



Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit
Registered Charity No. 1134235
www.aylesburyvale.org.uk

Trustees' Annual Report 2021-22

Correspondence Address:
Superintendent Minister
Revd Richard Atkinson
6 Herston Close, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP21 9UR

OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

The Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit (VOAMC) comprises sixteen churches, fourteen of which are in Buckinghamshire and two in Oxfordshire. Of our churches, Christchurch Thame is joint Methodist and United Reformed; two are united with the Anglicans (Hardwick & Weedon and North Marston); a third, at Fairford Leys, a three-way LEP with Methodist, URC and Anglian participation.

The churches are situated in:

Aylesbury	North Marston	Fairford Leys
Cheddington	Princes Risborough	Chinnor
Stewkley	Stone	Cuddington
Swanbourne	Waddesdon	Thame (Christchurch)
Wingrave	Hardwick & Weedon	
Haddenham	Whitchurch	

The circuit employs three full time Presbyters, one of whom acts as Superintendent Minister. The church at Fairford Leys employs its own minister. Our churches are grouped for mutual support and fellowship. We are part of the Northampton District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

The Circuit Meeting is the main decision-making body which normally meets twice a year. In the intervening times the Circuit Leadership Team comprising the Presbyteral staff, Circuit Stewards and other key figures, watches over the life of the Circuit.

AIMS AND ORGANISATION

Charity objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around Vale of Aylesbury 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.



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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

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a mutually supportive team of churches in and around Aylesbury. We are all committed to a common purpose of channelling God's unchanging love for all people in our constantly changing world.

1 Circuit Leadership

- 1.1** Relationships: To build links with other churches and faiths identifying potential for joint working.
- 1.2** Local support: To support local congregations to identify priorities for mission, develop strategies to pursue these and provide leadership continuity.
- 1.3** Resources: To regularly review our Circuit deployment of people, finance and property.
- 1.4** Internal Communications: To constantly consider the communication needs of our churches in relation to Circuit policies and actions.

2 Worship

- 2.1** Circuit: To worship together as a Circuit and to foster a sense of Circuit identity.
- 2.2** Prayer: To encourage participation in and the development of Circuit Prayer services and events.
- 2.3** Congregation development: To provide meaningful weekly worship, to identify and facilitate alternative approaches to worship, the development of local congregations and support of smaller churches. To regularly present the challenge of Christian commitment and church membership to all those associated with the circuit churches.
- 2.4** Ecumenism: To encourage local churches to explore shared worship with other churches in their community.

3 Learning and Caring

- 3.1** Training and Development: To identify needs and to provide both financial assistance and opportunities for personal and church growth by appropriate events and training for Church Stewards, Youth & Children's workers, Local Preachers, Worship Leaders, Musicians, Pastoral Carers and other identified groups, including ecumenical partners.
- 3.2** Personal faith: To encourage people to increase and develop their personal faith through Bible Study, Fellowship and small groups.
- 3.3** Pastoral: To ensure appropriate pastoral care for all congregations.

4 Service

- 4.1** Community needs: To encourage churches to investigate and respond to the needs of their local community and new housing developments, especially in the use of our buildings.
- 4.2** Welcome: To provide a welcoming environment for family occasions, Christian Festivals and other community events.
- 4.3** Issues and Concerns: To provide a forum for publicising and supporting issues of local or global concern, especially climate change, justice, freedom and humanity.



- 4.4** Fair Trade: To be a Fair Trade Circuit by all churches maximising their use of fairly traded goods to give a fair return to third world producers.
- 5 Evangelism**
- 5.1** External Communications: To explore appropriate means of presenting the life changing Good News of Jesus Christ in the local community.
- 5.2** Publicity: To make best use of available means of publicity including the external image of our churches and the practical Christian love of our members within the community.
- 5.3** Training: To provide training in personal evangelism to enable all our people to share their faith effectively.
- 5.4** Seekers: To ensure opportunities regularly exist for people to explore the Christian faith. To develop a church life of wholesome Christian spirituality in our witness to each other, the local community and the world.
- 5.5** Chaplaincy: To support chaplaincy work in its various forms

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Our churches have returned from the challenges of the pandemic with numbers holding up. Some of our folks have become less mobile but we have seen an influx of new people around the circuit with some positive endeavour to try and reach out into the post-pandemic world. Many of our churches are also seeking to respond to the cost-of-living crisis by providing warm spaces either with or without local authority funding in spite of the immense challenges that the current economic climate brings.

Some places are looking at more evangelistic endeavours in the hope of allowing the Christian voice of hope to be heard in the midst of the bleak circumstances we all face.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

INCOME TRENDS

Assessment paid by circuit churches makes up the bulk of regular income (77%). Assessments collected were 12% higher than the previous year as in that year assessments were reduced by 10% to aid the churches during the pandemic.

