

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales · Charity number 1134496

Details

Other names	SOUTH EAST BERKSHIRE METHODIST CIRCUIT
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2010-02-24
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address
Circuit Office
Wokingham Methodist Church
Rose Street
Wokingham
Berkshire
RG40 1XS

Phone 01189776898

Email bsbcircuit@btinternet.com

Website www.bsbcircuit.org.uk/

Activities

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

Activities: Provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike; Pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved; Promotion of Christian activities through the staging of events and services; Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas financially and with prayer.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Bracknell Forest
- Hampshire
- Surrey
- Wokingham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£270,616	£290,251	-	-
2023-08-31	£253,035	£271,293	-	-
2022-08-31	£215,439	£259,535	-	-
2021-08-31	£143,543	£272,405	-	-
2020-08-31	£201,929	£240,967	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev CATHERINE BOWSTEAD	Chair	2019-09-01
Andrew Mitchell		2012-07-14
Andrew Peter Knight		2025-02-01
Benjamin Spain BSc Hons		2015-02-15
Brian A Gennery MBE, Dr		2011-07-01
Christine Elizabeth Morgan		
Christine Elizabeth Rooke-Matthews		2020-06-18
David Dickinson Vaughan Morgan		
Elizabeth Ann Bush		2023-09-01
GRAHAM FRADGLEY BSC, CENG		2012-12-16
Geoff Peck		2023-06-06
Hazel Irene Gennery		
Heather Maureen Brown		2023-09-01
Ian Henry Hamilton		2020-12-07
Jane Ann Bonney BA Hons		2018-09-01
John Hoskins BSc, FRICS		
Joseph Kwadwo Nsiah FCMA		2025-06-04
Judith Ann Jones		2023-09-01
Keg Glossop		2015-04-27
Kerry Lynn Weir		2020-09-01
Kim Patricia Tame BTh, ACIM		2016-09-01
LEE KIRK ELMS		
Lynne Paine BSc		2020-10-16
MALCOLM SOUTER		2017-06-01
MARY GLAUERT		2012-12-10
Margaret Anne Wells		2023-05-01
Michael Bush		2020-09-10

Name	Role	Appointed
Pauline Matondo BA		2019-09-01
Rev Sharon Gardner		2017-09-01
Rev Sobanathasar Sinnathamby BD		2021-09-01
Robert Clark		
Robert John Godden M.A		2019-09-01
Sandra Fogwill FCMA		2023-12-01
Sarah Cooper		2023-09-01
Sharon Wright		2016-04-01

Accounts

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2024

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1134496

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	Page No.
Trust Information	1-2
Trustees' Report	3-5
Declarations	6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to the Accounts	10-14

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

CHARITY NUMBER	1134496
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1 September 2023
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31 August 2024

Mrs. Jane Bonney
Rev Catherine Bowstead
Mr. Michael Bush
Mr. Bob Clark
Mr. Lee Elms
Mr. Graham Fradgley
Rev Sharon Gardner
Dr Brian Gennery
Mrs. Hazel Gennery
Mrs. Mary Glauert
Mrs. Karen Glossop
Mr. Robert Godden
Mr. Sam Hanna (To Oct-24)
Mrs. Wendy Hart (To Dec-23)
Mr. Don Hewitt (To Jan-25)
Mr. John Hoskins
Mr. Ian Hamilton
Mrs. Claire Knight (To Nov-24)
Ms. Pauline Matondo
Mr. Andrew Mitchell
Mrs. Marjorie Mitchell (To Aug-24)

Mrs. Christine Morgan
Mr. David Morgan
Mr. Andrew Mower
Mrs. Lynne Paine
Mr. Geoff Peck
Mrs. C Rooke-Matthews
Rev Soba Sinnathamby
Mr Malcolm Souter
Mr. Ben Spain
Mrs. Kim Tame
Ms. Sharon Wright
Ms Sandra Fogwill
Ms Judith Jones
Ms Margaret Wells
Mrs. Liz Bush
Nicky Hartley
Mr. Chris Williams (From Oct-24)
Mrs. Sarah Cooper
Mrs. Kerry Weir
Mrs. Heather Brown
Mr. Andy Knight (From Feb-25)

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976)
-----------------------------	--

OBJECTIVES

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.

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

The Methodist Centre
Rose Street
Wokingham
RG40 1XS

PRIMARY BANKERS

HSBC
Wokingham Branch
1-2 Market Place
Wokingham
RG40 1AL

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Alison Elliott ACA, FCCA
Butt Miller Limited
1 Minster Court
Tuscam Way
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3YY

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Structure, governance and management:

Trustee selection method:

- 1 Certain officers and elected representatives of local churches
- 2 Ministers appointed to the Circuit by the Methodist Conference
- 3 Officers appointed to certain jobs by the Circuit Meeting.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to the objects of the charity:

- Provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike;
- Pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved;
- Promotion of Christian activities through the staging of events and services;
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas financially and with prayer.

Achievements and Performance (2023-2024)

The seven churches of the Berkshire Surrey Borders Circuit work together to provide services of worship each Sunday and some midweek services. The worship takes a variety of styles including contemporary and more traditional styles. We provide "messy church" aimed at families with children, worship appropriate for people living with dementia, creative worship, Bible studies and prayer groups. About a quarter of the services will include Holy Communion.

All of our churches meet in person for worship but some services are live streamed, use the Zoom platform or are recorded and available on church websites. Some of our mid-week Bible studies and prayer groups are on Zoom.

Ministers in the Circuit are available to conduct Weddings, funerals and baptisms for church members and for members of the wider community on request.

The Circuit provides safeguarding training for people working with children and vulnerable adults. All those in leadership roles have taken both Foundation and Advanced levels as required by the Methodist Church. Church Members whose role requires a DBS check are prompted by Circuit or local Church Safeguarding officers to keep these checks up to date.

Opportunities for training for many areas of the church's life (eg preaching, worship leading, stewarding, safeguarding) are offered within the Circuit or in co-operation with neighbouring Circuits.

Ecumenical co-operation and partnership is a feature of our Circuit – 3 of our churches are Ecumenical Partnerships. Churches are encouraged to participate in ecumenical events.

Our churches are very active in the community, we actively support local food banks, work with the homeless and vulnerable, we support Christian charities working in local schools and our Crowthorne Church supports an after-school drop in.

Churches are encouraged to use their buildings as a community resource, and several are well used by local individuals and groups. Advice about the maintenance and upkeep of our buildings is provided by the Circuit and Methodist District.

Individual members and churches support a number of local, national and international charities through personal giving and fundraising (e.g. sponsored events Action for Children, collections for Christian Aid, donations to food banks, etc).

Financial review

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 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.

There was a deficit in the General Fund, before gains/losses on investments, for the year of £19,635 compared with a deficit of £18,258 in 2022-23. The budget for the year anticipated a deficit of around £47,000.

General Income for 2023-24 was 5.9% higher than the previous year at £263,383.

General expenditure was 7.1% higher than the previous year at £285,463.

Fund balances

The Circuit holds unrestricted general funds of £2,254,240 (previous year £2,238,784), of which £2,236,845 is the estimated market value of the three manses (previous year £2,195,138). The Designated Fund for Manse Maintenance holds £52,027 (previous year £47,856).

The Circuit also holds £140,345 in its Model Trust Fund (previous year £137,900).

Plans for 2024-25

Despite increasing circuit assessments by an average of 5.0% the forecast is predicting a deficit of £54,600. The Circuit is planning to merge with the Hants Surrey Borders Circuit on 1 September 2025.

Risks

The Trustees have examined the principal areas of their operations and considered what major risks could arise in each of these areas. The major risk to the operation of the Circuit is that we are unsuccessful in attracting a Minister to fill any vacant position – this risk is mitigated by the stationing process of the Methodist Church, which aims to provide ministers for openings supported by the District, and in part by the ability to recruit lay workers.

In addition, we note that the Circuit is heavily dependent on volunteers, particularly in terms of managing Property and Finance. Lack of volunteers in these areas runs the risk of failing to meet our commitments as a Charity.

The major financial risk to the Circuit would arise if one of the larger churches (especially Wokingham) were unable to meet its Circuit Assessment due to a reduction in giving and/or in property lettings. This risk is mitigated by both the Circuit itself and the individual churches having a Reserves Policy which ensures adequate reserves being in place at all times to meet any shortfalls.

Reserves

The Circuit needs some free reserves in place to enable it to meet its obligations in the event of an unexpected shortfall in income. Free reserves as defined by the Charity Commission are unrestricted funds available to spend on the general purposes of the Circuit and therefore exclude those funds designated for specific purposes and those already utilised in purchasing tangible assets.

The Trustees of the Circuit believe they should hold free reserves sufficient to cover at least six months’ expenditure plus £50,000 as a property reserve for major repairs. Based on planned 2023-24 expenditure this will be £200,500. Net current assets in Unrestricted and non-designated funds were £201,767 at 31 August 2024. We anticipate a reduction in this figure with a budgeted deficit of around £54,600 in 2024-25.

We make provision for our property maintenance programme by designating £7,500 per year to maintain each of the three manses. Any under or overspend is allocated to or taken from the designated Manse Maintenance Fund. This Fund stood at £52,027 at 31 August 2024.

Public Benefit

The Trustees declare that the Charity is a public benefit entity and they have complied with the duty imposed under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Approved by the Trustees on 6 March 2025 and

Signed on their behalf by Revd Catherine Bowstead – Trustee

.....

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 treasurer: N/A

Name and address of treasurer: N/A

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: 6th March 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd Catherine Bowstead

Date: 6th March 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit
Charity Number 1134496

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2024. 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 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: Alison Elliott

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACA, FCCA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Butt Miller

Address: 1 Minster Court, Tuscam Way, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3YY

Date: 6th March 2025

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Donations and legacies							0
2 Income from monetary investments		2,106	7,233				9,339
3 Income from investment properties		27,100					27,100
4 Assessments on Churches		233,950					233,950
5 Capital Receipts							0
6 Grants received							0
7 Other charitable income		227					227
8 Total income		263,383	7,233	0	0	0	270,616
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	9						0
10 Salaries and associated costs	7	179,589					179,589
11 Property maintenance		2,100					2,100
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		44,282					44,282
13 District Assessment & Levy		11,110	4,395				15,505
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses							0
16 Other outgoings	8	48,382	393				48,775
17 Total charitable expenditure		285,463	4,788	0	0	0	290,251
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	4	41,707					41,707
20 Net income/(expenditure)		19,627	2,445	0	0	0	22,072
21 Transfers between funds		(4,171)		4,171			0
22 Other gains/(losses)							0
23 Net movement in funds		15,456	2,445	4,171	0	0	22,072
24 Total funds brought forward		2,238,784	137,900	47,856			2,424,540
25 Total funds carried forward		2,254,240	140,345	52,027	0	0	2,446,612

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Donations and legacies							0
2 Income from monetary investments		1,437	4,306				5,743
3 Income from investment properties		21,600					21,600
4 Assessments on Churches		225,692					225,692
5 Capital Receipts							0
6 Grants received							0
7 Other charitable income							0
8 Total income		248,729	4,306	0	0	0	253,035
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	9						0
10 Salaries and associated costs	7	167,345					167,345
11 Property maintenance		6,271					6,271
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		39,348					39,348
13 District Assessment & Levy		11,469	4,420				15,889
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses							0
16 Other outgoings	8	42,045	395				42,440
17 Total charitable expenditure		266,478	4,815	0	0	0	271,293
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	4	(101,030)					(101,030)
20 Net income/(expenditure)		(118,779)	(509)	0	0	0	(119,288)
21 Transfers between funds		(16,229)	0	16,229			0
22 Other gains/(losses)							0
23 Net movement in funds		(135,008)	(509)	16,229	0	0	(119,288)
24 Total funds brought forward		2,373,792	138,409	31,627			2,543,828
25 Total funds carried forward		2,238,784	137,900	47,856	0	0	2,424,540

