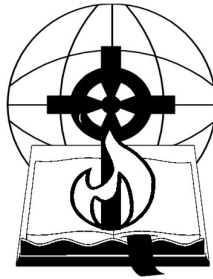


# The **Methodist** Church

***Northampton District***  
***Hinckley Circuit*** ***23/11***  
***[www.hinckleymethodistcircuit.org.uk](http://www.hinckleymethodistcircuit.org.uk)***



## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING**

**of**

**17<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**held at Earl Shilton  
Methodist Church**

Contents

Statutory Details..... page 3

Structure, Governance and Management..... page 5

Objectives and Activities..... page 7

Achievements and Performance:

Senior Circuit Stewards report ..... page 9

Local Preachers Report ..... page 10

Children and Families Ministry Report ..... page 11

Safeguarding Report ..... page 14

Manse report ..... page 15

EDI Report ..... page 16

Financial Review ..... Page 17

Circuit Reserves Policy ..... page 18

# TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD

## 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

### Statutory Details:

Charity name: Hinckley Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity Number: 1134382

Registered Address:

Circuit Office

Earl Shilton Methodist Church

Wood Street

Earl Shilton

LE9 7ND

Charity Trustees who manage the charity:

Rev Andrew Lomax	Superintendent Minister
Rev Patricia Mukorombindo	Minister
Rev Steve Hoggar	Supernumerary Minister
Mr Adrian Stone	Senior Circuit Steward Steward responsible for finance
Mr Arthur Bennett	Circuit Steward
Mr Neville Spark	Circuit Steward (to November 2023)
Mrs Rachel Cobb	Circuit Steward
Mr Michael Holt	Circuit Steward, Manse Steward
Mrs Rosemary Bradburn	Circuit Steward
Mrs Sheila Grice	Local Lay Pastor
Mrs Judith Cooke	Local Lay Pastor
Mrs Anne Haddon	Local Lay Pastor
Mr Colin Haddon	Local Lay Pastor

**Appointing body:** Circuit Meeting

**The Charity Trustees** are the Members of the Circuit Meeting, comprising the following officers and elected members, when such persons are members of the Methodist Church of Great Britain:

Ministers

Local Pastors

Supernumerary Ministers

Persons Authorised to serve the Circuit

Circuit Stewards

Circuit Treasurer

Secretary to the Meeting

Local Preachers Meeting Secretary

Circuit Missions Secretary

Safeguarding Officer

Circuit Property Secretary / Manse Secretary

Lay Workers Representative

**Additional Members:** In addition to the Treasurer and a Steward, further representatives elected by each church council in numbers specified by the Circuit Meeting, currently

Membership under 50                      2 further representatives

Membership 51 – 100                      3 further representatives

Membership over 100                      4 further representatives

Ministers and Circuit Officers are appointed by the Circuit Meeting.

Details of current trustees can be found in our charity details on the Charities Commission website

**Property Trustees:**

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

Central Buildings

Oldham Street

Manchester

M1 1JQ

**Bankers:** Co-operative Bank PLC,

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

**Independent Examiner:** Mr David Briscoe, AIMS Accountancy

## Structure, Governance and Management

**The Hinckley Methodist Circuit** is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain and as such is governed by the Constitutional Practice and Discipline (known as CPD) of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

**The Hinckley Circuit** oversees and supports the work and mission of nine Methodist Churches in the following localities: Barwell, Burbage, Earl Shilton, Higham, Hinckley, Newbold Verdon, Sapcote, Stapleton, Stoke Golding, Stoney Stanton. Stapleton Methodist Church ceased to be a Society in August 2023, with membership transferring to Barwell.



**The Northampton Methodist District** oversees and supports the work and mission of the Circuit.

**The Circuit is staffed** by two full time presbyters, who are aided by a Supernumerary Minister, four Local Lay Pastors, and ten active Local Preachers. During the year, the Circuit has employed lay workers in two administrative and three missional posts.

Administrator (part time)

Finance Officer (part-time)

Children and Families Community Worker (part time)

CAMEO Café Manager (part time)

CAMEO Cafe Assistant Manager (part time)

Ministers are supported by the Circuit Stewards and Lay Workers by a Line Manager or Support Group

The Circuit Meeting takes place twice yearly in September and March, plus any extraordinary meeting if required. Day to day management of the Circuit is undertaken on behalf of the Circuit Meeting by the Circuit Leadership Team meeting approximately 6 times a year, comprising:

Superintendent Minister (Chair)

Ministers & Supernumerary

Circuit Stewards

Local Lay Pastors

Children and Families Community Worker

Circuit Administrator (minute taker)

## Objectives and Activities

The Mission Statement of the Hinckley Methodist Circuit (2015) is as follows:

### **HINCKLEY METHODIST CIRCUIT – MISSION POLICY**

We are called as Methodists to be a people who express and experience their interconnection in the Body of Christ, for purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help (Standing Order 500), to share “scriptural holiness” and the radical life-transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**The vision of the Hinckley Methodist Circuit is**

**‘To make and grow disciples of Jesus Christ’**

everything which we aspire to do needs to have this vision as the goal.