The freehold manse at 14 Henrietta Road continues to be let temporarily, which provided income of £18,477.

In 2021, Circuit meeting agreed to delegate the running of the Stoke Mandeville community centre to Aylesbury Methodist Church Council and circuit income now includes letting income from Sees The Day and Karibuni Children.

Total income was in line with budgeted.

EXPENDITURE TRENDS

The main categories of regular expenditure are salaries and associated costs, property and District Assessment & Levy.

Overall expenditure was £6,962 lower than budgeted and £5,043 than the previous year.

Salaries and associated costs were 25% lower than budgeted due to reduced costs as the circuit budgeted for a full-time minister but ultimately employed a part-time minister.



Property costs were higher than budgeted due to expenses related to Stewkley which benefited from extensive repairs and maintenance in preparation for the new minister.

District Assessment & Levy costs of £37,522 were 10% higher than the previous year (£34,014).

The only donation was given to Aylesbury Town Chaplaincy.

Expenditure on local and visiting preachers' and administration costs have returned to pre-pandemic levels.

The net income for the year was an excess of receipts over payments of £ 215,130 which includes a gain of £195,205 on the revaluation of the manses.

FUND BALANCES

Total funds carried forward stand at £3,097,025. About 88% of the value of this fund is held as freehold property, being manses for ministers, and from time to time churches closed for worship in the Circuit.

PLANS FOR 2022/23

We continue to be mindful of the need to support our churches through the challenges and opportunities of the present, to this effect we are looking at possible use of the Model trust fund to help enable this. The arrival of a new presbyter means that we will have a new look which completes the transition from 3.5 to 3 presbyters. The new geographical arrangement will help to reduce our environmental impact as do moving more circuit gatherings to virtual formats.

The budget for the coming financial year allows for the current complement of three full-time ordained ministers funded by the Circuit, and the share of the joint URC and Methodist minister. Income is in line with this year. Expenses are expected to rise due to the return to a full-time minister.

An amount relating to relocation expenses for the incoming Minister has also been included in the budget. Income and expenses related to Stoke Mandeville church building form part of the budget this year.

Assessments paid by churches will decrease by 1%.

FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

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 Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), (effective from 1st January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

The members of the Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches. Full membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMPC) are the Custodian Trustee of Circuit Properties.



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CIRCUIT MINISTERS AND OFFICERS

CIRCUIT MINISTERS:

- The Rev'd Richard Atkinson
- The Rev'd John Amankwatia
- The Rev'd Keith Edwards
- The Rev'd Anthony Howells
- The Rev'd Romilly Micklem

CIRCUIT STEWARDS:

- Lynn Bernstone
- Alfred Rogers
- Chris Sara
- Barry Tarbox
- Keith Wallace

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

Michael L Foote
8 Bates Lanes
Weston Turville
Aylesbury
Bucks. HP22 5SL

BANKING AND INVESTMENTS:

National Westminster Bank Plc
22 Market Square, Aylesbury, HP20 1SJ

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

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

CIRCUIT TREASURER:

Pearl Doughlin

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 Superintendent Minister and the Circuit Leadership Team.



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RELATED PARTIES

The Circuit is part of the Northampton District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit:

- takes professional advice as and when required.
- follows procedures and guidelines issued by the Methodist Church to mitigate risks.
- adopts and implements the Methodist Church's robust safeguarding policies and procedures in the Circuit and the local churches.

SAFEGUARDING

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with all children, young people and vulnerable adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and vulnerable 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 a children, young people or vulnerable adult 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 Vale of Aylesbury 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 Vale of Aylesbury 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 hold a minimum sum equivalent to six months' average expenditure. In addition, the Circuit will hold sums relating to specific budgeted expenditure, such



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as: planned repairs and renewals; relocation expenses of ministers; and outreach projects. 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 of planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.



Appendix A

Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit Trustees
2021/2022

Trustee name	Notes
Paul Alderman	
Louise Atkinson	
Rev Richard Atkinson	
Janet Banham	
Peter Banham	
Lynn Bernstone	
Jenny Bullimore	
John Cotton	
Mary Cottrell	
Claire Crofts	
Marilyn Dore	
Pearl Doughlin	
Robert Earl	
Rev Keith Edwards	
Barbara Evered	
Frankie Fisher	
Sarah Gibbs	
Kevin Hardern	
Ken Harris	
Lynda Hart	
David Heffer	
Douglas Hill	
Jane Honeyball	
Pete Honeyball	
Rev Anthony Howells	
Paul Ingram	
Viv Kemp	
Roger Kirk	
Julie Maguire	
Jennifer Mariner-Kyle	
Gill Marks	
Rev Romilly Micklem	
Joy Murphy	
David Neville	
Albert Odro	
Alison Orr	
Mike Pullen	
Des Quinn	

