

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

England & Wales · Charity number 1134357

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2010-02-17

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

Contact

Address Methodist Church
High Street
Hailsham
East Sussex
BN27 1AU

Phone 01323 840026

Email centralsussexarea@outlook.com

Website www.csua.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: To proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. To teach, baptise and nurture believers. To respond to human need by loving service. To seek to transform unjust social structures of society. To strive to safeguard the integrity or creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Classification

- **How:** Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- East Sussex
- West Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£569,509	£597,482	£3,656,560	6
2023-08-31	£645,756	£401,291	£3,504,533	6
2022-08-31	£375,407	£384,648	-	-
2021-08-31	£548,791	£934,999	£3,271,007	13
2020-08-31	£360,826	£553,621	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ALAN NEVILLE COLGATE		2015-05-01
Adrian James Morris		2020-09-01
Andrew David Feasey		2020-09-01
Andrew David Ferris		2020-09-01
Angela Bridget Jenkins		2015-02-25
Bernard John Dignum		2017-06-01
CAROLYN FRANCES AUGER		
Carol Jewell		2015-01-01
Daniel Ellison McQuillin		2021-03-23
Dr Brenda Vance		2017-09-01
Heather Johnson		2020-09-01
Helen Abel		2021-05-01
Hugh Cochrane Young		2020-09-01
JEREMY NIGEL HALLETT		
Janet Walton		2019-05-01
Janice May Crompton		2020-09-01
Jennifer Ann Gandy		2021-05-01
Jennifer Dorothy Macfadyen		2020-09-01
Kathleen Shaw		2019-01-23
Neil Graham Fisher		2014-11-01
Rev ANDREW SIMON CHRISTIAN MELVIN		2017-07-01
Rev Ann Caffyn		2018-09-01
Rev BRIDGET JANE BANKS		2021-03-23
Rev Barbara Theresa Evans-Routley		2020-09-01
Rev KEITH JAMES MORRISON		2015-02-28
Rev Memona Shahbaz		2020-09-01
Rev Paul Simon Tabraham		2014-09-01

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev William Fletcher		2020-09-01
Robert Maurice Drake		2020-09-01

Accounts

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024



CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	5
Independent auditor's report	6-7
Statement of financial activities	9
Statement of financial position	10
Statement of cash flows	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 24

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Alan Colgate	Heather Johnson
	Andrew Feasey	Howard Riddall
	Andrew Ferris	Janet Walton
	Andy Melvin (Reverend)	Janice Crompton
	Angela Jenkins	Jennie Macfadyen
	Angela Simmons	Jenny Gandy
	Ann Caffyn (Reverend)	Jeremy Hallett
	Barbara Evans-Routley (Reverend)	John Lane (reisgned 31/08/2024)
	Bernard Dignum	Keith Morrison (Reverend)
	Brenda Vance	Memona Shahaz (Reverend)
	Bridget Banks (Reverend)	Neil Fisher
	Carole Short	Paul Tabraham (Reverend)
	Carolyn Auger	Rob Drake
	Chris Hitchins	Stuart Dew (appointed 01/09/2024)
	Cochrane Young	Tom Foreman
	Dan McQuillin	Will Fletcher (Reverend)
	David Cumbers (Reverend)	Helen Abel (resigned 01/03/2024)
	David Hinchcliffe (Reverend)	Kathleen Shaw (resigned 01/05/2024)
	Deacon Vicky Welsh	
Charity number	1134357	
Principal address	Hailsham Methodist Church High Street Hailsham East Sussex BN27 1AU	
Auditor	Caladine Limited Chantry House 22 Upperton Road Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 1BF	
Bankers	Charities Aid Foundation Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of formation :-

(a) the advancement of the Christian Faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;

(b) any Charitable purpose for the time being of any connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;

(c) any Charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;

(d) any purpose for the time being of any Society being a Charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church.

The strategies adopted for achieving these objectives are:

- The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike.
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
- Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
- Provision of chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Central Sussex United Area (CSUA) covers from Seaford to Eastbourne and inland to Haywards Heath & Crowborough. CSUA is a joint area combining Methodist and URC Churches. It is managed by a Methodist Superintendent and a URC Leader supported by the CSUA Treasurer. There are five paid Methodist ministers (including the Methodist Superintendent) and four URC Ministers (paid by URC) as well as a number of retired ministers who, together with Local Preachers, undertake the majority of services. In addition a Sunday evening service is broadcast via ZOOM.

At the start of the year there were 23 churches which reduced to 21 during the year. Hurstpierpoint Methodist Church ceased to hold services at December 2023 and the church buildings are being maintained by CSUA until sold.

CSUA is responsible for the maintenance of the seven Methodist Manses (two of which are rented out thus providing some income) as well as paying the Methodist ministers' stipend.

To ensure all trustees are kept informed there are a number of meetings held (mainly via Zoom) for the Executive and Finance & Property sub-committees as well as for the Area (quarterly). The financial position is reported at each meeting.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Financial review

During the year, CSUA received total income of £569,509 (2023: £654,756), incurred costs of £597,482 (2023: £401,291) and there was a net gain on investment properties of £180,000 (2023: nil), leading to a surplus of £152,057 (2023: surplus of £244,465). This can be analysed as a decrease in the general fund of £27,973 (2023: increase of £34,650) and increase in restricted fund of £180,000 (2023: increase of £209,815).

Income

The majority of income is drawn from the contributions paid by the Area churches. This amounted to £342,608 (2023: £354,957). Other income includes rental income £36,600 (2023: £36,600) from the rent of empty manses.

Expenditure

The most significant areas of expenditure are Stipends - £202,904 (2023: £193,338) and new Grants committed to Area churches: £178,338 (2023: £9,262)

The Area also made a contribution to the District and Connexion of £72,819 (2023: £76,655), a significant part of which is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six months' expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the Charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

As at 31 August 2024 the net unrestricted current assets of the Area amounted to £81,745 (2023: £109,718).

Safeguarding

The Central Sussex United Area commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Safeguarding policy as an integral part of its life and ministry. Safeguarding is about the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will:

- promote the welfare of children, young people and adults
- work to prevent abuse from occurring
- seek to protect and respond well to those that have been abused.

We are committed to:

- The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and all adults;
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and all adults
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse

To this end:

- We will carefully select, support and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with the principles of Safer Recruitment.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that any adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including their feelings of alienation and/or isolation.
- We will seek to protect survivors of abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of respect and responsibility, where they are trusted by others.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision, and referral to the appropriate authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or adult who is vulnerable.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Structure, governance and management

The Central Sussex United Area is a registered charity number 1134357.

In accordance with resolutions of the meetings of Mid Sussex and Eastbourne Circuits of The Methodist Church and subsequently approved by Connexional authorities of The Methodist Church together with the approval of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church, the aforementioned bodies agreed that the Central Sussex United Area was to be formed as from 1st September 2007.

The United Area assumed responsibility for liabilities of the respective entities and took control of the assets previously mentioned (subject to Standing Orders of the United Reformed Church and The Methodist Church).

The governing document for the Area 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 Area is undertaken by the Area Meeting along with the Preachers & Worship Leaders Meeting and the Area Executive Committee.

The Area is responsible for funding the payment of Methodist clergy stipends and related expenses, the provision of manse, and the general oversight of various churches as detailed within these financial statements. Income is generated by assessments raised on Area Methodist Churches and Local Ecumenical Partnerships.

The Central Sussex United Area of the Methodist & United Reformed Churches was registered with the Charity Commission on the 17 February 2010.

The Central Sussex United Area is governed by the Area Meeting, which comprises the trustees named on the information page. Many functions are delegated to the Executive Committee and officers appointed by the Area Meeting.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Area Ministers and Officers:

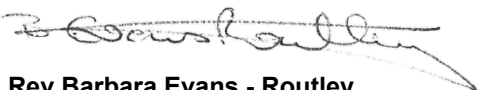
Active Area Ministers	Rev Barbara Evans-Routley Rev Paul Tabraham Rev Andy Melvin Rev William Fletcher Deacon Vicky Welsh Rev Bridget Banks Rev David Hinchcliffe Rev David Cumbers Rev Keith Morrison Rev Memona Shahbaz
Area Co-Leaders	Rev Barbara Evans-Routley Mr John Lane (resigned 31/08/2024) Stuart Dew (appointed 01/09/2024)
Area Lay Workers	Mrs Jennifer Gandy Mrs Carole Short
Area Officers	Mrs Carole Short Mrs Heather Johnson Ms Jennie Macfadyen Dr Brenda Vance Mr Chris Hitchins (CSUA Treasurer)
Area Secretary	Mrs Jennifer Gandy
Administrators	As Area Lay workers above

Trustee Training

Guidance produced by The Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church to support the effective running of the Area is provided online by the denominational websites and all new Area Meeting members are encouraged to access this material.

Area Officers are appointed by a majority vote by the members of the Area Meeting. Only candidates with suitable spiritual and business maturity are appointed.

