the Standing Orders of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church. Under the Standing Orders the following are ex officio members of the Circuit Meeting:

1. The Superintendent Minister, all Ministers, Deacons, probationers and persons authorized to serve the Church as Ministers or Deacons appointed to the Circuit
2. Circuit Stewards, appointed annually by the Circuit Meeting.

Standing Orders also prescribe that:

1. Where individuals have specific areas of expertise, for example property or finance matters, they may be appointed to the Circuit Meeting by the Circuit Meeting.
2. The Secretary of the Local Preachers and Worship leaders Meeting is a member of the Circuit Meeting. The Local Preachers and Worship leaders Meeting appoint them to their office.
3. Representatives from each local church, which normally includes the Senior Church Steward and the Church Treasurer, are members of the Circuit Meeting. Currently each local church is allowed additional members of the Circuit Meeting, based on the membership of each church. The Annual General Church Meeting of the local church appoints Church Stewards. The Church Council of the local church appoints Church Treasurers. Other representatives are elected from the membership of each church's respective Church Council

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- 4 The Circuit Meeting can also choose to include other people to ensure all areas of the life of the Circuit are adequately represented.
- 5 The current number of Trustees is 51 and the information on the Charity Commission Website has been updated with members leaving and joining. Generally, 30-36 Trustees are present at each circuit meeting which meets four times each year.

Structure and decision-making

The Circuit Ministers work as a team sharing responsibilities across the Circuit and each presbyter has pastoral charge for one or more churches. The Circuit Leadership Team takes day-to-day management decisions.

The Circuit Meeting is the principal decision-making body responsible for the affairs of the Circuit and the development of circuit policy. It also acts as the focal point of the working fellowship of the churches in the Circuit, overseeing their pastoral, training and evangelistic work.

The Circuit stewards are responsible, with the Superintendent and the Presbyters appointed to the Circuit, for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit, and for upholding and acting upon the decisions of the Circuit Meeting.

The Circuit Stewards are responsible for bringing to the invitation committee and/or the Circuit Meeting as appropriate, proposals for invitations to ministers to serve or for ministers to continue serving in the Circuit, and for conveying such invitations to the ministers concerned. In the case of initial invitations, the circuit stewards are responsible for conducting, on behalf of the Circuit, negotiations with ministers initiated by the District Chair.

Circuit Leadership Team

The Circuit Leadership Team comprises the Superintendent Minister, all other ministers appointed to the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards, the Secretary of the Circuit meeting and the Circuit Treasurer. It meets between Circuit Meetings to:

- discuss the life and work of the Circuit
- formulate recommendations for the Circuit Meeting to approve
- carry out work on behalf of the Circuit meeting, where appropriate.

Circuit Relationships

Winchester Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit is part of the wider Methodist Connexion and is ultimately accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The Methodist Conference stations every Presbyter and Deacon. For mutual encouragement and help the local Methodist churches are grouped together into Circuits, and the Circuits are then grouped into Districts.

Winchester Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit is part of the Southampton District. The registered charity number of the Southampton District is 1134386.

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Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Meeting.

This meeting consists of Presbyters, Student Ministers, Local Preachers and Worship leaders, who are members of local churches in the Circuit. They meet at least once a quarter and they:

- worship together and share fellowship
- consider the state of the work of God in the Circuit and in particular issues of policy affecting the circuit plan of preaching appointments and circuit policy relating to worship
- hold local preacher's accountable for their ministry
- initiate and oversee a programme of continuing development
- consider the suitability of and oversee the training of those who wish to become local preachers, and recommend people to the Circuit Meeting for appointment as local preachers
- Consider the suitability of and training reports about those who wish to become worship leaders and advise the Church Council accordingly.

Through their representatives they send a report to the Circuit Meeting twice each year.

Purposes

As part of the wider Methodist Connexion Winchester Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit share the purposes of the Methodist Church, set out in the Methodist Church Act 1976. They are and have been since the date of union the advancement of:

1. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church
2. any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church
3. any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church
4. any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church. The nature and purposes of Methodist Circuits are prescribed in the Standing Orders of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church as follows:

- The Circuit is the primary unit in which local churches express and experience their interconnexion in the Body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help
- Presbyters, deacons and student ministers are stationed in the Circuit, and Local Preachers are trained, and admitted and exercise their calling
- The Circuit is responsible for the effective deployment of the resources of ministry, which include people, property and finance, as they relate to the Methodist churches in the Circuit, to churches of other denominations and to participation in the life of the communities served by the Circuit, including local school and colleges, and in ecumenical work in the area including, where appropriate, the support of ecumenical Housing Associations
- The circuit promotes mission at home and overseas through 'One Mission' .

