



# The Methodist Church

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

Registered Charity no 1134260

### Managing Trustees Report Sept 2023 – August 2024

#### 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 9 congregations through a team of 2 presbyteral ministers, 1 authorised minister, 4 supernumerary ministers, 3 supernumerary deacons and 2 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, one of which is currently let

#### Organisation

The circuit is an umbrella organisation serving 9 congregations with 323 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 2 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. Tim Morris and Rev. Neil Maynard**, (presbyteral ministers),

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

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

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

**Hilary Taylor** (circuit administrator)

### **Trustees**

The members of the Circuit meeting act as Trustees of the Circuit property. There are currently 50 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. Tim Morris

Rev. Neil Maynard

Rev. Dr Peter Stevenson

Brian Mellors

Marion Hingley Hickson

Susan Sulston

Pat Hiley

Frank Hedley

Pamela Harrison

Deacon Lois Bell

Rev. Graham Coleman

Rev. Peter Sulston

Rev. Christine Fox

Hilary Taylor

Sarah Hobbs

Peter Broekhuizen

Lynn Mellors

John Eagles

Hazel Wallis

Audrey Cawthorn

Max Teare

Jean Breckenridge

Denhys Lambley

Chris Morgan

Mark Harrison

Helen Scorrer

John Crookes

David Woodcock

Anne Woodcock

Jane Bancroft

Paul Bancroft

David Atkins  
Mavis Beeson  
Cynthia Prater  
John Prater  
Richard Scoffield  
Janet Thacker  
Dorothy Jacklin  
Carole Boyle  
Amy Kirton  
Christine Whittle  
Val Henstock  
Pat Whyte  
John Hunter  
Frank Hedley  
Geoff Cawthorn  
Elaine Robinson  
Louise Ritchie  
Terry Kavanagh-Greene  
Brian Bowes

### **Contact address**

Rev. Tim Morris  
32 Mallow Way  
Bingham  
Nottingham  
NG13 8TZ

### **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 Butler	East Bridgford	Great Gonerby	Harrowby Lane
Grantham	Skillington			

### **Policies**

The following Circuit policies are in place: Mission, Reserves, Safeguarding, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Disability, Data Protection

### **Outturn**

Over the year the Circuit received £ 182284 in income and incurred £198661 expenditure, resulting in a deficit of £16377 over the year

### **Income**

The Circuit derives its income chiefly through assessment payments from circuit churches, rental income from one leased manse and one former church, contributions from some churches towards the employment of lay workers and the sale of property

## **Independent Examiner**

Mr Chris Annan

### **Bank details**

#### **Virgin Money (current account)**

**Formerly The Yorkshire Bank**

**11 Smithy Row**

**Nottingham**

**NG1 2AU**

#### **Central Finance Board (deposit account)**

#### **Central Finance Board Mixed Managed Fund**

## **Review of activities Sept 2023 – Aug 2024**

### **Lay staffing**

The Circuit continues to employ 2 lay workers, ie one administrator and a Youth and Families worker in Bingham and East Bridgford. The latter has continued her outreach work through monthly Messy Church sessions in Bingham and East Bridgford and in Bingham a Board Games Club (11-18 years) and Who let the Dads Out (male carers). Both continue to flourish. As a new venture monthly Youth Groups in Bingham and East Bridgford have made encouraging beginnings. Strong ecumenical links are maintained with St Peters East Bridgford as Sarah helps lead outreach events there and organises Messy Church events in Flintham. Links with schools are well established and Bible Explorers groups in 2 junior schools are well attended. Copies of "Jesus the living Way" have been given to those moving on to senior school. The Circuit took up the shortfall in the funding of this post caused by the Bingham Anglican church withdrawing from the scheme

During the year we began the recruitment process for a Community Evangelist to be based at Harrowby Lane church in Grantham. This culminated in 2 rounds of advertising, the second resulting in the appointment of Richard Thomas who will begin work in September 2024. We warmly welcome Richard to our Circuit

### **Worship**

With the help of visiting preachers and worship leaders offering local arrangements it has been possible to provide a full plan throughout the year. Some Circuit churches now join together for worship on some Sundays and one links with the local Anglican church

We are well served by a team of 15 qualified local preachers and 1 currently "on trial" and 7 worship leaders linked to individual churches

During the year long service certificates for 50,60 and 70 years were presented to 3 of our preachers and their contribution to our Circuit worship duly recognised

### **Stationing**

In anticipation of the retirement of our associate minister in Grantham in April 2025 consultation began as to the way forward and profiles drawn up for a part-time presbyter/deacon to serve the ChristChurch Local Ecumenical Partnership. The papers were submitted in September 2024

### **Trusteeship**

The Circuit has continued to address issues raised by the Conference resolution to raise the required number of church trustees to 12. Conversations have continued exploring ways churches with small memberships might join with others or be more closely linked

Preliminary conversation took place with the leadership of 2 neighbouring circuits to consider the possibility of merger as a means of making better use of resources available but each was discounted