On behalf of the Trustees



Rev Barbara Evans - Routley
CSUA Co-Leader

Dated: 28 May 2025

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and 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.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Central Sussex United Area (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the statement of financial position, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 incoming resources and application of resources, 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 financial statements are 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 annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, 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 cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

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 from our commercial 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 and employment legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- 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; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Audit response to risks identified

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates 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 were 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 and relevant regulators

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements 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 (FRS 102)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Caladine

Caladine Limited

29 May 2025

**Chartered Certified Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Caladine Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes						
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	10,493	-	10,493	20,631	-	20,631
Charitable activities	4	379,208	-	379,208	391,557	-	391,557
Investments	5	4,804	-	4,804	3,605	-	3,605
Other income	6	175,004	-	175,004	-	229,963	229,963
Total income		569,509	-	569,509	415,793	229,963	645,756
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	7	4,349	-	4,349	6,269	-	6,269
Charitable activities	8	593,133	-	593,133	395,022	-	395,022
Total expenditure		597,482	-	597,482	401,291	-	401,291
Net gains/(losses) on investments	14	-	180,000	180,000	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,973)	180,000	152,027	14,502	229,963	244,465
Transfers between funds	22	-	-	-	20,148	(20,148)	-
Net movement in funds	11	(27,973)	180,000	152,027	34,650	209,815	244,465
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 September 2023		109,718	3,394,815	3,504,533	75,068	3,185,000	3,260,068
Fund balances at 31 August 2024		81,745	3,574,815	3,656,560	109,718	3,394,815	3,504,533

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

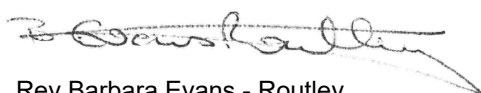
CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Property, plant and equipment	17	2,499,815		3,394,815	
Investment properties	16	1,075,000		-	
		3,574,815		3,394,815	
Current assets					
Trade and other receivables	18	23,840		21,459	
Cash at bank and in hand		102,499		146,592	
		126,339		168,051	
Current liabilities	19	(44,594)		(58,333)	
Net current assets			81,745		109,718
Total assets less current liabilities			3,656,560		3,504,533
Income funds					
Restricted funds	22	3,574,815		3,394,815	
Unrestricted funds		81,745		109,718	
		3,656,560		3,504,533	

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 28 May 2025



Rev Barbara Evans - Routley
Trustee

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash absorbed by operations	26		(223,901)		(282,048)
Investing activities					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-		(576,815)	
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		175,004		596,963	
Investment income received		4,804		3,605	
Net cash generated from investing activities			179,808		23,753
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents			(44,093)		(258,295)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			146,592		404,887
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			102,499		146,592

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Central Sussex United Area is a registered charity governed by its Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976).

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

In addition to holding unrestricted funds, the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are flexible in permitting proceeds from the sale of Area property to be used to support Area projects. Thus, whilst they are disclosed as restricted assets, the Trustees are confident they would be able to utilise these assets should future funding be required to continue the work of the Area.

Therefore, at the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised when a constructive obligation exists, the payment is probable and the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Resources expended are allocated to the particular cost centre to which they relate and include irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

There is no record of the original cost of the Freehold Methodist church sites and due to their specialist nature these are notoriously difficult to value. For these reasons, no value is attributed to these properties in the accounts.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following basis:

Land and buildings	No depreciation
--------------------	-----------------

The freehold land and buildings belonging to CSUA were revalued as at the FRS102 transition date (1 September 2015). The charity has elected to use this revaluation as the deemed cost of those properties on the transition date in accordance with the transitional provision contained in section 35.10 (c) of FRS102.

No provision is made for depreciation of the freehold properties held as manses because:-

- It is the policy of the trustees to maintain them to a high standard
- Their estimated residual value exceeds their value stated in the accounts

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Investment property

Investment property, which is property held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, is initially recognised at cost, which includes the purchase cost and any directly attributable expenditure. Subsequently it is measured at fair value at the reporting end date. The surplus or deficit on revaluation is recognised in profit or loss.

1.8 Impairment of non-current assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.10 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.13 United Reformed Church

a) Title to United Reformed Church sites vests in the URC Southern Synod Trust Ltd, as trustee with ownership reflected in the local Church Financial Statements. Responsibility for the costs of clergy residences applies as follows:-

(i) The URC Southern Synod Trust Ltd is responsible for capital expenditure on clergy residence(s). They also monitor the residences and will initiate necessary capital expenditure and once purchased beneficial ownership is vested with the local Church.

(ii) Local churches bear the costs of structural maintenance of clergy residences within its area. The local church members also bear the costs of local authority charges, insurance, and maintenance costs of these properties.

b) URC employed clergy receive stipends from their parent denomination.

c) Discussion between the denominations are held for the purpose of agreeing the allocation of Area costs where appropriate.

d) Grants were received in the year by the Area from the URC churches totaling £1,740 (2023: £1,960) which were earmarked for office and administration.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Grants	10,318	20,606
Other	175	25
	<u>10,493</u>	<u>20,631</u>
Grants		
Grants from URC churches	1,740	1,960
Grant arising on closure of Haven Church	-	18,646
Grant arising on closure of Hurstpierpoint Methodist Church	8,578	-
	<u>10,318</u>	<u>20,606</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Charitable activities		
Charitable rental income	36,600	36,600
Contributions from area churches	342,608	354,957
	<u>379,208</u>	<u>391,557</u>

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	<u>4,804</u>	<u>3,605</u>

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	<u>175,004</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>175,004</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>229,963</u>	<u>229,963</u>

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Professional fees	4,349	4,349
Property repairs	-	1,920
	<u>4,349</u>	<u>6,269</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities	Charitable activities
	2024	2023
	£	£
Direct costs		
Staff costs	202,904	193,338
Contributions: Methodist Church fund	58,121	59,220
Contributions: South East District	14,698	17,435
Training and fellowship meetings	12	-
Telephone and broadband	3,118	2,506
Travel and expenses	6,270	6,445
Pulpit supplies	993	3,010
Office supplies	1,881	3,668
Relocation costs	1,437	-
	<u>289,434</u>	<u>285,622</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	178,338	9,262
Share of support and governance costs (see note 10)		
Support	113,531	91,062
Governance	11,830	9,076
	<u>593,133</u>	<u>395,022</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>593,133</u>	<u>395,022</u>

9 Grants payable

	Charitable activities	Charitable activities
	2024	2023
	£	£
Grants to institutions:		
Eastbourne Emmanuel Church Development	175,004	-
Central Sussex Area Church Projects	3,334	9,262
	<u>178,338</u>	<u>9,262</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

10 Support costs allocated to activities

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	7,800	7,800
Area Advance fund levy and management	1,362	17,986
Rates and utilities	19,307	16,949
Property maintenance and refurbishment	71,363	39,283
Administration	754	304
Insurance	12,176	7,907
Apprenticeship levy	769	783
Sundry expenses	-	50
Governance	11,830	9,076
	<u>125,361</u>	<u>100,138</u>

	2024 £	2023 £
Governance costs comprise:		
Audit fees	4,620	4,520
Accountancy	2,310	1,990
Legal and professional	4,442	1,805
Payroll costs	384	701
Bank charges	74	60
	<u>11,830</u>	<u>9,076</u>

11 Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	4,620	4,520
Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment	<u>(175,004)</u>	<u>(229,963)</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

12 Trustees

In their capacities as Church Ministers, salaries of the Presbyters and Deacon, who are Trustees of the Charity, are funded by the Area. In addition to their salaries they are reimbursed for travel and other expenses and provided with living accommodation.

Salaries paid to the Presbyters and Deacon are set centrally by the Methodist Church and published on their website at <https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/finance/stipends-and-payroll/stipends-and-lay-employment-rates/>. The total gross salaries paid to the Presbyters and Deacon amounted £149,491 (2023: £143,213) and the Area also contributed £39,059 (2023: £36,218) into a pension scheme for these staff.

One Trustee, Jennifer Gandy, was employed by the Area to undertake administrative work. During the year she received £7,800 (2023: £7,800) for her work.

None of the wages paid were for services rendered as a Trustee, and all payments were paid under the authority given in the governing document.

Other than stated above, none of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Charity during the year.

13 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Methodist Ministers	5	5
Administration	1	1
Total	6	6

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	157,291	151,013
Social security costs	14,354	13,907
Other pension costs	39,059	36,218
	210,704	201,138

The salaries of the United Reformed ministers are paid by the United Reformed Church.

The pension contributions are paid into the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme, for all the Methodist Presbyters and Deacon in the Area.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

14 Gains and losses on investments

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2023 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investment properties	180,000	-

15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

16 Investment property

	2024 £
Fair value	
At 1 September 2023	-
Transfers from owner-occupied property	895,000
Net gains or losses through fair value adjustments	180,000
At 31 August 2024	1,075,000

Investment property comprises of 27 Farlaine Road and 24 Kedale Road. The fair value of the investment property has been arrived at on the basis of a valuation carried out at 24 Kendale Road by Phillip Mann Estate Agents and 27 Farlaine Road by Coster Harvey Estate Agents, neither of whom are connected with the charity. The valuation was made on an open market value basis by reference to market evidence of transaction prices for similar properties.

17 Property, plant and equipment

	Land and buildings £
Cost	
At 1 September 2023	3,394,815
Transfer to investment property	(895,000)
At 31 August 2024	2,499,815
Carrying amount	
At 31 August 2024	2,499,815
At 31 August 2023	3,394,815

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

17 Property, plant and equipment (Continued)

The freehold land and buildings included above consist of a number of residential manses belonging to CSUA. These properties were revalued as at the FRS102 transition date (1 September 2015). The charity has elected to use this revaluation as the deemed cost of those properties on the transition date in accordance with the transitional provision contained in section 35.10 (c) of FRS102.

