THE METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

England & Wales · Charity number 1134390

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2010-02-18
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Trinity Methodist Church Rainsford Road Chelmsford CM1 2XB
Phone	01245269079
Email	chelmsford.circuit@gmail.com
Website	www.chelmsfordcircuit.co.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: The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church; for the time being, any charitable purpose of any organisation of the Methodist Church; any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church; and any purpose of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£265,323	£307,129	-	-
2024-08-31	£242,670	£206,301	-	-
2023-08-31	£222,027	£237,620	-	-
2022-08-31	£552,963	£332,039	£1,939,505	6
2021-08-31	£207,701	£217,214	-	-

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adrian Romano		2025-09-01
CLIVE PICKETT		2020-03-13
DAVID GASK		2022-01-20
DAVID THOMAS HODGKINSON		
Daisy Eleady-Cole		2021-03-16
Dianne Hodgkinson		2023-07-20
ERIC SMART		2026-04-27
Elizabeth Hobbs		2024-05-29
Gillian Pickett		2025-02-06
HELEN WENDY CATLEY		2013-04-26
Heather Williams		2025-09-01
JANIS ELIZABETH CROOM		
JEFFREY MICHAEL GREEN		2023-07-12
Jane Cook		2020-11-03
Jane Mary Clemo		2023-07-12
Janet Cassels		2024-05-29
Jean Brown		2025-02-06
Jeffrey Hosking		2021-02-18
John Douglas Hayton		2020-06-03
Judith Radley		2019-04-07
Julie Hill		2020-05-26
Les Steed		2019-03-24
Lisa Scott		2020-06-06
Lynda Speak		2020-09-23
Martyn Lomax Edwards		2024-05-01
Maureen Crilley		2021-06-10
Nigel Murrell		2019-03-15

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Name	Role	Appointed
Pamela Scammell		2021-05-18
ROBERT JAMES GRIFFIN		2016-01-01
Rev Asif Karam		2024-09-01
Rev Jennifer Walters		2025-09-01
Rev Olufemi Cole-Njie		2020-12-09
Rev Sue King		2021-05-13
Rosemary Bailey		2020-05-31
Susan Georgina Farrell		2025-09-01
TRICIA TUTIN		
Val Carter		2022-10-05
William Lartey		2019-04-23

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THE METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134390

Accounts

THE METHODIST CHURCH - CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

Circuit No 34/09

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Registered Charity Number 1134390

The Methodist Church - Chelmsford Circuit is part of the

Bedfordshire, Essex & Hertfordshire District of the Methodist Church

Circuit reference 34/09

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THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Trustees' Report

The Trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit are pleased to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the Methodist year ended 31 August 2025.

Governing document and objectives

The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church.

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

The Circuit has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a Charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our Churches and to the wider community in the Circuit.

Mission Statement

The Circuit updated its Mission Statement in 2023, and continues to keep it under regular review.

The Mission Statement for 2024/25 is as follows:

"The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the good news of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission"
In this, and in partnership with others wherever possible, Chelmsford Methodist Circuit will devote its prayers, resources, encouragement, and commitments on this priority:

Supporting God's People, sharing God's love

Our vision is for a Christ-centred Circuit of vibrant, growing churches supporting each other in expressing God's love and sharing it with others.

As ways towards realising this priority, the circuit will give attention to the following:

- Underpinning everything we do with God-centred worship and prayer
- Supporting community development and action for justice, especially among the most deprived and poor - in Britain and worldwide
- Making followers of Christ by developing confidence in evangelism and in the capacity to speak of God and faith in ways that make sense to all involved
- Encouraging fresh ways of understanding church
- Nurturing an inclusive church which cares for all.

Worship

The church exists to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.

We will:

- Offer to the communities around us safe places for worship and acceptance
- Facilitate the worship of God in places other than our buildings (e.g. residential homes, new areas of housing)
- Help people grow a greater awareness of God's awesome presence, and to experience his love, at all stages of life

Mission Statement (continued)

- Encourage and make available varied worship opportunities appropriate for people of all ages, during the week as well as on Sundays
- Encourage and support the use of technology in our churches to enable all to participate;
- Support access for all to prayer resources.

Learning

Help people to grow and learn as Christians.

We will:

- Support churches and resource members in continuing to grow and delight in Christian discipleship and leadership
- Support the training and development of our ordained and lay people including Local Preachers, Worship Leaders and others
- Encourage each other at all stages of the faith journey, through Bible study/fellowship/house groups
- Encourage churches to run membership classes
- Inform and inspire people to be passionate about justice, peace and integrity of creation
- Provide opportunities for experience and learning about faith sharing
- Support training required by the Connexion (eg Safeguarding, EDI, Unconscious Bias)

Caring & Service

The church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

We will:

- Create safe communities characterised by hospitality, generosity, welcome, care, acceptance and respect;
- Provide prayerful, caring support for our Ministry and leadership
- Inspire an outward looking focus to the life and service of the churches within the circuit
- Use our influence to have an impact on issues of equality, diversity and inclusion both locally and more widely
- Encourage everyone to regard being active in service as part of their Christian life; and find ways to witness to our faith through fulfilling needs in our communities and to do what we can to support those in need in the wider world
- Give generously, but with due thought and prayer, of time and money for God's work in the church and in the world
- Work for justice and peace
- Support churches in caring for the environment in the local area, the nation and the wider world.

Evangelism

The church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

We will:

- Guard against being apologetic for our faith
- Provide more opportunities to explore the Bible and Christian faith, and the confidence to share it with others
- Engage in mission activities both inside and outside our buildings and to those we meet outside the church in daily life
- Use opportunities in community groups and at occasions such as baptisms, weddings, funerals and Christmas and Easter to share our faith
- Work with other Christian churches to explore openings for evangelism in the community
- Encourage people to be able to pray with and for those who are working for peace and hope.

Mission Statement (continued)

To fulfil these priorities, as a circuit we will:

- Support each of the circuit churches in producing new versions of their mission statements and strategy that are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timetabled (SMART)
- Encourage work that is ecumenical, people-centred, flexible and innovative
- Concentrate on the development of new visions and ways of being church relevant for the 21st century, through continued analysis of the circuit's resources of people, property and finance, and use them in ways that will most effectively further the work of God and the circuit.

Churches within the Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit

The Methodist Churches in the Circuit are Trinity, Moulsham Lodge and Broomfield, (all based in Chelmsford), Hatfield Peverel, Maldon, Witham and Halstead. Also included are five Local Ecumenical Partnerships in Braintree, Coggeshall, Great Notley, South Woodham Ferrers and North Springfield.
The Circuit acts as an umbrella organisation for these Churches and provides the staff to take services and care for members. It provides training and support to members of the Churches for mission to the communities around these Churches.

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference. The Connexional office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers to this Circuit. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. This Circuit is part of the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District.

The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and Circuit stewards. Authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for the invitation to and appointment of Ministerial staff and lay employees. In addition to this, the Circuit meeting is charged with the care and maintenance of Ministerial housing and the agreement of the Circuit financial budget and the financial accounts. The Circuit meeting is also required to ensure all property and financial reports of the individual Churches are received in a timely fashion. All members of the Circuit meeting are Trustees to the Circuit and are listed at the end of this report.

Report for the Year

Staffing

At the start of the year, Revd. Mark Pengelly was the Circuit Superintendent with responsibility for the ministry of the Chelmsford section and at Halstead. However, in December 2024, Revd. Mark confirmed that he would be leaving the Circuit at the end of March 2025, in order to take up a new post in the South-West. For the remainder of the year, from the start of April 2025 to the end of August 2025, Revd. Dr. David Chapman, the Chair of the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire Methodist District was Acting Circuit Superintendent for the Chelmsford Circuit.

Revd. Asif Karam joined the Circuit from 1st September 2024, in the Chelmsford section. Revd. Asif was appointed as Circuit Superintendent as from 1 September 2025.

Revd. Barry Allen was responsible for the ministry of the Maldon Section throughout the year. He retired from Circuit ministry at the end of August 2025. Revd. Jennifer Walters joined the Circuit with responsibility for the ministry of the Maldon section and Halstead as from 1 September 2025.

Ria Allen was the Schools Worker for work in the school in Hatfield Peverel until the end of June 2025, when she retired.

Report for the Year (continued)

Staffing (continued)

Karen Murrell is the Circuit Administrator, based in Chelmsford.

Barbara Daniels was appointed as Circuit Safeguarding Officer in August 2024. She left to take up a new job on 7 May 2025. Esther Burton was appointed as Safeguarding Officer from 2 June 2025.

Throughout the year, Alistair Jenkins was Finance Officer and Janis Croom, one of the Circuit Stewards, was Circuit treasurer.

Aims and objectives for 2024/25

The main aims of the Circuit for 2024/25 were as follows:

- To complete the Stationing process for September 2025 and the review of resources.
- To continue to review and update the Circuit mission statement and 5 year strategy .
- To set up a Circuit prayer group.
- To support the churches in the Circuit to continue to review their own mission statement and 5 year strategy.
- To continue to look with enquiring eyes and prayerful hope at the circumstances of local churches and support the work of the Vision group in Chelmsford.
- To continue with pastoral care for our churches and the wider community.
- To continue work towards becoming an Eco Circuit and to assist churches and members in making relevant changes. To plan a Circuit wide Eco event for 2025.
- To continue the work with the school in Hatfield Peverel and extend the work done with schools and families when possible.
- To support the Anna Chaplaincy work in South Woodham Ferrers.
- To inaugurate a Circuit justice (EDI) event.
- To initiate a pioneer or New People New Places project.
- To establish a 5 year plan for manse management.
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Progress during 2024/25

- Revd Asif Karam joined the Circuit in September 2024, with pastoral responsibility for Trinity church in the Chelmsford section. Following the resignation of Revd. Mark Pengelly at the end of March 2025, Revd. Asif took on responsibility for the other churches in Chelmsford, and for Halstead .
- Much time was spent on the stationing process for September 2025, due to the resignation of Revd. Mark Pengelly and the planned retirement of Revd. Barry Allen at the end of August 2025. Revd. Jennifer Walters was appointed as a probationer presbyter from the start of September 2025, with presbyteral responsibility for the 4 churches in the Maldon section and the church in Halstead. It was not possible to appoint a second presbyter to the Chelmsford section in the stationing round for 2025 so the ministry team was reduced to 2 instead of 3 from 1 April 2025.
- Revd. Asif Karam was appointed to be Circuit Superintendent from 1 September 2025.
- The Circuit mission statement and 5 year strategic plan for 2023-2028 continue to be reviewed and updated.

Progress during 2024/25 (continued)

- The 3 Methodist churches in Chelmsford continue to discuss ways of working together more closely. Once a month, they meet together in one of the 3 churches for a joint Sunday morning service. They also have a monthly Prayer Walk together in Chelmsford.
  A proposal to trial a merger of the 3 Church Councils into one was considered, but the proposed structure was not agreed by all the churches.
- The work with the school in Hatfield Peverel continued during 2024/25 led by Ria Allen, with the support of members of the local congregation. Ria Allen retired from this work at the end of June 2025.
- Val Carter extended her Anna Chaplaincy work in South Woodham Ferrers with monthly church services provided to 2 local residential homes. In addition, there are weekly visits to one home as well as end-of-life support for residents, staff and relatives, and a new 'come and talk' drop-in weekly session in a local café was started in January 2025.
- The Circuit continued to offer financial support with housing costs for refugees within the area of the Circuit, particularly those from Ukraine.
- The work on our environmental responsibilities has continued across the Circuit. Energy efficiency surveys were completed at 6 churches. We are currently working towards the A Rocha UK ECO Circuit award. Of the 12 churches in the Circuit, 4 churches have the Silver Eco Award, 2 have the Bronze Eco Award, and 3 are registered with the Eco scheme, working towards an award.
- Safeguarding training has been organised locally and online.
- Val Carter agreed to be the Circuit EDI representative.
- A Circuit grants policy was established for churches to apply for missional or property grants from the funds held by the Circuit from past property sales.
- A retreat day for local preachers and worship leaders was arranged for Autumn 2025.

Aims and objectives for 2025/26

The main aims of the Circuit for 2025/26 are as follows:

- To review the outreach work in Hatfield Peverel and recruit a new lay worker to carry this forward
- To organise an annual Circuit prayer event.
- To establish a 5 year plan for manse management.
- To continue to look with enquiring eyes and prayerful hope at the circumstances of our churches, their opportunities and challenges.
- To continue with pastoral care for our churches and the wider community.
- To continue work towards becoming an Eco Circuit and to assist Churches and members in making relevant changes. All churches to be registered with the A Rocha Eco scheme by 2026.
- To continue to consider & progress a pioneer/ New People New Places project.
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Training

Training for local preachers is on-going as part of the Local Preachers and Leaders of Worship quarterly meetings. The Local Preachers' retreat day was held at Mulberry House, High Ongar, in October 2025.
Representatives from the Circuit attended the District Synod in Spring 2025 and October 2025.

Training (continued)

Members of the Circuit continue to attend District Training events, including Safeguarding & EDI. Two half day dementia awareness training sessions were held in February 2025.

Support

Individual Circuit stewards attend Church Council meetings held throughout the year. They take note of issues raised at these meetings and report back to the Leadership team. The Circuit offers encouragement and advice to local Churches on the many and varied projects undertaken in their local communities. A regular Circuit Newsletter is produced which has helped churches to share what they do and how they have found new ways of reaching our local communities.

Ministers are supported by the Circuit Stewards personally and in terms of the properties they occupy.

Risk Management

The major risks are kept under review by the Circuit Leadership Team. Income and expenditure is monitored and compared with the approved annual budget.

Safeguarding

The Circuit has adopted the Connexional Safeguarding Policy. The Circuit is committed to providing support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure they are clear and confident in their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.
The provision of Safeguarding training is covered by the ongoing work of our Safeguarding Officer. Church safeguarding officers have been attending training in person and online. Connexional guidance about best practice for safeguarding during on line church activities has been adopted.

Financial Review

The Circuit is responsible for

- The ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the thirteen local churches in the Circuit.
- The support of a ministry team of 3 Presbyters (2 from April 2025) and 3 lay workers (pastoral and administrative support)
- Payment of the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church
- The maintenance of Circuit properties (3 manses & 1 investment property).

Under Standing Orders the Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its ministers and the maintenance of the manses. In addition the Circuit has a financial obligation to the District to meet a share of its budget.
The Circuit budget is reviewed annually and covers the costs of the above which are met by assessments from each church towards their share of the total cost. In 2024/25 the Circuit continued to cover part of the annual costs from reserves, to mitigate the full cost of assessments for the churches whose income had been significantly reduced following the Covid pandemic.
Following the retirement of the Schools Worker in Hatfield Peverel at the end of June 2025, a review of the scope of the community outreach work in Hatfield Peverel was undertaken in the Autumn of 2025. It was decided to broaden the scope of the work as originally intended pre-Covid by the recruitment of a community outreach worker, who started work in January 2026.
The Circuit agreed to continue the funding for the work in Hatfield Peverel for a further 3 years from 2025/26-to 2028/29 using funds set aside in a designated fund.

Financial Review (continued)

General Fund-unrestricted

The General Fund is available to be used for any or all of the purposes of the Circuit.
The purpose of this fund is:
1. To secure and sustain the Circuit's viability and future.

2. To give assurance to the general public that the Circuit, which is a charity, intends to use all the money coming into its care for the purposes of the Charity.
3. To enable the Circuit to meet the objectives set out in its Mission Statement. This statement was reviewed in 2024.

The total income of the General Fund in 2024/25 was £244,658 (2023/24 £227,169) and costs were £274,558 (2023/24 £188,730). The costs include £31,810 refunded to churches in the Circuit from the 2023/24 surplus. £456 (2023/24 £669) was received into the General Fund from the Harriet Walker Endowment Fund. After this transfer, the net deficit was £29,444 (2023/24 surplus £85,632).
The balance of the General Fund at 31 August 2025 was £1,669,882 (2024 £1,699,326), of which £1,532,250 (2024 £1,532,250) is the book value of the properties, leaving £137,632 (2024 £167,076) as free reserves. The investment property is stated at current market valuation at the year end. In the opinion of the trustees, due to the volatility in the property market caused by the cost of living crisis, there was no change in the valuation at the end of the year.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted

This fund derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes, and for the purposes of charity accounting this is an unrestricted fund.
An annual levy is made on this fund to go to the District Advance Fund. Income of the CMTF was £18,947 (2023/24 £8,514). Last year, £254,464 was received from the sale of a former Methodist church (see note 16). Costs this year were £24,385 (2023/24 £6,282). An unrealised gain on monetary investments of £18 was made (2023/24 £583). The balance of the CMTF at 31 August 2025 is £418,030 (2024 £423,451). The fund holds cash and investments.

Designated Fund-Schools & Family Worker project

These are unrestricted funds that have been allocated for the purpose of employing a Family &Schools worker for the three years from September 2022 (£103,000). These have been designated by the trustees of the Circuit. This can only revert to general funds by the agreement of the same body. The fund was unable to be utilised in recent years, partly due to recruitment problems and also due to difficulties in keeping the school open following the discovery of issues with the concrete used in the school buildings. The Circuit Meeting agreed to extend the designation of this sum for a further 3 years from September 2025 for community outreach work in Hatfield Peverel including with the school. Initially the fund will meet the costs of employing a Community Outreach Worker. The fund remained at £103,000 at 31 August 2025.

Restricted Fund-Schools Worker project

The restricted fund represents the balance of a grant of £3,960 received in 2023/24, from the District Advance Fund (DAF). This grant is restricted to meeting the running costs of the Schools Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. The total income of the Restricted Fund in 2024/25 was £nil (2023/24 £3,960) and costs were £3,552 (2023/24 £4,169). The balance of the fund at 31 August 2025 is £780 (2024 £4,332).

Restricted & Designated Funds-Refugee Support

An appeal was made in 2022/23 to raise funds to support Ukrainian and other refugees living within the Circuit with loans and one-off grants for housing costs. The donations received less grants made are held in a restricted fund. Income received from donations and grant repayments in 2024/25 was £720 (2023/24

£2,311). Grants & loans made in 2023/24 amounted to £2,750 (2023/24 £7,053). The fund was closed at 31 August 2025 after a transfer from the designated refugee fund of £360 (2024 balance: £1,669).
In 2022/23 the trustees of the Circuit agreed to match any donations received up to a maximum of £5,000. These funds are held in a designated fund. Income received from grant repayments in 2024/25 was £230 (2023/24 nil). Grants & loans made in 2024/25 amounted to £1,800 (2023/24 nil). The fund balance at 31 August 2025 was £3,070 after a transfer into designated refugee fund of £360 (2024 balance: £5,000).

Designated Fund-Circuit Methodist Women in Britain Fund

During the year, the Circuit MWIB group closed their bank account and transferred the funds to the Circuit. It has been agreed to designate these funds for the future work of the group. The balance transferred was £229 and this is also the closing balance as at 31 August 2025.

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity

This is a permanent endowment with the capital invested through TMCP.
The income for 2024/25 was £539 (2023/24 £716) and costs were £83 (2023/24 £67). The net surplus of £456 (2023/24 £649) was transferred to the General Fund. An unrealised gain on monetary investments of £47 was made (2023/4 of £1,834). The value of the endowment fund at 31 August 2025 is £25,588 (2024 £25,541).

Reserves Policies

General Fund-unrestricted

The Reserves Policy is to hold at least six months' expenditure to meet the District assessment and Circuit manse expenditure. This assumes that churches in the Circuit will continue to meet their agreed contributions to the Circuit Ministerial costs.

Circuit Model Trust Fund-unrestricted

The Charity Commission have agreed that it is appropriate for the trustees to set a separate policy for the management of this fund as follows:
Money held in the Circuit Model Trust Fund that has not been allocated to any specific purpose can be retained for general Circuit purposes including property expenditure on the manses arising from Quinquennial Inspection Reports.

Restricted Fund-Schools & Family Worker project

This fund is to be used for the Schools & Family Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. This project commenced in October 2019. The Circuit Meeting agreed to continue and extend the project for a further 3 years from September 2025 to cover community outreach work, initially in Hatfield Peverel.

Designated Fund-Schools, family & community project

This fund comprises funds designated for the Schools, Family and Community project within the Maldon section. It was agreed to fund the costs, net of grants, from the proceeds of sale of Hatfield Peverel church. As a result of this decision, in 2021/22 funds were transferred from the Circuit Model Trust fund to a new designated fund, to cover the budgeted cost of this project for 3 years. The designation has been extended for a further 3 years from September 2025 to cover community outreach work, initially in Hatfield Peverel.

Restricted & Designated Funds-Refugee Support

These funds are to be used to assist Ukrainian & other refugees living within the area of the Circuit with the cost of deposits for rented housing or other one-off costs linked to moving into independent rented accommodation. Funds received from external donations are held within a restricted fund.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Reserves Policies (continued)

Designated Fund-Circuit Methodist Women in Britain Fund
These funds are to be used for the work of the Circuit MWIB group.

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity
This is registered as a separate charity (charity registration number 222146), with trustees appointed by the Circuit. The income is to be used for the local Methodist ministry covering the village of Great Totham and is transferred to the General Fund for this purpose.

Trustees' Recruitment

Whilst the appointment of the Trustees is determined in accordance with the Methodist procedures, it is the aim to ensure that the Leadership team have a broad experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters. Training for Circuit stewards is available at District level.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

-Selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently.
- Prepared accounts on an accrual basis.
- Followed applicable accounting standards.
- Prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enables them to ensure that the financial statements steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the independent examiner and each of the Trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

Approval
The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the Circuit Meeting on 18th March 2026.

Caroline Wicken

Revd. ~~Asif~~ Karam
Superintendent

Rev'd. Dr. CAROLINE WICKEN
Acting District Chair

NC MM

Nigel Murrell
Circuit Leadership Team

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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

TRUSTEES OF THE CIRCUIT - year ended 31 August 2025

Circuit Ministers

Revd. Mark Pengelly	Circuit Superintendent Minister-resigned 31 March 2025
Revd. Barry Allen	Retired 31 August 2025
Revd. Asif Karam	Appointed 1 September 2024
Revd. Dr David Chapman	Acting Superintendent Minister 1 April 2025-31 August 2025

Other Authorised Ministers and Supernumeraries

Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie
Revd. Sue King

Supernumeraries who are not trustees

Revd. Tony Shrimpton	(not a trustee)
Revd. David Dickens	Died Autumn 2024
Revd. Anne Davies	Died Autumn 2024
Revd. Rowland Joiner	Died Autumn 2025

Circuit Stewards

Janis Croom	Circuit Treasurer
Daisy Eleady-Cole	
Nigel Murrell	Senior Steward
Sheridan Pengelly	Resigned 31 March 2025
Eric Smart	Resigned October 2025

Co-opted onto CLT:

David Hodgkinson	Circuit Property Secretary

Safeguarding

Barbara Daniels	Circuit Safeguarding Officer-appointed August 2024, resigned 7 May 2025 (not a trustee)
Esther Burton	Circuit Safeguarding Officer-appointed 2 June 2025 (not a trustee)

Church Representatives

Broomfield	David Hodgkinson
	Dianne Hodgkinson
	Les Steed
Christ Church Braintree	David Drewett-died October 2024
	David Gask
Christ Church Coggeshall	Adrian Romano
	Michelle Milliken (not a trustee)
The Church in Great Notley	Lisa Scott
Halstead	Helen Catley
	Revd. Sue King
	William Lartey
	Heather Williams

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Hatfield Peverel Church	Rosemary Bailey	
	Jenny Clemo	
	Jane Cook	
	Jeffrey Hosking	
Maldon	Julie Hill	
	Maureen Crilley	
	Susan Farrell	(from 19 July 2025)
Moulsham Lodge	Robert Griffin	
	Martyn Edwards	
	Malcolm Lees	(resigned Feb 2025)
	Clive Pickett	
	Gillian Pickett	(from 6 February 2025)
	Jean Brown	(from 6 February 2025)
North Springfield-St Augustine's	J Douglas Hayton	
	Pamela Scammell	
	Carolyn Smith	(not a trustee)
South Woodham Ferrers	Elizabeth Hobbs	
	Judith Radley	
	Lynda Speak	
	Tricia Tutin	
Trinity	Janet Cassels	
	Jeffrey Green	
	Nigel Murrell	
	Sheridan Pengelly	(resigned 31 March 2025)
Witham	Janis Croom	
	Michael Thompson	
	Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie	

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Principal Office
c/o Trinity Methodist Church
Rainsford Road
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 2XB

Bankers

The Co-Operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

Circuit Independent Examiner
Mrs J Brace
Mayor Cuttle & Co
Aquarium Suite 7B
101 Lower Anchor Street
Chelmsford
CM2 0AU

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Name of Circuit: The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit **No 34/09**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of Senior Circuit Steward N C MM Date 18/3/2026

Name: Nigel Murrell, c/o Trinity Methodist Church, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford CM1 2XB

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on March 18th 2026.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Caroline Wickes

Name of the Chair of the meeting: ~~Revd.~~ Asif Karam Date 18.03.2026

Revd. Dr. Caroline Wickes
Acting District Chair

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Name of Circuit: The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit **No 34/09**

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 17 to 34. As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts.

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

I have obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Signature of independent examiner .....

Name of independent examiner Joanne Brace.....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCCA .....