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Our Vision and Mission

The Circuit Vision is to enable us all to worship God and, in the power of the Holy Spirit, proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE WINCHESTER, EASTLEIGH & ROMSEY CIRCUIT

- We will share fellowship and resources across the circuit.
- We will develop a sense of belonging so that we can build each other up.
- We will encourage churches to experience a wide range of worship and preaching styles.
- We will explore, develop and unlock opportunities for mission in each church so that the Good News of Jesus Christ can be proclaimed.

2. Strategy implementation during 2024/25

The circuit leadership team have implemented priorities agreed by the circuit meeting outlined within the Circuit Strategy (2023/25)

Progress during 2024/25

- i) Focus was on what we could achieve together to support Growth and sustainability (to address the decline in membership across the circuit)
- ii) Area Ministry was reviewed. It consists of Southern Area (Cadnam, Landford, Canada Common and Romsey); Central Area covering Bishopstoke, Chandlers Ford, Colden Common with Twyford, St Andrew's and St Francis; and Northern Area covering Alresford, United -Winchester, Wesley and Kings Somborne. It was decided to retain as much of an Area approach but with more flexibility with the appropriate skill-mix of Presbyters and Local Lay pastors to serve the changing needs of the church communities across the circuit.
- iii) Circuit Leadership team along with the District, ran a successful process for stationing a full time Minister for Chandlers Ford Methodist Church to lead Ministry, sustainable growth and development of new community connections. The appointment is for an initial five-year period commencing September 2025.
- iv) An effective appraisal and development process was implemented for lay-staff employed by the circuit
- v) Evaluation of the role of Lay Pastors with evidence of effective impact was carried out and reported back to the circuit meeting.
- vi) A biennial Ministerial Development Review process for Presbyters was agreed based on the guidelines introduced in 2022. The process was implemented with 2 Presbyters successfully completing their self-evaluation, gathering feedback from peers and lay people, and meeting with a trained reviewer to agree personal and professional development opportunities for strengthening their ministry.
- vii) Evaluation of the effective use of resources and appropriate governance

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arrangements for Youth and Children's work across the circuit

- viii) Eco circuit achievement of bronze award continued with exploration of further work to be done to reduce the carbon footprint in manses, and offices which are likely to be addressed during the quinquennial programme of inspections starting in 2025/26.
- ix) Support offered to churches on reducing energy consumption

Progress on finances:

- x) Financial sustainability has deteriorated with Church income continuing to fall with the overall decline in membership. At the same time, increased costs of stipends, energy and inflation causes pressure. A review of the level of financial contribution made by individual churches to the circuit was undertaken with the circuit meeting agreeing to maintain the Assessment to the level of the previous year and to confirm that it will be increasing in 2025/26.
- xj) Work continues to generate income from manses not required for Ministers (rental income ongoing) in order to directly support the employment of the 3 Local Pastors, in line with the Circuit strategy. In addition, the sale of closed churches continues with funds expected to be realised in 2025/26. Funds will be used to support Mission and Ministry across the Circuit.

Property

- xii) The outsourcing arrangements agreed with Savills has provided support to the Circuit Stewards but will be reviewed in 2025/26 to ensure it continues to be effective.
- xiii) Slow progress was made on the sale of churches at Nomansland and West Wellow.
- xiv) Continued good progress was made on the repurposing of Canada Common Chapel with positive evidence of local impact and growth

New Places, New People & Growth

- xv) The Circuit meeting acknowledges that there are many opportunities for growth from initiatives focused on forming new Christian communities. Progress on this has started slowly. This will be a future orientated priority with work needing to be done in partnership with the District and Connexion
- xvi) During 2024/2025 – the circuit leadership team undertook an audit and mapping of the issues and opportunities associated with growth and the effective use of resources across the circuit. New plans for the circuit will come from revision of the circuit strategy during 2025/26.

Religious Activities

Acts of worship and pastoral care. The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure regular acts of worship take place at each of the Methodist churches under

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its remit.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. The Ministers offer baptisms, weddings and funerals at each of the local Methodist churches in the Circuit. These services are available at the discretion of the Minister.

