



# The Methodist Church

## Grantham & Vale of Belvoir Circuit (22/15)

Registered Charity no 1134260

### Managing Trustees Report Sept 2020 – August 2021

#### Governance

The Grantham and Vale of Belvoir Methodist Circuit operates under the governance of the Methodist Conference. Conference is regulated by the Deed of Union 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976

#### Registration with the Charity Commission

The Grantham and Vale of Belvoir Methodist Circuit has been registered with the Charity Commission since 11th February 2010 with the number 1134260

#### Circuit Mission Statement

Our Calling is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

We will seek to do this by

- Offering the very best in WORSHIP
- Introducing JESUS as FRIEND and SAVIOUR
- Working with OTHER CHURCHES
- Respecting those with a DIFFERENT OUTLOOK
- Sharing RESOURCES and NEEDS
- Thinking GLOBALLY

#### Nature and purpose

Standing Order 500 of the Constitutional Discipline and Practice of the Methodist Church states that the circuit is the primary unit through which churches express their inter-connection in the Body of Christ for the purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help

#### Responsibilities

- provision of ministerial oversight and pastoral care to its 11 congregations through a team of 2 presbyteral ministers, 1 authorised minister, 4 supernumerary ministers, 3 supernumerary deacons and 3 lay workers
- supply of lay preachers to lead worship
- allocation of financial and other resources
- provision of advice through lay officers
- organisation of training opportunities and other special events
- maintenance of 3 circuit manses

#### Organisation

The circuit is an umbrella organisation serving 11 congregations with 329 members and with an additional number on the community roll. One congregation is a Local Ecumenical Partnership between the Methodist and United Reformed Churches

The Circuit meeting is responsible for the affairs of the Circuit and the development of policy. It exercises spiritual leadership and administrative efficiency and acts as a focal point for the working fellowship of the churches, overseeing their pastoral, training and evangelistic work. Currently 3 meetings are held each year when officers are appointed, accounts adopted, reports on circuit work received and the business of the circuit taken forward.

Between Circuit meetings the Circuit Leadership Team is responsible for the affairs of the circuit. It meets as required and consists of

**Rev. Martin Smithson and Rev. Helen Shallow**, (presbyteral ministers),

**Rev. Dr Peter Stevenson** (authorised minister)

**Pamela Harrison** (treasurer)

**Brian Mellors** (senior circuit steward),

**Susan Sulston, Marion Hingey-Hickson and Pat Hiley**(circuit stewards)

**Hilary Taylor** (circuit administrator)

### **Trustees**

The members of the Circuit meeting act as Trustees of the Circuit property. There are currently 63 trustees, being the presbyteral ministers, the supernumerary ministers and deacons, the Circuit stewards, the Circuit treasurer and other Circuit office holders, lay workers and the treasurers and stewards of each church together with representatives of its constituent congregations. The circuit administrator acts as meeting secretary

Trustees are-

Rev. Martin Smithson

Rev. Nel Shallow

Rev. Dr Peter Stevenson

Brian Mellors

Marion Hingley Hickson

Susan Sulston

Pat Hiley

Pamela Harrison

Deacon Lois Bell

Rev. Graham Coleman

Rev. Peter Sulston

Rev Raymond Hinch

Deacon Ruth Hinch

Hilary Taylor

Sarah Cody

Eleri Bristow

Peter Broekhuizen

Lynn Mellors

John Eagles

Hazel Wallis

Audrey Cawthorn

Max Teare

Ted Johnson

Helen Taylor

Jean Breckenridge

Denhys Lambley

Alison Blowers

Chris Morgan

Mark Harrison

Helen Scorrer  
Wendy Winfield  
Roger Winfield  
Michael Simpson  
John Crookes  
David Woodcock  
Anne Woodcock  
Jane Bancroft  
Paul Bancroft  
David Atkins  
Mavis Beeson  
Cynthia Prater  
John Prater  
Richard Scoffield  
Sue Barnes  
Janet Thacker  
Dorothy Jacklin  
Carol Boyle  
Kath Daw  
Hilary Strasburger  
Amy Kirton  
Christine Whittle  
Val Henstock  
Pat Whyte  
John Hunter  
Frank Hedley  
Bronwyn Hedley  
Margaret Winfield  
Geoff Cawthorn  
Elaine Robinson  
Gill Taylor  
David Taylor  
Louise Rinkert  
Rowena Ward Barrow