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023/24	Totals 2022/23
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	14	1,630,964				1,630,964	1,600,554
Investment properties	14	613,881				613,881	602,584
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		2,244,845	0	0	0	2,244,845	2,203,138

Current Assets

Debtors	11	13,220				13,220	12,511
Loans by the Circuit	11	0				0	1,500
Investments with TMCP			140,345			140,345	137,900
Central Finance Board Deposits		51,119				51,119	70,137
Cash at Bank and in hand		12,675		52,027		64,702	71,266
Total current assets		77,014	140,345	52,027	0	269,386	293,314

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	12	67,619				67,619	71,912
Grants payable within 2024-25	12	0				0	0
Total current liabilities		67,619	0	0	0	67,619	71,912
Net current assets/liabilities		9,395	140,345	52,027	0	201,767	221,402

Total assets less current liabilities		2,254,240	140,345	52,027	0	2,446,612	2,424,540
--	--	------------------	----------------	---------------	----------	------------------	------------------

Long term liabilities

(due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2024-25						0	0
Loans to the Circuit						0	0
						0	0
Net assets		2,254,240	140,345	52,027	0	2,446,612	2,424,540

Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)	17	2,254,240				2,254,240	2,238,784
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	17		140,345			140,345	137,900
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	17			52,027		52,027	47,856
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,446,612	2,424,540
Restricted Funds					0	0	
Endowment Funds						0	
Total Funds		2,254,240	140,345	52,027	0	2,446,612	2,424,540

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2 Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted, Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purpose and is categorised as unrestricted, and Designated funds which are Unrestricted but held for a narrower purpose (maintenance of Manses). There are no Endowment funds. Details of each material fund are disclosed in Note 17 to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources Expended

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

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, uprated using the Nationwide index of house prices for the relevant region. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Where property held is surplus to normal staffing requirements and it is anticipated that it is unlikely to be used as a manse within two years, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not).

Investment Properties

In 2019 the Circuit assumed responsibility for a chapel and associated land following closure and cessation of worship for a church within the Circuit. The property was sold during the prior year. Land with a value of £8,000 is still held.

Concessionary Loans

Concessionary loans are initially recognised and measured at the amount received or paid with the carrying amount adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments, any accrued interest and, if necessary, any impairments.

Current Asset Investments

Current asset investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

4 Gains/(Losses) on investments

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Property revaluation (Unrealised)	30,410	(73,665)
Investment property revaluation (Unrealised)	11,297	(27,365)
	<u>41,707</u>	<u>(101,030)</u>

5 Payment to Trustees

Five trustees received remuneration in relation to their employment with the Charity as ministers or lay employees. There were no other payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit.

	2023/24	2022/23
Trustee expenses reimbursed		
Number of Trustees reimbursed	6	5
Total amount reimbursed	<u>£21,034</u>	<u>£7,859</u>

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel costs for attending meetings, plus reimbursement of costs paid directly by Circuit Officers.

6 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,263	1,170
Other fees (e.g. advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner	1,665	1,542
	<u>2,928</u>	<u>2,712</u>

7 Paid employees

Staff costs paid during the year were:	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	140,188	130,688
Employer's National Insurance costs	13,326	12,234
Pension costs	26,075	24,423
Total staff costs	<u>179,589</u>	<u>167,345</u>
Average monthly employees in the year were:	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>

No employees receive employee benefits of more than £60,000.

8 Other outgoings

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Travel	7,943	6,959
Telephone and internet	2,683	1,454
Utilities	1,079	687
Council tax	9,568	6,166
Insurance	3,981	3,684
Woosehill manse	12,000	15,972
Property management fees	3,398	3,104
Other expenses	7,730	4,020
MTF administration	393	394
Total	48,775	42,440

9 Grants

The concessionary loan for £15,000 brought forward from 2019/20 related to car park works undertaken at one of the churches. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic affecting the church's income, the Circuit accepted a grant request to cover 50% of the costs of car park works, in line with the Circuit's usual grant procedures. The remainder of the loan was repaid during the current year.

10 Related Party Transactions

In 2019 the charity made a concessionary loan to a church within the Circuit. See note 16 for more details.

11 Debtors and Prepayments

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Debtors	2,500	2,000
Prepayments	221	221
Stipends paid in advance	10,499	10,290
Total	13,220	12,511
Concessionary loan	-	1,500
Grand total	13,220	14,011
Amounts due in more than 1 year		
Debtors	-	-

12 Current liabilities

	2024/23 £	2022/23 £
Creditors	8,147	17,854
Accruals	4,364	2,916
Rent received in advance	1,800	1,800
Assessments received in advance	53,308	49,342
Grant	-	-
Total	67,619	71,912
Amounts due in more than 1 year		
Grant	-	-

13 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2024 there are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities.

14 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Investment Properties £	Land £	Manses £	Total £
Cost and valuation				
Balance brought forward	602,584	898,883	701,671	1,600,554
Additions	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	11,297	13,881	16,529	30,410
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>613,881</u>	<u>912,764</u>	<u>718,200</u>	<u>1,630,964</u>
Accumulated depreciation				
Balance brought forward	-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for year (-)	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers* (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value				
Brought forward	602,584	898,883	701,671	1,600,554
Carried forward	<u>613,881</u>	<u>912,764</u>	<u>718,200</u>	<u>1,630,964</u>

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, uprated annually using the Nationwide index of house prices for the relevant region.

One of the properties was no longer used as a manse at 31st August 2020. As this is not expected to be a temporary arrangement the property has been reclassified as an investment property.

Cost or valuation at 31st August 2024 is represented by:

	Investment Properties £	Land £	Manses £	Total £
Cost	-	553,474	448,652	1,002,126
Valuation in 2013	-	273,433	221,647	495,080
Valuation in 2014	-	58,140	47,128	105,268
Valuation in 2015	-	48,675	39,457	88,132
Valuation in 2016	-	43,565	35,315	78,880
Valuation in 2017	-	38,256	30,851	69,107
Valuation in 2018	-	7,978	7,462	15,440
Control acquired over asset (at valuation)	88,000	-	-	-
Valuation in 2019	-	(5,938)	(5,554)	(11,492)
Valuation in 2020	24,000	45,418	42,472	87,890
Property reclassification	522,884	(252,223)	(270,661)	(522,884)
Valuation in 2021	51,400	63,160	75,203	138,363
Disposal	(104,000)	-	-	-
Valuation in 2022	47,665	58,571	69,738	128,309
Valuation in 2023	(27,365)	(33,626)	(40,039)	(73,665)
Valuation in 2024	11,297	13,881	16,529	30,410
As at 31 st August 2024	<u>613,881</u>	<u>912,764</u>	<u>718,200</u>	<u>1,630,964</u>

15 Investments

The Circuit has no common investment fund holdings.

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Manses Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month.

TCMP 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 Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure 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.

16 Loans

In 2019-20 the charity granted a concessionary loan of £15,000 to Bracknell Church to be repaid back over 5 years. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic affecting the church's income, the circuit accepted a grant request to cover 50% of the costs of car park works, in line with the circuit's usual grant procedures. The grant of £7,500 was included in the 2020/21 accounts. The remaining part of the loan was repaid during the current year.

Church	Date granted	Amount £	Period	Balance brought forward £	Additions £	Repaid this year £	Balance Carried Forward £	Amount due in more than 1 year £
Bracknell	November 2019	15,000	5 years	1,500	-	1,500	-	-

17 Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted fund name	At 01.09.23 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Extraordinary items £	At 31.08.24 £
General	2,238,784	263,383	(285,463)	(4,171)	41,707	0	2,254,240
Circuit Model Trusts	137,900	7,233	(4,788)	0	0	0	140,345
Designated Manse Maintenance	47,856	0	0	4,171	0	0	52,027

Comparatives for movement in funds

Unrestricted fund name	At 01.09.22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Extraordinary items £	At 31.08.23 £
General	2,373,792	248,729	(266,478)	(16,229)	(101,030)	0	2,238,784
Circuit Model Trusts	138,409	4,306	(4,815)	0	0	0	137,900
Designated Manse Maintenance	31,627	0	0	16,229	0	0	47,856

Accounts

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1134496

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	Page No.
Trust Information	1-2
Trustees' Report	3-5
Declarations	6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to the Accounts	10-14

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

CHARITY NUMBER	1134496
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1 September 2022
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31 August 2023

Mrs Jane Bonney
Rev Catherine Bowstead (Chair)
Mr Michael Bush
Mr Bob Clark
Mr Lee Elms
Mr Graham Fradgley
Rev Sharon Gardner
Dr Brian Gennery
Mrs Hazel Gennery
Mrs Mary Glauert
Mrs Karen Glossop
Mr Robert Godden
Mr Sam Hanna
Mrs Wendy Hart
Mr Don Hewitt
Mr John Hoskins

Mr Ian Hamilton (from 7 December 2020)
Mrs Claire Knight
Ms Pauline Matondo
Mr Andrew Mitchell
Mrs Marjorie Mitchell
Mrs Christine Morgan
Mr David Morgan
Mr Andrew Mower
Mrs Lynne Paine (from 16 October 2020)
Mr Geoff Peck
Mrs C Rooke-Matthews
Rev Soba Sinnathamby
Mr Malcolm Souter
Mr Ben Spain
Mrs Kim Tame
Ms Sharon Wright

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976)
-----------------------------	--

OBJECTIVES

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.

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

The Methodist Centre
Rose Street
Wokingham
RG40 1XS

PRIMARY BANKERS

HSBC
Wokingham Branch
1-2 Market Place
Wokingham
RG40 1AL

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Alison Elliott ACA, FCCA
Butt Miller Limited
1 Minster Court
Tuscam Way
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3YY

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Structure, governance and management:

Trustee selection method:

- 1 Certain officers and elected representatives of local churches
- 2 Ministers appointed to the Circuit by the Methodist Conference
- 3 Officers appointed to certain jobs by the Circuit Meeting.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to the objects of the charity:

- Provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike;
- Pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved;
- Promotion of Christian activities through the staging of events and services;
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas financially and with prayer.

Achievements and Performance

The seven churches of the Berkshire Surrey Borders Circuit work together to provide a minimum of 35 services of worship each month, about a quarter of these will include Holy Communion. Worship caters for a variety of preferred styles and tastes and include traditional and contemporary styles, inter-generational worship and "Messy Church". Several churches offer midweek services, prayer groups and fellowship groups.

All of our churches meet in person for worship but some services are live streamed, use the Zoom platform or are recorded and available on church websites.

Ministers in the Circuit are available to conduct weddings, funerals and baptisms for church members and for members of the wider community on request.

The Circuit provides safeguarding training for people working with children and vulnerable adults. All those in leadership roles have taken both Foundation and Advanced levels as required by the Methodist Church. Church Members whose role requires a DBS check are prompted by Circuit or local Church Safeguarding officers to keep these checks up to date.

Opportunities for training for many areas of the church's life (e.g. preaching, worship leading, stewarding, safeguarding) are offered within the Circuit or in co-operation with neighbouring Circuits.

Ecumenical co-operation and partnership is a feature of our Circuit – 3 of our churches are Ecumenical Partnerships. Churches are encouraged to participate in ecumenical events. They also participate in Community events – several of our churches took part in the "Warm Spaces" initiative, we actively support local food banks and our Crowthorne Church supports an after-school drop in.

