

Charity registration number: 1134211

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

Financial statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
ACCRUALS BASIS
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

Ministers

Rev Alistair Lowe
Rev Amanda Roper
Rev Brenton Prigge
Rev Rebecca Marshall

Circuit Stewards

Mrs Brenda Lowe
Mrs Mary McNaughton
Mr Keith Angilley
Mr Reg Marriott

Interim Circuit Treasurer

Ms Pam Missen

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

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PLYMOUTH AND DEVONPORT METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Introduction

The Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit work towards supporting the lives of the communities within its boundaries in several different ways. By the provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike. The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups. Pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved. Promoting the whole mission of the church through activities and support for older people, parents and children and other specific groups when appropriate.

Aims and organisation

The Circuit Mission statement: Plymouth & Devonport Circuit is committed to the Growth of the Kingdom of God by facilitating local fellowships.

The Circuit is committed to developing a supporting team to allow the Circuit Staff to use their particular gifts across the Circuit.

We seek to engage with the rural and urban communities within the Circuit and to support the Chaplaincy of the Plymouth Hospitals and University. We encourage Outreach across the Circuit by actively serving the communities around us.

Review of the year

During the year the Circuit has worked to build links between the churches to find new ways of working together. We have moved to a Hub model for the churches so that one church in each hub has the consistency of one Minister, but that Minister has Pastoral Care of all the churches in that hub.

Volunteers from the Circuit have made contributions to the life of the community in a variety of ways including going into schools with "Open the Book" and supporting the work of Foodbanks.

Work with local primary schools in Ivybridge has been instigated with the appointment of a Children and Family Worker who along with working with children on Sundays and a weekly Baby Hub is strengthening links between churches, children, staff and parents. There are several young people's uniformed groups within the Circuit, including Girl's Brigade, Boy's Brigade, Guide and Scout groups.

The Performing Arts Enabler contract ceased in December 2024, and they now have a new mission role as DROPS (making waves through the arts as in "Drops in the Ocean") enabler, part funded by Sherwell United Church.

We have 4 full time ministers appointed to the Circuit, one of which is the Superintendent and one is a Probationer. We have a strong Lay Leadership and Supernumerary Team, with the addition of 3 lay workers across the Circuit. We are hoping to employ a Circuit Facilities Officer in the very near future.

The Circuit Trustees continue to explore ways of supporting the churches across the Circuit using the resources available to them and exploring the future of buildings that have ceased to worship. One Church has been placed on the market, with the sale close to being completed and another is in the process of being leased out for 5 years.

A Circuit Missional Grant was awarded to fund a Lay Pastoral Outreach Worker at Ridgeway Methodist Church where they successfully run an exploring faith group, spends time with new to faith and the bereaved. Also, they interact with church groups to build relationships and missional thinking.

We continue to monitor the best use of our resources and deployment of staff during challenging financial times. The Circuit has moved to a Hub model across the Circuit. 4 hubs with a dedicated minister at the hub church. This was introduced after a series of exploration and vision days held across the circuit in the previous year. Of the 4 hubs, 2 are already working to the new format but the remaining 2 are still working to find the way forward under this new system.

In compliance with the Safeguarding policy of the Methodist Church, training sessions continue to be held in order that all required people completed the "Creating Safer Spaces" module.

The Circuit Property Officer encourages churches to deal with outstanding property issues and has given support with various property schemes.

Weekly worship was sustained across the Circuit.

The Circuit continues to support All We Can, the work of several local Foodbanks, Action for Children, Water Aid, Samaritans, Guide Dogs for the Blind, Operation Christmas Child, Mercy Ships, Ukraine, RNIB, Motor Neurone Disease, and local charities. In addition to this, churches respond to crisis appeals as the need arises.

Brief financial review of the year

Income trends

The letting income relates to funds generated from Manses not currently required and from the Oreston Cottage.

Expenditure trends

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

£73,188 of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2025 the net current assets of the Circuit were £513,536.

Plans for 2025/26

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remains 4 full time ordained staff with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an 8.7% increase in the assessment paid to the district such that a 1.75% assessment increase has been requested from the circuit churches.