#### **We will strive to be:**

A mission focused church outward and forward facing.

Actively and positively involved in the life of the community.

Encouraging a wide use of our premises

Having a sense of Circuit and shared mission.

Encouraging ecumenical links and a sharing of resources.

### **OUR PRIORITIES CONTINUE TO BE**

#### **WORSHIP**

A sufficient number of suitable premises to enable people across the circuit to worship in a variety of styles

#### **LEARNING**

To encourage opportunities for learning and to grow in discipleship

#### **CARING & SERVICE**

To develop resources to care for church members and the wider community.

#### **EVANGELISM**

To equip and empower people to live lives where the love of Jesus shines through.

We will continue to develop our Mission Document (February 2015) and to encourage our various congregations to discuss and take action on the “Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations” (Robert Schnase).

Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charities Commission on public benefit



In order to achieve the principal objective above, the Circuit provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. Central to the work and witness of the Circuit is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. These services usually take place each Sunday. There are also occasional services midweek. Examples are carol services, prayer breakfasts and café worship. The churches seek to be a friendly and welcoming community and anybody is free to attend these services.

Some churches provide a full programme of children's and family-based activities during services, and to the wider community through Messy Church, Parents and Tots groups, and Holiday Clubs. Four churches in the Circuit are home to Scout and/or Guide groups. Our missional worker is active through a number of local initiatives including Community Choir, Baby Basics, Puppet Ministry and school assemblies.



Eight churches provide opportunities during the week for local residents to meet and socialise via coffee mornings, mens breakfast, craft groups etc. Four of our churches support adults in the community through initiatives such as Foodbank and Warm Spaces, providing opportunities for adults to meet in a warm, safe environment to share activities or a free meal.

Those churches with hall facilities provide a venue for a wide variety of community groups, with four churches in the Circuit providing accommodation for playgroups during term times. A number of our smaller village churches hold Flower Festivals and Harvest Festivals open to visitors. Stoke Golding Methodist Church opened the CAMEO Café in May 2023 which provides a much needed meeting place and community hub for the residents of Stoke Golding and the surrounding area.

The circuit acknowledges the invaluable contribution of its many volunteers to its work and mission.





## Achievements and performance

### Individual Reports

#### ***SENIOR CIRCUIT STEWARD'S REPORT***

Since my report to the March Circuit Meeting, I am pleased to advise that we have had two further well attended circuit services. Thank you to all those involved in these.

In the April service the Rev Kim Shorley focused us on FEAST (Friends Exploring And Sharing Together). There was also a follow up session led by Kim on the Thursday after the service to which 21 people from the Circuit attended. It would be good to hear of how these discussions in the different churches have progressed. Please do share these with Chris Bacon in the Circuit Office in order that we can learn together and encourage each other.

I need to advise the Circuit Meeting that we have incurred a fine of £400 for copyright infringement on the Circuit website. This is very disappointing, particularly considering how little the website is used. The fine was challenged, however the image on there was licensed for which no fee had been paid. The image has now been removed. As Circuit representatives please can I ask you to advise those in your church involved in websites, Facebook and social media to ensure images used have the necessary permissions and any licences paid for. The best course of action here is to use your own photographs.

Finally on a positive note a reminder of the Circuit Service on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am at Hinckley. At this service Rev Sonia Hicks will preach. We are looking forward to welcoming Sonia to the Circuit on her fourth week in role as the Chair of the Northampton District. Sonia is also a former President of the Methodist Conference. We hope for a large turnout from all our churches and encourage people to arrive early. At Hinckley we are very fortunate to have a lift available for access to the balcony.

***Adrian Stone***  
***Senior Circuit Steward***

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***LOCAL PREACHERS REPORT***

### **New Fully Accredited Local Preacher**

The Accreditation Service for Jennifer Baker was held at the circuit service at Earl Shilton on 30<sup>th</sup> June. The service was led by Superintendent Minister Andrew Lomax. The Local Preachers Secretary presented a New English Bible to Jennifer and welcomed her as a Fully Accredited Local Preacher. He then read to the congregation the letter from the President of Conference to Jennifer.

### **On Note / On Trial**

The Local Preachers Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 agreed that Karen Berry should be moved from 'On Note' to 'On Trial' and will be assigned her own preaching dates from July onward. Karen will continue to complete her training modules and the frustrations caused by a shortage of local tutors should be eased now that Rev Steve Hoggar has volunteered to be the Circuit Tutor.

### **Retiring Local Preacher**

In September Gwen Coley will lead her last planned service, which is at Hinckley, after which she is retiring as a Local Preacher. Gwen has been a Local Preacher since 1969 – that's **55 years** of service to God and to the church. We thank Gwen for her long and devoted service as a Local Preacher.

### **Readers**

Pam Weston is now included on the Quarterly Plan.