Churches are encouraged to use their buildings as a community resource, and several are well used by local individuals and groups. Advice about the maintenance and upkeep of our buildings is provided by the Circuit and Methodist District.

Individual members and churches support a number of local, national and international charities through personal giving and fundraising (e.g. sponsored events Action for Children, collections for Christian Aid, donations to food banks, etc)

Financial review

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 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.

There was a deficit in the General Fund, before gains/losses on investments, for the year of £18,258 compared with a deficit of £44,096 in 2021-22. The budget for the year anticipated a deficit of around £32,000.

General Income for 2022-23 was 15% higher than the previous year at £248,729. Assessment income was reduced slightly in the prior year in line with the policy to reduce the burden on churches during the Covid pandemic.

General expenditure was 5% higher than the previous year at £266,478.

Fund balances

The Circuit holds unrestricted general funds of £2,238,784 (previous year £2,373,792), of which £2,195,138 is the estimated market value of the three manses (previous year £2,296,168). The Designated Fund for Manse Maintenance holds £47,856 (previous year £31,627).

The Circuit also holds £137,900 in its Model Trust Fund (previous year £138,409).

Plans for 2023-24

The Circuit's budget for 2023-24 anticipates a full return to normal activities following the pandemic. Despite increasing circuit assessments by an average of 3.7% the forecast is predicting a deficit of £47,000. One of the churches ceased public worship due to lack of members in 2022-23.

Risks

The Trustees have examined the principal areas of their operations and considered what major risks could arise in each of these areas. The major risk to the operation of the Circuit is that we are unsuccessful in attracting a Minister to fill any vacant position – this risk is mitigated by the stationing process of the Methodist Church, which aims to provide ministers for openings supported by the District, and in part by the ability to recruit lay workers.

In addition, we note that the Circuit is heavily dependent on volunteers, particularly in terms of managing Property and Finance. Lack of volunteers in these areas runs the risk of failing to meet our commitments as a Charity.

The major financial risk to the Circuit would arise if one of the larger churches (especially Wokingham) were unable to meet its Circuit Assessment due to a reduction in giving and/or in property lettings. This risk is mitigated by both the Circuit itself and the individual churches having a Reserves Policy which ensures adequate reserves being in place at all times to meet any shortfalls.

Reserves

The Circuit needs some free reserves in place to enable it to meet its obligations in the event of an unexpected shortfall in income. Free reserves as defined by the Charity Commission are unrestricted funds available to spend on the general purposes of the Circuit and therefore exclude those funds designated for specific purposes and those already utilised in purchasing tangible assets.

The Trustees of the Circuit believe they should hold free reserves sufficient to cover at least six months' expenditure plus £50,000 as a property reserve for major repairs. Based on planned 2023-24 expenditure this will be £200,500. Net current assets in Unrestricted and non-designated funds were £221,402 at 31 August 2023. We anticipate a reduction in this figure with a budgeted deficit of around £47,000 in 2023-24.

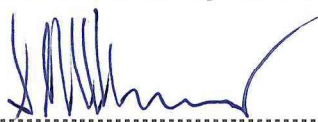
We make provision for our property maintenance programme by designating £7,500 per year to maintain each of the three manses. Any under or overspend is allocated to or taken from the designated Manse Maintenance Fund. This Fund stood at £47,856 at 31 August 2023.

Public Benefit

The Trustees declare that the Charity is a public benefit entity and they have complied with the duty imposed under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Approved by the Trustees on 20th March 2024, and

Signed on their behalf by Revd Soba Sinnathamby – Trustee



.....

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.

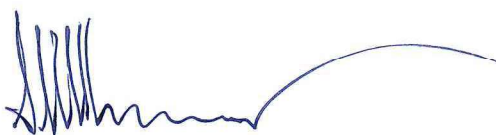
Signature of treasurer: N/A

Name and address of treasurer: N/A

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: 20th March 2024.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several vertical strokes followed by a wavy line and a long, sweeping curve.

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd Soba Sinnathamby

Date 20th March 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit
Charity Number 1134496

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023. 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 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: Alison Elliott

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACA, FCCA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Butt Miller

Address: 1 Minster Court, Tuscam Way, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3YY

Date: 20th March 2024

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022-23 £
Income							
1 Donations and legacies							0
2 Income from monetary investments		1,437	4,306				5,743
3 Income from investment properties		21,600					21,600
4 Assessments on Churches		225,692					225,692
5 Capital Receipts							0
6 Grants received							0
7 Other charitable income							0
8 Total income		248,729	4,306	0	0	0	253,035
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	9						0
10 Salaries and associated costs	7	167,345					167,345
11 Property maintenance		6,271					6,271
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		39,348					39,348
13 District Assessment & Levy		11,469	4,420				15,889
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses							0
16 Other outgoings	8	42,045	395				42,440
17 Total charitable expenditure		266,478	4,815	0	0	0	271,293
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	4	(101,030)					(101,030)
20 Net income/(expenditure)		(118,779)	(509)	0	0	0	(119,288)
21 Transfers between funds		(16,229)	0	16,229			0
22 Other gains/(losses)							0
23 Net movement in funds		(135,008)	(509)	16,229	0	0	(119,288)
24 Total funds brought forward		2,373,792	138,409	31,627			2,543,828
25 Total funds carried forward		2,238,784	137,900	47,856	0	0	2,424,540

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021-22 £
Income							
1 Donations and legacies							0
2 Income from monetary investments		169	702				871
3 Income from investment properties		21,600					21,600
4 Assessments on Churches		192,876					192,876
5 Capital Receipts							0
6 Grants received							0
7 Other charitable income		92					92
8 Total income		214,737	702	0	0	0	215,439
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	9						0
10 Salaries and associated costs	7	160,174					160,174
11 Property maintenance		4,040					4,040
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		37,736					37,736
13 District Assessment & Levy		10,205	5,957				16,162
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses							0
16 Other outgoings	8	40,941	482				41,423
17 Total charitable expenditure		253,096	6,439	0	0	0	259,535
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	4	175,974					175,974
20 Net income/(expenditure)		137,615	(5,737)	0	0	0	131,878
21 Transfers between funds		14,040	(25,000)	10,960			0
22 Other gains/(losses)							0
23 Net movement in funds		151,655	(30,737)	10,960	0	0	131,878
24 Total funds brought forward		2,222,137	169,146	20,667			2,411,950
25 Total funds carried forward		2,373,792	138,409	31,627	0	0	2,543,828

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2022/23 £	Totals 2021/22 £
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses & Equipment	14	1,600,554				1,600,554	1,674,219
Investment properties	14	602,584				602,584	629,949
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		2,203,138	0	0	0	2,203,138	2,304,168
Current Assets							
Debtors	11	12,511				12,511	27,628
Loans by the Circuit	11	1,500				1,500	1,500
Investments with TMCP			137,900			137,900	138,409
Central Finance Board Deposits		70,137				70,137	62,793
Cash at Bank and in hand		23,410	47,856			71,266	86,880
Total current assets		107,558	137,900	47,856	0	293,314	317,210
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	12	71,912				71,912	72,550
Grants payable within 2022-23	12	0				0	5,000
Total current liabilities		71,912	0	0	0	71,912	77,550
Net current assets/liabilities		35,646	137,900	47,856	0	221,402	239,660
Total assets less current liabilities		2,238,784	137,900	47,856	0	2,424,540	2,543,828
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23						0	0
Loans to the Circuit						0	0
Net assets		2,238,784	137,900	47,856	0	2,424,540	2,543,828
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	17	2,238,784				2,238,784	2,373,792
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	17		137,900			137,900	138,409
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	17			47,856		47,856	31,627
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,424,540	2,543,828
Restricted Funds				0		0	
Endowment Funds					0	0	
Total Funds		2,238,784	137,900	47,856	0	2,424,540	2,543,828

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2 Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted, Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purpose and is categorised as unrestricted, and Designated funds which are Unrestricted but held for a narrower purpose (maintenance of Manses). There are no Endowment funds. Details of each material fund are disclosed in Note 17 to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources Expended

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

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, uprated using the Nationwide index of house prices for the relevant region. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Where property held is surplus to normal staffing requirements and it is anticipated that it is unlikely to be used as a manse within two years, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not).

Investment Properties

In 2019 the Circuit assumed responsibility for a chapel and associated land following closure and cessation of worship for a church within the Circuit. The property was sold during the prior year.

Concessionary Loans

Concessionary loans are initially recognised and measured at the amount received or paid with the carrying amount adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments, any accrued interest and, if necessary, any impairments.

Current Asset Investments

Current asset investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

Going concern

At the time of signing these accounts, the trustees believe that the charity has adequate resources and reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The 2020-21 financial year was dramatically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with lingering impact into 2021-22. Assessments were waived for a quarter if it took a church below 4 months of reserves. The deficit was met from reserves.

4 Gains/(Losses) on investments

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Property revaluation (Unrealised)	(73,665)	128,309
Investment property revaluation (Unrealised)	(27,365)	47,665
	<u>(101,030)</u>	<u>175,974</u>

5 Payment to Trustees

Five trustees received remuneration in relation to their employment with the Charity as ministers or lay employees. There were no other payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit.

	2022/23	2021/22
Trustee expenses reimbursed		
Number of Trustees reimbursed	5	3
Total amount reimbursed	<u>£7,859</u>	<u>£5,470</u>

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel costs for attending meetings, plus reimbursement of costs paid directly by Circuit Officers.

6 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,170	1,200
Other fees (e.g. advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner	1,542	1,302
	<u>2,712</u>	<u>2,502</u>

7 Paid employees

Staff costs paid during the year were:	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	130,688	125,069
Employer's National Insurance costs	12,234	11,700
Pension costs	24,423	23,405
Total staff costs	<u>167,345</u>	<u>160,174</u>
Average monthly employees in the year were:	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>

No employees receive employee benefits of more than £60,000.

8 Other outgoings

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Travel	6,959	4,830
Telephone and internet	1,454	1,365
Training	-	88
Utilities	687	2,110
Council tax	6,166	11,254
Insurance	3,684	1,638
Woosehill manse	15,972	12,000
Property management fees	3,104	2,650
Other expenses	4,020	5,006
MTF administration	394	482
Total	42,440	41,423

9 Grants

The concessionary loan for £15,000 brought forward from 2019/20 related to car park works undertaken at one of the churches. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic affecting the church's income, the Circuit accepted a grant request to cover 50% of the costs of car park works, in line with the Circuit's usual grant procedures. The grant of £7,500 has been included in the 2020/21 accounts.

Further to the sale of a chapel and land during the year, the Circuit gave a 'tithe' of £5,000 per annum to be paid to a trust in 2021/22 and 2022/23. Since the Circuit recognises the moral responsibility to meet future instalments of grants, all future liabilities are shown as liabilities on the balance sheet.

10 Related Party Transactions

In 2019 the charity made a concessionary loan to a church within the Circuit. See note 16 for more details.

11 Debtors and Prepayments

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Debtors	2,000	14,108
Prepayments	221	3,904
Stipends paid in advance	10,290	9,616
Total	12,511	27,628
Concessionary loan	1,500	1,500
Grand total	14,011	29,128
Amounts due in more than 1 year		
Debtors	-	300

12 Current liabilities

	2022/23 £	2022/22 £
Creditors	17,854	5,119
Accruals	2,916	18,214
Rent received in advance	1,800	1,800
Assessments received in advance	49,342	47,417
Grant	-	5,000
Total	71,912	77,550
Amounts due in more than 1 year		
Grant	-	-

13 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2023 there are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities.