CSUA also owns several Church sites, however, no record of their original cost is available and in the opinion of the trustees it is not possible to estimate their value.

18 Trade and other receivables

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Stipends in advance	17,065	17,251
Other receivables	-	4,208
Prepayments and accrued income	6,775	-
	<u>23,840</u>	<u>21,459</u>

19 Current liabilities

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Other taxation and social security		(499)	(479)
Deferred income	20	1,698	1,698
Assessments received in advance		34,509	32,013
Other payables		1,903	972
Accruals and deferred income		6,983	24,129
		<u>44,594</u>	<u>58,333</u>

20 Deferred income

	2024 £	2023 £
Other deferred income	1,698	1,698
	<u>1,698</u>	<u>1,698</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	1,698	1,698
	<u>1,698</u>	<u>1,698</u>

There were no movements in the year.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

21 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024 £	2023 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	39,059	36,218

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund.

22 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 August 2024 £
Model Trust Fund - Properties	3,394,815	-	-	180,000	3,574,815

Previous year:	At 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	At 31 August 2023 £
Model Trust Fund - Properties	3,185,000	229,963	(20,148)	-	3,394,815

Model Trust Fund - Properties

This Fund represents the balance sheet value of properties held in trust by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

23 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 August 2024 £
General funds	109,718	569,509	(597,482)	-	81,745

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

23 Unrestricted funds (Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 September 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 August 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	75,068	415,793	(401,291)	20,148	109,718

24 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:			
Property, plant and equipment	-	2,499,815	2,499,815
Investment properties	-	1,075,000	1,075,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	81,745	-	81,745
	81,745	3,574,815	3,656,560
	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:			
Property, plant and equipment	-	3,394,815	3,394,815
Current assets/(liabilities)	109,718	-	109,718
	109,718	3,394,815	3,504,533

25 Related party transactions

Other than those disclosed in note 12, there were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

26	Cash generated from operations	2024 £	2023 £
	Surplus for the year	152,027	244,465
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(4,804)	(3,605)
	Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(175,004)	(229,963)
	Fair value gains and losses on investment properties	(180,000)	-
	Movements in working capital:		
	(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(2,381)	2,241
	(Decrease) in trade and other payables	(13,739)	(295,186)
	Cash absorbed by operations	<u>(223,901)</u>	<u>(282,048)</u>

27	Analysis of changes in net funds
----	----------------------------------

The Charity had no material debt during the year.

Accounts

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 5
Independent auditor's report	6-7
Statement of financial activities	9
Statement of financial position	10
Statement of cash flows	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 23

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Alan Colgate	Deacon Vicky Welsh
	Andrew Feasey	Heather Johnson
	Andrew Ferris	Helen Abel
	Andy Melvin (Reverend)	Howard Riddall
	Angela Jenkins	Janet Walton
	Angela Simmons	Janice Crompton
	Ann Caffyn (Reverend)	Jennie Macfadyen
	Barbara Evans-Routley (Reverend)	Jenny Gandy
	Bernard Dignum	Jeremy Hallett
	Brenda Vance	John Lane
	Bridget Banks (Reverend)	Kathleen Shaw
	Carole Short	Keith Morrison (Reverend)
	Carolyn Auger	Memonah Shahaz (Reverend)
	Chris Hitchens	Neil Fisher
	Cochrane Young	Paul Tabraham (Reverend)
	Dan McQuillin	Rob Drake
	David Cumbers (Reverend)	Tom Foreman
	David Hinchcliffe (Reverend)	Will Fletcher (Reverend)
	Deacon Bryanell Rop	
Charity number	1134357	
Principal address	Hailsham Methodist Church High Street Hailsham East Sussex BN27 1AU	
Auditor	Caladine Limited Chantry House 22 Upperton Road Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 1BF	
Bankers	Charities Aid Foundation Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of formation :-

(a) the advancement of the Christian Faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;

(b) any Charitable purpose for the time being of any connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;

(c) any Charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;

(d) any purpose for the time being of any Society being a Charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church.

The strategies adopted for achieving these objectives are:

- The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike.
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
- Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
- Provision of chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

Central Sussex United Area (CSUA) covers from Seaford to Eastbourne and inland to Haywards Heath & Crowborough. CSUA is an joint area combining Methodist and URC Churches. It is managed by a Methodist Superintendent and a URC Leader supported by the CSUA Treasurer. There are five paid Methodist ministers (including the Methodist Superintendent) and four URC Ministers (paid by URC) as well as a number of retired ministers who, together with Local Preachers, undertake the majority of services. In addition an Sunday evening service is broadcast via ZOOM.

At the start of the year there were 23 churches which reduced to 21 during the year. Hurstpierpoint Methodist Church ceased to hold services at December 2023 and the church buildings are being maintained by CSUA until sold.

CSUA is responsible for the maintenance of the seven Methodist Manses (two of which are rented out thus providing some income) as well as paying the Methodist ministers' stipend. To ensure all trustees are kept informed there are a number of meetings held (mainly via Zoom) for the Executive and Finance & Property sub-committees as well as for the Area (quarterly). The financial position is reported at each meeting.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Financial review

During the year, CSUA received total income of £645,756 (2022: £375,407) and incurred costs of £401,291 (2022: £384,647), leading to a surplus of £244,465, (2022: deficit of £9,240). After transfers between funds. This can be analysed as an increase in the general fund of £34,650 (2022: decrease of £9,240).

Income

The majority of income is drawn from the contributions paid by the Area churches. This amounted to £354,957 (2022: £324,082). Other income includes rental income £36,600 (2022: £49,315) from the rent of empty manse.

Expenditure

The most significant areas of expenditure are Stipends - £193,338 (2022: £179,698) and new Grants committed to Area churches: £9,262 (2022: £1,333)

The Area also made a contribution to the District and Connexion of £76,655 (2022: £72,314), a significant part of which is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six months' expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the Charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

As at 31 August 2023 the net unrestricted current assets of the Area amounted to £109,718 (2022: £75,068).

Safeguarding

The Central Sussex United Area commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Safeguarding policy as an integral part of its life and ministry. Safeguarding is about the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will:

- promote the welfare of children, young people and adults
- work to prevent abuse from occurring
- seek to protect and respond well to those that have been abused.

We are committed to:

- The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and all adults;
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and all adults
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse

To this end:

- We will carefully select, support and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with the principles of Safer Recruitment.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that any adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including their feelings of alienation and/or isolation.
- We will seek to protect survivors of abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of respect and responsibility, where they are trusted by others.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision, and referral to the appropriate authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or adult who is vulnerable.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Structure, governance and management

The Central Sussex United Area is a registered charity number 1134357.

In accordance with resolutions of the meetings of Mid Sussex and Eastbourne Circuits of The Methodist Church and subsequently approved by Connexional authorities of The Methodist Church together with the approval of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church, the aforementioned bodies agreed that the Central Sussex United Area was to be formed as from 1st September 2007.

The United Area assumed responsibility for liabilities of the respective entities and took control of the assets previously mentioned (subject to Standing Orders of the United Reformed Church and The Methodist Church).

The governing document for the Area 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 Area is undertaken by the Area Meeting along with the Preachers & Worship Leaders Meeting and the Area Executive Committee.

The Area is responsible for funding the payment of Methodist clergy stipends and related expenses, the provision of manses, and the general oversight of various churches as detailed within these financial statements. Income is generated by assessments raised on Area Methodist Churches and Local Ecumenical Partnerships.

The Central Sussex United Area of the Methodist & United Reformed Churches was registered with the Charity Commission on the 17 February 2010.

The Central Sussex United Area is governed by the Area Meeting, which comprises the trustees named on the information page. Many functions are delegated to the Executive Committee and officers appointed by the Area Meeting.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Area Ministers and Officers:

Active Area Ministers

Rev Barbara Evans-Routley
Deacon Bryanell Rop
Rev Paul Tabraham
Rev Andy Melvin
Rev William Fletcher
Deacon Vicky Welsh
Rev Bridget Banks
Rev David Hinchcliffe
Rev Andrew Mills
Rev David Cumbers
Rev Keith Morrison
Rev Memona Shahbaz
Rev Martin Miller

Area Co-Leaders

Rev Barbara Evans-Routley
Mr John Lane

Area Lay Workers

Mrs Jennifer Gandy
Mrs Carole Short

Area Officers

Mr John Gray
Mrs Carol Jewell
Mrs Carole Short
Mrs Heather Johnson
Ms Jennie Macfadyen
Dr Brenda Vance
Mr Chris Hitchins (CSUA Treasurer)
Mr John Lane (former CSUA Treasurer)

Area Secretary

Mrs Jennifer Gandy

Administrators

As Area Lay workers above

Trustee Training

Guidance produced by The Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church to support the effective running of the Area is provided online by the denominational websites and all new Area Meeting members are encouraged to access this material.

Area Officers are appointed by a majority vote by the members of the Area Meeting. Only candidates with suitable spiritual and business maturity are appointed.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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

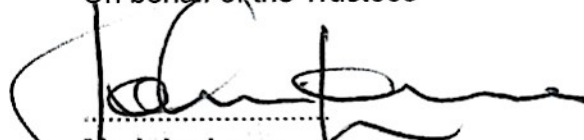
The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and 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.

