



Encouraging Discipleship

## Annual Report of the Somerset Mendip Circuit (07/16)

*1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023*

*Our mission as Somerset Mendip Circuit is to love God and our neighbours as ourselves. Our ministry is to live our faith, pointing others to God's liberating love in Jesus Christ.*

*Thank you for your witness and your trust in God's grace, in your communities, this circuit and the world. It has and will continue to change everything. As always in are in my prayers and thoughts, Rev Tina Swire Superintendent.*

### Reference and administrative details

- The Somerset Mendip Circuit of the Methodist Church is a Registered Charity, No. 1134237.
- **Correspondence Addresses:**  
Mr K B Speddings  
Circuit Office  
Wells Methodist Church  
Southover  
Wells  
BA5 1UG  
[smcwells2019@outlook.com](mailto:smcwells2019@outlook.com)

### Managing Trustees 52

MALCOLM BARLOW  
JOHN BATT  
IRIS BELSTEN  
ALASTAIR BOLT  
EDITH CHANNON  
JACQUI COBB  
JUDITH COLE  
MOIRA COWELL  
MARGARET CRAWSHAW  
VAL CREED  
BRIAN DAVIDSON

STEVE DERBY  
PHILIP EAVIS  
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BETHAN FOISTER  
MALCOLM GALE  
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JILL WARREN  
RAY WARREN

KATIE WEBB  
EILEEN WESTLAKE  
ANGELA WITTLETON  
JACKIE YOUNG  
KEN YOUNG

### **Churches and membership of the Somerset Mendip Circuit**

- Axbridge – 8
- Banwell – 20
- Castle Cary – 52
- Cheddar – 20
- Churchill – 31
- Congresbury – 27
- Frome Wesley – 50
- Glastonbury – 46
- Keinton Mandeville – 8
- Norton Down – 33
- Oakhill – 6
- Pilton – 19
- Rode – 9 LEP 6 Methodists
- Somerton – 39 LEP 4 Methodists
- Street – 34
- Wells – 46

### **Acronyms used in this report are as follows:**

**SMC** – Somerset Mendip Circuit  
**CLT** – Circuit Leadership Team  
**CLPD** – Continuing Local Preacher Development  
**LA** – Local Arrangement  
**LP** – Local Preachers

**LWP** – Leaders of Worship and Preachers  
**MHA** – Methodist Homes for the Aged  
**URC** – United Reformed Church  
**WL** – Worship Leader

## **Structure, governance and management**

### **Brief History**

SMC came into existence on 1 September 2009. This circuit was formed out of an amalgamation of three previous circuits: The Frome Circuit, The Somerset Mission Circuit and The West Mendip Circuit.

### **Circuit Staff**

*Presbyters*  
Rev Tina Swire (*Superintendent*)  
Rev Collin Moore  
Rev Meg Slingo

### **Lay pastoral and community workers**

Bethan Foister  
Leanne Hibberd

### **Circuit Administrator**

Deborah Towner

### **Digital Mission Enabler**

David Knight

### **Circuit Stewards**

Jacqui Cobb (LWP)  
Judith Cole (Personnel)  
Malcolm Gale (Property)

Barry Speddings (Charity Commission)  
Angela Wittleton (Finance)  
Lois Emm

## **Leadership structure**

### **Circuit Meeting (three per year - spring, summer and autumn)**

All presbyters  
All Supernumeraries  
All Circuit Lay Pastoral Employees  
All Circuit Stewards  
Three LWP reps + LWP Administrator  
Other Circuit Officers  
2 representatives from each local church (*normally the Senior Church Steward and Church Treasurer - if any church has more than 50 members that church may send a third representative*)

### **CLT (monthly)**

All Presbyters  
All Circuit Stewards  
All Circuit Lay Employees  
Circuit Safeguarding Officer

### **Envisioning Days (2)**

All Presbyters  
All Circuit Stewards  
All Circuit Lay Employees  
Circuit Safeguarding Officer

### **Supervision (by Superintendent)**

All presbyters  
All Circuit Lay Pastoral Employees  
Circuit Administrator

## **Activities**

### **The SMC Mission Statement**

#### **OUR VISION**

Our vision is of a circuit where people experience and share God's love, justice and joy.

#### **OUR PURPOSE**

Our purpose is to encourage, support and challenge one another in fulfilling our vision.

SMC is run according to the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church in Great Britain. (Registered Charity No. 1132208.)

## WORSHIP

1. The Somerset Mendip Circuit produces in each quarter a plan for the worship of the whole circuit. The plan is produced by a small plan-making team, including Rev Tina Swire and Jacqueline Cobb (Local Preachers' Administrator), assisted by Deborah Towner (Circuit administrator). *We have been using Chrestos to make the plan.* This group is responsible for gathering plan dates from preachers and churches and for circulating the plan after it has been finalised. Circuit ministers are responsible for planning all communion services and other 'specials' in their own section. The plan is published at the earliest opportunity.
2. Before each plan is made, all LPs are asked...
  - a) how many services they wish to take on each plan.
  - b) which churches they are prepared to travel to.
3. The LPs and WLs meet four times a year....
  - a) **In September/October**  
The Annual Rededication of LPs and WLs takes place at this meeting.
  - b) **In December/January**
  - c) **In March/April**
  - d) **In July**
4. All LWP Meetings are chaired by Rev Tina Swire. Other circuit officers include...
  - a) Jacqueline Cobb as LWP Administrator for the whole circuit
  - b) LWP meeting minute secretary - **vacancy**
  - c) Circuit Tutors for training those on note and on trial and for the Worship Leaders - **two vacancies.**
5. The Circuit seeks to encourage and foster links with ecumenical partners wherever possible.
6. Local church dedications (e.g., workers with children and young people, home group leaders etc.) take place in each church at an appropriate time, decided by the respective Church Council.