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Name of firm: Mayor Cuttle & Co

Address: Aquarium Suite 7B, 101 Lower Anchor Street, Chelmsford CM2 0AU

Date 9/4/2026

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	General Funds Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrest'd	Designat -ed Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowm't Funds	Total 2024-25
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Income from monetary investments		9,533	18,947	-	-	539	**29,019**
Income from investment properties	5	48,885	-	-	-	-	**48,885**
Assessments on Churches	6	182,109	-	-	-	-	**182,109**
Grants received	8	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
Other charitable income	8	4,131	-	459	720	-	**5,310**
Total income		**244,658**	**18,947**	**459**	**720**	**539**	**265,323**
Expenditure							
Assessments refunded re prior year	6	31,810					**31,810**
Grants and donations	9	300	-	1,800	2,750	-	**4,850**
Salaries and associated costs	10	138,720	-	-	3,275	-	**141,995**
Property maintenance & other costs	12	42,441	-	-	-	-	**42,441**
District Assessment & Levy	13	48,476	23,009	-	-	-	**71,485**
Office expenses & resources	14	4,460			277	-	**4,737**
Other outgoings	15	8,351	1,377	-	-	83	**9,811**
Total charitable expenditure		**274,558**	**24,386**	**1,800**	**6,302**	**83**	**307,129**
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	18	-	18	-	-	47	**65**
Net income/(expenditure)		**(29,900)**	**(5,421)**	**(1,341)**	**(5,582)**	**503**	**(41,741)**
Transfers between funds		456	-	-360	360	-456	**0**
Other gains		-	-	-	-	-	**0**
Net movement in funds		**(29,444)**	**(5,421)**	**(1,701)**	**(5,222)**	**47**	**(41,741)**
Total funds brought forward	18	1,699,326	423,451	108,000	6,002	25,541	**2,262,320**
Total funds carried forward	18	**1,669,882**	**418,030**	**106,299**	**780**	**25,588**	**2,220,579**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	General Fund Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrestricted	Design'd Funds Unrest'd	Restricted Fund	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Income from monetary investments		8,379	8,514	-	-	716	**17,609**
Income from investment properties	5	43,225	-	-	-	-	**43,225**
Assessments on Churches	6	171,707	-	-	-	-	**171,707**
Grants received	8	-	-	-	3,960	-	**3,960**
Other charitable income	8	3,858	-	-	2,311	-	**6,169**
Total income		**227,169**	**8,514**	**-**	**6,271**	**716**	**242,670**
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	9	-	-	-	7,053	-	**7,053**
Salaries and associated costs	10	101,884	-	-	1,362	-	**103,246**
Property maintenance & other costs	12	34,875	-	-	-	-	**34,875**
District Assessment & Levy	13	46,884	5,809	-	-	-	**52,693**
Office expenses & resources	14	3,620	-	-	2,807	-	**6,427**
Other outgoings	15	1,467	473	-		67	**2,007**
Total charitable expenditure		**188,730**	**6,282**	**-**	**11,222**	**67**	**206,301**
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	18	-	583	-	-	1,834	**2,417**
Net income/(expenditure)		**38,439**	**2,815**	**-**	**-4,951**	**2,483**	**38,786**
Transfers between funds		649	-	-	-	-649	0
Other gains	16	**46,543**	**254,464**	-	-	-	**301,007**
Net movement in funds		**85,631**	**257,279**	**0**	**-4,951**	**1,834**	**339,793**
Total funds brought forward		1,613,695	166,172	108,000	10,953	23,707	1,922,527
Total funds carried forward		**1,699,326**	**423,451**	**108,000**	**6,002**	**25,541**	**2,262,320**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	General Fund Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Unrest'd	Design'd Funds unrest'd	Rest'd Fund	Endow Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets								
Circuit Manses	17	1,250,000					1,250,000	1,250,000
Investment Properties	17	282,250					282,250	282,250
Total Fixed Assets		1,532,250	0	0	0	0	1,532,250	1,532,250
Current Assets								
Investments with TMCP	18		418,030			25,588	443,618	448,992
Debtors & Prepayments	19	14,293					14,293	14,459
Cash at Bank	20	126,356		106,299	780		233,435	269,414
Total Current Assets		140,649	418,030	106,299	780	25,588	691,346	732,865
Current Liabilities								
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	21	3,017					3,017	2,795
Total Current Liabilities		3,017	0	0	0	0	3,017	2,795
Net Current Assets		137,632	418,030	106,299	780	25,588	688,329	730,070
Total assets less current liabilities		1,669,882	418,030	106,299	780	25,588	2,220,579	2,262,320
Long term liabilities (due after more than 1 year)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net assets		1,669,882	418,030	106,299	780	25,588	2,220,579	2,262,320
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)	22-24	1,669,882					1,669,882	1,699,326
General Fund (Designated)	22-24			106,299			106,299	108,000
CMTF (Unrestricted)	22-24		418,030				418,030	423,451
Total Unrestricted Funds		1,669,882	418,030	106,299	0	0	2,194,211	2,230,777
Restricted Funds	22-24				780		780	6,002
Endowment Funds	22-24					25,588	25,588	25,541
Total Funds		1,669,882	418,030	106,299	780	25,588	2,220,579	2,262,320

The notes on pages 20 to 34 form part of these accounts

Approved by the trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit and signed on their behalf.

Revd. Asif Karam, Superintendent Minister..... Caroline Wicken .....

Revd Dr. CAROLINE WICKENS
Acting District Chair

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2025

Note 1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102-the Charities SORP (FRS 102) October 2019 update.

Note 2 Funds

The funds held comprise:
Unrestricted General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit.
The Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.
Restricted funds are those held for a narrower purpose. The Circuit has two restricted funds, a grant received for the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section, and donations received for the Refugee Support fund.
Designated Funds -There are three such funds. The trustees have voted to reserve funds for the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section and also for the matching contribution from the Circuit for Refugee Support fund. A new designation was made in the year for funds for the Circuit Methodist Women in Britain group.
Endowment funds are those for which the capital is invested, and the income may be used for specified purposes. The Circuit has one endowment fund.

Note 3 Accounting policies

Basis
These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost or valuation as at 2015, except that investments (including a property) are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Income recognition
Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the Trustees are reasonably certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability
In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102), the time of volunteers is not recognised

Expenditure
This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

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

Tangible fixed assets
Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. All properties are freehold and the estimated land component of all properties is shown in note 17 to the accounts. Fixtures and fittings within the properties are not valued separately from the building value.
No depreciation is provided on buildings since the Trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material.

Note 3 Accounting policies (continued)

Investment Property
The Circuit owns one residential property (formerly a manse) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. This property is currently let on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy and is classified as an investment property. The property is valued in the accounts at fair value, being open market value, net of estimated costs of disposal.

Monetary investment assets
The investment assets of the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Endowment Fund are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

Debtors
Debtors include assessments due by the end of August and are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit. The prepayment is the monthly ministerial stipends paid in advance to Methodist Church central payroll at the end of August, for stipends due on 1 September.

Creditors
Creditors include trade creditors and expenses incurred before the year end, at the amounts subsequently paid.

Going concern
To the best of their knowledge and belief the Trustees confirm that there are no material uncertainties that would call into question the Circuit's financial viability for at least 12 months from the date of the approval of these accounts.

Consolidation
The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of 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.

Grants
Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make the 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 being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

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 Church. 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 apply any tax charge.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2025

Note 4 Glossary of terms

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

Church: a group of members relating to a specific Church

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, and overseen jointly

Circuit Meeting: The trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Churches and the others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Churches.

CLT (Circuit Leadership Team): A group (comprising mostly, but not exclusively) of Circuit trustees responsible for the day to day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Generally the CLT comprises the Presbyters (Ministers) and lay staff stationed within the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards and the Circuit Treasurer

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain 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.

CPF: Connexional Priority Fund

District: a group of contiguous Circuits linked geographically.

DAF: District Advance Fund

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

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

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme

NEST: Pensions and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Chelmsford Methodist Church

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or Ordained Methodist Ministers 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

Note 5 Income from Investment Properties

The trustees have determined that the property owned at 10 Wickfield Ash, Chelmsford is unlikely to be returned to use as a manse in the foreseeable future and have therefore classified it as an investment property.

Note 6 Assessments on Churches

The Circuit comprises 12 churches and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall net costs of the Circuit. The Circuit aims to cover all its net core costs from the Assessment. The Assessment on Churches is determined annually and calculated as 50% on the membership of each Church and 50% on its income from offerings and Gift Aid. The amount due from the churches which are part of a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) is reduced if another denomination funds the Minister for that church.

Note 6 Assessment or share (continued)	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2024/25	2023/24
Assessments due for current year		
Broomfield	18,115	18,115
Christ Church, Braintree (LEP)	7,200	6,312
Christ Church, Coggeshall (LEP)	1,152	977
The Church at Great Notley (LEP)	1,879	1,707
Hall Street, Chelmsford (closed Dec 2023)	-	1,834
Halstead	8,800	8,000
Hatfield Peverel	7,385	7,032
Maldon	16,468	14,971
Moulsham Lodge	33,000	30,000
South Woodham Ferrers	14,286	13,197
St Augustine, Springfield (LEP)	3,434	3,200
Trinity, Chelmsford	56,364	53,004
Witham	14,026	13,358
Total	**182,109**	**171,707**

These amounts are included in the accounts based on the due date of receipt by the Circuit. They include £663 (2024 £550) to be received after the year end, included in debtors on the Balance Sheet.

Assessments refunded re prior year	
Broomfield	-3,655
Halstead	-1,614
Hatfield Peverel	-1,419
Maldon	-3,020
Moulsham Lodge	-6,052
South Woodham Ferrers	-2,662
Trinity, Chelmsford	-10,693
Witham	-2,695
Total	**-31,810**

During 2024/25 a refund was paid to the above churches reflecting a reduction in those costs met from the assessments of the previous year, compared to the original budget. This reduction in costs was due to staffing changes after the previous year's budget was agreed.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Note 7 Grants & Donations received

No grants or donations were received in 2024/25. In 2023/24 the Circuit received a restricted grant of £3,960 from the District Advance Fund for the School Worker project in Hatfield Peverel.

Note 8 Other charitable income

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Designated Funds	Restricted Fund-Refugee Support	Total
	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25
Solar energy rebate	2,438	-	-	2,438
Leaving gift contributions	1,589	-	-	1,589
Donations	104	-	-	104
Refugee fund grants repaid	-	230	720	950
Methodist Women in Britain	-	229	-	229
Total other charitable income	**4,131**	**459**	**720**	**5,310**

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund-Refugee Support	Total
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Solar energy rebate	2,325	-	2,325
Disposal of Hall St contents	1,259	-	1,259
Donations	274		274
Refugee fund grants repaid	-	2,311	2,311
Total other charitable income	**3,858**	**2,311**	**6,169**

The Restricted fund is for Refugee Support and was set up in response to the refugees coming to the UK after the Ukraine invasion.

Note 9 Grants & donations paid

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Refugee Support Funds (restricted & designated)	Refugee Support Fund (restricted)
	2024/25	2024/25	2023/24
Donations from General Fund	300		
Grants from the Refugee Support Restricted Fund	-	2,750	7,053
Grants from the Refugee Support Designated Fund	-	1,800	-
Total grants & donations paid	**300**	**4,550**	**7,053**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund-Schools worker	Total
	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25
Stipends & salaries			
Stipends-Ministers	82,565	-	82,565
Salaries-Lay worker & admin	8,785	3,204	11,989
Employers'pension contrib's	16,027	-	16,027
Employers' N I	9,155	71	9,226
Apprenticeship levy	477	-	477
Salary costs paid to HABEC Circuit	4,463		4,463
Supernumerary fees & travel expenses	588	-	588
Professional fees-admin contracts	8,424	-	8,424
Total stipends & salaries costs	**130,484**	**3,275**	**133,759**
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	7,590	-	7,590
Payroll fees	480	-	480
Payroll fees paid to HABEC Circuit	166	-	166
Total stipends, salaries & associated costs	**138,720**	**3,275**	**141,995**

From September 2024 to April 2025 the Circuit safeguarding officer was employed by HABEC Methodist Circuit for work covering both circuits. Chelmsford Circuit reimbursed HABEC Circuit for our share of the salary and associated costs.

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	Total
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Stipends & salaries			
Stipends-Ministers	61,372	-	61,372
Salaries-Lay worker & admin	6,240	1,362	7,602
Employers'pension contrib's	15,624	-	15,624
Employers' N I	5,959	-	5,959
Apprenticeship levy	360	-	360
Supernumerary fees	1,176	-	1,176
Professional fees-admin contracts	6,959	-	6,959
Total stipends & salaries costs	**97,690**	**1,362**	**99,052**
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	3,714	-	3,714
Payroll fees	480	-	480
Total stipends, salaries & associated costs	**101,884**	**1,362**	**103,246**

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs (continued)

Stipends were paid to 3 Ministers in 2024/25 until the end of March 2025, and 2 thereafter (2 in 2023/24). Salaries were paid to 2 part-time staff (the Schools Worker and the Circuit administrator) (2 part time staff in 2023/24). The Schools Worker cost was met from the Restricted Fund, using a grant received from the District.
Administration services were provided by 1 contractor (2 from June 2025) (2 in 2023/24).
From September 2024 to April 2025 the Circuit safeguarding officer was employed by HABEC Methodist Circuit for work covering both circuits. Chelmsford Circuit reimbursed HABEC Circuit for our share of the salary and associated costs.

A home telephone and broadband connection is provided for Ministers solely for use on Circuit business and travel costs incurred on Circuit business are re-imbursed against expense claims.
The full-time Ministers' manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains and insures the properties and meets the cost of Council Tax and water charges. The amounts are not regarded by HMRC as benefits in kind.

No employee received employee benefits totalling more than £60,000.

There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial, the holiday year ends on 31 August.

Pensions
All ministers are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

The Connexion accounts for the MMPS pension scheme and shows the figure in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented.

The lay employees are eligible to join the pension scheme which the Circuit has arranged with NEST, a government scheme which allows for defined contributions. The Circuit contributes as an employer to this scheme.

Note 11 Payments to trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the Presbyters and Deacon and the remaining members of the CLT are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent Minister and other presbyters undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Circuit Senior Steward chairs meeting of the CLT and the Superintendent chairs the Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit.
No trustee received any remuneration for their role as trustee.
The Circuit policy is to reimburse members of the CLT and other trustees for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties, including where appropriate travelling expenses and reimbursement of purchases on behalf of the Circuit such as maintenance of the manses, or where they have been requested to undertake certain activities for the Circuit such as training.
Trustees did not claim any expenses in respect of Circuit Trustee duties in 2024/25.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Note 12 Property expenses

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
Property costs-manses	**2024/25**	**2023/24**
Insurance	2,760	2,632
Manse Council tax & water	7,091	6,712
Maintenance-manses	14,307	11,378
Manse costs-shared with Romford Circuit	2,386	-
Quinquennial inspection fee- x (NIL in 2023/24)	2,765	-
Property costs-let properties		
Maintenance-let properties	4,701	3,855
Agents' fees	8,431	6,000
Property costs-Hall Street church after church closed	-	4,298
Total property costs	**42,441**	**34,875**

The Circuit is Managing Trustee for three properties designated to be used as manses, (two in Chelmsford and one in Maldon). One manse property in Chelmsford was temporarily let out throughout 2024/25 as Revd. Asif Karam remained in the family manse in Upminster. The Chelmsford Circuit has reimbursed the Romford Circuit with a proportion of the running costs of the Upminster manse. The second manse in Chelmsford was temporarily let out from May 2025, after being vacated by Revd. Mark Pengelly. An investment property in Chelmsford is also let out. Each property is let out on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy.

Note 13 Connexional & District Assessment and Levy

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2024/25	**2023/24**
District Assessment	**48,476**	**46,884**
	CMTF Fund - unrestricted	**CMTF Fund - unrestricted**
	2024/25	**2023/24**
District Advance Fund Levy	**23,009**	**5,809**

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members, and staffing (Presbyters and Mission staff only) of all Circuits in the Beds, Essex & Herts District. 50% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions and 50% using relative staffing proportions. The assessment is mainly a contribution to Connexional costs for national support services, discipleship and mission but also includes funding towards the costs of the District office and staff.
The levy for the District Advance Fund is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuit's CMTF Account balance as at 31 August in the previous accounting period.

Note 14 Office expenses and resources

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Schools Fund	Total
	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25
Telephone & internet	1,448	-	1,448
Printing, postage & stationery	1,029	-	1,029
Website costs	207	-	207
Meeting costs	240	-	240
Alarm maintenance	269	-	269
Preaching & sundry resources	1,267	277	1,544
Total	**4,460**	**277**	**4,737**

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Schools Fund	Total
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Telephone & internet	1,855	-	1,855
Printing, postage & stationery	831	-	831
IT costs	337	-	337
Preaching & sundry resources	597	2,807	3,404
Total	**3,620**	**2,807**	**6,427**

Note 15 Other outgoings

	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Endowment Fund	Total	Total
	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2023/24
Training courses	1,663	-	-	1,663	81
Other	1,733	-	-	1,733	586
Independent examiner's fee	800	-	-	800	800
Professional fees re new lease	2,634	-	-	2,634	-
Relocation fund	1,521	-	-	1,521	-
TCMP admin. fee	-	1,377	83	1,460	570
Total	**8,351**	**1,377**	**83**	**9,811**	**2,037**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Note 16 Other gains

NIL for period 2024/25	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Total
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Hall Street general fund transferred to Circuit on closure	46,543	-	46,543
Sale of church building-proceeds of sale, net of selling expenses	-	384,106	384,106
CPF levy	-	-129,642	-129,642
Net amount received by Circuit	46,543	254,464	301,007

The former Methodist Church in Hall Street was sold during prior year. The proceeds of sale (net of selling costs) were £384,100. In accordance with Methodist Standing Orders, a levy of £129,640 was paid to the Connexional Priority Fund levy. The net amount of £254,460 is held by the Circuit in the Circuit Model Trust Fund for Circuit use.
The Connexional Priority Fund is held centrally by the Methodist Church and is used for Mission work across the Connexion.

Note 17 Fixed Assets-Manses and Other Properties

	Manse Land	Manse buildings	Investment property	Total	Total
	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2023/24
Balance brought forward	510,000	740,000	282,250	1,532,250	1,532,250
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	510,000	740,000	282,250	1,532,250	1,532,250

Schedule of Manses and Investment Property

Property	Type	Cost	Valuation	Total
30 Park Ave Chelmsford	Manse	425,000		425,000
4 Rubens Gate Springfield Chelmsford	Manse	475,000		475,000
11 Mirosa Drive Maldon	Manse	350,000		350,000
10 Wickfield Ash Chelmsford	Investment		282,250	282,250
Total		1,250,000	282,250	1,532,250

Note 17 Fixed Assets-Manses and Other Properties (continued)

There are 3 manses (3 - 2023/24), 1 located in Chelmsford and 1 in Maldon, which are valued at cost as defined by FRS102.The manse at Park Avenue, Chelmsford was stated at deemed historic cost as at August 2014 in accordance with FRS 102. The manse at Maldon is valued at purchase cost in June 2015. The property at Rubens Gate, in North Springfield Chelmsford is valued at purchase cost in October 2014 plus the capital cost of improvements net of impairment in 2018/19. The manse at Rubens Gate was let on a short-term basis from mid August 2023 and the manse at Park Avenue was let on a short term basis from May 2025. It is intended that these properties will be used manses or accommodation for lay workers again in the future.

The property at Wickfield Ash continues to be let on a short-term basis. As it is unlikely that this property will be required in future as a manse it is valued as an investment property at the potential net sale proceeds receivable by the Circuit of £282,250 (2023/24 £282,250). This is based on a trustees' market valuation of £450,000 less the potential costs of sale of £167,750 (£7,750 professional fees and £160,000 payable for the Connexional Priority Fund Levy). 2023/24 figures are: trustees' valuation of £450,000 less £167,750 costs of sale (£7,750 professional fees and £160,000 CPT Levy).

No depreciation is being provided for the manses as the trustees consider the current residual value of the properties in their present condition to be not less than their brought forward cost and, in the absence of any impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the properties would be immaterial. The Circuit has made use of the deemed cost option on transitioning to FRS102 as outlined above.

Note 18 Monetary Investment Assets

Investments held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)

Year end valuation	2024/25 CMTF fund	2024/25 Endowment fund	2023/24 CMTF fund	2023/24 Endowment fund
Common investment funds	8,144	25,588	8,126	25,541
Trustees'Interest Fund	409,886	-	415,325	-
Total	**418,030**	**25,588**	**423,451**	**25,541**

Change in investment values Investments held in common investment funds	CMTF fund	Endowment fund
	2024/25	2024/25
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	8,126	25,541
Net gain on revaluation	18	47
Carrying (market) value at end of year	**8,144**	**25,588**

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees' Interest Fund on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium-term investments. TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing agents who are responsible for the day-to-day management of trust property. TMCP ensures that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2024/25	2023/24
Debtors		
Assessments due	662	550
Solar panel FIT payment due	1,275	942
Hall Street insurance refund due	-	1,017
Rental Income Due	2,850	
Prepayments		
Ministers' stipends in advance	7,873	10,356
Manse insurance	1,633	1,594
Total debtors & prepayments	**14,293**	**14,459**

Note 20 Bank Balances

	General (un-restricted)	CMTF (Un-rest'd)	Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Total	Total
	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2023/24
Central Finance Board deposit	105,429	-	106,299	780	212,508	229,925
Co-op bank current account	20,927	-	-	-	20,927	39,489
Total Bank	**126,356**	**-**	**106,299**	**780**	**233,435**	**269,414**

The balance held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church is available on demand without loss of interest, interest is credited monthly.

Note 21 Creditors & accruals

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2024/25	2023/24
Trade creditors & expenses	2,217	1,195
Independent Examination	800	1,600
Total	**3,017**	**2,795**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2025

Note 22 Funds

General Fund -unrestricted
The purpose of this fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted
The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and formulaically determined contributions from the sale of manses and church buildings in the Circuit.
Although this is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise these funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

Designated Funds- unrestricted
These are two unrestricted funds that have been allocated as follows:

£103,000 allocated in 2022/23 for the purpose of employing a Family & Schools worker in the Maldon section of the Circuit, for the three years 2022/23-2024/25. This designation has been extended for a further 3 years 2025/26-2027/28 for the purposes of community outreach, including family and schools work in the Maldon section of the Circuit, in particular in Hatfield Peverel.

£5,000 allocated in 2022/23 as a matching donation to funds donated to the Circuit for the purpose of assisting Ukrainian & other refugee families in the area. £3,070 remains in this fund at the year end.

£229 was transferred to the Circuit from the Circuit Methodist Women in Britain group and it is agreed that these funds will be designated for the work of this group.

All these funds have been designated by the trustees of the circuit meeting. The funds can only revert to general funds by the agreement of the same body.

Restricted Funds
These are two funds where donations have been received by the Circuit for a particular purpose as follows:

Grants received in 2023/24 from the District Advance Fund for the costs of the Schools Worker project within the Maldon section of the Circuit. The District has given permission for these funds to be carried forward; any funds not used for this purpose will be required to be returned to the District. £780 remained in this fund at the year end.

Donations received in 2022/23 and 2023/24 from individual personal donations received from around the Circuit for the purpose of assisting Ukrainian & other refugee families in the area. These funds were all spent by the end of the year.

Endowment Fund
This is a permanent endowment fund arising from a legacy given by Mrs H Walker. The income can only be used for local religious purposes.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Note 23 Summary of fund movements

	Balances asat 31/08/24	Income & Gains	Expenditure	Transfers	Unrealised gains	Balances as at 31/08/25
General Fund (Unrestricted)	**1,699,326**	244,658	-274,558	456		**1,669,882**
CMTF (un-restricted)	**423,451**	18,947	-24,386	-	18	**418,030**
Designated- Family & Schools Worker	**103,000**	-	-	-	-	**103,000**
Designated- Circuit Refugee Support	**5,000**	230	-1,800	-360	-	**3,070**
Designated - MWIB	-	229	-	-	-	**229**
Restricted- Schools Worker	**4,332**	-	-3,552	-	-	**780**
Restricted- Refugee Support	**1,670**	720	-2,750	360	-	-
Endowment	**25,541**	539	-83	-456	47	**25,588**
Total	**2,262,320**	**265,322**	**-307,129**	**0**	**65**	**2,220,579**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Note 24 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August are represented by:

	General Fund (unrest'd)	CMTF Fund (unrest'd)	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endo't Fund	Total
	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25	2024/25
Tangible fixed assets	1,532,250	-	-	-	-	1,532,250
Current assets	140,649	418,030	106,299	780	25,588	691,346
Current liabilities	-3,017	-	-	-	-	-3,017
Net assets	**1,669,882**	**418,030**	**106,299**	**780**	**25,588**	**2,220,579**

	General Fund (unrest'd)	CMTF Fund (unrest'd)	Designated	Restricted Fund	Endo't Fund	Total
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Tangible fixed assets	1,532,250	-	-	-	-	1,532,250
Current assets	169,871	423,451	108,000	6,002	25,541	732,865
Current liabilities	-2,795	-	-	-	-	-2,795
Net assets	**1,699,326**	**423,451**	**108,000**	**6,002**	**25,541**	**2,262,320**

Note 25 Related Parties

None of the Circuit trustees made donations direct to the Circuit during the year or in the preceding year. All of the Circuit trustees are members of one of the Churches within the Circuit and may be trustees of their Churches.

Related parties include the Methodist Conference, the BE&H District and Churches within the Circuit, CFB and TMCP. No trustee currently has a related party connection to any supplier.

Note 26 Volunteer Contribution

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in the UK is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In this Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with the mission, manses, finance, policy, grants and training. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by this Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Note 27 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities.

There are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities as at 31 August 2025 (2024 Nil).

THE METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134390

Accounts

THE METHODIST CHURCH - CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

Circuit No 34/09

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND TRUSTEES REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Registered Charity Number 1134390

The Methodist Church - Chelmsford Circuit is part of the

Bedfordshire, Essex & Hertfordshire District of the Methodist Church

Circuit reference 34/09

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THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Trustees' Report

The Trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit are pleased to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the Methodist year ended 31 August 2024.

Governing document and objectives

The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church.

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

The Circuit has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a Charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our Churches and to the wider community in the Circuit.

Mission Statement

The Circuit updated its Mission Statement in 2023, and continues to review and update it.

The Mission Statement for 2023/24 is as follows:

"The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the good news of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission"
In this, and in partnership with others wherever possible, Chelmsford Methodist Circuit will devote its prayers, resources, encouragement, and commitments on this priority:

<u>Supporting God's People, sharing God's love</u>

Our vision is for a Christ-centred Circuit of vibrant, growing churches supporting each other in expressing God's love and sharing it with others.

As ways towards realising this priority, the circuit will give attention to the following:

- Underpinning everything we do with God-centred worship and prayer
- Supporting community development and action for justice, especially among the most deprived and poor - in Britain and worldwide
- Making followers of Christ. Developing confidence in evangelism and in the capacity to speak of God and faith in ways that make sense to all involved
- Encouraging fresh ways of understanding church
- Nurturing an inclusive church which cares for all.

<u>Worship</u>

The church exists to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.

We will:

- Offer to the communities around us safe places for worship and acceptance
- Facilitate the worship of God in places other than our buildings (e.g. residential homes, new areas of housing)
- Help people grow a greater awareness of God's awesome presence, and to experience his love, at all stages of life

Mission Statement (continued)

- Encourage and make available varied worship opportunities appropriate for people of all ages, during the week as well as on Sundays
- Encourage and support the use of technology in our churches to enable all to participate;
- Support access for all to prayer resources.
-

Learning

Help people to grow and learn as Christians.

We will:

- Support churches and resource members in continuing to grow and delight in Christian discipleship
- Support the training and development of our ordained and lay people including Local Preachers, Worship Leaders and others
- Encourage each other at all stages of the faith journey, through Bible study/fellowship/house groups
- Inform and inspire people to be passionate about justice, peace and integrity of creation
- Provide opportunities for experience and learning about faith sharing
- Support training required by the Connexion (eg Safeguarding, EDI, Unconscious Bias)

Caring & Service

The church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

We will:

- Create safe communities characterised by hospitality, generosity, welcome, care, acceptance and respect;
- Provide prayerful, caring support for our Ministry and leadership
- Inspire an outward looking focus to the life and service of the churches within the circuit
- Use our influence to have an impact on issues of equality, diversity and inclusion both locally and more widely
- Encourage everyone to regard being active in service as part of their Christian life; and find ways to witness to our faith through fulfilling needs in our communities and to do what we can to support those in need in the wider world
- Give generously, but with due thought and prayer, of time and money for God's work in the church and in the world
- Work for justice and peace
- Support churches in caring for the environment in the local area, the nation and the wider world.

Evangelism

The church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

We will:

- Guard against being apologetic for our faith
- Provide more opportunities to explore the Bible and Christian faith, and the confidence to share it with others
- Engage in mission activities both inside and outside our buildings and to those we meet outside the church in daily life
- Use opportunities in community groups and at occasions such as baptisms, weddings, funerals and Christmas and Easter to share our faith
- Work with other Christian churches to explore openings for evangelism in the community
- Encourage people to be able to pray with and for those who are working for peace and hope.

Mission Statement (continued)

To fulfil these priorities, as a circuit we will:

- Support each of the circuit churches in producing new versions of their mission statements and strategy that are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timetabled (SMART)
- Encourage work that is ecumenical, people-centred, flexible and innovative
- Concentrate on the development of new visions and ways of being church relevant for the 21st century, through continued analysis of the circuit's resources of people, property and finance, and use them in ways that will most effectively further the work of God and the circuit.