### **The Plan**

Once again, we thank Colin Haddon for preparing the quarterly Circuit Preaching Plan.

The Rev. Stephen Hoggar continues to provide support by leading services around the circuit.

### **Circuit Service**

The Circuit Service at Hinckley on 29<sup>th</sup> September will be attended by the Chair of the District, Rev. Dr. Sonia Hicks

***Keith Ware***

***Local Preachers Secretary***

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTRY REPORT***

There has been lots to be thankful to God for in the last few months, it has been a blessed and busy time.

### **PUPPET MINISTRY**

The puppets have been resting over the last few months, they were part of The Ark on Sunday worship on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, which was good fun. The puppets are already booked up for Christmas, we will be at Friday Family Fun at Sapcote, Nativity Service at Newbold Verdon, Messy Church at Burbage and Christingle at Hinckley. Over the next few months, we will be rehearsing for these worship services.



If you know anyone who would like to be involved in the puppet ministry, please do contact me as one of our team has gone to university and will be missed by the team.

### **TOTS & TOYS – HINCKLEY**

This toddler group continues to be well attended and I go along when I can it continues to be a good outreach into the community.

### **BABY BASICS- HINCKLEY**



It has been a busy time with lots of referrals from our community health visitors and midwives

For those of you who are not aware this is a Christian charity and part of the Baby Basics UK, and their vision for helping struggling families comes from Matthew 25 v37-40.

We are continuing to support families in Hinckley and the surrounding areas. We have received many generous donations from the community which includes toys, books, toiletries and baby clothes and we are very grateful for those who donate to us regularly whether that is cash donations or those who knit hats and cardigans.

We appreciate the space at Hinckley Methodist church to be able to store all our donations.

A big thanks goes to all our volunteers who come along on a Tuesday morning to help with referrals and sort donations.

### **SCHOOLS WORK**

I will be working with Burbage Infant and Junior schools starting in September, please pray as we build new relationships with the schools.

### **HINCKLEY ALL AGE COMMUNITY CHOIR**

The choir held their annual evening of music which was very successful we raised £600 which was split between Hinckley Foodbank and the choir. The choir has around 50 members who attend on a regular basis. This is a friendly group and sing just for fun, no fee to pay, coffee and refreshments are provided afterwards.



### **MESSY CHURCH**

Messy church at Stoke Golding continues to grow and continues to be a great outreach into the community. Lego church has become part of the evening at Messy church specifically aimed at the older children and it has been a big hit, and their creations are amazing!

### **BARWELL LUNCH CLUB**

This is a lunch club that runs during the school holidays and is aimed at families. It is well attended and consists of a bible story, crafts, activities and games for the children to enjoy. With lunch for everyone.

### **PRAYER BREAKFASTS**

These are to pray for the work that I do around the circuit and in our communities, it is also a good way to find out what I am doing.

We enjoy breakfast provided by the Church hosting the Prayer Breakfast, I then share what God is doing in our circuit, and we spend a short time in prayer.

Please keep an eye out for the date of the next prayer breakfast, it would be great to see you there.

## **OUTOFTHEBOX**

This is a way of telling stories, very similar to Godly Play, not all of the stories are Christian based, these are used to explore community and personal wellbeing. As a storyteller we create brave relational space to breathe, trust, feel, wonder, play and love. The stories can be used in a variety of settings, schools, workplaces, community groups, chaplaincy and in faith communities.

I introduced this to a group who attended the Ignite morning, where we had wonderful conversations around the community and faith. I also recently used it in worship at Sapcote Methodist church. I will be running some taster sessions over the coming months, for those who are curious about Outofthebox. Please contact me if this is something you would be interested in or if you have a group that you think may enjoy reflecting in this way.

## **LEGO CHURCH**

This is an exciting new outreach project starting in October and will be held at Earl Shilton Methodist church. We have been given a grant from the District for this wonderful project to enable us to buy Lego and all that we need to set up this project. If anybody would like to find out more or be involved in this project which will be running once a month. Please do get in touch.

As I approach my last year working with the circuit, I would like to thank everyone who has supported me. It has been a challenging year with concerns over my sons health, juggling studying and working. With prayer and support I have finished my second year at college, in September I will be entering into my last and final year at college. Please pray for myself and my family as we enter a new and exciting phase in our lives.

I pray for the circuit as it makes decisions about the future of the role of Children and Families Community Worker, I pray that the great outreach and groups will continue to be a blessing to the circuit.

Every blessing

*Claire x*

***Children and Families Community Worker***

[hinckleyfamiliesworker@gmail.com](mailto:hinckleyfamiliesworker@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

## ***SAFEGUARDING REPORT***

We have continued to deliver the Creating Safer Space Foundation module locally in collaboration with the neighbouring circuits. Thanks again for Colin Haddon for organising and leading this training locally. We have also recently hosted a day of the Advanced module training. The requirement is that training is undertaken every 4 years. We will be running further sessions so if you do need to attend either the Foundation or Advanced module please inform Chris at the Circuit Office so that you will receive invites as dates become available.