Trustees Annual Report on Finance and Governance

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard(FRS) 102

- Full Name of Charity: Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit
- Registration Charity Number: 1134211
- Date of registration: 09 February 2010

Main communication address: Circuit Centre, Stoke Christian Centre, Devonport Road, Plymouth, PL3 4DS

The members of the Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Circuit membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

Circuit Ministers and officers

Active Circuit Ministers	Rev Alistair Lowe Rev Brenton Prigge Rev Amanda Roper Rev Rebecca Marshall
Circuit Lay Workers	Mrs Janet Dobinson Mrs Sharon Hosgood
Circuit Stewards	Mrs Brenda Lowe Mrs Mary McNaughton Mr Reginald Marriott Mr Keith Angilley
Administrator:	Mrs Di Smart
Treasurer	Ms Pam Missen
Independent examiner:	Mr John Hillier R T Marke & Co Limited 6 Houndiscombe Road Plymouth PL4 6HH
Investment Bankers:	Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church Trustees for Methodist Church purposes
Bank details:	Lloyds Bank Plc 8 Royal Parade Plymouth PL1 1HB
Solicitors:	Mr Neil Major, Foot Anstey 4 North East Quay, Sutton Harbour Plymouth PL4 0BN
Accountants:	R T Marke & Co Limited 6 Houndiscombe Road Plymouth PL4 6HH

PLYMOUTH AND DEVONPORT METHODIST CIRCUIT

Aims and organisation

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

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

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

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

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

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

Taking religious assemblies in local schools.

Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.

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

Public Benefit

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

Structure, Governance and Management

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

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

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit can be found on the Methodist website and some on "Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes" website. The five golden rules of being a trustee can be found in [Guidance for Managing Trustees - The Methodist Church.](#)

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the newly formed (2024) South West Peninsula District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit Bittaford, Compton, Cornerstone, Crownhill, Elburton, Ivybridge, Mount Gould, Pennycross, Ridgeway, Roborough, Sherwell, St Budeaux, Stoke, Woodford and Yealmpton.

The Oreston Centre is a community centre with 2 halls, a small meeting room and a newly fitted kitchen. It is managed by the Circuit and is available to hire by the local community. The Circuit use the space for an afternoon drop-in session, a photographic exhibition, occasional Sunday worship and an Easter Quiet Day.

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Circuit Leadership Team with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

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

Safeguarding

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

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

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

- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

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

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to maintain unrestricted funds, which are free of reserves, at a sufficient level to secure the continued provision of normal charitable activities for a period of approximately 6 months. The Trustees will look to set aside as designated funds such amounts as are appropriate to provide for all future charitable and strategic requirements.

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

2024-2025

Appendix A

CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP

Ministers

Rev Alistair Lowe (Superintendent)
Rev Brenton Prigge
Rev Amanda Roper
Rev Rebecca Marshall (Probationer)
Rev John Mills (Hospital Chaplin)

Supernumerary Ministers

Rev David Youngs
Rev Terry Higgins
Rev Edgar Daniels
Rev Doug Rix

Layworkers

Lay Pastor Janet Dobinson

Circuit Stewards

Mrs Brenda Lowe (Appointed as Circuit Steward Nov 24, elected as Senior Circuit Steward Sept 25)
Mrs Mary McNaughton (resigned as Senior Steward Sept 2025)
Mr Keith Angilley (resigned Aug 2025)
Mr Reg Marriott

Local Preachers

Miss Susan Mary Bolt
Ms Beverley Smerdon
Mrs Marion Wilkinson

Circuit Treasurer

Mr David Rowe (resigned 19 Nov 2025)
Ms Pam Missen (appointed 19 Nov 2025)