Churches within the Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit

The Methodist Churches in the Circuit are Trinity, Moulsham Lodge and Broomfield, (all based in Chelmsford), Hatfield Peverel, Maldon, Witham and Halstead. Also included are five Local Ecumenical Partnerships in Braintree, Coggeshall, Great Notley, South Woodham Ferrers and North Springfield. The Methodist Church in Hall Street, Chelmsford closed on 31 December 2023.

The Circuit acts as an umbrella organisation for these Churches and provides the staff to take services and care for members. It provides training and support to members of the Churches for mission to the communities around these Churches.

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference. The Connexional office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers to this Circuit. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. This Circuit is part of the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District.

The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and Circuit stewards. Authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for the invitation to and appointment of Ministerial staff and lay employees. In addition to this, the Circuit meeting is charged with the care and maintenance of Ministerial housing and the agreement of the Circuit financial budget and the financial accounts. The Circuit meeting is also required to ensure all property and financial reports of the individual Churches are received in a timely fashion. All members of the Circuit meeting are Trustees to the Circuit and are listed at the end of this report.

Report for the Year

Aims and objectives for 2023/24

The main aims of the Circuit for 2023/24 were as follows:

- To complete the Stationing process for September 2024 and the review of resources.
- To launch the Circuit mission statement and 5 year strategy with a 24 hour prayer event.
- To set up a Circuit prayer group.
- To support the churches in the Circuit to review their own mission statement and 5 year strategy by 31 August 2024.
- To continue with pastoral care for our churches and the wider community.
- To continue work towards becoming an Eco Circuit and to assist churches and members in making relevant changes. To plan a Circuit wide Eco event for 2024.
- To continue the work with the school in Hatfield Peverel and extend the work done with schools and families when possible.

Report for the Year (continued)

Aims and objectives for 2023/24 (continued)

- To establish a 5 year plan for manse management.
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Progress during 2023/24

- The Circuit mission statement and 5 year strategic plan for 2023-2028 continue to be reviewed and updated following presentation of the first draft to the Circuit meeting in May 2023.
- A Circuit prayer event took in May 2024 at Witham Methodist Church.
- The Stationing process for September 2024 was completed, with the appointment of Revd. Asif Karam as a presbyter within the Chelmsford Section, from September 2024.
- Most of the churches in the Circuit completed the review of their own mission statements during 2023/24. Actions arising from these reviews will continue in 2024/25 and subsequent years.
  After prayerful consideration, the members of the church in Hall Street, Chelmsford, took the decision to request permission to cease to meet, due to declining numbers. The church closed on 31 December 2023. The Circuit reviewed possible uses of the building, and decided that it should be sold. The sale was completed in July 2024. The remaining 3 Methodist churches in Chelmsford continue to discuss ways of working together more closely. Once a month, they meet together in one of the 3 churches for a joint Sunday morning service. They also have a monthly Prayer Walk together in Chelmsford.
- The work with the school in Hatfield Peverel had to be suspended in Autumn 2023 following the temporary closure of parts of the school due to building defects. The work was able to restart after Easter 2024, led by Ria Allen, the Circuit Schools Worker.
  In June 2024 Revd. Barry Allen organised a visit of the Counties evangelism organisation's 'Life Exhibition', a multi-media experience for primary school age children. This examines key stories from the Gospels. Led by Revd. Barry & Ria Allen, and supported by volunteers from the local churches, 2 days were spent at the school in Hatfield Peverel and 2 days at the church in South Woodham Ferrers. All the pupils from years 3 to 6 were able to visit the exhibition.
- In November 2022 the Circuit set up a designated fund for donations to offer assistance with housing costs for refugees within the area of the Circuit, particularly those from Ukraine. The Circuit agreed to match any donations received up to a limit of £5,000. During the year five grants/loans were made.
- The work on our environmental responsibilities has continued across the Circuit. Members of the Circuit Leadership Team visited a church in Baildon, to see how they have improved the energy efficiency of their buildings. We are currently working towards the A Rocha UK ECO Circuit award. Of the 12 churches in the Circuit, 4 churches have the Silver Eco Award, 2 have the Bronze Eco Award, and 3 are registered with the Eco scheme, working towards an award.
- A new Circuit Safeguarding Officer was appointed from September 2024.

Aims and objectives for 2024/25

The main aims of the Circuit for 2024/25 are as follows:

- To review the Circuit staffing and complete the Stationing process for September 2025.
- To review the Circuit's Reserves Policy and the allocation of resources.
  To recruit new Circuit Stewards.

Aims and objectives for 2024/25 (continued)

- To appoint a Circuit EDI (Equality, Diversity, Inclusion) representative.
- To organise an annual Circuit prayer event.
- To continue to look with enquiring eyes and prayerful hope at the circumstances of our churches, their opportunities and challenges.
- To continue with pastoral care for our churches and the wider community.
- To continue work towards becoming an Eco Circuit and to assist Churches and members in making relevant changes. To plan a Circuit wide Eco event for 2025.
- To continue the work with the school in Hatfield Peverel and extend the work done with schools and families when possible.
- To establish a 5 year plan for manse management.
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Staffing

Revd. Mark Pengelly is the Circuit Superintendent and is responsible for the ministry of the Chelmsford section and at Halstead. In September 2023, the Circuit confirmed the extension of the period of invitation for Revd. Mark Pengelly, for a further 2 years from September 2024. However, in December 2024, Revd. Mark confirmed that he will be taking up a new post with effect from the end of March 2025.

Revd. Barry Allen is responsible for the ministry of the Maldon Section. He is retiring at the end of August 2025.

Revd. Asif Karam joined the Circuit from 1st September 2024, in the Chelmsford section.

Ria Allen is the Schools Worker for work in the school in Hatfield Peverel.

Karen Murrell is the Circuit Administrator, based in Chelmsford.

Esther Burton resigned as Circuit Safeguarding Officer in January 2024. Barbara Daniels was appointed as Circuit Safeguarding Officer in August 2024.

Alistair Jenkins was appointed as Finance Officer from mid September 2023, to undertake the detailed accounting work and Janis Croom, one of the Circuit Stewards, was appointed as the Circuit Treasurer from 17 September 2023.

Training

Training for local preachers is on-going as part of the Local Preachers and Leaders of Worship quarterly meetings. Representatives from the Circuit attended the District Synod in Spring 2024 and October 2024. Members of the Circuit continue to attend District Training events. Circuit and Church stewards undertook safeguarding and EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) training online or in person.

Support

Individual Circuit stewards attended Church Council meetings held throughout the year. They take note of issues raised at these meetings and report back to the Leadership team. The Circuit offers encouragement and advice to local Churches on the many and varied projects undertaken in their local communities. A regular Circuit Newsletter is produced which has helped churches to share what they do and how they have found new ways of reaching our local communities.

Ministers are supported by the Circuit Stewards personally and in terms of the properties they occupy.

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Risk Management

The major risks are kept under review by the Circuit Leadership Team. Income and expenditure is monitored and compared with the approved annual budget.

Safeguarding

The Circuit has adopted the Connexional Safeguarding Policy. The Circuit is committed to providing support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure they are clear and confident in their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.
The provision of Safeguarding training is covered by the ongoing work of our Safeguarding Officer. Church safeguarding officers have been attending training in person and online. Connexional guidance about best practice for safeguarding during on line church activities has been adopted.

Financial Review

The Circuit is responsible for

- The ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the thirteen local churches in the Circuit.
- The support of a ministry team of 2 Presbyters (3 from September 2024) and 3 lay workers (pastoral and administrative support).
- Payment of the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.
- The maintenance of Circuit properties (3 manses & 1 investment property).

Under Standing Orders the Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its ministers and the maintenance of the manses. In addition the Circuit has a financial obligation to the District to meet a share of its budget.
The Circuit budget is reviewed annually and covers the costs of the above which are met by assessments from each church towards their share of the total cost. In 2023/24 the Circuit continued to cover part of the annual costs from reserves, to mitigate the full cost of assessments for the churches whose income had been significantly reduced following the Covid pandemic.
The Circuit agreed to continue the Schools and Family Worker project for a further 3 years from 2022/23- to 2024/25 from grants and from funds within the Circuit Model Trust Fund. Funds have been set aside in a designated fund.

General Fund-unrestricted

The General Fund is available to be used for any or all of the purposes of the Circuit.
The purpose of this fund is:
1. To secure and sustain the Circuit's viability and future.
2. To give assurance to the general public that the Circuit, which is a charity, intends to use all the money coming into its care for the purposes of the Charity.
3. To enable the Circuit to meet the objectives set out in its Mission Statement. This statement was reviewed in 2024.

The total income of the General Fund in 2023/24 was £227,169 (2022/23 £207,683) and costs were £188,730 (2022/23 £227,244). £649 (2022/23 £660) was received from the Harriet Walker Endowment Fund. £46,543 was transferred to the Circuit from the general fund of Hall Street Methodist church on closure of that church. After these two transfers, the net surplus was £85,632 (2022/23 deficit £15,421). The balance of the General Fund at 31 August 2024 was £1,699,326 (2023 £1,613,695), of which £1,532,250 (2023 £1,532,250) is the book value of the properties, leaving £167,076 (2023 £81,445) as free reserves. The investment property is stated at current market valuation at the year end. In the opinion of the trustees, due to the volatility in the property market caused by the cost of living crisis, there was no change in the valuation at the end of the year.

Financial Review (continued)

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted

This fund derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes, and for the purposes of charity accounting this is an unrestricted fund.

An annual levy is made on this fund to go to the District Advance Fund.

Income of the CMTF in 2023/24 was £8,514 (2022/23 £5,488). In addition £254,464 was received from the sale of former Methodist churches (see note 16). Costs this year were £6,282 (2022/23 £6,818).

An unrealised gain on monetary investments of £583 was made (2022/23: loss of £334).

The balance of the CMTF at 31 August 2024 is £423,451 (2023 £166,172). The fund holds cash and investments.

Designated Fund-Schools & Family Worker project

These are unrestricted funds that have been allocated for the purpose of employing a Family & Schools worker for the three years from September 2022 (£103,000). These have been designated by the trustees of the Circuit. This can only revert to general funds by the agreement of the same body. The fund has not been utilised in 2022/23 or 2023/24 and remains at £103,000. In 2023/24 the Schools Worker was unable to work with the school for 2 terms, as the school was closed and then operating in temporary classrooms due to issues with the concrete used in the school buildings. In 2022/23 the Circuit was unable to recruit a Schools Worker until June 2023.

Restricted Fund-Schools Worker project

The restricted fund represents the balance of grants of £9,500 received in 2021/22 and £3,960 in 2023/24, from the District Advance Fund (DAF).This grant is restricted to meeting the running costs of the Schools Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. The total income of the Restricted Fund in 2023/24 was £3,960 (2022/23 Nil) and costs were £4,169 (2022/23 £1,868). The balance of the fund at 31 August 2024 is £4,333 (2023 £4,542).

Restricted & Designated Funds-Refugee Support

An appeal was made in 2022/23 to raise funds to support Ukrainian and other refugees living within the Circuit with loans and one-off grants for housing costs. The donations received less grants made are held in a restricted fund. Income received from donations & loan & grant repayments in 2023/24 was £2,311 (2022/23 £8,126). Grants & loans made in 2023/24 amounted to £7,053 (2022/23 £1,715). The balance of the fund at 31 August 2024 is £1,669 (2023: £6,411).

In 2022/23 the trustees of the Circuit agreed to match any donations received up to a maximum of £5,000. These funds are held in a designated fund, and were not utilised in 2023/24. The balance of the designated fund is £5,000.

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity

This is a permanent endowment with the capital invested through TMCP.

The income for 2023/24 was £716 (2022/23 £730) and costs were £67 (2022/23 £70). The net surplus of £649 (2022/23 £660) was transferred to the General Fund. An unrealised gain on monetary investments of £1,834 was made (2022/23 decrease of £1,051).The value of the endowment fund at 31 August 2024 is £25,541 (2023 £23,707).

Reserves Policies

General Fund-unrestricted

The Reserves Policy is to hold at least six months' expenditure to meet the District assessment and Circuit manse expenditure. This assumes that churches in the Circuit will continue to meet their agreed contributions to the Circuit Ministerial costs.

Reserves Policies (continued)

Circuit Model Trust Fund-unrestricted

The Charity Commission have agreed that it is appropriate for the trustees to set a separate policy for the management of this fund as follows:
Money held in the Circuit Model Trust Fund that has not been allocated to any specific purpose can be retained for general Circuit purposes including property expenditure on the manses arising from Quinquennial Inspection Reports.

Restricted Fund-Schools & Family Worker project

This fund is to be used for the Schools & Family Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. This project commenced in October 2019. The Circuit Meeting agreed to continue and extend the project for a further 3 years from September 2022. A successful application was made for District funding in 2023/24.

Designated Fund-Schools, family & community project

As described above, the Circuit agreed to continue and extend the Schools, Family and Community project within the Maldon section for 3 years from September 2022, subject to review. It was agreed to fund the costs, net of grants, from the proceeds of sale of Hatfield Peverel church. As a result of this decision, in 2021/22 funds were transferred from the Circuit Model Trust fund to a new designated fund, to cover the budgeted cost of this project for 3 years.

Restricted & Designated Funds-Refugee Support

These funds are to be used to assist Ukrainian & other refugees living within the area of the Circuit with the cost of deposits for rented housing or other one-off costs linked to moving into independent rented accommodation. Funds received from external donations are held within a restricted fund.

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity

This is registered as a separate charity (charity registration number 222146), with trustees appointed by the Circuit. The income is to be used for the local Methodist ministry covering the village of Great Totham and is transferred to the General Fund for this purpose.

Trustees' Recruitment

Whilst the appointment of the Trustees is determined in accordance with the Methodist procedures, it is the aim to ensure that the Leadership team have a broad experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters. Training for Circuit stewards is available at District level.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

-Selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently.
- Prepared accounts on an accrual basis.
- Followed applicable accounting standards.
- Prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enables them to ensure that the financial statements steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

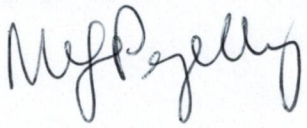
THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

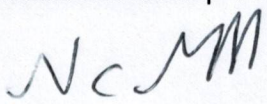
So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the independent examiner and each of the Trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

Approval
The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the Circuit Meeting on 17th March 2025.

Revd. Mark Pengelly
Superintendent



Nigel Murrell
Circuit Leadership Team



THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

TRUSTEES OF THE CIRCUIT - year ended 31 August 2024

Circuit Ministers
Revd. Mike Pengelly (Circuit Superintendent Minister)
Revd. Barry Allen
Revd. Sue King

Other Authorised Ministers and Supernumeraries
Revd. Tony Shrimpton (Not a trustee)
Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie
Revd. Sue King
Revd. Guy Goodall (Not a trustee)
Revd. David Dickens (Not a trustee)

Circuit Stewards
Janis Croom Circuit Treasurer from 17 September 202)
Daisy Eleady-Cole
Gareth Crooks (resigned 12 March 2024)
Nigel Murrell Senior Steward
Sheridan Pengelly
Eric Smart

Co-opted onto CLT:
David Hodgkinson Circuit Property Secretary

Safeguarding
Esther Burton Circuit Safeguarding Officer (not a trustee, resigned 17 January 2024)
Barbara Daniels Circuit Safeguarding Officer (not a trustee, appointed August 2024)

Church Representatives

Broomfield	David Hodgkinson	
	Dianne Hodgkinson	
	Les Steed	
Christ Church Braintree	David Drewett	
	David Gask	
Christ Church Coggeshall	Adrian Romano	
	Michelle Milliken	(Not a trustee)
The Church in Great Notley	Lisa Scott	
Hall Street (church closed 31 December 2023)	Diane Clemence	(to 31 December 2023)
	Jerry Kavanagh	(to 31 December 2023)
Halstead	Helen Catley	
	Revd. Sue King	
	William Lartey	
Hatfield Peverel Church	Rosemary Bailey	
	Jane Clemo	
	Jane Cook	
	Jeffrey Hosking	

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Maldon	Julie Hill	
	Maureen Crilley	
	Susan Farrell	(Not a trustee)
Moulsham Lodge	Robert Griffin	
	Glenda Griffin	(resigned Jan 2024)
	Martyn Edwards	(from 1 May 2024)
	Malcolm Lees	(from 29 May 2024)
	Clive Pickett	
North Springfield-St Augustine's	J Douglas Hayton	
	Pamela Scammell	
	Carolyn Smith	(Not a trustee)
South Woodham Ferrers	David Carter	(resigned May 2024)
	Elizabeth Hobbs	(from 29 May 2024)
	Judith Radley	
	Lynda Speak	
	Tricia Tutin	
Trinity	Janet Cassels	(from 29 May 2024)
	Roger Fairclough	
	Pamela French	(resigned May 2024)
	Jeffrey Green	
	Gillian Harrington	(resigned May 2024)
	Nigel Murrell	
	Sheridan Pengelly	
Witham	Janis Croom	
	Michael Thompson	
	Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie	

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Principal Office
c/o Trinity Methodist Church
Rainsford Road
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 2XB

Bankers

The Co-Operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

Circuit Independent Examiner
Mrs J Brace
Mayor Cuttle & Co
Aquarium Suite 7B
101 Lower Anchor Street
Chelmsford
CM2 0AU

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Name of Circuit: The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit **No 34/09**

Declarations and Scrutiny

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

Signature of Senior Circuit Steward ..... Date 17/3/25

Name: Nigel Murrell, c/o Trinity Methodist Church, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford CM1 2XB

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 March 17th 2025.

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

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd. Mark Pengelly Date 17/3/2025

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Name of Circuit: The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit **No 34/09**

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 17 to 34. As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts.

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

I have obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Signature of independent examiner .....

Name of independent examiner Joanne Brace.....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner .....FCCA.....

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Name of firm: Mayor Cuttle & Co

Address: Aquarium Suite 7B, 101 Lower Anchor Street, Chelmsford CM2 0AU

Date 10/4/2025

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	General Funds Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrest'd	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowm't Funds	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Income from monetary investments		8,379	8,514	-	-	716	**17,609**
Income from investment properties	5	43,225	-	-	-	-	**43,225**
Assessments on Churches	6	171,707	-	-	-	-	**171,707**
Grants received	7	-	-	-	3,960	-	**3,960**
Other charitable income	8	3,858	-	-	2,311	-	**6,169**
Total income		**227,169**	**8,514**	**-**	**6,271**	**716**	**242,670**
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	9	-	-	-	7,053	-	**7,053**
Salaries and associated costs	10	101,884	-	-	1,362	-	**103,246**
Property maintenance & other costs	12	34,875	-	-	-	-	**34,875**
District Assessment & Levy	13	46,884	5,809	-	-	-	**52,693**
Office expenses & resources	14	3,620	-	-	2,807	-	**6,427**
Other outgoings	15	1,467	473	-		67	**2,007**
Total charitable expenditure		**188,730**	**6,282**	**-**	**11,222**	**67**	**206,301**
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	18	-	583	-	-	1,834	**2,417**
Net income/(expenditure)		**38,439**	**2,815**	**-**	**-4,951**	**2,483**	**38,786**
Transfers between funds		649	-	-	-	-649	0
Other gains	16	**46,543**	**254,464**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**301,007**
Net movement in funds		**85,631**	**257,279**	**0**	**-4,951**	**1,834**	**339,793**
Total funds brought forward		1,613,695	166,172	108,000	10,953	23,707	1,922,527
Total funds carried forward		**1,699,326**	**423,451**	**108,000**	**6,002**	**25,541**	**2,262,320**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	General Fund Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrestricted	Design'd Funds Unrest'd	Restricted Fund	Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Income from monetary investments		5,006	5,488	-	-	730	**11,224**
Income from investment properties	5	20,447	-	-	-	-	**20,447**
Assessments on Churches	6	175,658	-	-	-	-	**175,658**
Grants received	7	4,327	-	-	-	-	**4,327**
Other charitable income	8	2,245	-	-	8,126	-	**10,371**
Total income		**207,683**	**5,488**	**0**	**8,126**	**730**	**222,027**
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	9	-	-	-	1,620	-	**1,620**
Salaries and associated costs	10	133,858	-	-	782	-	**134,640**
Property maintenance & other costs	12	43,564	-	-	-	-	**43,564**
District Assessment & Levy	13	44,232	6,316	-	-	-	**50,548**
Office expenses & resources	14	3,770	-	-	991	-	**4,761**
Other outgoings	15	1,820	502	-	95	70	**2,487**
Total charitable expenditure		**227,244**	**6,818**	**0**	**3,488**	**70**	**237,620**
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	18	-	-334	-	-	-1,051	-1,385
Net income/(expenditure)		**-19,561**	**-1,664**	**0**	**4,638**	**-391**	**-16,978**
Transfers between funds		4,140	-8,480	5,000	-	-660	0
Other gains	16	-	-	-	-	-	**0**
Net movement in funds		**-15,421**	**-10,144**	**5,000**	**4,638**	**-1,051**	**-16,978**
Total funds brought forward		1,629,116	176,316	103,000	6,315	24,758	1,939,505
Total funds carried forward		**1,613,695**	**166,172**	**108,000**	**10,953**	**23,707**	**1,922,527**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	General Fund Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Unrest'd	Design'd Funds unrest'd	Rest'd Fund	Endow Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets								
Circuit Manses	17	1,250,000					1,250,000	1,250,000
Investment Properties	17	282,250					282,250	282,250
Total Fixed Assets		1,532,250	0	0	0	0	1,532,250	1,532,250
Current Assets								
Investments with TMCP	18		423,451			25,541	448,992	189,879
Debtors & Prepayments	19	14,459					14,459	10,159
Cash at Bank	20	155,412		108,000	6,002		269,414	193,359
Total Current Assets		169,871	423,451	108,000	6,002	25,541	732,865	393,397
Current Liabilities								
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	21	2,795					2,795	3,120
Total Current Liabilities		2,795	0	0	0	0	2,795	3,120
Net Current Assets		167,076	423,451	108,000	6,002	25,541	730,070	390,277
Total assets less current liabilities		1,699,326	423,451	108,000	6,002	25,541	2,262,320	1,922,525
Long term liabilities (due after more than 1 year)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net assets		1,699,326	423,451	108,000	6,002	25,541	2,262,320	1,922,525
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)	22-24	1,699,326					1,699,326	1,613,695
General Fund (Designated)	22-24			108,000			108,000	108,000
CMTF (Unrestricted)	22-24		423,451				423,451	166,172
Total Unrestricted Funds		1,699,326	423,451	108,000	0	0	2,230,777	1,887,867
Restricted Funds	22-24				6,002		6,002	10,953
Endowment Funds	22-24					25,541	25,541	23,707
Total Funds		1,699,326	423,451	108,000	6,002	25,541	2,262,320	1,922,527

The notes on pages 20 to 34 form part of these accounts

Approved by the trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit and signed on their behalf.

Revd. Mark Pengelly, Superintendent Minister.....

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2024

Note 1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102-the Charities SORP (FRS 102)October 2019 update.

Note 2 Funds

The funds held comprise:
Unrestricted General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit.
The Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.
Restricted funds are those held for a narrower purpose. The Circuit has two restricted fund, a grant received for the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section, and donations received for the Refugee Support fund.
Designated Funds -There are two such funds. The trustees have voted to reserve funds for the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section and also for the matching contribution from the Circuit for Refugee Support fund.
Endowment funds are those for which the capital is invested, and the income may be used for specified purposes. The Circuit has one endowment fund.

Note 3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost or valuation as at 2015, except that investments (including a property) are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the Trustees are reasonably certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability
In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102), the time of volunteers is not recognised

Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. All properties are freehold and the estimated land component of all properties is shown in note 17 to the accounts. Fixtures and fittings within the properties are not valued separately from the building value.
No depreciation is provided on buildings since the Trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material.

Note 3 Accounting policies (continued)

Investment Property
The Circuit owns one residential property (formerly a manse) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. This property is currently let on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy and is classified as an investment property. The property is valued in the accounts at fair value, being open market value, net of estimated costs of disposal.

Monetary investment assets
The investment assets of the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Endowment Fund are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

Debtors
Debtors include assessments due by the end of August and are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit. The prepayment is the monthly ministerial stipends paid in advance to Methodist Church central payroll at the end of August, for stipends due on 1 September.

Creditors
Creditors include trade creditors and expenses incurred before the year end, at the amounts subsequently paid.

Going concern
To the best of their knowledge and belief the Trustees confirm that there are no material uncertainties that would call into question the Circuit's financial viability for at least 12 months from the date of the approval of these accounts.

Consolidation
The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of 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.

Grants
Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make the 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 being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

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 Church. 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 apply any tax charge.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2024

Note 4 Glossary of terms

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

Church: a group of members relating to a specific Church

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, and overseen jointly

Circuit Meeting: The trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Churches and the others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Churches.

CLT (Circuit Leadership Team): A group (comprising mostly, but not exclusively) of Circuit trustees responsible for the day to day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Generally the CLT comprises the Presbyters (Ministers) and lay staff stationed within the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards and the Circuit Treasurer

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain 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.

CPF : Connexional Priority Fund

District: a group of contiguous Circuits linked geographically.

DAF: District Advance Fund

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

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

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme

NEST: Pensions and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Chelmsford Methodist Church

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or Ordained Methodist Ministers 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

Note 5 Income from Investment Properties

The trustees have determined that the property owned at 10 Wickfield Ash, Chelmsford is unlikely to be returned to use as a manse in the foreseeable future and have therefore classified it as an investment property.

Note 6 Assessments on Churches

The Circuit comprises 13 (12 from January 2024) churches and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall net costs of the Circuit. The Circuit aims to cover all its net core costs from the Assessment. The Assessment on Churches is determined annually and calculated as 50% on the membership of each Church and 50% on its income from offerings and Gift Aid. The amount due from the churches which are part of a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) is reduced if another denomination funds the Minister for that church.

Note 6 Assessment or share (continued)	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2023/24	2022/23
Broomfield	18,115	18,161
Christ Church, Braintree (LEP)	6,312	7,200
Christ Church, Coggeshall (LEP)	977	962
The Church at Great Notley (LEP)	1,707	1,477
Hall Street, Chelmsford (closed December 2023)	1,834	6,000
Halstead	8,000	8,000
Hatfield Peverel	7,032	7,488
Maldon	14,971	20,522
Moulsham Lodge	30,000	21,500
South Woodham Ferrers	13,197	14,133
St Augustine, Springfield (LEP)	3,200	3,000
Trinity, Chelmsford	53,004	53,004
Witham	13,358	14,211
Total	**171,707**	**175,658**

These amounts are included in the accounts based on the due date of receipt by the Circuit. They include £550 (2023 £500) to be received after the year end, included in debtors on the Balance Sheet.

Note 7 Grants & Donations received

	Restricted Fund	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2023/24	2022/23
DAF-for Schools Worker Project	3,960	-
DAF-for new windows	-	4,327
Total	**3,960**	**4,327**

In 2023/24 the Circuit received a grant of £3,960 from the District Advance Fund for the School Worker project in Hatfield Peverel (2022/23 grant of £4,327 received from DAF towards the cost of new double glazed windows in the Park Avenue manse).

Note 8 Other charitable income

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund-Refugee Support	Total
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Solar energy rebate	2,325	-	2,325
Disposal of Hall St contents	1,259	-	1,259
Refugee fund donations & grants repaid	-	2,311	2,311
Donations	274		274
Total other charitable income	**3,858**	**2,311**	**6,169**

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund-Refugee Support	Total
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
Solar energy rebate	2,193	-	2,193
Refugee fund donations	-	8,126	8,126
Donations	52	-	52
Total other charitable income	**2,245**	**8,126**	**10,371**

The Restricted fund is for Refugee Support and was set up in response to the refugees coming to the UK after the Ukraine invasion.