We also held a successful Circuit Safeguarding meeting and shared ways of making safeguarding in our circuit more effective.

We would like to remind you that it is Methodist policy that renewals of DBS checks should be carried out every 5 years, unless as a result of a role change, a higher level of check is required, in which case a new DBS check must be sought, usually by approaching your church safeguarding lead.

I will be continuing to attend the District updates for circuit safeguarding leads so will pass on any relevant updates as needed. Please remember that the District Safeguarding webpages are regularly updated and can be accessed at <https://www.northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk/safeguarding.html>

Best wishes

***Nigel Scarborough***  
***Circuit Safeguarding Lead***  
[nigelscarborough@hotmail.com](mailto:nigelscarborough@hotmail.com)



\*\*\*\*\*

## ***MANSE REPORT***

### **Burbage -Westminster Drive**

Following significant work to bring the Manse up to the required standard, to achieve the best possible price, the property went on the market via Castles Estates in late March. Within two weeks there were four viewings, two of which resulted in offers being made. The initial offers were rejected and one of the potential buyers made a further offer of £390,500. This offer was accepted by the Circuit Leadership Team and also the Methodist Church Legal team.

Our Solicitors issued contracts and received confirmation that the funds were available, and the completion of the sale took place on July 5th.

The costs of sale including a recovery of the additional spend by the Circuit to do all the required work came to £15,413.75 leaving £375,086.25. As you may be aware the Methodist Church places a levy on all such property sales in this case £126,034.50, leaving a figure of £249,051.75 available to the Circuit. These funds have now been received.

***Michael Holt***

***Circuit Manse Secretary***

### **Barwell -Holly Lane**

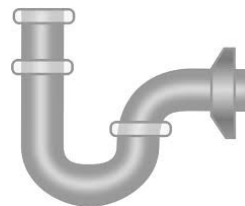
This manse had a major upgrade in August 2023 and is now in good order apart from a couple of outstanding items from the August 2023 quinquennial; some pointing up to the brickwork and a double-glazing unit in the kitchen needs replacing. The kitchen units were refurbished in October 2023. The dining room radiator and the temperature stats in some rooms were replaced in December 2023.



The Gas Safe inspection was carried out in November 2023, and the alarm contract is up to date.

### **Hinckley -Kirfield Drive**

This Manse is generally in good repair. The damaged floor covering in the kitchen and utility area has been replaced. A new doorbell and key safe have also been fitted. A leak in the bathroom has been fixed and the decoration made good. A new extractor fan has been fitted in the bathroom along with some minor plumbing items. Three kitchen cupboard doors have been replaced.



The Gas Safe inspection was carried out in September 2023, and the alarm contract is up to date.

***Christine Bacon, Circuit Administrator***

## ***EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (EDI) REPORT***

The Circuit provided in-house mandatory training throughout the year for both Circuit and Church officers. The training was based on the Equality Diversity and Inclusion Training Module prepared by the Methodist Connexion. 36 people attended the training, with a further 16 people completing the module online.



***Christine Bacon***  
***Circuit Administrator***

\*\*\*\*\*



# Financial Review 2024

## **General Summary**



The Circuit does not seek to fundraise outside of the Church Membership. The main income of the Circuit is from the Churches via the Circuit Assessment. The Circuit Assessment is reviewed annually and covers the costs 1a to 1c of the Circuit Reserves Policy. The Circuit contributes to the expenses of the Northampton District via the District Assessment.

Throughout the year the Circuit financially supports a number of Connexional and Mission (home and overseas) funds. Individual Churches hold a variety of one-off and regular events to support local and national charities.

Some of our work is only possible through the provision of grant funding and donations. These funds are separated in the accounts and shown as restricted funds. This funding may come from local businesses and community organisations, local government, the wider Methodist Church, or private donations.

Children and Families projects have been funded by grants from the Circuit and the Northampton Methodist District, donations from local community organisations, and donations from a circuit service.

The Circuit Model Trust Fund derives from the sale of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference of the Methodist church. This restriction is an internal regulation though the funds can be used for a variety of purposes but with an emphasis on mission rather than maintenance. The Circuit has sold one of its manses in this connexional year, with 67% of the net proceeds of sale received by the Circuit into the Model Trust Fund (33% levied by the Connexional Priority Fund).



The Circuit has provided grants to Churches from local funds for heating costs and missional projects

We make provision for our property maintenance programme in the annual budget. £5K was set aside this financial year, with £8K budgeted for the 24/25 financial year. The actual costs are charged and recorded each year on the circuit balance sheet.