Trustee name	Notes
Alf Rogers	Resigned 08-Sep-2021
Arthur Sara	
Chris Sara	
Andrew Shaw	
Mary Shurlock	
Sue Spinks	
Margaret Stevens	
Marilyn Storer	
Peter Stray	
Heather Stuchbury	
Barry Tarbox	
Rod Thorpe	
Kathryn Trout	
Keith Wallace	
Barbara Warne	
Ruth Watkins	
Roger Watson	
Colin Watts	
Margaret Watts	
Margaret Wells	
Cathy Whiteway	
Dawn Wright	

THE VALE OF AYLESBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT

Charity Registration No.1134235

Circuit no: 23/29

District: Northampton

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year ending 31st August 2022

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted Funds			Restricted and Endowment		Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Donations and legacies						-	-
2 Income from monetary investments	537	1,464		1	23	2,025	1,240
3 Income from investment properties						-	-
4 Assessments on Churches	210,755					210,755	187,602
5 Capital Receipts		-				0	-
6 Grants received						-	-
7 Other charitable income	61,007					61,007	59,332
8 Total income	272,299	1,464	-	1	23	273,787	248,174
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	2,000			300		2,300	1,000
10 Salaries and associated costs	119,154					119,154	147,126
11 Property	58,766					58,766	37,556
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		9,174				9,174	9,456
13 District Assessment & Levy	37,522					37,522	34,014
14 Depreciation	-					-	-
15 Office & administration expenses	7,589	665			11	8,265	7,519
16 Other outgoings	17,157					17,157	474
17 Total charitable expenditure	242,188	9,839	-	300	11	252,338	237,145
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		(1,315)			(209)	(1,524)	3,219
19 Gains/(losses) on disposal/revaluation of properties							
Investment properties						-	-
Non-investment properties	195,205					195,205	216,005
20 Net income/(expenditure)	225,316	(9,690)	-	(299)	(197)	215,130	230,253
21 Transfers between funds	(340)			350	(10)	-	-
22 Reclassification of funds	-					-	-
23 Other gains/(losses)						-	-
24 Net movement in funds	224,976	(9,690)	-	51	(207)	215,130	230,253
25 Total funds brought forward	2,643,309	233,474	-	1,219	3,893	2,881,895	2,651,643
26 Total funds carried forward	2,868,285	223,784	-	1,270	3,686	3,097,025	2,881,896

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021-22	Totals 2020-21
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Other Property	15	2,692,710				2,692,710	2,497,505
Investment properties		-				-	-
Investments	16		19,612		1,194	20,806	22,329
Total fixed assets		2,692,710	19,612	-	1,194	2,713,516	2,519,834

Current Assets

Debtors	17	13,852				13,852	9,578
Loans by the Circuit	18	-				-	-
Investments with TMCP	16		204,172		2,492	206,664	215,038
Central Finance Board Deposits	19	148,092				148,092	129,596
Cash at Bank and in hand	19	52,899		1,270		54,169	45,604
Total current assets		214,843	204,172	-	1,270	422,777	399,816

Current liabilities (due within one year)

Creditors/income rec'd in advance	20	39,268				39,268	37,754
Grants payable within 2018-19		-				-	-
Total current liabilities		39,268	-	-	-	39,268	37,754
Net current assets/liabilities		175,575	204,172	-	1,270	383,509	362,062

Total assets less current liabilities

2,868,285	223,784	-	1,270	3,686	3,097,025	2,881,896
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Long term liabilities**(due after more than one year)**

Grants payable after 2018-19		-				-	-
Payable on loans to the Circuit		-				-	-
Net assets		2,868,285	223,784	0	1,270	3,686	3,097,025

Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)	21	2,868,285				2,868,285	2,643,310
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	22		223,784			223,784	233,474
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				-		-	-
Total Unrestricted Funds						3,092,069	2,876,784
Restricted Funds	23			1,270		1,270	1,219
Endowment Funds	23				3,686	3,686	3,893
Total Funds		2,868,285	223,784	-	1,270	3,686	3,097,025

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**1 Basis of Accounting and Accounting Policies****i Accounting standard**

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 Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), (effective from 1st January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

ii Public benefit entity

The Vale of Aylesbury 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 below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost convention, except that Fixed Asset land and buildings have been valued at fair value as described in the accounting policy note below, and investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used, and the trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

iv Content

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

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31st August 2022, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

vi Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the active churches within the Circuit, but has no legal or operational control of those churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason the financial statements of the active churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into the accounts when there is entitlement and the amount is reliably measurable, once it is more than likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.

The Circuit acts as agent in two matters:

the collection from churches and payment over of their contributions to various funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds",

the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by churches within the circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion.

In these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or churches as appropriate. Instead the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102).

