

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT

England & Wales · Charity number 1134270

Details

Other names STOCKPORT METHODIST CIRCUIT, United Stockport Circuit

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-02-11

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address c/o Tiviot Dale Methodist Church
Tiviot Dale
Stockport
SK1 1TA

Phone 03000110015

Email admin@stockportcircuit.org.uk

Website www.stockportcircuit.org.uk

Activities

Objects: The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of -(a) the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church;(b) any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;(c) any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;(d) any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.

Activities: Religious Activities

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Stockport

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£552,975	£2,523,852	£6,492,078	9
2023-08-31	£2,057,104	£725,287	£7,514,369	13
2022-08-31	£581,121	£596,839	£2,359,248	6
2021-08-31	£738,902	£544,607	£2,897,015	6
2020-08-31	£475,718	£369,412	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Goodall		2023-12-01
Anne Wilde		2025-06-18
Bernard Rowlands		2019-09-01
Catherine Faulkner		2025-04-10
Colin Lewis		2022-05-19
David Bryant		2020-09-01
Deacon Janet Amey		2022-09-01
Dr Deborah Pauline Mary Symmons		2020-09-01
Dr Phil Le Sueur		2020-09-01
EDDIE PARTINGTON		
Elaine Cleary		2024-04-08
Elizabeth Delafield		2023-02-15
Graham Clarke		2020-09-01
Helen Stocks		2020-10-29
IAN ERIC CHESTERS		2019-09-01
JAYNE QUINN		2019-09-01
Jane Hollins		2019-09-01
Janet Lynne Tate		2025-09-17
Jason Smith		2023-12-01
Jennifer Crutchley		2020-09-01
JoAnne Roy		2022-03-22
John Owens		2020-09-01
John Purves		2020-09-01
Judith Adshead		2019-09-01
Judith Laycock Deacon		2024-01-01
Judith Mottram		2018-03-12
Kenneth Street		2023-12-01

Name	Role	Appointed
Lynne Styles		2020-09-01
MARGARET FOLEY		
Martyn Christopher Bennett		2025-04-10
Meryl Blackburn		2020-09-01
Michael Ball		2022-09-01
Penny Ollerenshaw		2019-09-01
Peter Johnson		2020-09-01
Philip Singleton		2020-09-01
Prof Hugh McLaughlin		2014-01-23
Rev Dr Raj Bharat Patta		2018-03-12
Rev Ian Hamilton		2020-09-01
Rev Katie Smith		2020-09-01
Rev Michael Aspinall		2021-11-09
Richard Goodall		2020-09-01
Robert Ollerenshaw		2020-09-01
SUSAN AINSWORTH		
Sharon Heginbotham		2024-05-01
Sue Jones		2018-03-12
Viki Packman		2025-04-10

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134270

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1134270

Report of the Trustees
for the Year ended 31 August 2024
for
United Stockport Circuit

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities 'Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2015' as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRSSE) 2015.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number 1134270

Principal address

United Stockport Circuit
Circuit Office
Tiviot Dale Methodist Church
Tiviot Dale
Stockport
SK1 1TA

Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Charity Trustees. A full list of trustees is at Annex A to this report.

Accountant and Auditor

McKellens Limited
Chartered Accountants
11 Riverview
The Embankment Business Park
Vale Road
Heaton Mersey
Stockport
SK4 3GN

Advisers

The charity's investment managers are:

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ.
The Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, 9 Bonhill Street, London, EC2A 4PE

The following ministers acted throughout the year:

Rev. Catherine Bird (Superintendent)
Rev. Lindsay Kemp
Rev. Dr. Raj Patta
Rev. Dr. Katharine Smith
Deacon Janet Amey
Deacon Judith Laycock

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The charitable trust is constituted by the Deed of Union 1932, the Methodist Church Act 1976, is part of the Methodist Church of UK. The trustees listed have served throughout the year. Appointment of trustees is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976. The Managing Trustees of Churches and the Circuit are empowered by our Standing Orders to appoint new trustees and to fill vacancies arising through resignation or death of an existing trustee.

Circuit Managing Trustees have regular meetings where the Circuit's main areas of activity and by extension the aims of the charity are discussed and agreed. The day to functioning of the circuit is governed by Standing Orders as set out in the Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church. The charitable trust is registered with the Charity Commission.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

It is incredibly difficult comparing one financial year with another given the selling of circuit property, however it is important to try and find a straightforward way to work out what the 'day-to-day' costs are. The principle of seeking to strip out the property sales and one-off payments has been adopted. The key message is that 'normal' Circuit expenditure is significantly higher than 'normal' Circuit income. The numbers presented in this overview provide an indication of the financial position of the circuit but trying to pin down the exact numbers in respect of the 'day-to-day' Circuit income and expenditure is highly complex and time consuming.

For 2023-24 the 'normal' deficit was £54,659¹ together with a reduction in the designated unrestricted funds of £60,000 (Town Centre Ministry, Mission Fund and Sponsorship Project). New designated unrestricted funds have been created (Manse Maintenance and Hong Kong Fellowship) so the overall decrease in designated funds was £8,000. The 'normal' income also included £50,000 interest generated from the sale of property.

A straightforward comparison with 2022-23 is difficult with significant costs in preparing for the sale of property and substantial repairs on manses. Following a similar argument to 2023-24 there was a deficit of £209,000 in 2022-23 with the designated unrestricted fund decreasing by £64,000.

Ministerial stipends remained the same throughout the year. The Circuit has continued to employ two part-time lay employees, as Circuit Administration Manager and Circuit Premises Administration Support Worker.

The manse at Mile End Lane has been occupied by tenants since October 2023.

¹ The figure presented is the change in the general fund (unrestricted) and Circuit Model Trust (unrestricted) excluding all capital receipts and costs, return of pension (£98k) and pension interest (£8k) and model trust levy.

For 23-24 this results in income of £425,240

The expenditure was £479,899

Resulting in a deficit of £54,659

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Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The sales of the manse at Stiles Avenue, St John's MC and Trinity MC all completed within this connexional year and as a result the bridging loan from MCA limited was discharged. Methodist connexional levies were paid on the sales of St John's MC and Trinity MC of a total of £1,903,444. No connexional levy was paid on the sale of the manse at Stiles Avenue as this was sold in order to fund the purchase of the Acton Close Manse.

The total assessment levied on the churches was £279,619. The Circuit made an operating loss in the year of £113,254 and drew down a further £66,230 from reserves as planned to cover the costs of the Town Centre Project (including the ministry costs) and the Hong Kong Fellowship. The total income and expenditure account for the year is detailed in the financial statements.

The total value of manse and church property managed by the Circuit decreased in the year by £4,569,978 due to the sales detailed above and to the revaluation of Tiviot Dale Methodist Church.

The circuit received a payment of £98,101.15 from the connexional pension fund as a repayment (plus interest of £8396.64) of the amount given to that fund in the connexional year 2021/22.

The circuit has commitments of £442,219 to fund the remaining three years of the commitment to the town centre ministry, the commitment (over the coming four years) to the Hong Kong Fellowship, the grant fund and a manse maintenance fund.

Reserves policy

The Managing Trustees have reviewed the major risks which the charity faces and consider that there are none which would stop the charity from maintaining its objects. Assessments from individual churches have been agreed for the forthcoming year. It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds at a reasonable level to cover unforeseen expenses. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs for at least 6 months.

Funds available are sufficient to permit the trust to continue in operation in the medium term, given the agreed assessments of the individual churches and the Connexional nature of its governance. The trustees review the major risks which the charity faces and consider that there are none which would stop the charity from maintaining its objects. Support from individual churches has been promised for the forthcoming year.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Safeguarding

The Circuit is committed to ensuring the implementation of the Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance, and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

Investment Powers

The Methodist Church Act 1976 authorises the trustees to make and hold investments using the general and other funds of the charity, and such investments are presently held and shown within the financial statements at their current value.

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives and aims of the Managing Trustees are to oversee and further the work of the Methodist Church. To this end, those activities which come within the oversight of the Managing Trustees are to provide ministerial oversight, manage circuit property including manses, contribute, as agreed, to District and Connexional assessments and be mindful of development opportunities for the Circuit. In order to do this the Managing Trustees, raise assessments on individual Methodist Churches in the United Stockport area in accordance with Standing Orders. They may also make grants to individual churches for property, Ministry and Mission as permitted and governed by the Standing Orders. The Managing Trustees believe that these activities and the church resources are for the public benefit as, through its work the Managing Trustees enable pastoral ministry, spiritual engagement and contribute to community development in the United Stockport area. The Managing Trustees have noted the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

The United Stockport Circuit continues to oversee a wide range of mission related activities, mostly undertaken by the member churches throughout the borough of Stockport.

At the Town Centre premises, known as Tiviot Dale, the circuit's community café provides a welcome, a meal and social space for people who are homeless, at risk of homelessness and otherwise disadvantaged. Around the circuit the staff continue to offer wide ranging input of a pastoral and practical nature to the churches to support good governance and mission outreach. The churches host bible study and fellowship groups; parent and toddler groups; a welcome space for asylum seekers housed in a local hotel; an activity group for adults with learning disabilities; dementia cafes; film clubs; craft spaces and a wide variety of other activities. Most church buildings are used to host a wide range of community organisations who benefit from good quality and affordable space.

The circuit works closely within the Manchester and Stockport District of the Methodist Church, and within the structures of the national Methodist Church, benefitting from training, ministry and governance resources.

The Circuit completed the process of applying to the Home Office to become a Community Refugee Sponsorship organization and welcomed a family under the scheme. A dedicated group from around the circuit have offered significant support to the family in settling in and accessing services in the UK.

The circuit hosted two "mission forums" to enable churches to share the highlights of their mission with one another and to hear about different models of sharing governance and worship between churches. Recognising that in the medium term, a reduction in ministry is required in order to reduce the ongoing deficit, the circuit began work on a strategy document to enable this to be implemented whilst maintaining sustainable ministerial roles.

The circuit continued to promote environmental issues with the adoption of a comprehensive eco policy.

A lot of the work in the circuit is done on a voluntary basis and includes that of Circuit and church officers, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, members, and secretaries of all the church committees and those assisting in running children's work etc. Ministerial and lay staff members, along with volunteers within the church, continue to undergo Safeguarding training. The connexion have introduced EDI (Equality, Diversity & Inclusion) Training and this is being rolled out to the relevant officers, with plans to enable in-person as

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

well as online engagement with this material.

Transforming Church and Communities have been retained to manage day-to-day circuit finances, and the current account has been transferred to CAF bank. These changes have enabled much more effective monitoring of the circuit finances.

From a financial perspective, the Managing Trustees consider that the performance of the charity this year has been satisfactory given work in previous years to identify and understand the deficit. The sale of properties and the repayment from the pension fund have resulted in a cash fund that provides a reserve against future deficits as well as ensuring that planned activities are covered. Stipends and salaries have been covered, Circuit property managed and kept in reasonable repair, and external expenses (including the District assessment) covered. The trustees recognise that this reserve is subject to a district levy and whilst enabling continuing operations in the short term, it is finite and day-to-day expenses continue to significantly outstrip operating income. As such the trustees continue to be engaged in a programme of reviewing the life of the circuit and the level of ministry and other employment to work towards a position that is sustainable in the long term, and commit to making a detailed report of the plan going forward to the circuit meeting in March 2026.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

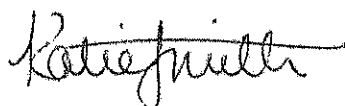
The trustees are responsible for preparing this report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The statements must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the Circuit Meeting on 30th June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev. Dr Katharine Smith

Appendix A

Managing Trustees 2023/24

The trustees are the members of the Circuit Meeting as set out below as at 31 August 2024:

Circuit Staff	Rev. Catherine Bird (Superintendent), Rev. Lindsay Kemp, Rev. Dr. Raj Patta, Rev. Dr. Katharine Smith, Maggie Thompson, Janet Amey, Judith Laycock.
Circuit Stewards	Jayne Quinn, Carol Jack, Richard Goodall, Anne Goodall, Richard Price, Michael Aspinall
Sec. of Circuit mtg	
Sec. of Preachers' meeting	Liz Delafield
Circuit Treasurer	Jason Smith
Circuit Property Sec	
Circuit Safeguarding	Hugh McLaughlin
District Rep (Lay)	Andrew Stoker
Davenport	Judith Mottram, Eddie Partington, Colin Lewis
Dialstone Lane	Catriona Stoker, Jane Hollins, Dave Bryant
Edgeley	Mavis Hammond, Penny Ollerenshaw, Margaret Foley
Hazel Grove	Jayne Quinn, Ian Chester, Judith Adshead
Heaton Mersey	Julie Dickson, Sue Ainsworth, Anne Cowlshaw
Heaton Moor	Sue Jones, Deborah Symmons, Carol Jack
Marple	Phil Le Sueur, Philip Singleton, Meryl Blackburn
Romiley	John Owens, Jennifer Crutchley, Richard Goodall
The Ridge	Peter Johnson, Bob Ollerenshaw, Janet Fidler
Windlehurst	Bernie Rowlands, Graham Clarke, Helen Stocks
Woodley	John Purves, Lynne Styles, Elaine Cleary

United Stockport Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the United Stockport Circuit

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the United Stockport Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activity, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards comprising Charities SORP – FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) as amended by the requirements of Methodist Conference.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

United Stockport Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the United Stockport Circuit

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Charities Act 2011

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' Remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' Report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 8], the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

United Stockport Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the United Stockport Circuit

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation and data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- that identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- understanding the design of the charity's remuneration policies.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify and unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining accounting estimates set were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the charity's legal advisors.


