

# **DANE & TRENT METHODIST CIRCUIT**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021**

## **Introduction**

The Trustees of the Dane & Trent Circuit present their annual report together with financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

## **Mission Statement**

As a Circuit we are committed to building up thriving and effective Christian communities which aim to love God, serve Christ and love people - in whatever different ways that demands and takes.

## **Aims and organisation**

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union and are defined in the 1976 Methodist Church Act 1976 (Section 4). They are 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 being a 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.

It will achieve these aims through –

- The organising and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the Church and non-members
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools
- The promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services
- The provision of chaplaincy services where appropriate
- The employment of lay and ordained staff to enable the Circuit and churches to achieve the aims stated above

### *Public Benefit*

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

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

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

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

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team.

### **Trustee Training**

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

## **Related Parties**

The Circuit is part of the Chester & Stoke-on-Trent District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Biddulph

Bosley

Bradshaw Brook

Brookhouse Green

Cloud

Davenport

Goostrey

Hill Top (Biddulph Moor)

Holmes Chapel

Key Green

Lower Withington

Middlewich

Mow Cop

New Road (Biddulph Moor)

Rood Lane (Congleton)

Trinity (Congleton)

Wellspring (Congleton)

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

Fully membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

***Circuit Ministers and officers***

Active Circuit Ministers:      Rev Yvonne Pearson (Superintendent Minister)

Rev Anne Coates

Rev Nic Langton-Miller

Rev Margaret Eaton (Part Time)

Rev William Arthur Wakelin (Part Time)

Circuit Lay Workers:      Julia Tomes  
Kathleen Salt

Administrators:      Rebecca Taylor

Circuit Stewards:      Lisa Kennerley (Senior Steward)

Brian Donlon

Rose Goodwin

Mark Owens

Amanda Peters

Circuit Treasurer      John Duley

John Duley Circuit Treasurer acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year.

***Independent examiner***

Michael John Collier, 59 Ravenscroft, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire

***Bankers***

Investment Bankers      Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church  
Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

Bankers      National Westminster Bank plc

## **Risk Management**

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

There is a regular review process undertaken and recorded.

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

## **Safeguarding**

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

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

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

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

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

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

### **Data Protection (GDPR)**

The circuit has undertaken extensive reviews of all documentation held by the circuit and its churches. This has identified all data which would be available to the wider public so that formal agreement could be obtained in respect of the publication of personal information.

There are ongoing reviews to ensure that data is accurately maintained. Details of the required retention periods has been provided along with the means to destroy data which is no longer required.

## **Brief financial review of the year**

The financial outcome of the year in terms of the main expenditure area of salaries, manse utilities, were in line with the budget.

The national lockdown and the closure of churches had a significant impact on other budget areas with the majority out turning below the anticipated levels. Other expenses did increase to support the move to on line services and meetings

### ***Income trends***

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches. Furlough payments and income from the rent of the Ennerdale Manse were also collected during the year.

### ***Expenditure trends***

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved ' increases. Likewise Lay Worker salaries were increased in line with the Living Wage.

Circa £51k is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

### ***Fund balances***

As at 31 August 2021 the net current assets of the Circuit were £159k, giving approximately 12 months cover for expenditure.

### ***Plans for 2021/22***

In view of the uncertainty that the current pandemic brings it was agreed that the circuit would absorb projected increase, specifically salaries and maintain assessments at current rates. Following the appointment to the vacant Ministerial post the level of supernumerary ministry has been reduced. Sums of monies have been ring fenced to aid churches with short term financial issue and to support further lay worker employment.

## **Basis of preparation and legal framework**

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard(FRS) 102



## Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021							
	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2020-21
		£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>							
1 Donations and legacies							0
2 Income from monetary investments		105	474				579
3 Income from investment properties		8,420					8,420
4 Assessments on Churches		251,064					251,064
5 Capital Receipts		15,784	149,501				165,285
6 Grants received		1,734					1,734
7 Other charitable income		1,873		20			1,893
<b>8 Total income</b>		<b>278,980</b>	<b>149,975</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>428,975</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
9 Grants and donations							0
10 Salaries and associated costs		167,458					167,458
11 Property maintenance		21,886					21,886
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy			42,718				42,718
13 District Assessment & Levy		55,154					55,154
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses		1,992					1,992
16 Other outgoings		15,185		540			15,725
<b>17 Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>261,675</b>	<b>42,718</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>304,933</b>
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties							
<b>20 Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>17,305</b>	<b>107,257</b>	<b>-520</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>124,042</b>
21 Transfers between funds		- 780		780			0
22 Other gains/(losses)							
<b>23 Net movement in funds</b>		<b>16,525</b>	<b>107,257</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>124,042</b>
24 Total funds brought forward		142,657	104,182	567			247,406
<b>25 Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>159,182</b>	<b>211,439</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>371,448</b>