### **Mission**

The Circuit Mission Policy 2023-6 was formally adopted at the beginning of the year. The Circuit Easter Offering collection in aid of World Mission realised £1260

### **Safeguarding**

The Circuit Safeguarding policy was adopted for another year and that for churches recommended by the District circulated for consideration by Church Councils

A record of DBS clearance issued to members of all churches is kept and reminders to renew on expiry are sent. During the year a further 2 members completed the Advanced Safeguarding training as appropriate to their roles. The District Safeguarding Conference on the theme of the safety in churches of minority and marginalised groups included a video prepared by a Circuit member on her positive experience and welcome as an immigrant from Hong Kong

### **Equality, Diversity and inclusion**

In line with our policy 18 people completed training as appropriate to their roles

### **General Data Protection Regulations**

The Circuit and all churches completed the annual Data Protection Checklist by the stated deadline. This is required by the Connexion and the District and confirms our practices and compliant with regulations

### **Charitable Giving**

The annual Circuit-wide collection for Methodist Homes for the Aged (MHA) realised £1376. In addition churches gave financial support to All We Can (Methodist Relief and Development) Christian Aid, Action for Children and MacMillan nurses. It is the policy of some churches to respond to the regular Disasters Emergency Committee appeals for world-wide situations as they occur

### **Property**

Preparations for the marketing of Cropwell Bishop Chapel where worship ceased last year have continued, resulting in 2 auctions on line. Neither of these were successful

During the year £15,000 was drawn down from the Model Trust Fund for refurbishment in both occupied manses, in line with our duty of care to our ministers

### **Circuit events**

A study Day was organised by the Local Preachers group led by Canon Gale Richards. This was well attended and much appreciated

The annual Circuit family outing to Sutton-on-Sea in August, was once again organised by the Circuit Education and Youth committee which supports outreach in 5 of our churches

The Easter Offering dedication service was a good time of fellowship with members from all 9 churches taking part

Hilary Taylor

Circuit Administrator, on behalf of the Trustees

June 2025

## Grantham and Vale of Belvoir Circuit

### Treasurer's Report Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

I am pleased to report that the Circuit finances remain in a relatively satisfactory state in spite of ending the financial year with expenditure exceeding income by £16,377.28 whilst our assets have increased by just short of £6000.

Turning to the Income and Expenditure account our total income was slightly below budget which can be explained by the rent receivable from the tenant of Corby Glen being currently in arrears. This has been slightly offset by higher income on our CFB and TMCP investments and deposits than we expected. This financial year was the first year in which we have used the income from the general reserve account to help keep the increases in church assessments to a manageable level.

During the year we also lost the contribution from Bingham Parish Church towards the cost of the Youth and Family Worker.

The overall higher expenditure can be attributed to increased employment costs and improvements to both of the occupied manses. The Bingham manse has had a new patio and steps constructed to address concerns raised in the quinquennial report and the Harrowby Lane manse has had new fencing and gates to improve security. A final amount in respect of the Bingham work has been paid since the year end and it is proposed that a sum of £15,000 be drawn down from the Model Trust Fund to cover this expenditure.

Our total assets now stand at £726,210.19 an increase of £5,698.07. In addition to the loss on the general account, Nottingham & Derby District MC raised a levy of £9,301.85 on the Model Trust Fund for the District Advance Fund during the year and the amount of interest transferred from the reserve account was £9,574.61. However the increase in the value of investments contributed to the overall increase in asset value

I would like to thank all church stewards, leadership teams and treasurers for supporting the work of the circuit with particular regard to finances. You have made my job far easier than it may otherwise have been.

Brian Mellors

**Circuit Treasurer**

**GRANTHAM AND VALE OF BELVOIR METHODIST CIRCUIT**  
**Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024**  
**Income and Expenditure Account**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
Assessments	121,433.65	126,000.00	132,980.00
Contributions for Youth Worker	20,000.00	22,300.00	22,300.00
TMCP Trust dividends	10,287.80	6,000.00	623.41
Interest	3,587.92	600.00	2,164.96
Sundries (inc. Prayer Manuals)	(37.25)	-	153.55
Bingham loan interest	1,476.65	350.00	1,474.10
Corby Glen rent net income	10,564.97	15,000.00	18,091.00
Bottesford Manse net income	14,970.00	14,820.00	11,397.69
Orston Surplus Cash	-	-	900.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£182,283.74	£185,070.00	£190,084.71
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income	£182,283.74	£185,070.00	£190,084.71
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Ministers Stipends (inc Lay worker 2022)	83,660.38	82,000.00	80,985.97
Youth Worker	24,238.80	23,400.00	22,617.64
Administrator	4,534.80	4,875.00	4,622.52
District Assessment	42,012.00	42,012.00	36,540.00
Investment Property Expenses	6,140.06	2,856.00	6,593.15
Supernumerary expenses	772.50	1,500.00	1,046.00
Manse Expenses	18,015.37	20,000.00	23,094.58
Manse Refurbishment	11,478.67	-	-
Admin, P & stat, photocopier hire	214.95	3,000.00	1,272.39
Youth Fund expenses	1,858.06	2,500.00	2,587.56
Orston ins and refund	-	-	-
Sundries	5,735.43	2,500.00	7,527.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£198,661.02	£184,643.00	£186,887.31
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£198,661.02	£184,643.00	£186,887.31
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Excess Income over expenditure	-£16,377.28	£427.00	£3,197.40