A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

United Stockport Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the United Stockport Circuit

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the trustees, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



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Paul Roper (Senior Statutory Auditor)
McKellens Ltd
11 Riverview
The Embankment Business Park
Vale Road
Heaton Mersey
Stockport
SK4 3GN

30th June 2025

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1	Donations and legacies	5,160		2,461			7,620
2	Income from monetary investments	4,256	58,326		617		63,199
3a	Income from investment properties	8,100					8,100
3b	Income from fixed asset properties	64,675					64,675
4	Assessments on Churches	279,619					279,619
5	Capital Receipts						0
	7						
6	Grants received				12,000		12,000
7	Other charitable income	13,201	98,101				111,302
7a	Service	4,506					4,506
7b	Sponsorship				1,953		1,953
8	Total income	379,517	156,427	2,461	14,570	-	552,975
Expenditure							
9	Grants and donations	2,497	601	75			3,173
10	Salaries and associated costs	249,453		38,825	6,791		295,069
11	Property maintenance	98,614		8,511			107,125
12	Connexional assessment & model trust levy		1,903,444				1,903,444
13	District Assessment & Levy	72,068					72,068
14	Depreciation						0
15	Office expenses	10,814					10,814
15a	Interest payable			4,340			4,340
16	Other outgoings	59,329	43,771	10,078	14,641		127,819
17	Total charitable expenditure	492,776	1,947,816	61,828	21,432	0	2,523,852
18	Gains/(losses) on sale of fixed assets		299,598				299,598
19	Gains/(losses) on investment properties		2,099,815				2,099,815
20	Net income/(expenditure)	-113,259	608,024	-59,368	-6,862	0	428,536
21	Transfers between funds	15	2,847,759	2,796,124	51,628	6	0
22	Other gains/(losses)	8	1,450,826				-1,450,826
23	Net movement in funds	-4,411,844	3,404,148	-7,740	-6,855	0	-1,022,291
24	Total funds brought forward	7,021,780	24,033	449,989	18,597	-	7,514,399
25	Total funds carried forward	2,609,936	3,428,181	442,219	11,742	-	6,492,078

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
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1		10					10
2		6,003	3,130		623		9,755
3a		4,850					4,850
3b		27,143					27,143
4		298,047					298,047
5	7	1,579,187	24,245				1,603,432
6		1,000					1,000
7		13,443					13,443
7a		90,920					90,920
7b					8,504		8,504
8		2,020,603	27,375	-	9,127	-	2,057,104
Expenditure							
9		2,266					2,266
10		304,384		36,997			341,381
11		225,522		7,558			233,080
12		-	6,532				6,532
13		70,818					70,818
14							0
15		25,257					25,257
15a				15,885			15,885
16		24,943	466	3,601	1,058		30,068
17		653,190	6,998	64,041	1,058	0	725,287
18		-10					-10
19							
20		1,367,403	20,377	-64,041	8,069	0	1,331,808
21	16	-204,000	-160,000	364,000			0
22	8	-3,017,903					-3,017,903
							0
23		-1,854,500	-139,623	299,959	8,069	0	-1,686,095
24		8,876,280	163,656	150,000	10,528		9,200,464
25		7,021,780	24,033	449,959	18,597	-	7,514,369

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2023/24 £	Totals 2022/23 £
			Note 15	Note 15			
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses & Churches	9	2,794,051				2,794,051	4,495,428
Investment properties	10	165,000				165,000	3,033,601
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		2,959,051	0	0	0	2,959,051	7,529,029
Current Assets							
Debtors	11	83,895			0	83,895	29,752
Loans by the Circuit						0	1,800
Investments with TMCP			3,428,181	11,742		3,439,923	35,183
Central Finance Board Deposits		-105,132	145,925			40,793	172,986
Cash at Bank and In hand		-225,976	296,294			70,318	34,311
Total current assets		-267,413	3,428,181	442,219	11,742	3,614,729	274,031
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	12	81,702				81,702	26,191
Grants payable within 2022-23		0				0	0
Total current liabilities		81,702	0	0	0	81,702	26,191
Net current assets/liabilities		-349,115	3,428,181	442,219	11,742	3,533,028	247,841
Total assets less current liabilities		2,609,936	3,428,181	442,219	11,742	6,492,078	7,776,870
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23		0		0		0	
Loans to the Circuit		0				0	262,500
Net assets		2,609,936	3,428,181	442,219	11,742	6,492,078	7,514,370
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		2,609,936				2,609,936	7,021,780
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			3,428,181			3,428,181	24,033
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				442,219		442,219	449,959
Total Unrestricted Funds						6,480,337	7,495,772
Restricted Funds				11,742		11,742	18,597
Endowment Funds					0	0	0
Total Funds		2,609,936	3,428,181	442,219	11,742	6,492,078	7,514,369

Signed



Circuit Treasurer

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 August 2024

Statement of cash flows	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
Cash from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities		-1,811,389	-148,572
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		-135,974	-41,758
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		551,847	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment			
Purchase of intangible assets			
Proceeds from the sale of investments			
Purchase of investments			
Other			
Net cash provided by investing activities		5,382,443	-41,758
Cash flows from financing activities			
New borrowing			
Repayments of borrowing		-262,500	
Net cash used in financing activities		-262,500	0
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		3,308,554	-190,330
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		242,480	432,810
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		3,551,034	242,480
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities			
Net income for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)		-1,022,290	-1,686,095
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation and amortisation charges			
Profit on the sale of fixed assets		-299,598	
Loss on the sale of fixed assets			
Profit on the sale of investment properties		-2,099,816	
Gains on investments			
Revaluations of properties			
Impairment of investment property		1,450,975	3,017,903
PYA to P&L re loan			
Capital receipt of church(es) transferred in			-1,535,720
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		135,974	41,758
Decrease/(increase) in stocks		0	0
(increase)/decrease in debtors		-32,144	1,881
increase/(decrease) in creditors		55,511	11,701
Net cash used in operating activities		-1,811,389	-148,572
Analysis of cash and cash equivalent			
Cash in hand		70,318	34,311
Short term deposit (less than 3 months)		3,480,716	208,169
Total cash and cash equivalents		3,551,034	242,480

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 applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 as modified by the requirements of the Methodist Church.

2 Funds

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Circuit. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

There are no Endowment funds.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

The United Stockport Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to the accounts.

Consolidation

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

Going concern

Despite ongoing deficits, the charity has substantial reserves and high levels of assets. The trustees are confident that the charity can continue to operate for a number of years.

Incoming Resources

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.

Where gifts in kind are received, these are included in donations. In 2023/24 one of the organisations renting rooms at Tiviot Dale Methodist Church paid for work on those rooms at a cost of £4,206. Also in 2023/24 a minister has declined to accept preaching fees of £390. Both of these have been recognised as gifts in kind.

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.

VAT

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

Notes to the Accounts

3 Accounting policies continued...

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.

Pensions

The accounts include costs relating to pension contributions for the year of £46,834 on behalf of employees. Two schemes were contributed to: payments of £5,182 to a defined contribution scheme for layworkers and £41,651 to the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme (MMPS), a defined benefit scheme for ministers.

For the defined contribution scheme, the charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

The MMPS should be accounted for as a group plan as all the participating employers, namely the circuits and Council, are under the common control of the Conference. Because it is part of a multi-employer scheme and the information specific to this charity is not available, the payments have also been accounted for as a defined contribution scheme in accordance with the Charities SORP.

At the last triennial valuation 31 August 2020, the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme was in deficit by £14m. The Methodist Council agreed a recovery plan and long term funding objective for the Scheme in April 2022. The Recovery Plan consists of conditional payments over 6 years funded from the Pension Reserve Fund of The Methodist Church in Great Britain. There is no contractual agreement or stated policy for charging the defined benefit costs of the plan as a whole to individual circuits and other participating employers; such decision would be made by the Conference.

Ministers' manse costs

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

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

Properties are shown in the accounts at cost or, when cost is not known, at 'Deemed Cost'. Guidance issued by the Methodist Church in October 2019 "Accounting for Tangible Fixed Assets" states that Deemed Cost is the insured value at 1st September 2015. The land component is not given as a separate amount.

No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the buildings (on the assumption that they had reached the end of their useful economic lives by the year-end) to be not less than the current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Investment Properties

From time to time the Circuit may be required to assume responsibility for Church premises following closure and cessation of worship. This resulting in the Circuit becoming Managing Trustees for the property. This property is included in the accounts as investment property until the future of the property is determined or the property is sold. Properties are included at the lower of cost and realisable value. When cost is not known, properties are included at 'Deemed Cost' using the same principles for calculating Deemed Cost as noted in the Tangible Fixed Assets accounting policy above. Investment properties are reviewed for impairment.

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.

Notes to the Accounts

4 Payment to Trustees and related party transactions

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting. This excludes stipends.

Trustee expenses

	2023/24	2022/23
Number of Trustees	12	12
Total amount	£14,824	£9,182

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel, circuit administration costs, property costs and costs associated with the Sponsorship Scheme.

The Circuit has engaged the bookkeeping services of 'Transforming Churches and Communities ("TCC")', a charity piloted by the Methodist Church of Great Britain and formed as a new independent organisation. C Bird, a trustee of the Circuit, is also a trustee of TCC. During 2023/24, fees of £7,500 were payable to TCC (2022/23 £8,250).

C Bird is also a trustee of the Manchester and Stockport District, to whom the district assessment assessment is payable each year. The Manchester and Stockport District made a contribution of £13,201 (2022/23 £13,318) to the charity in respect of time committed by C Bird to her work with the District.

5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	3,900	3,900
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	NIL	NIL

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:	2023/24	2022/23
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£ 226,907	266,422
Employer's National Insurance costs	£ 20,996	22,419
Pension costs	£ 47,166	46,834
Total staff costs	£ <u>295,069</u>	<u>335,675</u>

Average number of employees in the year were: 9 13

The salaries of lay staff who are employed by churches are paid by The Methodist Church centrally. This cost is then charged to the Circuit and recharged to the churches. Because of this, in the current year, these costs have been excluded from staff costs and the corresponding income also excluded.

7 Capital Receipts

There were no capital receipts during 2023/24. In the prior year, capital receipts includes £1,535,720 being the Deemed Cost of Jubilee Church, Marple which came under the managing trusteeship of the Circuit during that year. Also included in 2022/23 are amounts in respect of the closure of the bank account held by Trinity Church and the Circuit's share of funds on the closure of Christ Church Reddish.

8 Other gains/(losses)

Other gains/(losses) relates to an impairment in value that has been recognised in respect of Tiviot Dale Church.

In 2022/23, other gains/(losses) related to impairments in value that have been recognised in respect of St John's Church and Jubilee Church, Marple. St John's Church was sold shortly after the year end and the impairment recognises the sale proceeds received. A valuation of Jubilee Church was undertaken in January 2024 and an impairment recognised to reflect this valuation.

Notes to the Accounts

9 Tangible Fixed Assets
Cost or valuation

	Churches	Manses	Other buildings	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	1,960,975	2,534,453	-	-	-	4,495,428
Additions		-				-
Revaluations (+/-)						-
Impairment (-)	- 1,450,975					- 1,450,975
Disposals (-)		- 250,402				- 250,402
Transfers * (+/-)						-
Balance carried forward	510,000	2,284,051	-	-	-	2,794,051

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for year (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers* (+/-)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	-	-	-	-	-	-

Net book value

Brought forward	1,960,975	2,534,453	-	-	-	4,495,428
Carried forward	510,000	2,284,051	-	-	-	2,794,051

The church included as a tangible fixed asset in the Circuit's accounts is Tiviot Dale Methodist Church in Stockport.

Also included in tangible fixed assets are 7 manses (2023: 8). Two of the manses are leasehold buildings and the remainder are freehold buildings. The Deemed Cost of leasehold property at the year end is £638,783 (2023: £638,783). One manse was sold during the year.

Notes to the Accounts

10 Investment assets

	Churches	Manses	Other buildings	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	3,033,601	-	-	-	-	3,033,601
Additions		-				-
Revaluations (+/-)						-
Impairment (-)						0
Disposals (-)	- 2,868,601					- 2,868,601
Transfers * (+/-)						-
Balance carried forward	165,000	-	-	-	-	165,000

The churches included as investment assets in the Circuit's accounts include 1 church at the year end (2023: 3) being Jubilee Church, Marple. This church came under the managing trusteeship of the Circuit on 13 June 2023. An impairment to the Deemed Cost of this church was recognised in the 2022/23 accounts in light of a valuation undertaken during 2023/24.

Trinity Methodist Church and St John's Church were sold during the year.

11 Debtors and Prepayments

	2023/24	2022/23
Debtors (church assessments and recharges)	£ 27,520	10,141
Stipends paid in advance by churches	£ 17,370	19,611
Other prepayments and accrued income	£ 18,806	
Total debtors	£ <u>63,695</u>	<u>29,752</u>

12 Creditors

	2023/24	2022/23
Creditors	£ 64,333	13,807
Accruals	£ 17,368	12,384
Total creditors	£ <u>81,702</u>	<u>26,191</u>

13 Loans to the circuit

	2023/24	2022/23
Methodist Chapel Aid	£ -	262,500
Total loans to the circuit	£ <u>-</u>	<u>262,500</u>

The Circuit took out a loan from Methodist Chapel Aid to assist with the purchase a manse, whilst awaiting the sale proceeds from sale of a separate manse.