On behalf of the Trustees



Mr John Lane
CSUA Co-Leader

Dated: 20th June 2024

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Central Sussex United Area (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the statement of financial position, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 incoming resources and application of resources, 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 the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 25 to the financial statements, 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 financial statements are 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 annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, 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 cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

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 from our commercial 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 and employment legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- 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; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Audit response to risks identified

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates 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 were 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 and relevant regulators

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements 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 (FRS 102)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.



Caladine Limited

24 June 2024

**Chartered Certified Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Caladine Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	20,631	-	20,631	263	-	263
Charitable activities	4	391,557	-	391,557	373,397	-	373,397
Investments	5	3,605	-	3,605	1,747	-	1,747
Other income	6	-	229,963	229,963	-	-	-
Total income		415,793	229,963	645,756	375,407	-	375,407
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	7	6,269	-	6,269	6,914	-	6,914
Charitable activities	8	395,022	-	395,022	377,733	-	377,733
Total expenditure		401,291	-	401,291	384,647	-	384,647
Net income/(expenditure)		14,502	229,963	244,465	(9,240)	-	(9,240)
Transfers between funds	19	20,148	(20,148)	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		34,650	209,815	244,465	(9,240)	-	(9,240)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 September 2022		75,068	3,185,000	3,260,068	84,308	3,185,000	3,269,308
Fund balances at 31 August 2023		109,718	3,394,815	3,504,533	75,068	3,185,000	3,260,068

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

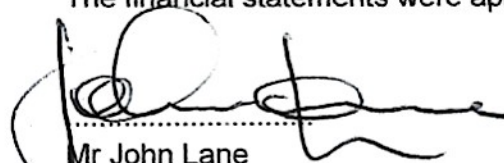
CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Property, plant and equipment	14		3,394,815		3,185,000
Current assets					
Trade and other receivables	15	21,459		23,700	
Cash at bank and in hand		146,592		404,887	
		168,051		428,587	
Current liabilities	16	(58,333)		(353,519)	
Net current assets			109,718		75,068
Total assets less current liabilities			3,504,533		3,260,068
Income funds					
Restricted funds	19		3,394,815		3,185,000
Unrestricted funds			109,718		75,068
			3,504,533		3,260,068

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 20th June 2024


Mr John Lane
Trustee

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash absorbed by operations	23		(282,048)		(4,677)
Investing activities					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(576,815)		-	
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		596,963		-	
Investment income received		3,605		1,747	
Net cash generated from investing activities			23,753		1,747
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents			(258,295)		(2,930)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			404,887		407,817
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			146,592		404,887

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Central Sussex United Area is a registered charity governed by its Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976).

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

In addition to holding unrestricted funds, the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are flexible in permitting proceeds from the sale of Area property to be used to support Area projects. Thus, whilst they are disclosed as restricted assets, the Trustees are confident they would be able to utilise these assets should future funding be required to continue the work of the Area.

Therefore, at the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised when a constructive obligation exists, the payment is probable and the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Resources expended are allocated to the particular cost centre to which they relate and include irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

There is no record of the original cost of the Freehold Methodist church sites and due to their specialist nature these are notoriously difficult to value. For these reasons, no value is attributed to these properties in the accounts.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following basis:

Land and buildings	No depreciation
--------------------	-----------------

The freehold land and buildings belonging to CSUA were revalued as at the FRS102 transition date (1 September 2015). The charity has elected to use this revaluation as the deemed cost of those properties on the transition date in accordance with the transitional provision contained in section 35.10 (c) of FRS102.

No provision is made for depreciation of the freehold properties held as manses because:-

- It is the policy of the trustees to maintain them to a high standard
- Their estimated residual value exceeds their value stated in the accounts

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of non-current assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.12 United Reformed Church

a) Title to United Reformed Church sites vests in the URC Southern Synod Trust Ltd, as trustee with ownership reflected in the local Church Financial Statements. Responsibility for the costs of clergy residences applies as follows:-

(i) The URC Southern Synod Trust Ltd is responsible for capital expenditure on clergy residence(s). They also monitor the residences and will initiate necessary capital expenditure and once purchased beneficial ownership is vested with the local Church.

(ii) Local churches bear the costs of structural maintenance of clergy residences within its area. The local church members also bear the costs of local authority charges, insurance, and maintenance costs of these properties.

b) URC employed clergy receive stipends from their parent denomination.

c) Discussion between the denominations are held for the purpose of agreeing the allocation of Area costs where appropriate.

d) Grants were received in the year by the Area from the URC churches totaling £1,960 (2022: £263) which were earmarked for office and administration.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Grants receivable	20,606	263
Other	25	-
	<u>20,631</u>	<u>263</u>
Grants receivable for core activities		
Grants from URC churches	1,960	263
Grant arising on closure of Haven Church	18,646	-
	<u>20,606</u>	<u>263</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Charitable rental income	36,600	49,315
Contributions	354,957	324,082
	<u>391,557</u>	<u>373,397</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Interest receivable	3,605	1,747

6 Other income

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2022 £
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	229,963	-

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Professional fees	4,349	4,349
Property repairs	1,920	2,565
	6,269	6,914

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2023 £	Charitable activities 2022 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	193,338	179,698
Contributions: Methodist Church fund	59,220	56,785
Contributions: South East District	17,435	15,529
Training and fellowship meetings	-	22
Telephone and broadband	2,506	1,907
Travel and expenses	6,445	3,720
Pulpit supplies	3,010	2,781
Office costs	3,668	6,216
	<u>285,622</u>	<u>266,658</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	9,262	1,433
Share of support and governance costs (see note 10)		
Support	91,062	100,644
Governance	9,076	8,998
	<u>395,022</u>	<u>377,733</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>395,022</u>	<u>377,733</u>

9 Grants payable

	Charitable activities 2023 £	Charitable activities 2022 £
Grants to institutions:		
Central Sussex Area Church Projects	9,262	1,333
Grants to individuals	-	100
	<u>-</u>	<u>100</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

10 Support costs allocated to activities

	Charitable activities 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Staff costs	7,800	26,055
Area Advance fund levy and management	17,986	19,364
Rates and utilities	16,949	16,652
Property maintenance and refurbishment	39,283	26,879
Administration	304	2,641
Insurance	7,907	6,631
Apprenticeship levy	783	2,159
Sundry expenses	50	263
Governance	9,076	8,998
	100,138	109,642
	2023 £	2022 £
Governance costs comprise:		
Audit fees	4,520	4,000
Accountancy	1,990	3,800
Legal and professional	1,805	75
Payroll costs	701	1,002
Bank charges	60	121
	9,076	8,998

11 Trustees

In their capacities as Church Ministers, salaries of the Presbyters and Deacon, who are Trustees of the Charity, are funded by the Area. In addition to their salaries they are reimbursed for travel and other expenses and provided with living accommodation.

Salaries paid to the Presbyters and Deacon are set centrally by the Methodist Church and published on their website at <https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/finance/stipends-and-payroll/stipends-and-lay-employment-rates/>. The total gross salaries paid to the Presbyters and Deacon amounted £143,213 (2022: £133,354) and the Area also contributed £36,218 (2022: £33,576) into a pension scheme for these staff.

One Trustee, Jennifer Gandy, was employed by the Area to undertake administrative work. During the year she received £7,800 (2022: £4,312) for her work.

None of the wages paid were for services rendered as a Trustee, and all payments were paid under the authority given in the governing document.

Other than stated above, none of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Charity during the year.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Methodist Ministers	5	5
Administration	1	2
Total	6	7

Employment costs	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	151,013	157,302
Social security costs	13,907	14,350
Other pension costs	36,218	34,101
	201,138	205,753

The salaries of the United Reformed ministers are paid by the United Reformed Church.

The pension contributions are paid into the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme, for all the Methodist Presbyters and Deacon in the Area.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

	2023 £	2022 £
Aggregate compensation	-	-

13 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

14 Property, plant and equipment

	Land and buildings £
Cost	
At 1 September 2022	3,185,000
Additions	576,815
Disposals	(367,000)
At 31 August 2023	3,394,815
Carrying amount	
At 31 August 2023	3,394,815
At 31 August 2022	3,185,000

The freehold land and buildings included above consist of a number of residential manses belonging to CSUA. These properties were revalued as at the FRS102 transition date (1 September 2015). The charity has elected to use this revaluation as the deemed cost of those properties on the transition date in accordance with the transitional provision contained in section 35.10 (c) of FRS102.

CSUA also owns several Church sites, however, no record of their original cost is available and in the opinion of the trustees it is not possible to estimate their value.

15 Trade and other receivables

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Stipends in advance	17,251	16,200
Other receivables	4,208	7,500
	21,459	23,700

16 Current liabilities

	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security	(479)	997
Deferred income	1,698	1,698
Assessments received in advance	32,013	34,857
Grant commitments	-	300,000
Other payables	972	3,319
Accruals and deferred income	24,129	12,648
	58,333	353,519

Notes

17

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

17 Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
Other deferred income	1,698	1,698

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	1,698	1,698

There were no movements in the year.