**Lucy Lowe**

**Circuit Finance Officer**

**September 2024**

# **Circuit Reserves Policy (3 months reserve)**

**March 2024**

## **1. Mission Policy**

The Circuit Mission Policy is set out in a separate document and is published on the Circuit web site [www.hinckleymethodistcircuit.org.uk](http://www.hinckleymethodistcircuit.org.uk)

Essentially, it provides for:

- a. The ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the 9 local churches in the circuit.
- b. The support of a ministry team of 2 full time Presbyterian Ministers with the support of 4 (unpaid) Local Lay Pastors, part-time Circuit Administrator and Finance Officer, and a part-time Child and Families Community Worker.
- c. The maintenance of 2 circuit manses

## **2. Financial Plans**

- The circuit assessment is reviewed annually and covers the costs 1a to 1c.
- The Children and Families Community Worker post (1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025) is funded by Circuit general funds and the Circuit Model Trust Fund. To meet any shortfall to the end of the current contract a provision of £4,500 has been reserved from the Model Trust Fund. Project costs are met by donations from Methodist, local and national funding bodies.
- We make provision for our property maintenance programme by an annual budget of £5000. The actual costs are charged and recorded each year on the circuit balance sheet

- The Circuit general funds at year end Aug 2023 were as follows
  - Unrestricted general fund      £124,609 (excludes Circuit Model Trust Fund)
  - Restricted fund                      £21,127
- Under standing orders, the Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its ministers and the upkeep of manses. The total cost for last year was £178,064 including the salaries and related costs of the lay workers. The total expenditure for the circuit including payments to the District and Connexion, grants and other general expenditure was £288,085
- The Circuit Model Trust Fund at year end Aug 2023 was £94,743. This fund derives from the sale of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference of the Methodist church. This restriction is an internal regulation though the funds can be used for a variety of purposes but with an emphasis on mission rather than maintenance.

### **3. Reserves Policy**

The charities commission have agreed that it is appropriate for the trustees to set a policy for the management of this fund and that policy is set out below:

- Our policy is to hold at least 3 months expenditure relating to the Minister, Manses and lay worker direct costs. Based on last year's accounts this equals  $£178,064/4=£44,516$ . Due to the loss of a full time lay worker in September 2022, which has reduced lay worker costs by 28K from the previous financial year, a more realistic reserve would be £37,516.

- Our policy is to hold funds to meet commitments to Lay Workers (Mission Staff) on Fixed Term Contracts. There is currently one post meeting this criterion:

Post	Contract end date	Financial Commitment
Children and Families Community Worker	31/12/2025	9,600
Total commitment to fixed term mission projects		9,600

- We are required therefore to hold  $37,516 + 9,600 = £47,116$ . Funds held in the general account satisfy this criterion, with £41,243 remaining (as of 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 23).
- Money held at year end 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 23 in the Circuit Model Trust Fund has been earmarked by the trustees for the following purposes:
- £13,000 to cover the direct costs of employing Child & Families Community Worker.
  - The remaining £80,120 (as of 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 23) is held in reserve pending the decision of the Circuit Meeting.

# **The Hinckley Methodist Circuit**

(charity registration number 1134382)

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

**For the year ending 31st August 2024**

**Prepared for the Hinckley Circuit Meeting held on 17th September 2024**



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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023-24 £
<b>Income</b>							
1 Donations and legacies	A	25,000			6,082		31,082
2 Income from monetary investments	B	6,222	7,262	67		2	13,553
3 Income from investment properties							0
4 Assessments on Churches	C	176,650					176,650
5 Capital Receipts	D		266,252				266,252
6 Grants received	E				1,000		1,000
7 Other charitable income	F	27,365					27,365
<b>8 Total income</b>		<b>235,237</b>	<b>273,514</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>7,082</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>515,902</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
9 Grants and donations	G	860			377		1,237
10 Salaries and associated costs	H	129,222					129,222
11 Property maintenance	J	25,783					25,783
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy							0
13 District Assessment & Levy	K	38,988	2,639				41,627
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses	L	5,568					5,568
16 Other outgoings	M	12,040					12,040
<b>17 Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>212,461</b>	<b>2,639</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>215,477</b>
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		360,000					-360,000
<b>20 Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>-337,224</b>	<b>270,875</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>6,705</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-59,575</b>
21 Transfers between funds							0
22 Assessments recd in advance		350					350
23 Sept stipends pd in advance		126					126
<b>23 Net movement in funds</b>		<b>-336,748</b>	<b>270,875</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>6,705</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-59,099</b>
24 Total funds brought forward		1,117,086	94,743	1,273	21,127	2,635	1,236,864
<b>25 Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>780,338</b>	<b>365,618</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>27,832</b>	<b>2,637</b>	<b>1,177,765</b>