14 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Investment Properties £	Land £	Manses £	Total £
Cost and valuation				
Balance brought forward	629,949	932,509	741,710	1,674,219
Additions	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	(27,365)	(33,626)	(40,039)	(73,665)
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>602,584</u>	<u>898,883</u>	<u>701,671</u>	<u>1,600,554</u>
Accumulated depreciation				
Balance brought forward	-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for year (-)	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers* (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value				
Brought forward	<u>629,949</u>	<u>932,509</u>	<u>741,710</u>	<u>1,674,219</u>
Carried forward	<u>602,584</u>	<u>898,883</u>	<u>701,671</u>	<u>1,600,554</u>

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, uprated annually using the Nationwide index of house prices for the relevant region.

One of the properties was no longer used as a manse at 31st August 2020. As this is not expected to be a temporary arrangement the property has been reclassified as an investment property.

Cost or valuation at 31st August 2023 is represented by:

	Investment Properties £	Land £	Manses £	Total £
Cost		553,474	448,652	1,002,126
Valuation in 2013		273,433	221,647	495,080
Valuation in 2014		58,140	47,128	105,268
Valuation in 2015		48,675	39,457	88,132
Valuation in 2016		43,565	35,315	78,880
Valuation in 2017		38,256	30,851	69,107
Valuation in 2018		7,978	7,462	15,440
Control acquired over asset (at valuation)	88,000	-	-	-
Valuation in 2019		(5,938)	(5,554)	(11,492)
Valuation in 2020	24,000	45,418	42,472	87,890
Property reclassification	522,884	(252,223)	(270,661)	(522,884)
Valuation in 2021	51,400	63,160	75,203	138,363
Disposal	(104,000)	-	-	-
Valuation in 2022	47,665	58,571	69,738	128,309
Valuation in 2023	<u>(27,365)</u>	<u>(33,626)</u>	<u>(40,039)</u>	<u>(73,665)</u>
As at 31 st August 2023	<u>602,584</u>	<u>898,883</u>	<u>701,671</u>	<u>1,600,554</u>

15 Investments

The Circuit has no common investment fund holdings.

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Manses Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month.

TCMP 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 Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure 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.

16 Loans

In 2019-20 the charity granted a concessionary loan of £15,000 to Bracknell Church to be repaid back over 5 years. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic affecting the church's income, the circuit accepted a grant request to cover 50% of the costs of car park works, in line with the circuit's usual grant procedures. The grant of £7,500 was included in the 2020/21 accounts.

Church	Date granted	Amount	Period	Balance brought forward	Additions	Repaid this year	Balance Carried Forward	Amount due in more than 1 year
		£		£	£	£	£	£
Bracknell	November 2019	15,000	5 years	1,500	-	-	1,500	-

17 Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted fund name	At 01.09.22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Extraordinary items £	At 31.08.23 £
General	2,373,792	248,729	(266,478)	(16,229)	(101,030)	0	2,238,784
Circuit Model Trusts	138,409	4,306	(4,815)	0	0	0	137,900
Designated Manse Maintenance	31,627	0	0	16,229	0	0	47,856

Comparatives for movement in funds

Unrestricted fund name	At 01.09.21 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Extraordinary items £	At 31.08.22 £
General	2,222,137	214,737	(253,096)	14,040	175,974	0	2,373,792
Circuit Model Trusts	169,146	702	(6,439)	(25,000)	0	0	138,409
Designated Manse Maintenance	20,667	0	0	10,960	0	0	31,627

18 For information only Money received and passed on to External Organisations

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Balance brought forward	-	46
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	-	-
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	-	(46)
Balance carried forward	-	-

Accounts

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2022

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1134496

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	Page No.
Trust Information	1-2
Trustees' Report	3-5
Declarations	6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to the Accounts	10-14

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

CHARITY NUMBER	1134496
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1 September 2021
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31 August 2022

Mrs Jenny Balcombe
Mrs Jane Bonney
Rev Catherine Bowstead (Chair)
Mr Michael Bush
Mr Bob Clark
Mr Lee Elms
Mr Graham Fradgley
Mr Mike Gardner
Rev Sharon Gardner
Dr Brian Gennery
Mrs Hazel Gennery
Mrs Mary Glauert
Mrs Karen Glossop
Mr Robert Godden
Mrs Liz Goddard
Mr Sam Hanna
Mrs Wendy Hart
Mr Don Hewitt
Mr John Hoskins
Mr Ian Hamilton (from 7 December 2020)
Mr Bob Jarvis
Mrs Judith Jones

Mrs Claire Knight
Mrs Gillian Lowson
Ms Pauline Matondo
Mr Andrew Mitchell
Mrs Marjorie Mitchell
Mrs Christine Morgan
Mr David Morgan
Dr Rosi Morgan-Barry
Mr Andrew Mower
Mrs Doreen Murgatroyd
Mrs Lynne Paine (from 16 October 2020)
Mrs C Rooke-Matthews
Rev Soba Sinnathamby
Mrs Kate Souter
Mr Malcolm Souter
Mr Ben Spain
Mrs Kim Tame
Rev Mike Thomason
Ms Sharon Wright
Mrs Julie Young

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT

Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976)

OBJECTIVES

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.

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

The Methodist Centre
Rose Street
Wokingham
RG40 1XS

PRIMARY BANKERS

HSBC
Wokingham Branch
1-2 Market Place
Wokingham
RG40 1AL

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Alison Elliott ACA, FCCA
Butt Miller Limited
1 Minster Court
Tuscam Way
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3YY

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management:

Trustee selection method:

- 1 Certain officers and elected representatives of local churches
- 2 Ministers appointed to the Circuit by the Methodist Conference
- 3 Officers appointed to certain jobs by the Circuit Meeting.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to the objects of the charity:

- Provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike;
- Pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved;
- Promotion of Christian activities through the staging of events and services;
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas financially and with prayer.

Achievements and Performance

The eight churches within the Berkshire Surrey Borders Circuit work together to provide a minimum of 36 public Sunday services each month at a variety of times of which at least a quarter include Holy Communion. Worship styles cater for a variety of preferred styles, ages and tastes: traditional, contemporary, liturgical, family-friendly, Inter-generational and "Messy church". In addition, several churches offer a range of mid-week services, prayer groups, Bible study and fellowship groups.

Since the lockdown restrictions of 2020 – 21, several of our churches have continued to provide worship on-line. Using live streaming, the "Zoom" platform or by using audio and video recordings available on church websites.

Ministers within the Circuit have conducted funerals, and some weddings and baptism, both for church members and upon request for members of the local community.

Church members whose roles require a DBS check are required to keep these up to date, prompted by their church safeguarding co-ordinator and the Circuit co-ordinator. The Circuit provides Safeguarding training for those taking on new roles and refresher courses when required. All those in leadership roles have completed both the "Foundation" and "Leadership" modules of safeguarding training as required by the Methodist Church.

Opportunities for training in many areas of church life (eg. safeguarding, local preaching, worship leading, stewarding) are provided within the Circuit or in co-operation with neighbouring Circuits. The Circuit and its personnel actively support the vocational development of its people and two people are training as Local Preachers.

Ecumenical co-operation and partnership is a feature of Circuit and church life (three of our churches are Local Ecumenical Partnerships). Churches are encouraged to participate in ecumenical events. They also participate in ecumenical community initiatives (eg. Food Banks, schools work, an afterschool drop-in centre in Crowthorne) some of which have been supported by a grant from Circuit funds.

The Circuit continues to support and encourage the involvement of local churches in planning for and carrying out ecumenical Christian outreach to those moving into various large new housing developments in the area.

Churches are encouraged to view their buildings as a community facility, and several are well used by groups and individuals from the surrounding community. Advice and support in keeping buildings well maintained is provided by the Circuit and the Methodist District.

Individual churches and their members support a variety of local, national and international charities through their giving and through fundraising events (eg. sponsored walk for Action for Children; donations to Food Banks; sponsoring a child.)

Financial review

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 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.

There was a deficit in the General Fund, before gains/losses on investments, for the year of £44,096, compared with a deficit of £120,263 in 2020-21. The budget for the year anticipated a deficit of around £38,000.

General Income for 2021-22 was 50% higher than the previous year at £214,737. Assessment income was reduced by £49,000 in the prior year in line with the policy to reduce the burden on churches during the Covid pandemic.

General expenditure was 4% lower than the previous year at £253,096. Provision was made in the prior year for a £10,000 donation from the Circuit to Renova Homeless Charity from the proceeds of sale of Winkfield Row Methodist chapel, which will be paid between 2021 and 2023.

Fund balances

The Circuit holds unrestricted general funds of £2,373,792 (previous year £2,222,137), of which £2,296,168 is the estimated market value of the three manses (previous year £2,120,194). The Designated Fund for Manse Maintenance holds £31,627 (previous year £20,667).

The Circuit also holds £138,409 in its Model Trust Fund (previous year £169,146). This decrease was largely due to partly covering the waiving of assessments for one of the churches.

Plans for 2022-23

The Circuit's budget for 2022-23 anticipated a return to normal activities following the pandemic: a deficit of £32,000 was foreseen. One of the churches ceased public worship due to lack of members in 2022-23.

Risks

The Trustees have examined the principal areas of their operations and considered what major risks could arise in each of these areas. The major risk to the operation of the Circuit is that we are unsuccessful in attracting a Minister to fill any vacant position – this risk is mitigated by the stationing process of the Methodist Church, which aims to provide ministers for openings supported by the District, and in part by the ability to recruit lay workers.

In addition, we note that the Circuit is heavily dependent on volunteers, particularly in terms of managing Property and Finance. Lack of volunteers in these areas runs the risk of failing to meet our commitments as a Charity.

The major financial risk to the Circuit would arise if one of the larger churches (especially Wokingham) were unable to meet its Circuit Assessment due to a reduction in giving and/or in property lettings. This risk is mitigated by both the Circuit itself and the individual churches having a Reserves Policy which ensures adequate reserves being in place at all times to meet any shortfalls.

Reserves

The Circuit needs some free reserves in place to enable it to meet its obligations in the event of an unexpected shortfall in income. Free reserves as defined by the Charity Commission are unrestricted funds available to spend on the general purposes of the Circuit and therefore exclude those funds designated for specific purposes and those already utilised in purchasing tangible assets.

The Trustees of the Circuit believe they should hold free reserves sufficient to cover at least six months' expenditure plus £50,000 as a property reserve for major repairs. Based on planned 2022-23 expenditure this will be £188,000. Net current assets in Unrestricted and non-designated funds were £208,033 at 31 August 2022. We anticipate a reduction in this figure with a budgeted deficit of around £32,000 in 2022-23.

We make provision for our property maintenance programme by designating £5,000 per year to maintain each of the three manse. Any under or overspend is allocated to or taken from the designated Manse Maintenance Fund. This Fund stood at £31,627 at 31 August 2022.

Public Benefit

The Trustees declare that the Charity is a public benefit entity and they have complied with the duty imposed under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Approved by the Trustees on 22nd March 2023 and

Signed on their behalf by Revd Catherine Bowstead – Trustee



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.