## PASTORAL CARE

Each local church within the life of the Somerset Mendip Circuit is placed within the pastoral charge of one of the circuit presbyters, lay pastoral & community workers, who support the pastoral teams within the churches. Circuit staff are kept informed of particular pastoral needs or requests. However, much of the pastoral visiting is undertaken by the pastoral visitors in each local church. Meetings for the church pastoral visitors take place as and when required, but at least annually. In each church, pastoral committee meetings offer an opportunity for that church to identify its pastoral needs, offer training and share experiences.



## **DISCIPLESHIP, NURTURE and LEARNING**

Discipleship, Nurture and Learning in SMC covers a wide range of events, which include...

- a) Circuit Quiet Days
- b) Circuit Study Days
- c) Circuit services
- d) Circuit events for fellowship and fun
- e) Special worship occasions
- f) Courses which help people understand the Bible
- g) Courses which help people relate their faith to current events and issues in our society.
- h) Safeguarding training

## **EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH**

The purpose of the Somerset Mendip Circuit is to support, encourage and challenge the local churches in their life and mission. Evangelism and outreach are about having a presence in each neighbourhood as ambassadors for Christ; being salt and light in our communities. This involves making connections with the various groups who use our premises and moving outside the church buildings to make connections with the local community. The circuit also draws attention to other agencies, such as Action for Children, CARE for the Family, MHA, All We Can etc.

## **PERSONNEL**

This area of life within the Somerset Mendip Circuit is best considered using four distinct headings...

### **1. Safeguarding**

Ruth Thomas is the Circuit Safeguarding Coordinator who liaises between District, Circuit and individual churches on matters relating to safeguarding, and keeps the Circuit Meeting and the individual church councils (via the church reps) up to date with any changes in legislation and procedures. Each church holds a copy of the current Methodist Safeguarding Policy document and is required to adopt a suitable policy regarding safeguarding which is reviewed annually. Each church appoints a 'person responsible' for the implementation of the safeguarding regulations, and the individual church's policy on safeguarding. SMC runs the Creating Safer Space Foundation Module, which has been done online and face to face. Advance Training has taken place online.

DBS checks have taken place.

### **2. Lay Employment**

Steve Derby is the SMC Lay Employment Coordinator. He is responsible for ensuring that all matters relating to the employment of lay circuit staff and lay people employed by individual churches comply with current legislation. The Lay Employment Coordinator is responsible for advising the District Lay Employment Secretary of all proposed new employment and employee changes.

### **3. Digital Mission**

David Knight is the Circuit Digital Mission Enabler. He is responsible for the Circuit Website needs and social media, and assists with all things digital across the circuit and online. There is also a digital weekly service. David has also compiled a digital song book, which is used across the circuit and parts of the connexion.

### **4. Invitations/stationing**

Judith Cole is the circuit steward responsible for organising and overseeing the invitation process, as and when required. The invitation committee is appointed by the Circuit Meeting annually in the spring and always includes Circuit Stewards. The invitation committee adheres to the current Connexional guidelines.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Circuit staff and LPs have a key role in communication as they travel around SMC. Circuit Stewards are encouraged to visit Church Council's around the circuit, as they are able. This will normally result in each Church Council having a visit from at least one Circuit Steward annually. There is a Circuit magazine, 'The Stream', published quarterly. This magazine is a showcase for Circuit events. A weekly email is also sent out and Mrs Deborah Towner, Circuit Administrator, compiles and edits both of these publications. SMC also has a directory and a preacher's handbook to disseminate information and to aid communication. Individual churches/sections are encouraged to publish their own church magazines, as they are able. David Knight, Digital Mission Enabler, has produced SMC's new website <http://www.somersetmendipmethodists.com> and is the webmaster.

The Circuit Administrator has a key role in communicating with all the churches. Every circuit group and every church have a responsibility to communicate. Each church in the circuit has appointed a contact person (usually the contact steward) who is responsible for making sure that information is communicated throughout their particular church.

## **PROPERTY**

Malcolm Gale is the Circuit Property Coordinator. He keeps an overview of all property matters within the life of SMC. The Circuit Property Committee (consisting of the Circuit Property Coordinator, one circuit presbyter and at least one property 'rep' from each section of the circuit). Usually meet once a year, before the summer circuit meeting when the annual property report is given. This allows the Circuit Property Coordinator to present all the property matters to the Circuit Meeting in a clear and concise format. Each circuit manse has a local manse co-ordinator appointed.

## **Achievements and Performance**

- **Main achievements of the year**

The CLT produces a comprehensive Circuit Directory and Circuit Preacher's Handbook, which was last updated in 2022 (new one for 2022/2023). The Circuit Plan continues to be published quarterly.

David Knight continues as our Digital Mission Enabler to support all aspects of work in IT across the circuit. We produce a weekly digital service and also have access to

audio recordings of various services across the circuit. As a result of this we have a significant online fellowship across the circuit and beyond.