Work with Children, Youth, and Families in the local Community

Employment of one full time lay Children, Youth and Families worker. His work is across the circuit supporting churches who are actively working with young people in their local community. The Circuit supports the work done in the local churches to:

- create and strengthen relationships with schools and church communities
- ensure young people feel welcome and get a positive experience of Church life
- encourage young people to start and continue a journey into faith.

3. Additional work of the circuit meetings during 2024/25

The Methodist year that commenced 01/09/2024 – the Ministerial team consisted of Superintendent Minister, Reverend Peter Rayson with additional responsibilities as minister with pastoral responsibility for the congregations of Wesley Weeke with Kings Somborne and Alresford. Reverend Andrew de Ville appointed as minister to Romsey and Southern Area, Reverend Ruth Fry continued as minister at Chandlers Ford with pastoral responsibility for the congregation of Colden Common with Twyford. Reverend Tim Searle (URC) for United in Winchester. Finally, Reverend Kate Cambridge continued as minister 75% (full time equivalent) with pastoral responsibility for the congregations of St Andrews, Eastleigh and Bishopstoke.

The Circuit meeting in September 2024

Welcomed new members to the meeting – Reverend Andrew de Ville (Presbyter for Romsey, Cadnam, and Landford), Joyce Powell as Methodist Women in Britain representative, and Janet Messer (Treasurer at United). Thanks were given for the work of Mark Downer who stepped down as circuit steward after 15 years.

The circuit meeting approved Hilary Evans as the Circuit Lay Employment Officer as well as Circuit Steward.

The circuit meeting approved the annual appointment of Circuit Invitations Committee and delegation of Authority to issue an invitation for the Central Area appointment to Chandlers Ford Methodist Church. The profile for the role had been completed and submitted to the agreed time-table. The circuit profile had been updated and submitted alongside the role profile.

The circuit Treasurer confirmed that grants for CFMC (£15,000) and St Andrew's (£3,000) had been paid. There remains £45,000 in the project fund and £91,000 in the grant fund.

The Trusteeship for Twyford Chapel transferred to the circuit on 1st September 2024. The final service celebrating the life and work of the chapel was well attended.

The circuit meeting received a safeguarding report which focussed on raising awareness within our churches of the possible needs of people who have

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experienced various kinds of abuse. Two methodist booklets (*'Supporting Survivors of Abuse'* and *'Reflect and Respond'*) were commended as helpful resources for deepening personal insights and understanding of this important aspect of safeguarding.

The circuit meeting received a report on GDPR.

The circuit meeting was informed that the circuit continues to have a vacancy for the role of EDI Officer.

The circuit meeting received a report from the circuit Methodist Women in Britain and confirmed that the District and Circuit would be raising funds for a Leprosy Mission Project in Nepal and Dedication of the Easter Offering to this work.

The circuit meeting was informed that The new District Chair, Reverend Rachel Bending was formally welcomed into the District in September 2024.

The circuit meeting held in December 2024 received the main reports requiring noting and approvals:

CiC update on Stationing which reported that the circuit had not been successful in the first round of stationing. It was reported that the CIC had received a list of Presbyters in the second round of stationing of which two appeared to be a close match.

The draft accounts for 2023/24 were presented and the reserves policy was reviewed and agreed.

The annual report for safeguarding was discussed and approved and the annual review of the circuits safeguarding policy was approved

Annual Youth Worker Report was discussed and approved

The Local Preachers and Worship Leaders report recommended that Bible month in June would focus on the Gospel of St John.

A formal report from Chandlers Ford Methodist Church on the 30 years on Project was received and the grants from the circuit, district and the generosity of people at CFMC was acknowledged. An invitation to circuit members to the opening event on Saturday 8th February was welcomed.

The circuit meeting held in March 2025 received the main reports which needing noting and approvals:

A report from CiC on Stationing confirmed that Reverend Rachael Hawkins had been invited to visit Chandlers Ford Methodist Church, and she had subsequently accepted the Circuit's invitation to serve as Minister from September 2025 subject to Methodist Conference approval. At the time Rachael was superintendent minister for the West Hertfordshire circuit.

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The annual accounts for 2023/24 presented to December Circuit meeting had been independently examined and approved. Authority for Reverend Peter Rayson to sign the accounts was agreed.