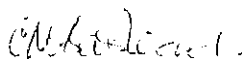
Signature of treasurer: N/A

Name and address of treasurer: N/A

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will * be presented to the Circuit meeting held on: 22nd March 2023.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:



Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd Catherine Bowstead

Date 22nd March 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1134496

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022. 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 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: Alison Elliott

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACA, FCCA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Butt Miller

Address: 1 Minster Court, Tuscam Way, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3YY

Date: 22nd March 2023

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2021-22 £
Income							
1 Donations and legacies							0
2 Income from monetary Investments		169	702				871
3 Income from Investment properties		21,600					21,600
4 Assessments on Churches		192,876					192,876
5 Capital Receipts							0
6 Grants received							0
7 Other charitable Income		92					92
8 Total Income		214,737	702	0	0	0	215,439
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	9						0
10 Salaries and associated costs	7	160,174					160,174
11 Property maintenance		4,040					4,040
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		37,736					37,736
13 District Assessment & Levy		10,205	5,957				16,162
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses							0
16 Other outgoings	8	40,941	482				41,423
17 Total charitable expenditure		253,096	6,439	0	0	0	259,535
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary Investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	4	175,974					175,974
20 Net income/(expenditure)		137,615	(5,737)	0	0	0	131,878
21 Transfers between funds		14,040	(25,000)	10,960			0
22 Other gains/(losses)							0
23 Net movement in funds		151,655	(30,737)	10,960	0	0	131,878
24 Total funds brought forward		2,222,137	169,146	20,667			2,411,950
25 Total funds carried forward		2,373,792	138,409	31,627	0	0	2,543,828

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 £
Income							
1 Donations and legacies							0
2 Income from monetary Investments		48	500				548
3 Income from investment properties		5830					5830
4 Assessments on Churches		137032					137032
5 Capital Receipts							0
6 Grants received		133					133
7 Other charitable income							0
8 Total Income		143043	500	0	0	0	143543
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	9	17500					17500
10 Salaries and associated costs	7	155911					155911
11 Property maintenance		6133					6133
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		37980					37980
13 District Assessment & Levy		7894	8653				16547
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses							0
16 Other outgoings	8	37888	446				38334
17 Total charitable expenditure		263306	9099	0	0	0	272405
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	4	189763					189763
20 Net income/(expenditure)		69500	-8599	0	0	0	60901
21 Transfers between funds		43938	-45306	1367			-1
22 Other gains/(losses)		7978					7978
23 Net movement in funds		121416	-53905	1367	0	0	68878
24 Total funds brought forward		2100721	223051	19300			2343072
25 Total funds carried forward		2222137	169146	20667	0	0	2411950

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2021/22 £	Totals 2020/21 £
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses & Equipment	14	1,674,219				1,674,219	1,545,910
Investment properties	14	629,949				629,949	582,284
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		2,304,168	0	0	0	2,304,168	2,128,194
Current Assets							
Debtors	11	27,628				27,628	9,666
Loans by the Circuit	11	1,500				1,500	4,500
Investments with TMCP			138,409			138,409	169,146
Central Finance Board Deposits		62,793				62,793	92,520
Cash at Bank and in hand		55,253	31,627			86,880	76,882
Total current assets		147,174	138,409	31,627	0	317,210	352,714
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	12	72,550				72,550	58,958
Grants payable within 2022-23	12	5,000				5,000	5,000
Total current liabilities		77,550	0	0	0	77,550	63,958
Net current assets/liabilities		69,624	138,409	31,627	0	239,660	288,756
Total assets less current liabilities		2,373,792	138,409	31,627	0	2,543,828	2,416,950
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23						0	5,000
Loans to the Circuit						0	0
Net assets		2,373,792	138,409	31,627	0	2,543,828	2,411,950
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	17	2,373,792				2,373,792	2,222,137
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	17		138,409			138,409	169,146
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	17			31,627		31,627	20,667
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,543,828	2,411,950
Restricted Funds				0		0	0
Endowment Funds					0	0	0
Total Funds		2,373,792	138,409	31,627	0	2,543,828	2,411,950

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2 Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted, Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purpose and is categorised as unrestricted, and Designated funds which are Unrestricted but held for a narrower purpose (maintenance of Manses). There are no Endowment funds. Details of each material fund are disclosed in Note 17 to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources Expended

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

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, uprated using the Nationwide index of house prices for the relevant region. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Where property held is surplus to normal staffing requirements and it is anticipated that it is unlikely to be used as a manse within two years, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not).

Investment Properties

In 2019 the Circuit assumed responsibility for a chapel and associated land following closure and cessation of worship for a church within the Circuit. The property was sold during the prior year.

Concessionary Loans

Concessionary loans are initially recognised and measured at the amount received or paid with the carrying amount adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments, any accrued interest and, if necessary, any impairments.

Current Asset Investments

Current asset investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

Going concern

At the time of signing these accounts, the trustees believe that the charity has adequate resources and reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The 2020-21 financial year was dramatically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with lingering impact into 2021-22. Assessments were waived for a quarter if it took a church below 4 months of reserves. The deficit was met from reserves.

4 Gains on investments

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Property revaluation (Unrealised)	128,309	138,363
Investment property revaluation (Unrealised)	47,665	51,400
	<u>175,974</u>	<u>189,763</u>

5 Payment to Trustees

Five trustees received remuneration in relation to their employment with the Charity as ministers or lay employees. There were no other payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit.

	2021/22	2020/21
Trustee expenses reimbursed		
Number of Trustees reimbursed	3	8
Total amount reimbursed	<u>£5,470</u>	<u>£4,849</u>

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel costs for attending meetings, plus reimbursement of costs paid directly by Circuit Officers.

6 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,200	1,200
Other fees (e.g. advice, accountancy services) paid to the Independent examiner	<u>1,302</u>	<u>800</u>
	<u>2,502</u>	<u>2,000</u>

7 Paid employees

Staff costs paid during the year were:	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	125,069	115,732
Employer's National Insurance costs	11,700	10,815
Pension costs	23,405	29,364
	<u>160,174</u>	<u>155,911</u>
Total staff costs		
Average monthly employees in the year were:	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>

No employees receive employee benefits of more than £60,000.

8 Other outgoings

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Travel	4,830	3,430
Telephone and internet	1,365	1,495
Training	88	-
Utilities	2,110	2,347
Council tax	11,254	6,910
Insurance	1,638	4,892
Woosehill manse	12,000	8,120
Property management fees	2,650	-
Other expenses	5,006	10,694
MTF administration	482	446
Total	<u>41,423</u>	<u>38,334</u>

9 Grants

The concessionary loan for £15,000 brought forward from 2019/20 related to car park works undertaken at one of the churches. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic affecting the church's income, the Circuit accepted a grant request to cover 50% of the costs of car park works, in line with the Circuit's usual grant procedures. The grant of £7,500 has been included in the 2020/21 accounts.

Further to the sale of a chapel and land during the year, the Circuit gave a 'tithe' of £5,000 per annum to be paid to a trust in 2021/22 and 2022/23. Since the Circuit recognises the moral responsibility to meet future instalments of grants, all future liabilities are shown as liabilities on the balance sheet.

10 Related Party Transactions

During the previous year the charity made a concessionary loan to a church within the Circuit. See note 16 for more details.

11 Debtors and Prepayments

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Debtors	14,108	500
Prepayments	3,904	-
Stipends paid in advance	9,616	9,166
Total	<u>27,628</u>	<u>9,666</u>
Concessionary loan	1,500	4,500
Grand total	<u>29,128</u>	<u>14,166</u>
Amounts due in more than 1 year		
Concessionary loan	-	1,500
Debtors	300	-

12 Current liabilities

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Creditors	5,119	9,670
Accruals	18,214	1,580
Rent received in advance	1,800	
Assessments received in advance	47,417	47,708
Grant	5,000	5,000
Total	<u>77,550</u>	<u>63,958</u>
Amounts due in more than 1 year		
Grant	-	5,000

13 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2022 there are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities.

14 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Investment Properties £	Land £	Manse £	Total £
Cost and valuation				
Balance brought forward	582,284	873,938	671,972	1,545,910
Additions	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	47,665	58,571	69,738	128,309
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>629,949</u>	<u>932,509</u>	<u>741,710</u>	<u>1,674,219</u>
Accumulated depreciation				
Balance brought forward	-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for year (-)	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers* (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value				
Brought forward	582,284	873,938	671,972	1,545,910
Carried forward	<u>629,949</u>	<u>932,509</u>	<u>741,710</u>	<u>1,674,219</u>

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, uprated annually using the Nationwide index of house prices for the relevant region.

One of the properties was no longer used as a manse at 31st August 2020. As this is not expected to be a temporary arrangement the property has been reclassified as an investment property.

Cost or valuation at 31st August 2022 is represented by:

	Investment Properties £	Land £	Manse £	Total £
Cost		553,474	448,652	1,002,126
Valuation in 2013		273,433	221,647	495,080
Valuation in 2014		58,140	47,128	105,268
Valuation in 2015		48,675	39,457	88,132
Valuation in 2016		43,565	35,315	78,880
Valuation in 2017		38,256	30,851	69,107
Valuation in 2018		7,978	7,462	15,440
Control acquired over asset (at valuation)	88,000	-	-	-
Valuation in 2019		(5,938)	(5,554)	(11,492)
Valuation in 2020	24,000	45,418	42,472	87,890
Property reclassification	522,884	(252,223)	(270,661)	(522,884)
Valuation in 2021	51,400	63,160	75,203	138,363
Disposal	(104,000)	-	-	-
Valuation in 2022	<u>47,665</u>	<u>58,571</u>	<u>69,738</u>	<u>128,309</u>
As at 31 st August 2022	<u>629,949</u>	<u>932,509</u>	<u>741,710</u>	<u>1,674,219</u>

15 Investments

During the prior period the Circuit sold a chapel and associated land following closure and cessation of worship for a church within the Circuit. The property was recognised in the 2019 accounts at its anticipated net sale price as determined by a professional valuation and after taking into consideration the levy to be charged by the Connexion.

The Circuit has no common investment fund holdings.

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Manses Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month.

TCMP 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 Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure 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.

16 Loans

In 2019-20 the charity granted a concessionary loan of £15,000 to Bracknell Church to be repaid back over 5 years. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic affecting the church's income, the circuit accepted a grant request to cover 50% of the costs of car park works, in line with the circuit's usual grant procedures. The grant of £7,500 has been included in the 2020/21 accounts.

Church	Date granted	Amount	Period	Balance brought forward	Additions	Repaid this year	Balance Carried Forward	Amount due in more than 1 year
		£		£	£	£	£	£
Bracknell	November 2019	15,000	5 years	4,500	-	3,000	1,500	-

17 Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted fund name	At 01.09.21 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Extraordinary items £	At 31.08.22 £
General	2,222,137	214,737	253,096	14,040	175,974	0	2,373,792
Circuit Model Trusts	169,146	702	6,439	(25,000)	0	0	138,409
Designated Manse Maintenance	20,667	0	0	10,960	0	0	31,627

Comparatives for movement in funds

Unrestricted fund name	At 01.09.20 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Extraordinary items £	At 31.08.21 £
General	2,100,721	143,043	263,306	43,938	197,741	0	2,222,137
Circuit Model Trusts	223,051	500	9,099	(45,306)	0	0	169,146
Designated Manse Maintenance	19,300	0	0	1,367	0	0	20,667

18 For information only Money received and passed on to External Organisations

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Balance brought forward	46	46
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	-	-
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	(46)	-
Balance carried forward	-	46

Accounts

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1134496

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	Page No.
Trust Information	1-2
Trustees' Report	3-5
Declarations	6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to the Accounts	10-15

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

CHARITY NUMBER	1134496
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1 September 2020
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31 August 2021

Mrs Jenny Balcombe
Mrs Jane Bonney
Rev Catherine Bowstead (Chair)
Mr Michael Bush
Mr Bob Clark
Mr Lee Elms
Mrs Mary Elms (to 31 December 2020)
Mr Graham Fradgley
Mr Mike Gardner
Rev Sharon Gardner
Dr Brian Gennery
Mrs Hazel Gennery
Mrs Mary Glauert
Mrs Karen Glossop
Mr Robert Godden
Mrs Liz Goddard
Mr Sam Hanna
Mrs Wendy Hart
Mr Don Hewitt
Mr John Hoskins
Mr Ian Hamilton (from 7 December 2020)
Mr Bob Jarvis
Mrs Judith Jones

Mrs Claire Knight
Mrs Gillian Lowson
Ms Pauline Matondo
Mr Andrew Mitchell
Mrs Marjorie Mitchell
Mrs Christine Morgan
Mr David Morgan
Dr Rosi Morgan-Barry
Mr Andrew Mower
Mrs Doreen Murgatroyd
Mrs Lynne Paine (from 16 October 2020)
Mrs C Rooke-Matthews
Rev Soba Sinnathamby
Rev Roy Smith (to 17 July 2020)
Mrs Kate Souter
Mr Malcolm Souter
Mr Ben Spain
Mrs Kim Tame
Rev Mike Thomason
Ms Sharon Wright
Mrs Julie Young

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976)
-----------------------------	--

OBJECTIVES

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.