**Contact address**

Rev. Martin Smithson  
32 Mallow Way  
Bingham  
Nottingham  
NG13 8TZ

**Policies**

The circuit has policies in place with regards to safeguarding, disability, data protection and reserves

**Related Parties**

The Circuit forms part of the Nottingham and Derby District of the Methodist Church and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference

The Circuit comprises the following local churches

Bingham	Bottesford	ChristChurch Local Ecumenical Partnership Grantham
Colsterworth	Cropwell Bishop	Cropwell Butler
East Bridgford	Great Gonerby	Harrowby Lane Grantham
Skillington	Orston (until granted permission to cease worship April 2021)	

### **Outturn**

Over the year the Circuit received £171,662.50 income and incurred £171,821.20 expenditure, thereby running at a deficit of £158.70

Total assets stand at £554,847.75

### **Income**

The cCircuit derives its income chiefly through assessment payments from circuit churches, contributions from some churches towards the employment of lay workers and the sale of property

### **Reserves Policy**

The Circuit Reserves Policy is appended to this report

### **Independent Examiner**

Mrs Amy Kirton

### **Bank details**

#### **The Yorkshire Bank**

**10 High Street Grantham**

**Lincs**

**NG31 6PU**

## **Review of activities Sept 2020 – Aug 2021**

Covid 19 has continued to impact on activities throughout the Circuit, although there has been some return to worshipping in person. We also continue to use zoom and live-streaming technology and to provide printed material for those not on-line. Weekly worship material is also posted on the Circuit website.

The Circuit Meeting of Trustees and the Circuit Leadership Team meetings have continued via zoom

The pastoral care arrangements in our churches have continued to work well and the Circuit has distributed updated District and Connexional guidance on COVID restrictions

Our Circuit treasurer has maintained contact with church treasurers as to any financial difficulties through lack of income during the pandemic

### **Staff**

A one-year extension to the appointment of Rev. Martin Smithson as our Superintendent from September 2021 has been agreed. Martin took his 3 month sabbatical after Easter, having postponed it by a year due to the pandemic

A successful stationing process in the Autumn resulted in the appointment of Rev Neil Maynard as presbyter in the east of the Circuit from September 2021. Neil will have oversight of Harrowby Lane, Bottesford, Great Gonerby, Colsterworth and Skillington churches.

In July we said farewell to Rev Nel Shallow, thanking her for her 5 years in the Circuit

The Circuit continues to employ three lay workers, one administrator and two outreach and pastoral workers. The lay pastoral worker (East) working chiefly in Bottesford and Orston has had a successful first year, whilst working in difficult circumstances due to church closures. She has initiated a weekly newsletter to maintain contact, organised displays outside the chapel in Orston at Christmas and Easter and supported the ecumenical Nativity Windows project in Bottesford

The Families and Youth worker contract (Bingham and East Bridgford) was extended for a further 3 years from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 and the hours increased to cover additional outreach work in Flintham. The post is a collaborative venture and is jointly funded by the Circuit, Bingham and East Bridgford Methodist churches and St Marys, Bingham and the Fosse Group Anglican churches. Contact with families and school groups has been maintained and increased through "Messy Church in a Bag", Bible Explorer packs and on-line resources.