Note 9 Grants & donations paid

	Restricted Fund-Refugee Support	Restricted Fund-Refugee Support
	2023/24	2022/23
Grants from the Refugee Support Fund	7,053	1,620

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund-Schools worker	Total
	2023/24	**2023/24**	**2023/24**
Stipends & salaries			
Stipends-Ministers	61,372	-	61,372
Salaries-Lay worker & admin	6,240	1,362	7,602
Employers'pension contrib's	15,624	-	15,624
Employers' N I	5,959	-	5,959
Apprenticeship levy	360	-	360
Supernumerary fees	1,176	-	1,176
Professional fees-admin contracts	6,959	-	6,959
Total stipends & salaries costs	**97,690**	**1,362**	**99,052**
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	3,714	-	3,714
Payroll fees	480	-	480
Total stipends, salaries & associated costs	**101,884**	**1,362**	**103,246**

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	Total
	2022/23	**2022/23**	**2022/23**
Stipends & salaries			
Stipends-Ministers	84,005	-	84,005
Salaries-Lay worker & admin	10,396	779	11,175
Employers' pension contributions	21,731	-	21,731
Employers' N I contributions	8,022	3	8,025
Apprenticeship levy	467	-	467
Supernumerary fees	800	-	800
Professional fees-admin contract	5,400	-	5,400
Total stipends & salaries costs	**130,821**	**782**	**131,603**
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	2,386	-	2,386
Lay employees' travel	171	-	171
Payroll fees	480	-	480
Total associated costs	**3,037**	**-**	**3,037**
Total stipends, salaries & associated costs	**133,858**	**782**	**134,640**

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs (continued)

Stipends were paid to 2 Ministers in 2023/24 (3 in 2022/23). Salaries were paid to 2 part-time lay workers/administrative staff and 2 contractors (2 part time staff and 1 contractor in 2022/23). The previous Family & Schools worker resigned at the end of 2022/23, with a new Schools Worker appointed from April 2024. The Family & Schools Worker cost was met from the Restricted Fund, using a grant received from the District.

A home telephone and broadband connection is provided for Ministers solely for use on Circuit business and travel costs incurred on Circuit business are re-imbursed against expense claims.
The full-time Ministers' manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains and insures the properties and meets the cost of Council Tax and water charges. The amounts are not regarded by HMRC as benefits in kind.

No employee received employee benefits totalling more than £60,000.

There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial, the holiday year ends on 31 August.

Pensions
All ministers are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

The Connexion accounts for the MMPS pension scheme and shows the figure in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented.

The lay employees are eligible to join the pension scheme which the Circuit has arranged with NEST, a government scheme which allows for defined contributions. The Circuit contributes as an employer to this scheme.

Note 11 Payments to trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the Presbyters and Deacon and the remaining members of the CLT are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent Minister and other presbyters undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Circuit Senior Steward chairs meeting of the CLT and the Superintendent chairs the Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit.
No trustee received any remuneration for their role as trustee.
The Circuit policy is to reimburse members of the CLT and other trustees for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties, including where appropriate travelling expenses and reimbursement of purchases on behalf of the Circuit such as maintenance of the manses, or where they have been requested to undertake certain activities for the Circuit such as training.
Trustees did not claim any expenses in respect of Circuit Trustee duties in 2023/24.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Note 12 Property expenses

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
Property costs-manses	**2023/24**	**2022/23**
Insurance	2,632	1,066
Manse Council tax & water	6,712	9,539
Maintenance-manses	11,378	23,403
Quinquennial inspection fee- NIL (4 in 2022/23)	-	2,795
Property costs-let properties		
Maintenance-let properties	3,855	2,754
Agents' fees	6,000	4,007
Property costs-Hall Street church after church closed		
Insurance	1,142	-
Heating & water charges	2,996	-
Maintenance	160	-
Total property costs	**34,875**	**43,564**

The Circuit is Managing Trustee for two properties used as manses, (one in Chelmsford and one in Maldon). A third manse property in Chelmsford was temporarily let out on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy in 2023/24 due to the vacant ministerial post. An investment property in Chelmsford is also let out on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy.

Note 13 Connexional & District Assessment and Levy

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2023/24	**2022/23**
District Assessment	**46,884**	**44,232**
	CMTF Fund - unrestricted	**CMTF Fund - unrestricted**
	2023/24	**2022/23**
District Advance Fund Levy	**5,809**	**6,316**

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members, and staffing (Presbyters and Mission staff only) of all Circuits in the Beds, Essex & Herts District. 50% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions and 50% using relative staffing proportions. The assessment is mainly a contribution to Connexional costs for national support services, discipleship and mission but also includes funding towards the costs of the District office and staff.
The levy for the District Advance Fund is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuit's CMTF Account balance as at 31 August in the previous accounting period.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Note 14 Office expenses and resources

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Schools Fund	Total
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Telephone & internet	1,855	-	1,855
Printing, postage & stationery	831	-	831
Other administrative expenses	337	-	337
Preaching & sundry resources	597	2,807	3,404
Total	**3,620**	**2,807**	**6,427**

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Schools Fund	Total
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
Telephone & internet	2,116	-	2,116
Printing, postage & stationery	1,151	-	1,151
IT costs	210	-	210
Preaching & sundry resources	293	991	1,284
Total	**3,770**	**991**	**4,761**

Note 15 Other outgoings

	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Endowment Fund	Total	Total
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2022/23
Training	81	-	-	81	960
Other	586	-	-	586	155
Independent examiner's fee	800	-	-	800	800
TCMP admin. fee	-	473	67	540	572
Total	**1,467**	**473**	**67**	**2,007**	**2,487**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Note 16 Other gains

	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Total	Total
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2022/23
Hall Street general fund transferred to Circuit on closure	46,543	-	46,543	-
Sale of church building-proceeds of sale, net of selling expenses	-	384,106	384,106	-
CPF levy	-	-129,642	-129,642	-
Net amount received by Circuit	46,543	254,464	301,007	-

The former Methodist Church in Hall Street was sold during this year. The proceeds of sale (net of selling costs) were £384,100. In accordance with Methodist Standing Orders, a levy of £129,640 was paid to the Connexional Priority Fund levy. The net amount of £254,460 is held by the Circuit in the Circuit Model Trust Fund for Circuit use.
The Circuit also received £6 less £2 CPF levy from a refund of fees paid on the sale of Hatfield Peverel Methodist Church in 2021/22.
The Connexional Priority Fund is held centrally by the Methodist Church and is used for Mission work across the Connexion.

Note 17 Fixed Assets-Manses and Other Properties

	Manse Land	Manse buildings	Investment property	Total	Total
	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2022/23
Balance brought forward	510,000	740,000	282,250	1,532,250	1,532,250
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	510,000	740,000	282,250	1,532,250	1,532,250

Schedule of Manses and Investment Property

Property	Type	Cost	Valuation	Total
30 Park Ave Chelmsford	Manse	425,000		425,000
4 Rubens Gate Springfield Chelmsford	Manse	475,000		475,000
11 Mirosa Drive Maldon	Manse	350,000		350,000
10 Wickfield Ash Chelmsford	Investment		282,250	282,250
Total		775,000	757,250	1,532,250

Note 17 Fixed Assets-Manses and Other Properties (continued)

There are 3 manses (3 - 2022/23), 2 located in Chelmsford and 1 in Maldon, which are valued at cost as defined by FRS102.The manse at Park Avenue, Chelmsford was stated at deemed historic cost as at August 2014 in accordance with FRS 102. The manse at Maldon is valued at purchase cost in June 2015. The house at Rubens Gate, in North Springfield, Chelmsford is valued at purchase cost in October 2014 plus the capital cost of improvements net of impairment in 2018/19. This property was let on a short-term basis from mid August 2023. It is intended that this will be used a manse again in the future.
The property at Wickfield Ash continues to be let on a short-term basis. As it is unlikely that this property will be required in future as a manse it is valued as an investment property at the potential net sale proceeds receivable by the Circuit of £282,250 (2022/23 £282,250). This is based on a trustees' market valuation of £450,000 less the potential costs of sale of £167,750 (£7,750 professional fees and £160,000 payable for the Connexional Priority Fund Levy). 2022/23 figures are: trustees' valuation of £450,000 less £167,750 costs of sale (£7,750 professional fees and £160,000 CPT Levy).
No depreciation is being provided for the manses as the trustees consider the current residual value of the properties in their present condition to be not less than their brought forward cost and, in the absence of any impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the properties would be immaterial. The Circuit has made use of the deemed cost option on transitioning to FRS102 as outlined above.

Note 18 Monetary Investment Assets

Investments held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)

Year end valuation	2023/24 CMTF fund	2023/24 Endowment fund	2022/23 CMTF fund	2021/22 Endowment fund
Common investment funds	8,126	25,541	7,542	23,707
Trustees'Interest Fund	415,325	-	158,630	-
Total	**423,451**	**25,541**	**166,172**	**23,707**

Change in investment values Investments held in common investment funds	CMTF fund	Endowment fund
	2023/24	2023/24
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	7,542	23,707
Net gain on revaluation	584	1,834
Carrying (market) value at end of year	**8,126**	**25,541**

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees' Interest Fund on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium-term investments. TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing agents who are responsible for the day-to-day management of trust property. TMCP ensures that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2023/24	General Fund (unrestricted) 2022/23
Debtors		
Assessments due	550	500
Solar panel FIT payment due	942	836
Hall Street insurance refund due	1,017	-
Prepayments		
Ministers' stipends in advance	10,356	6,876
Manse insurance	1,594	1,493
Council Tax	-	210
Letting agents'fees	-	244
Total debtors & prepayments	**14,459**	**10,159**

Note 20 Bank Balances

	General (un-restricted) 2023/24	CMTF (Un-rest'd) 2023/24	Designated Fund 2023/24	Restricted Fund 2023/24	Total 2023/24	Total 2022/23
Central Finance Board deposit	73,062	43,386	108,000	5,477	229,925	181,974
Co-op bank current account	39,489	-	-	-	39,489	11,383
Total Bank	**112,551**	**43,386**	**108,000**	**5,477**	**269,414**	**193,357**

The balance held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church is available on demand without loss of interest, interest is credited monthly.

Note 21 Creditors & accruals

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2023/24	General Fund (unrestricted) 2022/23
Trade creditors & expenses	1,195	470
Rent received in advance	-	1,850
Accruals	1,600	800
Total	**2,795**	**3,120**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2024

Note 22 Funds

General Fund -unrestricted
The purpose of this fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes. Following the closure of Hall Street church, the general funds of the church were transferred to the Circuit. The balance has been added to the Circuit general fund.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted
The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and formulaically determined contributions from the sale of manses and church buildings in the Circuit.
Although this is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise these funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

Designated Funds- unrestricted
These are two unrestricted funds that have been allocated as follows:

£103,000 allocated in 2022/23 for the purpose of employing a Family & Schools worker in the Maldon section of the Circuit, for the three years 2022/23-2024/25.

£5,000 allocated in 2022/23 as a matching donation to funds donated to the Circuit for the purpose of assisting Ukrainian & other refugee families in the area.

These funds have been designated by the trustees of the circuit meeting. The funds can only revert to general funds by the agreement of the same body.

Restricted Funds
These are two funds where donations have been received by the Circuit for a particular purpose as follows:

Grants received in 2021/22 and 2023/24 from the District Advance Fund for the costs of the Schools Worker project within the Maldon section of the Circuit. The District has given permission for these funds to be carried forward; any funds not used for this purpose will required to be returned to the District.

Donations received in 2022/23 and 2023/24 from individual personal donations received from around the Circuit for the purpose of assisting Ukrainian & other refugee families in the area.

Endowment Fund
This is a permanent endowment fund arising from a legacy given by Mrs H Walker. The income can only be used for local religious purposes.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Note 23 Summary of fund movements

	Balances asat 31/08/23	Income & Gains	Expenditure	Transfers	Unrealised gains	**Balances as at 31/08/24**
General Fund	**1,613,695**	273,712	-188,730	649	-	**1,699,326**
CMTF	**166,172**	262,978	-6,282	-	583	**423,451**
Designated-Family & Schools Worker	**103,000**	-	-	-	-	**103,000**
Designated-Circuit Refugee Support	**5,000**	-	-	-	-	**5,000**
Restricted-Schools Worker	**4,542**	3,960	-4,169	-	-	**4,332**
Restricted-Refugee Support	**6,411**	2,311	-7,053	-	-	**1,670**
Endowment	**23,707**	716	-67	-649	1,834	**25,541**
Total	**1,922,527**	**543,677**	**-206,301**	**0**	**2,417**	**2,262,320**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Note 24 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August are represented by:

	General Fund (unrest'd)	CMTF Fund (unrest'd)	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endo't Fund	Total
	2023/24	**2023/24**	**2023/24**	**2023/24**	**2023/24**	**2023/24**
Tangible fixed assets	1,532,250	-	-	-	-	1,532,250
Current assets	169,871	423,451	108,000	6,002	25,541	732,865
Current liabilities	-2,795	-	-	-	-	-2,795
Net assets	**1,699,326**	**423,451**	**108,000**	**6,002**	**25,541**	**2,262,320**

	General Fund (unrest'd)	CMTF Fund (unrest'd)	Designated	Restricted Fund	Endo't Fund	Total
	2022/23	**2022/23**	**2022/23**	**2022/23**	**2022/23**	**2022/23**
Tangiblefixed assets	1,532,250	-	-	-	-	1,532,250
Current assets	84,565	166,172	108,000	10,953	23,707	393,397
Current liabilities	-3,120	-	-	-	-	-3,120
Net assets	**1,613,965**	**166,172**	**108,000**	**10,953**	**23,707**	**1,922,527**

Note 25 Related Parties

None of the Circuit trustees made donations direct to the Circuit during the year or in the preceding year. All of the Circuit trustees are members of one of the Churches within the Circuit and may be trustees of their Churches.

Related parties include the Methodist Conference, the BE&H District and Churches within the Circuit, CFB and TMCP. No trustee currently has a related party connection to any supplier.

Note 26 Volunteer Contribution

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in the UK is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In this Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with the mission, manses, finance, policy, grants and training. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by this Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Note 27 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities.

There are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities as at 31 August 2024 (2023 Nil).

THE METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134390

Accounts

THE METHODIST CHURCH - CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

Circuit No 34/09

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND TRUSTEES REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Registered Charity Number 1134390

The Methodist Church - Chelmsford Circuit is part of the

Bedfordshire, Essex & Hertfordshire District of the Methodist Church

Circuit reference 34/09

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THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Trustees' Report

The Trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit are pleased to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the Methodist year ended 31 August 2023.

Governing document and objectives

The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church.

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

The Circuit has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a Charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our Churches and to the wider community in the Circuit.

Mission Statement 2023

The Circuit updated its Mission Statement in 2023 as follows:
"The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the good news of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission"
In this, and in partnership with others wherever possible, Chelmsford Methodist Circuit will devote its prayers, resources, encouragement, and commitments on this priority:

Supporting God's People, sharing God's love

Our vision is for a Christ-centred Circuit of vibrant, growing churches supporting each other in expressing God's love and sharing it with others.

As ways towards realising this priority, the circuit will give attention to the following:

- Underpinning everything we do with God-centred worship and prayer
- Supporting community development and action for justice, especially among the most deprived and poor - in Britain and worldwide
- Developing confidence in evangelism and in the capacity to speak of God and faith in ways that make sense to all involved
- Encouraging fresh ways of understanding church
- Nurturing an inclusive church which cares for all.

Worship

The church exists to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.

We will:

- Offer to the communities around us safe places for worship and acceptance.
- Facilitate the worship of God in places other than our buildings (e.g. residential homes, new areas of housing).
- Help people grow a greater awareness of God's awesome presence, and to experience his love, at all stages of life.
- Encourage and make available varied worship opportunities appropriate for people of all ages, during the week as well as on Sundays.
- Encourage and support the use of technology in our churches

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Mission Statement 2023 (continued)

Learning

The church exists to help people to grow and learn as Christians.

We will:

- Support churches and resource members in continuing to grow and delight in Christian discipleship.
- Support the training and development of our ordained and lay people including Local Preachers, Worship Leaders and others.
- Encourage each other at all stages of the faith journey.
- Inform and inspire people to be passionate about justice, peace and integrity of creation.

Caring & Service

The church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

We will:

- Create safe communities characterised by hospitality, generosity, welcome, care, acceptance and respect;
- Provide prayerful, caring support for our Ministry and leadership
- Inspire an outward looking focus to the life and service of the churches within the circuit;
- Use our influence to have an impact on issues of equality, diversity and inclusion both locally and more widely;
- Encourages everyone to regard being active in service as part of their Christian life; and find ways to witness to our faith through fulfilling needs in our communities and to do what we can to support those in need in the wider world;
- Give generously, but with due thought and prayer, of time and money for God's work in the church and in the world;
- Work for justice, peace and care for the environment in the local area, the nation and the wider world.

Evangelism

The church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

We will:

- Guard against being apologetic for our faith;
- Provide more opportunities to explore the Bible and Christian faith, and the confidence to share it with others;
- Engage in mission activities both inside and outside our buildings and to those we meet outside the church in daily life;
- Use opportunities in community groups and at occasions such as baptisms, weddings, funerals and Christmas and Easter to share our faith;
- Work with other Christian churches to explore openings for evangelism in the community;
- Encourage people to be able to pray with and for those who are working for peace and hope.

Activities

The Circuit will provide support, training and resources to the churches in the Chelmsford Methodist Circuit in order that they may fulfil their mission of bringing the love of God in Christ to the communities they serve. The Methodist Churches involved are Trinity, Moulsham Lodge and Hall Street,(all based in Chelmsford), Broomfield, Hatfield Peverel, Maldon, Witham and Halstead. Also included are five Local Ecumenical Partnerships in Braintree, Coggeshall, Great Notley, South Woodham Ferrers and North Springfield.

Activities (continued)

The Circuit acts as an umbrella organisation for these Churches and provides the staff to take services and care for members. It provides training and support to members of the Churches for mission to the communities around these Churches.

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference. The Connexional office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers to this Circuit. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. This Circuit is part of the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District.

The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and Circuit stewards. Authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for the invitation to and appointment of Ministerial staff and lay employees. In addition to this, the Circuit meeting is charged with the care and maintenance of Ministerial housing and the agreement of the Circuit financial budget and the financial accounts. The Circuit meeting is also required to ensure all property and financial reports of the individual Churches are received in a timely fashion. All members of the Circuit meeting are Trustees to the Circuit and are listed at the end of this report.

Report for the Year

Aims and objectives for 2022/23

The main aims of the Circuit for 2022/23 were as follows:

- To review the mission plan of the Circuit and produce a 5 year strategic plan for the Circuit.
- To support the churches in the Circuit in a review of their own mission plans and strategy with specific targets by 31 August 2023.
- To continue with pastoral care for our churches and the wider community.
- To work towards becoming an Eco Circuit and to assist Churches and members in making relevant changes.
- To recruit a new Schools and Family Worker and continue and extend the work done with schools and families.
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Specific objectives for the year were as follows:

- To agree a detailed 5 year Circuit Mission Plan and share this with the local churches.
- To consider the ministerial staffing needs of the Chelmsford section of the Circuit for 2023/24.
- To continue the Schools and Family Worker project within the Maldon section of the Circuit.
- To continue to offer financial support with housing deposits to assist Ukrainian & other refugees locally.

Progress during the year

- The mission statement of the Circuit was rewritten and the first draft was presented to the Circuit meeting in May 2023 together with the 5 year strategic plan for 2023-2028. Work on this is continuing in 2023/24.

Report for the Year (continued)

Progress during the year (continued)

- The churches in the Chelmsford section met regularly to consider their future direction. These meetings continue in 2023/24. After prayerful consideration, the members of the church in Hall Street decided to request permission to close as of 31 December 2023.
- The ministerial needs of the Circuit and the long-term financial position of the Circuit were reviewed. The process of seeking a third minister in the ministerial 2024 stationing round was started in May 2023.
- Following the resignation of the Schools and Family Worker in July 2022, the work with the school in Hatfield Peverel was continued by Revd. Barry and Ria Allen, with help from Hatfield Peverel church member. After a review of the scope of the work, Ria Allen was appointed as Schools Worker from June 2023 for the work at the school in Hatfield Peverel. This work had to be suspended in Autumn 2023 following the temporary closure of parts of the school due to the presence of RAAC Reinforced Aerated Autoclaved Concrete) but was able to restart after Easter 2024.
- In November 2022 the Circuit set up a designated fund for donations to offer assistance with housing costs for refugees within the area of the Circuit, particularly those from Ukraine. The Circuit agreed to match any donations received up to a limit of £5,000. During the year two grants/loans were made.
- The work on our environmental responsibilities has continued across the Circuit. We are currently working towards the ECO circuit award.

Aims and objectives for 2023/24

The main aims of the Circuit for 2023/24 are as follows:

- To complete the Stationing process for September 2024 and the review of resources.
- To launch the Circuit mission statement and 5-year strategy in Lent 2024.
- To support the churches in the Circuit to review their own mission statement and 5-year strategy by 31 August 2024.
- To set up a Circuit prayer group.
- To continue with pastoral care for our churches and the wider community.
- To continue work towards becoming an Eco Circuit and to assist Churches and members in making relevant changes. To plan a Circuit wide Eco event for 2024.
- To continue the work with the school in Hatfield Peverel and extend the work done with schools and families when possible.
- To establish a 5-year plan for manse management.
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Staffing

Revd. Mark Pengelly is the Circuit Superintendent and is responsible for the ministry of the Chelmsford section. In September 2023 the Circuit confirmed the extension of the period of invitation for Revd. Mark Pengelly for a further 2 years from September 2024.

Revd. Barry Allen is responsible for the ministry of the Maldon Section.

Revd. Sue King continues to have pastoral responsibility for the church and community in Halstead.

Staffing (continued)
Deacon Ramona Dinard worked in ministry in the Chelmsford Section, supporting the Superintendent. She left the Circuit at the end of her 5 year invitation on 31 August 2023. The Circuit is grateful for all she has contributed during her time in Chelmsford.

The appointment of a new minister was deferred for 12 months. Revd. Asif Karam will join the Circuit in September 2024.

Heather Simmonds worked in the Circuit as a Student Presbyter until August 2023.

Ria Allen was appointed as Schools Worker for work in the school in Hatfield Peverel from June 2023.

Karen Murrell is the Circuit Administrator, based in Chelmsford.

Esther Burton continued as Circuit Safeguarding Officer.

Adrian Nunn was Circuit Treasurer throughout the year. He resigned as of 31 August 2023, due to relocation. He kindly agreed to continue in a voluntary capacity to finalise the 2022/23 accounts. Alistair Jenkins was appointed as Finance Officer from mid-September 2023, to undertake the detailed accounting work and Janis Croom, one of the Circuit Stewards, was appointed as the Circuit Treasurer from 17 September 2023.

Training

Training for local preachers is on-going as part of the Local Preachers and Leaders of Worship quarterly meetings. Representatives from the Circuit attended the District Synod in Spring 2023 and October 2023. Members of the Circuit continue to attend District Training events. Circuit and Church stewards undertook safeguarding and EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) training online or in person

Support

Individual Circuit stewards attended Church Council meetings held throughout the year. They take note of issues raised at these meetings and report back to the Leadership team. The Circuit offers encouragement and advice to local Churches on the many and varied projects undertaken in their local communities. A regular Circuit Newsletter is produced which has helped churches to share what they do and how they have found new ways of reaching our local communities.

Ministers are supported by the Circuit Stewards personally and in terms of the properties they occupy.

Risk Management

The major risks are kept under review by the Circuit Leadership Team. Income and expenditure is monitored and compared with the approved annual budget.

Safeguarding

The Circuit has adopted the Connexional Safeguarding Policy. The Circuit is committed to providing support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure they are clear and confident in their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.
The provision of Safeguarding training is covered by the ongoing work of our Safeguarding Officer. Church safeguarding officers have been attending training in person and online. Connexional guidance about best practice for safeguarding during online church activities has been adopted.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Financial Review

The Circuit is responsible for

- The ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the thirteen local churches in the Circuit.
- The support of a ministry team of 3 Presbyters, 1 Deacon and 3 lay workers (pastoral and administrative support)
- Payment of the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church
- The maintenance of Circuit properties (3 manses & 1 investment property).

Under Standing Orders the Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its ministers and the maintenance of the manses. In addition, the Circuit has a financial obligation to the District to meet a share of its budget.
The Circuit budget is reviewed annually and covers the costs of the above which are met by assessments from each church towards their share of the total cost. In 2022/23 the Circuit agreed cover part of the annual costs from reserves, to mitigate the full cost of assessments for the churches whose income had been significantly reduced following the Covid pandemic.
The Circuit agreed to continue the Schools and Family Worker project for a further 3 years 2022/23-2024/25 from grants and from funds within the Circuit Model Trust Fund. Funds have been set aside in a designated fund.

General Fund-unrestricted

The General Fund is available to be used for any or all of the purposes of the Circuit.
The purpose of this fund is:
1. To secure and sustain the Circuit's viability and future.
2. To give assurance to the general public that the Circuit, which is a charity, intends to use all the money coming into its care for the purposes of the Charity.
3. To enable the Circuit to meet the objectives set out in its Mission Statement. This statement was reviewed in 2023.

The total income of the General Fund in 2022/23 was £207,682 (2021/22 £202,314) and costs were £227,245 (2021/22 £205,686). £3,480 was transferred from the Circuit Model Trust Fund to meet part of the costs of manse maintenance & £660 (2021/22 £566) was received from the Harriet Walker Endowment Fund. After these two transfers, the net deficit was £15,421 (2021/22 £2,806). The deficit in 2022/23 reflected the planned funding of costs from general reserves. The deficit in 2021/22 resulted from increased property costs for the let property at the time of the change in tenancy.
The investment property is required to be stated at current market valuation at the year end. In the opinion of the trustees, due to the volatility in the property market caused by the cost-of-living crisis, there was no change in this valuation at the end of the year.
The balance of the General Fund at 31 August 2023 was £1,613,695 (2022 £1,629,116), of which £1,532,250 (2022 £1,532,250) is the book value of the 3 manses and 1 investment property and £81,445 (2022 £96,866) is the value of free reserves.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted

This fund derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes, and for the purposes of charity accounting this is an unrestricted fund.
An annual levy is made on this fund to go to the District Advance Fund.
Income of the CMTF in 2022/23 was £5,488 (2021/22 £1,204 plus £339,304 from the sale of the Methodist Church in Hatfield Peverel). Costs in 2022/23 were £6,818 (2021/22 £151 plus £113,668 levy to the Connexional Priority Fund from the church sale proceeds).
The trustees transferred £3,480 from this fund to the general fund, to meet part of the manse maintenance costs, and £5,000 to the designated fund for Refugee Support.

Financial Review (continued)

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted (continued)

The book value of the investments has decreased by £334 as at 31 August 2023 (2022 decrease of £528). The balance of the CMTF at 31 August 2023 is £166,172 (2022 £176,316). The fund holds cash and investments.

Designated Fund-Schools & Family Worker project.