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

The Methodist Centre
Rose Street
Wokingham
RG40 1XS

PRIMARY BANKERS

HSBC
Wokingham Branch
1-2 Market Place
Wokingham
RG40 1AL

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Alison Elliott ACA, FCCA
Butt Miller Limited
92 Park Street
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3NY

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Structure, governance and management:

Trustee selection method:

- 1 Certain officers and elected representatives of local churches
- 2 Ministers appointed to the Circuit by the Methodist Conference
- 3 Officers appointed to certain jobs by the Circuit Meeting.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to the objects of the charity:

- Provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike;
- Pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved;
- Promotion of Christian activities through the staging of events and services;
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas financially and with prayer.

Achievements and Performance

In normal times, the eight churches within the Berkshire Surrey Borders Circuit work together to provide a minimum of 42 public Sunday services each month at a variety of times of which at least a quarter include Holy Communion. Worship styles cater for a variety of preferred styles, ages and tastes: traditional, contemporary, liturgical, family-friendly, Inter-generational and "Messy church". In addition, several churches offer a range of mid-week services, prayer groups, Bible study and fellowship groups.

With Covid having limited the use of our church buildings for several periods since March 2020, our churches have adapted to providing worship on-line. Over the past year our churches have offered worship using the "Zoom" platform or by using audio and video recordings available on church websites.

Ministers within the Circuit have continued to conduct funerals, and some weddings and baptisms as restrictions have allowed. These are available for church members and upon request for members of the public.

Church members whose roles require a DBS check are required to keep these up to date, prompted by their church safeguarding co-ordinator and the Circuit co-ordinator. The Circuit provides Safeguarding training for those taking on new roles and refresher courses when required. All those in leadership roles have completed both the "Foundation" and "Leadership" modules of safeguarding training as required by the Methodist Church. The Circuit was used as a pilot project for the new on-line version of the Foundation module.

Opportunities for training in many areas of church life (eg. safeguarding, local preaching, worship leading, stewarding) are provided within the Circuit or in co-operation with neighbouring Circuits. The Circuit and its personnel actively support the vocational development of its people and two people are training as Local Preachers.

Ecumenical co-operation and partnership is a feature of Circuit and church life (three of our churches are Local Ecumenical Partnerships). Churches are encouraged to participate in ecumenical events. They also participate in ecumenical community initiatives (eg. Food Banks, Winter Night Shelter for Rough Sleepers in Bracknell and Wokingham, an afterschool drop-in centre in Crowthorne) some of which have been supported by a grant from Circuit funds.

The Circuit continues to support and encourage the involvement of local churches in planning for and carrying out ecumenical Christian outreach to those moving into various large new housing developments in the area.

Churches are encouraged to view their buildings as a community facility, and several are well used by groups and individuals from the surrounding community. Advice and support in keeping buildings well maintained is provided by the Circuit and the Methodist District.

Individual churches and their members support a variety of local, national and international charities through their giving and through fundraising events (eg. sponsored walk for Action for Children; donations to Food Banks; sponsoring a child.)

Financial review

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.

There was a deficit in the General Fund, before gains/losses on investments, for the year of £120,263, compared with a deficit of £31,465 in 2019-20. The budget for the year anticipated a deficit of around £128,000.

General Income for 2020-21 was 28% lower than the previous year at £143,043. Four months' rental income was received for the vacant Bracknell manse. Assessment income was reduced by £49,000 (27%) in line with the policy to reduce the burden on churches during the Covid pandemic. Winkfield Row Methodist chapel was sold during the year at its anticipated value with £104,700 sales proceeds accruing to the Circuit.

General expenditure was 14% higher than the previous year at £263,306. Increased property and maintenance costs were partly covered by a transfer from the Manse Maintenance Fund. Provision was made for a £10,000 donation from the Circuit to Renova Homeless Charity from the proceeds of sale of Winkfield Row Methodist chapel, which will be made between 2021 and 2023.

Fund balances

The Circuit holds unrestricted general funds of £2,222,137 (previous year £2,100,721), of which £1,545,910 is the estimated market value of the three manses (previous year £1,407,547). The Designated Fund for Manse Maintenance holds £20,667 (previous year £19,300).

The Circuit also holds £169,146 in its Model Trust Fund (previous year £223,051). This decrease was largely due to covering the deficit on the general account, offset by net proceeds of the sale of Winkfield Row Methodist Church.

Plans for 2021-22

The Circuit's budget for 2021-22 anticipated a return to normal activities following the pandemic: a deficit of £28,000 was foreseen. However as some of the Circuit's churches had experienced major reductions in income during the previous two years, a contingency was made for further waiver of Assessment for any churches experiencing reduced levels of reserves. Thus a deficit of £60,000 is possible.

Risks

The Trustees have examined the principal areas of their operations and considered what major risks could arise in each of these areas. The major risk to the operation of the Circuit is that we are unsuccessful in attracting a Minister to fill any vacant position – this risk is mitigated by the stationing process of the Methodist Church, which aims to provide ministers for openings supported by the District, and in part by the ability to recruit lay workers.

In addition we note that the Circuit is heavily dependent on volunteers, particularly in terms of managing Property and Finance. Lack of volunteers in these areas runs the risk of failing to meet our commitments as a Charity.

The major financial risk to the Circuit would arise if one of the larger churches (especially Wokingham) were unable to meet its Circuit Assessment due to a reduction in giving and/or in property lettings. This risk is mitigated by both the Circuit itself and the individual churches having a Reserves Policy which ensures adequate reserves being in place at all times to meet any shortfalls.

Reserves

The Circuit needs some free reserves in place to enable it to meet its obligations in the event of an unexpected shortfall in income. Free reserves as defined by the Charity Commission are unrestricted funds available to spend on the general purposes of the Circuit and therefore exclude those funds designated for specific purposes and those already utilised in purchasing tangible assets.

The Trustees of the Circuit believe they should hold free reserves sufficient to cover at least six months' expenditure plus £50,000 as a property reserve for major repairs. Based on planned 2021-22 expenditure this will be £180,000. Net current assets in Unrestricted and non-designated funds were £268,089 at 31 August 2021. We anticipate a reduction in this figure with a budgeted deficit of around £28-60,000 in 2021-22.

We make provision for our property maintenance programme by designating £5,000 per year to maintain each of the three manses. This has been reduced to £2,500 per manse per year while income is reduced due to Covid. Any under or overspend is allocated to or taken from the designated Manse Maintenance Fund. This Fund stood at £20,667 at 31 August 2021.

Public Benefit

The Trustees declare that the Charity is a public benefit entity and they have complied with the duty imposed under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Approved by the Trustees on 7 June 2022, and

Signed on their behalf by Revd Catherine Bowstead – Trustee

.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

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

Signature of treasurer Date 7 June 2022

Name and address of treasurer: David Morgan

4 Purslane, Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 2DD

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 7 June 2022.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd Catherine Bowstead Date 7 June 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the
Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit
Charity Number 1134496

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021. 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 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: Alison Elliott

Relevant professional qualifications of the Independent Examiner: ACA, FCCA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Butt Miller

Address: 92 Park Street, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3NY

Date 7 June 2022

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 21 £	2020- £
Income								
1 Donations and legacies								0
2 Income from monetary investments		48	500					548
3 Income from investment properties		5,830						5,830
4 Assessments on Churches		137,032						137,032
5 Capital Receipts								0
6 Grants received		133						133
7 Other charitable income								
8 Total income		143,043	500	0	0	0		143,543
Expenditure								
9 Grants and donations	9	17,500						17,500
10 Salaries and associated costs	7	155,911						155,911
11 Property maintenance		6,133						6,133
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		37,980						37,980
13 District Assessment & Levy		7,894	8,653					16,547
14 Depreciation								0
15 Office expenses								0
16 Other outgoings	8	37,888	446					38,334
17 Total charitable expenditure		263,306	9,099	0	0	0		272,405
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments								0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	4	189,763						189,763
20 Net income/(expenditure)		69,500	(8,599)	0	0	0		60,901
21 Transfers between funds		43,938	(45,306)	1,367				(1)
22 Other gains/(losses)		7,978						7,978
23 Net movement in funds		121,416	(53,905)	1,367	0	0		68,878
24 Total funds brought forward		2,100,721	223,051	19,300	0	0		2,343,072
25 Total funds carried forward		2,222,137	169,146	20,667	0	0		2,411,950

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 20 £	2019- £
Income								
1 Donations and legacies		6,823						6,823
2 Income from monetary investments		187	1,917		2			2,106
3 Income from investment properties		0						0
4 Assessments on Churches		186,460						186,460
5 Capital Receipts		0						0
6 Grants received		1,100						1,100
7 Other charitable income		5,440						5,440
8 Total income		200,010	1,917	0	2	0		201,929
Expenditure								
9 Grants and donations		218						218
10 Salaries and associated costs		126,959						126,959
11 Property maintenance		26,524						26,524
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		36,247						36,247
13 District Assessment & Levy		7,679	9,031					16,710
14 Depreciation		0						0
15 Office expenses		127						127
16 Other outgoings		33,721	461					34,182
17 Total charitable expenditure		231,475	9,492	0	0	0		240,967
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		0						0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		111,890						111,890
20 Net income/(expenditure)		80,425	(7,575)	0	2	0		72,852
21 Transfers between funds		11,526		(11,524)	(2)			0
22 Other gains/(losses)								0
23 Net movement in funds		91,951	(7,575)	(11,524)	0	0		72,852
24 Total funds brought forward		2,008,770	230,626	30,824	0	0		2,270,220
25 Total funds carried forward		2,100,721	223,051	19,300	0	0		2,343,072

Balance Sheet as at 31 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 £
Fixed Assets								
Circuit Manse & Equipment	14	1,545,910					1,545,910	1,407,547
Investment properties	14	582,284					582,284	634,884
Investments							0	
Total fixed assets		2,128,194	0	0	0	0	2,128,194	2,042,431
Current Assets								
Debtors	11	9,666					9,666	22,458
Loans by the Circuit	11	4,500					4,500	15,000
Investments with TMCP			169,146				169,146	223,051
Central Finance Board Deposits		92,520					92,520	5,416
Cash at Bank and in hand		56,215		20,667			76,882	38,701
Total current assets		162,901	169,146	20,667	0	0	352,714	304,626
Current liabilities								
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	12	58,958					58,958	3,985
Grants payable within 2021-22	12	5,000					5,000	0
Total current liabilities		63,958	0	0	0	0	63,958	3,985
Net current assets/liabilities		98,943	169,146	20,667	0	0	288,756	300,641
Total assets less current liabilities		2,227,137	169,146	20,667	0	0	2,416,950	2,343,072
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)								
Grants payable after 2021-22	12	5,000					5,000	0
Loans to the Circuit							0	0
Net assets		2,222,137	169,146	20,667	0	0	2,411,950	2,343,072
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)	17	2,222,137					2,222,137	2,100,721
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	17		169,146				169,146	223,051
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	17			20,667			20,667	19,300
Total Unrestricted Funds							2,411,950	2,343,072
Restricted Funds					0		0	
Endowment Funds						0	0	
Total Funds		2,222,137	169,146	20,667	0	0	2,411,950	2,343,072

Signed

Circuit Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2 Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted, Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purpose and is categorised as unrestricted, Designated funds which are Unrestricted but held for a narrower purpose (maintenance of Manses), and the Alma Adley Bequest Fund which is restricted but has now been used. There are no Endowment funds. Details of each material fund are disclosed in Note 17 to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources Expended

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

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, uprated using the Nationwide index of house prices for the Outer South East region. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Where property held is surplus to normal staffing requirements and it is anticipated that it is unlikely to be used as a manse within two years, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not).

