

THE METHODIST CHURCH
ILFRACOMBE & BARNSTAPLE CIRCUIT
(24/20)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ended

31 AUGUST 2024

[SORP 2015 compliant]

Readers may wish to refer to the Glossary of Terms appearing in the Notes to the Accounts

1 Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit Meeting (under the leadership of the Circuit Superintendent) met four times in the year, has given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives and conforms to the Charities Act 2011.

Our mission is to commit the Circuit to supporting local churches and individuals as they respond to be a powerful spiritual influence in the Circuit and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. We aim to achieve this by encouraging Churches across the Circuit to be involved in the worship, social, and outreach activities that currently exist, and by seeking new ways to further their ministry and fellowship to others within the Church family and in the wider community.

The Charity objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around Ilfracombe & Barnstaple 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:

1. The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
2. Any charitable purpose 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 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.

Public Benefit

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

2 Achievements and performance

The principal purpose of the Circuit is to act as a supporting body between Churches and to help to promote God's love in Christ and to enable people to serve Him in the world. The Circuit has limited contact in its own right with the public but acts through the activities of the individual churches. The Circuit does not attain direct contact with the public. The direct contact is by Churches and it is these that the Circuit supports in their desire to provide benefit to the public.

The Circuit makes a number of grants to Local Churches and other church organisations during the year. The policy of the trustees on grant making is to ensure that all applications can demonstrate public benefit, pass a test of sustainability, show that there is commitment from the applicant organisation (eg the local church or church group) and show imagination and creativity as well as a perceived need for that for which the grant is being applied.

A grant of £1000 was made in October to Fremington Methodist Church towards a defibrillator. No other grants were made.

Churches that have received grants from the Circuit will show in their own Trustees' Annual Reports (where these are required to be prepared) and details of the outcome of the activities undertaken as a result of receiving the grant.

The Circuit Administrator has been in post for two years and her role continues to develop as she becomes more familiar with the Circuit and Methodist policies and procedures.

2.1 Significant events this year

The most significant event in the Circuit was when in June 2023 Emmanuel church, Ilfracombe announced that it intended to close in September 2023. Sadly, the abruptness with which this occurred has had lasting damage across the Circuit, not just to the church itself.

The Circuit is indebted to Janet Gray, URC Pastoral Advisor (and acting without a Synod Moderator in post), who moved various recommendations and resolutions to ensure that the LEP (in place since 1987) was dissolved, so that legally (but not entirely following the recommended Methodist procedure for closing churches), the church could close. Discussions with the then Plymouth and Exeter District and two members of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) together with the Superintendent dealt with the necessary meetings without Emmanuel being represented. Since the closure the building has continued to fall into decay and a number of matters have been dealt with by the CLT.

Since September 2024 the matter has been taken over by the new Superintendent and updates will be provided to the Charity Commission in the 2024-2025 report.

In early 2022 the URC Minister announced his expected retirement as from January 2023. In 'alternating ministry' it would be time for Methodist replacement. The Circuit Superintendent announced his intention in May 2022 to leave at the end of August 2023. There was no replacement forthcoming. We were told we would only be a two minister Circuit. This had resulted in much work in 2023 on looking at Teamwork Across the Circuit. Whilst Circuit Meeting agreed to pursue this it was clear that there was little understanding what this might mean to everyone who had a heart for the Circuit.

The increasing number of churches which are no longer viable across the circuit caused concern but very little in the way of formal resolutions were taken to relevant bodies in the District.

Manses, ministry, buildings and cooperation between a small number of people limited the growth and engagement in mission during 2023-2024. Teamwork across the Circuit valuing our worship, community life, discipleship, pastoral care and ecumenical links has taken a plunge and we will be seeking to rectify this in the coming year.

2.2 Plans for future years

1. Continue to ensure that any local issues emanating from the Past Cases Review are dealt with sympathetically.
2. Ensure that all those within the Circuit that should attend the 'Creating Safer Space' training at all levels, do so.

3. Provide on-going training and development for Worship Leaders and Local Preachers.
4. To develop the on-going a 'five-year plan' to consider the future ministry and mission requirements of the Circuit

The Circuit has a Mission Statement: *Our Circuit is committed to support local churches and individuals as they respond to God's love in Christ and serve Him in the world.* Scratch the surface of people's lives and there are efforts made to work with those we live alongside. Recently during 2023-24 there has been an increasing ownership of this idea but more work is required. There is not currently a five-year plan in place.