Annual report for 2023/24 was approved and it was confirmed would be uploaded to the Charity Commission website along with the signed annual accounts.

The circuit meeting approved the recommended adjustments to the terms and conditions of service for Local Lay Pastors.

The circuit meeting approved the co-option of Martin Waldron from CFMC as circuit steward with immediate effect and appointed for the next connexional year beginning September 2025.

The circuit meeting approved the sale of the Twyford chapel property as no alternative use had been established. This would be subject to District Synod in the Autumn.

The circuit meeting received the circuit report from the Methodist Women in Britain which confirmed that £2000 had been raised towards the Leprosy project in Nepal.

The circuit meeting approved the safeguarding policy for Canada Common premises.

The circuit meeting members were encouraged to complete the EDI and unconscious bias training which is a requirement for circuit trustees to complete.

The Circuit's ECO day was discussed and agreed for Saturday 18th April 2026.

The circuit meeting held in June 2025 received the main reports that needed noting and approvals:

The meeting approved the planned Welcome Service for Reverend Rachael Hawkins on 1st September, and the planned farewell service for Reverend Ruth Fry on 20th July 2025.

The circuit meeting accepted the resignation of Paul Yarrien as circuit steward after 2 years. He was thanked for his work as part of the CLT. Paul remains busy with work of the District and as senior steward for Wesley church.

The circuit meeting noted the report from CFMC 30 years on project which had raised £200k since launching the fundraising campaign in October 2023. The circuit noted the additional £164k external grants from district and circuit. It was noted that further grant requests were being prepared for the final phase of the programme to complete the zoning work the heating of the building and further accessibility adaptations, and link-way roof repairs. The circuit agreed permission for CFMC to submit the grant applications to the circuit and district.

The meeting noted the ongoing work required to support the sale of closed chapel/church buildings for West Wellow and Nomansland. The work on Abbots Ann Manse to upgrade and install EV point was noted, and the plan to redecorate Ladywood Manse prior to re-letting the property.

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The meeting noted the appointment of a newly appointed Anglican priest at St Francis church and the proposed meeting with Rev Rachael Hawkins to discuss future work together.

The circuit meeting noted the report from Cadnam church which had successfully raised £17,200 as part of gift aid day towards the work on the roof which is planned for April 2026.

The circuit meeting noted the anticipated annual deficit budget of £20k and that the district annual assessment had increased. It noted that the circuit has been awarded £10k for 3 years in support of the lay worker costs from a district grant.

The circuit meeting agreed to make provision for an annual grant of £600 to enable Reverend Kate Cambridge to attend 3Generate

The circuit meeting approved the appointment of Anne-Marie Jenkins as the circuit's EDI officer.

The CLT provided a report to the circuit meeting on potential circuit boundary changes and how any process if taken forward would be managed. It was re-affirmed that no boundary changes could be made without the agreement of the circuit meeting and the churches that could be affected by any proposed changes.

The Superintendent Minister introduced a new item on the agenda – God's work in the Circuit. An invitation was made for churches to contribute examples of God's work for each meeting. The first session focussed on the work of Canada Common and the Joint Churches Together in Wellow.

The circuit meeting received a report on the emerging plans for St Andrew's church in Eastleigh. A small working group had been working on the tendering process for a roof replacement and the associated costs. A more detailed report would be provided in the Autumn with a proposal for the circuit to approve.

Signed:



Dated:

23/3/26

Reverend Peter Rayson
Chair Circuit Meeting
Chair of Trustees.

THE METHODIST CHURCH

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED - 31 AUGUST 2025

Winchester, Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134173

Southampton

District

Circuit no

26/02

Ministers

Rev'd Peter Rayson [Superintendent]