Circuit Property Officer

Mr Michael Sowden

Circuit Safeguarding Officer

Mrs Diana Smart

Circuit Trustees

Bittaford:	Mr Christopher Phillips Mr Stewart Edward Mrs Elizabeth Cade Mrs Christine Adams
Compton:	Mrs Lesley Kerslake Mrs Pamela Dawn Missen Mrs Mary Louise McNaughton
Cornerstone:	Miss Elizabeth Dorothy Parker Mr Stephen Martin (appt Apr 2025)
Crownhill:	Mr Keith Richard Launder (died Jun 2025) Mrs Maureen Blatchford Mr Laurence George Harrison (appt Jun 2025) Mrs Judith Lea
Elburton:	Mrs Margaret Ridley Mrs Martha Wright Ms Julie Marie Gray (appt Mar 2025) Mrs Elizabeth Coleman
Ivybridge:	Mr Reg Marriott Mr Robin Duckering Mrs Dorothy Carole Mitchell Mr David Rowe Mrs Pam Shead (resigned Mar 2025)
Mount Gould:	Mrs Hannah Richardson Mr Matthew Rix Mrs Margaret Barrett
Pennycross:	Mr Malcolm Pillar Mr Richard Killick Ms June Maureen Algie (appt Apr 2025) Mr Aaron Walters (resigned Apr 2025) Mrs Amy Walters (resigned Apr 2025)
Ridgeway:	Ms Carmen de Pablo Lopez Mrs Lynne Rogers Mrs Joan Buttle Mr John Buttle Mr Antony Kirby
Roborough:	Mrs Janet Mary Dobinson Mrs Helen Kimberley
Sherwell:	Mrs Jean Mortimore Mrs Heather Brumpton

St Budeaux: Mrs Karen Louise Shears
Mr Philip John O'Connell
Mrs Catheryn Ann Niazi Ghadim

Stoke: Miss Teresa Anne White
Mr David Warne Elliot

Woodford: Mrs Sue Tozer
Mr Antony John Hollick (appt Apr 2025)
Mrs Margaret Dennis
Mr Michael Edwin Tozer
Mr Michael Richard Sowden

Yealmpton: Mrs Shirley Patricia Hrydziuszka

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

**Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA)
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds General £	CMTF £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2					-	10,987
Charitable activities							
Assessments or share	3	425,179				425,179	361,300
Investments	5	4,568	14,334	619	172	19,693	14,130
Other	6	28,520	131,072			159,592	139,597
Total		458,267	145,406	619	172	604,464	526,014
Expenditure							
Wages, salaries, stipends and other staff costs	8	198,284				198,284	303,549
TMCP Levy			9,863			9,863	6,278
Methodist Church Fund, including District Assessment		73,118				73,118	79,180
Telephone & travel		4,172				4,172	4,618
Insurance, utilities, etc.		32,183				32,183	32,008
Maintenance of circuit manses		34,287				34,287	10,948
Maintenance of other Circuit property (Oreston)		14,902				14,902	17,644
Other Expenditure	9	21,634	34,233	1,418	2,237	59,522	29,600
Grants and donations	10	5,000				5,000	(4,979)
Total		383,580	44,096	1,418	2,237	431,331	478,846
Net (expenditure)/income before gains and losses on investments, and before fair value adjustments		74,687	101,310	(799)	(2,065)	173,133	47,168
Net gains/(losses) on investments		24	62	16	41	143	3,663
Fair value adjustments to tangible fixed assets						-	(67,260)
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		74,711	101,372	(783)	(2,024)	173,276	(16,429)
Transfers between funds		549	-	(396)	(153)	-	-
Net movement in funds		75,260	101,372	(1,179)	(2,177)	173,276	(16,429)
Reconciliation of funds:	19						
Total funds brought forward		124,136	247,259	2,216,914	8,300	2,596,609	2,613,038
Total funds carried forward		199,396	348,631	2,215,735	6,123	2,769,885	2,596,609

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

Balance Sheet

as at 31 August 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals this year £	Totals last year £
Fixed Assets								
Tangible fixed assets	11	816					2,203,548	2,204,106
Investments with TMCP	12	12,922	33,756			6,123	52,801	38,519
Total fixed assets		13,738	33,756	-	2,202,732	6,123	2,256,349	2,242,625
Current Assets								
Debtors	13	14,447					14,447	20,812
Investments with TMCP	14	42,150	314,875	11,621	13,003	-	381,649	297,019
Central Finance Board Deposits	15	88,981					88,981	20,297
Cash at Bank and in hand	15	39,367					39,367	80,445
Total current assets		184,945	314,875	11,621	13,003	-	524,444	418,573
Current liabilities								
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	16	10,908					10,908	64,589
Total current liabilities		10,908	-	-	-	-	10,908	64,589
Net current assets		174,037	314,875	11,621	13,003	-	513,536	353,984
Net assets		187,775	348,631	11,621	2,215,735	6,123	2,769,885	2,596,609
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)	19	187,775					187,775	105,487
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	19		348,631				348,631	247,259
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	19			11,621			11,621	18,649
Total Unrestricted Funds							548,027	371,395
Restricted Funds	19				2,215,735		2,215,735	2,216,914
Endowment Funds	19					6,123	6,123	8,300
Total Funds		187,775	348,631	11,621	2,215,735	6,123	2,769,885	2,596,609