Investment Properties

In 2019 the Circuit assumed responsibility for a chapel and associated land following closure and cessation of worship for a church within the Circuit. The property was sold during the current year.

Concessionary Loans

Concessionary loans are initially recognised and measured at the amount received or paid with the carrying amount adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments, any accrued interest and, if necessary, any impairments.

Current Asset Investments

Current asset investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

Going concern

At the time of signing these accounts, the trustees believe that the charity has adequate resources and reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The 2020-21 financial year has been dramatically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Churches had to close for worship from March 2020 and have only recently been able to open their doors fully. The Circuit decided to reduce the assessment burden on the churches by not requesting a contribution for quarter 1 and only requesting 50% for quarter 2. The increased deficit was met from reserves.

4 Gains on investments

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Property revaluation (Unrealised)	138,363	87,890
Investment property revaluation (Unrealised)	51,400	24,000
	<u>189,763</u>	<u>111,890</u>

5 Payment to Trustees

Five trustees received remuneration in relation to their employment with the Charity as ministers or lay employees. There were no other payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit.

	2020/21	2019/20
Trustee expenses reimbursed		
Number of Trustees reimbursed	8	11
Total amount reimbursed	<u>£4,849</u>	<u>£13,868</u>

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel costs for attending meetings, plus reimbursement of costs paid directly by Circuit Officers (principally in relation to property repairs).

6 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,200	1,140
Other fees (e.g. advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner	800	720
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>1,860</u>

7 Paid employees

Staff costs paid during the year were:	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	115,732	102,915
Employer's National Insurance costs	10,815	8,515
Pension costs	29,364	15,529
Total staff costs	<u>155,911</u>	<u>126,959</u>
Average monthly employees in the year were:	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

No employees receive employee benefits of more than £60,000.

8 Other outgoings

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Travel	3,430	5,892
Telephone and internet	1,495	1,045
Training	-	222
Utilities	2,347	1,337
Council tax	6,910	7,181
Insurance	4,892	5,299
Removal expenses	8,120	9,156
Other expenses	10,694	3,590
MTF administration	446	461
Total	<u>38,334</u>	<u>34,183</u>

9 Grants

The concessionary loan for £15,000 brought forward from 2019/20 related to car park works undertaken at one of the churches. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic affecting the church's income, the Circuit accepted a grant request to cover 50% of the costs of car park works, in line with the Circuit's usual grant procedures. The grant of £7,500 has been included in the 2020/21 accounts.

Further to the sale of a chapel and land during the year, the Circuit gave a 'tithe' of £5,000 per annum to be paid to a trust in 2021/22 and 2022/23. Since the Circuit recognises the moral responsibility to meet future instalments of grants, all future liabilities are shown as liabilities on the balance sheet.

10 Related Party Transactions

During the previous year the charity made a concessionary loan to a church within the Circuit. See note 16 for more details.

11 Debtors and Prepayments

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Debtors	500	12,324
Stipends paid in advance	9,166	9,059
HMRC JRS Grant	-	1,075
Total	<u>9,666</u>	<u>22,458</u>
Concessionary loan	4,500	15,000
Grand total	<u>14,166</u>	<u>37,458</u>
Amounts due in more than 1 year		
Concessionary loan	<u>1,500</u>	<u>12,000</u>

12 Current liabilities

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Creditors	11,250	3,360
Assessments received in advance	47,708	625
Grant	5,000	-
Total	<u>63,958</u>	<u>3,985</u>
Amounts due in more than 1 year		
Grant	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>

13 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2021 there are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities.

14 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Investment Properties £	Land £	Manses £	Total £
Cost and valuation				
Balance brought forward	634,884	810,778	596,769	1,407,547
Additions	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	51,400	63,160	75,203	138,363
Disposals (-)	(104,000)	-	-	-
Transfers (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>582,284</u>	<u>873,938</u>	<u>671,972</u>	<u>1,545,910</u>
Accumulated depreciation				
Balance brought forward	-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for year (-)	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers* (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net book value				
Brought forward	634,884	810,778	596,769	1,407,547
Carried forward	<u>582,284</u>	<u>873,938</u>	<u>671,972</u>	<u>1,545,910</u>

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, uprated annually using the Nationwide index of house prices for the Outer South East region.

One of the properties was no longer used as a manse at 31st August 2020. As this is not expected to be a temporary arrangement the property has been reclassified as an investment property.

Cost or valuation at 31st August 2021 is represented by:

	Investment Properties £	Land £	Manses £	Total £
Cost		553,474	448,652	1,002,126
Valuation in 2013		273,433	221,647	495,080
Valuation in 2014		58,140	47,128	105,268
Valuation in 2015		48,675	39,457	88,132
Valuation in 2016		43,565	35,315	78,880
Valuation in 2017		38,256	30,851	69,107
Valuation in 2018		7,978	7,462	15,440
Control acquired over asset (at valuation)	88,000	-	-	-
Valuation in 2019		(5,938)	(5,554)	(11,492)
Valuation in 2020	24,000	45,418	42,472	87,890
Property reclassification	522,884	(252,223)	(270,661)	(522,884)
Valuation in 2021	51,400	63,160	75,203	138,363
Disposal	(104,000)	-	-	-
As at 31 st August 2021	<u>582,284</u>	<u>873,938</u>	<u>671,972</u>	<u>1,545,910</u>

15 Investments

During the period the Circuit sold a chapel and associated land following closure and cessation of worship for a church within the Circuit. The property was recognised in the 2019 accounts at its anticipated net sale price as determined by a professional valuation and after taking into consideration the levy to be charged by the Connexion.

The Circuit has no common investment fund holdings.

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Manses Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month.

TCMP 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 Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure 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.

16 Loans

During the prior period the charity granted a concessionary loan of £15,000 to Bracknell Church to be repaid back over 5 years.

Church	Date granted	Amount	Period	Balance brought forward	Additions	Repaid this year	Balance Carried Forward	Amount due in more than 1 year
		£		£	£	£	£	£
Bracknell	November 2019	15,000	5 years	15,000	0	3,000	12,000	9,000

17 Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted fund name	At 01.09.20 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Extraordinary items £	At 31.08.21 £
General	2,100,721	143,043	263,306	43,938	197,741	0	2,222,137
Circuit Model Trusts	223,051	500	9,099	(45,306)	0	0	169,146
Designated Manse Maintenance	19,300	0	0	1,367	0	0	20,667

Restricted fund name	01.09.20 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	31.08.21 £	Purpose of the fund
Alma Adley Bequest Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	May be utilised for the purpose of the Circuit

Comparatives for movement in funds

Unrestricted fund name	01.09.19 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Extraordinary items £	31.08.20 £
General	2,008,770	200,010	231,475	11,526	111,890	0	2,100,721
Circuit Model Trusts	230,626	1,917	9,492	0	0	0	223,051
Designated Manse Maintenance	30,824	0	0	(11,524)	0	0	19,300

Restricted fund name	01.09.19 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	31.08.20 £	Purpose of the fund
Alma Adley Bequest Fund	0	2	0	(2)	0	0	May be utilised for the purpose of the Circuit

18 For information only Money received and passed on to External Organisations

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Balance brought forward	46	46
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	-	-
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	-	-
Balance carried forward	46	46

Accounts

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2020

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1134496

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	Page No.
Trust Information	3-4
Trustees' Report	5-7
Declarations	8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of Financial Activities	10-11
Balance Sheet	12
Notes to the Accounts	13-17

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

CHARITY NUMBER	1134496
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1 September 2019
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31 August 2020

CURRENT MANAGING TRUSTEES - and those who served in the year to 31 August 2020

Mr Mike Atkinson (to 31 August 2020)	Mr Andrew Knight (to 31 August 2020)
Mrs Jenny Balcombe	Mrs Claire Knight
Mrs Jane Bonney	Mrs Sally Knight (to 22 June 2020)
Rev Catherine Bowstead (Chair)	Mrs Gillian Lowson
Mr Michael Bush (from 1 September 2020)	Ms Pauline Matondo (from 1 September 2019)
Mr Bob Clark	Mr Andrew Mitchell
Mr Lee Elms	Mrs Marjorie Mitchell
Mrs Mary Elms (to 31 December 2020)	Mrs Christine Morgan
Mr Graham Fradgley	Mr David Morgan
Mr Mike Gardner	Dr Rosi MorganBarry
Rev Sharon Gardner	Mr Andrew Mower
Dr Brian Gennery	Mrs Doreen Murgatroyd
Mrs Hazel Gennery	Mrs Lynne Paine (from 16 October 2020)
Mrs Mary Glauert	Mrs C Rooke-Matthews
Mrs Karen Glossop	Mr Tony Sayer (to September 2020)
Mr Robert Godden	Rev Soba Sinnathamby (from 1 Sept 2020)
Mrs Liz Goddard	Rev Roy Smith (to August 2020)
Mr Sam Hanna	Mrs Kate Souter
Mrs Wendy Hart	Mr Malcolm Souter
Mr Don Hewitt	Mr Ben Spain
Mr John Hoskins	Mrs Kim Tame
Mr Ian Hamilton (from 7 December 2020)	Rev Mike Thomason
Mr Bob Jarvis	Ms Sharon Wright
Mrs Judith Jones	Mrs Julie Young (from 1 September 2020)

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976)
-----------------------------	--

OBJECTIVES

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.

**BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT:
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

The Methodist Centre
Rose Street
Wokingham
RG40 1XS

PRIMARY BANKERS

HSBC
Wokingham Branch
1-2 Market Place
Wokingham
RG40 1AL

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

A J Elliott FCCA
Butt Miller Limited
92 Park Street
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 3NY

BERKSHIRE SURREY BORDERS METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Structure, governance and management:

Trustee selection method:

- 1 Certain officers and elected representatives of local churches
- 2 Ministers appointed to the Circuit by the Methodist Conference
- 3 Officers appointed to certain jobs by the Circuit Meeting.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to the objects of the charity:

- Provision of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike;
- Pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved;
- Promotion of Christian activities through the staging of events and services;
- Supporting other charities in the UK and overseas financially and with prayer.

Achievements and Performance

In normal times, the eight churches within the Berkshire Surrey Borders Circuit work together to provide a minimum of 42 public Sunday services each month at a variety of times of which at least a quarter include Holy Communion. Worship styles cater for a variety of preferred styles, ages and tastes: traditional, contemporary, liturgical, family-friendly, Inter-generational and "Messy church". In addition, several churches offer a range of mid-week services, prayer groups, Bible study and fellowship groups.

Following the retirement of the Superintendent Minister in August 2019, the Circuit was reduced to two ministers for the 2019-20 year. This shortfall was met by employing an additional lay worker. A third Minister joined with effect from September 2020, when the Circuit took on primary responsibility for the Local Ecumenical Project at Woosehill.