As a circuit we celebrate the ministry of our Lay Pastoral & Community Workers. We continue to reflect on and discern, where God is calling us to grow in this ministry.

### **How SMC's work has developed towards fulfilling its aims**

We encourage learning and continuity, development for our presbyters.

We are grateful for our supernumeraries who stepped in to help us shepherd the circuit. Our supernumeraries are Rev Jill Warren, Rev Margaret Crawshaw and Rev Robert Channon and Rev Alastair Bolt, who have helped shepherd the circuit.

As a circuit we seek to love God and are neighbours ourselves. To enable us to grow in and share our faith, we had planned circuit services, quiet days and training events.

## **Progress of Aims and Objectives for SMC during the period 01.09.22 – 31.08.23**

1. The new Connexional training course, 'Worship: Leading & Preaching' continues to be implemented across the circuit.
2. SMC provided scrutinisers for the representative sessions of District Synods for 2022-2023.
3. SMC are trialling a new assessment system across the circuit and making grants available for missional work
4. The CLT continues to review the life of the circuit.
5. We have continued to provide an enhanced communication and support network.
6. DBS checks have continued to be processed.  
Safeguarding Foundation and Advanced training has taken place online and face to face.

## **Aims and Objectives for SMC during the period 01.09.23 – 31.08.24**

1. To continue to work with the training course, 'Worship: Leading & Preaching' across the circuit and to use material from the new course during LWP meetings to aid CLPD.
2. To hold Creating Safer Space Foundation Module Training sessions, either online or in person.
3. To produce a balanced budget.
4. To organise study/quiet days for LPs and WLs during the year.
5. To continue to discern the role of Lay work in our circuit.
6. To continue to support and encourage our churches post Covid.



## 2023 Financial Review

Angela Wittleton is the treasurer of SMC. There is an annual meeting held in January/February which is chaired by the Treasurer and consists of one circuit presbyter, usually the Circuit Superintendent, with at least one church treasurer/representative from each church within the circuit. This meeting is an opportunity to share latest financial information and discuss the circuit budget ahead of the Spring Circuit Meeting, at which the annual budget is presented.

During the year the Circuit received income of £259k (2021-22: £221k), Sold buildings £540k (2021-22: £253k), received bank balances from closed churches £4k, (2021-22: £17k closure of churches and trusts) and dispersed £530k (2021-22: £398k.) This resulted in an excess of income over expenditure of £273k (2021-22: £93k) as shown in the SOFA (Statement of Financial Activities.) Net current assets plus investments carried forward are £787k (2021-22: £951k). Employment costs have decreased slightly due to changes in the lay worker administrative positions.

The trustees of the Circuit have every reason to believe that the Circuit is healthy, principally because Churches continue to meet their assessments and the Circuit has adequate reserves to cover any shortfall in anticipated income for the foreseeable future. There is currently one churches on the market and in the process of being sold, which will further increase reserve funds. Consequently, the Standard Form of Accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The Circuit now currently owns the freehold to 5 manses (Castle Cary, Churchill, Coxley, and two in Frome.) The old manse in Frome is currently being commercially let and a new manse has been purchased for the new minister starting in September 2023.

The Circuit has the following principal sources of funds: -

- Assessments on Churches within the Circuit
- Interest on Investments
- Reserves held in the Circuit Model Trust Fund, unrestricted Trust Funds & other smaller Restricted Trusts.

These sums are used to administer the Circuit and to provide grants to Churches and individuals in the Circuit so that they may embark on or continue with projects that fulfil the mission of the Circuit by bringing more people to Christ or by providing facilities that might enable this to happen.

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). Short term deposits are lodged with the Central Finance Board (CFB).


The total unrestricted free reserves readily available to the Circuit total £755k (2021-22: £936k) and the Circuit has a reserves policy covering these which is reviewed annually. It is recognised that some grants will be paid from these reserves as a result of applications to the Circuit made by churches within the Circuit but the minimum policy level of the readily available part of the General Fund is such as to pay for 6 months' payroll costs and the other costs of the Circuit. Unused reserves are held for contingencies and repairs of Circuit property, grant applications from Circuit churches and any churches finding it difficult in meeting their future assessments.

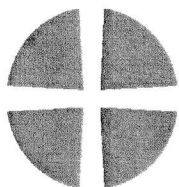


## Public benefit statement

The trustees of SMC have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the charity commission in exercising their responsibilities.

This annual report has been approved by the Somerset Mendip Circuit Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at Wells Methodist Church.