18 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to SOFA in respect of defined contribution schemes was £36,218 (2022 - £34,101).

19 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	At 31 August 2023 £
Model Trust Fund - Properties	3,185,000	229,963	(20,148)	3,394,815
Previous year:	At 1 September 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	At 31 August 2022 £
Model Trust Fund - Properties	3,185,000	-	-	3,185,000

Model Trust Fund - Properties

This Fund represents the balance sheet value of properties held in trust by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

20 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 August 2023 £
General funds	75,068	415,793	(401,291)	20,148	109,718
Previous year:	At 1 September 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 August 2022 £
General funds	84,308	375,407	(384,647)	-	75,068

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:			
Property, plant and equipment	-	3,394,815	3,394,815
Current assets/(liabilities)	109,718	-	109,718
	109,718	3,394,815	3,504,533
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:			
Property, plant and equipment	-	3,185,000	3,185,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	75,068	-	75,068
	75,068	3,185,000	3,260,068

22 Related party transactions

Other than those disclosed in note 11, there were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

23	Cash generated from operations	2023 £	2022 £
	Surplus/(deficit) for the year	244,465	(9,240)
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(3,605)	(1,747)
	Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(229,963)	-
	Movements in working capital:		
	Decrease in trade and other receivables	2,241	224,954
	(Decrease) in trade and other payables	(295,186)	(218,644)
	Cash absorbed by operations	(282,048)	(4,677)

24 Analysis of changes in net funds

The Charity had no material debt during the year.

25 Non-audit services provided by auditor

In common with many businesses of our size and nature we use our auditor to assist with the preparation of the financial statements and payroll services.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

England & Wales - Charity number 1134357

Accounts

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	5
Independent auditor's report	6-7
Statement of financial activities	9
Statement of financial position	10
Statement of cash flows	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 22

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Adrian Morris	Heather Johnson
	Alan Colgate	Helen Abel
	Andrew Ferris	Janet Walton
	Andrew Feasey	Janice Crompton
	Andy Melvin (Reverend)	Jennie Macfadyen
	Angela Jenkins	Jenny Gandy
	Ann Caffyn	Jeremy Hallet
	Annette Walker	John Lane
	Barbara Evans-Routley (Reverend)	Kathleen Shaw
	Bernard Digum	Keith Morrison (Reverend)
	Brenda Vance	Memona Shahbaz (Reverend)
	Bridget Banks (Reverend)	Neil Fisher
	Carol Jewell	Paul Tabraham (Reverend)
	Carolyn Auger	Rob Drake
	Cochrance Young	Will Fletcher (Reverend)
	Dan McQuillin	

Charity number 1134357

Principal address Hailsham Methodist Church
High Street
Hailsham
East Sussex
BN27 1AU

Auditor Caladine Limited
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Bankers Charities Aid Foundation
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of formation :-

- (a) the advancement of the Christian Faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;
- (b) any Charitable purpose for the time being of any connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;
- (c) any Charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;
- (d) any purpose for the time being of any Society being a Charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church.

The strategies adopted for achieving these objectives are:

- The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike.
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
- Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
- Provision of chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The Area has continued in its task of bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to the people of the Area, in particular, those associated with the United Reformed and Methodist Churches in the Area. Difficulties in meeting together during the continuing Covid19 pandemic have been met with many innovations, often using Zoom online meetings

Financial review

During the year, CSUA received total income of £375,407 (2021: £554,638) and incurred costs of £384,648 (2021: £940,846), leading to a deficit of £9,241 (2021: £386,208). After transfers between funds, This can be analysed as a decrease in the general fund of £9,241.

Income

The majority of income is drawn from the contributions paid by the Area churches. This amounted to £324,082 (2021: £320,652). Other income includes rental income £49,315 (2021: £23,250) from the rent of empty manses. There was no refund of TMCP levies in the year (2021: £190,221).

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Expenditure

The most significant areas of expenditure are Stipends - £179,698 (2021: £213,380) and new Grants committed to Area churches - £1,433 (2021: £547,368)

The Area also made a contribution to the District and Connexion of £72,315 (2021: £70,895), a significant part of which is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six months' expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the Charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

As at 31 August 2022 the net unrestricted current assets of the Area amounted to £76,766 (2021: £86,007)

Safeguarding

The Central Sussex United Area commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Safeguarding policy as an integral part of its life and ministry. Safeguarding is about the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will:

- promote the welfare of children, young people and adults
- work to prevent abuse from occurring
- seek to protect and respond well to those that have been abused.

We are committed to:

- The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and all adults;
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and all adults
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse

To this end:

- We will carefully select, support and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with the principles of Safer Recruitment.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that any adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including their feelings of alienation and/or isolation.
- We will seek to protect survivors of abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of respect and responsibility, where they are trusted by others.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision, and referral to the appropriate authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or adult who is vulnerable.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

Structure, governance and management

The Central Sussex United Area is a registered charity number 1134357.

In accordance with resolutions of the meetings of Mid Sussex and Eastbourne Circuits of The Methodist Church and subsequently approved by Connexional authorities of The Methodist Church together with the approval of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church, the aforementioned bodies agreed that the Central Sussex United Area was to be formed as from 1st September 2007.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The United Area assumed responsibility for liabilities of the respective entities and took control of the assets previously mentioned (subject to Standing Orders of the United Reformed Church and The Methodist Church).

The governing document for the Area 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 Area is undertaken by the Area Meeting along with the Preachers & Worship Leaders Meeting and the Area Executive Committee.

The Area is responsible for funding the payment of Methodist clergy stipends and related expenses, the provision of manses, and the general oversight of various churches as detailed within these financial statements. Income is generated by assessments raised on Area Methodist Churches and Local Ecumenical Partnerships.

The Central Sussex United Area of the Methodist & United Reformed Churches was registered with the Charity Commission on the 17 February 2010.

The Central Sussex United Area is governed by the Area Meeting, which comprises the trustees named on the information page. Many functions are delegated to the Executive Committee and officers appointed by the Area Meeting.

Area Ministers and Officers:

Active Area Ministers	Rev Barbra Evans Routley Deacon Bryanell Rop Rev Amanda Roper Rev Paul Tabraham Rev Andy Melvin Rev William Fletcher Rev Andrew Mills Rev Keith Morrison Rev Darryl Sinclair Rev Memona Shahbaz Rev Martin Miller
Area Co-Leaders	Rev Barbra Evans Routley Mr John Lane
Area Lay Workers	Mrs Jennifer Gandy Mrs Carole Short
Area Officers	Mr John Gray Mrs Carol Jewell Mr John Lane (Methodist Treasurer) Mrs Heather Johnson Dr Brenda Vance Mrs Annette Walker Mr Cochrane Young (URC Treasurer)
Area Secretary	Mrs Jennifer Gandy
Administrators	As Area Lay workers above

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Trustee Training

Guidance produced by The Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church to support the effective running of the Area is provided online by the denominational websites and all new Area Meeting members are encouraged to access this material.

Area Officers are appointed by a majority vote by the members of the Area Meeting. Only candidates with suitable spiritual and business maturity are appointed.

On behalf of the Trustees


Mr John Lane
CSUA Co-Leader

Dated: 22nd June 2023

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and 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.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Central Sussex United Area (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the statement of financial position, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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 the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 23 to the financial statements, 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 financial statements are 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 annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, 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 cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

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 from our commercial 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 and employment legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- 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; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Audit response to risks identified

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates 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 were 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 and relevant regulators

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

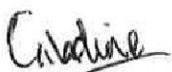
A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements 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 (FRS 102)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members 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 company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Caladine Limited

**Chartered Certified Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

23/06/2023

Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Caladine Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	3	263	-	263	2,991	2,991
Charitable activities	4	373,397	-	373,397	344,851	344,851
Investments	5	1,747	-	1,747	1,405	1,405
Other income	6	-	-	-	190,221	205,391
Total income		375,407	-	375,407	539,468	554,638
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	6,914	-	6,914	5,847	5,847
Charitable activities	8	377,734	-	377,734	934,999	934,999
Total expenditure		384,648	-	384,648	940,846	940,846
Gross transfers between funds	18	-	-	-	500,170	(500,170)
Net expenditure for the year/ Net movement in funds		(9,241)	-	(9,241)	98,792	(386,208)
Fund balances at 1 September 2021		86,007	3,185,000	3,271,007	(12,785)	3,657,215
Fund balances at 31 August 2022		76,766	3,185,000	3,261,766	86,007	3,271,007

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

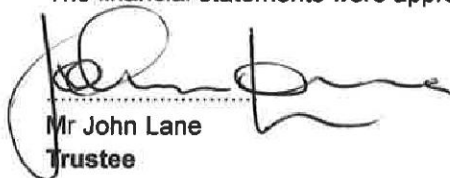
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Property, plant and equipment	13		3,185,000		3,185,000
Current assets					
Trade and other receivables	14	23,700		248,655	
Investments	15	343,427		361,131	
Cash at bank and in hand		61,460		46,686	
		428,587		656,472	
Current liabilities	16	(351,821)		(570,465)	
Net current assets			76,766		86,007
Total assets less current liabilities			3,261,766		3,271,007
Income funds					
Restricted funds	18		3,185,000		3,185,000
Unrestricted funds			76,766		86,007
			3,261,766		3,271,007

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

22nd June 2023


Mr John Lane
Trustee

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash absorbed by operations	21		(4,677)		(630,356)
Investing activities					
Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment		-		500,170	
Transferred from/(to) investments		17,704		110,299	
Income from investments		1,747		1,405	
Net cash generated from investing activities			19,451		611,874
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			14,774		(18,482)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			46,686		65,168
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			61,460		46,686

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Central Sussex United Area is a registered charity governed by its Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976).