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

Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>						
1 Donations and legacies	25,000			8,046		33,046
2 Income from monetary investments	4,759	3,000	43			7,802
3 Income from investment properties						0
4 Assessments on Churches	173,425					173,425
5 Capital Receipts						0
6 Grants received				800		800
7 Other charitable income	8,760			4,000		12,760
8 <b>Total income</b>	<b>211,944</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>12,846</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>227,833</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
9 Grants and donations	31,904	2,500		6,116		40,520
10 Salaries and associated costs	146,265			7,689		153,954
11 Property maintenance	24,110					24,110
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		2,424				2,424
13 District Assessment & Levy	41,335					41,335
14 Depreciation						0
15 Office expenses	4,134					4,134
16 Other outgoings	10,218	276		11,112	2	21,608
17 <b>Total charitable expenditure</b>	<b>257,966</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24,917</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>288,085</b>
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	140,000					140,000
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	80,000					-80,000
20 <b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>13,978</b>	<b>-2,200</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>-12,071</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>-252</b>
21 Transfers between funds						0
22 Assessments recd in advance	9,175					9,175
23 Sept Stipends pd in advance	874					-874
23 <b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>22,279</b>	<b>-2,200</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>-12,071</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>8,049</b>
24 Total funds brought forward	1,094,807	96,943	1,230	33,198	2,637	1,228,815
25 <b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>1,117,086</b>	<b>94,743</b>	<b>1,273</b>	<b>21,127</b>	<b>2,635</b>	<b>1,236,864</b>



**Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024**

Notes to the Accounts		General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023/24	Totals 2022/23
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets								
Circuit Manses & Equipment	BS1	595,000					595,000	890,000
Investment properties		75,000					75,000	140,000
Investments							0	
Total fixed assets		670,000	0	0	0	0	670,000	1,030,000
Current Assets								
Debtors(sept stipends paid in adv)	BS2	7,002					7,002	6,876
Loans by the Circuit							0	
Investments with TMCP			365,618			2,637	368,255	97,378
Central Finance Board Deposits		128,676		1,340	20,336		150,352	133,260
Cash at Bank and in hand		10,560			7,496		18,056	5,600
Total current assets	BS3	146,238	365,618	1,340	27,832	2,637	543,665	243,114
Current liabilities								
Assessments recd in adv	BS4	35,900					35,900	36,250
Grants payable within 2022-23							0	
Total current liabilities		35,900	0	0	0	0	35,900	36,250
Net current assets/liabilities		110,338	365,618	1,340	27,832	2,637	507,765	206,864
Total assets less current liabilities		780,338	365,618	1,340	27,832	2,637	1,177,765	1,236,864
Long term liabilities								
(due after more than one year)								
Grants payable after 2022-23							0	
Loans to the Circuit							0	
							0	
Net assets		780,338	365,618	1,340	27,832	2,637	1,177,765	1,236,864
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)		780,338					780,338	1,117,086
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			365,618				365,618	94,743
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	BS5			1,340			1,340	1,273
Total Unrestricted Funds							1,147,296	1,213,102
Restricted Funds	BS6				27,832		27,832	21,127
Endowment Funds						2,637	2,637	2,635
Total Funds		780,338	365,618	1,340	27,832	2,637	1,177,765	1,236,864

Signed

*C. Bacon*

Circuit Treasurer

## **1 BASIS OF ACCOUNTING AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **i ACCOUNTING STANDARD**

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1st January 2015) - Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

### **ii PUBLIC BENEFIT ENTITY**

The Hinckley Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

### **iii BASIS**

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

### **iv CONTENT**

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

### **v GOING CONCERN**

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern

### **vi CONSOLIDATION**

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

### **vii INCOME RECOGNITION**

Income is brought into account when there is entitlement and the amount is reliably measurable once it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other Income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material

The Circuit acts as agent in the matter of the collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds". In this matter the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of the Connexion. Instead the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP (FRS102), module 19.12

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is included in the Trustees' Annual Report. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

viii

## EXPENDITURE

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable and it is considered more likely than not that there will be an outflow of economic benefit.

ix

## GRANTS

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant to be accrued is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years, discounted to net present value where the difference is material, is treated as a provision for future commitments in the balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms. In cases where the grant has been charged to one fund but for ease of payment has been transferred to another fund any future payment provision is applied to the fund from which the grant will ultimately be paid.

x

## VAT

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

xi

## TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £250.

The freehold residential property is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing each property's net sale price as at 31st August 2024, based on a fair resale value using property prices from **rightmove.com**. No depreciation is provided because the trustees consider the current residential value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its historical cost and, in the absence of any evidence of impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the property would be immaterial.

From time to time the Circuit may be required to assume responsibility for Church premises following closure and cessation of worship. This results in the Circuit becoming Managing Trustees for the property. At that time the property is recognised as an asset at its anticipated net sale price as determined by a professional valuation and after taking into consideration the levy to be charged by the Connexion. Any expenditure on such assets, if held for reinvestment of the proceeds, as the trustees determine, that is likely to enhance sale value is capitalised at the time the expenditure is incurred. Where the proceeds are intended to be spent on activities, the property is included in current assets at the lower of cost and realisable value.

xii(a)

## MONETARY INVESTMENTS

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as financial instruments under FRS 102 and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

xii(b)

## INVESTMENT PROPERTY

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of two years, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives. There are no such cases in this year.

xiii                      RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES; BANK AND CASH (BASIC FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS)

Debtors are stated at the amount owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or the amount advanced to the Circuit. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

xiv                      LOANS AS BASIC FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Where concessionary loans (ie. free of interest) are made to [or received by] the Circuit to further its charitable purposes, and are repayable after more than one year, they are initially recognised at the amount paid [or received], with the carrying value adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any impairment, if necessary.