**GRANTHAM AND VALE OF BELVOIR METHODIST CIRCUIT**

**Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024**

**Balance Sheet**

<b>Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Reserve Fund</b>	<b>Model Trust Fund</b>	<b>Endowments</b>	<b>Bingham Loan</b>
<b>Balance 01.09.23</b>	720,512.12	114,516.31	292,420.64	236,036.98	45,038.19	32,500.00
Income	196,714.32	171,995.94	10,408.01	12,291.34	2,019.03	
Expenditure	-200,293.04	-198,661.02	-833.40	-672.71	-125.91	
Movement In Valuation	18,578.64		17,250.59		1,328.05	
District Levy	-9,301.85			-9,301.85		
Loan Repayments/Loan Granted	0.00	6,765.00				-10,000.00
Transfers	0.00	10,287.80	-9,574.61		-713.19	
<b>Balance 31.08.24</b>	<b>£726,210.19</b>	<b>£104,904.03</b>	<b>£309,671.23</b>	<b>£238,353.76</b>	<b>£47,546.17</b>	<b>£22,500.00</b>

**Cash, Investments and Assets at 31.08.24**

Virgin Money Current Account	35,703.13
CFB Deposit	69,200.90
Tmcp	595,571.16
Bingham /Skillington Loan	25,735.00
	<b>£726,210.19</b>



**THE METHODIST CHURCH**  
**STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

Grantham and Vale of Belvoir

Circuit

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31 August 2024**

Nottingham and Derby

District

Circuit no

22/15

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134260

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 TIMOTHY MORRIS

REVEREND NEIL MAYNARD

Circuit Stewards:

MR BRIAN MELLORS

MRS MARION HINGLEY HINKSON

MRS SUSAN SULSTON

MRS PATRICIA HILEY

MR FRANK HEDLEY

Treasurer:

MR BRIAN MELLORS

20ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2024

Grantham and Vale of Belvoir

Circuit

SECTION A			Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1	Assessment/Share		121,434			121,434	132,980
a3	Capital receipts		6,765			6,765	10,000
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		13,875	12,291		26,166	13,690
a5	Grants						
a6	Other receipts		46,974			46,974	46,249
a7	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>189,048</b>	<b>12,291</b>		<b>201,339 (a8)</b>	<b>202,919</b>

SECTION B							
	PAYMENTS						
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs		110,790			110,790	106,224
b3	Manse Costs		24,196			24,196	17,487
b4	Administration etc		7,157	673		7,830	8,798
b5	District Assessment		42,012	9,301		51,313	45,979
b6	Grants & donations		1,000			1,000	1,000
b7	Church Sales Levy						
b8	Other payments		13,506			13,506	11,764
b9	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>198,661</b>	<b>9,974</b>		<b>208,635 (b9)</b>	<b>191,252</b>

SECTION C							
	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	(9,613)	2,317		(7,296)	11,667
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		177,096	236,037		413,133 (c6)	634,327
c3	<b>Sub total</b>	<b>(c1+c2)</b>	<b>167,483</b>	<b>238,354</b>		<b>405,837</b>	<b>645,994</b>
c4	Transfers and adjustments					(c7)	(232,861)
c5	<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>(c3+c4)</b>	<b>167,483</b>	<b>238,354</b>		<b>405,837 (c8)</b>	<b>413,133</b>

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



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

## SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

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

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts		Payments		Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances	
e1									
e2									
e3									
e4									
e5									
e6									
e7									
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds							(e11)	(e12)
e9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)								
	201,339	(a8)	208,635	(b9)	(7,296)	(c7)	413,133	(c6)	405,837 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT								
	201,339		208,635		(7,296)		413,133	(x)	405,837 (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward		TOTAL RECEIPTS		TOTAL PAYMENTS				

## SECTION F

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

## CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2024

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	16,960	35,703
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	97,556	69,201
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	298,617	300,933
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	413,133 (c6)	405,837 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	413,133 (x)	405,837 (y)

## SECTION G

## OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	274,879	294,638
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,103,362	2,986,410
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	32,500	25,735
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer

Date 21/2/25

Name and address of treasurer

BRIAN MEWLODS

5 Buckingham Drive

OFFER SAXONDALE NOTTINGHAM

Post Code NG12 2NE

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were/will be\* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 14th March, 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev. TIM MORRIS

Date

14th June 2025

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

GRANTHAM AND 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 2024 set out on pages 1. to 5. 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