Although District approval for another lay worker has been secured it was considered prudent to further postpone recruitment due to current uncertainty around the Circuit's financial position and the need to re-assess our needs and priorities, partly as a result of the pandemic

Our former local Preacher and Circuit Steward Steve Sutton has completed his second year training for the presbyteral ministry. Another former local preacher Sarah Lamb has now been ordained and taken up a post in Lancashire

### **Churches**

Members of Orston chapel applied for permission to cease worship which was granted by the March Circuit meeting and endorsed by the April District Synod. Trusteeship of the church was transferred to the Circuit Meeting. Earlier plans to repair and refurbish the building could not be taken forward due to the Covid pandemic. There is a strong desire to maintain a Methodist fellowship within the village and to continue the well attended coffee mornings at other venues. The Circuit lay worker has supported members through this process

A final service was held at Scarrington in September and the chapel building has been sold for £111,000

### **Trusteeship**

In response to the Methodist Conference Report on oversight and trusteeship the Circuit Leadership has begun to explore possible new models for Circuit structure in anticipation of the minimum number of church trustees being increased at Conference 2021

### **Data Protection**

GDPR documentation provided by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes has been completed for the circuit and signed off at the March meeting

### **Safeguarding**

There has been a freeze on face-to-face training but a successful on-line Foundation Creating Safer Space course was held in May liaising with 2 other Circuits. Information on on-line Advanced courses provided by the District had been circulated with a list of those who needed this.

We now have 2 additional circuit members who have qualified as safeguarding trainers

### **Conference Special Resolution**

The resolution to allow other Christian churches to use Methodist premises provided they did not offend our doctrinal standards was approved

### **Hilary Taylor**

**Circuit Administrator**

# GRANTHAM AND VALE OF BELVOIR METHODIST CIRCUIT

Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021

## Income and Expenditure Account

<b>INCOME</b>	2020-21	2019-20
Assessments	152269.00	146141.00
TMCP Trust dividends	272.73	324.20
Interest	26.23	118.10
Sundries (inc. Prayer Manuals)	16.65	153.60
Bingham loan interest	485.60	537.40
Corby Glen rent net income	8384.82	11153.31
Bottesford Manse rent	7305.16	-
Foodbank reimbursement	<u>2372.31</u>	<u>-</u>
	£ 171132.50	£ 158427.61
Donations collected for leaving gift	<u>530.00</u>	<u>435.00</u>
Total Income	<u>£ 171662.50</u>	<u>£ 158862.61</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Ministers Stipends (inc Lay worker)	86931.21	107020.14
Administrator	3015.33	2639.61
District Assessment	33704.00	42000.00
Supernumerary expenses	95.70	1932.65
Youth Worker	8781.38	8597.40
Manse Expenses	18608.34	17088.46
Manse Refurbishment	12882.64	-
Admin, P & stat, photocopier hire	2245.71	3223.76
Donation to Christian Ministries Fund	-	1000.00
Youth Fund expenses	1664.20	1033.25
Foodbank expenses	-	2028.37
Scarrington expenses pd by Bingham	2872.69	-
Other expenses – Orston planning	<u>490.00</u>	<u>1804.85</u>
	£ 171291.20	£ 188368.49
Leaving Gifts	<u>530.00</u>	<u>435.00</u>
	£ 171821.20	£ 188803.49
Excess Expenditure over Income	<b>£ (158.70)</b>	<b>(29940.88)</b>
	=====	=====
Grant to C/church & H Lane	-	20000.00
	<u>£ (158.70)</u>	<u>£ (49940.88)</u>

# GRANTHAM AND VALE OF BELVOIR METHODIST CIRCUIT

## Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021

### Balance Sheet

Opening Balances as at 1.9.20

Current Account	9226.46
CFB Deposit Account	29935.35
Model Trust Fund	16827.01
Other Trusts	42852.94
Reserve Fund	<u>262334.80</u>
Total	361176.56
Loan to Bingham	62500.00
Loan to Scarrington	<u>1000.00</u>
Total Funds	424676.56
Less Excess Expenditure over Income	(158.70)
Plus increase in reserves	<u>130329.89</u>
(net Scarr. sale £86555.42)	
Total	<b>£ 554847.75</b>