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

In addition to holding unrestricted funds, the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are flexible in permitting proceeds from the sale of Area property to be used to support Area projects. Thus, whilst they are disclosed as restricted assets, the Trustees are confident they would be able to utilise these assets should future funding be required to continue the work of the Area.

Therefore, at the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised when a constructive obligation exists, the payment is probable and the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Resources expended are allocated to the particular cost centre to which they relate and include irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

There is no record of the original cost of the Freehold Methodist church sites and due to their specialist nature these are notoriously difficult to value. For these reasons, no value is attributed to these properties in the accounts.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following basis:

Land and buildings	No depreciation
--------------------	-----------------

The freehold land and buildings belonging to CSUA were revalued as at the FRS102 transition date (1 September 2015). The charity has elected to use this revaluation as the deemed cost of those properties on the transition date in accordance with the transitional provision contained in section 35.10 (c) of FRS102.

No provision is made for depreciation of the freehold properties held as manses because:-

- It is the policy of the trustees to maintain them to a high standard
- Their estimated residual value exceeds their value stated in the accounts

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of non-current assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.12 United Reformed Church

a) Title to United Reformed Church sites vests in the URC Southern Synod Trust Ltd, as trustee with ownership reflected in the local Church Financial Statements. Responsibility for the costs of clergy residences applies as follows:-

(i) The URC Southern Synod Trust Ltd is responsible for capital expenditure on clergy residence(s). They also monitor the residences and will initiate necessary capital expenditure and once purchased beneficial ownership is vested with the local Church.

(ii) Local churches bear the costs of structural maintenance of clergy residences within its area. The local church members also bear the costs of local authority charges, insurance, and maintenance costs of these properties.

b) URC employed clergy receive stipends from their parent denomination.

c) Discussion between the denominations are held for the purpose of agreeing the allocation of Area costs where appropriate.

d) Grants were received in the year by the Area from the URC churches totaling £263 (2021: £2,991) which were earmarked for office and administration.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Grants receivable	263	2,991
	<u>263</u>	<u>2,991</u>
Grants receivable for core activities		
Grants from URC churches	263	1,273
From SE District (R Westwood)	-	1,718
	<u>263</u>	<u>2,991</u>

4 Charitable activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Miscellaneous	-	949
Charitable rental income	49,315	23,250
Contributions	324,082	320,652
	<u>373,397</u>	<u>344,851</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest receivable	1,747	1,405

6 Other Income

	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2022	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	-	15,170	15,170
Refund of prior year's TMCP property levy	-	190,221	-	190,221
	-	190,221	15,170	205,391

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>		
Professional fees	4,349	2,865
Property repairs	2,565	2,982
Fundraising and publicity	6,914	5,847

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

8 Charitable activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs	179,698	213,380
Contributions: Methodist Church fund	56,786	57,152
Contributions: South East District	15,529	13,743
Training and fellowship meetings	22	-
Telephone and broadband	1,907	2,033
Travel and expenses	3,720	4,298
Pulpit supplies	2,781	346
Office costs	6,216	-
	<u>266,659</u>	<u>290,952</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	1,433	547,368
Share of support costs (see note 10)	100,644	88,837
Share of governance costs (see note 10)	8,998	7,842
	<u>377,734</u>	<u>934,999</u>

9 Grants payable

	2022 £	2021 £
Grants to institutions:		
Central Sussex Area Church Projects	1,333	546,293
Grants to individuals	100	1,075
	<u>1,433</u>	<u>547,368</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

10 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2022	Support costs	Governance costs	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	26,055	-	26,055	7,042	-	7,042
Area Advance fund levy and management	19,364	-	19,364	27,550	-	27,550
Rates and utilities	16,652	-	16,652	15,038	-	15,038
Property maintenance and refurbishment	26,879	-	26,879	28,607	-	28,607
Administration	2,641	-	2,641	3,085	-	3,085
Insurance	6,631	-	6,631	6,892	-	6,892
Apprenticeship levy	2,159	-	2,159	-	-	-
Sundry expenses	263	-	263	623	-	623
Audit fees	-	4,000	4,000	-	3,000	3,000
Accountancy	-	3,800	3,800	-	3,400	3,400
Legal and professional	-	75	75	-	290	290
Payroll costs	-	1,002	1,002	-	1,144	1,144
Bank charges	-	121	121	-	8	8
	100,644	8,998	109,642	88,837	7,842	96,679
<u>Analysed between</u>						
Charitable activities	100,644	8,998	109,642	88,837	7,842	96,679

Fees of £4,000 were paid to the auditor for audit of the financial statements (2021: £3,000). In addition a further £3,800 (2021: £3,400) was paid for preparation of the annual accounts and £1,002 (2021: £1,144) for payroll services.

11 Trustees

In their capacities as Church Ministers, salaries of the Presbyters and Deacon, who are Trustees of the Charity, are funded by the Area. In addition to their salaries they are reimbursed for travel and other expenses and provided with living accommodation.

Salaries paid to the Presbyters and Deacon are set centrally by the Methodist Church and published on their website at <https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/finance/stipends-and-payroll/stipends-and-lay-employment-rates/>. The total gross salaries paid to the Presbyters and Deacon amounted £133,354 (2021: £157,914) and the Area also contributed £33,576 (2021: £41,196) into a pension scheme for these staff.

One Trustee, Jennifer Gandy, was employed by the Area to undertake administrative work. During the year she received £4,312 (2021: £3,662) for her work.

None of the wages paid were for services rendered as a Trustee, and all payments were paid under the authority given in the governing document.

Other than stated above, none of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Charity during the year.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Methodist Ministers	5	6
Administration	2	2
Total	7	8

Employment costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	157,302	164,674
Social security costs	14,350	14,552
Other pension costs	34,101	41,196
	205,753	220,422

The salaries of three United Reformed ministers are paid by the United Reformed Church.

The pension contributions are paid into the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme, for all the Methodist Presbyters and Deacon in the Area.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

13 Property, plant and equipment

	Land and buildings £
Cost	
At 1 September 2021	3,185,000
At 31 August 2022	3,185,000
Carrying amount	
At 31 August 2022	3,185,000
At 31 August 2021	3,185,000

The freehold land and buildings included above consist of a number of residential manses belonging to CSUA. These properties were revalued as at the FRS102 transition date (1 September 2015). The charity has elected to use this revaluation as the deemed cost of those properties on the transition date in accordance with the transitional provision contained in section 35.10 (c) of FRS102.

CSUA also owns several Church sites, however, no record of their original cost is available and in the opinion of the trustees it is not possible to estimate their value.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

14 Trade and other receivables

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Stipends in advance	16,200	18,276
Other receivables	7,500	223,998
Prepayments and accrued income	-	6,381
	<u>23,700</u>	<u>248,655</u>

15 Current asset investments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (Model Trust Fund)	<u>343,427</u>	<u>361,131</u>

16 Current liabilities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	997	-
Assessments received in advance	34,857	35,703
Grant commitments	300,000	523,945
Other payables	3,319	4,469
Accruals and deferred income	12,648	6,348
	<u>351,821</u>	<u>570,465</u>

17 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to SOFA in respect of defined contribution schemes was £34,101 (2021 - £41,196).

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

18 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds			Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 September 2020	Incoming resources	Transfers	Balance at 1 September 2021	Incoming resources	Balance at 31 August 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Model Trust Fund - Properties	3,670,000	15,170	(500,170)	3,185,000	-	3,185,000

Model Trust Fund - Properties

This Fund represents the balance sheet value of properties held in trust by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Fund balances are represented by:						
Property, plant and equipment	-	3,185,000	3,185,000	-	3,185,000	3,185,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	76,766	-	76,766	86,007	-	86,007
	76,766	3,185,000	3,261,766	86,007	3,185,000	3,271,007

20 Related party transactions

Other than those disclosed in note 11, there were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

21	Cash generated from operations	2022 £	2021 £
	Deficit for the year	(9,241)	(386,208)
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(1,747)	(1,405)
	Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	(15,170)
	Movements in working capital:		
	Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	224,955	(214,415)
	(Decrease) in trade and other payables	(218,644)	(13,158)
	Cash absorbed by operations	<u>(4,677)</u>	<u>(630,356)</u>
22	Analysis of changes in net funds		
	The Charity had no debt during the year.		
23	Non-audit services provided by auditor		

In common with many charities of our size and nature we use our auditor to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

Accounts

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020



Caladine
Chartered Certified Accountants

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	5
Independent auditor's report	6-7
Statement of financial activities	8
Statement of financial position	9
Statement of cash flows	10
Notes to the financial statements	11 - 21

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Alan Crook	Alan Colgate
Amanda Roper (Reverend)	Andrew Feasey
Andrew Ferris	Andrew Melvin (Reverend)
Andrew Mills (Reverend)	Angela Jenkins
Angela Simmons	Ann Caffyn
Annette Walker	Irena Byron (Reverend)
Bernard Dignum	Brenda Vance
Nicola Furley-Smith (Reverend)	Bryanell Rop (Deacon)
Carol Jewell	Carolyn Auger
Cochrane Young	Dan McQuillin
Darryl Sinclair (Reverend)	David Hinchliffe (Reverend)
Heather Johnson	Helen Abel
Howard Riddall	Janet Walton
Janice Crompton	Jennifer Ann Gandy
Jennie Macfadyen	Jeremy Hallett
John Gray	John Lane
Kathleen Shaw	Keith Morrison (Reverend)
Margaret Taylor	Martin Miller (Reverend)
Memona Shahbaz (Reverend)	Neil Fisher
Paul Tabraham (Reverend)	Robert Drake
Susan Young	Will Fletcher (Reverend)

Charlty number 1134357

Principal address Hailsham Methodist Church
High Street
Hailsham
East Sussex
BN27 1AU

Auditor Caladine Limited
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Bankers National Westminster Bank
Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The purposes of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of formation :-

- (a) the advancement of the Christian Faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;
- (b) any Charitable purpose for the time being of any connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;
- (c) any Charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church;
- (d) any purpose for the time being of any Society being a Charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church.