Signed   
Rev. Tina Swire  
SMC Circuit Superintendent



**THE METHODIST CHURCH  
REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended 31 August 2023**

**Somerset Mendip Methodist**

**Circuit**

**Circuit no**

**\*07/16**

**Registered Charity - Registration number**

**1134237**

**Ministers**

<b>Rev Tina Swire - Superintendent</b>
<b>Rev Meg Slingo</b>
<b>Rev Collin Moore</b>

**Circuit Stewards**

<b>Judith Cole</b>
<b>Angela Wittleton</b>
<b>Barry Speddings</b>
<b>Jacqui Cobb</b>
<b>Malcolm Gale</b>
<b>Lois Emm</b>
<b>Lay Employees - Deborah Towner, David Knight, Bethan Foister and Leanne Hibberd</b>

**Circuit Treasurer**

**Angela Wittleton**

**Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023**

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022-23 £
<b>Income</b>							
1 Donations and legacies	4				20,000		20,000
2 Income from monetary investments	6	16,083	15,800		56		31,939
3 Other trading activities	5	9,818					9,818
4 Assessments on Churches		197,307					197,307
5 Capital Receipt	8	0	539,521				539,521
6 Grants received							0
7 Other income	7	4,908					4,908
<b>8 Total income</b>		<b>228,116</b>	<b>555,321</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,056</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>803,493</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
9 Grants and donations			6,533		1,000		7,533
10 Stipends and related costs	11	174,150					174,150
11 Property maintenance		43,076	20,628		2,687		66,391
12 District Levy			167,809				167,809
13 District Assessment		49,920	26,711				76,631
14 Insurance & Utilities		15,797					15,797
15 Telephone & Travel		13,625					13,625
16 Agents Commission on Lets		1,307					1,307
17 Admin Charges		1,246	1,347		4		2,597
18 Ministry Costs		3,269			665		3,934
19 Rounding		(1)			1		0
<b>20 Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>302,389</b>	<b>223,028</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,357</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>529,774</b>
21 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments			(362)		(547)		(909)
22 Gains/(losses) on investment properties							0
<b>23 Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(74,273)</b>	<b>331,931</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15,152</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>272,810</b>
24 Transfers between funds		505,941	(507,941)		2,000		0
25 Other gains/(losses)							0
<b>26 Net movement in funds</b>		<b>431,668</b>	<b>(176,010)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17,152</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>272,810</b>
27 Total funds brought forward		1,757,938	472,814	200,000	15,322		2,446,074
<b>28 Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>2,189,606</b>	<b>296,804</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>32,474</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,718,884</b>

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021-22 £
<b>Income</b>							
1 Donations and legacies	4						0
2 Income from monetary investments	6	2,433	1,616		7		4,056
3 Other trading activities	5	2,771					2,771
4 Assessments on Churches		213,923					213,923
5 Capital Receipt	8	1,020	252,906		7,315		261,241
6 Grants received							0
7 Other income	7	8,963					8,963
<b>8 Total income</b>		<b>229,110</b>	<b>254,522</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,322</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>490,954</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
9 Grants and donations			4,984		1,000		5,984
10 Stipends and related costs	11	174,957					174,957
11 Property maintenance		24,434					24,434
12 District Levy			77,162				77,162
13 District Assessment		50,432	22,732				73,164
14 Insurance & Utilities		19,608					19,608
15 Telephone & Travel		12,585					12,585
16 Agents Commission on Lets		346					346
17 Admin Charges		1,226	1,196		4		2,426
18 Ministry Costs		5,498			699		6,197
19							0
<b>20 Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>289,086</b>	<b>106,074</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,703</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>396,863</b>
21 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
22 Gains/(losses) on investment properties			(572)		(605)		(1,177)
<b>23 Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(59,976)</b>	<b>147,876</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,014</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>92,914</b>
24 Transfers between funds		93,819	(94,819)		1,000		0
25 Other gains/(losses)							0
<b>26 Net movement in funds</b>		<b>33,843</b>	<b>53,057</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,014</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>92,914</b>
27 Total funds brought forward		1,724,092	419,759	200,000	9,309		2,353,160
<b>28 Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,757,935</b>	<b>472,816</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>15,323</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,446,074</b>



## Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023	Totals 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

## Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	12	1,931,734				1,931,734	1,494,793
Investment properties						0	
Investments	13		8,171			8,171	8,533
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<b>1,931,734</b>	<b>8,171</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,939,905</b>	<b>1,503,326</b>

## Current Assets

Debtors and Prepayments	14	18,379				18,379	11,225
Loans by the Circuit	17					0	0
Investments with TMCP	18	223,329	288,633	200,000	15,161	727,123	902,933
Central Finance Board Deposits		49,878			17,313	67,191	64,153
Cash at Bank and in hand	14/18	13,743				13,743	8,358
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>305,329</b>	<b>288,633</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>32,474</b>	<b>826,436</b>	<b>986,669</b>

## Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	15	47,457				47,457	43,921
Grants payable within 2022-23						0	
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>47,457</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>47,457</b>	<b>43,921</b>
<b>Net current assets/liabilities</b>		<b>257,872</b>	<b>288,633</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>32,474</b>	<b>778,979</b>	<b>942,748</b>

<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>2,189,606</b>	<b>296,804</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>32,474</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,718,884</b>	<b>2,446,074</b>
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)								
Grants payable after 2021-22							0	
Loans to the Circuit							0	
							0	
Net assets		2,189,606	296,804	200,000	32,474	0	2,718,884	2,446,074

## Funds of the Circuit

Details of the Breakdown							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		2,189,606				2,189,606	1,757,938
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			296,804			296,804	472,814
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				200,000		200,000	200,000
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>						<b>2,686,410</b>	<b>2,430,752</b>
Restricted Funds					32,474	32,474	15,322
Endowment Funds						0	
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>2,189,606</b>	<b>296,804</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>32,474</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,718,884</b>

**Notes to the Accounts****1. Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

**2. Funds**

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are also the following Endowment funds as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

**3. Accounting policies****Basis**

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

**Income Recognition**

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

**Resources Expended**

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

**Grants**

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant 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 as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

**VAT**

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

**Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit**

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

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

**Investment Properties**

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

**Investments**

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

**Debtors and Prepayments**

Debtors primarily relate to the payment of the September stipend in August.