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Represented by:-

Balances at 31.8.21	
Current Account	18149.25
CFB Deposit Account	45853.86
Model Trust Fund	88097.32
Other Trusts	45850.80
Reserve Fund	<u>304396.52</u>
Totals	502347.75
Loan to Bingham	<u>52500.00</u>
	<b>£ 554847.75</b>

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**Grantham and Vale of Belvoir Circuit**  
**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**  
**Reserves Policy**

**Circuit Reserves Policy**

These accounts disclose all the funds held by the Circuit Meeting as Charity Trustees. Our Reserves Policy relates to our General (unrestricted) funds, which are freely available to be used for any or all the purposes of the Circuit.

**Aims**

Our aim is:

- to secure and sustain the Circuit's viability and future.
- to give reassurance that the Circuit, which is a charity, intends to use all the money coming into its care for the purpose of the charity.

**Mission policy**

The Circuit's Mission Statement is that our calling is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. Our mission policy to this end provides:

- the ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the ten local congregations in the Circuit.
- the support of the ministry team of two presbyteral ministers, 45% of a URC minister who is AP, five supernumerary presbyters, three supernumerary deacons and three lay workers.
- the maintenance of three circuit manses - one has been let out from October 2020.

**Financial Plans**

The Circuit Assessment is reviewed annually and covers the costs associated with the Circuit's mission. Under Standing Orders, the Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its ministers and the maintenance of its manses. The total cost last financial year was £194,555 (2020 was £188,368). Model Trust Fund contributions of £15,000 have been drawn down to refurbish the Princess Drive Manse. Manse maintenance costs have been charged direct to the General Fund. Major items have been drawn down from the Model Trust Fund, with Circuit Meeting approval. We make annual provision for our Manse maintenance programme to maintain each Manse..



## **Grantham and Vale of Belvoir Circuit**

### **Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**

#### **Reserves Policy**

##### **Unrestricted Funds: General Fund:**

Our reserves Policy is to hold at least six months expenditure in hand for regular expenditure, i.e. usually about £100,000. As well as the General fund, the Circuit maintains designated funds which are also of an unrestricted nature. These designated funds are for the following purposes:

##### **Manse Fund**

To meet regular, cyclical maintenance and repairs for three manses, calculated at about 7.5% of insured value. This year, the Manses combined valuation was £809725. Therefore we need to maintain a reserve for Manses of £60729.

##### **Youth Work**

To fund circuit youth work and assist with costs such as the Youth Worker at the Western end of the Circuit, the Sutton-on-Sea trip and Stathern weekend, when they restart.

##### **Restricted Funds: The Circuit Model Trust Fund**

This fund derives from the sales of chapels and manses and its use is restricted by Conference. This restriction is a Methodist connexional regulation, but the fund may be used for a variety of purposes with appropriate approval.

##### **Investments**

The Circuit holds CFB Mixed Managed Fund Investments in order to manage medium and long term cash flows. The investment realised a gain in the year and also produces a small income. The Circuit also holds Endowments which are restricted by Trust Deeds.

##### **Charity Commission**

The Circuit is registered with the Charity Commission, reference 1134260. The Annual Report and the annual Financial Statements for the Circuit under this registration have been filed during the year, as required.

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

GRANTHAM AND VALE OF BELVOIR	Circuit
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 AUGUST 2021

NOTTINGHAM AND DERBY	District	22-15
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Circuit no

1134260
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

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

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

Ministers:

REVEREND MARTIN SMITHSON - SUPERINTENDENT
REVEREND NEIL MAYNARD

Circuit Stewards:

MR BRIAN MELLORS
MRS MARION HINGLEY-HICKSON
MRS SUSAN SULSTON
MRS PATRICIA HILEY

Treasurer:

MRS PAMELA HARRISON
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## ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