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 13.1.2026 and signed on its behalf by:

B. Lowe

Mrs Brenda Lowe
Senior Circuit Steward

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

**Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net cash used in operating activities (see below)	<u>(24,390)</u>	<u>36,341</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Gains/(Losses) on investments	143	3,663
Fund income	-	(1,019)
Sale of Millbrook church	131,072	-
Manse improvement / Purchase of fixed assets	-	(67,260)
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	19,693	14,130
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>150,908</u>	<u>(50,486)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	126,518	(14,145)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	436,280	450,425
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	<u>562,798</u>	<u>436,280</u>

Note: Cash includes both the cash held at bank, and the Investments with TCMP

	2025	2024
	£	£
Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities:		
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period	173,276	(16,429)
Adjustments for:		
Losses/(gains) on investments	(143)	(3,663)
Impairment loss	-	67,260
Depreciation	558	558
Fund income	-	1,019
Sale of Millbrook church	(131,072)	
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(19,693)	(14,130)
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	6,365	(1,644)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(53,681)	3,370
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	<u>(24,390)</u>	<u>36,341</u>

	2025	2024
	£	£
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash in hand	-	-
Current accounts	128,348	100,742
Investments with TMCP (current)	381,649	297,019
Investments with TMCP (fixed)	52,801	38,519
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>562,798</u>	<u>436,280</u>

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1 Accounting framework and accounting policies

Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted. Some of these funds have been internally allocated for a specific purpose, which makes them Unrestricted Designated. The Circuit Model Trust Fund can be used for a variety of purposes and is categorised as unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There is also an Endowment fund which the Circuit is entitled to receive the interest earned on this account. Details of each material fund are disclosed in notes 17 and 18 to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

Public benefit entity

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) that follow.

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. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2025, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

Income recognition

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.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised.

Expenditure

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.

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

..... continued

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

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

The freehold properties are shown in the accounts at cost. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that they have reached the end of their useful economic lives by the year-end) to be not less than their current value. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Equipment is shown in the accounts at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is calculated at 25% per year on a straight line basis.

Investments

Investment properties are initially recognised at cost which includes purchase cost and any directly attributable expenditure. These relates to manses which are due to be sold within the next year.

Other investments of Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The investments are stated in the balance sheet at market value at the year end (provided by TMCP). 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

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid.

Bank and Cash

The liquid funds representing bank current and deposit account are shown at their realisable values.

Creditors

Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the Circuit. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid.

Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the costs of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, telephone charges, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC (Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) do not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

2 Donations and legacies

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations (unrestricted funds)	-	10,987
	<u>-</u>	<u>10,987</u>

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

..... continued

3 Charitable activities

Charitable activities consists of Circuit assessment income. These income streams are unrestricted funds.

The Circuit is made up of the following Churches:

Bittaford	Elburton	Ridgeway	Stoke
Compton	Ivybridge	Roborough	Woodford
Cornerstone	Mount Gould	Sherwell	Yealmpton
Crownhill	Pennycross	St Budeaux	

The level of assessments is calculated on an annual basis.

Deferred circuit assessments are included within other creditors and relate to the first instalments of the 2025/2026 annual assessment. These amounts are deferred in order to include the income in the correct period.

4 Other trading activities

Other trading income is treated as unrestricted funds, unless otherwise stated.

5 Investment income

	2025 £	2024 £
Dividends and interest on investments (restricted funds)	619	213
Dividends and interest on investments (unrestricted CMTF funds)	14,334	9,468
Dividends and interest on investments (unrestricted designated funds)	531	1,052
Dividends and interest on investments (unrestricted funds)	2,235	2,555
Dividends and interest on investments (endowment funds)	172	214
Central Finance Board (unrestricted funds)	1,802	628
	<u>19,693</u>	<u>14,130</u>

6 Other income

Other income is treated as unrestricted funds, unless otherwise stated. It includes the sale of communion wine, sales of circuit plans, income from Performance Art Mission Enabler projects, realised gains on the disposal of manses, and other sundry receipts.

7 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

All of the Ministers were members of the Circuit meeting and are accordingly Managing Trustees of the charity, therefore the remuneration disclosed in Note 8 includes some remuneration paid to Trustees of the charity.