Where there is objective evidence of impairment, an immediate impairment loss is recognised in the SoFA. Subsequent reversals of an impairment loss that objectively relate to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, are recognised immediately in the SoFA.

Where loans require the calculation of a discounted cash flow valuation, this will be so marked.

xv                      METHODIST CONNEXIONAL FUNDS

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits and these are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuits raise assessments against Churches in the Circuit. The District quarterly remits to the Methodist Church Fund most of the sum received from Circuits. A small sum is retained by the District to meet its own costs. The Circuit may act as agent for *ad hoc* collections for various funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church. These are detailed in note 3:A,G below.

xvi                      FUNDS

The trustees have adopted a policy for all unrestricted reserves which is attached as a separate document.

xvii                      ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Where the Circuit holds money that may not be spent and must be retained (as capital) to generate an income the money or assets to be retained are classified as an Endowment Fund. The capital will be shown in the balance sheet in the column for endowment funds. The income may be restricted or unrestricted depending upon the terms of the endowment.

xviii                      MINISTERS' MANSE COSTS

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

**CAMEO:** Community Cafe operated by Stoke Golding Methodist Church

**CFB:** Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain and provides investment advice to those entities

**Church:** a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 300

**Circuit:** a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30

**Connexion:** The Methodist Church in GB which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches in Great Britain

**Connexional Funds:** The Designated and/or Restricted Funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of its charitable and mission objectives

**District:** a group of contiguous Circuits, usually between 15 and 30

**DAF:** District Advance Fund

**EIW:** Early Intervention Worker

**FRS:** Financial Reporting Standard

**HMRC:** Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

**Lay Employees:** Personnel employed by the Circuit on generally accepted commercial employment terms

**Presbyters (including Superintendent):** Probationer or Ordained Methodist Ministers and/or Deacons who have pastoral and administrative responsibility for the Churches within the Circuit

**SOFA:** Statement of Financial Activities

**SORP:** Statement of Recommended Practice

**TMCP:** Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds





**Hinckley Methodist Circuit**  
**Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31st August 2024**

<b>INCOME</b>		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
<b>A Donations &amp; Legacies</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>G Grants and Donations</b>	<b>£</b>
Connexional Funds	5342	Connexional Funds	377
Youth & Families Ministry	740	Grants	860
Private donations	25000	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1237</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31082</b>	<b>H Salaries &amp; Assoc. costs</b>	
<b>B Income from monetary investments</b>		Stipends & assoc costs	83081
CFB Interest	6157	Stipend adjustment**	126
TMCP interest	7264	Salaries & assoc costs	45616
Trust interest	132	Apprenticeship levy	525
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13553</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>129348</b>
<b>C Assessments on Churches (2023/24)</b>		** Sept stipends are paid in August	
Barwell/Stapleton	28100	<b>J Property</b>	
Burbage	26500	Council Tax/Water/Ins	11068
Earl Shilton	19550	Service contracts/Maint	12968
Higham	3800	Sharnford/westminster special	1747
Hinckley	42050	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25783</b>
Newbold Verdon	21425	<b>L Office Expenses</b>	
Sapcote	22825	Photocopier costs	488
Sharnford	0	Postage/Stationery	439
Stoke Golding	9100	Phone/B'band	401
Stoney Stanton	3300	Website	95
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176650</b>	Equipment Hire	1386
Fy24 Ass pd Aug 23	36250	sundry	972
Fy25 Ass.pd Aug 24	-35900	Professional fees	792
(see note BS4)	<b>177000</b>	Office heat and light	544
<b>E Grants Received</b>		membership tickets	451
DAF Youth Worker grant	0	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5568</b>
Families Ministry	1000	<b>K District Assessment</b>	<b>38988</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>M Other Outgoings</b>	
<b>F Other Income</b>		Local Pastor expenses	1063
Office Income	1130	preaching	0
Salary Contributions(CAMEO)	15039	youth & families ministry	3249
Property recompence Westm	9540	travel (ministers)	1593
Circuit Service	200	P&S	70
Sundry	1456	telephone (ministers)	963
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27365</b>	misc	495
<b>D Refund of Pension Reserve Fu</b>	<b>17200</b>	Training	1007
<b>D Sale of Manse (TMCP)</b>	<b>249052</b>	Ministers Sundry	1807
		Streaming Costs	1719
		travel (volunteers)	74
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12040</b>
		<b>TMCP levies</b>	<b>2639</b>
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	<b>249650</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>	<b>215477</b>



## Notes to the Accounts 4 - Balance Sheet

### BS1 Fixed Assets

	Resale value			
Manses*	1st Sept 2023	1st Sept 2023		
Westminster Dr	350K	SOLD		
Kirfield drive	270K	325K		
Holly Lane	270K	270K		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>890K</b>	<b>595K</b>	<b>Loss in resale value =</b>	<b>295K</b>
Sharnford chapel/grounds**	140K	75K	<b>Loss in resale value =</b>	<b>65K</b>

\*The value of Kirfield Drive and Holly Lane manses is deemed to be each property's net sale price as at 1st September 2024, based on a fair resale value using estimated property prices from zoopla.co.uk. Westminster Drive is no longer a fixed asset as was sold July 2024.