Rev'd Rachael Hawkins

Rev'd Tim Searle

Rev'd Kate Cambridge

Rev'd Andrew de Ville

Circuit Stewards

Tim Clifford

Hilary Evans

Julie Pearce

Martin Waldron

Peter Ford

Circuit Treasurer

Don Simons

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2025

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Property) £	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024-25 £
Income								
1 Assessments on Churches		-	410,853	-	-	-	-	410,853
2 Donations and Legacies		-	-	-	4,414	-	-	4,414
3 Income from Monetary Investments	4	-	14,507	2,191	-	-	-	16,698
4 Income from Investment Properties		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Capital Receipts		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 Grants received	18	-	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
7 Other Charitable Income		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8a Other Trading Income - lettings	5	-	28,122	-	-	-	-	28,122
8b - Other		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9 Total Income		-	463,482	2,191	4,414	-	-	470,087
Expenditure								
People								
10 Salaries and Associated costs	8	-	251,167	-	-	-	-	251,167
11 Staff and Preacher Expenses	6	-	14,798	-	-	-	-	14,798
12 Training and Conferences		-	840	-	-	-	-	840
Mission								
13 District Assessment & URC M&M fund	8b	-	121,504	-	-	-	-	121,504
14 Grants and Donations		-	-	4,737	3,000	-	-	7,737
15 Mission & Outreach		-	3,066	-	-	-	-	3,066
16 Children & Youth Work		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Property								
17 Property Insurance & Utility costs		-	25,409	-	8,197	-	-	33,606
17a Rent Paid		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18 Property Maintenance		-	26,529	-	-	-	-	26,529
General								
19 Books, Publications, Printing, Postage & Stationery		-	2,315	-	-	-	-	2,315
20 Computer Equipment, Software & Repairs		-	1,241	-	-	-	-	1,241
21 Connexional Assessment & Model Trust Levy		-	-	1,214	-	-	-	1,214
22 Examiners Fees	7	-	1,920	-	-	-	-	1,920
23 Legal & Professional fees		-	14,166	158	5,088	-	-	19,412
24 Ministers Telephone and Internet		-	2,915	-	-	-	-	2,915
25 Stationing & Removal Expenses		-	5,035	-	-	-	-	5,035
26 Other Outgoings		-	881	-	-	-	-	881
27 Depreciation	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28 Total Expenditure		-	471,786	6,109	16,285	-	-	494,180
29 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31 Net Income/(expenditure)		-	(8,304)	(3,918)	(11,871)	-	-	(24,093)
32 Transfers between funds	18	-	5,529	-	(5,529)	-	-	-
33 Other gains/(losses)	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34 Net movement in funds		-	(2,775)	(3,918)	(17,400)	-	-	(24,093)
35 Total funds brought forward		2,365,000	206,035	48,560	143,293	-	-	2,762,888
37 Total funds carried forward		2,365,000	203,260	44,642	125,893	-	-	2,738,795

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Property)	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income								
1 Assessments on Churches		-	410,566	-	-	-	-	410,566
2 Donations and Legacies		-	-	3,800	2,735	-	-	6,535
3 Income from Monetary Investments	4	-	16,844	3,078	-	-	-	19,922
4 Income from Investment Properties		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Capital Receipts		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 Grants received	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 Other Charitable Income		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8a Other Trading Income - lettings	5	-	49,435	-	-	-	-	49,435
8b - Other		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9 Total Income		-	476,845	6,878	2,735	-	-	486,458
Expenditure								
People								
10 Salaries and Associated costs	8	-	217,626	-	-	-	-	217,626
11 Staff and Preacher Expenses	6	-	17,948	-	-	-	-	17,948
12 Training and Conferences		-	526	-	-	-	-	526
Mission								
13 District Assessment & URC M&M fund	8b	-	120,519	-	-	-	-	120,519
14 Grants and Donations		-	-	15,000	7,650	-	-	22,650
15 Mission & Outreach		-	500	-	-	-	-	500
16 Children & Youth Work		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Property								
17 Property Insurance & Utility costs		-	20,185	-	8,376	-	-	28,561
17a Rent Paid		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18 Property Maintenance		-	36,172	-	-	-	-	36,172
General								
19 Books, Publications, Printing, Postage & Stationery		-	2,336	-	-	-	-	2,336
20 Computer Equipment, Software & Repairs		-	585	-	-	-	-	585
21 Connexional Assessment & Model Trust Levy		-	-	1,458	-	-	-	1,458
22 Examiners Fees	7	-	1,920	-	-	-	-	1,920
23 Legal & Professional fees		-	13,139	166	-	-	-	13,305
24 Ministers Telephone and Internet		-	2,414	-	-	-	-	2,414
25 Stationing & Removal Expenses		-	3,048	-	-	-	-	3,048
26 Other Outgoings		-	587	-	-	-	-	587
27 Depreciation	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28 Total Expenditure		-	437,505	16,624	16,026	-	-	470,155
29 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31 Net Income/(expenditure)		-	39,340	(9,746)	(13,291)	-	-	16,303
32 Transfers between funds	18	-	(3,328)	-	3,328	-	-	-
33 Other gains/(losses)	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34 Net movement in funds		-	36,012	(9,746)	(9,963)	-	-	16,303
35 Total funds brought forward		2,365,000	170,023	58,306	153,256	-	-	2,746,585
37 Total funds carried forward		2,365,000	206,035	48,560	143,293	-	-	2,762,888