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable, and it is considered more likely than not that there will be an outflow of economic benefit.

ix Grants

Grants made by the circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions, or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant to be accrued is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms. In cases where the grant has been charged to one fund but for ease of payment has been transferred to another fund any future payments provision is applied to the fund from which the grant will ultimately be paid.

x VAT

As the Circuit is not registered for VAT, all expenses incurred with a VAT charge are included in the accounts inclusive of that charge.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022xi Tangible fixed assets

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

The freehold residential property is shown in the accounts at estimated net realisable value, by reference to information obtainable on the individual properties' market value via the internet, and seeking appropriate knowledge, guidance and expertise on the state of them and the land on which they stand. There is no information readily to hand of their historical cost to the Circuit.

From time to time the Circuit may be required to assume responsibility for church premises following cessation of worship. This results in the Circuit becoming Managing Trustees for the property. The property is then recognised as an asset at its anticipated sale price. In the absence of a ready market for church buildings, this may entail resorting to a method of valuation by reference to the insured value to establish the Discounted Replacement Cost of the building concerned, with the addition of its site value. In each case a further adjustment is made by way of deduction from value of the anticipated levy chargeable by the Connexion on disposal proceeds.

No provision for depreciation is made because the Trustees consider that the current residual value of the properties in their present condition is not less than its historical cost, and, in the absence of any evidence of impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the properties would be immaterial.

xii(a) Monetary investments

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as basic financial instruments under FRS102, and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments at the end of the financial year are shown in the SOFA and in Note 12 below.

xii(b) Investment property

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manse) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of two years, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not), and any lets are at market rates, unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives..

xiii Receivables and payables

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

xiv Loans as basic financial instruments

Where concessionary loans (i.e. free of interest) are made by or received by the Circuit to further its charitable purposes, and are repayable after more than one year, they are initially recognised at the amount paid or received, with carrying value adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any impairment, if necessary.

Where there is objective evidence of impairment, an immediate impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA). Subsequent reversals of an impairment loss that objectively relates to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, are recognised immediately in the SOFA.

xv Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits, and they are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuits raise assessments against churches in the Circuit. The District quarterly remits to The Methodist Church Fund most of the sum received from Circuits. A small sum is retained by the District to meet its own costs. The Circuit may act as agent for *ad hoc* collections for various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church. These are detailed in Note 26 below.

xvi Endowment funds

Where the Circuit holds money that may not be spent and must be retained (as capital) to generate an income, the money or assets to be retained are classified as an Endowment Fund. The capital will be shown in the balance sheet in the column for endowment funds. The income may be restricted or unrestricted depending upon the terms of the endowment.

xvii Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister and their families. This is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers, as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts as income in the hands of the ministers.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**2 Comparatives and balances brought forward from the previous year.**

The following provides in greater detail than in the SOFA on page 2 of these accounts, a list of the financial information for the previous year (2020/21) on an accruals basis of accounting.

UNRESTRICTED		RESTRICTED/ENDOWM'T	TOTALS
2020/21 General Fund	2020/21 Model Trust Fund	2020/21	2020/21
Accruals basis	Accruals basis	Accruals basis	Accruals basis
£	£	£	£

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for 2020/21Income

1 Donations and legacies	-	-	-	-
2 Income from monetary investments	176	1,045	19	1,240
3 Income from investment properties	-	-	-	-
4 Assessments on Churches	187,602	-	-	187,602
5 Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-
6 Grants received	-	-	-	-
7 Other charitable income	59,332	-	-	59,332
8 Total charitable income	247,110	1,045	19	248,174

Expenditure

9 Grants and donations	1,000	-	-	1,000
10 Salaries and associated costs, incl. travel, phone & removals	147,126	-	-	147,126
11 Property	37,556	-	-	37,556
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy	-	9,456	-	9,456
13 District Assessment & Levy	34,014	-	-	34,014
14 Depreciation	-	-	-	-
15 Office & administration expenses	7,033	478	8	7,519
16 Other outgoings	474	-	-	474
17 Total charitable expenditure	227,203	9,934	8	237,145
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	-	3,246	(27)	3,219
19 Gains/(losses) on disposal/reval. of properties	-	-	-	-
Investment properties	-	-	-	-
Non-investment properties	216,005	-	-	216,005
20 Net income/(expenditure)	235,912	(5,643)	(16)	230,253
21 Transfers between funds	(340)	-	340	-
22 Reclassification of funds	-	-	-	-
23 Other gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-
23 Net movement in funds	235,572	(5,643)	324	230,253
24 Total funds brought forward	2,407,738	239,117	4,788	2,651,643
25 Total funds carried forward	2,643,310	233,474	5,112	2,881,896

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**2 Comparatives and balances brought forward from the previous year- continued**