**Creditors**

Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter assessment received in August.

**Going Concern**

These accounts have been prepared on the Going Concern basis.

4. Donations and legacies	Circuit			2023 Total	2022 Total
	Unrestricted	Model Trust Fund	Restricted		
	£		£	£	£
Donations	0	0	0	0	0
Legacies			20,000	20,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>0</b>

5. Other trading activities	Circuit			2023 Total	2022 Total
	Unrestricted	Model Trust Fund	Restricted		
	£		£	£	£
Lettings (Frome Manse)	4,895			4,895	2,771
Lettings (Street MC)	4,923			4,923	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,818</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,818</b>	<b>2,771</b>

6. Investment income	Circuit			2023 Total	2022 Total
	Unrestricted	Model Trust Fund	Restricted		
	£		£	£	£
Central Finance Board	16,083	15,800	56	31,939	4,056
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,083</b>	<b>15,800</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>31,939</b>	<b>4,056</b>

#### 7. Other Income

Other Income                      **4,908**                      **0**                      **4,908**                      **8,963**

Included in other income are the closure of bank accounts from Wedmore MC £3445 and Portway MC £627 (2022 Bruton Methodist Church £7726)

#### 8. Capital Receipt

Tfnd Trust fund/Sale of chapels                      0                      539,521                      0                      539,521                      261,241

Proceeds from sale of Bruton MC and Oakhill MC (2022 trust Funds transferred from Bruton MC, Street MC and proceeds from sale of Portway MC)

#### 9. Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees or related family members for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting                      £

**This year**

0

**Last year**

0

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

14

15

Nature of the expenses

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel, stationery, postage and computing costs

Total amount paid

£ 12,474

10,341

#### 10. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts                      £

525

500

Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor                      £

0

0

## 11. Paid employees

### Stipends and related costs paid during the year were:

Gross wages, salaries, stipends and benefits in kind	£ 136,143	139,269
Employer's National Insurance costs	£ 10,674	9,065
Pension costs	£ 24,682	23,502
Supernumeraries and Preaching fees	£ 1,450	1,875
Admin Charges and Apprentice Levy	£ 1,201	1,246
Total staff costs	£ 174,150	174,957

Average number of staff employed during the year were:

5	6
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No employee received employee benefits that totalled more than £60,000.

There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is not carried forward.

## 12. Tangible Fixed Assets

The buildings now comprise of 5 Manses (4 - 2022) located in Castle Cary, Churchill, Frome & Coxley. Castle Cary, Churchill, Coxley and Frome are currently occupied by serving Presbyters. The old Frome Manse is currently let on a commercial lease. The Manses have been valued as at 31/8/15 on the 'Deemed Cost Basis' or actual cost if purchased since then. Values of potential sale prices for each manse were compared on "Zoopla" in 2022 and found to be in excess of recorded values by at least 28%, it is considered that no impairment is considered necessary this year.

Cost or valuation

	Residential Land £	Other Land £	Manses £	Other buildings £	Other fixed assets including motor vehicles £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Payments on account and assets under construction £	Total £
Balance brought forward			1,494,793		0			1,494,793
Additions			436,941					436,941
Revaluations (+/-)								0
Disposals (-)								0
Transfers (+/-)								0
Balance carried forward	0	0	1,931,734	0	0	0	0	1,931,734
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>	<b>Basis</b>		SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB		
<b>Rate</b>								
Balance brought forward								0
Depreciation charge for year(-)								0
Revaluations (+/-)								0
Disposals (-)								0
Transfers (+/-)								0
Balance carried forward	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net book value</b>								
Brought forward	-	-	1,494,793	-	-	-	-	1,494,793
Carried forward	-	-	1,931,734	-	-	-	-	1,931,734



### 13. Investments

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

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

Analysis of investment movements	This year	Last year
Investments listed on a recognised Stock Exchange		
Investments held in common investment funds,		
Securities not listed on a recognised Stock Exchange	8,171	8,533
Other investments		
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,171</b>	<b>8,533</b>

Change in investment values		
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	8,533	9,105
<b>Add:</b> additions to investments at cost		
<b>Less:</b> disposals at carrying value		
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	0	-572
Carrying (market) value at end of year	8,533	8,533

14. Analysis of current assets	This year	Last year
<b>Debtors and prepayments</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Pre paid Stipends	13,546	7,901
Other prepayments	2366	3,324
Other debtors	2467	0
<b>Total debtors and prepayments</b>	<b>18,379</b>	<b>11,225</b>

#### Analysis of cash at bank

Bank balance held in Co-operative Bank plc	13,743	8,358
<b>Total Cash and Bank</b>	<b>13,743</b>	<b>8,358</b>

### 15. Analysis of current liabilities and long term creditors

Creditors	£ 4,732	1,896
Assessments in Advance	£ 42,725	42,025
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>£ 47,457</b>	<b>43,921</b>

### 16. Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2023 the Circuit had no capital commitments. (2022 - none)

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2023. (2022 - none)

## 17. Loans

Church	Purpose of loan	Amount brought forward	New borrowings	Loan interest	Repayable in the year	Balance at year end
						0
						0
						0
						0
Totals		0	0	0	0	0