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

Notes to the
Accounts

General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2024/25	Totals 2023/24
£	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Circuit Manse & Equipment	9	2,365,000				2,365,000	2,365,000
Investment properties						0	0
Investments	10					0	0
Total fixed assets		2,365,000	0	0	0	2,365,000	2,365,000

Current Assets

Debtors	11	39,513				39,513	25,574
Loans by the Circuit	14					0	0
Investments with TMCP	11		44,642			44,642	48,560
Central Finance Board Deposits	11	150,328		125,893		284,221	309,401
Cash at Bank and in hand	11	17,589				17,589	25,505
Total current assets		215,430	44,642	125,893	0	385,965	409,040

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	12	12,170				12,170	11,152
Grants payable within 2018-19						0	0
Total current liabilities		12,170	0	0	0	12,170	11,152
Net current assets/liabilities		203,260	44,642	125,893	0	373,795	397,888

Total assets less current liabilities		2,568,260	44,642	125,893	0	2,738,795	2,762,888
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2018-19						0	0
Loans to the Circuit						0	0
Net assets		2,568,260	44,642	125,893	0	2,738,795	2,762,888

Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Property)		2,365,000				2,365,000	2,365,000
General Fund (Unrestricted)		203,260				203,260	200,035
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			44,642			44,642	48,560
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				125,893		125,893	143,283
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,738,795	2,762,888
Restricted Funds				0		0	0
Endowment Funds					0	0	0
Total Funds	18	2,568,260	44,642	125,893	0	2,738,795	2,762,888

Signed

Circuit Treasurer

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletin 1 issued in 2016.

2 Funds

The funds held constitute:

General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted.

The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.

Designated funds Note 18, where the Circuit Meeting has designated funds for a defined purpose.

Restricted funds which are held for a specific purpose.

There are no Endowment funds.

Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3 Accounting policies**Basis**

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year, on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources Expended

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

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

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, of which the land component is deemed to be £465,000. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

Investment Properties

Investment properties - no property is currently deemed to not be held for the long term purposes of the charity.

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

Debtors and Prepayments

The prepayment included in the accounts is mainly in respect of the Ministers' Stipend

Creditors

Creditors include sundry expenses received in August.

4 Income from monetary investments

	Unrestricted £	Circuit Model Trust Fund £	Designated £	Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Central Finance Board	14,466				14,466	16,795
CAF Bank	41				41	49
TMCP		2,191			2,191	3,078
Total	14,507	2,191			16,698	19,922

5 Other trading activities**a) Manse on short-term let**

	Unrestricted £	Circuit Model Trust Fund £	Designated £	Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Dorian Grove	16,460				16,460	21,735
Ladywood	11,662				11,662	19,200
Homefield	0				0	8,500
Total	28,122				28,122	49,435

b) no other activities to report**6 Trustees and Key Personnel**

The Superintendent of the Circuit, other presbyters and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) are considered Key Personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meeting. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Trustees of the Circuit. Stipends, employer's NI, employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the presbyters are paid by the Circuit. Three Trustees are employees of the Circuit.

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting, this excludes stipends.

Trustee expenses

	2024/25	2023/24
Number of Trustees	11	10
Total amount	£12,347	£14,878

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel and computing costs

7 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	1,920	1,920
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	NIL	NIL

8 Stipends, Salaries and other Employee costs

a) Staff Costs paid during the year were:

		2024/25	2023/24
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£	203,605	177,906
Employer's National Insurance costs	£	19,482	12,351
Pension costs	£	27,590	27,369
Total staff costs	£	250,677	217,626
Average number of employees in the year were:		11	13

The Figures include ministerial stipends, lay worker and administration staff .
The total number of people is 11 - equivalent FTE being 7

No minister, deacon, or employee received benefits of more than £60,000. There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial.
The Holiday year end is 31st August.