The Circuit is Managing Trustee for five manses (2024: five), three of which are occupied by ministers stationed in the Circuit (2024: three), one of which is occupied by a minister stationed in the District (2024: one), and one which is let out for residential lettings income purposes (2024 : none) . The Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council tax, water rates, buildings insurance and telephone & broadband costs (the Circuit is not responsible for any other utility bills). It is also responsible for maintenance costs on all these properties. In the year the manses costs totalled £66,575 (2024: £43,447).

	2025	2024
Number of trustees who were paid expenses (including Ministers)	6	6
Expenses payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel/courses.	-	-
Reimbursement for items purchased on behalf of the Circuit.	1,359	1,645
Reimbursement for Ministeres expenses	3,392	7,985
Total amount paid (£)	<u><u>4,751</u></u>	<u><u>9,630</u></u>

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

..... continued

8 Salaries and associated costs

Gross salaries paid to employees were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross pay (including Ministers stipends)	148,888	213,786
Employer's National Insurance contributions	15,465	20,216
Employer's pension contributions to defined contribution schemes	25,552	41,539
Total payroll costs	189,905	275,541
Other expenses paid	8,379	28,008
Total staff costs (unrestricted funds)	198,284	303,549

No employees received employee benefits that totalled more than £60,000. There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial; the holiday year ends on 31 August. All staff are paid at or above the living wage.

Particulars of employees:

The average number of staff employed by the charity during the year amounted to:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Number of staff (excluding Ministers)	1	3

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

The Connexion accounts for both the MMPS and Pension and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Methodist Church (PASLEMC) pension schemes and shows the figures in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. At the last triennial valuation on 31 August 2023, the scheme was in surplus by £44.7m (a significant improvement on the previous deficit of £14m recorded in Aug 2020). The Council subsequently agreed to increase pensions by 5% in September 2024, over and above inflationary increases. There is a provision that these changes may need to be reversed if the funding position deteriorates - however the trustees feel that the work they have done in de-risking this portfolio means that this increase is reasonable. Details of the deficits on these schemes can be found in the Annual Report and Accounts of The Methodist Church at www.methodist.org.uk.

On the other hand lay employees are contractually employees and have joined The Pensions Trust. This is a defined benefit scheme and the employing Churches and Circuits contribute as employers to this scheme.

The circuit operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the circuit pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the circuit has no further payment obligations. The contributions are recognised as an expense when they are due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the circuit in independently administered funds.

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

..... continued

9 Other outgoings

All costs are made from unrestricted funds except those noted below.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Graveyard costs	2,542	2,525
Administration expenses	4,523	3,161
Accountancy fees	7,640	6,371
Independent examination fees	1,700	1,554
Depreciation	558	558
Other Sundry costs	3,251	18
Fund Management charges:		
(unrestricted funds)	178	152
(unrestricted CMTF funds)	804	500
(unrestricted designated funds)	65	56
(restricted funds)	28	23
(endowment funds)	12	5
Publications	125	(102)
Training	371	-
Levy on sale of Millbrook church	28,429	-
Circuit plans	-	425
Professional fees	1,775	11,825
Quinquennials	7,450	1,364
Stewards/local preachers costs	71	1,165
Total	59,522	29,600

10 Grants and donations

	2025	2024
	£	£
Benevolent fund grants	5,000	400
Pennycross grant written off	-	(5,379)
Total	5,000	(4,979)

11 Manses and other property and equipment

	Manses & other property £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
As at 1 September 2024	2,202,732	1,374	2,204,106
Additions in the year	-	-	-
Less: Depreciation in the year	-	(558)	(558)
Less: Fair value adjustment	-	-	-
At 31 August 2025	<u>2,202,732</u>	<u>816</u>	<u>2,203,548</u>

The value of the manses are believed to be greater than their historical cost or notional cost in 1998 as shown in the accounts. There is no depreciation on the manses as the impairment review at the end of the year confirmed that the current residual market value of the buildings was greater than the carrying value of that part of the assets cost to date.