## BALANCE SHEET 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2021

	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2020/21 £	Totals 2019/20 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>								
Circuit Manses & Equipment		1,221,611					1,221,611	1,391,611
Investment properties							0	
Investments							0	
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<b>1,221,611</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,221,611</b>	<b>1,391,611</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>								
Debtors		24,738					24,738	22,627
Loans by the Circuit							0	0
Investments with TMCP			211,439				211,439	104,182
Central Finance Board Deposits		53,783					53,783	79,642
Cash at Bank and in hand		111,149		827			111,976	64,807
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>189,670</b>	<b>211,439</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>401,936</b>	<b>271,258</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>								
Creditors (due in under 1 year)		5,749					5,749	657
Grants payable within 2018-19							0	0
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>5,749</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,749</b>	<b>657</b>
<b>Net current assets/liabilities</b>		<b>183,921</b>	<b>211,439</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>396,187</b>	<b>270,601</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>1,405,532</b>	<b>211,439</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,617,798</b>	<b>1,662,212</b>
<b>Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)</b>								
Grants payable after 2018-19		0					0	0
Loans to the Circuit		0					0	0
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>1,405,532</b>	<b>211,439</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,617,798</b>	<b>1,662,212</b>
<b>Funds of the Circuit</b>								
General Fund (Unrestricted)		1,405,532					1,405,532	1,557,463
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			211,439				211,439	104,182
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				827			827	567
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>							<b>1,617,798</b>	<b>1,662,212</b>
Restricted Funds					0		0	
Endowment Funds						0	0	
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>1,405,532</b>	<b>211,439</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,617,798</b>	<b>1,662,212</b>

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. The salaries paid to ministers was £102234; National Insurance £8310, Pension Contributions £24488. Lay Worker salary costs were £25434.71. We were charged an Apprentice Levy of £676.85.
2. The water bills paid for our four manses totalled £1440; Local Authority rates were £6543 Other manse expenditure this year totalled £21886, this includes the start of work to renovate the Ennerdale Drive Manse. The Ennerdale manse has been let on a short term contract and income from this totalled £8420
3. Other outgoings included £3136 for telephone calls/provision; £125 for supernumerary preaching fees, travel expenses of £1821. Following the sale of Harriseahead and the return of allowable expenses there was a positive balance of £11654 from closed churches.
4. Fixed Assets – Where the actual cost of manses is known these have been used. In other cases the deemed costs established at 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 have been used

Actual purchase cost of one manse in 2019, £317,500

Deemed Cost based on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015, three manses £904,111

a total of £1,221,611

Harriseahead – The sale was completed during the year and following payments of the various levies £106992 was received by the circuit from the sale

5. The Debtors figure of £24738 represents church assessments paid in advance prior to the new financial year along with two accounts paid in advance.
6. The £827 in the designated funds is Circuit Weekend monies that are now in the Circuit accounts

## Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum of £64,000 equivalent to 3 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure or of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

A further £50000 is to be held in reserve for support to churches with short term cash flow issues

£106000 is set aside for the employment of new Lay Workers (these to be approved by the Circuit Meeting)

A benevolent fund is held with a current balance of £2,232

Following a donation a sum of money is set aside for outreach activities especially with young people with an available balance of £654

## Declarations

### TREASURER

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of Treasurer ..... Date 22nd September 2020

Name John Duley

Address 27 Ravenscroft Close Middlewich Cheshire CW10 9PX

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

Dane & Trent Circuit

This report is on the Circuit Funds for the year ended 31 August 2018 which are set out within these pages, and is in respect of an examination carried out under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective responsibilities of the Circuit Meeting and the Examiner

As Trustees, you are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records and the preparation of the appropriate accounts. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995

Basis of Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. This examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Circuit Treasurer and a comparison of the accounts with those records. The procedures undertaken do not provide evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature ..... Name & Address MJ COLLIER