UNRESTRICTED		RESTRICTED/ENDOWM'T	TOTALS
2020/21 General Fund	2020/21 Model Trust Fund	2020/21	2020/21
Accruals basis	Accruals basis	Accruals basis	Accruals basis
£	£	£	£

Balance Sheet at 31st August 2021**Fixed Assets**

Circuit Manses & Other Property	2,497,505	-	-	2,497,505
Investment properties	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	20,927	1,402	22,329
Total fixed assets	2,497,505	20,927	1,402	2,519,834

Current assets

Debtors and prepayments	9,578	-	-	9,578
Loans by the Circuit	-	-	-	-
Investments with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	-	212,547	2,491	215,038
Central Finance Board Deposits	129,596	-	-	129,596
Cash at bank and in hand	44,385	-	1,219	45,604
Total current assets	183,559	212,547	3,710	399,816

Current liabilities (Due in one year)

Creditors, income received in advance and accruals	37,754	-	-	37,754
Instalments on loans made to the Circuit	-	-	-	-
Grants instalments payable within one year	-	-	-	-
Total current liabilities	37,754	-	-	37,754
Net current assets/(liabilities)	145,805	212,547	3,710	362,062
Total assets less current liabilities	2,643,310	233,474	5,112	2,881,896

Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)

Grants instalments payable within one year	-	-	-	-
Payable on loans made to the Circuit	-	-	-	-
Total long term liabilities	-	-	-	-
Net assets / (liabilities)	2,643,310	233,474	5,112	2,881,896

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**3 Assessments on churches**

The Circuit was comprised of 16 (16 in 2021) active churches during the year. Each church is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall net costs of the Circuit. In making its Assessment budgeted income from investment income and letting income, and confirmed external grants and contributions are taken into account. The Circuit aims to cover all its net costs from the Assessment.

The Assessment on churches is annually determined by the Circuit using a formula which takes into account the relative income of each church, income being defined as and restricted to the sum of its weekly, monthly or annual offerings and Gift Aid refunds thereon, plus interest received, investment income and income from hiring of church premises. Assessments on churches are payable quarterly in advance, and are treated as pre-paid on a receivable basis. If any church has not paid its Assessment for the year by the year end, the shortfall is treated as a debtor amount if it is regarded by the Circuit Treasurer as recoverable.

The Circuit active churches during the year on which Assessments were raised as above were:

Aylesbury	Cheddington	Princes Risborough
Cuddington	Haddenham	Stone
Stewkley	Thame	Waddesdon
Swanbourne	Whitchurch	Wingrave
Weedon	Chinnor	

Other churches providing grants/contributions were Fairford Leys and North Marston.

4 Capital receipts

There were no capital receipts from sales of property or other sources in 2020/21 or 2021/22.

General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021/22	Total 2020/21
£	£	£	£	£	£	£

5 Other income

Henrietta Road (manse temporarily let) rent receivable, net of agent's commission	18,477				18,477	17,721
Income from hiring Stoke Mandeville premises	42,530				42,530	33,750

Miscellaneous receipts on closure of churches:

Stoke Mandeville	-				-	7,861
Other sundry receipts	-				-	-
	61,007				61,007	59,332

6 Grants and donations

Aylesbury Town Chaplaincy	2,000				2,000	1,000
	2,000			-	2,000	1,000

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**7 Stipends and associated costs**

Stipends were paid to 3 (3..2021) Methodist ministers during the year. In addition, under a Settlement Agreement dated 22/6/16 between the Joint Pastorate consisting of Christchurch Thame, Chinnor, Cuddington and Haddenham Methodist Churches and Rev. Dr Romilly Micklem, the latter, a United Reformed Church (URC) minister has served in the Circuit, employment costs of whom were reimbursed monthly by the Circuit to the URC Trust. The appropriate financial information is as follows:

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021/22	Total 2020/21
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Methodist ministers:</u>							
Stipends -gross	64,127					64,127	79,531
Employers Nat.Ins. Contributions	5,774					5,774	7,441
Pension Fund contributions	13,893					13,893	20,598
CfM	342					342	507
Apprentice Levy	323					323	401
	84,459					84,459	108,478
<u>URC minister</u>							
Reimbursements paid to the URC Trust	25,300					25,300	34,203
<u>Other ministerial costs</u>							
Travelling	6,324					6,324	2,806
Telephone	1,501					1,501	1,639
Removal, stationing and relocation costs	1,570					1,570	-
Total stipends and associated ministerial costs	119,154					119,154	147,126

7 Stipends and associated costs - continued

There were no other persons employed by the Circuit.

The almost halving of travel costs last year was attributable mainly to the restrictions introduced to curb the Coronavirus.

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

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.

7a Cost of Superintendent, Presbyters and Trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Presbyters and remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Presbyters of the Circuit are paid by the Circuit.