The strategies adopted for achieving these objectives are:

- The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike.
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
- Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
- Provision of chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The Area has continued in its task of bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to the people of the Area, in particular, those associated with the United Reformed and Methodist Churches in the Area. Difficulties in meeting together during the continuing Covid19 pandemic have been met with many innovations, often using Zoom online meetings

Financial review

During the year, CSUA received total income of £360,826 and incurred costs of £553,621, leading to a deficit of £192,795 (2019: surplus of £126,111). This can be analysed as a deficit after transfers on restricted funds of £2,740 and a deficit of £190,055 on unrestricted funds.

Although technically the unrestricted funds of the Area are in deficit at the balance sheet date, creditors includes £12,500 of grant commitments to member Churches to be paid in the next 12 months which could be cancelled in the event of financial difficulties.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Income

The majority of income is drawn from the contributions paid by the Area churches. This amounted to £339,746 (2019: £286,933). Other income includes rental income £15,187 (2019: £21,422) from the rent of empty manse.

Expenditure

The most significant areas of expenditure are Stipends - £208,162 and Grants to Area churches - £167,156.

The Area also made a contribution to the District and Connexion of £66,258, a significant part of which is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six months' expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the Charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

As at 31 August 2020 the net unrestricted current assets of the Circuit were in deficit by £12,785 (2019: surplus funds of £177,270). Clearly this does not cover between three and six months' expenditure as per the policy. The Trustees will be working to address the position over the next 12 months to ensure unrestricted expenditure is kept at such a level as to generate a surplus.

Safeguarding

The Central Sussex United Area commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Safeguarding policy as an integral part of its life and ministry. Safeguarding is about the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will:

- promote the welfare of children, young people and adults
- work to prevent abuse from occurring
- seek to protect and respond well to those that have been abused.

We are committed to:

- The care, nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and all adults;
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and all adults
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where victims of abuse can report or disclose abuse and where they can find support and best practice that contributes to the prevention of abuse

To this end:

- We will carefully select, support and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with the principles of Safer Recruitment.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, that any adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to offer informed pastoral care and support to anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry that recognises the importance of understanding the needs of those who have been abused, including their feelings of alienation and/or isolation.
- We will seek to protect survivors of abuse from the possibility of further harm and abuse.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of respect and responsibility, where they are trusted by others.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision, and referral to the appropriate authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or adult who is vulnerable.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Structure, governance and management

The Central Sussex United Area is a registered charity number 1134357.

In accordance with resolutions of the meetings of Mid Sussex and Eastbourne Circuits of The Methodist Church and subsequently approved by Connexional authorities of The Methodist Church together with the approval of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church, the aforementioned bodies agreed that the Central Sussex United Area was to be formed as from 1st September 2007.

The United Area assumed responsibility for liabilities of the respective entities and took control of the assets previously mentioned (subject to Standing Orders of the United Reformed Church and The Methodist Church).

The governing document for the Area 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 Area is undertaken by the Area Meeting along with the Preachers & Worship Leaders Meeting and the Area Executive Committee.

The Area is responsible for funding the payment of Methodist clergy stipends and related expenses, the provision of manses, and the general oversight of various churches as detailed within these financial statements. Income is generated by assessments raised on Area Methodist Churches and Local Ecumenical Partnerships.

The Central Sussex United Area of the Methodist & United Reformed Churches was registered with the Charity Commission on the 17 February 2010.

The Central Sussex United Area is governed by the Area Meeting, which comprises the trustees named on the information page. Many functions are delegated to the Executive Committee and officers appointed by the Area Meeting.

Area Ministers and Officers:

Active Area Ministers	Rev Irena Byron Deacon Bryanell Rop Rev Amanda Roper Rev Paul Tabraham Rev Andy Melvin Rev William Fletcher Rev Andrew Mills Rev Keith Morrison Rev Darryl Sinclair Rev Memona Shahbaz Rev Martin Miller
Area Co-Leaders	Rev Irena Byron Mr John Lane
Area Lay Workers	Mrs Jennifer Gandy Mrs Carole Short

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Area Officers	Mr John Gray Mrs Carol Jewell Mr Clem Frank (Methodist Treasurer) Mrs Heather Johnson Dr Brenda Vance Mrs Annette Walker Mr Cochrane Young (URC Treasurer)
---------------	--

Area Secretary	Mrs Jennifer Gandy
----------------	--------------------

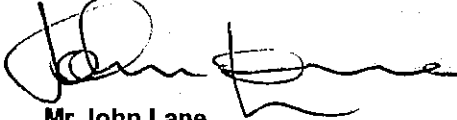
Administrators	As Area Lay workers above
----------------	---------------------------

Trustee Training

Guidance produced by The Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church to support the effective running of the Area is provided online by the denominational websites and all new Area Meeting members are encouraged to access this material.

Area Officers are appointed by a majority vote by the members of the Area Meeting. Only candidates with suitable spiritual and business maturity are appointed.

On behalf of the Trustees



Mr John Lane
CSUA Co-Leader

Dated: 23 June 2021

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and 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.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Central Sussex United Area (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 August 2020 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the statement of financial position, the statement of cash flows and the 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, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, 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 cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

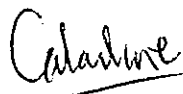
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements 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 (FRS 102)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.



Caladine Limited

25/06/2021

**Chartered Certified Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Caladine Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

		Unrestricted funds 2020	Restricted funds 2020	Total Unrestricted funds 2020	Restricted funds 2019 as restated	Total 2019
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	3	1,000	-	1,000	800	800
Charitable activities	4	355,403	-	355,403	309,779	309,779
Investments	5	4,403	20	4,423	3,942	3,961
Other income	6	-	-	-	442,101	442,101
Total income		360,806	20	360,826	756,622	756,641
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	7	550,861	2,760	553,621	630,530	630,530
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/						
Net movement in funds		(190,055)	(2,740)	(192,795)	126,092	126,111
Fund balances at 1 September 2019		177,270	3,672,740	3,850,010	51,177	3,723,898
Fund balances at 31 August 2020		(12,785)	3,670,000	3,657,215	177,270	3,850,010

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

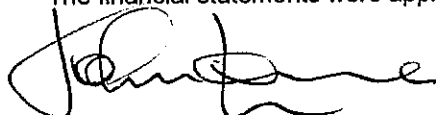
CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

		2020		2019 as restated	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Property, plant and equipment	12		3,670,000		3,670,000
Current assets					
Trade and other receivables	13	34,240		24,580	
Investments	14	471,430		542,568	
Cash at bank and in hand		65,168		62,926	
		570,838		630,074	
Current liabilities	15	(583,623)		(440,064)	
Net current (liabilities)/assets			(12,785)		190,010
Total assets less current liabilities			3,657,215		3,860,010
Non-current liabilities	16		-		(10,000)
Net assets			3,657,215		3,850,010
Income funds					
Restricted funds	18	3,670,000		3,672,740	
Unrestricted funds		(12,785)		177,270	
		3,657,215		3,850,010	

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 23 June 2021



Mr John Lane
CSUA Co-Leader

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

	Notes	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash absorbed by operations	21		(73,319)		(56,783)
Investing activities					
Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment		-		442,101	
Transferred from/(to) investments		71,138		(400,114)	
Income from investments		4,423		3,961	
Net cash generated from investing activities			75,561		45,948
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			2,242		(10,835)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			62,926		73,761
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			65,168		62,926

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Central Sussex United Area is a registered charity governed by its Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976).

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Prior period error

Funds formerly known as the 'Area Advance Fund' had been treated as restricted due to constraints placed on their use by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). Historically this had been the correct classification, however advice from TMCP taken during 2019-20 established that Methodist Church rules had changed some years ago removing these restrictions and the fund had been renamed the Model Trust Fund.

In light of this advice, it was clear that these funds should not be treated as restricted and thus a prior period adjustment reflecting this change in treatment was necessary. The balance of the fund as at 1 September 2018 was moved to unrestricted funds and all movements in the comparative year have been reclassified as unrestricted. As at 31 August 2019 the fund had a balance of £188,052 which is now shown as part of Unrestricted Funds brought forward. See note 23 for details.