## Repayment due

Due within 12 months	31/08/2024						
Due between 1 and 5 years	31/08/2025		31/08/2026		31/08/2027		31/08/2028
Due later than 5 years							

## 18. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

### Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains on revaluation	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
General	1,534,609	214,687	288,958	505,941		1,966,279	
Trust 14855 Long Term Development Reserve	154,414	11,243	11,243			154,414	Amalgamated previous Property Model Trust
Trust 6874 Unrestricted Bequests Reserve	68,915	2,186	2,186			68,915	Amalgamated previous Model Trust Bequests
Designated - Trust 14855 Long Term Development Reserve	200,000	0	0			200,000	Designated funds for capital investment
Designated - Circuit Model Trust Fund	472,814	555,321	223,028	(507,941)	(362)	296,804	
Totals	2,430,752	783,437	525,415	(2,000)	(362)	2,686,412	

### Restricted Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers		Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Trust 13535 - Training & Development Fund	1,450	56	1,668	2,000		1,838	Training of Circuit Staff - Internal Organisation
Trust 10117 George J Dyer	6,711				(285)	6,426	Support of Circuit Activities
Trust 3666 Seymour Bequest	7,161		2		(262)	6,897	Support of Youth work
Ruth Tucker Bequest		20,000	2,687			17,313	Upkeep of Wedmore graveyard, until sold
Totals	15,322	20,056	4,357	2,000	(547)	32,474	

Endowment Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital	Annual income	What the income was used for
Totals		0	0	

## DECLARATIONS

### Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of Treasurer

*Angela Wittleton*

Date

1/11/2023

Name

Mrs Angela Wittleton

Address

Drill Hall Cottage, Street Road, Glastonbury, Somerset, BA6 9EF

### Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on  
and were approved.

15th November 2023

Signature of the Chair of the  
meeting

*Rev A. Prout*

Date

15th November 2023

Name of the Chair of the  
meeting

Rev A. Prout

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

**Somerset Mendip Methodist Circuit**

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August

2023

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act.
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name

Mr Christopher Gould

Signature

*Cm Gould*

Date

1/11/2023

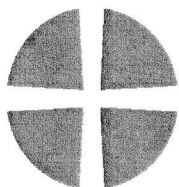
Relevant Professional qualification or body

Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Address

15 Baglyn Avenue, Kingswood, Bristol, BS15 4XS





**THE METHODIST CHURCH  
REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS**

**for the year ended 31 August 2023**

**Somerset Mendip Methodist**

**Circuit**

**Circuit no**

**\*07/16**

**Registered Charity - Registration number**

**1134237**

**Ministers**

<b>Rev Tina Swire - Superintendent</b>
<b>Rev Meg Slingo</b>
<b>Rev Collin Moore</b>

**Circuit Stewards**

<b>Judith Cole</b>
<b>Angela Wittleton</b>
<b>Barry Speddings</b>
<b>Jacqui Cobb</b>
<b>Malcolm Gale</b>
<b>Lois Emm</b>
<b>Lay Employees - Deborah Towner, David Knight, Bethan Foister and Leanne Hibberd</b>

**Circuit Treasurer**

**Angela Wittleton**

**Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023**

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022-23 £
<b>Income</b>							
1 Donations and legacies	4				20,000		20,000
2 Income from monetary investments	6	16,083	15,800		56		31,939
3 Other trading activities	5	9,818					9,818
4 Assessments on Churches		197,307					197,307
5 Capital Receipt	8	0	539,521				539,521
6 Grants received							0
7 Other income	7	4,908					4,908
<b>8 Total income</b>		<b>228,116</b>	<b>555,321</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,056</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>803,493</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
9 Grants and donations			6,533		1,000		7,533
10 Stipends and related costs	11	174,150					174,150
11 Property maintenance		43,076	20,628		2,687		66,391
12 District Levy			167,809				167,809
13 District Assessment		49,920	26,711				76,631
14 Insurance & Utilities		15,797					15,797
15 Telephone & Travel		13,625					13,625
16 Agents Commission on Lets		1,307					1,307
17 Admin Charges		1,246	1,347		4		2,597
18 Ministry Costs		3,269			665		3,934
19 Rounding		(1)			1		0
<b>20 Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>302,389</b>	<b>223,028</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,357</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>529,774</b>
21 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments			(362)		(547)		(909)
22 Gains/(losses) on investment properties							0
<b>23 Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(74,273)</b>	<b>331,931</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15,152</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>272,810</b>
24 Transfers between funds		505,941	(507,941)		2,000		0
25 Other gains/(losses)							0
<b>26 Net movement in funds</b>		<b>431,668</b>	<b>(176,010)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17,152</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>272,810</b>
27 Total funds brought forward		1,757,938	472,814	200,000	15,322		2,446,074
<b>28 Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>2,189,606</b>	<b>296,804</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>32,474</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,718,884</b>