The manses are provided by the Circuit for the occupation of the Presbyters. The manses are maintained at the Circuit's expense. The value of the Council Tax and water charges paid by the Circuit is not disclosed here as HMRC does not regard this as a benefit-in-kind in the hands of the presbyter.

7b Payments to Trustees

It is not Circuit policy to reimburse non Presbyteral members of the CLT, Circuit Meeting and others involved in the administration of Circuit affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The Presbyters of the Circuit undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. Apart from the Presbyters, no member of the Circuit Meeting or CLT was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the Circuit, although certain travelling and administration costs are reimbursed from time to time in relation to specific projects.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**8 Property expenses**

The Circuit is Managing Trustee for 4 manses (4..2021), 3 (3..2021) of which are occupied by ministers stationed in the Circuit. One manse is not presently occupied by a minister but temporarily let externally for a market value rent, until such times as the Circuit requires the property for occupation by one its ministers. The Rev. Dr Romilly Micklem, referred to in note 7 above, lives in his own property. The Circuit is responsible for the payment of insurance and repairs for all properties, and with the exception of the let manse, is also responsible for Council Tax and water charges.

Expenditure on the manses

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021/22	Total 2020/21
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Manses</u>							
Council tax	8,177					8,177	8,491
Water supply	1,239					1,239	841
Utilities for vacant manses	32					32	-
Insurance	2,369					2,369	2,289
Repairs and maintenance	25,264					25,264	15,191
	37,082					37,082	26,812
<u>Expenditure on other Property</u>							
Churches closed for worship:							
Stoke Mandeville insurance	194					194	613
Stoke Mandeville utilities	5,439					5,439	3,235
Stoke Mandeville upkeep, etc	15,497					15,497	3,787
Quinquennial reports	554					554	3,109
Property Totals	58,766					58,766	37,556

9 District Assessment and Levy

The District Assessment is charged to the Circuit by the Northampton District, in part for the District's expenses and in part for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF).

The Levy is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuit's CMTF account balance as at 31st August the previous accounting year.

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021/22	Total 2020/21
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
District expenses and Methodist Church Fund	37,522					37,522	34,014
Levy on CMTF account balance		9,174				9,174	9,456
	37,522	9,174				46,696	43,470

10 Office and administration costs

Aylesbury Methodist Church - contribution towards office administrator

Printing & copying

Circuit website

Pastoral visitor travelling

Ministers' sundry expenses

Stewards' and treasurer's reimbursements

The Vine subscription

Hire of church for meetings

Literature and publications

Special contribution

Sundry

TMCP administration fees

3,840					3,840	3,840
12					12	13
515					515	441
-					-	-
1,716					1,716	1,511
458					458	412
413					413	-
-					-	-
581					581	705
54					54	111
	665				676	486
7,589	665			11	8,265	7,519

11 Other outgoings

12 Investment management

Realised and unrealised gains (losses) in the invested funds are listed below. More information can be found in Note 16.

13 Property disposals/revaluations

Carrying value b/f	Closed church value introduced	Sale	Revalued and c/f	Gain/(loss)
£	£	£	£	

Manse:

Churches closed for worship:

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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**14 Reclassification of funds, and assumption of church property on closure for worship**

Any fund whose classification has changed (e.g. Restricted to Unrestricted or vice versa) at the direction of the Circuit trustees or Custodian trustees is listed below.

Circuit property is always carried in the General Fund but upon sale the net proceeds are processed through the Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF). This requires an adjustment and any such sales during the year are reflected below at the gross sale price, after deduction of agents' and legal costs. See also the reference to Stoke Mandeville Church in Note 13 above.

General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021/22	Total 2020/21
£	£	£	£	£	£	£
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

There were no closures of churches for worship in 2020/21 or 2021/22. The last closure occurred in 2019/20, when the value of Stoke Mandeville Church was introduced into the Circuit records.

15 Fixed AssetsBuildings held during the year consist of:-

- 4 manses (4 - 2021), 3 (3 - 2021) of which are occupied by circuit ministers, and 1 (1 - 2021) let temporarily, as a fourth minister within the circuit at present does not require provision of accommodation, because he occupies his own property.
- In 2019/20 one church closed for worship, but has been retained pending a decision for its use by the circuit or one of the circuit churches, and/or letting. During 2020/21 and 2021/22 the premises were hired out to locally run organisations.