£103,000 was designated in 2021/22 to cover the estimated costs of this project not funded by grants from 2022/23 to 2024/25. No costs were taken from this fund in the year, as the costs were met from the grant held in the restricted fund. A £5,000 transfer in of funds was made, therefore closing balance was £108,000 (2022 103,000).

Restricted Fund-Schools & Family Worker project

This represents the balance of grants of £9,500 received in 2021/22 from the District Advance Fund (DAF).This grants is restricted to meeting the running costs of the Schools & Family Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. The total income of the Restricted Fund in 2022/23 was £8,126 (2021/22 £9,500) and costs were £1,867 (2021/22 £12,610). Costs were lower is 2022/23 due to difficulty in replacing the person employed as Schools and Family Worker who resigned in July 2022. The balance of the fund at 31 August 2023 is £4,448 (2022 £6,315).

Restricted & Designated Funds-Refugee Support

An appeal was made in 2022/23 to raise funds to support Ukrainian and other refugees living within the Circuit with loans and one-off grants for housing costs. The donations received less grants made are held in a restricted fund. Income received from donations & Gift Aid in 2022/23 was £8,126. Grants & loans made in 2022/23 amounted to £1,620. The balance of the fund at 31 August 2023 is £6,506, which is shown in the Financial statements combined with the above Schools Family Worker Restricted fund.
The trustees agreed to match any donations received up to a maximum of £5,000 and this is allocated to a designated fund.

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity

This is a permanent endowment with the capital invested through TMCP.
The income for 2022/23 was £730 (2021/22 £641) and costs were £70 (2021/22 £75). The net surplus of £660 (2021/22 £566) was transferred to the General Fund. The book value of the investments has decreased by £1,051 as at 31 August 2023 (2022 decrease of £1,660).
The value of the endowment fund at 31 August 2023 is £23,707 (2022 £24,748).

Reserves Policies

General Fund-unrestricted

The Reserves Policy is to hold at least six months' expenditure to meet the District assessment and Circuit manse expenditure. This assumes that churches in the Circuit will continue to meet their agreed contributions to the Circuit Ministerial costs.

Circuit Model Trust Fund-unrestricted

The Charity Commission have agreed that it is appropriate for the trustees to set a separate policy for the management of this fund as follows:
Money held in the Circuit Model Trust Fund that has not been allocated to any specific purpose can be retained for general Circuit purposes including property expenditure on the manses arising from Quinquennial Inspection Reports.

Reserves Policies (continued)

Restricted Fund-Schools & Family Worker project

This fund is to be used for the Schools & Family Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. This project commenced in October 2019. The Circuit agreed in May 2022 to continue and extend the project for a further 3 years from September 2022, subject to a possible review and extension from September 2023. A successful application was made for District funding.

Designated Fund-Schools, family & community project

As described above, the Circuit agreed to continue and extend the Schools, Family and Community project within the Maldon section for 3 years from September 2022, subject to review. It was agreed to fund the costs, net of grants, from the proceeds of sale of Hatfield Peverel church. As a result of this decision, in 2021/22 funds were transferred from the Circuit Model Trust fund to a new designated fund, to cover the budgeted cost of this project for 3 years.

Restricted & Designated Funds-Refugee Support

These funds are to be used to assist Ukrainian & other refugees living within the area of the Circuit with the cost of deposits for rented housing or other one-off costs linked to moving into independent rented accommodation. Funds received from external donations are held within a restricted fund. Matched funding from the Circuit Model trust Fund is held in a designated fund.

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity

This is registered as a separate charity (charity registration number 222146), with trustees appointed by the Circuit. The income is to be used for the local Methodist ministry covering the village of Great Totham and is transferred to the General Fund for this purpose.

Trustees' Recruitment

Whilst the appointment of the Trustees is determined in accordance with the Methodist procedures, it is the aim to ensure that the Leadership team have a broad experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters. Training for Circuit stewards is available at District level.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

-Selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently.
- Prepared accounts on an accrual basis.
- Followed applicable accounting standards.
- Prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enables them to ensure that the financial statements steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the independent examiner and each of the Trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Approval
The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the Circuit Meeting on 29th May 2024.

Revd. Mark Pengelly
Superintendent

Nigel Murrell
Circuit Leadership Team

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

TRUSTEES OF THE CIRCUIT - year ended 31 August 2023

Circuit Ministers
Revd. Mike Pengelly (Circuit Superintendent Minister)
Revd. Barry Allen
Revd. Ramona Dinard (Resigned 31 August 2023)
Revd. Sue King

Other Authorised Ministers and Supernumeraries
Revd. Tony Shrimpton
Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie
Revd. Guy Goodall - (Not a trustee)
Revd. David Dickens- (Not a trustee)

Circuit Stewards
Janis Croom -Circuit Treasurer from 17 September 2023
Daisy Eleady-Cole
Gareth Crooks
Nigel Murrell (Senior Steward)
Sheridan Pengelly
Eric Smart

Co-opted onto CLT:
Adrian Nunn - Circuit Treasurer (Resigned 31 August 2023)
David Hodgkinson -Circuit Property Secretary

Safeguarding
Esther Burton-Circuit Safeguarding Officer (not a trustee)

Church Representatives

Broomfield	David Hodgkinson	
	Les Steed	
Christ Church Braintree	David Drewett	
	David Gask	
Christ Church Coggeshall	Adrian Romano	
	Michelle Milliken	(Not a trustee)
The Church in Great Notley	Lisa Scott	
Hall Street	Peter Batey	(Died January 2023)
Halstead	Helen Catley	
	Revd. Sue King	
	William Larty	
Hatfield Peverel Reality Church	Rosemary Bailey	
	Jane Cook	
	Jeff Hosking	
Maldon	Julie Hill	
	Maureen Crilley	
	Sue Farrell	(Not a trustee)

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Moulsham Lodge	Martyn Edwards	(Resigned September 2022)
	Robert Griffin	
	Glenda Griffin	
	Clive Pickett	
North Springfield-St Augustine's	J Douglas Hayton	
	Pamela Scammell	
	Carolyn Smith	(Not a trustee)
South Woodham Ferrers	David Carter	
	Judith Radley	
	Tricia Tutin	
	Lynda Speak	
Trinity	Roger Fairclough	
	Gillian Harrington	
	Carol Kellingray	(Resigned May 2023)
	Sheila Mukumba	(Resigned May 2023)
	Nigel Murrell	
	Sheridan Pengelly	
Witham	Janis Croom	
	Michael Thompson	
	Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie	

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Principal Office
c/o Trinity Methodist Church
Rainsford Road
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 2XB

Bankers

The Co-Operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

HSBC
The Peak
333 Vauxhall Road
London
SW1V 1EJ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

Circuit Independent Examiner
Mrs J Brace
Mayor Cuttle & Co
Aquarium Suite 7B
101 Lower Anchor Street
Chelmsford
CM2 0AU

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Name of Circuit: The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit **No 34/09**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of Senior Circuit Steward ..... Date 11/6/24

Name: Nigel Murrell, c/o Trinity Methodist Church, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford CM1 2XB

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on May 29th, 2024.

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

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd. Mark Pengelly Date 11/6/24

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Name of Circuit: The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit **No 34/09**

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 17 to 33. As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts.

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

I have obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner .....

Name of independent examiner..... JOANNE BRACE .....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner..... FCCA .....

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Name of firm: Mayor Cuttle & Co

Address: Aquarium Suite 7B, 101 Lower Anchor Street, Chelmsford CM2 0AU

Date 11 June 2024

* delete or circle as appropriate

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes to the acc'ts	General Fund Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrest'd	Design'd Funds Unrest'd	Restricted Fund	Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Income from monetary investments		5,006	5,488	-	-	730	**11,224**
Income from investment properties	5	20,447	-	-	-	-	**20,447**
Assessments on Churches	6	175,658	-	-	-	-	**175,658**
Grants received	7	4,327	-	-	-	-	**4,327**
Other charitable income	8	2,245	-	-	8,126	-	**10,371**
Total income		**207,683**	**5,488**	**0**	**8,126**	**730**	**222,027**
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	9	-	-	-	1,620	-	**1,620**
Salaries and associated costs	10	133,858	-	-	782	-	**134,640**
Property maintenance & other costs	12	43,564	-	-	-	-	**43,564**
District Assessment & Levy	13	44,232	6,316	-	-	-	**50,548**
Office expenses & resources	14	3,770	-	-	991	-	**4,761**
Other outgoings	15	1,820	502	-	95	70	**2,487**
Total charitable expenditure		**227,244**	**6,818**	**0**	**3,488**	**70**	**237,620**
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	18	-	-334	-	-	-1,051	-1,385
Net income/(expenditure)		**-19,561**	**-1,664**	**0**	**4,638**	**-391**	**-16,978**
Transfers between funds		4,140	-8,480	5,000	-	-660	0
Other gains	16	-	-	-	-	-	**0**
Net movement in funds		**-15,421**	**-10,144**	**5,000**	**4,638**	**-1,051**	**-16,978**
Total funds brought forward		1,629,116	176,316	103,000	6,315	24,758	1,939,505
Total funds carried forward		**1,613,695**	**166,172**	**108,000**	**10,953**	**23,707**	**1,922,527**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes to the acc'ts	General Fund Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrestricted	Design'd Funds Unrest'd	Restricted Fund	Endowment Funds	Total 2021-22
		£	£			£	£
Income							
Income from monetary investments		137	1,204	-	-	641	**1,982**
Income from investment properties	5	15,477	-	-	-	-	**15,477**
Assessments on Churches	6	184,446	-	-	-	-	**184,446**
Grants received	7	-	-	-	9,500	-	**9,500**
Other charitable income	8	2,254	-	-	-	-	**2,254**
Total income		**202,314**	**1.204**	**0**	**9,500**	**641**	**213,659**
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	9	-	-	-	-	-	**0**
Salaries and associated costs	10	126,582	-	-	12,176	-	**138,758**
Property maintenance & other costs	12	29,063	-	-	-	-	**29,063**
District Assessment & Levy	13	44,492	113,517	-	-	-	**158,009**
Office expenses & resources	14	4,491	-	-	434	-	**4,925**
Other outgoings	15	1,058	151	-	-	75	**1,284**
Total charitableexpenditure		**205,686**	**113,668**	**0**	**12,610**	**75**	**332,039**
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	18	-	(528)	-	-	(1,660)	(2,188)
Capitalisation of property improvement	17	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		**(3,372)**	**(112,992)**	**0**	**(3,110)**	**(1,094)**	**(120,568)**
Transfers between funds		566	(103,000)	103,000	-	(566)	0
Other gains	16	-	**339,304**	-	-	-	**339,304**
Net movement in funds		**(2,806)**	**123,312**	**103,000**	**(3,110)**	**(1,660)**	**218,736**
Total funds brought forward		1,631,922	53,004	0	9,425	26,418	1,720,769
Total funds carried forward		**1,629,116**	**176,316**	**103,000**	**6,315**	**24,758**	**1,939,505**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	General Fund Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Unrest'd	Design'd Funds unrest'd	Rest'd Fund	Endow Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Fixed Assets								
Circuit Manses	17	1,250,000					1,250,000	1,250,000
Investment Properties	17	282,250					282,250	282,250
Total Fixed Assets		1,532,250	0	0	0	0	1,532,250	1,532,250
Current Assets								
Investments with TMCP	18		166,172			23,707	189,879	201,075
Debtors & Prepayments	19	10,159					10,159	12,964
Cash at Bank	20	74,406		108,000	10,953		193,359	194,967
Total Current Assets		84,565	166,172	108,000	10,953	23,707	393,397	409,006
Current Liabilities								
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	21	3,120					3,120	1,750
Total Current Liabilities		3,120	0	0	0	0	3,120	1,750
Net Current Assets		81,445	166,172	108,000	10,953	23,707	390,277	407,256
Total assets less current liabilities		1,613,695	166,172	108,000	10,953	23,707	1,922,525	1,939,506
Long term liabilities (due after more than 1 year)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net assets		1,613,695	166,172	108,000	10,953	23,707	1,922,525	1,939,506
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)	22-24	1,613,695					1,613,695	1,629,117
General Fund (Allocated)	22-24			108,000			108,000	103,000
CMTF (Unrestricted)	22-24		166,172				166,172	176,316
Total Unrestricted Funds		1,613,695	166,172	108,000	0	0	1,887,867	1,908,433
Restricted Funds	22-24				10,953		10,953	6,315
Endowment Funds	22-24					23,707	23,707	24,758
Total Funds		1,613,695	166,172	108,000	10,953	23,707	1,922,527	1,939,506

The notes on pages 20 to 33 form part of these accounts

Approved by the trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit and signed on their behalf.

Revd. Mark Pengelly, Superintendent Minister.....MgPegelly.....

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2023

Note 1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102-the Charities SORP (FRS 102)October 2019 update.

Note 2 Funds

The funds held comprise:
Unrestricted General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit.
The Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.
Restricted funds are those held for a narrower purpose. The Circuit has two restricted fund, a grant received for the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section, and donations received for the Refugee Support fund.
Designated Funds -There are two such funds. The trustees have voted to reserve funds for the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section and also for the matching contribution from the Circuit for Refugee Support fund.
Endowment funds are those for which the capital is invested, and the income may be used for specified purposes. The Circuit has one endowment fund.

Note 3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost or valuation as at 2015, except that investments (including a property) are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the Trustees are reasonably certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability
In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102), the time of volunteers is not recognised

Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. All properties are freehold and the estimated land component of all properties is shown in note 17 to the accounts. Fixtures and fittings within the properties are not valued separately from the building value.
No depreciation is provided on buildings since the Trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material.

Note 3 Accounting policies (continued)

Investment Property
The Circuit owns one residential property (formerly a manse) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. This property is currently let on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy and is classified as an investment property. The property is valued in the accounts at fair value, being open market value, net of estimated costs of disposal.

Monetary investment assets
The investment assets of the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Endowment Fund are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

Debtors
Debtors include assessments due by the end of August and are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit. The prepayment is the monthly ministerial stipends paid in advance to Methodist Church central payroll at the end of August, for stipends due on 1 September.

Creditors
Creditors include trade creditors and expenses incurred before the year end, at the amounts subsequently paid.

Going concern
To the best of their knowledge and belief the Trustees confirm that there are no material uncertainties that would call into question the Circuit's financial viability for at least 12 months from the date of the approval of these accounts.

Consolidation
The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of 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.

Grants
Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make the 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 being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

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 Church. 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 apply any tax charge.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Note 4 Glossary of terms

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

Church: a group of members relating to a specific Church

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, and overseen jointly

Circuit Meeting: The trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Churches and the others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Churches.

CLT (Circuit Leadership Team): A group (comprising mostly, but not exclusively) of Circuit trustees responsible for the day-to-day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Generally, the CLT comprises the Presbyters (Ministers) and lay staff stationed within the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards and the Circuit Treasurer

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain 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.

CPF : Connexional Priority Fund

District: a group of contiguous Circuits linked geographically.

DAF: District Advance Fund

FRS: Financial reporting Standard

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

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

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme

NEST: Pensions and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Chelmsford Methodist Church

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or Ordained Methodist Ministers 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

Note 5 Income from Investment Properties

The trustees have determined that the property owned at 10 Wickfield Ash, Chelmsford is unlikely to be returned to use as a manse in the foreseeable future and have therefore classified it as an investment property.

Note 6 Assessments on Churches

The Circuit comprises 13 churches and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall net costs of the Circuit. The Circuit aims to cover all its net core costs from the Assessment. The Assessment on Churches is determined annually and calculated as 50% on the membership of each Church and 50% on its income from offerings and Gift Aid. The amount due from the churches which are part of a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) is reduced if another denomination funds the Minister for that church.

Note 6 Assessment or share (continued)	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2022/23	2021/22
Broomfield	18,161	18,664
Christ Church, Braintree (LEP)	7,200	7,200
Christ Church, Coggeshall (LEP)	962	800
The Church at Great Notley (LEP)	1,477	1,440
Hall Street, Chelmsford	6,000	4,800
Halstead	8,000	5,500
Hatfield Peverel	7,488	3,268
Maldon	20,522	17,397
Moulsham Lodge	21,500	34,054
South Woodham Ferrers	14,133	11,875
St Augustine, Springfield (LEP)	3,000	2,796
Trinity, Chelmsford	53,004	63,582
Witham	14,211	13,070
Total	**175,658**	**184,446**

These amounts are included in the accounts based on the due date of receipt by the Circuit. They include £500 (2022 £2,000) to be received after the year end, included in debtors on the Balance Sheet.

Note 7 Grants & Donations received

	Restricted Fund	Total
	2022/23	2022/23
DAF-for new windows	4,327	4,327
Total	**4,327**	**4,327**

	Restricted Fund	Total
	2021/22	2021/22
DAF-for Schools & Family Worker Project	9,500	9,500
Total	**9,500**	**9,500**

The Circuit received a grant of £4,327 from the District Advance Fund towards the cost of new double glazed windows in Park Avenue (2021/22 £9,500 from the District Advance Fund for the Schools & Family Worker Project).

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Note 8 Other charitable income

	General Fund (unrestricted	Restricted Fund	Total
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
Solar energy rebate	2,193	-	2,193
Refugee fund	-	8,126	8,126
Donations	52	-	52
Total other charitable income	**2,245**	**8,126**	**10,371**

	General Fund (unrestricted	Restricted Fund	Total
	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22
Solar energy rebate	2,084	-	2,084
Refugee fund	-	-	-
Donation	20	-	20
HSBC Compensation	150	-	150
Total other charitable income	**2,254**	**-**	**2,254**

The Restricted fund is for Refugee Support. This was set up in response to the refugees coming to the UK after the Ukraine invasion (2021/22 - Nil).

Note 9 Grants & donations paid

	Restricted Fund	Restricted Fund
	2022/23	2021/22
Grants from the Refugee Support Fund	1,620	-

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs

	General Fund (unrestricted	Restricted Fund	Total
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
Stipends & salaries			
Stipends-Ministers	84,005	-	84,005
Salaries -Lay worker & admin	10,396	779	11,175
Employers' pensioncontributions	21,731	-	21,731
Employers' N I contributions	8,022	3	8,025
Apprenticeship levy	467	-	467
Supernumerary fees	800	-	800
Professional fees-admin contract	5,400	-	5,400
Total stipends & salaries costs	**130,821**	**782**	**131,603**
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	2,386	-	2,386
Lay employees' travel	171	-	171
Payroll fees	480	-	480
Total associated costs	**3,037**	**-**	**3,037**
Total stipends, salaries & associated costs	**133,858**	**782**	**134,640**

	General Fund (unrestricted	Restricted Fund	Total
	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22
Stipends & salaries			
Stipends-Ministers	80,568	0	80,568
Salaries -Lay worker & admin	7,514	11,407	18,921
Employers' pensioncontributions	20,840	0	20,840
Employers' N I contributions	7,642	457	8,099
Apprenticeship levy	532	0	532
Supernumerary fees	1,150	0	1,150
Professional fees-admin contract	5,400	0	5,400
Total stipends & salaries costs	**123,646**	**11,864**	**135,510**
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	2,286	0	2,286
Lay employees' travel	170	312	482
Payroll fees	480	0	480
Total associated costs	**2,936**	**312**	**3,248**
Total stipends, salaries & associated costs	**126,582**	**12,176**	**138,758**

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs (continued)

Stipends were paid to 3 Ministers (2 full-time Presbyters, and 1 Deacon) in 2022/23 and 2021/22. Salaries were paid to 3 part-time lay workers/administrative staff and 1 contractor. The Family & Schools worker resigned at the end of the previous year, with a replacement not appointed until late in the current year. The Family & Schools Worker cost is met from the Restricted Fund, using a grant received from the District.

A home telephone and broadband connection is provided for Ministers solely for use on Circuit business and travel costs incurred on Circuit business are re-imbursed against expense claims.
The full-time Ministers' manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains and insures the properties and meets the cost of Council Tax and water charges. The amounts are not regarded by HMRC as benefits in kind.

No employee received employee benefits totalling more than £60,000.

There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial, the holiday year ends on 31 August.

Pensions

All ministers are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

The Connexion accounts for the MMPS pension scheme and shows the figure in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented.

The lay employees are eligible to join the pension scheme which the Circuit has arranged with NEST, a government scheme which allows for defined contributions. The Circuit contributes as an employer to this scheme.

Note 11 Payments to trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the Presbyters and Deacon and the remaining members of the CLT are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent Minister and other presbyters undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Circuit Senior Steward chairs meeting of the CLT and the Superintendent chairs the Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit.
No trustee received any remuneration for their role as trustee.
The Circuit policy is to reimburse members of the CLT and other trustees for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties, including where appropriate travelling expenses and reimbursement of purchases on behalf of the Circuit such as maintenance of the manses, or where they have been requested to undertake certain activities for the Circuit such as training.
During the year the sum of £2,568 was reimbursed in this regard to 5 trustees (2021/22 £5,360 to 8 trustees). Of this amount £0 related to manse refurbishments and £2,568 to travel, computer, and office expenses (2021/22 £18 for manse expenditure and £5,342 for travel, computer, and office expenses).

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Note 12 Property expenses

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
Property costs-manses	**2022/23**	**2021/22**
Insurance	1,066	2,564
Manse Council tax & water	9,539	8,635
Maintenance-manses	23,403	5,668
Quinquennial inspection fee4 (1 in 2021/22)	2,795	650
Property costs-let properties		
Maintenance-let properties	2,754	7,886
Agents' fees	4,007	3,010
Quinquennial inspection fee	-	650
Total property costs	**43,564**	**29,063**

The Circuit is Managing Trustee for three properties used as manses, (two in Chelmsford and one in Maldon) and one property in Chelmsford let out on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy. With the exception of, the let properties, the Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council Tax, water rates, insurance and maintenance. In August one of the Manses in Chelmsford was also let out on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy resulting in increased agents' fees (including a new tenant fee).

Note 13 Connexional & District Assessment and Levy

	General Fund-unrestricted	General Fund-unrestricted
	2022/23	2021/22
District Assessment	44,232	44,492
	CMTF Fund - unrestricted	CMTF Fund - unrestricted
	2022/23	2021/22
District Advance Fund Levy	6,316	1,325
Connexional Priority Fund Levy	-	112,192
Total Levies	6,316	113,517

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members, and staffing (Presbyters and Mission staff only) of all Circuits in the Beds, Essex & Herts District. 50% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions and 50% using relative staffing proportions. The assessment is mainly a contribution to Connexional costs for national support services, discipleship and mission but also includes funding towards the costs of the District office and staff.

The levy for the District Advance Fund is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuit's CMTF Account balance as at 31 August in the previous accounting period.
There was an additional levy last year for the Connexional Priority Fund, taken from the net proceeds of sale of the Hatfield Peverel church which was sold during the year. The levy of £112,192 was calculated as a proportion of the sale proceeds of £339,304 and is used for Mission work across the Connexion.

Note 14 Office expenses and resources

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	Total
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
Telephone & internet	2,116	-	2,116
Printing, postage & stationery	1,151	-	1,151
IT & video equipment costs	210	-	210
Use of office	-	-	-
Preaching & sundry resources	293	991	1,284
Total	**3,770**	**991**	**4,761**

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	Total
	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22
Telephone & internet	2,060	-	2,060
Printing, postage & stationery	1,399	-	1,399
IT costs	191	-	191
Use of office	500	-	500
Preaching & sundry resources	341	434	775
Total	**4,491**	**434**	**4,925**

Note 15 Other outgoings

	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted	Endowment Fund	Total	Total
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2021/22
Bank Charges	60	-		-	60	63
Just Giving Charge		-	95	-	95	245
Training	960	-	-	-	960	-
Independent examiner's fee	800	-	-	-	800	750
TCMP admin. fee	-	502		70	572	226
Total	**1,820**	**502**	**95**	**70**	**2,487**	**1,284**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Note 16 Other gains-Circuit Model Trust Fund

The Methodist Church in Hatfield Peverel was sold last year. The proceeds of sale net of selling costs were £339,304. In accordance with Connexional Standing Orders, this amount is held by the Circuit in the Circuit Model Trust Fund for Circuit use. The Connexional Priority Fund Levy is taken from this amount (see note 13).

Note 17 Fixed Assets-Manses and Other Properties

	Manse Land	Manse buildings	Investment property	Total	Total
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	**2022/23**	**2021/22**
Balance brought forward	510,000	740,000	282,250	1,532,250	1,532,250
Revaluation of investment property	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	510,000	740,000	282,250	1,532,250	1,532,250

Schedule of Manses and Investment Property

Property	Type	Cost	Valuation	Total
30 Park Ave Chelmsford	Manse	425,000		425,000
4 Rubens Gate Springfield Chelmsford	Manse	475,000		475,000
11 Mirosa Drive Maldon	Manse	350,000		350,000
10 Wickfield Ash Chelmsford	Investment		282,250	282,250
Total		1,250,000	282,250	1,532,250

There are 3 manses in use (3 - 2021/22), 2 located in Chelmsford and1 in Maldon, which are valued at cost as defined by FRS102.The manse at Park Avenue, Chelmsford was stated at deemed historic cost as at August 2014 in accordance with FRS102. The manse at Maldon is valued at purchase cost in June 2015. The property at Rubens Gate, in North Springfield Chelmsford is valued at purchase cost in October 2014 plus the capital cost of improvements net of impairment in 2018/19. The manse at Rubens Gate was let on a short-term basis from mid August 2023. It is intended that this will be used a manse again in the future.

The property at Wickfield Ash, currently surplus to our requirements, continues to be let on a short-term basis. As it is unlikely that this property will be required in future as a manse it is valued as an investment property at the potential net sale proceeds receivable by the Circuit of £282,250 (2021/22 £282,250). This is based on a trustees' market valuation of £450,000 less the potential costs of sale of £167,750 (£7,750 professional fees and £160,000 payable for the Connexional Priority Fund Levy). 2021/22 figures are: trustees' valuation of £450,000 less £167,750 costs of sale (£7,750 professional fees and £160,000 CPT Levy).

No depreciation is being provided for the manses in use as the trustees consider the current residual value of the properties in their present condition to be not less than their brought forward cost and, in the absence of any impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the properties would be immaterial. The Circuit has made use of the deemed cost option on transitioning to FRS102 as outlined above.

Note 18 Monetary Investment Assets

Investments held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)

Year end valuation	2022/23 CMTF fund	2022/23 Endowment fund	2021/22 CMTF fund	2021/22 Endowment fund
Common investment funds	7,542	23,707	7,876	24,758
Trustees' Interest Fund	158,630	-	168,440	-
Total	**166,172**	**23,707**	**176,316**	**24,758**

Note 18 Monetary Investment Assets (continued)

Change in investment values Investments held in common investment funds	CMTF fund	Endowment fund
	2022/23	2022/23
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	7,876	24,758
Net loss on revaluation	-334	-1,051
Carrying (market) value at end of year	**7,542**	**23,707**

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees' Interest Fund on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium-term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing agents who are responsible for the day-to-day management of trust property. TMCP ensures that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2022/23	General Fund (unrestricted) 2021/22
Debtors		
Assessments due	500	2,000
Solar panel FIT payment due	836	827
Prepayments		
Ministers' stipends in advance	6,876	9,472
Manse insurance	1,493	-
Council Tax	210	665
Letting agents'fees	244	-
Total debtors & prepayments	**10,159**	**12,964**

Note 20 Bank & Cash Balances

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2022/23	Designated Fund 2022/23	Restricted Fund 2022/23	Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
Central Finance Board	63,021	108,000	10,953	181,974	115,240
Cash at bank	11,383	-	-	11,383	79,727
Total	**74,404**	**108,000**	**10,953**	**193,357**	**194,967**

The monetary balance held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church is available on demand without loss of interest. Interest is credited monthly. The HSBC& Co-operative Bank accounts are used for the receipt of income from Churches and rentals and payment of salaries and other revenue costs.