14 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2024 there are no capital commitments and no contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2024.

Notes to the Accounts

15 Analysis of restricted and designated funds 2023/24

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Other gains/(losses)	Transfers	Closing Balance
Unrestricted funds						
General Fund	7,021,780	379,517	-492,776	-1,450,826	-2,847,758	2,609,936
Circuit Model Trust	24,033	2,555,841	-1,947,816		2,796,124	3,428,181
Unrestricted designated funds						
USC Mission fund	150,000		-75			149,925
Stockport town centre ministry	290,959	598	-56,082			235,475
USC Sponsorship Scheme	9,000	-	-3,244			5,756
Manse maintenance fund					21,628	21,628
Hong Kong Fellowship		1,863	-2,428		30,000	29,435
Designated	449,959	2,461	-61,829	-	51,628	442,219
Total unrestricted	7,495,772	2,937,818	-2,502,421	- 1,450,826	- 6	6,480,337
Restricted Funds						
Funds held by TMCP	11,151	617	-32	-	6	11,742
Stockport town centre ministry		1,000	-1,000	-	-	0
USC Sponsorship Scheme	7,446	1,954	-9,400	-	-	0
Hong Kong Fellowship		11,000	-11,000	-	-	0
Total restricted	18,597	14,571	-21,432	-	6	11,742
Total funds	7,514,369	2,952,389	-2,523,852	- 1,450,826	- 0	6,492,078

Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2022/23

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Other gains/(losses)	Transfers	Closing Balance
Unrestricted funds						
General Fund	8,876,280	2,020,603	-653,190	-3,017,913	-204,000	7,021,780
Circuit Model Trust	163,656	27,375	-6,998		-160,000	24,033
Unrestricted designated funds						
USC Mission Grant Fund	150,000					150,000
Stockport town centre ministry			-64,041		355,000	290,959
USC Sponsorship Scheme					9,000	9,000
Other designated						-
Designated	150,000	-	-64,041	-	364,000	449,959
Total unrestricted	9,189,936	2,047,978	-724,229	- 3,017,913	-	7,495,772
Restricted Funds						
Funds held by TMCP	10,528	623				11,151
USC Sponsorship Scheme	-	8,504	-1,058		-	7,446
Total restricted	10,528	9,127	- 1,058	-	-	18,597
Total funds	9,200,464	2,057,105	-725,287	- 3,017,913	-	7,514,369

Notes to the Accounts

15 Analysis of restricted and designated funds (cont) 2023/24

In 2023/24 a new designated fund was established for the maintenance of manses.

In 2022/23 a new designated fund was established for the Stockport Town Centre ministry. This provides funding for a deacon and other costs

USC Mission Fund is towards mission development

The USC Sponsorship Scheme is supporting a refugee family

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

31-Dec-24	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total
Tangible fixed assets	2,794,051				2,794,051
Fixed asset investments	165,000				165,000
Current assets	-267,413	3,428,181	442,219	11,742	3,614,729
Current liabilities	-81,702				-81,702
Long term liabilities					0
Total net assets	2,609,936	3,428,181	442,219	11,742	6,492,078

31-Dec-23	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total
Tangible fixed assets	4,495,428				4,495,428
Fixed asset investments	3,033,601				3,033,601
Current assets	-218,558	24,033	449,959	18,597	274,031
Current liabilities	-26,191				-26,191
Long term liabilities	-262,500				-262,500
Total net assets	7,021,780	24,033	449,959	18,597	7,514,369

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134270

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1134270

Report of the Trustees
for the Year ended 31 August 2023
for
United Stockport Circuit

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities 'Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2015' as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRSSE) 2015.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number 1134270

Principal address

United Stockport Circuit
Circuit Office
Tiviot Dale Methodist Church
Tiviot Dale
Stockport
SK1 1TA

Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Charity Trustees. A full list of trustees is at Annex A to this report.

Accountant and Auditor

McKellens Limited
Chartered Accountants
11 Riverview
The Embankment Business Park
Vale Road
Heaton Mersey
Stockport
SK4 3GN

Advisers

The charity's investment managers are:

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ.
The Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, 9 Bonhill Street, London, EC2A 4PE

The following ministers acted throughout the year:

Rev. Catherine Bird (Superintendent)
Rev. Lindsay Kemp
Rev. Dr. Raj Patta
Rev. Dr. Katharine Smith
Deacon Janet Amey
Deacon Annette Sharp

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The charitable trust is constituted by the Deed of Union 1932, the Methodist Church Act 1976, is part of the Methodist Church of UK. The trustees listed have served throughout the year. Appointment of trustees is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976. The Managing Trustees of Churches and the Circuit are empowered by our Standing Orders to appoint new trustees and to fill vacancies arising through resignation or death of an existing trustee.

Circuit Managing Trustees have regular meetings where the Circuit's main areas of activity and by extension the aims of the charity are discussed and agreed. The day-to-day functioning of the circuit is governed by Standing Orders as set out in the Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church. The charitable trust is registered with the Charity Commission.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

Over the last year, the Circuit has begun a process of consultation to assist the Circuit as we look to the future. 'Managing Change and Making Choices' is involving a strategic look at the fundamental building blocks of the Circuit – our local churches, our staff, our buildings and our finances. The consultation has emerged from an evolving understanding that the Circuit has been running at a significant deficit in order to fund ongoing ministry and that in the longer term the Circuit will be needing to consider how to reduce overall costs and/or raise more income. A number of factors are significant here:

- It is recognised that the trustees have placed an over-reliance upon the knowledge that impending property sales would release significant assets.
- Trustees have been more short-term rather than long-term focussed (e.g. we have enough money to pay for something now but not considering well enough the ongoing costs).
- With the combination of three circuits, our mission and ministry (and consequently financial operation) grew very quickly and we were not well enough prepared.
- As soon as trustees realised that things were not as stable/positive as we had considered, we engaged Transforming Churches and Communities to offer support in the day-to-day management of making and processing payments and salaries and formed a finance group so that the day to day burden of financial oversight did not fall on one person (recognising that as Trustees we are collectively responsible for the finance, with a collective duty of scrutiny) and to offer a way forward which has been agreed by the trustees.

The resulting financial plan gives the Circuit a sound financial basis over the next three years at least – we can maintain our ministry and meet our commitments – but this is a catalyst for us to think about how we shape our ministry moving forward – not just making 'cuts' but how we can make sure that we have a ministry that is impactful and effective and meaningful, that doesn't drive anyone into the ground with overwork and that is realistic in terms of the situation of the wider Methodist Church in terms of the extent to which ordained ministry can be provided.

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Ministerial stipends remained the same during the year. The Circuit has continued to employ two part-time lay employees as Circuit Administration Manager and Circuit Premises Administration Support Worker.

The manse at Mile End Lane has been vacant pending the arrival (due later in 2023) of the refugee family under the refugee community sponsorship scheme.

The sale of Stiles Avenue has progressed slowly, and an extension is to be sought on the term of the bridging loan from MCA Limited. The sales of St Johns MC and Trinity MC are expected to complete in the next Connexional year.

The total assessment levied on the churches was £298,047. The Circuit made an overall loss in the year of £1,686,095. The total income and expenditure account for the year is detailed in the financial statements.

Following guidance from the Methodist Church, properties managed by the Circuit were restated at cost, where known, or Deemed Cost. This resulted in a reduction in the value of properties as shown in the prior year's accounts of £1,998,814.

In September 2023, after the end of this financial year, St John's Methodist Church was sold for significantly less than its Deemed Cost and accordingly an impairment to reduce the value in the accounts was recognised to reflect this.

Following the closure of Jubilee Methodist Church, it was transferred into the Circuit at Deemed Cost. However, a valuation carried out after the year end implied that the value that Jubilee could be sold for was significantly below Deemed Cost and, as such, a significant impairment reducing the value in the accounts was recognised.

The adjustments in respect of properties during the year are so large that they mask the operational income and expenditure of the Circuit. Excluding the property transactions, the income of the Circuit was £453,672 and the expenditure was £725,287, leaving a deficit of £271,624 for the year.

Reserves policy

The Managing Trustees have reviewed the major risks which the charity faces and consider that there are none which would stop the charity from maintaining its objects. Assessments from individual churches have been agreed for the forthcoming year. It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds at a reasonable level to cover unforeseen expenses. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs for at least 6 months.

Funds available are sufficient to permit the trust to continue in operation in the medium term, given the agreed assessments of the individual churches and the Connexional nature of its governance. The trustees review the major risks which the charity faces and consider that there are none which would stop the charity from maintaining its objects. Support from individual churches has been promised for the forthcoming year.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Safeguarding

The Circuit is committed to ensuring the implementation of the Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance, and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

Investment Powers

The Methodist Church Act 1976 authorises the trustees to make and hold investments using the general and other funds of the charity, and such investments are presently held and shown within the financial statements at their current value.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives and aims of the Managing Trustees are to oversee and further the work of the Methodist Church. To this end, those activities which come within the oversight of the Managing Trustees are to provide ministerial oversight, manage circuit property including manses, contribute, as agreed, to District and Connexional assessments and be mindful of development opportunities for the Circuit. In order to do this the Managing Trustees, raise assessments on individual Methodist Churches in the United Stockport area in accordance with Standing Orders. They may also make grants to individual churches for property, Ministry and Mission as permitted and governed by the Standing Orders. The Managing Trustees believe that these activities and the church resources are for the public benefit as, through its work the Managing Trustees enable pastoral ministry, spiritual engagement and contribute to community development in the United Stockport area. The Managing Trustees have noted the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

The United Stockport Circuit continues to oversee a wide range of mission related activities, impacted by the ongoing effects of the global coronavirus pandemic. Its Town Centre premises, known as Tiviot Dale, gradually coming back into use, represent an office and ministry hub for the Circuit and are gradually becoming widely used by members of the public, offering support for marginalized groups and individuals.

The closure and decision to sell a further church building – Jubilee – was regretful but necessary and has led to renewed thinking about the future deployment of ministry in the Circuit.

The Circuit entered the final stages of applying to the Home Office to become a Community Refugee Sponsorship organisation, using a redundant manse property and are preparing to welcome a family from Syria.

The circuit continues the process of working towards becoming an Eco circuit. As well as these initiatives the staff continue to offer wide ranging input of a pastoral and practical nature to local churches, in support of their endeavours to develop good governance and mission outreach. Various fellowship and bible study groups take place as well as work with parents and toddlers. Most church buildings are used to host a wide range of community organisations who benefit from good quality and affordable space. The Circuit works closely within the Manchester and Stockport District of the Methodist Church, and within the structures of the national Methodist Church, benefitting from training, ministry and governance resources.

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

A lot of the work in the circuit is done on a voluntary basis and includes that of Circuit and church officers, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, members, and secretaries of all the church committees and those assisting in running children's work etc. Ministerial and lay staff members, along with volunteers within the church, continue to undergo Safeguarding training and are becoming familiarized with the purpose, procedures and practice of GDPR.

The Circuit has agreed to appoint Transforming Church and Communities to manage day to day circuit finances, and to transfer the current account to CAF Bank with subsequent online facilities to enable the Circuit to monitor our financial activities more effectively.

Having identified the deficit, the trustees are operating intentionally with it for now and will in the next financial year be developing a formal strategy to manage future expenditure. Stipends and salaries have been covered, Circuit property managed and kept in reasonable repair, and external expenses (including the District assessment) covered.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

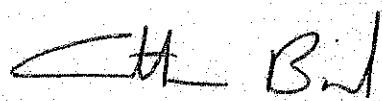
The trustees are responsible for preparing this report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The statements must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the Circuit Meeting on 12th December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev. Catherine Bird

Appendix A

Managing Trustees 2022/23

The trustees are the members of the Circuit Meeting as set out below as at 31 August 2023:

Circuit Staff	Rev. Catherine Bird (Superintendent), Rev. Lindsay Kemp, Rev. Dr. Raj Patta, Rev. Dr. Katharine Smith, Deacon Janet Amey, Deacon Annette Sharp.
Circuit Stewards	Jayne Quinn, Carol Jack, Frank Dean, Sharon Heginbotham, Richard Price, Michael Aspinall
Sec. of Circuit mtg	
Sec. of Preachers' meeting	Liz Delafield
Circuit Treasurer	Sharon Heginbotham
Circuit Property Sec	
Circuit Safeguarding	Hugh McLaughlin
District Rep (Lay)	Andrew Stoker
Davenport	Judith Mottram, Eddie Partington, Colin Lewis
Dialstone Lane	Catriona Stoker, Jane Hollins, Dave Bryant
Edgeley	Mavis Hammond, Penny Ollerenshaw, Margaret Foley
Hazel Grove	Jayne Quinn, Ian Chester, Judith Adshead
Heaton Mersey	Julie Dickson, Sue Ainsworth, Anne Cowlshaw
Heaton Moor	Sue Jones, Deborah Symmons
Marple	Phil Le Sueur, Philip Singleton, Meryl Blackburn
Romiley	John Owens, Jennifer Crutchley, Richard Goodall
The Ridge	Peter Johnson, Bob Ollerenshaw, Janet Fidler
Windlehurst	Bernie Rowlands, Graham Clarke, Helen Stocks
Woodley	John Purves, Lynne Styles, Sue Skidmore

United Stockport Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the United Stockport Circuit