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

..... continued

12 Investments held as fixed assets

Other
investments
£

Market value

As at 1 September 2024

38,519

Reclassification from current assets

14,188

Revaluation

94

At 31 August 2025

52,801

Net book value

At 31 August 2025

52,801

At 31 August 2024

38,519

13 Debtors and prepayments

Debtors were made up as follows:

2025
£

2024
£

Prepayments and accrued income

14,447

13,711

Other debtors

-

7,101

Total

14,447

20,812

14 Investments

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and various other funds are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

15 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Cash at Bank

The Circuit has a current account at Lloyds Bank, an authorised institution. The sums held on this account are immediately available. In addition the Circuit has a deposit account at CFB, a common deposit fund. Interest is earned on this account and credited monthly; the sums deposited can be withdrawn without notice and without loss of interest. These sums are viewed as being liquid.

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

..... continued

16 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income	830	10,742
Other Creditors	1,808	1,780
Overpaid assessment income provisionally written off	<i>below</i> -	44,219
Accruals	8,270	7,848
Total	10,908	64,589

It is expected that all accruals and other creditors as at 31 August 2025 will be paid during the year to 31 August 2026.

Deferred income relates to assessments which are paid in advance.

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income brought forward	10,742	46,610
Prepaid income brought forward	(7,102)	(2,391)
Deferred income written off	44,219	(44,219)
Assessment income received in the year	378,150	364,940
Deferred income carried forward	(830)	(10,742)
Amount owed for the year but not received	-	7,102
Assessment income recognised in the year	425,179	361,300

17 Unrestricted Funds

General Fund

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Various

This fund is made up of multiple model trust bequests.

R Hill

This fund is a local model trust bequest.

All model trust accounts require the approval of Circuit prior to any expenditure.

Designated Funds

These funds have been designated by the Circuit, to be utilised for the following purposes:

Miss F L Moore

This is a local model trust. The fund is designated for benevolent purposes.

Laira Zion Utd

This is a local model trust, in respect of proceeds of sale. This fund is designated to support members training costs.

Performing Arts Mission Enabler (PAME)

The gains received from the sale of Colebrook have been designated to cover the costs of employing a PAME, and to cover the additional costs incurred to run this service.

Endowment Funds

These funds have been bequeathed for a specific purpose, and can only be used for such purpose with the agreement of the trustees. Any deviation from this purpose due to the purpose being no longer applicable, must be approved by the national Methodist Church legal team.

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

..... continued

18 Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are those received and held to cover specific expenditure. The restrictions are as follows:

B Skelley This fund was set up to cover the maintenance cost of the graveyard at Venton.

Superintendents (Sup'ts) Discretionary Fund

This fund was set up to cover grants and donations made in respect of the superintendents discretionary payments.

Training Fund This fund is used to support the Circuit members to attend courses.

Youth and Children

This fund was received from a closed youth choir with the instruction that it was to be used for Youth and Children's work in the Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit.

Manse

This fund relates to the acquisition of manse properties, which are held within Fixed Assets and Current Asset Investments. It also includes the Oreston Centre, a former church now converted into a community hub.

19 Analysis of funds	Balance as at 01-Sep-24	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Gains / (Losses) on investments	Transfers	Balance as at 31-Aug-25
Restricted Funds						
B Skelley	322	15	(336)		(1)	-
Sup'ts Discretionary Fund	367	18	(1)			384
Training Fund	2,265	108	(7)			2,366
Youth & Children	1,131	54	(4)			1,181
Millbrook - Miss MK Parsons	100		(100)			-
Millbrook - EN Parson	925		(941)	16		-
Miss F L Moore	9,072	424	(29)		(395)	9,072
Manse & other proerpty	2,202,732					2,202,732
	2,216,914	619	(1,418)	16	(396)	2,215,735
Endowment Funds						
Mrs Lakin - Legacy	1,700	79	(5)		(74)	1,700
Oreston - Royle Trust	4,415	93	(14)	8	(79)	4,423
Millbrook - Catherine Nicholls	343		(343)			-
Millbrook - Mrs B Evans	1,842		(1,875)	33		-
	8,300	172	(2,237)	41	(153)	6,123
Unrestricted Funds (Designated)						
Laira Zion Utd	11,126	531	(36)			11,621
PAME	7,523	450	(11,599)		3,626	-
	18,649	981	(11,635)	-	3,626	11,621
Unrestricted Funds (undesignated)						
Circuit Model Trust Fund	247,259	145,406	(44,096)	62		348,631
General Fund	50,815	455,053	(371,768)		(1,398)	132,702
Oreston funds	14,287	424	(46)	18		14,683
Various	21,432	922	(70)	6	(853)	21,437
R Hill	18,953	887	(61)		(826)	18,953
	352,746	602,692	(416,041)	86	(3,077)	536,406
Total Funds	2,596,609	604,464	(431,331)	143	-	2,769,885

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

..... *continued*

20 Transfers between funds

The unrestricted CMTF fund is available for property projects, ministry and mission grants and other purposes as detailed under Standing Order 917.