1.3 Going concern

As set out in the Trustees Report, the Central Sussex United Area can look to the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes for appropriate grants to support the Area.

Therefore, at the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.4 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the Charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable.

1.6 Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised when a constructive obligation exists, the payment is probable and the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Resources expended are allocated to the particular cost centre to which they relate and include irrecoverable VAT.

1.7 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

There is no record of the original cost of the Freehold Methodist church sites and due to their specialist nature these are notoriously difficult to value. For these reasons, no value is attributed to these properties in the accounts.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following basis:

Land and buildings	No depreciation
--------------------	-----------------

The freehold land and buildings belonging to CSUA were revalued as at the FRS102 transition date (1 September 2015). The charity has elected to use this revaluation as the deemed cost of those properties on the transition date in accordance with the transitional provision contained in section 35.10 (c) of FRS102.

No provision is made for depreciation of the freehold properties held as manses because:-

- It is the policy of the trustees to maintain them to a high standard
- Their estimated residual value exceeds their value stated in the accounts

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.8 Impairment of non-current assets

At each reporting end date, the Charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.10 Financial instruments

The Charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.13 United Reformed Church

a) Title to United Reformed Church sites vests in the URC Southern Synod Trust Ltd, as trustee with ownership reflected in the local Church Financial Statements. Responsibility for the costs of clergy residences applies as follows:-

(i) The URC Southern Synod Trust Ltd is responsible for capital expenditure on clergy residence(s). They also monitor the residences and will initiate necessary capital expenditure and once purchased beneficial ownership is vested with the local Church.

(ii) Local churches bear the costs of structural maintenance of clergy residences within its area. The local church members also bear the costs of local authority charges, insurance, and maintenance costs of these properties.

b) URC employed clergy receive stipends from their parent denomination.

c) Discussion between the denominations are held for the purpose of agreeing the allocation of Area costs where appropriate.

d) Grants were received in the year by the Area from the URC churches totaling £1,000 (2019: £800) which were earmarked for office and administration.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2020 £	2019 £
Grants receivable	1,000	800
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Grants receivable for core activities		
Grants from URC churches	1,000	800
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	1,000	800
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

4 Charitable activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Miscellaneous	470	1,424
Charitable rental income	15,187	21,422
Contributions	339,746	286,933
	<u>355,403</u>	<u>309,779</u>

5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £	2019 £
Interest receivable	<u>4,403</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>4,423</u>	<u>3,942</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>3,961</u>

6 Other income

	Total	Unrestricted funds
	2020 £	2019 £
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	<u>-</u>	<u>442,101</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

7 Charitable activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Staff costs	208,162	168,084
Contributions: Methodist Church fund	54,544	52,088
Contributions: South East District	11,714	9,938
Training and fellowship meetings	675	435
Telephone and broadband	2,943	3,173
Travel and expenses	11,481	19,595
Pulpit supplies	1,150	4,361
	<u>290,669</u>	<u>257,674</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 8)	169,916	273,516
Share of support costs (see note 9)	86,994	93,184
Share of governance costs (see note 9)	6,042	6,156
	<u>553,621</u>	<u>630,530</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	550,861	630,530
Restricted funds	2,760	-
	<u>553,621</u>	<u>630,530</u>

8 Grants payable

	2020 £	2019 £
Grants to institutions:		
Central Sussex Area Church Projects	167,156	273,516
Other	2,760	-
	<u>169,916</u>	<u>273,516</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

9 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	Total 2020 £	Support costs £	Governance costs £	Total 2019 £
Staff costs	6,760	-	6,760	6,511	-	6,511
Area Advance fund levy and management	33,028	-	33,028	4,908	-	4,908
Rates and utilities	14,741	-	14,741	11,383	-	11,383
Property maintenance and refurbishment	19,488	-	19,488	56,439	-	56,439
Office rent	600	-	600	1,000	-	1,000
Subscriptions	-	-	-	36	-	36
Administration	4,897	-	4,897	3,794	-	3,794
Insurance	7,051	-	7,051	7,252	-	7,252
Sundry expenses	429	-	429	1,861	-	1,861
Audit fees	-	2,444	2,444	-	2,850	2,850
Accountancy	-	2,400	2,400	-	2,350	2,350
Payroll costs	-	1,058	1,058	-	704	704
Bank charges	-	140	140	-	252	252
	<u>86,994</u>	<u>6,042</u>	<u>93,036</u>	<u>93,184</u>	<u>6,156</u>	<u>99,340</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>86,994</u>	<u>6,042</u>	<u>93,036</u>	<u>93,184</u>	<u>6,156</u>	<u>99,340</u>

10 Trustees

The Presbyters and Deacon employed in the Area receive stipends and are also trustees of the Central Sussex United Area. They are also reimbursed travel and other expenses in their capacity as church Ministers.

11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2020 Number	2019 Number
Methodist Ministers	6	5
Administration	2	2
Total	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>
Employment costs	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	160,748	130,327
Social security costs	14,063	11,529

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

11 Employees (Continued)

Other pension costs	40,111	32,739
	<u>214,922</u>	<u>174,595</u>

The salaries of three United Reformed ministers are paid by the United Reformed Church.

The pension contributions are paid into the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme, for all the Methodist Presbyters and Deacon in the Area.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

12 Property, plant and equipment

	Land and buildings £
Cost	
At 1 September 2019	3,670,000
At 31 August 2020	<u>3,670,000</u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 August 2020	<u>3,670,000</u>
At 31 August 2019	<u>3,670,000</u>

The freehold land and buildings included above consist of a number of residential manses belonging to CSUA. These properties were revalued as at the FRS102 transition date (1 September 2015). The charity has elected to use this revaluation as the deemed cost of those properties on the transition date in accordance with the transitional provision contained in section 35.10 (c) of FRS102.

CSUA also owns several Church sites, however, no record of their original cost is available and in the opinion of the trustees it is impossible to estimate the value of these.

13 Trade and other receivables

	2020 £	2019 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Stipends in advance	17,687	18,436
Prepayments and accrued income	16,553	6,144
	<u>34,240</u>	<u>24,580</u>

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

14 Current asset investments

	2020 £	2019 £
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (Model Trust Fund)	471,430	542,568

15 Current liabilities

	2020 £	2019 £
Assessments received in advance	39,127	34,532
Grant commitments	531,016	367,016
Other payables	8,432	33,272
Accruals and deferred income	5,048	5,244
	583,623	440,064

16 Non-current liabilities

	2020 £	2019 £
Grant commitments	-	10,000

17 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £40,111 (2019 - £32,739).

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

18. Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 September 2018	Incoming resources	Balance at 1 September 2019	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 August 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Model Trust Fund - Properties	3,670,000	-	3,670,000	-	-	3,670,000
The Haven Church Day School	2,721	19	2,740	20	(2,760)	-
	<u>3,672,721</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>3,672,740</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>(2,760)</u>	<u>3,670,000</u>

Model Trust Fund

This Fund represents balance sheet value of properties held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

The Haven Church Day School and Worship Centre

This is a partnership with the Church of England and local authorities to provide a Church day school and worship centre at the Haven, Atlantic Drive, Eastbourne. This money belong to the school and will be paid out in due course. A creditor equal to the balance was added to reflect the fact that the funds are only held by the Area on behalf of the school.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2020	Restricted funds 2020	Total 2020	Unrestricted funds 2019	Restricted funds 2019	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances are represented by:						
Property, plant and equipment	-	3,670,000	3,670,000	-	3,670,000	3,670,000
Current assets/ (liabilities)	(12,785)	-	(12,785)	187,270	2,740	190,010
Long term liabilities	-	-	-	(10,000)	-	(10,000)
	<u>(12,785)</u>	<u>3,670,000</u>	<u>3,657,215</u>	<u>177,270</u>	<u>3,672,740</u>	<u>3,850,010</u>

20 Related party transactions

Many of the Trustees are connected to Area churches who are subject to assessments by the Central Sussex United Area.

CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

21 Cash generated from operations	2020 £	2019 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(192,795)	126,111
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(4,423)	(3,961)
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	(442,101)
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(9,660)	6,681
Increase in trade and other payables	133,559	256,487
Cash absorbed by operations	(73,319)	(56,783)
22 Analysis of changes in net funds		
The Charity had no debt during the year.		
23 Prior period adjustment		

Changes to the statement of financial position

	At 31 August 2019		
	As previously reported £	Adjustment £	As restated £
Income funds			
Restricted funds	3,860,792	(188,052)	3,672,740
Unrestricted funds	(10,782)	188,052	177,270
Total equity	3,850,010	-	3,850,010

Funds formerly known as the 'Area Advance Fund' had been treated as restricted due to constraints placed on their use by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). Historically this had been the correct classification, however advice from TMCP taken during 2019-20 established that Methodist Church rules had changed some years ago removing these restrictions and the fund had been renamed the Model Trust Fund.

In light of this advice, it was clear that these funds should not be treated as restricted and thus a prior period adjustment reflecting this change in treatment was necessary. The balance of the fund as at 1 September 2018 was moved to unrestricted funds and all movements in the comparative year have been reclassified as unrestricted. As at 31 August 2019 the fund had a balance of £188,052 which is now shown as part of Unrestricted Funds brought forward.