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the United Stockport Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activity, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards comprising Charities SORP – FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) as amended by the requirements of Methodist Conference.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

United Stockport Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the United Stockport Circuit

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Charities Act 2011

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' Remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' Report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 8], the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

United Stockport Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the United Stockport Circuit

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation and data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- that identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- understanding the design of the charity's remuneration policies.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify and unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining accounting estimates set were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the charity's legal advisors.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

United Stockport Circuit

Independent Auditor's Report to the Trustees of the United Stockport Circuit

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the trustees, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



.....
Paul Roper (Senior Statutory Auditor)
McKellens Ltd
11 Riverview
The Embankment Business Park
Vale Road
Heaton Mersey
Stockport
SK4 3GN

26th January 2025

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
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Donations and legacies		10					10
2 Income from monetary investments		6,003	3,130		623		9,755
3a Income from investment properties		4,850					4,850
3b Income from fixed asset properties		27,143					27,143
4 Assessments on Churches		298,047					298,047
5 Capital Receipts	7	1,579,187	24,245				1,603,432
6 Grants received		1,000					1,000
7 Other charitable Income		13,443					13,443
7a Service		90,920					90,920
7b Sponsorship					8,504		8,504
8 Total income		2,020,603	27,375	-	9,127	-	2,057,104
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations		2,266					2,266
10 Salaries and associated costs		304,384		36,997			341,381
11 Property maintenance		225,522		7,558			233,080
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		-	6,532				6,532
13 District Assessment & Levy		70,818					70,818
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses		25,257					25,257
15a Interest payable				15,885			15,885
16 Other outgoings		24,943	466	3,601	1,058		30,068
17 Total charitable expenditure		653,190	6,998	64,041	1,058	0	725,287
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		-10					-10
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties							
20 Net income/(expenditure)		1,367,403	20,377	-64,041	8,069	0	1,331,808
21 Transfers between funds	16	-204,000	-160,000	364,000			0
22 Other gains/(losses)	8	-3,017,903					-3,017,903
Prior period adjustment	9						0
23 Net movement in funds		-1,854,500	-139,623	299,959	8,069	0	-1,686,095
24 Total funds brought forward		8,876,280	163,656	150,000	10,528	-	9,200,464
25 Total funds carried forward		7,021,780	24,033	449,959	18,597	-	7,514,369

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
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1	Donations and legacies	761					761
2	Income from monetary investments	541		778			1,319
3	Income from investment properties	69,223	157,924				227,147
4	Assessments on Churches	326,523					326,523
5	Capital Receipts	62,255					62,255
6	Grants received	14,941					14,941
7	Other charitable income	138,003	249,351				387,354
8	Total income	612,247	407,275	778	-	-	1,020,300
Expenditure							
9	Grants and donations	4,705	98,101				102,806
10	Salaries and associated costs	188,744					188,744
11	Property maintenance	117,247	52,887				170,134
12	Connexional assessment & model trust levy	109,182					109,182
13	District Assessment & Levy	77,866	50,369				128,235
14	Gas & Electric + New Manse	29,478	262,500				291,978
15	Office expenses	6,780					6,780
16	Other outgoings	50,766	59,170				109,936
17	Total charitable expenditure	584,768	523,027	0	0	0	1,107,795
18	Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	-2,409	271		17		-2,121
19	Gains/(losses) on investment properties	200,565					200,565
20	Net income/(expenditure)	225,635	-115,481	778	17	0	110,949
21	Transfers between funds						0
22	Other gains/(losses)	8,450,213					8,450,213
	Prior period adjustment	9 -2,234,142	13,150	-36,721			-2,257,713
23	Net movement in funds	6,441,706	-102,331	-35,943	17	0	6,303,449
24	Total funds brought forward	2,434,574	265,987	185,943	10,511		2,897,015
25	Total funds carried forward	8,876,280	163,656	150,000	10,528	-	9,200,464

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 2022/23 £	Totals 2021/22 RESTATED £
			Note 12	Note 12			
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses & Churches	10	4,495,428				4,495,428	4,495,428
Investment properties	11	3,033,601				3,033,601	4,515,784
Investments						0	
Total fixed assets		7,529,029	0	0	0	7,529,029	9,011,212
Current Assets							
Debtors	12	29,752			0	29,752	29,832
Loans by the Circuit		1,800				1,800	3,600
Investments with TMCP			24,033		11,150	35,183	174,578
Central Finance Board Deposits		22,986		150,000		172,986	186,721
Cash at Bank and in hand		-273,095		299,959	7,447	34,311	71,511
Total current assets		-218,558	24,033	449,959	18,597	274,031	466,242
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	13	26,191				26,191	14,490
Grants payable within 2022-23		0				0	
Total current liabilities		26,191	0	0	0	26,191	14,490
Net current assets/liabilities		-244,749	24,033	449,959	18,597	247,840	451,752
Total assets less current liabilities		7,284,280	24,033	449,959	18,597	7,776,869	9,462,964
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23		0		0		0	
Loans to the Circuit		262,500				262,500	262,500
Net assets		7,021,780	24,033	449,959	18,597	7,514,369	9,200,464
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		7,021,780				7,021,780	8,876,280
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			24,033			24,033	163,656
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				449,959		449,959	150,000
Total Unrestricted Funds						7,495,772	9,189,936
Restricted Funds				18,597		18,597	10,528
Endowment Funds					0	0	0
Total Funds		7,021,780	24,033	449,959	18,597	7,514,369	9,200,464

Signed
Jason Smith
Circuit Treasurer

Digitally signed by
Jason Smith
Date: 2025.01.19
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Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 August 2022

Statement of cash flows	Note	2023 £	RESTATED 2022 £
Cash from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities		-148,572	386,009
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		-41,758	-228,466
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment			-525,000
Purchase of property, plant and equipment			
Purchase of intangible assets			
Proceeds from the sale of investments			
Purchase of investments			
Other			
Net cash provided by investing activities		-41,758	-753,466
Cash flows from financing activities			
New borrowing			262,500
Repayments of borrowing			
Net cash used in financing activities		0	262,500
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		-190,330	-104,957
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		432,810	537,767
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		242,480	432,810
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities			
Net income for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)		-1,686,095	6,291,689
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation and amortisation charges			
Profit on the sale of fixed assets			
Loss on the sale of fixed assets			
Gains on investments			-200,565
Revaluations of properties			1,998,814
Impairment of investment property		3,017,903	
PYA to P&L re loan			
Capital receipt of church(es) transferred in		-1,535,720	-7,925,213
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		41,758	228,466
Decrease/(increase) in stocks		0	0
(increase)/decrease in debtors		1,881	-21,672
increase/(decrease) in creditors		11,701	14,490
Net cash used in operating activities		-148,572	386,009
Analysis of cash and cash equivalent			
Cash in hand		34,311	71,511
Short term deposit (less than 3 months)		208,169	361,299
Total cash and cash equivalents		242,480	432,810

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 applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 as modified by the requirements of the Methodist Church.

2 Funds

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Circuit. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

There are no Endowment funds.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

The United Stockport Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to the accounts.

In the prior period, the accounts were prepared on a cash basis. In this year the accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis. The accounting policy "Prior Period Adjustment" includes further details regarding how this change has impacted the figures included in the accounts.

Consolidation

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

Going concern

Despite ongoing deficits, the charity has substantial reserves and high levels of assets. The trustees are confident that the charity can continue to operate for a number of years.

Incoming Resources

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.

VAT

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

Notes to the Accounts

3 Accounting policies continued...

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.

Pensions

The accounts include costs relating to pension contributions for the year of £46,834 on behalf of employees. Two schemes were contributed to: payments of £5,182 to a defined contribution scheme for layworkers and £41,651 to the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme (MMPS), a defined benefit scheme for ministers.

For the defined contribution scheme, the charity has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying across the deductions for the employee's contributions.

The MMPS should be accounted for as a group plan as all the participating employers, namely the circuits and Council, are under the common control of the Conference. Because it is part of a multi-employer scheme and the information specific to this charity is not available, the payments have also been accounted for as a defined contribution scheme in accordance with the Charities SORP.

At the last triennial valuation 31 August 2020, the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme was in deficit by £14m. The Methodist Council agreed a recovery plan and long term funding objective for the Scheme in April 2022. The Recovery Plan consists of conditional payments over 6 years funded from the Pension Reserve Fund of The Methodist Church in Great Britain. There is no contractual agreement or stated policy for charging the defined benefit costs of the plan as a whole to individual circuits and other participating employers; such decision would be made by the Conference.

Ministers' manse costs

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

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

Properties are shown in the accounts at cost or, when cost is not known, at 'Deemed Cost'. Guidance issued by the Methodist Church in October 2019 "Accounting for Tangible Fixed Assets" states that Deemed Cost is the insured value at 1st September 2015. The land component is not given as a separate amount.

No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the buildings (on the assumption that they had reached the end of their useful economic lives by the year-end) to be not less than the current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Investment Properties

From time to time the Circuit may be required to assume responsibility for Church premises following closure and cessation of worship. This resulting in the Circuit becoming Managing Trustees for the property. This property is included in the accounts as investment property until the future of the property is determined or the property is sold. Properties are included at the lower of cost and realisable value. When cost is not known, properties are included at 'Deemed Cost' using the same principles for calculating Deemed Cost as noted in the Tangible Fixed Assets accounting policy above. Investment properties are reviewed for impairment.

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.

Notes to the Accounts

4 Payment to Trustees and related party transactions

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting. This excludes stipends.

Trustee expenses	2022/23	2021/22
Number of Trustees	12	
Total amount	£9,182	

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel, circuit administration costs and property costs.

The Circuit has engaged the bookkeeping services of 'Transforming Churches and Communities ("TCC")', a charity piloted by the Methodist Church of Great Britain and formed as a new independent organisation. C Bird, a trustee of the Circuit, is also a trustee of TCC. During 2022/23, fees of £8,250 were payable to TCC.

C Bird is also a trustee of the Manchester and Stockport District, to whom the district assessment assessment is payable each year. The Manchester and Stockport District made a contribution of £13,318 to the charity in respect of time committed by C Bird to her work with the District.

5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	3,900	0
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	NIL	NIL

6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:	2022/23	2021/22
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	£ 266,422	
Employer's National Insurance costs	£ 22,419	
Pension costs	£ 46,834	
Total staff costs	£ <u>335,675</u>	

Average number of employees in the year were: 13

7 Capital Receipts

Capital receipts includes £1,535,720 being the Deemed Cost of Jubilee Church, Marple which came under the managing trusteeship of the Circuit during the year. Also included are amounts in respect of the closure of the bank account held by Trinity Church and the Circuit's share of funds on the closure of Christ Church Reddish.

8 Other gains/(losses)

Other gains/(losses) relates to impairments in value that have been recognised in respect of St John's Church and Jubilee Church, Marple. St John's Church was sold shortly after the year end and the impairment recognises the sale proceeds received. A valuation of Jubilee Church was undertaken in January 2024 and an impairment recognised to reflect this valuation.

Notes to the Accounts

9 Prior period adjustment

It became apparent during the year that, that the Churches and Manses had been valued and included in the Balance Sheet at their current insured value which is not in accordance with the guidance issued by the Methodist Church in October 2019 "Accounting for Tangible Fixed Assets".

This guidance requires Churches and Manses to be valued at original cost or, where this is not ascertainable, at Deemed Cost (the insured value at 1st September 2015).

The value of the Churches and Manses held has now been restated and this reflected in both the current and previous years balances.

In the prior year's accounts, all churches under the managing trusteeship of the Circuit had been included as investment properties. An adjustment has been included in the accounts to reclassify Tiviot Dale Methodist Church as a fixed asset as this is considered to be more appropriate given the ongoing operation of this church. Other churches under the managing trusteeship of the Circuit had been transferred following closure of the churches and their classification has not altered.

As noted earlier in the accounting policy documenting the basis on which the accounts are prepared, last year's accounts were prepared on a cash basis. This year, the accounting policy has changed and the accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis. The 2021/22 Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet have been restated and prepared on an accruals basis. This restatement has increased the 2021/22 surplus of income in excess of expenditure by £11,760 to £6,303,449 and the net assets at 31 August 2022 by £11,760 to £9,200,464.

10 Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost or valuation

	Churches	Manses	Other buildings	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	1,960,975	2,534,453	-	-	-	4,495,428
Additions		-				-
Revaluations (+/-)						-
Impairment (-)						-
Disposals (-)						-
Transfers* (+/-)						-
Balance carried forward	1,960,975	2,534,453	-	-	-	4,495,428

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for year (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers* (+/-)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	-	-	-	-	-	-

Net book value

Brought forward	1,960,975	2,534,453	-	-	-	4,495,428
Carried forward	1,960,975	2,534,453	-	-	-	4,495,428

The church included as a tangible fixed asset in the Circuit's accounts is Tiviot Dale Methodist Church in Stockport.

Also included in tangible fixed assets are 8 manses (2022: 8). Two of the manses are leasehold buildings and the remainder are freehold buildings. The Deemed Cost of leasehold property at the year end is £638,783 (2022: £638,783). One manse has been sold after the balance sheet date.