21 Volunteer contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit, Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment.

22 Grant commitments

The following grants were awarded following the completion of the appropriate paperwork and the commitments will be met by the CMTF which has a sufficient balance in it to cover them:

Performing Arts Mission Enabler - three year grant commenced on January 2020. £103,864 payable over the 3 years, in January each year. This grant was subsequently extended, and finished in December 2024.

Lay Pastoral Outreach Worker at Ridgeway Methodist Church. Grant of £5,000 in 2024/25 and £4,750 in 2025/26 to partially fund the post.

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit.

Signature of treasurer: 

Date: 23/2/26

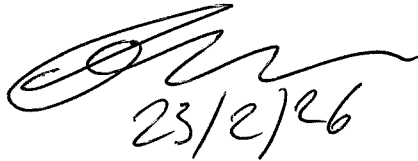
Name of treasurer: Pam Missen

Address of treasurer: Circuit Office, Stoke Christian Centre, Devonport Road, Plymouth, PL3 4DS

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 will be presented to the Circuit Meeting at its meeting on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:



23/2/26

Date of signing:

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev Alistair Lowe

* delete or circle as appropriate

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Plymouth and
Devonport Methodist Circuit**

Charity registration number: 1134211

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 10 to 21. As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

The Circuit's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- * the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- * the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- * the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- * the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner:



Name of independent examiner:

John Hillier

Relevant professional qualification of independent examine FCA

Name of firm:

R T Marke & Co Limited

Address :

6 Houndiscombe Road
Plymouth
Devon
PL4 6HH

Date:

04 Mar 2026

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

**Management Information
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

The following page does not form part of the statutory consolidated financial statements.

Plymouth and Devonport Methodist Circuit

**Detailed statement of financial activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

	2025	2024
	£	£
INCOME		
Circuit assessments - current year	375,937	361,300
Circuit assessments - previous under/over payments written off	49,242	-
Donations	-	10,987
Dividends	1,076	1,431
Bank interest receivable	18,616	12,699
Fund released from Connexion to go towards Oreston costs	-	105,478
Transfer in of funds from closed churches	-	20,338
Sale of Millbrook church	131,072	-
Rental income 4 The Elms	4,434	-
Oreston income	23,496	5,388
Other income	591	8,393
	<u>604,464</u>	<u>526,014</u>
DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE		
Grants paid	5,000	(4,979)
Wages, salaries, stipends and other staff costs	198,284	303,549
Water	2,608	2,590
Council tax	13,684	13,710
Insurance	15,891	14,758
Cleaning	2,619	1,565
Repairs and maintenance	31,668	9,382
Oreston expenses	14,902	18,595
Training	371	-
Quinquennials	7,450	1,364
TMCP - District levy	9,863	6,278
Support costs of connexion and district	73,118	79,180
Professional fees	1,775	11,825
Telephones	4,172	4,618
Publications	125	(102)
Depreciation	558	558
Stewards costs	71	1,165
Levy on sale of Millbrook church	28,429	-
Sundries	3,251	18
Graveyard costs	2,542	2,525
Circuit plans	-	425
	<u>416,381</u>	<u>467,024</u>
MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION		
Administration, postage and stationery	4,523	3,161
Independent review and accountancy	9,340	7,925
Fund management charges	1,087	736
	<u>14,950</u>	<u>11,822</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>431,331</u>	<u>478,846</u>
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	143	3,663
NET (DEFICIT)/INCOME before exceptional items	<u>173,276</u>	<u>50,831</u>
Impairment of Oreston	-	(67,260)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	<u>173,276</u>	<u>(16,429)</u>

Document

Name	PDMC signed financial statements 2024-25.pdf
Creator	Jane Jones (JaneJones@condymathias.co.uk)
Date	04 March 2026 12:19:12 UTC
Identifier	6f000605-86d7-4d46-802d-85d60b2023fc

Signers

John Hillier

E-mail	JohnHillier@condymathias.co.uk
Signed	04 March 2026 12:26:59 UTC
IP address	151.2.157.42