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021-22 £
<b>Income</b>							
1 Donations and legacies	4						0
2 Income from monetary investments	6	2,433	1,616		7		4,056
3 Other trading activities	5	2,771					2,771
4 Assessments on Churches		213,923					213,923
5 Capital Receipt	8	1,020	252,906		7,315		261,241
6 Grants received							0
7 Other income	7	8,963					8,963
<b>8 Total income</b>		<b>229,110</b>	<b>254,522</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,322</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>490,954</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
9 Grants and donations			4,984		1,000		5,984
10 Stipends and related costs	11	174,957					174,957
11 Property maintenance		24,434					24,434
12 District Levy			77,162				77,162
13 District Assessment		50,432	22,732				73,164
14 Insurance & Utilities		19,608					19,608
15 Telephone & Travel		12,585					12,585
16 Agents Commission on Lets		346					346
17 Admin Charges		1,226	1,196		4		2,426
18 Ministry Costs		5,498			699		6,197
19							0
<b>20 Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>289,086</b>	<b>106,074</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,703</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>396,863</b>
21 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
22 Gains/(losses) on investment properties			(572)		(605)		(1,177)
<b>23 Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(59,976)</b>	<b>147,876</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,014</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>92,914</b>
24 Transfers between funds		93,819	(94,819)		1,000		0
25 Other gains/(losses)							0
<b>26 Net movement in funds</b>		<b>33,843</b>	<b>53,057</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,014</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>92,914</b>
27 Total funds brought forward		1,724,092	419,759	200,000	9,309		2,353,160
<b>28 Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,757,935</b>	<b>472,816</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>15,323</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,446,074</b>

## Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023	Totals 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

## Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	12	1,931,734				1,931,734	1,494,793
Investment properties						0	
Investments	13		8,171			8,171	8,533
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<b>1,931,734</b>	<b>8,171</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,939,905</b>	<b>1,503,326</b>

## Current Assets

Debtors and Prepayments	14	18,379				18,379	11,225
Loans by the Circuit	17					0	0
Investments with TMCP	18	223,329	288,633	200,000	15,161	727,123	902,933
Central Finance Board Deposits		49,878			17,313	67,191	64,153
Cash at Bank and in hand	14/18	13,743				13,743	8,358
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>305,329</b>	<b>288,633</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>32,474</b>	<b>826,436</b>	<b>986,669</b>

## Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	15	47,457				47,457	43,921
Grants payable within 2022-23						0	
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>47,457</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>47,457</b>	<b>43,921</b>
<b>Net current assets/liabilities</b>		<b>257,872</b>	<b>288,633</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>32,474</b>	<b>778,979</b>	<b>942,748</b>

<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>2,189,606</b>	<b>296,804</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>32,474</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,718,884</b>	<b>2,446,074</b>
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)								
Grants payable after 2021-22							0	
Loans to the Circuit							0	
							0	
Net assets		2,189,606	296,804	200,000	32,474	0	2,718,884	2,446,074

## Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)		2,189,606				2,189,606	1,757,938
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			296,804			296,804	472,814
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				200,000		200,000	200,000
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>						<b>2,686,410</b>	<b>2,430,752</b>
Restricted Funds					32,474	32,474	15,322
Endowment Funds						0	
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>2,189,606</b>	<b>296,804</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>32,474</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,718,884</b>



**Notes to the Accounts****1. Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

**2. Funds**

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are also the following Endowment funds as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

**3. Accounting policies****Basis**

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

**Income Recognition**

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

**Resources Expended**

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

**Grants**

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant 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 as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

**VAT**

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

**Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit**

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

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

**Investment Properties**

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

**Investments**

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

**Debtors and Prepayments**

Debtors primarily relate to the payment of the September stipend in August.

**Creditors**

Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter assessment received in August.

**Going Concern**

These accounts have been prepared on the Going Concern basis.

4. Donations and legacies	Circuit			2023 Total	2022 Total
	Unrestricted	Model Trust Fund	Restricted		
	£		£	£	£
Donations	0	0	0	0	0
Legacies			20,000	20,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>0</b>

5. Other trading activities	Circuit			2023 Total	2022 Total
	Unrestricted	Model Trust Fund	Restricted		
	£		£	£	£
Lettings (Frome Manse)	4,895			4,895	2,771
Lettings (Street MC)	4,923			4,923	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,818</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,818</b>	<b>2,771</b>

6. Investment income	Circuit			2023 Total	2022 Total
	Unrestricted	Model Trust Fund	Restricted		
	£		£	£	£
Central Finance Board	16,083	15,800	56	31,939	4,056
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,083</b>	<b>15,800</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>31,939</b>	<b>4,056</b>

#### 7. Other Income

Other Income                      **4,908**                      **0**                      **4,908**                      **8,963**

Included in other income are the closure of bank accounts from Wedmore MC £3445 and Portway MC £627 (2022 Bruton Methodist Church £7726)

#### 8. Capital Receipt

Tfnd Trust fund/Sale of chapels                      0                      539,521                      0                      539,521                      261,241

Proceeds from sale of Bruton MC and Oakhill MC (2022 trust Funds transferred from Bruton MC, Street MC and proceeds from sale of Portway MC)

#### 9. Payment to Trustees

Payments made to trustees or related family members for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting                      £

**This year**

0

**Last year**

0

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

14

15

Nature of the expenses

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel, stationery, postage and computing costs

Total amount paid

£ 12,474

10,341

#### 10. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts                      £

525

500

Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor                      £

0

0

## 11. Paid employees

### Stipends and related costs paid during the year were:

Gross wages, salaries, stipends and benefits in kind	£ 136,143	139,269
Employer's National Insurance costs	£ 10,674	9,065
Pension costs	£ 24,682	23,502
Supernumeraries and Preaching fees	£ 1,450	1,875
Admin Charges and Apprentice Levy	£ 1,201	1,246
Total staff costs	£ 174,150	174,957

Average number of staff employed during the year were:

5	6
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No employee received employee benefits that totalled more than £60,000.