Notes to the Accounts

11 Investment assets

	Churches	Manses	Other buildings	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward	4,515,784	-	-	-		4,515,784
Additions	1,535,720	-				1,535,720
Revaluations (+/-)						-
Impairment (-)	-3,017,903					-3,017,903
Disposals (-)						-
Transfers * (+/-)						-
Balance carried forward	3,033,601	-	-	-	-	3,033,601

The churches included as investment assets in the Circuit's accounts include 3 churches at the year end (2022: 2) being:

- Trinity Methodist Church: this church was sold after the balance sheet date
- St John's Church: this church was sold after the balance sheet date at less than Deemed Cost. The impairment arising on sale has been included in these accounts
- Jubilee Church, Marple: this church came under the managing trusteeship of the Circuit on 13 June 2023 and is included as an addition to investment assets. An impairment to the Deemed Cost of this church has been recognised in light of a valuation carried out after the balance sheet date.

12 Debtors and Prepayments

	2022/23	2021/22
Debtors (church assessments and recharges)	£ 10,141	-
Stipends paid in advance by churches	£ 19,611	18,072
Stipends paid in advance by churches	£	11,760
Total debtors	£ <u>29,752</u>	<u>29,832</u>

13 Creditors

	2022/23	2021/22
Creditors	£ 13,807	-
Accruals	£ 12,384	14,490
Total debtors	£ <u>26,191</u>	<u>14,490</u>

14 Loans to the circuit

	2022/23	2021/22
Methodist Chapel Aid	£ 262,500	262,500
Total loans to the circuit	£ <u>262,500</u>	<u>262,500</u>

The Circuit took out a loan from Methodist Chapel Aid to assist with the purchase a manse, whilst awaiting the sale proceeds from sale of a separate manse.

15 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2023 there are no capital commitments and no contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2023.

Notes to the Accounts

16 Analysis of restricted and designated funds 2022/23

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Other gains/(losses)	Transfers	Closing Balance
Unrestricted funds						
General Fund	8,876,280	2,020,603	-653,190	-3,017,913	-204,000	7,021,780
Circuit Model Trust	163,656	27,375	-6,998		-160,000	24,033
Unrestricted designated funds						
USC Mission fund	150,000					150,000
Stockport town centre ministry			-64,041		355,000	290,959
USC Sponsorship Scheme	0	-	-		9,000	9,000
Designated	150,000	-	-64,041	-	364,000	449,959
Total unrestricted	9,189,936	2,047,978	-724,229	- 3,017,913	-	7,495,772
Restricted Funds						
Funds held by TMCP	10,528	623				11,151
USC Sponsorship Scheme	-	8,504	-1,058	-	-	7,446
Total restricted	10,528	9,127	-1,058	-	-	18,597
Total funds	9,200,464	2,057,105	-725,287	- 3,017,913	-	7,514,369

Comparative analysis of restricted and designated funds 2021/22

Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Other gains/(losses)	Prior period adjustment	Closing Balance
Unrestricted funds						
General Fund	2,434,574	9,263,025	-587,177		-2,234,142	8,876,280
Circuit Model Trust	265,987	407,546	-523,027		13,150	163,656
Unrestricted designated funds						
USC Mission Grant Fund					150,000	150,000
USC Sponsorship Scheme						-
Other designated	185,943	778			-186,721	-
Designated	185,943	778	-	-	-36,721	150,000
Total unrestricted	2,886,504	9,671,349	-1,110,204	-	-2,257,713	9,189,936
Restricted Funds						
Funds held by TMCP	10,511	17				10,528
USC Sponsorship Scheme						-
Total restricted	10,511	17	-	-	-	10,528
Total funds	2,897,015	9,671,366	-1,110,204	-	-2,257,713	9,200,464

In 2022/23 a new designated fund was established for the Stockport Town Centre ministry. In 2021/22 costs of £14,348 were incurred with regard to this ministry before the fund was designated. This provides funding for a deacon and other costs

USC Mission Fund is towards mission development

The USC Sponsorship Scheme is supporting a refugee family

Notes to the Accounts

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

31-Dec-23	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total
Tangible fixed assets	4,495,428				4,495,428
Fixed asset investments	3,033,601				3,033,601
Current assets	-218,558	24,033	449,959	18,597	274,031
Current liabilities	-26,191				-26,191
Long term liabilities	-262,500				-262,500
Total net assets	7,021,780	24,033	449,959	18,597	7,514,369

31-Dec-22	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total
Tangible fixed assets	4,495,428				4,495,428
Fixed asset investments	4,515,784				4,515,784
Current assets	142,058	163,656	150,000	10,528	466,242
Current liabilities	-14,490				-14,490
Long term liabilities	-262,500				-262,500
Total net assets	8,876,280	163,656	150,000	10,528	9,200,464

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134270

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1134270

Report of the Trustees
for the Year ended 31 August 2022
for
United Stockport Circuit

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities 'Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2015' as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRSSE) 2015.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number 1134270

Principal address

United Stockport Circuit
Circuit Office
Tiviot Dale Methodist Church
Tiviot Dale
Stockport
SK1 1TA

Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Charity Trustees. A full list of trustees is at Annex A to this report.

Accountant and Independent Examiner

Alan Brekin ACA
10 Prospect Place
Bury
BL9 8EX

Advisers

The charity's investment managers are:

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ.
The Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, 9 Bonhill Street, London, EC2A 4PE

The following ministers acted throughout the year:

Rev. Catherine Bird (Superintendent)
Rev. Lindsay Kemp
Rev. Dr. Raj Patta
Rev. Dr. Katharine Smith
Deacon Annette Sharp

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The charitable trust is constituted by the Deed of Union 1932, the Methodist Church Act 1976, is part of the Methodist Church of UK. The trustees listed have served throughout the year. Appointment of trustees is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976. The Managing Trustees of Churches and the Circuit are empowered by our Standing Orders to appoint new trustees and to fill vacancies arising through resignation or death of an existing trustee.

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Circuit Managing Trustees have regular meetings where the Circuit's main areas of activity and by extension the aims of the charity are discussed and agreed. The day to functioning of the circuit is governed by Standing Orders as set out in the Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church. The charitable trust is registered with the Charity Commission.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

Ministerial stipends remained the same during the year. The Circuit has continued to employ two part-time lay employees as Circuit Administration Manager and Circuit Premises Administration Support Worker.

The tenants have vacated the manse at Mile End Lane. That property will be retained by the Circuit and used to provide accommodation for the family which the Circuit hopes will be placed with it under the refugee community sponsorship scheme. A new manse (Acton Close) has been acquired (purchase price £525,000) to provide suitable accommodation for Deacon Janet Amey, who will be joining the Circuit staff on 1 September. The cost of the new manse has been funded by way of a bridging loan from MCA Limited, and from reserves. The intention is that the manse at Stiles Avenue will be sold once the current occupant has vacated, and the monies generated by that sale used to repay the bridging loan and restore the reserves.

Total assessment levied on the churches was £314,763. The Circuit made an operating loss in the year of £99,255. The total income and expenditure account for the year is detailed in the financial statements.

The total value of manse and church property managed by the Circuit increased in the year by £8.65m due to the introduction of Trinity and St Johns Churches as Circuit properties (values based on the reinstatement values provided by Methodist Insurance) and the purchase of the new manse.

Tiviot Dale Church continues to be used as a Covid testing centre, and the Circuit continues to explore the possibility of leasing space in the centre of Stockport to provide a base for Deacon Janet Amey to work from whilst Tiviot Dale is unavailable.

Reserves policy

The Managing Trustees have reviewed the major risks which the charity faces and consider that there are none which would stop the charity from maintaining its objects. Assessments from individual churches have been agreed for the forthcoming year. It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds at a reasonable level to cover unforeseen expenses. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs for at least 6 months.

Funds available are sufficient to permit the trust to continue in operation in the medium term, given the agreed assessments of the individual churches and the Connexional nature of its governance. The trustees review the major risks which the charity faces and consider that there are none which would stop the charity from maintaining its objects. Support from individual churches has been promised for the forthcoming year.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Safeguarding

The Circuit is committed to ensuring the implementation of the Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance, and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

Investment Powers

The Methodist Church Act 1976 authorises the trustees to make and hold investments using the general and other funds of the charity, and such investments are presently held and shown within the financial statements at their current value.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives and aims of the Managing Trustees are to oversee and further the work of the Methodist Church. To this end, those activities which come within the oversight of the Managing Trustees are to provide ministerial oversight, manage circuit property including manses, contribute, as agreed, to District and Connexional assessments and be mindful of development opportunities for the Circuit. In order to do this the Managing Trustees, raise assessments on individual Methodist Churches in the United Stockport area in accordance with Standing Orders. They may also make grants to individual churches for property, Ministry and Mission as permitted and governed by the Standing Orders. The Managing Trustees believe that these activities and the church resources are for the public benefit as, through its work the Managing Trustees enable pastoral ministry, spiritual engagement and contribute to community development in the United Stockport area. The Managing Trustees have noted the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

The United Stockport Circuit continues to overs a wide range of mission related activities, impacted by the ongoing effects of the global coronavirus pandemic. Its Town Centre premises, known as Tiviot Dale continued to be used as a Covid testing Centre before being brought back into use as a hub for the Circuit.

The closure and decision to sell two church buildings – Trinity and St. John's – was regretful but necessary and has led to renewed thinking about the future deployment of ministry in the Circuit. The decision was taken to engage a Methodist Deacon to oversee work in the Town Centre of Stockport from September 2022, and plans were put in place to make this happen, including the decision to sell one manse and purchase another.

The Circuit entered the initial stages of applying to the Home Office to become a Community Refugee Sponsorship organization.

A programme celebrating age as a resource for ministry was begun by one of the retired ministers, and a town centre outreach project using a Yurt in the Mersey Way Shopping Centre in Stockport successfully engaged many people in the week leading up to Easter.

The circuit began the process of working towards becoming an Eco circuit. As well as these initiatives the staff continue to offer wide ranging input of a pastoral and practical nature to local churches, in support of their endeavours to develop good governance and mission outreach.

A lot of the work in the circuit is done on a voluntary basis and includes that of Circuit and church officers, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, members, and secretaries of all the church committees and those

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

assisting in running children's work etc. Ministerial and lay staff members, along with volunteers within the church, continue to undergo Safeguarding training.

The Circuit is investigating the possibility of appointing Transforming Church and Communities to manage day to day circuit finances, and the current account to CAF Bank with subsequent online facilities to enable the Circuit to monitor our financial activities more effectively.

From a financial perspective, the Managing Trustees consider that the performance of the charity this year has been satisfactory. The reduction in the reserves to fund the purchase of the new manse still leaves sufficient to cover other planned activities. Stipends and salaries have been covered, Circuit property managed and kept in reasonable repair, and external expenses (including the District assessment) covered.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing this report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The statements must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the Circuit Meeting on 13/12/2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Rev. Catherine Bird

United Stockport Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Appendix A

Managing Trustees 2021/22

The trustees are the members of the Circuit Meeting as set out below as at 31 August 2022:

Circuit Staff	Rev. Catherine Bird (Superintendent), Rev. Lindsay Kemp, Rev. Dr. Raj Patta, Rev. Dr. Katharine Smith, Deacon Annette Sharp, Christine Hufton, Maggie Thompson
Circuit Stewards	Viki Packman, Jayne Quinn, Susan Beatty, Frank Dean, Sharon Heginbotham, Richard Price, Michael Aspinall
Sec. of Circuit mtg	Christine Hufton (non-voting)
Sec. of Preachers' meeting	Carol Jack
Circuit Treasurer	Sharon Heginbotham
Circuit Property Sec	Richard Price
Circuit Safeguarding	Hugh McLaughlin
District Rep (Lay)	Andrew Stoker
Davenport	Judith Mottram, Eddie Partington, Edna Smith
Dialstone Lane	Catriona Stoker, Jane Hollins
Edgeley	Mavis Hammond, Penny Ollerenshaw, Margaret Foley
Hazel Grove	Jayne Quinn, Ian Chester, Judith Adshead
Heaton Mersey	Julie Dickson, Sue Ainsworth, Anne Cowlshaw
Heaton Moor	Sue Jones, Jim Lowe, Deborah Symmons
Marple	Phil Le Sueur, Philip Singleton, Meryl Blackburn
Romiley	John Owens, Jennifer Crutchley, Richard Goodall
The Ridge	Peter Johnson, Bob Ollerenshaw, Janet Fidler
Windlehurst	Bernie Rowlands, Graham Clarke, Helen Stocks
Woodley	John Purves, Lynne Styles, Phil Taylor

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT

Circuit

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2022

MANCHESTER AND STOCKPORT	District	Circuit no	19 02
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134270

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:

REV'D CATHY BIRD SUPERINTENDENT
REV'D LINDSAY KEMP
REV'D RAJ PATTÀ
REV'D KATIE SMITH
DEACON ANNETTE SHARP

Circuit Stewards:

MRS VIKI PACKMAN
MRS JAYNE QUINN
MR FRANK DEAN
MR RICK PRICE

Treasurer:

MRS SHARON HEGINDOTHAM

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds +CFB	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS					
a2	Assessment/Share	314,763			314,763	323,070
a3	St J Tiviot TFR + Offerton	129,330	157,924		287,254	78,354 Lay
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	69,764		778	70,542	30,866
a5	Lay & Gas & Elec	77,196			77,196	25,493 G&E
a6	Other receipts + Transfers	9,434	249,351		258,785	281,119
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS	600,487	407,275	778	1,008,540 (a8)	738,902