59 RAVENSCROFT HOLMES CHAPEL CHESHIRE CW4 7NT

Relevant professional qualification or body: BANK OFFICIAL (RETIRED) Date: 16.10.20

## Appendix A

<b>Dane &amp; Trent Methodist Circuit Meeting Register of Trustees as at September 2021</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Appointed to Circuit Meeting as:</b>	<b>vote</b>
Revd Yvonne Pearson	Superintendent Minister	1
Revd Anne Coates	Minister	1
Revd Nicola Langton-Miller	Minister	1
Revd tim Simms	Minister	1
Revd Margaret Eaton	Supernumerary Minister with Pastoral Care	1
Revd Dr Keith Davies	Supernumerary Minister	1
Revd Andrew Lindley	Supernumerary Minister	1
Hilary Balsdon	LWPT Secretary	1
Amanda Peters	Circuit Steward Year 2	1
Brian Donlon	Circuit Steward Year 1	1
Mark Owens	Circuit Steward Year 2	1
Kath Salt	Circuit Steward Year 1	1
Rose Goodwin	Circuit Steward Year 5	1
Lisa Kennerley	Snr Circuit Steward Year 4	See L/With
John Duley	Circuit Treasurer	See M/wich
Margaret Shaughnessy	Circuit Property Secretary	See H/Chp
Christiana Caswell	Safeguarding Officer	1
Additional Persons		
Linda Ashbrook	CLT member	1
		1
		1

Name	Appointed to the Circuit Meeting as:	Vote
<b>Biddulph (118 members)</b>		
Sue Millard	Steward	1
Amanda Peters	Treasurer	1
David Tildesley	Representative elected by Church Council	1
Ruth Pickles	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>Bosley (35 members)</b>		
Isobel Worthington	Steward	1
Alison Sherman	Treasurer	1
Alec Needham	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>Bradshaw Brook (17 Members)</b>		
David Lea	Steward	1
Allan Moore	Treasurer	1
Sara Williams	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>Brookhouse Green ( 36 Members)</b>		
John Warren	Church Steward	1
Trish Bodell	Treasurer	1
Mary Moss	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>Cloud (17 Members)</b>		
Audrey Haydon	Representative elected by Church Council	1
Linda Ashbrook	Church Treasurer	1
Helen Bailey	Representative elected by Church Council	1

<b>Davenport (23 Members)</b>		
Vacant	Church Steward	
John Dale	Treasurer	1
Barry Dale	Representative elected by Church Council	1

Name	Appointed to the Circuit Meeting as:	Vote
<b>Goostrey (37 Members)</b>		
Brian Walker	Church Steward	1
John Funnell	Treasurer	1
Martin Leake	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>Hill Top (40 Members)</b>		
Marilyn Beckett	Church Steward	1
Dorothy Wickstead	Treasurer	1
Eileen Philips	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>Holmes Chapel (148 Members)</b>		
Jill Booth	Church Steward	1
John Percival	Treasurer	1
Christine Donlon	Representative elected by Church Council	1
Helen Watson	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>Key Green (19 Members)</b>		
Frank Dean	Church Steward	1
Julie Imber	Treasurer	1
Vacant	Representative elected by Church Council	

<b>Lower Withington (63 Members)</b>		
Barbara Kennerley	Church Steward	1
Lisa Kennerley	Treasurer	1
Julie Halman	Representative elected by Church Council	1
Name	Appointed to the Circuit Meeting as:	Vote
<b>Middlewich (62 Members)</b>		
Jane Duley	Church Steward	1
John Duley	Treasurer	1
Sue Davies	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>Mow Cop (20 Members)</b>		
Christine Hancock	Treasurer	1
Russ Bromley	Church Steward	1
Myra Cowan	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>New Road (16 Members)</b>		
Ann Moreton	Church Steward	1
Keith Farr	Treasurer	1
Sandra Tomlinson	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>Rood Lane (16 Members)</b>		
Elizabeth Tweats	Church Steward	1
Harvey Gilbert	Treasurer	1
Vacant	Representative elected by Church Council	1
<b>Trinity (176 Members)</b>		
Jenny Tingle	Church Steward	1
Cicely Johnson	Treasurer	1
Mary Jones	Representative elected by Church Council	1
John Anderson	Representative elected by Church Council	1



<b>Wellspring (99 Members)</b>		
Liz Clarke	Church Steward	1
Geoff Butler	Treasurer	1
Peter Bradley	Representative elected by Church Council	1