5. Encourage initiatives for mission in Local Churches within the Circuit

As noted above, some efforts have been made in pockets across the Circuit, but more work is required.

6. To continue a mid-week Circuit worship service via Zoom.

This has been well attended and led by a variety of people. Attendance is 50:50 Methodist: other denominations and people from outside the Circuit also regularly attend. The response to the variety and styles of worship is positive. Commitment by the three hosts and those preparing the 35-45 service is high. Regular planning meetings take place and there is now a pattern of 'themed blocks' of services (each block may vary in length depending on the theme).

7. To continue to build links with adjacent Circuits and other ecumenical partners. Ecumenical partnerships across the Circuit are slightly more than simply nominal in some churches, whilst in others it is fully integrated – with 4 formal LEPs as well as informal arrangements in some of the other village churches. There is only anecdotal evidence as to how well the (informal) ecumenical services are supported. The Circuit continues to meet twice a year with Calvary church, which uses the old Methodist Church at Woolacombe, to review and maintain the relationship.

3 Financial Review

Income trends

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches. The rental income relates to the rental of Circuit properties held under the Model Trust Fund.

Expenditure trends

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with Conference approved increases, however the overall amount has decreased due to the reduction in staffing.

48% of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which 25% is for payment of stipends and other employment costs and 23% funds the work of the wider Methodist Church at both Connexional and District levels.

The other expenditure includes £6862 of funds levied by the District for the District Advance Fund.

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2024 the net current assets of the Circuit were £2282,874 (investments and unrestricted funds) giving approximately 24 months cover for expenditure.

Plans for 2024-25

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there will continue to be 2 full time ordained staff within the Circuit with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district.

3.1 Investment Policy and Performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by the Circuit and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the Circuit. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere. The Circuit trustees' investment policy is aligned with that of the CFB and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the Central Finance Board (CFB) and attract good rates of interest.

There are no benchmarks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. It is the Circuit's policy to manage the cash and investment resources of the Circuit so that a rate of return on investment – both by way of dividend and capital appreciation – is obtained at least as good as market rate considering the Circuit's low appetite for risk.

3.2 Reserves level and policy

The Circuit has a reserves policy covering all its unrestricted funds which is reviewed annually. Although grants are made annually out of the Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF), it is recognised that some grants will be paid by annual instalments and that there will be applications repeated in future years. The trustees seek to ensure that there is sufficient in the CMTF to meet these anticipated grant applications.

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 12 months average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

The Circuit is largely risk averse but, especially in making grants to entities embarking on new and imaginative initiatives, the Circuit is prepared to underwrite considered risks.

Risks are managed by being aware of them, quantifying their impact not only in cost terms but in possible reputational or structural damage, laying them off through an insurer and minimising them by not taking them or by setting up control systems that timeously report any significant change in the risk.

4 Trustees' responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31 August the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial activities during the year

and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees must:

- select suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- follow applicable accounting standards
- prepare accounts to comply with the Charities SORP

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Circuit and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Circuit's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Training in the responsibilities of trustees is offered to all new trustees soon after their appointment.

4.1 Risk

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Circuit Meeting 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:

- Promote a safe environment and culture
- Safely recruit and support all those with any responsibility for children and adults within the church
- Respond promptly and appropriately to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Care pastorally for victims and survivors of abuse and other people who have been affected
- Care pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns of allegations of abuse and others who have been affected
- Carry out risk assessment and put safeguarding measures in place where individuals pose a present risk to children, young people or vulnerable adults

The Ilfracombe & Barnstaple Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, District Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the Circuit and in the churches.

The Ilfracombe & Barnstaple 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.

5 Structure, governance and management

The Circuit is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commissioners.

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 and the Circuit Meeting.

Trustee Training

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

5.1 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of Churches; Circuits pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the Churches in the Circuit; most decisions are made at or ratified by the quarterly Circuit Meeting. A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at the half yearly synods. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within the District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

5.2 Purpose of the Circuit

The Circuit is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any Church, of the Connexional character of the Church.