\*\*From time to time the Circuit may be required to assume responsibility for Church premises following closure and cessation of worship. This results in the Circuit becoming Managing Trustees for the property. At that time the property is recognised as an asset at its anticipated net sale price as determined by a professional valuation and after taking into consideration the levy to be charged by the Connexion. Any expenditure on such assets, if held for reinvestment of the proceeds, as the trustees determine, that is likely to enhance sale value is capitalised at the time the expenditure is incurred. Where the proceeds are intended to be spent on activities, the property is included in current assets at the lower of cost and realisable value.

BS2 Stipends were paid to 2 full time Presbyters throughout the year. Stipends are paid one month in advance, September stipend is paid in August

### BS3 Current Assets

	OB	income	expenditure	transfers	closing balance
Co-op current a/c	5600	79340	-44125	-22760	18056
CFB General (Deposit)	131987	162979	-168714	22760	149012
CFB Manse (Deposit)***	1273	67	0		1340
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>138860</b>	<b>242386</b>	<b>-212839</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>168408</b>
Restricted Funds	-21127	7082	-377		-27832
Reserve					-47116
<b>Available balance of general funds</b>					<b>93460</b>

\*\*\*Manse Funds are allocated as designated funds. Monies are not restricted but have been set aside for manse maintenance expenses

<b>TMCP funds</b>	94743	399548	-128673		365618
Reserve					-13000
<b>Available Funds</b>					<b>352618</b>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>	2635	2			2637

### BS4 ASSESSMENTS ON CHURCHES

The Circuit comprises of 9 Churches over 10 sites and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall net costs of the Circuit. In making its Assessment budgeted income from investment income and confirmed external grants is taken into account. The Circuit aims to cover all its net core costs from the Assessment. An assessment on Churches is annually determined by the Circuit using a formulaic method which takes into account the relative number of members in each church and its relative income (after deduction of certain actual and notional expenses). Assessments on churches are quarterly in advance and are treated as pre-payments on a receivable basis. If any church has not paid its assessment by the due date the sum in question is treated as a creditor.

BS5 Manse funds are allocated as designated funds. Monies are not restricted but have been set aside for manse maintenance expenses.

BS6 The circuit employs lay staff involved in Administration and Mission work. The costs of these staff are shown in H above. No employees received employee benefits of more than £60,000. There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial; the holiday year ends on 31st December. The Circuit pays all staff at or above the living wage. A grant from the DAF of £1000 was received towards set up costs of the Kingdom Builders project. Local donations are received for community projects. The **restricted current assets** shows the value of these grants and donations remaining as of 31st August 2024. Refunds have been offered to donors in respect of EIW grants held from the previous FY. A decision on the reallocation of the remaining EIW funds will be taken by the Trustees in FY 24/25.



Name of Circuit .....Hinckley..... No...23/11.

## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 20xx have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer .....C. Bacon..... Date...2/4/25.....

Name and address of treasurer ...Mrs Christine Bacon, 4 Cleveland  
Road, Hinckley, Leics..... Post Code LE10 0AJ.

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....A. Lomas.....

Name of the Chair of the meeting ...Rev A. Lomas..... Date 2/4/25.....



## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER REPORT TO THE HINCKLEY METHODIST CIRCUIT

I report on the accounts of the Hinckley Methodist Circuit charity number 1134382, for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

### Respective responsibilities of the Hinckley Methodist Circuit and the examiner.

As members of the Hinckley Methodist Circuit you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirements of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) do not apply.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of this report.

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

### Independent examiner's statement.

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

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



David Briscoe, ACMA CGMA.

AIMS Accountants For Business

11 De Montfort Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire, LE10 1LQ.

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025.





# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER REPORT TO THE HINCKLEY METHODIST CIRCUIT

I report on the accounts of the Hinckley Methodist Circuit charity number 1134382, for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

## Respective responsibilities of the Hinckley Methodist Circuit and the examiner.

As members of the Hinckley Methodist Circuit you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirements of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) do not apply.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of this report.

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

## Independent examiner's statement.

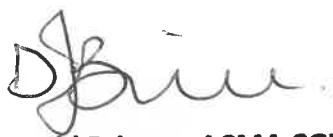
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

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



David Briscoe, ACMA CGMA.

**AIMS Accountants For Business**

**11 De Montfort Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire, LE10 1LQ.**

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025.