There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is not carried forward.

## 12. Tangible Fixed Assets

The buildings now comprise of 5 Manses (4 - 2022) located in Castle Cary, Churchill, Frome & Coxley. Castle Cary, Churchill, Coxley and Frome are currently occupied by serving Presbyters. The old Frome Manse is currently let on a commercial lease. The Manses have been valued as at 31/8/15 on the 'Deemed Cost Basis' or actual cost if purchased since then. Values of potential sale prices for each manse were compared on "Zoopla" in 2022 and found to be in excess of recorded values by at least 28%, it is considered that no impairment is considered necessary this year.

Cost or valuation

	Residential Land £	Other Land £	Manses £	Other buildings £	Other fixed assets including motor vehicles £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Payments on account and assets under construction £	Total £
Balance brought forward			1,494,793		0			1,494,793
Additions			436,941					436,941
Revaluations (+/-)								0
Disposals (-)								0
Transfers (+/-)								0
Balance carried forward	0	0	1,931,734	0	0	0	0	1,931,734
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>	<b>Basis</b>		SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB	SL or RB		
<b>Rate</b>								
Balance brought forward								0
Depreciation charge for year(-)								0
Revaluations (+/-)								0
Disposals (-)								0
Transfers (+/-)								0
Balance carried forward	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net book value</b>								
Brought forward	-	-	1,494,793	-	-	-	-	1,494,793
Carried forward	-	-	1,931,734	-	-	-	-	1,931,734

### 13. Investments

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

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

Analysis of investment movements	This year	Last year
Investments listed on a recognised Stock Exchange		
Investments held in common investment funds,		
Securities not listed on a recognised Stock Exchange	8,171	8,533
Other investments		
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,171</b>	<b>8,533</b>

Change in investment values		
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	8,533	9,105
<b>Add:</b> additions to investments at cost		
<b>Less:</b> disposals at carrying value		
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation	0	-572
Carrying (market) value at end of year	8,533	8,533

14. Analysis of current assets	This year	Last year
<b>Debtors and prepayments</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Pre paid Stipends	13,546	7,901
Other prepayments	2366	3,324
Other debtors	2467	0
<b>Total debtors and prepayments</b>	<b>18,379</b>	<b>11,225</b>

#### Analysis of cash at bank

Bank balance held in Co-operative Bank plc	13,743	8,358
<b>Total Cash and Bank</b>	<b>13,743</b>	<b>8,358</b>

### 15. Analysis of current liabilities and long term creditors

Creditors	£ 4,732	1,896
Assessments in Advance	£ 42,725	42,025
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>£ 47,457</b>	<b>43,921</b>

### 16. Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2023 the Circuit had no capital commitments. (2022 - none)

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2023. (2022 - none)



## 17. Loans

Church	Purpose of loan	Amount brought forward	New borrowings	Loan interest	Repayable in the year	Balance at year end
						0
						0
						0
						0
Totals		0	0	0	0	0

## Repayment due

Due within 12 months	31/08/2024						
Due between 1 and 5 years	31/08/2025		31/08/2026		31/08/2027		31/08/2028
Due later than 5 years							

## 18. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

### Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains on revaluation	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
General	1,534,609	214,687	288,958	505,941		1,966,279	
Trust 14855 Long Term Development Reserve	154,414	11,243	11,243			154,414	Amalgamated previous Property Model Trust
Trust 6874 Unrestricted Bequests Reserve	68,915	2,186	2,186			68,915	Amalgamated previous Model Trust Bequests
Designated - Trust 14855 Long Term Development Reserve	200,000	0	0			200,000	Designated funds for capital investment
Designated - Circuit Model Trust Fund	472,814	555,321	223,028	(507,941)	(362)	296,804	
Totals	2,430,752	783,437	525,415	(2,000)	(362)	2,686,412	

### Restricted Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers		Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Trust 13535 - Training & Development Fund	1,450	56	1,668	2,000		1,838	Training of Circuit Staff - Internal Organisation
Trust 10117 George J Dyer	6,711				(285)	6,426	Support of Circuit Activities
Trust 3666 Seymour Bequest	7,161		2		(262)	6,897	Support of Youth work
Ruth Tucker Bequest		20,000	2,687			17,313	Upkeep of Wedmore graveyard, until sold
Totals	15,322	20,056	4,357	2,000	(547)	32,474	

Endowment Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital	Annual income	What the income was used for
Totals		0	0	

## DECLARATIONS

### Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of Treasurer

*Angela Wittleton*

Date

1/11/2023

Name

Mrs Angela Wittleton

Address

Drill Hall Cottage, Street Road, Glastonbury, Somerset, BA6 9EF

### Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on  
and were approved.

15th November 2023

Signature of the Chair of the  
meeting

*Rev A. Prout*

Date

15th November 2023

Name of the Chair of the  
meeting

Rev A. Prout

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

**Somerset Mendip Methodist Circuit**

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August

2023

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act.
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name

Mr Christopher Gould

Signature

*Cm Gould*

Date

1/11/2023

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Address

15 Baglyn Avenue, Kingswood, Bristol, BS15 4XS