Note 21 Creditors & accruals

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2022/23	General Fund (unrestricted) 2021/22
Trade creditors & expenses	470	1,000
Rent received in advance	1,850	-
Accruals-independent examiner's fee	800	750
Total	**3,120**	**1,750**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Note 22 Funds

General Fund - unrestricted
The purpose of this fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted
The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and formulaically determined contributions from the sale of manses and church buildings in the Circuit.
Although this is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise these funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

Designated Fund - unrestricted
These are unrestricted funds that have been allocated for the purpose of employing a Family &Schools worker for the next three years (£103,000) and matching donations made to assist Ukrainian & other refugee families in the area (£5,000). These have been designated by the trustees of the circuit meeting. It can only revert to general funds by the agreement of the same body.

Restricted Fund
The restricted fund comprises funds for Schools and Family worker (£4,542) 2022:(£6,315) and the Refugee Support Fund (£6,411) 2022: (£0). The balance in the Schools and Families worker project within the Maldon section of the Circuit has come from a grant received in 2022/23 from the District Advance Fund. The District has given permission for these funds to be carried forward. Any funds not used for this purpose will be due to be returned to the District. The Refugee Support Fund was raised by individual personal donations received from around the circuit

Endowment Fund
This is a permanent endowment fund arising from a legacy given by Mrs H Walker. The income can only be used for local religious purposes.

Note 23 Summary of fund movements

	Balances as at 31/08/22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Unrealised Losses	**Balances as at 31/08/23**
General Fund	1,629,116	207,683	-227,244	4,140	-	**1,613,695**
CMTF	**176,316**	5,488	-6,818	-8,480	-334	**166,172**
Designated	**103,000**	-	-	5,000	-	**108,000**
Restricted	**6,315**	8,126	-3,488	-	-	**10,953**
Endowment	**24,758**	730	-70	-660	-1,051	**23,707**
Total	1,939,505	222,027	-237,620	0	-1,385	1,922,527

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Note 24 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August are represented by:

	General Fund (unrest'd)	CMTF Fund (unrest'd)	Designated	Restricted Fund	Endo't Fund	Total
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
Tangible fixed assets	1,532,250	-	-	-	-	1,532,250
Current assets	84,565	166,172	108,000	10,953	23,707	393,397
Current liabilities	-3,120	-	-	-	-	-3,120
Net assets	**1,613,965**	**166,172**	**108,000**	**10,953**	**23,707**	**1,922,527**

	General Fund (unrest'd)	CMTF Fund (unrest'd)	Designated	Restricted Fund	Endo't Fund	Total
	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22
Tangible fixed assets	1,532,250	-	-	-	-	1,532,250
Current assets	98,616	176,316	103,000	6,315	24,758	409,005
Current liabilities	-1,750	-	-	-	-	-1,750
Net assets	**1,629,116**	**176,316**	**103,000**	**6,315**	**24,758**	**1,939,505**

Note 25 Related Parties

None of the Circuit trustees made donations direct to the Circuit during the year or in the preceding year. All of the Circuit trustees are members of one of the Churches within the Circuit and may be trustees of their Churches.

Related parties include the Methodist Conference, the BE&H District and Churches within the Circuit, CFB and TMCP. One trustee has a related party connection to one supplier, Dragonfly Educational Consultancy. The trustee declares that they have received no special benefits through this connection. Circuit payments to this supplier total £5,400. (2022/23: 1 Trustee & 1 Supplier: Total £5,490).

Note 26 Volunteer Contribution

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in the UK is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In this Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with the mission, manses, finance, policy, grants and training. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by this Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Note 27 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities.

There are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities on 31 August 2023 (2022 Nil).

THE METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134390

Accounts

THE METHODIST CHURCH - CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

Circuit No 34/09

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND TRUSTEES REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Registered Charity Number 1134390

The Methodist Church - Chelmsford Circuit is part of the

Bedfordshire, Essex & Hertfordshire District of the Methodist Church

Circuit reference 34/09

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THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Trustees' Report

The Trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit are pleased to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the Methodist year ended 31 August 2022.

Governing document and objectives

The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church.

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

The Circuit has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a Charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our Churches and to the wider community in the Circuit.

Activities

Our mission is to provide support, training and resources to the churches in the Chelmsford Methodist Circuit in order that they may fulfil their mission of bringing the love of God in Christ to the communities they serve. The Methodist Churches involved are Trinity, Moulsham Lodge and Hall Street all based in Chelmsford, Broomfield, Reality Church-Hatfield Peverel, Maldon, Witham and Halstead. Also included are five Local Ecumenical Partnerships in Braintree, Coggeshall, Great Notley, South Woodham Ferrers and North Springfield.

The Circuit acts as an umbrella organisation for these Churches and provides the staff to take services and care for members. It provides training and support to members of the Churches for mission to the communities around these Churches.

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference. The Connexional office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers to this Circuit. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. This Circuit is part of the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District.

The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and Circuit stewards. Authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for the invitation to and appointment of Ministerial staff and lay employees. In addition to this, the Circuit meeting is charged with the care and maintenance of Ministerial housing and the agreement of the Circuit financial budget and the financial accounts. The Circuit meeting is also required to ensure all property and financial reports of the individual Churches are received in a timely fashion. All members of the Circuit meeting are Trustees to the Circuit and are listed at the end of this report.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Report for the Year

Aims and objectives for 2021/22

The main aims of the Circuit for 2021/22 were as follows:

- To support and encourage churches in developing strategies for recovery post Covid.
- To continue with pastoral care for our churches and the wider community as we emerge from the pandemic.
- To continue to roll out the Circuit environmental strategy and to assist Churches and members in making relevant changes.
- To continue to consider how mission may be understood and implemented in a rapidly growing and changing county.
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Specific objectives for the year were as follows:

- To consider the Connexional Strategy for Evangelism and Growth 'God for All' and develop a plan for implementing some of the ideas across the Circuit, using the 'Take Your Next Steps in Evangelism and Growth' materials for guidance.
- To recruit a new Circuit Treasurer.
- To continue and extend the Schools and Family Worker project within the Maldon section of the Circuit.
- To find a way to assist Ukrainian refugees locally.

Progress during the year

- At the start of the 2021/22 year, recovering from the effects of the global Covid pandemic was still the key factor in short term planning for the Circuit and individual churches. The pandemic restrictions started in March 2020. After two periods of complete lockdown, churches were once again able to open for worship during Summer 2021, with Covid precautions continuing. More activities resumed from September 2021. The numbers attending our churches or hiring our premises have gradually increased as the Covid restrictions have ended, but have not returned to pre-Covid levels. This has resulted in a considerable reduction in income for the individual churches and the need to use past church reserves to meet the Circuit assessment.
- Circuit wide 'Healing and Hope' services were held in Trinity, Maldon, South Woodham Ferrers and Witham in November 2021 to acknowledge the losses caused by the pandemic and pray for healing and hope for our communities.
- Circuit wide weekly prayers continued on Zoom. A Circuit Bible study was held online during Lent, entitled 'Life changing stories; scripture from the margins'.
- Using the materials in 'Take your Next Steps in Evangelism and Growth', a presentation was made to the Circuit meeting entitled 'A response to Covid restrictions: Thoughts on outreach'. This gave some practical suggestions for engaging with groups using our church premises.
- In 2021 the Circuit Leadership Team of the Chelmsford Methodist Circuit appointed a Circuit Steward tasked with highlighting our responsibility towards the environment across the circuit. A strategy was developed with a number of aims. Resulting from this, 3 of the churches in the circuit have been awarded the Bronze ECO church award and a further three have registered that they the whole of are working towards this. The award represents the work that churches are

doing to embed creation care throughout church life; worship, land and buildings, community engagement and lifestyle. We are currently working towards the ECO circuit award.

- A new Circuit Treasurer, Adrian Nunn, was recruited from February 2022.
- The weekly lunchtime sessions for Years 3-6 in St Andrew's Primary School, Hatfield Peverel resumed face to face in September 2021. A new initiative, Creative Church was started on Saturday morning in South Woodham Ferrers in April 2022. These sessions were run by the Schools and Family Worker and the minister with the assistance of the local congregations. Unfortunately, the Schools and Family Worker relocated in July 2022, and we have not yet found a replacement. In the interim, the ministry in St Andrew's Primary School and in South Woodham Ferrers are being run by the Minster and his wife with the local congregation assisting them. The Circuit meeting approved the extension of this project for 3 years from September 2022.
- The Circuit looked at the possibility of making the Circuit's rental property available to a Ukrainian family, but this was not possible due to Charity Commission restrictions on the use of investment assets. It was subsequently agreed to set up a restricted fund for donations to offer assistance with housing costs to any refugee within the area of the Circuit. The Circuit agreed to match any donations received, up to a total of £5,000. This scheme started in November 2022.
- CLT and Circuit meetings continued to be held on Zoom during much of 2021/22 due to the Covid restrictions. Many members were appreciative of not having to travel long distances to meetings, but this had some detrimental effects on the sense of cohesion within the Circuit. It was agreed to meet in person in future, where possible, but to offer a Zoom option for those with long distances to travel.

Aims and objectives for 2022/23

The main aims of the Circuit for 2022/23 are as follows:

- To review the mission plan of the Circuit and produce a 5 year strategic plan for the Circuit.
- To support the churches in the Circuit in to review their mission plan and strategy with specific targets by 31 August 2023.
- To continue with pastoral care for our churches and the wider community.
- To work towards becoming an Eco Circuit and to assist Churches and members in making relevant changes.
- To recruit a new Schools and Family Worker and continue and extend the work done with schools and families.
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Staffing

Revd. Mark Pengelly is the Circuit Superintendent and is responsible for the ministry of the Chelmsford section.

Revd. Barry Allen is responsible for the ministry of the Maldon Section and was also acting Circuit Superintendent during Revd. Mark's 3 month sabbatical from May to July 2022.

Revd. Sue King continues to have pastoral responsibility for the church and community in Halstead.

Deacon Ramona Samuel works within the Chelmsford Section to support the Superintendent in ministry within the Chelmsford Section.

Heather Simmonds worked in the Circuit as a Student Presbyter for a second year.

Sandie Hulbert continued as Family and Schools worker for the Maldon Section of the Circuit but resigned in July 2022 due to relocation.

Karen Murrell is the Circuit Administrator, based in Chelmsford.

Esther Burton continued as Circuit Safeguarding Officer.

Adrian Nunn started as Circuit Treasurer in February 2022. Prior to this, Rosemary Bailey was acting Circuit Treasurer from October 2021.

Training

Training for local preachers is on-going as part of the Local Preachers and Leaders of Worship quarterly meetings.

In October 2021 our Circuit hosted the District Synod at Writtle College. Later that month, several representatives attended a District event about the Methodist 'Strategy for Justice, Dignity & Solidarity'. Our Deacon, Revd. Ramona Samuel was one of the co-presenters.

Representatives from the Circuit attended the District Synod in Spring 2022 and October 2022. Members of the Circuit Staff continue to attend on line District Training events.

Support

Individual Circuit stewards attended Church Council meetings held throughout the year personally when permitted or via Zoom. They take note of issues raised at these meetings and report back to the Leadership team. The Circuit offers encouragement and advice to local Churches on the many and varied projects undertaken in their local communities. A regular Circuit Newsletter is produced which has helped churches to share what they do and how they have found new ways of reaching our local communities.

Ministers are supported by the Circuit Stewards personally and in terms of the properties they occupy.

Risk Management

The major risks are kept under review by the Circuit Leadership Team. Regular guidance has been issued to churches by the Connexion in response to the Covid pandemic about Covid related Health and Safety procedures and regulations.
Income and expenditure is monitored and compared with the approved annual budget. During the year, the effect of the Covid restrictions on individual churches' income has been discussed with Church treasurers.

Safeguarding

The Circuit has adopted the Connexional Safeguarding Policy. The Circuit is committed to providing support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure they are clear and confident in their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.
The provision of Safeguarding training is covered by the ongoing work of our Safeguarding Officer. Church safeguarding officers have been attending online training. Connexional guidance about best practice for safeguarding during on line church activities has been adopted.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Financial Review

The Circuit is responsible for

- The ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the thirteen local churches in the Circuit.
- The support of a ministry team of 3 Presbyters, 1 Deacon and 3 lay workers (pastoral and administrative support)
- Payment of the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church
- The maintenance of Circuit properties (3 manses & 1 investment property).

Under Standing Orders the Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its ministers and the maintenance of the manses. In addition the Circuit has a financial obligation to the District to meet a share of its budget.
The Circuit budget is reviewed annually and covers the costs of the above which are met by assessments from each church towards their share of the total cost.
In 2019/20 the Circuit agreed to meet the cost of the salary of the Family & Schools Worker from existing reserves for 2 years, rather than from church assessments. In 2021/22 the cost of this project was met from grants received. The Circuit agreed to continue this project for a further 3 years 2022/23-2024/25 from grants and from funds within the Circuit Model Trust Fund.

General Fund-unrestricted

The General Fund is available to be used for any or all of the purposes of the Circuit.
The purpose of this fund is:
1. To secure and sustain the Circuit's viability and future.
2. To give assurance to the general public that the Circuit, which is a charity, intends to use all the money coming into its care for the purposes of the Charity.
3. To enable the Circuit to fulfil its Mission Policy, which is to encourage and inspire local Churches by offering support, training and resources to enable them to fulfil God's Mission. This policy was approved by the Circuit meeting on 1st April 2009.

The total income of the General Fund in 2021/22 was £202,314 (2020/21 £204,008) and costs were £205,686 (2020/21 £214,295). The net deficit was £3,372 (2020/21 £10,288).The deficit in 2021/22 resulted from increased property costs for the let property at the time of the change in tenancy. The deficit in 2020/21 reflected the planned funding of salary costs from reserves.
The investment property is required to be stated at current market valuation at the year end. In the opinion of the trustees, due to the volatility in the property market caused by the cost of living crisis, there was no change in this valuation at the end of the year (2020/21 increase of £40,950).
The balance of the General Fund at 31 August 2022 was £1,629,116 (2021 £1,631,922), of which £1,532,250 (2021 £1,532,250) is the book value of the 3 manses and 1 investment property and £96,866 (2021 £99,672) is the value of free reserves.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted

This fund derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes, and for the purposes of charity accounting this is an unrestricted fund.
An annual levy is made on this fund to go to the District Advance Fund.

During 2021/22 the Methodist Church in Hatfield Peverel was sold. The congregation now meets for worship in rented premises. The net proceeds of sale of £339,304 were added to the Circuit Model Trust Fund. A levy of £112,912 was paid to the Connexional Priority Fund from the proceeds of sale of the church. The trustees have designated £103,000 from this sale to the Schools & Family Worker project.
Other income of the CMTF in 2021/22 was £1,204 (2020/21 £281). Other costs in 2021/22 were £1,472 (2020/21 £1,427). The book value of the investments has decreased by £528 as at 31 August 2022. (2021 increase of £1,304).

The balance of the CMTF at 31 August 2022 is £176,316 (2021 £53,004). The fund holds cash and investments.

Designated Fund-Schools & Family Worker project.

As stated above, £103,000 has been designated to cover the estimated costs of this project not funded by grants from 2022/23 to 2024/25.

Restricted Fund-Schools & Family Worker project

This represents the balance of grants of £9,500 received in 2019/20 from the District Advance Fund (DAF), £3,000 received in 2020/21 from the Garfield Weston Foundation (GWF) and a further £9,500 received in 2021/22 from the DAF. These grants are restricted to meeting the running costs of the Schools & Family Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. The first DAF grant was for the running costs excluding salary, and the GWF grant was for salary costs.
The total income of the Restricted Fund in 2021/22 was £9,500 (2020/21 £3,000) and costs were £12,610 (2020/21 £1,447. The balance of the fund at 31 August 2022 is £6,315 (2021 £9,425).

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity

This is a permanent endowment with the capital invested through TMCP.
The income for 2021/22 was £641 (2020/21 £412) and costs were £75 (2020/21 £45). The net surplus of £566 (2020/21 £367) was transferred to the General Fund. The book value of the investments has decreased by £1,660 as at 31 August 2022 (2021 increase of £4,097).
The value of the endowment fund at 31 August 2022 is £24,748 (2021 £26,418).

Reserves Policies

General Fund-unrestricted

The Reserves Policy is to hold at least six months' expenditure to meet the District assessment and Circuit manse expenditure. This assumes that churches in the Circuit will continue to meet their agreed contributions to the Circuit Ministerial costs.

Circuit Model Trust Fund-unrestricted

The Charity Commission have agreed that it is appropriate for the trustees to set a separate policy for the management of this fund as follows:
Money held in the Circuit Model Trust Fund that has not been allocated to any specific purpose can be retained for general Circuit purposes including property expenditure on the manses arising from Quinquennial Inspection Reports.

Restricted Fund-Schools & Family Worker project

This fund is to be used for the Schools & Family Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. This project commenced in October 2019 for an initial 2 year period. This was initially extended for a further year to October 2022. The Circuit agreed in May 2022 to continue and extend the project for a further 3 years from September 2022, subject to a possible review and extension from September 2023. A successful application was made for District funding.

Designated Fund-Schools, family & community project

As described above, the Circuit agreed to continue and extend the Schools, Family and Community project within the Maldon section for 3 years from September 2022, subject to review.It was agreed to fund the costs, net of grants, from the proceeds of sale of Hatfield Peverel church. As a result of this decision, funds were transferred from the Circuit Model Trust fund to a new designated fund, to cover the budgeted cost of this project for 3 years.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity

This is registered as a separate charity (charity registration number 222146), with trustees appointed by the Circuit. The income is to be used for the local Methodist ministry covering the village of Great Totham and is transferred to the General Fund for this purpose.

Trustees' Recruitment

Whilst the appointment of the Trustees is determined in accordance with the Methodist procedures, it is the aim to ensure that the Leadership team have a broad experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters. Training for Circuit stewards is available at District level.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

-Selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently.
- Prepared accounts on an accrual basis.
- Followed applicable accounting standards.
- Prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enables them to ensure that the financial statements steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the independent examiner and each of the Trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

Approval 10/5/2023

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the Circuit Meeting on 10th May 2023.

Revd.Mark Pengelly
Superintendent

Nigel Murrell
Circuit Leadership Team

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

TRUSTEES OF THE CIRCUIT - year ended 31 August 2022

Circuit Ministers
Revd. Mike Pengelly (Circuit Superintendent Minister)
Revd. Barry Allen
Revd. Ramona Samuel
Revd. Sue King

Other Authorised Ministers and Supernumeraries
Revd. Tony Shrimpton
Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie
Revd. Guy Goodall - not a trustee
Revd. David Dickens- not a trustee

Circuit Stewards

Janis Croom	Senior Steward to 31August 2022
Jean Brown	resigned 30 September 2021
David Burton	resigned 30 March 2022
Daisy Eleady-Cole	
Gareth Crooks	
Nigel Murrell	Senior Steward from 1 September 2022
Sheridan Pengelly	
Eric Smart	
Esther Burton appointed 14 September 2022	
Adrian Nunn - Circuit Treasurer (not a trustee)	appointed 1 February 2022

Co-opted onto CLT:

Rosemary Bailey - acting Circuit Treasurer	resigned 31January 2022
David Hodgkinson -Circuit Property Secretary	

Church Representatives

Broomfield	David Hodgkinson	
	Les Steed	
Christ Church Braintree	David Drewett	
	David Gask	from 20 January 2022
Christ Church Coggeshall	Adrian Romano	
	Michelle Milliken	not a trustee
The Church in Great Notley	Lisa Scott	
Hall Street	David Cushion	resigned 1 September 2021
	Peter Batey	
Halstead	Helen Catley	
	Ann Johnson	resigned 1 September 2021
	Revd. Sue King	
	William Larty	
Hatfield Peverel Reality Church	Rosemary Bailey	
	Jane Cook	
	Jeff Hosking	

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Maldon	Julie Hill	
	Diana O'Neill	resigned 1 September 2021
	Maureen Crilley	
	Sue Farrell	not a trustee
Moulsham Lodge	Martyn Edwards	
	Robert Griffin	
	Glenda Griffin	
	Clive Pickett	
North Springfield-St Augustine's	J Douglas Hayton	
	Pamela Scammell	
	Carolyn Smith	not a trustee
South Woodham Ferrers	David Carter	
	Judith Radley	
	Tricia Tutin	
	Lynda Speak	
Trinity	Edward Cassels	resigned 1 September 2021
	Roger Fairclough	
	Pam French	resigned 1 September 2021
	Gillian Harrington	
	Carol Kellingray	
	Sheila Mukumba	
	Nigel Murrell	
	Sheridan Pengelly	
Witham	Janis Croom	
	Michael Thompson	
	Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie	

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Principal Office
c/o Trinity Methodist Church
Rainsford Road
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 2XB

Bankers

The Co-Operative Bank
P.O. Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

HSBC
The Peak
333 Vauxhall Road
London
SW1V 1EJ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

Circuit Independent Examiner
Mrs J Brace
Mayor Cuttle & Co
Aquarium Suite 7B
101 Lower Anchor Street
Chelmsford
CM2 0AU

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Name of Circuit :The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit **No 34/09**

Declarations and Scrutiny

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

Signature of Senior Circuit Steward ..... Date 10/5/23

Name: Nigel Murrell, c/o Trinity Methodist Church, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford CM1 2XB

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 10th May 2023.

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

Name of the Chair of the meeting:Revd. Mark Pengelly Date 10/5/23

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Name of Circuit: The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit **No 34/09**

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages 15 to 31. As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts.

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

I have obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner .....

Name of independent examiner.....JOANNE BRACE.....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner.....FCCA.....

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Name of firm: Mayor Cuttle & Co

Address: Aquarium Suite 7B, 101 Lower Anchor Street, Chelmsford CM2 0AU

Date 18/5/2023

* delete or circle as appropriate

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes to the acc'ts	General Fund Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrest'd	Design'd Funds Unrest'd	Restricted Fund	Endowment Funds	Total 2021-22
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Income from monetary investments		137	1,204	-	-	641	1,982
Income from investment properties	5	15,477	-	-	-	-	15,477
Assessments on Churches	6	184,446	-	-	-	-	184,446
Grants received	7	0	-	-	9,500	-	9,500
Other charitable income	8	2,254	-	-	-	-	2,254
Total income		202,314	1,204	0	9,500	641	213,659
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	9	-	-	-	-	-	0
Salaries and associated costs	10	126,582	-	-	12,176	-	138,758
Property maintenance & other costs	12	29,063	-	-	-	-	29,063
District Assessment & Levy	13	44,492	113,517	-	-	-	158,009
Office expenses & resources	14	4,491	-	-	434	-	4,925
Other outgoings	15	1,058	151	-	-	75	1,284
Total charitable expenditure		205,686	113,668	0	12,610	75	332,039
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	18	-	-528		-	-1,660	-2,188
Capitalisation of property improvement	17	-	-		-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		-3,372	-112,992	0	-3,110	-1,094	-120,568
Transfers between funds		566	-103,000	103,000	-	-566	0
Other gains	16	0	339,304	0			339,304
Net movement in funds		-2,806	123,312	103,000	-3,110	-1,660	218,736
Total funds brought forward		1,631,922	53,004	0	9,425	26,418	1,720,769
Total funds carried forward		1,629,116	176,316	103,000	6,315	24,758	1,939,505

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes to the acc'ts	General Fund Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrestricted	Design'd Funds Unrest'd	Restricted Fund	Endowment Funds	Total 2020-21
		£	£			£	£
Income							
Income from monetary investments		37	281	-	-	412	730
Income from investment properties	5	16,900	-	-	-	-	16,900
Assessments on Churches	6	184,127	-	-	-	-	184,127
Grants received	7	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000
Other charitable income	8	2,944	-	-	-	-	2,944
Total income		204,008	281	0	3,000	412	207,701
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	9	-	-	-	-	-	0
Salaries and associated costs	10	137,821	-	-	495	-	138,316
Property maintenance & other costs	12	22,676	-	-	-	-	22,676
District Assessment & Levy	13	47,332	1,321	-	-	-	48,653
Office expenses & resources	14	5,612	-	-	952	-	6,564
Other outgoings	15	855	106	-	-	45	1,005
Total charitable expenditure		214,295	1,427	0	1,447	45	217,214
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	18	-	1,304	-	-	4,097	5,401
Capitalisation of property improvement	17	40,950	-	-	-	-	40,950
Net income/(expenditure)		30,663	158	0	1,553	4,464	36,838
Transfers between funds		367	-	-	-	-367	0
Net movement in funds		31,030	158	0	7,872	4,097	36,838
Total funds brought forward		1,600,892	52,846	0	0	22,321	1,683,931
Total funds carried forward		1,631,922	53,004	0	9,425	26,418	1,720,769

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	General Fund Unrest'd	Circuit Model Trust Unrest'd	Designated Funds unrest'd	Rest'd Fund	Endow Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
Fixed Assets								
Circuit Manses	17	1,250,000					1,250,000	1,250,000
Investment Properties	17	282,250					282,250	282,250
Total Fixed Assets		1,532,250	0	0	0	0	1,532,250	1,532,250
Current Assets								
Investments with TMCP	18		176,316			24,758	201,074	79,422
Debtors & Prepayments	19	12,964					12,964	11,934
Cash at Bank	20	85,652		103,000	6,315		194,967	98,638
Total Current Assets		98,616	176,316	103,000	6,315	24,758	409,005	189,994
Current Liabilities								
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	21	1,750					1,750	1,475
Total Current Liabilities		1,750	0	0	0	0	1,750	1,475
Net Current Assets		96,866	176,316	103,000	6,315	24,758	407,255	188,519
Total assets less current liabilities		1,629,116	176,316	103,000	6,315	24,758	1,939,505	1,720,769
Long term liabilities (due after more than 1 year)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net assets		**1,629,116**	**176,316**	**103,000**	**6,315**	**24,758**	**1,939,505**	**1,720,769**
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)	22-24	1,629,116					1,629,116	1,631,922
General Fund (Allocated)	22-24			103,000			103,000	0
CMTF (Unrestricted)	22-24		176,316				176,316	53,004
Total Unrestricted Funds		1,629,116	176,316	103,000	0	0	1,908,432	1,684,926
Restricted Funds	22-24				6,315		6,315	9,425
Endowment Funds	22-24					24,758	24,758	26,418
Total Funds		1,629,116	176,316	103,000	6,315	24,758	1,939,505	1,720,769

The notes on pages 18 to 31 form part of these accounts

Approved by the trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit and signed on their behalf

Revd. Mark Pengelly, Superintendent Minister

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2022

Note 1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice(SORP)applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102-the Charities SORP (FRS 102)October 2019 update.

Note 2 Funds

The funds held comprise:
Unrestricted General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit.
The Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.
Restricted funds are those held for a narrower purpose. The Circuit has one restricted fund, a grant received for the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section.
Designated Funds -The trustees have voted to reserve these funds for the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section.
Endowment funds are those for which the capital is invested, and the income may be used for specified purposes. The Circuit has one endowment fund.

Note 3 Accounting policies

Basis
These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost or valuation as at 2015, except that investments (including a property) are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Income recognition
Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the Trustees are reasonably certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability
In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102), the time of volunteers is not recognised

Expenditure
This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

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

Tangible fixed assets
Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. All properties are freehold and the estimated land component of all properties is indicated in note 16 to the accounts. Fixtures and fittings within the properties are not valued separately from the building value.
No depreciation is provided on buildings since the Trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material.