Cost / valuation

	Investment properties £	Buildings £	Total £
Balance brought forward	-	2,497,505	2,497,505
Additions in year	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	195,205	195,205
Less Disposals in year	-	-	-
Transfers between categories	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	-	2,692,710	2,692,710
<u>Accumulated depreciation</u>			
Balance brought forward	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for the year	-	-	-
Depreciation accumulated on disposals	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	-	-	-
<u>Net book value</u>			
Brought forward	-	2,497,505	2,497,505
Carried forward	-	2,692,710	2,692,710

Properties represented above:Manses:

47 King Edward Ave
6 Herston Close
103 High Street
14 Henrietta Road

Churches closed for worship:

Stoke Mandeville

Book value
Carried fwd
514,500
726,000
659,000
565,300
227,910
2,692,710

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**16 Investment Assets (and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP))**

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) and the Circuit's other funds (as listed below) are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest and/or Managed Equity Funds on which interest and dividends are credited to the accounts each month or quarter. They 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 management 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.

	Endowments						
	CMTF Trust 8292	Stranks Bequest 799B	A.Rose Trust 4420	J.Walker Bequest 1280	Total	Grand Total	2021
	Number of units						
CFB Managed Mixed Fund	3,735					3,735	3,735
CFB Managed Fixed Int.Fund		659			659	659	659
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Asset - Value 31/8/2022	19,612	1,193			1,193	20,805	22,329
Trustees Interest Funds	204,172	2,094	300	98	2,492	206,664	215,038
Current Asset - Value 31/8/2022	204,172	2,094	300	98	2,492	206,664	215,038

Note - Values per unit 31/8/22:

		(2021)
CFB Managed Mixed Fund	£5.251	£5.603
CFB Manag. Fixed Int.Fund	£1.811	£2.128

17 Debtors and prepayments

Unless indicated as otherwise, amounts shown as debtors at the beginning of the year are expected to be received in the course of the following year. All sums paid in advance at 31st August 2021 were for activities that have been held during 2021/22. Similarly, it is expected that payments in advance at 1st September 2022 will be expensed in 2022/23.

General Fund (Unrestricted)		Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2020/21	Total 2019/20
£		£	£	£	£	£
Prepayments:						
Stipends, pensions and NICs prepaid	9,546				9,546	6,159
Other expenses	-				-	169
Debtor:					-	-
Methodist insurance claim	1,056				1,056	-
Stoke Mandeville rental	3,250				3,250	3,250
	13,852				13,852	9,578

18 Loans to Circuit churches

Loans to churches within the Circuit may be granted by the trustees for a variety of purposes, but are normally project based and interest free.

There were no loans outstanding at 31st August 2021 or 31st August 2022.

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**19 Central Finance Board (CFB) and bank balances**

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and at NatWest Bank are all available on demand without loss of interest.

	General Fund (Unrestricted)		Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021/22	Total 2020/21
	£		£	£	£	£	£
Central Finance Board	148,092					148,092	129,596
Subtotal	148,092					148,092	129,596
NatWest Bank	1,621					1,621	16,070
HSBC (used for Stoke Mandeville premises)	51,278					51,278	28,315
Other				1,270		1,270	1,219
Subtotal	52,899			1,270		54,169	45,604
Total	200,991			1,270		202,261	175,200

20 Creditors, accruals and income received in advance

It is expected that all sums accrued at 31st August 2022 will be paid during the year to 31st August 2023

	General Fund (Unrestricted)		Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021/22	Total 2020/21
	£		£	£	£	£	£
<u>Income received in advance:</u>							
Assessments in advance	35,643					35,643	36,139
Proportion of rent received in advance	725					725	675
Subtotal	36,368					36,368	36,814
<u>Creditors and accruals</u>							
Ministers' travel	-					-	-
Ministers' sundry exps.	-					-	-
Local preachers' expenses	329					329	-
Telephone	-					-	-
Vacant manses utilities	32					32	-
Manse repairs	-					-	-
Sundries	7					7	-
Stoke Mandeville:						-	-
Upkeep	2,204					2,204	89
Utilities	328					328	851
Subtotal	2,900					2,900	940
Total	39,268					39,268	37,754

21 Unrestricted funds

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. About 95% of the value of this fund is held as freehold property, being manses for ministers, and from time to time churches closed for worship in the Circuit. Details of grants and donations made from the General Fund during the year can be found in Note 6.

The fund balance at 31st August 2022 was £2,868,285 (2021 £2,643,310)

The Circuit Meeting is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit and this is true for the Fund.

22 Circuit Model Trusts Fund

The purpose of the Circuit Model Trust Fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is formulaically determined contributions from the sale of manses and church buildings in the Circuit.

Although it is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise the funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930,931 and 917(2) are applicable.

The fund balance at 31st August 2022 was £223,784 (2021 £233,474)

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**23 Restricted and Endowment Funds**

The Restricted and the Endowment Funds exist to support the causes listed below. All the Funds' assets, except the Education and Youth Fund which is managed locally, are managed by TMCP, and the net income after charges is paid direct to the administrators of the fund.

The Education and Youth Fund is currently funded by an annual transfer from the General Fund, which has amounted to £350 each year for the last several years. The funds can be used for any educational or young people's purpose within the Circuit.