SECTION B		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds +CFB	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs	188,744	98,101		286,845	183,972
b3	Manse Costs +New Manse	58,209	262,500		320,709	56,188
b4	Churches +Macclesfield	59,038	52,887		111,925	16,396 URC
b5	District Assessment + Levy	77,866	50,369		128,235	89,053
b6	Grants & donations	4,705			4,705	116,278 Lay
b7	Lay & Gas & Electric	138,660			138,660	22,725 G&E
b8	Other payments	57,546	59,170		116,716	59,995
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS	584,768	523,027		1,107,795 (b9)	544,607

SECTION C		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds +CFB	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	15,719 (a7-b9)	(115,752)	778	(99,255)	194,295
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	75,326	265,987	196,454	537,767 (c6)	342,711
c3	Sub total	91,045 (c1+c2)	150,235	197,232	438,512	537,006
c4	Transfers and adjustments	(2,409)	271	17	(2,121) (c7)	761
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	88,636 (c3+c4)	150,506	197,249	436,391 (c8)	537,767 (c6)

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

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

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 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 Trinity Methodist Church	2,752	320	2,432		16,914	19,346
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	2,752	320	2,432		16,914 (e11)	19,346 (e12)
e9 Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	1,008,540 (a8)	1,107,795 (b9)	(99,255)	(2,121) (c7)	537,767 (c6)	436,391 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	1,011,292	1,108,115	(96,823)	(2,121)	554,681 (x)	455,737 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2022		OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand		
f2	Bank Current Account	59,373	75,092
f3	Bank Deposit Account		
f4	Central Finance Board	185,943	186,721
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	292,451	174,578
f6	Other funds		
f7	SUB TOTAL	537,767 (c6)	436,391 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	16,914 (e11)	19,346 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	554,681 (x)	455,737 (y)

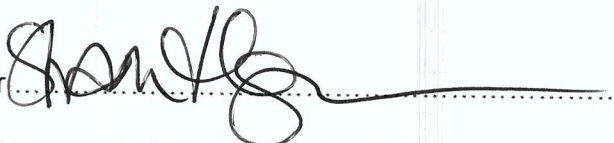
Circuit

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	
g2	Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	11,010,026
g3	Other Assets	
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	262,500
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 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer  Date 2/1/24⁰¹

Name and address of treasurer Mrs Sharon Heginbotham
8 Chinley Close Heaton Moor Stockport SK4 4ER

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 13/12/23

Signature of the Chair of the meeting  Date 13/12/23

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev'd Cathy Bird

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

United Stockport Circuit

Charity Number . 1134270

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit

Circuit No

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 21	2020- 21
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income								
1	Donations and legacies	1,436						1,436
2	Income from monetary investments	61						61
3	Income from investment properties	30,805						30,805
4	Assessments on Churches	323,070						323,070
5	Lay Workers	78,354						78,354
6	Gas & Electric	25,493						25,493
7	Other charitable income	51,134	42,664	185,885				279,683
8	Total income	510,353	42,664	185,885	-	-		738,902
Expenditure								
9	Grants and donations	2,122						2,122
10	Salaries and associated costs	183,972						183,972
11	Property maintenance	56,188						56,188
12	Connexional assessment & model trust levy	116,278						116,278
13	District Assessment & Levy	79,948	9,105					89,053
14	Depreciation	22,725						22,725
15	Office expenses	5,359						5,359
16	Other outgoings	68,910						68,910
17	Total charitable expenditure	535,502	9,105	0	0	0		544,607
18	Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	374	318	58	11			761
19	Gains/(losses) on investment properties	38,358						38,358
20	Net income/(expenditure)	13,583	33,877	185,943	11	0		233,414
21	Transfers between funds							0
22	Other gains/(losses)	871,644						871,644
23	Net movement in funds	885,227	33,877	185,943	11	0		1,105,058
24	Total funds brought forward	1,549,347	232,110		10,500			1,791,957
25	Total funds carried forward	2,434,574	265,987	185,943	10,511	-		2,897,015

To be completed by Circuits with total income and endowments of more than £500,000

Name of Circuit **United Stockport Circuit**

Circuit No **19/02**

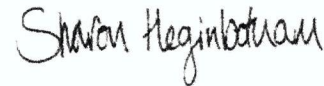
Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 August 2022

Statement of cash flows	Note	2022	2021
		£	£
Cash from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities		127,090	225,922
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		-228,466	-30,866
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-525,000	
Purchase of intangible assets			
Proceeds from the sale of investments			
Purchase of investments			
Other			
Net cash provided by investing activities		-753,466	-30,866
Cash flows from financing activities			
New borrowing			
Repayments of borrowing			
Net cash used in financing activities		0	0
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		-626,376	195,056
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		537,767	342,711
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		436,391	537,767
		2022	2021
		£	£
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities			
Net income for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)		-101,376	195,056
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation and amortisation charges			
Profit on the sale of fixed assets			
Loss on the sale of fixed assets			
Gains on investments			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		228,466	30,866
Decrease/(increase) in stocks			
(increase)/decrease in debtors			
increase/(decrease) in creditors			
Net cash used in operating activities		127,090	225,922
		2022	2021
		£	£
Analysis of cash and cash equivalent			
Cash in hand		75,092	59,373
Short term deposit (less than 3 months)		361,299	478,394
Total cash and cash equivalents		436,391	537,767

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2021/22 £	Totals 2020/21 £
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses & Equipment	3,084,813					3,084,813	2,359,248
Investment properties - Churches	7,925,213					7,925,213	
Investments						0	
Total fixed assets	11,010,026	0	0	0	0	11,010,026	2,359,248
Current Assets							
Debtors						0	
Loans by the Circuit						0	
Investments with TMCP	394	163,656		10,528		174,578	292,451
Central Finance Board Deposits	186,721					186,721	185,943
Cash at Bank and in hand	75,092					75,092	59,373
Total current assets	262,207	163,656	0	10,528	0	436,391	537,767
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)						0	
Grants payable within 2021-22						0	
Total current liabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net current assets/liabilities	262,207	163,656	0	10,528	0	436,391	537,767
Total assets less current liabilities	11,272,233	163,656	0	10,528	0	11,446,417	2,897,016
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2021-22						0	
Loans to the Circuit	262,500					262,500	
Net assets	11,009,733	163,656	0	10,528	0	11,183,917	2,897,016
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	11,009,733					11,009,733	2,886,504
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)		163,656				163,656	
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			0			0	
Total Unrestricted Funds						11,173,389	2,886,504
Restricted Funds				10,528		10,528	10,511
Endowment Funds					0	0	
Total Funds	11,009,733	163,656	0	10,528	0	11,183,917	2,897,016

Signed



Circuit Treasurer

Sharon Heginbotham

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer Sharon Heginbotham Date 2/1/24

Name and address of treasurer Mrs Sharon Heginbotham.....

8 Chinley Close Heaton Moor Stockport SK4 4ER

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 13/12/23

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Cathy Bird Date 18/12/23

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev'd Cathy Bird

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the United Stockport Circuit

Charity Number . 1134270

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT

Circuit

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2022

MANCHESTER AND STOCKPORT	District	Circuit no	19 02
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1134270

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:

REV'D CATHY BIRD SUPERINTENDENT
REV'D LINDSAY KEMP
REV'D RAJ PATTÀ
REV'D KATIE SMITH
DEACON ANNETTE SHARP

Circuit Stewards:

MRS VIKI PACKMAN
MRS JAYNE QUINN
MR FRANK DEAN
MR RICK PRICE

Treasurer:

MRS SHARON HEGINDOTHAM

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds +CFB	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS					
a2	Assessment/Share	314,763			314,763	323,070
a3	St J Tiviot TFR + Offerton	129,330	157,924		287,254	78,354 Lay
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	69,764		778	70,542	30,866
a5	Lay & Gas & Elec	77,196			77,196	25,493 G&E
a6	Other receipts + Transfers	9,434	249,351		258,785	281,119
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS	600,487	407,275	778	1,008,540 (a8)	738,902

SECTION B		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds +CFB	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs	188,744	98,101		286,845	183,972
b3	Manse Costs +New Manse	58,209	262,500		320,709	56,188
b4	Churches +Macclesfield	59,038	52,887		111,925	16,396 URC
b5	District Assessment + Levy	77,866	50,369		128,235	89,053
b6	Grants & donations	4,705			4,705	116,278 Lay
b7	Lay & Gas & Electric	138,660			138,660	22,725 G&E
b8	Other payments	57,546	59,170		116,716	59,995
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS	584,768	523,027		1,107,795 (b9)	544,607

SECTION C		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds +CFB	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	15,719 (a7-b9)	(115,752)	778	(99,255)	194,295
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	75,326	265,987	196,454	537,767 (c6)	342,711
c3	Sub total	91,045 (c1+c2)	150,235	197,232	438,512	537,006
c4	Transfers and adjustments	(2,409)	271	17	(2,121) (c7)	761
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	88,636 (c3+c4)	150,506	197,249	436,391 (c8)	537,767 (c6)

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

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

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 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 Trinity Methodist Church	2,752	320	2,432		16,914	19,346
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	2,752	320	2,432		16,914 (e11)	19,346 (e12)
e9 Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	1,008,540 (a8)	1,107,795 (b9)	(99,255)	(2,121) (c7)	537,767 (c6)	436,391 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	1,011,292	1,108,115	(96,823)	(2,121)	554,681 (x)	455,737 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2022		OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand		
f2	Bank Current Account	59,373	75,092
f3	Bank Deposit Account		
f4	Central Finance Board	185,943	186,721
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	292,451	174,578
f6	Other funds		
f7	SUB TOTAL	537,767 (c6)	436,391 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	16,914 (e11)	19,346 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	554,681 (x)	455,737 (y)

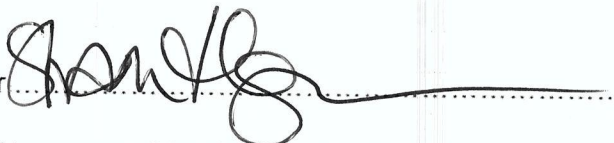
Circuit

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	
g2	Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	11,010,026
g3	Other Assets	
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end	262,500
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 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer  Date 2/1/24⁰¹

Name and address of treasurer Mrs Sharon Heginbotham
8 Chinley Close Heaton Moor Stockport SK4 4ER

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 13/12/23

Signature of the Chair of the meeting  Date 13/12/23

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev'd Cathy Bird

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

United Stockport Circuit

Charity Number . 1134270

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit

Circuit No

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 21	2020- 21
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income								
1	Donations and legacies	1,436						1,436
2	Income from monetary investments	61						61
3	Income from investment properties	30,805						30,805
4	Assessments on Churches	323,070						323,070
5	Lay Workers	78,354						78,354
6	Gas & Electric	25,493						25,493
7	Other charitable income	51,134	42,664	185,885				279,683
8	Total income	510,353	42,664	185,885	-	-		738,902
Expenditure								
9	Grants and donations	2,122						2,122
10	Salaries and associated costs	183,972						183,972
11	Property maintenance	56,188						56,188
12	Connexional assessment & model trust levy	116,278						116,278
13	District Assessment & Levy	79,948	9,105					89,053
14	Depreciation	22,725						22,725
15	Office expenses	5,359						5,359
16	Other outgoings	68,910						68,910
17	Total charitable expenditure	535,502	9,105	0	0	0		544,607
18	Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	374	318	58	11			761
19	Gains/(losses) on investment properties	38,358						38,358
20	Net income/(expenditure)	13,583	33,877	185,943	11	0		233,414
21	Transfers between funds							0
22	Other gains/(losses)	871,644						871,644
23	Net movement in funds	885,227	33,877	185,943	11	0		1,105,058
24	Total funds brought forward	1,549,347	232,110		10,500			1,791,957
25	Total funds carried forward	2,434,574	265,987	185,943	10,511	-		2,897,015

To be completed by Circuits with total income and endowments of more than £500,000

Name of Circuit **United Stockport Circuit**

Circuit No **19/02**

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 August 2022

Statement of cash flows	Note	2022	2021
		£	£
Cash from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities		127,090	225,922
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		-228,466	-30,866
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-525,000	
Purchase of intangible assets			
Proceeds from the sale of investments			
Purchase of investments			
Other			
Net cash provided by investing activities		-753,466	-30,866
Cash flows from financing activities			
New borrowing			
Repayments of borrowing			
Net cash used in financing activities		0	0
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		-626,376	195,056
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		537,767	342,711
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		436,391	537,767
		2022	2021
		£	£
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities			
Net income for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)		-101,376	195,056
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation and amortisation charges			
Profit on the sale of fixed assets			
Loss on the sale of fixed assets			
Gains on investments			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		228,466	30,866
Decrease/(increase) in stocks			
(increase)/decrease in debtors			
increase/(decrease) in creditors			
Net cash used in operating activities		127,090	225,922
		2022	2021
		£	£
Analysis of cash and cash equivalent			
Cash in hand		75,092	59,373
Short term deposit (less than 3 months)		361,299	478,394
Total cash and cash equivalents		436,391	537,767

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2021/22 £	Totals 2020/21 £
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses & Equipment	3,084,813					3,084,813	2,359,248
Investment properties - Churches	7,925,213					7,925,213	
Investments						0	
Total fixed assets	11,010,026	0	0	0	0	11,010,026	2,359,248
Current Assets							
Debtors						0	
Loans by the Circuit						0	
Investments with TMCP	394	163,656		10,528		174,578	292,451
Central Finance Board Deposits	186,721					186,721	185,943
Cash at Bank and in hand	75,092					75,092	59,373
Total current assets	262,207	163,656	0	10,528	0	436,391	537,767
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)						0	
Grants payable within 2021-22						0	
Total current liabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net current assets/liabilities	262,207	163,656	0	10,528	0	436,391	537,767
Total assets less current liabilities	11,272,233	163,656	0	10,528	0	11,446,417	2,897,016
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2021-22						0	
Loans to the Circuit	262,500					262,500	
Net assets	11,009,733	163,656	0	10,528	0	11,183,917	2,897,016
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	11,009,733					11,009,733	2,886,504
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)		163,656				163,656	
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			0			0	
Total Unrestricted Funds						11,173,389	2,886,504
Restricted Funds				10,528		10,528	10,511
Endowment Funds					0	0	
Total Funds	11,009,733	163,656	0	10,528	0	11,183,917	2,897,016

Signed

Sharon Heginbotham

Circuit Treasurer

Sharon Heginbotham

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer Sharon Heginbotham Date 2/1/24

Name and address of treasurer Mrs Sharon Heginbotham
8 Chinley Close Heaton Moor Stockport SK4 4ER

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 13/12/23

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Cathy Bird Date 18/12/23

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev'd Cathy Bird

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the United Stockport Circuit

Charity Number . 1134270

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134270

Accounts

United Stockport Circuit Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31st August 2021

Introduction

Welcome to our Trustees' Annual Report, where we will set out our achievements and plans for the future, as well as updating interested parties on a number of other important issues, such as finance, safeguarding and the public benefit we provide.