Note 3 Accounting policies (continued)

Investment Property
The Circuit owns one residential property (formerly a manse) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. This property is currently let on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy and is classified as an investment property. The property is valued in the accounts at fair value, being open market value, net of estimated costs of disposal.

Monetary investment assets
The investment assets of the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Endowment Fund are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

Debtors
Debtors include assessments due by the end of August and are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit. The prepayment is the monthly ministerial stipends paid in advance to Methodist Church central payroll at the end of August, for stipends due on 1 September.

Creditors
Creditors include trade creditors and expenses incurred before the year end, at the amounts subsequently paid.

Going concern
To the best of their knowledge and belief the Trustees confirm that there are no material uncertainties that would call into question the Circuit's financial viability for at least 12 months from the date of the approval of these accounts.

Consolidation
The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of 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.

Grants
Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make the 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 being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

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 Church. 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 apply any tax charge.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2022

Note 4 Glossary of terms

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

Church: a group of members relating to a specific Church

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, and overseen jointly

Circuit Meeting: The trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Churches and others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Churches.

CLT (Circuit Leadership Team): A group (comprising mostly, but not exclusively) of Circuit trustees responsible for the day to day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Generally the CLT comprises the Presbyters (Ministers) and lay staff stationed within the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards and the Circuit Treasurer

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain 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.

CPF : Connexional Priority Fund

District: a group of contiguous Circuits linked geographically.

DAF: District Advance Fund

FRS: Financial reporting Standard

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

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

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme

NEST: Pensions and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Chelmsford Methodist Church

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or Ordained Methodist Ministers 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

Note 5 Income from Investment Properties

The trustees have determined that the property owned at 10 Wickfield Ash, Chelmsford is unlikely to be returned to use as a manse in the foreseeable future and have therefore classified it as an investment property.

Note 6 Assessments on Churches

The Circuit comprises 13 churches and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall net costs of the Circuit. The Circuit aims to cover all its net core costs from the Assessment. The Assessment on Churches is determined annually and calculated as 50% on the membership of each Church and 50% on its income from offerings and Gift Aid. The amount due from the churches which are part of a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) is reduced if another denomination funds the Minister for that church.

Note 6 Assessment or share (continued)	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2021/22	2020/21
Broomfield	18,664	18,115
Christ Church, Braintree (LEP)	7,200	7,200
Christ Church, Coggeshall (LEP)	800	904
The Church at Great Notley (LEP)	1,440	1,841
Hall Street, Chelmsford	4,800	4,800
Halstead	5,500	5,500
Hatfield Peverel	3,268	3,268
Maldon	17,397	17,397
Moulsham Lodge	34,054	34,054
South Woodham Ferrers	11,875	12,000
St Augustine, Springfield (LEP)	2,796	2,396
Trinity, Chelmsford	63,582	63,582
Witham	13,070	13,070
Total	**184,446**	**184,127**

These amounts are included in the accounts based on the due date of receipt by the Circuit. They include £2,000 (2021 £400) received after the year end, included in debtors on the Balance Sheet.

Note 7Grants & Donations received

	Restricted Fund	Total
	2021/22	2021/22
DAF-for Schools & Family Worker project	9,500	9,500
Total	**9,500**	**9,500**

	Restricted Fund	Total
	2020/21	2020/21
Garfield Weston Foundation -for Schools & Family Worker Project	3,000	3,000
Total	**3,000**	**3,000**

The Circuit received a grantof £9,500 from the District Advance Fund (2021 £3,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation) towards the running costs of the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Note 8 Other charitable income

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2021/22	General Fund (unrestricted) 2020/21
Solar energy rebate	2,084	2,477
CJRS Covid support grant	-	467
HSBC Compensation	150	-
Donation	20	-
Total	**2,254**	**2,944**

Note 9 Grants & donations paid

No grants or donations were paid in 2021/22 or 2020/21.

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs

	General Fund (unrestricted 2021/22	Restricted Fund 2021/22	Total 2021/22
Stipends & salaries			
Stipends-Ministers	80,568	-	80,568
Salaries -Lay worker & admin	7,514	11,407	18,921
Employers'pension contributions	20,840	-	20,840
Employers' N I contributions	7,642	457	8,099
Apprenticeship levy	532	-	532
Supernumerary fees	1,150	-	1,150
Professional fees-admin contract	5,400	-	5,400
Total stipends & salaries costs	**123,646**	**11,864**	**135,510**
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	2,286	-	2,286
Lay employees' travel	170	312	482
Payroll fees	480	-	480
Total associated costs	**2,936**	**312**	**3,248**
Total stipends, salaries & associated costs	**126,582**	**12,176**	**138,758**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs (continued)

	General Fund (unrestricted	Restricted Fund	Total
	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21
Stipends & salaries			
Stipends-Ministers	82,113	0	82,113
Salaries -Lay worker & admin	22,133	0	22,133
Employers'pension contributions	20,598	0	20,598
Employers' N I contributions	7,415	495	7,910
Apprenticeship levy	509	0	509
Supernumerary fees	550	0	550
Professional fees-admin contract	3,060	0	3,060
Total stipends & salaries costs	**136,378**	**495**	**136,873**
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	855	0	855
Lay employees' travel	108	0	108
Payroll fees	480	0	480
Total associated costs	**1,443**	**0**	**1,443**
Total stipends, salaries & associated costs	**137,821**	**495**	**138,316**

Stipends were paid to 3 Ministers (2 full-time Presbyters, and 1 Deacon) in 2021/22 and 2020/21, 4 Ministers (2 full-time Presbyters, 1 Deacon and a part-time supernumerary Presbyter).Salaries were paid to 3 part-time lay workers/administrative staff and 1 contractor. The salary costs of the Family & Schools worker were met in 2021/22 from the Restricted Fund funded by grants received and in 2020/21from the General Fund.

A home telephone and broadband connection is provided for Ministers solely for use on Circuit business and travel costs incurred on Circuit business are re-imbursed against expense claims.
The full-time Ministers' manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains and insures the properties and meets the cost of Council Tax and water charges. The amounts are not regarded by HMRC as benefits in kind.

No employee received employee benefits totalling more than £60,000.

There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial, the holiday year ends on 31 August.

Pensions
All ministers are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs (continued)

The Connexion accounts for the MMPS pension scheme and shows the figure in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented.

The lay employees are eligible to join the pension scheme which the Circuit has arranged with NEST, a government scheme which allows for defined contributions. The Circuit contributes as an employer to this scheme.

Note 11 Payments to trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the Presbyters and Deacon and the remaining members of the CLT are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent Minister and other presbyters undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Circuit Senior Steward chairs meeting of the CLT and the Superintendent chairs the Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit.
No trustee received any remuneration for their role as trustee.
The Circuit policy is to reimburse members of the CLT and other trustees for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties, including where appropriate travelling expenses and reimbursement of purchases on behalf of the Circuit such as maintenance of the manses, or where they have been requested to undertake certain activities for the Circuit such as training.
During the year the sum of £5,360 was reimbursed in this regard to 8 trustees (2020/21 £5,135 to 7 trustees). Of this amount £18 related to manse refurbishments and £5,342 to travel, computer, and office expenses (2020/21 £257 for manse expenditure and £4,878 for travel, computer and office expenses).

Note 12 Property expenses

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
Property costs-manses	**2021/22**	**2020/21**
Insurance	2,564	2,365
Manse Council tax & water	8,635	9,142
Maintenance-manses	5,668	6,534
Quinquennial inspection fee 1 (3 in 2020/21)	650	1,950
Property costs-let properties		
Maintenance-let properties	7,886	517
Agents' fees	3,010	2,164
Quinquennial inspection fee	650	-
Total property costs	**29,063**	**22,676**

The Circuit is Managing Trustee for three properties used as manses, (two in Chelmsford and one in Maldon) and one property in Chelmsford let out on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy. With the exception of the let properties, the Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council Tax, water rates, insurance and maintenance. Tenants for the let property were changed in the year, resulting in increased agents' fees (including a new tenant fee) and maintenance costs.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Note 13 Connexional &District Assessment and Levy

	General Fund-unrestricted 2021/22	General Fund-unrestricted 2020/21
District Assessment	44,492	47,332

	CMTF Fund - unrestricted 2021/22	CMTF Fund - unrestricted 2020/21
District Advance Fund Levy	1,325	1,321
Connexional Priority Fund Levy	112,192	
Total Levies	113,517	1,321

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members, and staffing (Presbyters and Mission staff only) of all Circuits in the Beds, Essex & Herts District. 50% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions and 50% using relative staffing proportions. The assessment is mainly a contribution to Connexional costs for national support services, discipleship and mission but also includes funding towards the costs of the district office and staff.
The levy for the District Advance Fund is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuit's CMTF Account balance as at 31 August in the previous accounting period.
There was an additional levy this year for the Connexional Priority Fund, taken from the net proceeds of sale of the Hatfield Peverel church which was sold during the year. The levy of £112,192 is calculated as a proportion of the sale proceeds of £339,304 and is used for Mission work across the Connexion.

Note 14 Office expenses and resources

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	Total
	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22
Telephone & internet	2,060	-	2,060
Printing, postage & stationery	1,399	-	1,399
IT & video equipment costs	191	-	191
Use of office	500	-	500
Preaching & sundry resources	341	434	775
Total	**4,491**	**434**	**4,925**

Note 14 Office expenses and resources (continued)

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	Total
	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21
Telephone & internet	1,931	-	1,931
Printing, postage & stationery	1,141	-	1,141
IT costs	1,498	-	1,498
Use of office	500	-	500
Preaching & sundry resources	542	952	1,494
Total	**5,612**	**952**	**6,564**

Note 15 Other outgoings

	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Endowment Fund	Total	Total
	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2020/21
Bank Charges	63	-	-	63	-
Advert	245	-	-	245	-
Gifts & sundries	-	-	-	-	135
Independent examiner's fee	750	-	-	750	720
TCMP admin. fee	-	151	75	226	150
Total	**1,058**	**151**	**75**	**1,284**	**1,005**

Note 16 Other gains-Circuit Model Trust Fund

The Methodist Church in Hatfield Peverel was sold during the year. The proceeds of sale net of selling costs were £339,304. In accordance with Connexional Standing Orders, this amount is held by the Circuit in the Circuit Model Trust Fund for Circuit use. The Connexional Priority Fund Levy is taken from this amount (see note 13).

Note 17 Fixed Assets-Manses and Other Properties

	Manse Land	Manse buildings	Investment property	Total	Total
	2021/22	2021/22	2021/22	2020/21	2020/21
Balance brought forward	510,000	740,000	282,250	1,532,250	1,491,300
Revaluation of investment property	-	-	-	-	40,950
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	510,000	740,000	282,250	1,532,250	1,532,250

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Note 17 Fixed Assets-Manses and Other Properties (continued)

Schedule of Manses and Investment Property

Property	Type	Cost	Valuation	Total
30 Park Ave Chelmsford	Manse	425,000		425,000
4 Rubens Gate Springfield Chelmsford	Manse	475,000		475,000
11 Mirosa Drive Maldon	Manse	350,000		350,000
10 Wickfield Ash Chelmsford	Investment		282,250	282,250
Total		1,250,000	282,250	1,532,250

There are 3 manses in use (3 - 2020/21), 2 located in Chelmsford and1 in Maldon, which are valued at cost as defined by FRS102.The manse at Park Avenue, Chelmsford was stated at deemed historic cost as at August 2014 in accordance with FRS102. The manse at Maldon is valued at purchase cost in June 2015. The property at Rubens Gate, in North Springfield Chelmsford is valued at purchase cost in October 2014 plus the capital cost of improvements net of impairment in 2018/19.

The property at Wickfield Ash, currently surplus to our requirements, continues to be let on a short-term basis. As it is unlikely that this property will be required in future as a manse it is valued as an investment property at the potential net sale proceeds receivable by the Circuit of £282,250 (2020/21 £282,250). This is based on a trustees' market valuation of £450,000 less the potential costs of sale of £167,750 (£7,750 professional fees and £160,000 payable for the Connexional Priority Fund Levy).2020/21 figures are: trustees' valuation of £450,000 less £167,750 costs of sale (£7,750 professional fees and £160,000 CPT Levy).

No depreciation is being provided for the manses in use as the trustees consider the current residual value of the properties in their present condition to be not less than their brought forward cost and, in the absence of any impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the properties would be immaterial. The Circuit has made use of the deemed cost option on transitioning to FRS102 as outlined above.

Note 18 Monetary Investment Assets

Investments held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)

Year end valuation	2021/22 CMTF fund	2021/22 Endowment fund	2020/21 CMTF fund	2020/21 Endowment fund
Common investment funds	7,876	24,758	8,404	26,418
Trustees'Interest Fund	168,440	-	44,600	-
Total	**176,316**	**24,758**	**53,004**	**26,418**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Note 21 Creditors & accruals

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2021/22	2020/21
Trade creditors & expenses	1,000	755
Accruals-independent examiner's fee	750	720
Total	**1,750**	**1,475**

Note 22 Funds

General Fund -unrestricted
The purpose of this fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted
The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and formulaically determined contributions from the sale of manses and church buildings in the Circuit.
Although this is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise these funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

Designated Fund - unrestricted
These are unrestricted funds that have been allocated for the purpose of employing a Family &Schools worker for the next three years. It has been designated by the trustees of the circuit meeting. It can only revert to general funds by the agreement of the same body.

Restricted Fund
The restricted fund comprises the balance of two grants received for the Schools and Families worker project within the Maldon section of the Circuit. The first grant was received in 2019/20 from the District Advance Fund to support the running costs, excluding salary, of the project. The District has given permission for these funds to be carried forward for use in 2021/22. Any funds not used for this purpose will be due to be returned to the District. The second grant was received in 2020/21 from the Garfield Weston Foundation for 2021/22 costs.

Endowment Fund
This is a permanent endowment fund arising from a legacy given by Mrs H Walker. The income can only be used for local religious purposes.

Note 23 Summary of fund movements

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Balances as at 31/08/21	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Unrealised Gains	Realised Gains	Balances as at 31/08/2022
General Fund	1,631,922	202,314	-205,686	566			1,629,116
CMTF	53,004	1,204	-113,668	- 103,000	-528	339,304	176,316
Designated	-	-	-	103,000	-	-	103,000
Restricted	9,425	9,500	-12,610	-	-	-	6,315
Endowment	26,418	641	-75	-566	-1,660	-	24,758
Total	**1,720,769**	**213,659**	**-332,039**	**0**	**-2,188**	**339,304**	**1,939,505**

The realised gain of £339,304 are the net proceeds of the sale of Hatfield Peverel church.

Note 24 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August are represented by:

	General Fund (unrest'd)	CMTF Fund (unrest'd)	Designated	Restricted Fund	Endo't Fund	Total
	2021/22	**2021/22**	**2021/22**	**2021/22**	**2021/22**	**2021/22**
Tangible fixed assets	1,532,250	-	-	-	-	1,532,250
Current assets	98,616	176,316	103,000	6,315	24,758	409,005
Current liabilities	-1,750	-	-	-	-	-1,750
Net assets	**1,629,116**	**176,316**	**103,000**	**6,315**	**24,758**	**1,939,505**

	General Fund (unrest'd)	CMTF Fund (unrest'd)	Designated	Restricted Fund	Endo't Fund	Total
	2020/21	**2020/21**	**2020/21**	**2020/21**	**2020/21**	**2020/21**
Tangible fixed assets	1,532,250	-	-	-	-	1,532,250
Current assets	101,147	53,004	-	9,425	26,418	189,994
Current liabilities	(1,475)	-	-	-	-	(1,475)
Net assets	**1,631,922**	**53,004**	**-**	**9,425**	**26,418**	**1,720,769**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Note 25 Related Parties

None of the Circuit trustees made donations direct to the Circuit during the year or in the preceding year. All of the Circuit trustees are members of one of the Churches within the Circuit and may be trustees of their Churches.

Related parties include the Methodist Conference, the BE&H District and Churches within the Circuit, CFB and TMCP. One trustee has a related party connection to one suppliers,Dragonfly Educational Consultancy. The trustee declares that they have received no special benefits through these connections. Circuit payments to this supplier was 5,490. (2020/21: 4 Trustees: 4 Suppliers: Total 9,696).

Note 26 Volunteer Contribution

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in the UK is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In this Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with the mission, manses, finance, policy, grants and training. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by this Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Note 27 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities.

There are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities on 31 August 2022 (2021 Nil).

THE METHODIST CHURCH CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1134390

Accounts

THE METHODIST CHURCH - CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

Circuit No 34/09

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND TRUSTEES REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Registered Charity Number 1134390

The Methodist Church - Chelmsford Circuit is part of the

Bedfordshire, Essex & Hertfordshire District of the Methodist Church

Circuit reference 34/09

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THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Trustees' Report

The Trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit are pleased to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the Methodist year ended 31 August 2021.

Governing document and objectives

The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church.

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

The Circuit has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a Charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our Churches and to the wider community in the Circuit.

Activities

Our mission is to provide support, training and resources to the churches in the Chelmsford Methodist Circuit in order that they may fulfil their mission of bringing the love of God in Christ to the communities they serve. The Methodist Churches involved are Trinity, Moulsham Lodge and Hall Street all based in Chelmsford, Broomfield, Reality Church-Hatfield Peverel, Maldon, Witham and Halstead. Also included are five Local Ecumenical Partnerships in Braintree, Coggeshall, Great Notley, South Woodham Ferrers and North Springfield.

The Circuit acts as an umbrella organisation for these Churches and provides the staff to take services and care for members. It provides training and support to members of the Churches for mission to the communities around these Churches

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference. The Connexional office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers to this Circuit. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. This Circuit is part of the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District.

The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and Circuit stewards. Authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for the invitation to and appointment of Ministerial staff and lay employees. In addition to this, the Circuit meeting is charged with the care and maintenance of Ministerial housing and the agreement of the Circuit financial budget and the financial accounts. The Circuit meeting is also required to ensure all property and financial reports of the individual Churches are received in a timely fashion. All members of the Circuit meeting are Trustees to the Circuit and are listed at the end of this report.

Report for the Year

Aims for 2020/21.

- To support and encourage churches in developing strategies for recovery post Covid.

- To identify and to implement pastoral care for the community as it emerges from the pandemic and has to deal with some anticipated long term effects.
- To work towards an environmental strategy for all areas of the Circuit and to assist members.
- To continue to consider how mission may be understood and implemented in a rapidly growing and changing post Covid county.
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Aims for 2021/22

The continuing pandemic has meant that the most of the aims for 2020/21 continue for 2021/22.

- To support and encourage churches in developing strategies for recovery post Covid.
- To continue with pastoral care for our churches and the wider community as we emerge from the pandemic.
- To continue to roll out the Circuit environmental strategy and to assist Churches and members in making relevant changes.
- To continue to consider how mission may be understood and implemented in a rapidly growing and changing county.
- To consider the Connexional Strategy for Evangelism and Growth 'God for All' and develop a plan for implementing some of the ideas across the Circuit, using the 'Take Your Next Steps in Evangelism and Growth' materials for guidance.
- To recruit a new Circuit Treasurer
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Circuit and Church Activities

The restrictions arising from the global Covid pandemic have continued throughout the 2020/21 church year. After having to close in March 2020, the churches in the Circuit were able to re-open for live worship during Summer 2020, after full risk assessments and with restrictions on numbers, social distancing and wearing of masks. However with Tier 3 then Tier 4 restrictions in place, and a further national lockdown, churches were closed again for most of the time from November 2020 until Easter 2021. Online services have been broadcast weekly on YouTube which, together with Facebook prayers on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, have been shared with many outside of our normal congregations.

Churches were once again open for worship during Summer 2021 with Covid precautions continuing, and more activities resumed from September 2021.The numbers attending our churches have unfortunately not returned to pre-pandemic levels as some Church members have been unable to return due to health concerns. CLT and Circuit meetings have continued to be held on Zoom.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Churches have found new ways of reaching out to their members and the local community, with Advent gift bags, special Christmas & Easter resource packs for families, flowers for Mother's Day and an Easter CD. Circuit wide 'Healing and Hope' services were held in Trinity, Maldon, South Woodham Ferrers and Witham in November 2021 to acknowledge the losses caused by the pandemic and pray for healing and hope for our communities.

Two online Circuit Bible studies were held; studying Colossians in November 2020 and a Lent Study in March 2021.

The Circuit has implemented an ECO Strategy, aiming to get 50% of our churches registered with the EcoChurch scheme. Of the 8 Methodist churches in the Circuit, 4 are now registered, 3 of which have bronze awards (Trinity, Broomfield and Moulsham Lodge). Of the 5 LEPs 3 are registered. To support this initiative a series of online Zoom 'coffee mornings' have been held to discuss Climate Change and offer advice and support to individual churches about the EcoChurch scheme.

Youth & Community Participation

Many of our normal youth activities such as Messy Church, Sunday Club and Youth Clubs were put on hold due to the Covid restrictions, but are now restarting. Sunday activities for children were put out online on Youtube. In July 2021, Reality Church hosted a picnic for the children and their families from the lunch club that is run at St Andrew's Primary School in Hatfield Peverel. The lunch club run by Barry and Sandie with help from friends from Reality Church restarted in September 2021 and is ongoing. Open the Book in South Woodham Ferrers restarted for a short period in September 2021 taking assemblies in St Marys Primary School. However, these were put on hold towards the end of October as Covid cases in the schools increased. In December 2021, Reality Church ran a sing along carol evening at the Duke of Wellington pub which was well received by all. Maldon ran a Christmas Messy Church which was a lot of fun with Goodie bags for families to take home.

Staffing

Revd. Mark Pengelly is the Circuit Superintendent and is responsible for the ministry of the Chelmsford section.

Revd. Sue King continues to look after the church and community in Halstead..

Revd. Barry Allen maintains his ministry of the Maldon Section.

Deacon Ramona Samuel works within the Chelmsford Section to support the Superintendent in ministry within the Chelmsford Section.

Heather Simmonds joined the Circuit as a Student Presbyter.

Sandie Hulbert continued for a second year in 2020/21 as Family and Schools worker for the Maldon Section of the Circuit.

Karen Murrell is the Circuit Administrator, based in Chelmsford.

A new Circuit Safeguarding Officer, Esther Burton, started in January 2021.

The Circuit Treasurer resigned at the end of July 2021. The post has been temporarily covered by members of CLT and Rosemary Bailey. A new Circuit Treasurer, Adrian Nunn, starts in February 2022.

Training

The Circuit Stewards attended online training for new Circuit stewards.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Training for local preachers is on-going as part of the Local Preachers and Leaders of Worship quarterly meetings.

Representatives from the Circuit attended the District Synod held online in Autumn 2020 and in Spring 2021. In October 2021 our Circuit hosted the District Synod at Writtle College. Later that month, several representatives attended a District event about the Methodist 'Strategy for Justice, Dignity & Solidarity'. Our Deacon, Revd. Ramona Samuel was one of the co-presenters.

Members of the Circuit Staff continue to attend on line District Training events.

Support

Individual Circuit stewards attended Church Council meetings held throughout the year personally when permitted or via Zoom. They take note of issues raised at these meetings and report back to the Leadership team. The Circuit offers encouragement and advice to local Churches on the many and varied projects undertaken in their local communities. A regular Circuit Newsletter is produced which has helped churches to share what they do and how we have found different ways of reaching our members and local communities during the pandemic.

Ministers are supported by the Circuit Stewards personally and in terms of the properties they occupy.

Risk Management

The major risks are kept under review by the Circuit Leadership Team. Regular guidance has been issued to churches by the Connexion in response to the Covid pandemic about Covid related Health and Safety procedures and regulations.
Income and expenditure is monitored and compared with the approved annual budget. During the year, the effect of the Covid restrictions on individual churches income has been discussed with Church treasurers.

Safeguarding

The Circuit has adopted the Connexional Safeguarding Policy. The Circuit is committed to providing support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure they are clear and confident in their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.
The provision of Safeguarding training is covered by the ongoing work of our Safeguarding Officer. Church safeguarding officers have been attending online training. Connexional guidance about best practice for safeguarding during on line church activities has been adopted.

Financial Review

The Circuit is responsible for

- The ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the thirteen local churches in the Circuit.
- The support of a ministry team of 3 Presbyters and 3 lay workers (pastoral and administrative support)
- Payment of the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church
- The maintenance of Circuit properties (3 manses & 1 investment property).

Under Standing Orders the Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its ministers and the maintenance of the manses. In addition the Circuit has a financial obligation to the District to meet a share of its budget.

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Financial Review-continued

The Circuit budget is reviewed annually and covers the costs of the above which are met by assessments from each church towards their share of the total cost. However, the Circuit agreed to meet the cost of the salary of the Family & Schools Worker from existing reserves for 2019/20 and 2020/21, rather than from church assessments.

General Fund-unrestricted

The General Fund is available to be used for any or all of the purposes of the Circuit.
The purpose of this fund is:
1. To secure and sustain the Circuit's viability and future.
2. To give assurance to the general public that the Circuit, which is a charity, intends to use all the money coming into its care for the purposes of the Charity.
3. To enable the Circuit to fulfil its Mission Policy, which is to encourage and inspire local Churches by offering support, training and resources to enable them to fulfil God's Mission. This policy was approved by the Circuit meeting on 1st April 2009.

The total income of the General Fund in 2020/21 was £204,008 (2019/20 £201,595) and costs were £214,295 (2019/20 £211,805). The net deficit is £10,287 (2019/20 £10,210), reflecting the salary costs funded from reserves.
The investment property is required to be stated at current market valuation at the year end. This increased by £40,950.
The balance of the General Fund at 31 August 2021 was £1,631,922 (2020 £1,600,892), of which £1,532,250 (2020 £1,491,300) is the book value of the 3 manses and 1 investment property and £99,672 (2020 £109,592) is the value of free reserves.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted

This fund derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes, and for the purposes of charity accounting this is an unrestricted fund.
An annual levy is made on this fund to go to the District Advance Fund.

The total income of the CMTF in 2020/21 was £281 (2019/20 £534) and costs were £1,427 (2019/20 £1,455. The book value of the investments has increased by £1,304 as at 31 August 2021.
The balance of the CMTF at 31 August 2021 is £53,004 (2020 £52,846). The fund holds cash and investments.

Restricted Fund-Schools & Family Worker project

This represents the balance of a grant of £9,500 received in 2019/20 from the District Advance Fund (DAF) and a further grant of £3,000 received in 2020/21 from the Garfield Weston Foundation (GWF). These grants are restricted to meeting the running costs of the Schools & Family Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. The DAF grant is for the running costs excluding salary, and the GWF grant is for salary costs.
The total income of the Restricted Fund in 2020/21 was £3,000 (2019/20 £9,500) and costs were £1,447 (2019/20 £1,628. The balance of the fund at 31 August 2021 is £9,425 (2020 £7,872).

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity

This is a permanent endowment with the capital invested through TMCP.
The income for 2020/21 was £412 (2019/20 £450) and costs were £45 (2019/20 £45). The net surplus of £367 (2019/20 £404) was transferred to the General Fund. The book value of the investments has increased by £4,097 as at 31 August 2021.
The value of the endowment fund at 31 August 2021 is £26,418 (2020 £22,321).

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Reserves Policies

General Fund-unrestricted

The Reserves Policy is to hold at least six months' expenditure to meet the District assessment and Circuit manse expenditure. This assumes that churches in the Circuit will continue to meet their agreed contributions to the Circuit Ministerial costs.