GRANTHAM AND  
VALE OF BELVOIR

Circuit

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
RECEIPTS						
a1	Assessment/Share	152269			152269	146141
a2	Capital receipts		109365		109365	
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	299	169		468	442
a4	Grants					
a5	Other receipts	18564			18564	11844
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	171132	109534		280666 (a8)	158422

SECTION B						
PAYMENTS						
b1	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs	95808			95808	107020
b2	Manse Costs	18608			18608	17088
b3	Administration etc	5261	34		5295	7423
b4	District Assessment	33704	421		34125	42000
b5	Grants & donations					21000
b6	Manse refurbishment	12883			12883	
b7	Other payments <i>Manse</i>	5027	22809		27836	13837
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	171291	23264		194555 (b9)	208868

SECTION C		NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)			
c1	Total funds brought forward from last year	(159)	86270		86111	(49911)
c2	Sub total	(c1+c2)	301497	16827		(c6)
c3	Transfers and adjustments		6762	(15000)		
c4	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	358400	88097		
c5						

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

INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING

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**Section E**

Please indicate the estimated hours to complete this section.

Summary of the Critical accounts for the year ended 31 August 2017 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it can be clearly shown that they could be used for other purposes. This section contains information about the financial position of the Internal Organisation(s) as well as the financial position of the Internal Organisation(s) which are not restricted funds. If your income exceeds the Accredited threshold of £250,000, then the form will be completed to write at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accredited threshold of £250,000, then the form will be completed to write at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accredited threshold of £250,000, then the form will be completed to write at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. Please refer to the guidance available online at [www.circuitmeeting.org.uk](http://www.circuitmeeting.org.uk) for more information (see Methodology website). Please refer to the guidance available online at [www.circuitmeeting.org.uk](http://www.circuitmeeting.org.uk) for more information (see Methodology website).

	Net Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
a1						
a2						
a3						
a4						
a5						
a6						
a7						
a8					(e1)	(e2)
a9	280666	194555	86111	52062	318324	450497
b1	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				
	280666	194555	86111	52062	318324	450497

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring

## SECTION F

## SECTION F STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD BY 24 CHURCHES	
1	Cash in hand
2	Bank Current Account
3	Bank Deposit Account
4	Central Finance Board
5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
6	Other funds
7	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>
8	Total funds held by Internal Organizations (the giving bodies total above) (12)
9	<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT</b>

## SECTION C

### OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

g.	Investments (include Endowments)
h.	Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)
i.	Other Assets
j.	Liabilities - show amount outstanding at year end
k.	Other Liabilities

<sup>56</sup> Includes only Fianza held at the Central Finance Board.

\* Do not include only CFB Funds held at Treasuries for Methodist Church Parsonages

<sup>5</sup> It includes very slight improvements (not the cash interest of TACCP that accounts this in *interest*) in line 85).

42853	45857
771167	809725
65500	52500



## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 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 P. Harrison Date 15-11-21  
 Name and address of treasurer MRS P HARRISON 9 TELFORD WAY  
COVENTRY CV4 9JH Post Code NE33 5GH

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be presented to the Circuit meeting held on 21/11/21

Signature of the Chair of the meeting M. Smith  
 Name of the Chair of the meeting MARTIN SMITHSON Date 28-2-2022

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

GRANTHAM VALE OF BELVOIR Circuit

Charity Number 1134260

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the GRANTHAM AND VALE OF BELVOIR Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages ... to .... 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.

Name of Circuit GRANTHAM & VALE OF BELVOIR No 22-15

**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 (other than that disclosed below) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

I have ~~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 ..... A. C. Kirkton .....

Name of independent examiner ..... MRS AMY KIRKTON .....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ..... / .....

Name of firm (where appropriate) .....

Address ..... SCHOOL BANK, COLSTERWORTH ROAD, SKILKINGTON .....  
..... GRANTHAM, Lincs ..... Post Code NG33 5HF .....

Date ..... 15-11-21 .....