On September 1st 2020 the United Stockport Circuit joined with the Romiley Circuit, continuing under the name of the United Stockport Circuit. During 2020/21 the Pandemic continued to shape many of our activities. Three churches ceased to worship, Trinity, St. Johns and Christ Church Reddish and plans commenced to dispose of the property assets and transfer financial assets to the Circuit, which by default became the managing trustees. Revd Katie Smith joined the ordained staff team and the Circuit Meeting agreed a new strategy for ways of working and agreed to give delegated authority to the Circuit Leadership Team for governance matters in between Circuit Meetings. Tiviot Dale Church continued to be used as a COVID-19 test centre, with plans developing for the use of the church and the development of town centre ministry in Stockport post-pandemic.

Aims and organisation

The circuit's mission statement is:

The United Stockport Circuit seeks to encourage and support local churches and communities so that people of all ages may become followers of Jesus Christ, grow in faith and deepen discipleship.

The United Stockport Circuit believes in celebrating the love of God and the forgiveness of sin through the sacrifice which Jesus made, by sharing the good news of the gospel with the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We seek renewal and growth recognising the importance of worship, prayer, bible study, fellowship and caring as vital ingredients for that growth.

We are an active, creative and dynamic Circuit that reaches out to all, sharing the Love of God through **Our Calling**, the Methodist Church's statement of its purpose.

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

The Church exists to:

- Increase the awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love (Worship)
- Help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care (Learning and Caring)
- Be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice (Service)
- Make more followers of Jesus Christ (Evangelism)

(Our Calling Conference Report 2000)

The Following Strategy and Vision was agreed at the Circuit Meeting in September 2020.

As a Circuit we are committed to identifying those areas where we can support local churches by gathering and sharing expertise across the circuit. We are also committed to developing a pattern of work, worship and mission in the name of the Circuit.

In pursuit of these commitments we will emphasise two particular strands of vital work:

A Good Governance

B Public Witness

A Good Governance

We are committed to operating within all relevant Methodist and Charity legislation to ensure an excellent standard of safety and wellbeing for our people (members, employees, adherents and users) financial management and oversight of our land/buildings.

The purposes of the Circuit are expressed in SO 500 to *“include the effective employment of the resources of ministry, which include people, property and finance, as they relate to the Methodist churches in the Circuit, to churches of other denominations and to participation in the life of communities served by the Circuit...”*

The responsibilities of the Circuit Meeting are found in SO 515. It is to be *“responsible for the affairs of the Circuit and the development of circuit policy [and] it shall exercise that combination of spiritual leadership and administrative efficiency which will enable [it] to fulfil its purposes as set out in [SO 500]...”*

In considering how the newly constituted Circuit Meeting of the United Stockport Circuit (“USC”) can best exercise that combination of spiritual leadership and administrative efficiently after 1 September 2020, the working groups from the existing USC and from the Romiley Circuit propose that:

1. Day to day responsibility for governance will be delegated by the Circuit Meeting to the Circuit Leadership Team (Ministers and Circuit Stewards); and
2. Work will be progressed and supported through sub-groups, specifically Finance, Property, Safeguarding, Tiviot Dale Management, Local Preachers: see the table below.

In making those proposals the working groups recognise that governance is the ultimate responsibility of the Circuit Meeting, the members of which are the Managing Trustees of the Circuit’s property and finance. To allow the Circuit Meeting to effectively manage the Circuit’s affairs, in conjunction with the CLT:

- a. The Circuit Meeting will meet twice a year to engage with its Managing Trustee business;
- b. The Circuit Meeting will receive reports from the Circuit Sub-Groups, and will have general oversight of the Sub-Groups where those Sub-Groups do not report directly to the Circuit Meeting;

- c. The delegation of its powers by the Circuit Meeting will be subject to certain limits, for example as to the limit of expenditure which may be authorised by the CLT without the express approval of the Circuit Meeting.

B Public Witness

We are committed to being an outward looking Circuit. In pursuit of this commitment it is proposed to establish (initially) three Task Groups with the following remits:

1) Communications, Social Media and Campaigns

- Raising Social media profile for the Circuit
- Offering support in “ways of doing church” e.g. online
- Supporting task groups and local churches in campaigns, advertising, promotion of social events etc

2) Becoming an ecologically and environmentally sustainable Circuit

- Encouraging local churches and the Circuit overall to be ecologically and environmentally sustainable
- To encourage members to practise ecological and environmental sustainability

3) Being a church of the margins.

- Work with the elderly/those living with dementia
- Work with those experiencing exclusion (homeless, refugees, LGBT+, BAME community for example)
- Work with children, younger people, and those of working age

Brief financial review of the year

Income Trends

The income from the church assessments were affected by the residual affects of Covid-19. To meet this short fall a withdrawal from Circuit reserves, this was an unexpected expense. There was an increase income from the reserves that were transferred for the Romilly merger .

Expenditure trends

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases. Due to the pandemic and the planned closures of the worship churches at Trinity and St Johns there were some additional costs that hadn't been budgeted for. This resulted in a withdrawal from reserves to meet the shortfall.

Fund

As at 31 August 2021 the net current assets of the Circuit were £ 289,7015

giving approximately 24 months cover for expenditure.

Plans for 2021/22

Much will depend on the extent to which society and church are able to open up following on from the pandemic. The Circuit will continue to offer support to local churches as they map their futures and it is intended to commence a wider piece of work relating to Circuit strategy and viability. A focus will be on developing town centre ministry with the possibility of seeking a new ordained member of staff to work in that area of the circuit.

The proposed sales of St. Johns and Trinity Churches will bring additional income into the circuit to allow this to happen. Plans are in place to welcome a new property manager to oversee the premises at Tiviot Dale and assist with the disposal of Trinity and St. Johns.

Pandemic permitting, a full programme of worship and mission activities are planned across the circuit.

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remains 5 full time ordained staff with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard(FRS) 102

Full Name of Charity: United Stockport Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1134270.

Main communication address Tiviot Dale Methodist Church, Tiviot Dale, Stockport SK1 1TA

The members of the United Stockport Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Full membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

Active Circuit Ministers	Rev Catherine Bird
	Rev Raj Patta.
	Rev Lindsay Kemp
	Rev. Katie Smith
	Deacon .Annette Sharp

Circuit Stewards Mrs Mrs. Viki Packman
 Mrs. Jayne Quinn
 Mrs Susan Beatty
 Mr Frank Dean
 Mr Dave Bryant
 Mrs Sharon Heginbotham
 Mr. Barry Shillito

Administrator: Mrs Christine Hufton

Name of treasurer acting as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year. Mrs. Sharon Heginbotham

Independent examiner: Alan Brekin, ACA. 10 Prospect Place, Bury BL9 8EX.

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Bankers : CO-OP Bank Skelmersdale

Aims and organisation

The Charity objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around the Greater Manchester Borough of Stockport for the Methodist Church.

1)The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union the advancement of:

- a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;

- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- 2) The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike.
 - 3) The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
 - 4) The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
 - 5) Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
 - 6) Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
 - 7) Provision of chaplaincy services where required.

Public Benefit

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

Structure, Governance and Management

"The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership Team, who hold delegated authority from the Circuit Meeting, along with the Local Preachers meeting, both reporting to the Circuit Meeting.

Trustee Training

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

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the Manchester and Stockport District of the Methodist Church and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Windlehurst Methodist Church

Hazel Grove Methodist Church

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church

Davenport Methodist Church

Trinity Methodist Church (ceased to worship)

St. John's Methodist Church (ceased to worship)

Christ Church, Reddish Methodist Church, (ceased to worship)

Tiviot Dale Methodist Church

Heaton Moor Methodist Church

Heaton Mersey Methodist Church

Edgeley Methodist Church

Woodley Methodist Church

Romiley Methodist Church

Marple Methodist Church (including Jubilee)

The Ridge Methodist Church

Any other specific organisations with specific linkage.

None

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Circuit leadership Team with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The United Stockport Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The United Stockport Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 6 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manse and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes to the accounts	Circuit Model				Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2020-21
		General Fund (Unrestricted)	Trust (Unrestricted)	C F B				
		£	£	£	£	£	£	
Income								
1 Donations and legacies		1,436					1,436	
2 Income from monetary investments		61					61	
3 Income from investment properties		30,805					30,805	
4 Assessments on Churches		323,070					323,070	
Lay Workers		78,354					78,354	
Gas & Electric		25,493					25,493	
7 Other + Romiley		51,134	42,664	185,885			279,683	
8 Total income		510,353	42,664	185,885	-	-	738,902	
Expenditure								
9 Grants and donations		2,122					2,122	
10 Salaries and associated costs		183,972					183,972	
11 Property maintenance		56,188					56,188	
Lay Workers		116,278					116,278	
13 District Assessment & Levy		79,948	9,105				89,053	
Gas & Electric		22,725					22,725	
15 Office expenses		5,359					5,359	
16 Other outgoings		68,910					68,910	
17 Total charitable expenditure		535,502	9,105	0	0	0	544,607	
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		374	318	58	11		761	
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		38,358					38,358	
20 Net income/(expenditure)		13,583	33,877	185,943	11	0	233,414	
21 Transfers between funds							0	
22 Other gains/(losses) + 3 Manses		871,644					871,644	
23 Net movement in funds		885,227	33,877	185,943	11	0	1,105,058	
24 Total funds brought forward		1,549,347	232,110		10,500		1,791,957	
25 Total funds carried forward		2,434,574	265,987	185,943	10,511	-	2,897,015	

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

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Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2020/21 £	Totals 2019/20 £
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Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	2,359,248					2,359,248	1,449,246
Investment properties						0	
Investments						0	
Total fixed assets	2,359,248	0	0	0	0	2,359,248	1,449,246

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Current Assets

Debtors						0	
Loans by the Circuit						0	
Investments with TMCP	281,940			10,511		292,451	258,188
Central Finance Board Deposits	185,943					185,943	
Cash at Bank and in hand	59,373					59,373	84,523
Total current assets	527,256	0	0	10,511	0	537,767	342,711

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Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)						0	
Grants payable within 2018-19						0	
Total current liabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net current assets/liabilities	527,256	0	0	10,511	0	537,767	342,711

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Total assets less current liabilities	2,886,504	0	0	10,511	0	2,897,015	1,791,957
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2018-19						0	
Loans to the Circuit						0	
						0	
Net assets	2,886,504	0	0	10,511	0	2,897,015	1,791,957

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Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)	2,886,504					2,886,504	1,549,347
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)		0				0	232,110
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			0			0	
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,886,504	1,781,457
Restricted Funds				10,511		10,511	10,500
Endowment Funds					0	0	
Total Funds	2,886,504	0	0	10,511	0	2,897,015	1,791,957

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Signed

Sharon Heginbotham

Circuit Treasurer

Mrs Sharon Heginbotham

To be completed by Circuits with total income and endowments of more than £500,000

Name of Circuit **United Stockport Circuit**

Circuit No **19/02**

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 August 2021

Statement of cash flows	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Cash from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities		225,922	115,521
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		-30,866	-8,946
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment			
Purchase of intangible assets			
Proceeds from the sale of investments			
Purchase of investments			
Other			
Net cash provided by investing activities		-30,866	-8,946
Cash flows from financing activities			
New borrowing			
Repayments of borrowing			
Net cash used in financing activities		0	0
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		195,056	106,575
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		342,711	236,136
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		537,767	342,711
		2021	2020
		£	£
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities			
Net income for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)		195,056	106,575
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation and amortisation charges			
Profit on the sale of fixed assets			
Loss on the sale of fixed assets			
Gains on investments			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		30,866	8,946
Decrease/(increase) in stocks			
(increase)/decrease in debtors			
increase/(decrease) in creditors			
Net cash used in operating activities		225,922	115,521
		2021	2020
		£	£
Analysis of cash and cash equivalent			
Cash in hand		59,373	84,523
Short term deposit (less than 3 months)		478,394	258,188
Total cash and cash equivalents		537,767	342,711

Name of Circuit ...