Circuit Model Trust Fund-unrestricted

The Charity Commission have agreed that it is appropriate for the trustees to set a separate policy for the management of this fund as follows:
Money held in the Circuit Model Trust Fund that has not been allocated to any specific purpose can be retained for general Circuit purposes including property expenditure on the manses arising from Quinquennial Inspection Reports.

Restricted Fund-Schools & Family Worker project

This fund is to be used for the Schools & Family Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. This project commenced in October 2019 for an initial 2 year period. This has now been extended for a further year to October 2022. Any unused funds at the end of the project are repayable to the DAF or GWF, subject to a further extension of the project.

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity

This is registered as a separate charity (charity registration number 222146), with trustees appointed by the Circuit. The income is to be used for the local Methodist ministry covering the village of Great Totham and is transferred to the General Fund for this purpose.

Trustees' Recruitment

Whilst the appointment of the Trustees is determined in accordance with the Methodist procedures, it is the aim to ensure that the Leadership team have a broad experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters. Training for Circuit stewards is available at District level.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

-Selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently.
- Prepared accounts on an accrual basis.
- Followed applicable accounting standards.
- Prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enables them to ensure that the financial statements steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the independent examiner and each of the Trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Approval

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the Circuit Meeting on 22 February 2022.

Revd. Mark Pengelly
Superintendent

Janis Croom
Circuit Leadership Team

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

TRUSTEES OF THE CIRCUIT - year ended 31 August 2021

Circuit Ministers

Revd. Mike Pengelly	(Circuit Superintendent Minister)
Revd. Barry Allen	
Revd. Ramona Samuel	
Revd. Sue King	

Other Authorised Ministers and Supernumeraries

Revd. Tony Shrimpton	
Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie	
Revd. Guy Goodall (not a trustee)	
Revd. David Dickens (not a trustee)	

Circuit Stewards

Robert Griffin - Senior Steward to 31 Aug 2021	resigned 31 August 2021
Janis Croom-Senior Steward from 1 Sep 2021	
Catherine de Bie - Circuit Treasurer	resigned 31 July 2021
Ian Armstrong	resigned 31 August 2021
Peter Bigg	resigned 25 February 2021
Jean Brown	resigned 30 September 2021
David Burton	appointed 25 February 2021
Daisy Eleady-Cole	appointed 25 February 2021
Gareth Crooks	appointed 25 February 2021
Nigel Murrell	appointed 25 February 2021
Sheridan Pengelly	appointed 25 February 2021
Eric Smart	appointed 25 February 2021

Co-opted onto CLT :

Rosemary Bailey - acting Circuit Treasurer	from 1 November 2021
David Hodginson –Circuit Property Secretary	from 25 February 2021

Church Representatives

Broomfield	David Hodgkinson	
	Les Steed	
Christ Church Braintree	Esther Hume	resigned 31 August 2021
	Ian Hume	resigned 31 August 2021
	David Drewett	
Christ Church Coggeshall	Peter Bigg	
	Adrian Romano	
The Church in Great Notley	Lisa Scott	
Hall Street	David Cushion	
	Peter Batey	
Halstead	Helen Catley	
	Ann Johnson	

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Halstead	Revd. Sue King	
	William Larty	
	Keith Woods	resigned 31 August 2021
Hatfield Peverel Reality Church	Rosemary Bailey	
	Jane Cook	
	Aileen French	resigned 31 August 2021
	Jeff Hosking	
Maldon	Julie Hill	
	Diana O'Neill	
	Maureen Crilley	from 4 Jun 2021
Moulsham Lodge	Martyn Edwards	
	Robert Griffin	
	Glenda Griffin	
	Jean Brown	resigned 30 September 2021
	Clive Pickett	
North Springfield-St Augustine's	J Douglas Hayton	
	Jennifer Murphy	resigned 31 August 2021
	Pamela Scammell	
	Carolyn Smith	
South Woodham Ferrers	David Carter	
	Elizabeth Clements	resigned 31 August 2021
	Judith Radley	
	Tricia Tutin	
	Lynda Speak	
Trinity	Edward Cassels	
	Annie Chandler	resigned 31 August 2021
	Roger Fairclough	
	Pam French	
	Gillian Harrington	
	Carol Kellingray	
	Sheila Mukumba	
	Nigel Murrell	
	Sheridan Pengelly	
Witham	Janis Croom	
	Michael Thompson	
	Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie	

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Principal Office
c/o Trinity Methodist Church
Rainsford Road
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 2XB

Bankers
HSBC
The Peak
333 Vauxhall Road
London
SW1V 1EJ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

Circuit Independent Examiner
Mrs J Brace
Mayor Cuttle & Co
101 Lower Anchor Street
Chelmsford
CM2 0AU

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Name of Circuit : The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit **No 34/09**

Declarations and Scrutiny

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

Signature of Senior Crcuit Steward ..... Janis Croom Date..... 22 Feb 2022

Name Janis Croom , c/o Trinity Methodist Church, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford CM1 2XB

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 22 February 2022.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ..... M Pengelly .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd. Mark Pengelly Date 22/2/2022

Name of Circuit : The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit **No 34/09**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 15 to 30. As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts *accounts*.

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

I have obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner .....

Name of independent examiner J. BRACE

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCCA

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Name of firm : Mayor Cuttle & Co

Address: 101 Lower Anchor Street, Chelmsford CM2 0AU

Date 22/3/22

* delete or circle as appropriate

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrestricted	Restricted Fund	Endowment Funds	Total 2020-21		Total 2019-20
		£	£		£	£		£
Income								
Income from monetary investments		37	281	-	412	**730**		**1,328**
Income from investment properties	5	16,900	-	-	-	**16,900**		**16,800**
Assessments on Churches	6	184,127	-	-	-	**184,127**		**181,212**
Grants received	7	-	-	3,000	-	**3,000**		**10,301**
Other charitable income	8	2,944	-	-	-	**2,944**		**2,438**
Total income		**204,008**	**281**	**3,000**	**412**	**207,701**		**212,079**
Expenditure								
Grants and donations	9	-	-	-	-	**0**		**0**
Salaries and associated costs	10	137,821	-	495	-	**138,316**		**134,270**
Property maintenance & other costs	12	22,676	-	-	-	**22,676**		**25,729**
District Assessment & Levy	13	47,332	1,321	-	-	**48,653**		**46,287**
Office expenses & resources	14	5,612	-	952	-	**6,564**		**6,003**
Other outgoings	15	854	106	-	45	**1,005**		**2,644**
Total charitable expenditure		**214,295**	**1,427**	**1,447**	**45**	**217,214**		**214,933**
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	17	-	1,304	-	4,097	5,401		-529
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	16	40,950	-	-	-	40,950		-
Net income/(expenditure)		**30,663**	**158**	**1,553**	**4,464**	**36,838**		**-3,383**
Transfers between funds		367	-	-	-367	0		0
Net movement in funds		**31,030**	**158**	**1,553**	**4,097**	**36,838**		**-3,383**
Total funds brought forward		1,600,892	52,846	7,872	22,321	1,683,931		1,687,314
Total funds carried forward		**1,631,922**	**53,004**	**9,425**	**26,418**	**1,720,769**		**1,683,931**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrestricted	Restricted Fund	Endowment Funds	Total 2019-20		Total 2018-19
		£	£		£	£		£
Income								
Income from monetary investments		344	534	-	450	**1,328**		**2,582**
Income from investment properties	5	16,800	-	-	-	**16,800**		**26,806**
Assessments on Churches	6	181,212	-	-	-	**181,212**		**184,197**
Grants received	7	801	-	9,500	-	**10,301**		**1,560**
Other charitable income	8	2,438	-	-	-	**2,438**		**2,144**
Total income		**201,595**	**534**	**9,500**	**450**	**212,079**		**217,289**
Expenditure								
Grants and donations	9	-	-	-	-	**0**		**1,000**
Salaries and associated costs	10	133,566	-	704	-	**134,270**		**129,166**
Property maintenance & other costs	12	25,729	-	-	-	**25,729**		**170,891**
District Assessment & Levy	13	44,940	1,347	-	-	**46,287**		**43,974**
Office expenses & resources	14	5,079	-	924	-	**6,003**		**2,924**
Other outgoings	15	2,491	108	-	45	**2,644**		**7,764**
Total charitable expenditure		**211,805**	**1,455**	**1,628**	**45**	**214,933**		**355,720**
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	17	-	-128	-	-401	-529		366
Capitalisation of property improvement	16	-	-	-	-	-		85,000
Net income/(expenditure)		**-10,210**	**-1,049**	**7,872**	**4**	**-3,383**		**-53,064**
Transfers between funds		404	-	-	-404	0		0
Net movement in funds		**-9,806**	**-1,049**	**7,872**	**-400**	**-3,383**		**-53,064**
Total funds brought forward		1,610,698	53,895	0	22,721	1,687,314		1,732,009
Prior year adjustment re salary prepaid at 31.8.18		-	-	-	-	-		8,369
Total funds carried forward		**1,600,892**	**52,846**	**7,872**	**22,321**	**1,683,931**		**1,687,314**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Restricted fund	Endowment Funds	Totals 2020-21	Totals 2019-20
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses	16	1,250,000				1,250,000	1,250,000
Investment properties	16	282,250				282,250	241,300
Total fixed assets		**1,532,250**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,532,250**	**1,491,300**
Current Assets							
Investments with TMCP	17		53,004		26,418	79,422	75,167
Debtors & prepayments	18	11,934				11,934	17,305
Cash at Bank	19	89,213		9,425		98,638	101,568
Total current assets		**101,147**	**53,004**	**9,425**	**26,418**	**189,994**	**194,040**
Current Liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	20	1,475	-	-	-	1,475	1,409
Total current liabilities		1,475	0	0	0	**1,475**	**1,409**
Net current assets		**99,672**	**53,004**	**9,425**	**26,418**	**188,519**	**192,631**
Total assets less current liabilities		**1,631,922**	**53,004**	**9,425**	**26,418**	1,720,769	1,683,931
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net assets		**1,631,922**	**53,004**	**9,425**	**26,418**	**1,720,769**	**1,683,931**
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	21,22,23	1,631,922	-	-	-	1,631,922	1,600,892
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	21,22,23	-	53,004	-	-	53,004	52,846
Total Unrestricted Funds		1,631,922	53,004	-	-	**1,684,926**	**1,653,738**
Restricted fund	21,22,23	-	-	9,425	-	9,425	7,872
Endowment Funds	21,22,23	-	-	-	26,418	26,418	22,321
Total Funds		**1,631,922**	**53,004**	**9,425**	**26,418**	**1,720,769**	**1,683,931**

The notes on pages 18 to 30 form part of these accounts

Approved by the trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit and signed on their behalf

Revd. Mark Pengelly, Superintendent Minister

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note 1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102-the Charities SORP (FRS 102) October 2019 update.

Note 2 Funds

The funds held comprise:
Unrestricted General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit.
The Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.
Restricted funds are those held for a narrower purpose. The Circuit has one restricted fund, a grant received for the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section.
Endowment funds are those for which the capital is invested and the income may be used for specified purposes. The Circuit has one endowment fund.

Note 3 Accounting policies

Basis
These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost or valuation as at 2015, except that investments (including a property) are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Income recognition
Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the Trustees are reasonably certain that they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability
In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102), the time of volunteers is not recognised

Expenditure
This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

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

Tangible fixed assets
Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. All properties are freehold and the estimated land component of all properties is indicated in note 16 to the accounts. Fixtures and fittings within the properties are not valued separately from the building value.
No depreciation is provided on buildings since the Trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material.

Investment Property
The Circuit owns one residential property (formerly a manse) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. This property is currently let on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy and is classified as an investment property. The property is valued in the accounts at fair value, being open market value, net of estimated costs of disposal.

Monetary investment assets
The investment assets of the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Endowment Fund are held are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

Debtors
Debtors include assessments due by the end of August and are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit. The prepayment is the monthly ministerial stipends paid in advance to Methodist Church central payroll at the end of August, for stipends due on 1 September.

Creditors
Creditors include trade creditors and expenses incurred before the year end, at the amounts subsequently paid.

Going concern
To the best of their knowledge and belief the Trustees confirm that there are no material uncertainties that would call into question the Circuit's financial viability for at least 12 months from the date of the approval of these accounts.

Consolidation
The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of 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.

Grants
Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make the 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 being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

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 Church. 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 apply any tax charge.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note 4 Glossary of terms

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

Church: a group of members relating to a specific Church

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, and overseen jointly

Circuit Meeting: The trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Churches and others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Churches.

CLT (Circuit Leadership Team): A group (comprising mostly, but not exclusively) of Circuit trustees responsible for the day to day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Generally the CLT comprises the Presbyters (Ministers) and lay staff stationed within the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards and the Circuit Treasurer

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain 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.

CPF : Connexional Priority Fund

District: a group of contiguous Circuits linked geographically.

DAF: District Advance Fund

FRS: Financial reporting Standard

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

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

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme

NEST: Pensions and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Chelmsford Methodist Church

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or Ordained Methodist Ministers 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

Note 5 Income from Investment Properties

The trustees have determined that the property owned at 10 Wickfield Ash, Chelmsford is unlikely to be returned to use as a manse in the foreseeable future and have therefore classified it as an Investment property.

Note 6 Assessments on Churches

The Circuit comprises 13 churches and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall net costs of the Circuit. The Circuit aims to cover all its net core costs from the Assessment. The Assessment on Churches is determined annually and calculated as 50% on the membership of each Church and 50% on its income from offerings and Gift Aid. The amount due from the churches which are part of a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) is reduced if another denomination funds the Minister for that church.

Note 6 continued -Assessment or share	General Fund (unrestricted) 2020/21	General Fund (unrestricted) 2019/20
Broomfield	18,115	17,365
Christ Church, Braintree (LEP)	7,200	7,200
Christ Church, Coggeshall (LEP)	904	626
The Church at Great Notley (LEP)	1,841	1,926
Hall Street, Chelmsford	4,800	4,400
Halstead	5,500	8,060
Hatfield Peverel	3,268	3,268
Maldon	17,397	15,006
Moulsham Lodge	34,054	32,432
South Woodham Ferrers	12,000	10,500
St Augustine, Springfield (LEP)	2,396	2,400
Trinity, Chelmsford	63,582	63,582
Witham	13,070	14,447
Total	**184,127**	**181,212**

These amounts are included in the accounts based on the due date of receipt by the Circuit. They include £400 (2020 £7,926) received after the year end, included in debtors on the Balance Sheet.

Note 7 Grants & Donations received

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2020/21	Restricted Fund 2020/21	Total 2020/21
Garfield Weston Foundation -for Schools & Family Worker Project	-	3,000	3,000
Total	-	3,000	3,000

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2019/20	Restricted Fund 2019/20	Total 2019/20
The Rock Trust-for 3 Generate tickets	801	-	801
DAF-for Schools & Family Worker project		9,500	9,500
Total	**801**	**9,500**	**10,301**

The Circuit received a grant of £3,000 from the Garfield Weston Foundation (2020 £9,500 from the District Advance Fund) towards the running costs of the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section.

Note 8 Other Charitable income

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2020/21	General Fund (unrestricted) 2019/20
Solar energy rebate	2,477	1,976
CJRS Covid support grant	467	-
Insurance claim	-	462
Total	**2,944**	**2,438**

Note 9 Grants & Donations paid

No grants or donations were paid in 2020/21 or 2019/20.

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs

	General Fund (unrestricted 2020/21	Restricted Fund 2020/21	Total 2020/21
Stipends & salaries			
Stipends-Ministers	82,113	-	82,113
Salaries -Lay worker & admin	22,133	-	22,133
Employers'pension contributions	20,598	-	20,598
Employers' N I contributions	7,415	495	7,910
Apprenticeship levy	509	-	509
Supernumerary fees	550	-	550
Professional fees-admin contract	3,060	-	3,060
Total stipends & salaries costs	**136,378**	**495**	**136,873**
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	855	-	855
Lay employees' travel	-	-	-
Other travel	108	-	108
Payroll fees	480	-	480
Total associated costs	**1,443**	**-**	**1,443**
Total stipends, salaries & associated costs	**137,821**	**495**	**138,316**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	General Fund (unrestricted	Restricted Fund	Total
	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20
Stipends & salaries			
Stipends-Ministers	81,678	0	81,678
Salaries -Lay worker & admin	19,028	0	19,028
Employers'pension contributions	19,707	0	19,707
Employers' N I contributions	7,108	325	7,433
Apprenticeship levy	450	0	450
Supernumerary fees	775	0	775
Total stipends & salaries costs	**128,746**	**325**	**129,071**
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	4,130	0	4,130
Lay employees' travel	45	379	424
Other travel	165	0	165
Payroll fees	480	0	480
Total associated costs	**4,820**	**379**	**5,199**
Total stipends, salaries & associated costs	**133,566**	**704**	**134,270**

Stipends were paid to 4 Ministers (2 full-time Presbyters, 1 Deacon and a part-time supernumerary Presbyter) in 2020/21 and 2019/20. Salaries were paid to 3 part-time lay workers/administrative staff and 1 contractor (2019/20 3 part-time staff).

A home telephone and broadband connection is provided for Ministers solely for use on Circuit business and travel costs incurred on Circuit business are re-imbursed against expense claims.
The full-time Ministers' manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains and insures the properties and meets the cost of Council Tax and water charges. The amounts are not regarded by HMRC as benefits in kind.

No employee received employee benefits totalling more than £60,000.

There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial, the holiday year ends on 31 August.

Pensions
All ministers are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

The Connexion accounts for the MMPS pension scheme and shows the figure in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented.

The lay employees are eligible to join the pension scheme which the Circuit has arranged with NEST, a government scheme which allows for defined contributions. The Circuit contributes as an employer to this scheme.

Note 11 Payments to trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the Presbyters and Deacon and the remaining members of the CLT are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent Minister and other presbyters undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Circuit Senior Steward chairs meeting of the CLT and the Superintendent chairs the Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit.
No trustee received any remuneration for their role as trustee.
The Circuit policy is to reimburse members of the CLT and other trustees for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties, including where appropriate travelling expenses and reimbursement of purchases on behalf of the Circuit such as maintenance of the manses, or where they have been requested to undertake certain activities for the Circuit such as training.
During the year the sum of £5,135 was reimbursed in this regard to 7 trustees (2019/20 £8,448 to 6 trustees). Of this amount £257 related to manse refurbishments and £4,878 to travel, computer and office expenses (2019/20 £2,313 for manse expenditure and £6,135 for travel, computer and office expenses).

Note 12 Property Expenses

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
Property costs-manses	**2020/21**	**2019/20**
Insurance	2,365	2,250
Manse Council tax & water	9,146	10,025
Rent paid for manse	-	-
Maintenance-manses	6,534	9,916
Refurbishment & extension	-	-
Quinquennial inspection fees (3 in 2020/21)	1,950	650
Property costs-let properties		
Maintenance-let properties	517	870
Agents' fees	2,164	2,018
Total property costs	**22,676**	**25,729**

The Circuit is Managing Trustee for three properties used as manses, (two in Chelmsford and one in Maldon) and one property in Chelmsford let out on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy. With the exception of the let properties, the Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council Tax, water rates, insurance and maintenance.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note 13 Connexional & District Assessment and Levy

	General Fund - unrestricted 2020/21	General Fund - unrestricted 2019/20
District Assessment	47,332	44,940

	CMTF Fund - unrestricted 2020/21	CMTF Fund - unrestricted 2019/20
District Levy	1,321	1,347

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members, and staffing (Presbyters and Mission staff only) of all Circuits in the Beds, Essex & Herts District. 50% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions and 50% using relative staffing proportions. The assessment is mainly a contribution to Connexional costs for national support services, discipleship and mission but also includes funding towards the costs of the District office and staff.
The levy for the District Advance Fund is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuit's CMTF Account balance as at 31 August in the previous accounting period.

Note 14 Office expenses and Resources

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2020/21	Restricted Fund 2020/21	Total 2020/21
Telephone & internet	1,931	-	1,931
Printing, postage & stationery	1,141	-	1,141
IT & video equipment costs	1,498	-	1,498
Use of office	500	-	500
Preaching & sundry resources	542	952	1,494
Total	**5,612**	**952**	**6,564**

	General Fund (unrestricted) 2019/20	Restricted Fund 2019/20	Total 2019/20
Telephone & internet	2,139	-	2,139
Printing, postage & stationery	1,449	-	1,449
IT costs	461	-	461
Use of office	500	-	500
Preaching & sundry resources	530	924	1,454
Total	**5,079**	**924**	**6,003**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note 15 Other Outgoings

	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Endowment Fund	Total	Total
	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2019/20
Training	-	-	-	-	220
Youth events	-	-	-	-	1,512
Gifts & sundries	134	-	-	134	39
Independent examiner's fee	720	-	-	720	720
TCMP admin. fee	-	106	45	151	153
Total	**854**	**106**	**45**	**1,005**	**2,644**

Note 16 Fixed Assets-Manses and Other Properties

	Manse Land	Manse buildings	Investment property	Total	Total
				2020/21	2019/20
Balance brought forward	510,000	740,000	241,300	1,491,300	1,491,300
Revaluation of investment property	-	-	40,950	40,950	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	510,000	740,000	282,250	1,532,250	1,491,300

Schedule of Manses and Investment Property

Property	Type	Cost	Valuation	Total
30 Park Ave Chelmsford	Manse	425,000		425,000
4 Rubens Gate Springfield Chelmsford	Manse	475,000		475,000
11 Mirosa Drive Maldon	Manse	350,000		350,000
10 Wickfield Ash Chelmsford	Investment		282,250	282,250
Total		1,250,000	282,250	1,532,250

There are 3 manses (3 - 2019/20) in use, 2 located in Chelmsford and 1 in Maldon, which are valued at cost as defined by FRS102. The manse at Park Avenue, Chelmsford was stated at deemed historic cost as at August 2014 in accordance with FRS102. The manse at Maldon is valued at purchase cost in June 2015. The property at Rubens Gate, in North Springfield Chelmsford is valued at purchase cost in October 2014 plus the capital cost of improvements net of impairment in 2018/19.

Note 16 Fixed Assets-Manses and Other Properties (continued)

The property at Wickfield Ash, currently surplus to our requirements, continues to be let on a short term basis. As it is unlikely that this property will be required in future as a manse it is valued as an investment property at the potential net sale proceeds receivable by the Circuit of £282,250 (2019/20 £241,300). This is based on a trustees' market valuation of £450,000 less the potential costs of sale of £167,750 (£7,750 professional fees and £160,000 payable for the Connexional Priority Fund Levy). 2019/20 figures are: trustees' valuation of £380,000 less £138,700 costs of sales (£6,700 professional fees and £132,000 CPT Levy).

No depreciation is being provided for the manses in use as the trustees consider the current residual value of the properties in their present condition to be not less than their brought forward cost and, in the absence of any impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the properties would be immaterial. The Circuit has made use of the deemed cost option on transitioning to FRS102 as outlined above.

Note 17 Monetary Investment Assets

Investments held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)

Year end valuation	2020/21 CMTF fund	2020/21 Endowment fund	2019/20 CMTF fund	2019/20 Endowment fund
Common investment funds	8,404	26,418	7,101	22,321
Trustees'Interest Fund	44,600	-	45,745	-
Total	**53,004**	**26,418**	**52,846**	**22,321**

Change in investment values Investments held in common investment funds	CMTF fund	Endowment fund
	2020/21	2020/21
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	7,101	22,321
Net gain on revaluation	1,303	4,097
Carrying (market) value at end of year	**8,404**	**26,418**

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees' Interest Fund on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated finds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing agents who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensures that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note 18 Debtors and prepayments

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2020/21	2019/20
Debtors		
Assessments due	400	7,926
Solar panel FIT payment due	2,477	-
Insurance claim-Wickfield Ash	-	462
Prepayments		
Ministers' stipends in advance	9,057	8,917
Total debtors & prepayments	**11,934**	**17,305**

The prepayment relates to Minister's stipends for September, paid in advance at the end of August.

Note 19 Bank & Cash Balances

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund
	2020/21	2020/21	2019/20	2019/20
Central Finance Board	33,605	-	37,632	-
Cash at bank	55,608	9,425	56,064	7,872
Total	**89,213**	**9,425**	**93,696**	**7,872**

The monetary balance held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church is available on demand without loss of interest. Interest is credited monthly. The HSBC account is used for the receipt of income from Churches and rentals and payment of salaries and other revenue costs.

Note 20 Creditors & accruals

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2020/21	2019/20
Trade creditors & expenses	755	689
Accruals-independent examiner's fee	720	720
Total	**1,475**	**1,409**

Note 21 Funds

General Fund -unrestricted

The purpose of this fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes.

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note 21 Funds (continued)

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted
The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and formulaically determined contributions from the sale of manses and church buildings in the Circuit.
Although this is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise these funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

Restricted Fund
The restricted fund comprises the balance of two grants received for the Schools and Families worker project within the Maldon section of the Circuit. The first grant was received in 2019/20 from the District Advance Fund to support the running costs, excluding salary, of the project . The District has given permission for these funds to be carried forward for use in 2021/22. Any funds not used for this purpose will be due to be returned to the District. The second grant was received in 2020/21 from the Garfield Weston Foundation for 2021/22 costs.

Endowment Fund
The Circuit is the trustee for a permanent endowment fund arising from a legacy given by Mrs H Walker. The income can only be used for local religious purposes.

Note 22 Summary of fund movements

	Balances as at 31/08/20	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Unrealised gains	**Balances as at 31/08/2021**
General Fund	1,600,892	204,008	-214,295	367	40,950	**1,631,922**
CMTF	**52,846**	281	-1,427	-	1304	**53,004**
Restricted	**7,872**	3,000	-1,447	-	-	**9,425**
Endowment	**22,321**	412	-45	-367	4,097	**26,418**
Total	**1,683,931**	**207,701**	**-217,214**	**0**	**-529**	**1,720,769**

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Note 23 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August are represented by:

	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total
	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21
Tangible fixed assets	1,532,250	-	-	-	1,532,250
Current assets	101,147	53,004	9,425	26,418	189,994
Current liabilities	-1,475	-	-	-	-1,475
Net assets	**1,631,922**	**53,004**	**9,425**	**26,418**	**1,720,769**

	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total
	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20
Tangible fixed assets	1,491,300	-	-	-	1,491,300
Current assets	111,001	52,846	7,872	22,321	194,040
Current liabilities	-1,409	-	-	-	-1,409
Net assets	**1,600,892**	**52,846**	**7,872**	**22,321**	**1,683,931**

Note 24 Related Parties

None of the Circuit trustees made donations direct to the Circuit during the year or in the preceding year. All of the Circuit trustees are members of one of the Churches within the Circuit and may be trustees of their Churches.

Related parties include the Methodist Conference, the BE&H District and Churches within the Circuit, CFB and TMCP. Two trustees have related party connections to 4 suppliers, Cedric Calmeyer Ltd, Anglia Heating and Maintenance Engineers Ltd , Martin & Co & Dragonfly Educational Consultancy. The trustees declare that they have received no special benefits through these connections. Circuit payments to these suppliers were £3,252, £1,220, £2,164 and £3,060 respectively (2020 £6,017, £1,215 , £1,934 and nil).

Note 25 Volunteer Contribution

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in the UK is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In this Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with the mission, manses, finance, policy, grants and training. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by this Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Note 26 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31 August 2021 (2020 Nil).