The income from the Endowment Funds can be used for General Circuit purposes, but the capital of the Stranks Bequest and the Jane Walker Bequest are Permanent Endowments.

The funds' balances at 31st August 2022 were as follows:

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
<u>Restricted Fund</u>		
Education and Youth Fund	1,270	1,219
<u>Endowment Funds</u>		
Stranks Bequest	3,288	3,495
Jane Walker Bequest	98	98
Alfred Rose Trust	300	300
Subtotal	3,686	3,893
Total of Restricted & Endowment	4,956	5,112

24 Summary of fund movements

Fund	Balance at 1/9/21	Income	Expenditure	Transfers & Reclassifi- cation	Gains/ (losses)	Balance at 31//8/22
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General	2,643,310	272,299	(242,189)	(340)	195,205	2,868,285
Circuit Model Trust	233,474	1,464	(9,839)		(1,315)	223,784
Total unrestricted	2,876,784	273,763	(252,028)	(340)	193,890	3,092,069
Education & Youth	1,219	1	(300)	350		1,270
Total restricted	1,219	1	(300)	350	-	1,270
Stranks Bequest	3,495	22	(10)	(10)	(209)	3,288
Jane Walker Bequest	98	-	-	-		98
Alfred Rose Trust	300	1	(1)	-		300
Total Endowment	3,893	23	(11)	(10)	(209)	3,686
Total restricted & Endowment	5,112	24	(311)	340	(209)	4,956
Total of all funds	2,881,896	273,787	(252,339)	-	193,681	3,097,025

25 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General	CMTF	Restricted	Endowm't	Total	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,692,710	-	-	-	2,692,710	2,497,505
Tangible fixed assets investments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other fixed assets investments	-	19,612	-	1,194	20,806	22,329
Current assets incl.current ass't investm'ts	214,843	204,172	1,270	2,492	422,777	399,816
Current liabilities	(39,268)	-	-	-	(39,268)	(37,754)
Creditors due after one year	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2,868,285	223,784	1,270	3,686	3,097,025	2,881,896

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2022**26 Related parties**

None of the Circuit trustees made direct donations to the Circuit during the year or preceding year. The Circuit trustees are members of one or another church within the Circuit and may be trustees in those churches.

Related parties include the Methodist Connexion, the Northampton District, churches within the Circuit, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP. Reference to transactions with some of these parties can be found in Notes 3,4,6,9,10,12,16 and 18. All of these entities have their own trustees or directors.

27 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There were no capital commitments or contingencies at the year end (2021..Nil).

28 Lease commitments

The Circuit has no lease commitments apart from the rental element of manses' telephones. The amount involved is not considered material.

29 Independent examiner

No fees or remuneration has been accrued for in these accounts.

30 Stoke Mandeville premises taken over by Circuit - income and expenditure

Transactions during the year ended 31st August 2021, relating specifically to the premises at Stoke Mandeville, are summarised as follows, under the headings in which they are included in the SOFA pages under General Fund:

	2021/22	2020/21
Income		
2 Income from monetary investments (interest)	15	5
7 Other charitable income:		
Rentals	42,529	33,750
Bank balances and cash taken over by circuit at 1/9/20	-	6,894
Further church cash funds received since 1/9/20	-	967
	42,544	41,616
Expenditure		
11 Property:		
Upkeep	15,497	3,787
Insurance	194	613
Utilities	5,439	3,265
10 Sundry: Bank charges	42	-
	21,172	7,665
Net income, including bank & cash balances taken over	21,372	33,951

30 Stoke Mandeville premises taken over by Circuit - balances carried forward

	31/8/22	31/8/21
Current assets:		
Debtors	3,250	3,250
Central Finance Board Deposits	3,663	3,648
Cash at Bank and in hand	51,278	28,315
Total current assets	58,191	35,213
Current liabilities:		
Creditors/income rec'd in advance	2,838	1,232
Total current liabilities	2,838	1,232
Net current assets	55,353	33,981

Name of Circuit **VALE OF AYLESBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT**..... No...23/29.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 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 *C. Lloyd* Date *30/3/2023*

Name and address of treasurer *PEARL DOUGHLIN, 10 GREAT MEADOWS WAY,*

AYLESBURY, BUCKS Post Code *HP19 7FT*

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on *08-03-23*

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Richard Atkinson*

Name of the Chair of the meeting *RICHARD ATKINSON* Date *30-03-23*

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1134235.....

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages 1 to 16. 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit: Vale of Aylesbury Methodist Circuit..... No ...23/29.....

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; 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;
- 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/~~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: ...

Michael L. Foote.....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner :

Chartered Accountant.....

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Michael L. Foote

Address 8 Bates Lane, Weston Turville,
Aylesbury, Bucks.....

Post Code: HP22 5SL

Date 17/10/2022

* delete or circle as appropriate