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT..... No...19 02.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

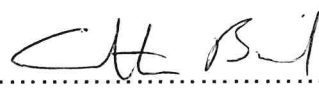
I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer ..... Date 22/5/22.....

Name and address of treasurer ... **MRS SHARON HEGINBOTHAM**
8 Chinley Close Heaton Moor Stockport SK4 4ER

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

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

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting ... **REV'D CATHY BIRD**..... Date 22/5/22.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the ...UNITED STOCKPORT Circuit

Charity Number 1134270.....

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the UNITED STOCKPORT... 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit ...

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT..... No...19 02.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

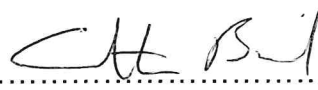
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Signature of treasurer ..... Date.. 22/5/22.....

Name and address of treasurer ... **MRS SHARON HEGINBOTHAM**
8 Chinley Close Heaton Moor Stockport SK4 4ER

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

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

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting ... **REV'D CATHY BIRD**..... Date 22/5/22.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

...**UNITED STOCKPORT Circuit**

Charity Number 1134270.....

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the UNITED STOCKPORT... 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134270

Accounts

United Stockport Circuit Trustees' Annual Report for year ending 31st August 2020

Introduction

Welcome to our Trustees' Annual Report, where we will set out our achievements and plans for the future, as well as updating interested parties on a number of other important issues, such as finance, safeguarding and the public benefit we provide.

During 2019/20 the Pandemic put paid to many of the activities of the churches, however the staff team were able to offer online worship and other activities across the Circuit. In December 2019 the worshipping community at Tiviot Dale (Connect) made a decision to leave the Methodist Church. This coincided with the start of the pandemic and a request from the local authority to use the Tiviot Dale Building as a COVID-19 test Centre. With the departure of Connect, Tiviot Dale was taken into the trusteeship of the Circuit and it was agreed to allow the building to be used for this purpose. Plans to unite the Circuit with the Romiley Circuit continued to move ahead.

Aims and organisation

The circuit's mission statement is:

The United Stockport Circuit seeks to encourage and support local churches and communities so that people of all ages may become followers of Jesus Christ, grow in faith and deepen discipleship.

The United Stockport Circuit believes in celebrating the love of God and the forgiveness of sin through the sacrifice which Jesus made, by sharing the good news of the gospel with the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We seek renewal and growth recognising the importance of worship, prayer, bible study, fellowship and caring as vital ingredients for that growth.

We are an active, creative and dynamic Circuit that reaches out to all, sharing the Love of God through **Our Calling**, the Methodist Church's statement of its purpose.

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

The Church exists to:

- Increase the awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love (Worship)
- Help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care (Learning and Caring)
- Be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice (Service)
- Make more followers of Jesus Christ (Evangelism)

(Our Calling Conference Report 2000)

Brief financial review of the year

Income trends

The income from the church assessments was as expected, even with the church at Tivot Dale ceasing to worship, this did not affect the income, as they had been exempt from assessment due to it being a church plant. There were no additional revenue streams for the circuit beyond the monies collected from the churches and rental of a manse.

Expenditure trends

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases. Due to the pandemic and the closure of the worship church at Tivot Dale there were some additional costs that hadn't been budgeted for. This resulted in a withdrawal from reserves to meet the shortfall.

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2020 the net current assets of the Circuit were £ 320,796.57, giving approximately 24 months cover for expenditure.

Plans for 2020/21

A union with the Romiley Methodist Circuit will result in the Circuit increasing from 11 churches to 16. We will welcome a new member of Staff to minister in Woodley, Romiley and Windelhurst Churches. Formal plans will be brought to the Circuit Meeting to give delegated authority to the Circuit Leadership Team for most governance matters in between Circuit Meetings.

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remains 5 full time ordained staff with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district, no increase has been applied to the assessment, any shortfall will be met by circuit reserves. This was agreed to reflect the affect that the pandemic may have on church income.

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard(FRS) 102

Full Name of Charity: United Stockport Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1134270

Date of registration: 11 February 2010

Main communication address Tivot Dale Methodist Church, Tivot Dale, Stockport SK1 1TA

- a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
 - b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
 - c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
 - d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- 2) The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike.
 - 3) The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
 - 4) The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
 - 5) Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
 - 6) Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
 - 7) Provision of chaplaincy services where required.

Public Benefit

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

Structure, Governance and Management

"The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership Team along with the Local Preachers meeting, both reporting to the Circuit Meeting.

Trustee Training

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

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the Manchester and Stockport District of the Methodist Church and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Windlehurst Methodist Church, Windlehurst Road, High Lane, Stockport, SK6 8AF

Hazel Grove Methodist Church, Wesley Street, Hazel Grove, Stockport, SK7 4JQ

Dialstone Lane Methodist Church, 161 Dialstone Lane, Offerton, Stockport, SK2 7LQ

Davenport Methodist Church, Garners Lane, Davenport, Stockport, SK3 8QS

Trinity Methodist Church, Trinity Gardens, Stockport, SK3 8TL

St. John's Methodist Church, Stockport Rd, Stockport, SK3 0HZ

Christ Church, Reddish Methodist Church, 7 Lillian Grove, Reddish, Stockport, SK5 6EQ

Tiviot Dale Methodist Church, Tiviot Dale, Stockport, SK1 1TA

Heaton Moor Methodist Church, Stanley Road, Heaton Moor, Stockport, SK4 4HL

Heaton Mersey Methodist Church, 49 Cavendish Road, Heaton Mersey, Stockport, SK4 3DP

Edgeley Methodist Church, Edgeley Road, Stockport, SK3 9NB

Any other specific organisations with specific linkage.

None

Risk Management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Circuit leadership Team with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable

- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The United Stockport Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The United Stockport Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 6 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and / or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.



Church Representatives on Circuit Meeting (Trustees)

	Church Leadership	Treasurer	One Other
Christ Church	TBC	Lesley Dean	Neville Rands
Davenport	Judith Mottram	Eddie Partington	Mildred Spooner
Dialstone Lane	Susan Conlon	Jane Hollins	Andrew Mason
Edgeley	Barbara Aspinall	Penny Ollerenshaw	Margaret Foley
Hazel Grove	TBC	Ian Chesters	TBC
Heaton Mersey	Julia Dickson	Sue Ainsworth	Anne Cowlshaw
Heaton Moor	Barbara Lowe	Jim Lowe	Sue Jones
St. John's	Janice Hemsall	Barry Shillito	Sue Shillito
Trinity	Margaret Cavanagh	Stewart Coates	Jean Tudge
Windlehurst	Muriel Shepley	Graham Clarke	Bernie Rowlands

Trustees

Ministers	Cathy Bird Lindsay Kemp Raj Patta
Circuit Leadership Team (+ Ministers)	David Bryant Frank Dean Sharon Heginbotham Liz Morrell Jayne Quinn Barry Shillito (Treasurer)
Supernumerary Ministers	Rev'd Andrew Palmer
Circuit Meeting Secretary	Judith Adshead
Complaints Officer	Cathy Bird
Property	Alan Stephens
Local Preachers Secretary	Frank Dean
Local Preachers Representative	Ann Dawber
Connexional Funds	Eddie Partington
MWiB – Secretary	Marguerite Hall
Public Issues	Liz Turner
Mission in Britain	Janet Partington
World Church	Eddie Partington
Safeguarding Officer	Hugh McLaughlin

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2019/20 £	Totals 2018/19 £	
Fixed Assets								
Circuit Manses & Equipment	1,449,246					1,449,246	742,082	R
Investment properties						0		R
Investments						0		
Total fixed assets	1,449,246	0	0	0	0	1,449,246	742,082	
Current Assets								
Debtors						0		S
Loans by the Circuit						0		
Investments with TMCP	15,578	232,110		10,500		258,188	186,442	
Central Finance Board Deposits						0		T
Cash at Bank and in hand	84,523					84,523	49,694	
Total current assets	100,101	232,110	0	10,500	0	342,711	236,136	
Current liabilities								
Creditors (due in under 1 year)						0		U
Grants payable within 2018-19						0		V
Total current liabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Net current assets/liabilities	100,101	232,110	0	10,500	0	342,711	236,136	
Total assets less current liabilities	1,549,347	232,110	0	10,500	0	1,791,957	978,218	
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)								
Grants payable after 2018-19						0		V
Loans to the Circuit						0		
						0		
Net assets	1,549,347	232,110	0	10,500	0	1,791,957	978,218	W
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)	1,549,347					1,549,347	807,391	W
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)		232,110				232,110	166,103	
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			0			0		
Total Unrestricted Funds						1,781,457	973,494	
Restricted Funds				10,500		10,500	4,724	
Endowment Funds					0	0		
Total Funds	1,549,347	232,110	0	10,500	0	1,791,957	978,218	

Signed



Circuit Treasurer

Mr Barry Shillito

Name of Circuit

UNITED STOCKPORT CIRCUIT

Circuit No

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £
Income						
1	Donations and legacies	110				
2	Income from monetary investments	141	1,260			
3	Income from investment properties	8,805				
4	Assessments on Churches	222,300				
5	Lay Workers	68,497				
6	Gas & Electric	24,774				
7	Other charitable income Hazel Grove	69,900	74,191		5,740	
8	Total income	394,527	75,451	-	5,740	-
Expenditure						
9	Grants and donations	1,110				
10	Salaries and associated costs	130,228				
11	Property maintenance	8,664				
12	Lay Workers	91,014				
13	District Assessment & Levy	47,996	9,444			
14	Gas & Electric	28,605				
15	Office expenses	3,682				
16	Other outgoings	48,399				
17	Total charitable expenditure	359,698	9,444	0	0	0
18	Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	- 37			36	
19	Gains/(losses) on investment properties					
20	Net income/(expenditure)	34,792	66,007	0	5,776	0
21	Transfers between funds					
22	Other gains/(losses) 2 Manses	707,164				
23	Net movement in funds	741,956	66,007	0	5,776	0
24	Total funds brought forward	807,391	166,103		4,724	
25	Total funds carried forward	1,549,347	232,110	-	10,500	-

19 02

Total 2019-
20
£

110
1,401
8,805
222,300
68,497
24,774
149,831
475,718

1,110
130,228
8,664
91,014
57,440
28,605
3,682
48,399
369,142

-1

106,575

0

707,164

813,739

978,218

1,791,957

Name of Circuit

Circuit No

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2019

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total	2018- 19
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income								
1	Donations and legacies							0
2	Income from monetary investments	161						161
3	Income from investment properties	2,282						2,282
4	Assessments on Churches	158,000						158,000
5	Lay Workers	53,770						53,770
6	Gas & Electric	22,529						22,529
7	Other charitable income	17,668						17,668
8	Total income	254,410	-	-	-	-		254,410
Expenditure								
9	Grants and donations							0
10	Salaries and associated costs	105,125						105,125
11	Property maintenance	6,903						6,903
12	Lay Workers	66,492						66,492
13	District Assessment & Levy	32,714	7,106					39,820
14	Gas & Electric	25,456						25,456
15	Office expenses	2,418						2,418
16	Other outgoings	29,602						29,602
17	Total charitable expenditure	268,710	7,106	0	0	0		275,816
18	Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	26	1,096		15			1,137
19	Gains/(losses) on investment properties							
20	Net income/(expenditure)	-14,274	-6,010	0	15	0		-20,269
21	Transfers between funds	20,000	-	20,000				0
22	Other gains/(losses)	25,093						25,093
23	Net movement in funds	30,819	-26,010	0	15	0		4,824
24	Total funds brought forward	776,572	192,113		4,709			973,394
25	Total funds carried forward	807,391	166,103	-	4,724	-		978,218

To be completed by Circuits with total income and endowments of more than £500,000

Name of Circuit

Circuit No

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 August 2020

Statement of cash flows

Note

Cash from operating activities

Net cash used in operating activities

Cash flows from investing activities

Dividends, interest and rents from investments
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment
Purchase of property, plant and equipment
Purchase of intangible assets
Proceeds from the sale of investments
Purchase of investments
Other

Net cash provided by investing activities

Cash flows from financing activities

New borrowing
Repayments of borrowing

Net cash used in financing activities

Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period

Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period

Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

Net income for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)

Adjustments for:

Depreciation and amortisation charges
Profit on the sale of fixed assets
Loss on the sale of fixed assets
Gains on investments
Dividends, interest and rents from investments
Decrease/(increase) in stocks
(increase)/decrease in debtors
increase/(decrease) in creditors

Net cash used in operating activities

Analysis of cash and cash equivalent

Cash in hand

Short term deposit (less than 3 months)

Total cash and cash equivalent

)

2020	2019
£	£
<hr/>	<hr/>
0	0
<hr/>	<hr/>

<hr/>	<hr/>
0	0

<hr/>	<hr/>
0	0
0	
0	
0	0

2020	2019
£	£
<hr/>	<hr/>

0 0

2020 2019
£ £

0 0

GUIDANCE NOTES

**There is an exemplar within the guidance notes produced by The South Bedfordshire Me
All the items included in the notes to the accounts for this Circuit may not be applicable
your notes to the accounts.**

Important note:

**Comparatives for the summary of assets and liabilities of each category of fund of the cl
Therefore notes BS10 and BS 11 need to be reproduced to cover the previous year.**

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 

Name of independent examiner **MR ALAN BRECHIN**

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner **ACA**

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address **10 PROSPECT PLACE**
BURY
..... **LANSHIRE**

Post Code **BL9 8EX**

Date **20.2.22**

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-20