All of the ministers and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefits scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist Ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the church. For simplicity, when dealing with National Insurance and Pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body. Contributions to this scheme total £23,265 (2024 £23,435)

Lay Workers are contractual employees and have the option of joining a pension scheme which the Circuit has arranged under the Nest scheme. This is a defined contribution scheme. Contributions for the year totalled £4325 (2024 £3,934)

b) Ministerial Costs - URC Presbyter

The Circuit has a URC presbyter, contracted under an LEP agreement, and makes a contribution towards the URC Church ministerial costs (M&M Fund) of £46,684 (2024 was £46,575)

9 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost or Valuation

	Land £	Manses £	Other Buildings £	Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment £	Payments on account and assets under constructio n £	Total £
Balance brought fwd.	465,500	1,899,500	0	0	0	2,365,000
Additions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluations (+/-)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disposals (-)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers (+/-)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Balance carried fwd.	465,500	1,899,500	0	0	0	2,365,000

9 Tangible Fixed Assets - cont./

Accumulated Depreciation - straight line basis

	Land £	Manses £	Other Buildings £	Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment £	Payments on account and assets under constructio n £	Total £
Balance brought fwd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revaluations (+/-)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disposals (-)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers (+/-)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Balance carried fwd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net book Value						
Balance brought fwd.	465,500	1,899,500	0	0	0	2,365,000
Balance carried fwd.	465,500	1,899,500	0	0	0	2,365,000

The manses are included at valuation either from a professional unconnected valuer(s) or insurance property documentation at August 2015.

The valuation of the residential land is that on which the manses are built.

10 Investment Assets

The Circuit has no investment properties or other investment assets. (2024 - £Nil).

11 Analysis of Current Assets

	2024/2 £	2023/24 £
Debtors & Prepayments		
Prepaid Stipends	13,854	12,848
Accrued Income		
Other Debtors & Prepayments	25,659	12,728
Total Debtors & Prepayments	39,513	25,574
Cash at the bank		
CAF Bank	17,589	25,505
CFB	284,221	309,401
TMCP	44,642	48,580
Total Cash Held	346,452	383,486

12 Analysis of Current Liabilities and Long Term Creditors

	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Deferred Income from Churches		
Social Security & Other Taxation	5,473	5,299
Other Creditors and Accruals	6,697	5,853
Total Current Liabilities	12,170	11,152

13 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2024 there are no capital commitments (2024 - £Nil)

No Contingent Liabilities were identified at 31st August 2025 (2024 - £Nil)

14 Loans

At the 31st August 2025 the Circuit has no Loans (2024 - £Nil)

15 Post balance Sheet Events

There were no post balance sheet events.

16 Legal Form

The Charity is a Public Benefit entity.

The Charity is constituted under Parliamentary Act and is Registered as a Religious Organisation with the Charities Commission

17 The Trustees consider that there are currently no material uncertainties about the Charities ability to continue to function.

18 Detailed analysis on individual fund movements

2024/25

Fund Name	Opening Balance £	Transfers In £	Incoming Funds £	Funds Expended £	Transfers out £	Closing Balance £	Purpose of Fund
Unrestricted							
General							
Property	2,365,000					2,365,000	Value of Manse in the Circuit
Cash	206,035	5,529	463,482	(471,786)		203,260	Working Capital of the Circuit
Total General Fund	2,671,035	5,529	463,482	(471,786)	0	2,688,260	
Circuit Model Trust Fund							
	48,680		2,191	(8,108)		44,842	Circuit Advance Fund - support for Projects
Designated							
Support Fund	9,315			(3,000)		6,315	Support for Churches in response to COVID
Manse Repair Fund	35,643				(5,529)	30,114	Funding for Manse property repairs
Minister Removal Fund	9,524					9,524	Removal costs for Ministers as required
Training Fund	6,725					6,725	Staff development
Children & Youth Work Fund	1,691					1,691	Support Children and Youth Work of the Circuit
Mission & Outreach Fund	7,099					7,099	Support for Mission and Outreach projects
Layworker Fund	47,774					47,774	Fund set aside to support additional requirements
Circuit Chapels Fund	25,522		4,414	(13,285)		16,651	Fund to support Chapels trfd. to Circuit responsibility **
						0	
Total Designated	143,283	0	4,414	(16,285)	(5,529)	125,883	
Totals - Unrestricted Funds	2,782,888	5,529	470,087	(484,180)	(5,529)	2,738,786	
Restricted Funds							
						-	
						-	
						-	
						-	
						-	
Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-	