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

1. The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church, and
2. any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and
3. any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and
4. any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this Circuit is to advance the mission of the Church in the geographical area covered by the Ilfracombe & Barnstaple Circuit by:

- by providing opportunities for Churches to work together and support each other
- by offering to Churches resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The Circuit serves the Local Churches, District and the Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church, and in programmes of training.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the Plymouth & Exeter District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference. The following Methodist Churches and LEPs are linked to the circuit:

Bratton Fleming (Methodist/Anglican LEP)
Challacombe (closed May 5th 2024)
Christ Church Barnstaple (Methodist/URC LEP)
Christ Church Braunton (Methodist/URC LEP)
Combe Martin
Emmanuel, Ilfracombe (Methodist/URC LEP) (closed September 2023)
Fremington
Goodleigh (Methodist/Anglican LEP)
High Bickington
Loxhore
Marwood
Newport
Sticklepath

5.3 Governance

The Circuit operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Connexional Office, which was at 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR (the year this report refers to), but has now moved to 25 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9SF to provide guidance on changes that could affect the District.

The members of the Circuit Meeting are annually appointed by a vote of the Circuit Meeting (for Circuit Officers) and relevant Church Councils (for Church Representatives), for a continuous term not normally exceeding six years. The Circuit Meeting annually appoints the Circuit Leadership Team. All active ministers are members. Other members may be either

Supernumerary ministers or lay people attending Churches in the area covered by the Circuit.

The Circuit Leadership Team normally meets eleven times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the allocation of Grants, finance, property, the Circuit office, the Circuit manses, stationing, safeguarding, authorisations to preside at communion, and extensions to local preacher training.

5.4 Responsibilities of the Circuit Leadership Team

1. to formulate and promote policies which will advance the mission of the Church in the Circuit and Local Churches and, in particular, to supervise the use of resources of personnel, property and finance and to assist local churches having exceptional problems
2. to encourage inter-Circuit, inter-church and ecumenical co-operation
3. to act in an executive capacity in matters remitted to the CLT by the Circuit Meeting
4. to keep within its purview all Circuit concerns not dealt with elsewhere
5. to contribute and respond, as the case may be, to the development of Connexional and District policies as reflected in the work of the Conference and the Methodist Council, and to carry out its other responsibilities with any such development in mind
6. to be aware that the stipends of the Circuit Staff are set – currently by reference to the change over a year in the Consumer Price Index and to the annual change in the Average Weekly Earnings Index – using a formula that was agreed by the Methodist Conference for all ministers within the Connexion
7. constantly to be aware of the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission

6 Reference and Administrative Details

6.1 Name of the charity

The Ilfracombe & Barnstaple Methodist Circuit.

6.2 Charity registration number

1134225, registered in England and Wales

6.3 Principal Office

Circuit Office,
Christ Church,
8 Bear Street,
Barnstaple,
EX32 7BU

6.4 Circuit Staff

Rev Don Macalister (Left January 2024)

Rev Stephen Caddick (Circuit Superintendent September 2023 – August 2024)

6.5 Circuit Secretary

Mrs Jane Venables

6.6 Circuit Treasurer

Mrs Edith Poole (until 31st Dec 2024)

6.7 Names of trustees

The Managing Trustees for the Circuit are the members of the Circuit Meeting and names are as entered into the Charity Commission Report.

No trustee claims exemption from disclosure of his or her name here.

6.9 Bankers

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

6.10 Investment managers and custodian trustees

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester M1 1JQ

6.11 Independent Examiner

Thomas Westcott Chartered Accountants,
47 Boutport Street,
Barnstaple,
Devon,
EX31 1SQ

Approvals

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements will be agreed by the Circuit Leadership Team and are to be presented for approval by the Circuit Meeting planned for 24th June 2025.

Signed on behalf of the Circuit Meeting, as authorised:

Tracey Darling (Superintendent Minister (from Sept 2024))

Date:

Heather Bolt (Circuit Treasurer from January 2025)

Date:

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Ilfracombe and Barnstaple Methodist	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2024**

Plymouth & Exeter now South West Peninsula District	Circuit no	24/20
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134225

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

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

Ministers:

Revd S Caddick (Superintendent)
Revd D Macalister

Circuit Stewards:

Mrs Sue Parsley
Mrs Sue Cresswell
Mrs Edith Poole
Mr Geoff Harding
Mrs Brenda Prentice

Treasurer:

Mrs Edith Poole

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2024

Ilfracombe and Barnstaple
Methodist

Circuit

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
a1	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a2	Assessment/Share		147,008			147,008	154,184
a3	Capital receipts						
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		1,267	7,492	2,263	11,022	8,926
a5	Grants						
a6	Other receipts		46,927			46,927	34,614
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		195,202	7,492	2,263	204,957 (a8)	197,724

SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		46,731			46,731	74,304
b3	Manse Costs		6,014			6,014	11,711
b4	Administration etc		63,248	534		63,782	87,825
b5	District Assessment		44,248			44,248	36,557
b6	Grants & donations						
b7	Contributions to District Advance Fund			6,862		6,862	7,693
b8	Other payments		20,106			20,106	24,640
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		180,347	7,396		187,743 (b9)	242,730

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	14,855	96	2,263	17,214	(45,006)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		3,970	87,891	73,970	165,831 (c6)	210,837
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	18,825	87,987	76,233	183,045	165,831
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	18,825	87,987	76,233	183,045 (c8)	165,831 (c6)

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

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

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds				(e11)	(e12)
e9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)					
	204,957 (a8)	187,743 (b9)	17,214	(c7)	165,831 (c6)	183,045 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT					
	204,957	187,743	17,214		165,831 (x)	183,045 (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward					
	TOTAL RECEIPTS		TOTAL PAYMENTS			

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2024

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	113	128
f2	13,484	43,431
f3	16,187	15,476
f4	42,656	30,523
f5	87,891	87,987
f6	5,500	5,500
f7	165,831 (c6)	183,045 (c8)
f8	(e11)	(e12)
f9	165,831 (x)	183,045 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1	160,118	171,047
g2	2,923,948	10,059,081
g3		
g4	10,599	29,540
g5	(26,398)	(22,887)

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 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 *E Poole* Date..... *30/5/25*

Name and address of treasurer Mrs Edith Poole

8, Lauderdale, Constitution Hill Barnstaple EX32 8DU

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on *24/6/25*

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Tracey Darling*

Name of the Chair of the meeting *REV DR TRACEY DARLING* Date *10/6/25*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Ilfracombe & Barnstaple Circuit
methodist

Charity Number . 1134225

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the *Ilfracombe & Barnstaple* Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages ... to As the Circuit's trustees, you *methodist* 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

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.

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 not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner Catherine Williams FCA DChA

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCA DChA

Name of firm Westcotts

Address 47 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, Devon

..... Post Code EX31 1SQ

Date 30/5/25

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Ilfracombe and Barnstaple Methodist	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2024**

Plymouth & Exeter now South West Peninsula District	Circuit no	24/20
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Mrs Edith Poole
Mr Geoff Harding
Mrs Brenda Prentice

Treasurer:

Mrs Edith Poole

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2024

Ilfracombe and Barnstaple
Methodist

Circuit

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c1	(a7-b9)	14,855	96	2,263	17,214	(45,006)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	3,970	87,891	73,970	165,831 (c6)	210,837
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	18,825	87,987	76,233	183,045	165,831
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	18,825	87,987	76,233	183,045 (c8)	165,831 (c6)

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

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

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					(e11)	(e12)
e9 Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	204,957 (a8)	187,743 (b9)	17,214	(c7)	165,831 (c6)	183,045 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	204,957	187,743	17,214		165,831 (x)	183,045 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2024

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	113	128
f2 Bank Current Account	13,484	43,431
f3 Bank Deposit Account	16,187	15,476
f4 Central Finance Board	42,656	30,523
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	87,891	87,987
f6 Other funds	5,500	5,500
f7 SUB TOTAL	165,831 (c6)	183,045 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	165,831 (x)	183,045 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	160,118	171,047
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,923,948	10,059,081
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	10,599	29,540
g5 Other Liabilities	(26,398)	(22,887)

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 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 *E Poole* Date..... *30/5/25*

Name and address of treasurer Mrs Edith Poole

8, Lauderdale, Constitution Hill Barnstaple EX32 8DU

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on *24/6/25*

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Tracey Darling*

Name of the Chair of the meeting *REV DR TRACEY DARLING* Date *10/6/25*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Ilfracombe & Barnstaple Circuit
methodist

Charity Number . 1134225

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the *Ilfracombe & Barnstaple* Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages ... to As the Circuit's trustees, you *methodist* 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

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.

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 not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner Catherine Williams FCA DChA

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCA DChA

Name of firm Westcotts

Address 47 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, Devon

..... Post Code EX31 1SQ

Date 30/5/25