** consolidation of previous Normansland, Wellow and Canford Common funds agreed at Circuit Meeting

The reason for transfer between funds as follows:-

Manse Repair Fund	Dr	£5,529 being overspend to budget in the year
£5,529		

18 Detailed analysis on individual fund movements

2023/24

Fund Name	Opening Balance £	Transfers In £	Incoming Funds £	Funds Expended £	Transfers out £	Closing Balance £	Purpose of Fund
Unrestricted							
General							
Property	2,365,000					2,365,000	Value of Manse in the Circuit
Cash	170,022		476,846	(437,504)	(3,328)	206,035	Working Capital of the Circuit
Total General Fund	2,535,022	0	476,846	(437,504)	(3,328)	2,571,086	
Circuit Model Trust Fund							
	68,308		8,878	-18,824		48,680	Circuit Advance Fund - support for Projects
Designated							
Support Fund	6,965	10,000		(7,650)		9,315	Support for Churches in response to COVID
Manse Repair Fund	42,315				(6,672)	35,643	Funding for property repairs
Minister Removal Fund	9,524					9,524	Removal costs for Ministers as required
Training Fund	6,725					6,725	Staff development
Children & Youth Work Fund	1,691					1,691	Support Children and Youth Work of the Circuit
Mission & Outreach Fund	7,099					7,099	Support for Mission and Outreach projects
Layworker Fund	47,774					47,774	Fund set aside to support additional requirements
Nomansland	8,551			(3,722)		4,829	Funds from Nomansland MC
Wellow	16,788			(3,259)		13,529	Funds from Wellow MC
Canada Common	5,824		2,735	(1,395)		7,164	Funds from Canada Common MC
Total Designated	168,268	10,000	2,735	(18,028)	(8,872)	143,283	
Totals - Unrestricted Funds	2,748,584	10,000	488,468	(470,164)	(10,000)	2,782,888	
Restricted Funds							
						-	
						-	
						-	
						-	
						-	
Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-	

The reason for transfer between funds as follows:-

Manse Repair Fund	Dr	-£6,672 being overspend to budget in the year [net of additional rental income]
Support Fund	Cr	£10,000 Agreed additional transfer from General Fund

£3,328

19 Chapel Buildings under Circuit Control

The Circuit Meeting act as managing trustees for the following chapel buildings in the Circuit where the local society has closed. The buildings are held on Model Trusts and the custodian trustees, holding legal title for the property are the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

Nomansland Methodist Church

Forest Road, Nomansland, Salisbury, Wilts. SP5 2BP

Insured Value of the Buildings [with Methodist Insurance] = £774,694

Wellow Methodist Church

West Wellow Methodist Church, Maurys Lane, West Wellow, Romsey, Hants, SO51 6DA

Insured Value of the Buildings [with Methodist Insurance] = £574,075

Canada Common Methodist Church

Canada Common, West Wellow, ROMSEY SO51 6DH


Insured Value of the Buildings [with Methodist Insurance] = £422,572

Twyford Methodist Church


The Drove, Twyford, Winchester Hampshire, SO21 1QL

Insured Value of the Buildings [with Methodist Insurance] = £167,618

Signed


D. Simons
Treasurer

Signed


Rev'd Peter Rayson
Superintendent Minister

**Winchester, Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit
DECLARATIONS**

Treasurer

I confirm that these accrual based accounts for the year ended 31st August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of Treasurer



Date: 02.12.25

Name of Treasurer

Don Simons

Address

Woodley Dene
Braishfield Road
ROMSEY
SO51 7NZ

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ending 31st August 2025 have been presented to the Circuit Meeting at it's meeting on:-
and were approved.

Date: 3/12/25

Signature of the Chair of
the meeting



Name of the Chair of the
meeting

Rev'd Peter Rayson

Date: 3/12/25

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Winchester, Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2025

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Circuit's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31st August 2025 present a true and fair view of the Circuit'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 (the Charities Act) and that independent examination is needed.

As independent Examiner it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Winchester, Eastleigh & Romsey Methodist Circuit

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that 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;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply

- (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.

** Please circle as appropriate

Name of independent examiner

David Gamblin ACA

Signature

Relevant Professional qualification of examiner

ICAEW

Name of firm (where appropriate)

David Gamblin Chartered Accountants

Address

71 The Hundred
ROMSEY
SO51 8BZ

Date

3/12/2025