When the first lockdown in March 2020 limited the use of our church buildings, our churches quickly adapted to providing worship on-line. To some considerable success our churches now worship using the "Zoom" platform or by using audio and video recordings available on church websites.

Ministers within the circuit have continued to conduct funerals, and some weddings and baptisms as restrictions have allowed. These are available for church members and upon request for members of the public.

Church members whose roles require a DBS check are required to keep these up to date, prompted by their church safeguarding co-ordinator and the Circuit Co-ordinator. The circuit provides Safeguarding training for those taking on new roles and refresher courses when required. All those in leadership roles have completed both the "Foundation" and "Leadership" modules of safeguarding training as required by the Methodist Church. The Circuit was used as a pilot project for the new on-line version of the Foundation module.

Opportunities for training in many areas of church life (eg. safeguarding, local preaching, worship leading, stewarding) are provided within the circuit or in co-operation with neighbouring circuits. The circuit and its personnel actively support the vocational development of its people and two people are training as Local Preachers.

Ecumenical co-operation and partnership is a feature of circuit and church life (three of our churches are Local Ecumenical Partnerships). Churches are encouraged to participate in ecumenical events. They also participate in ecumenical community initiatives (eg. Food Banks; Winter Night Shelter for Rough Sleepers

In Bracknell and Wokingham, an afterschool drop-in centre in Crowthorne) some of which have been supported by a grant from circuit funds.

The Circuit continues to support and encourage the involvement of local churches in planning for and carrying out ecumenical Christian outreach to those moving into various large new housing developments in the area.

Churches are encouraged to view their buildings as a community facility, and several are well used by groups and individuals from the surrounding community. In normal times our church buildings are used for a variety of community activities. These ceased in March 2020 but will resume once restrictions allow. Advice and support in keeping buildings well maintained is provided by the Circuit and the Methodist District.

Individual churches and their members support a variety of local, national and international charities through their giving and through fundraising events (eg. sponsored walk for Action for Children; donations to Food Banks; sponsoring a child.)

Financial review

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

There was a deficit in the General Fund, before gains/losses on Investments, for the year, of £31,465, compared with a deficit of £24,003 in 2019-20. The budget for the year anticipated a deficit of around £17,000.

General income for 2019-20 was 4.6% higher than the previous year at £200,010, largely due to Bagshot making a donation to the Circuit equivalent to 50% of the grant which had been made to the Church the previous year for an upgrade to toilet facilities. There was no rental income from the vacant Bracknell manse as repair and decoration took longer than planned, being held up by Covid restrictions.

General expenditure was 7.6% higher than the previous year at £231,475, partly due to removal expenses for an incoming minister. Increased property and maintenance costs were partly covered by a transfer from the Manse Maintenance Fund. There was virtually no grant expenditure.

Fund balances

The Circuit holds unrestricted general funds of £2,100,721 (previous year £2,008,770), of which £1,930,431 is the estimated market value of the three manses (previous year £1,842,541). The Designated Fund for Manse Maintenance holds £19,300 (previous year £30,824).

The Circuit also holds £223,051 in its Model Trust Fund (previous year £230,626). This decrease was largely due to covering the deficit on the general account.

Plans for 2020-21

Due to Covid restrictions on activities, churches had to close for worship from March 2020 were able to open on a restricted basis for only a short period of the following 12 months. Income from lettings virtually disappeared. The Circuit therefore decided to reduce the assessment burden on churches by 100% for the first quarter and 50% for the second quarter of the 2020-21 financial year. Circuit income from assessments (the major source of income) will therefore be 37.5% lower than it would otherwise have been. A deficit of £128,000 is foreseen for the year, which will be met from reserves. It is anticipated that Winkfield Row Methodist chapel (Fair Value less estimated costs to sell and levy £104,000) will be sold during the year.

Risks

The Trustees have examined the principal areas of their operations and considered what major risks could arise in each of these areas. The major risk to the operation of the Circuit is that we are unsuccessful in attracting a Minister to fill any vacant position – this risk is mitigated by the stationing process of the Methodist Church, which aims to provide ministers for openings supported by the District.

In addition, we note that the Circuit is heavily dependent on volunteers, particularly in terms of managing Property and Finance. Lack of volunteers in these areas runs the risk of failing to meet our commitments as a Charity.

The major financial risk to the Circuit would arise if one of the larger churches (especially Wokingham) were unable to meet its Circuit Assessment due to a reduction in giving and/or in property lettings. This risk is mitigated by both the Circuit itself and the individual churches having a Reserves Policy which ensures adequate reserves being in place at all times to meet any shortfalls.

Reserves

The Circuit needs some free reserves in place to enable it to meet its obligations in the event of an unexpected shortfall in income. Free reserves as defined by the Charity Commission are unrestricted funds available to spend on the general purposes of the Circuit and therefore exclude those funds designated for specific purposes and those already utilised in purchasing tangible assets.

The Trustees of the Circuit believe they should hold free reserves sufficient to cover at least six months' expenditure plus £50,000 as a property reserve for major repairs. Based on planned 2020-21 expenditure this will be £184,000. Net current assets in Unrestricted and Non-designated funds were £281,341 at 31 August 2020. We anticipate a reduction in this figure with a budgeted deficit of around £128,000 in 2020-21, offset by the anticipated sale of Winkfield Row chapel (Fair value less estimated costs to sell and levy £104,000).

We make provision for our property maintenance programme by designating £5,000 per year to maintain each of the three manse. Any under or overspend is allocated to or taken from the designated Manse Maintenance Fund. This Fund stood at £19,300 at 31 August 2020.

Public Benefit

The Trustees declare that the Charity is a public benefit entity and they have complied with the duty imposed under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Approved by the Trustees on 10 June 2021, and

Signed on their behalf by Revd Catherine Bowstead – Trustee



.....

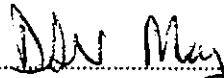
Name of Circuit: Berkshire Surrey Borders

No: 36/02

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer



Date 10th June 2021

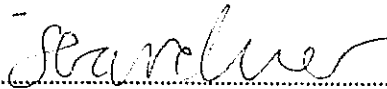
Name and address of treasurer David Morgan

4 Purslane, Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 2DD

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 10th June 2021.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Revd Sharon Gardner or Revd Catherine Bowstead

Name of the Chair of the meeting Revd Catherine Bowstead

Date 10th June 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1134496

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Berkshire Surrey Borders Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2020. 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 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: Alison Elliott

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: FCCA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Butt Miller

Address: 92 Park Street, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 3NY

Date 10th June 2021

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2019-20
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Donations and legacies		6,823					6,823
2 Income from monetary investments		187	1,917		2		2,106
3 Income from investment properties							0
4 Assessments on Churches		186,460					186,460
5 Capital Receipts							0
6 Grants received		1,100					1,100
7 Other charitable income		5,440					5,440
8 Total income		200,010	1,917	-	2	-	201,929
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations	9	218					218
10 Salaries and associated costs	7	126,959					126,959
11 Property maintenance		26,524					26,524
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		36,247					36,247
13 District Assessment & Levy		7,679	9,031				16,710
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses		127					127
16 Other outgoings	8	33,721	461				34,182
17 Total charitable expenditure		231,475	9,492	0	0	0	240,967
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	4	111,890					111,890
20 Net income/(expenditure)		80,425	-7,575	0	2	0	72,852
21 Transfers between funds		11,526	-	11,524	-	2	0
22 Other gains/(losses)							
23 Net movement in funds		91,951	-7,575	-11,524	0	0	72,852
24 Total funds brought forward		2,008,770	230,626	30,824	-		2,270,220
25 Total funds carried forward		2,100,721	223,051	19,300	-	-	2,343,072

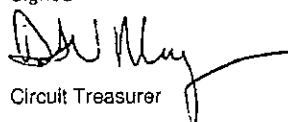
Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2019

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2018-19 £
Income							
1 Donations and legacies							0
2 Income from monetary investments		159	2,111		78		2,348
3 Income from investment properties							0
4 Assessments on Churches		190,966					190,966
5 Capital Receipts							0
6 Grants received							0
7 Other charitable income		46					46
8 Total Income		191,171	2,111	-	78	-	193,360
Expenditure							
9 Grants and donations		15,962	14,000		9,253		39,215
10 Salaries and associated costs	7	126,391					126,391
11 Property maintenance		7,274					7,274
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		34,236					34,236
13 District Assessment & Levy		6,436	10,245				16,681
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses		54					54
16 Other outgoings	8	24,821	507		18		25,346
17 Total charitable expenditure		215,174	24,752	0	9,271	0	249,197
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	4	- 11,492					
20 Net income/(expenditure)		-35,495	-22,641	0	-9,193	0	-67,329
21 Transfers between funds	-	7,726		7,726			0
22 Other gains/(losses)		92,557					92,557
23 Net movement in funds		49,336	-22,641	7,726	-9,193	0	25,228
24 Total funds brought forward		1,959,434	253,267	23,098	9,193		2,244,992
25 Total funds carried forward		2,008,770	230,626	30,824	-	-	2,270,220

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2019/20	Totals 2018/19
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Manses & Equipment	14	1,407,547				1,407,547	1,842,541
Investment properties	14	634,884				634,884	88,000
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		2,042,431	0	0	0	2,042,431	1,930,541
Current Assets							
Debtors	11	22,458				22,458	6,488
Loans by the Circuit	11 and 16	15,000				15,000	0
Investments with TMCP			223,051			223,051	230,626
Central Finance Board Deposits		5,418				5,418	48,832
Cash at Bank and in hand		19,401		19,300		38,701	103,296
Total current assets		62,275	223,051	19,300	0	304,626	389,242
Current liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	12	3,985				3,985	49,563
Grants payable within 2020-21						0	0
Total current liabilities		3,985	0	0	0	3,985	49,563
Net current assets/liabilities		58,290	223,051	19,300	0	300,641	339,679
Total assets less current liabilities		2,100,721	223,051	19,300	0	2,343,072	2,270,220
Long term liabilities							
(due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2020-21						0	0
Loans to the Circuit						0	0
Not assets		2,100,721	223,051	19,300	0	2,343,072	2,270,220
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	17	2,100,721				2,100,721	2,008,770
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	17		223,051			223,051	230,626
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	17			19,300		19,300	30,824
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,343,072	2,270,220
Restricted Funds	17			0		0	0
Endowment Funds					0	0	0
Total Funds		2,100,721	223,051	19,300	0	2,343,072	2,270,220

Signed



Circuit Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2 Funds

The funds held constitute General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted, Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purpose and is categorised as unrestricted, Designated funds which are Unrestricted but held for a narrower purpose (maintenance of Manses), and the Alma Adley Bequest Fund which is restricted but has now been used. There are no Endowment funds. Details of each material fund are disclosed in Note 17 to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value, unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes, and on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources Expended

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

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

Grants received comprise amounts received under the government's job retention scheme and are recognised in the SOFA once the relevant performance conditions have been met.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, uprated using the Nationwide index of house prices for the Outer South East region. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

Where property held is surplus to normal staffing requirements and it is anticipated that it is unlikely to be used as a manse within two years, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not).

Investment Properties

During the prior period the circuit assumed responsibility for a chapel and associated land following closure and cessation of worship for a church within the circuit. The property is recognised at its anticipated net sale price after taking into

consideration the levy to be charged by the Connexion. Until the property is sold, any expenditure that is likely to enhance the sales value is capitalised at the time the expenditure is incurred while costs associated with ownership are expensed to the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA).

Concessionary Loans

Concessionary loans are initially recognised and measured at the amount received or paid with the carrying amount adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments, any accrued interest and, if necessary, any impairments.

Current Asset Investments

Current asset investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

Going concern

At the time of signing these accounts, the trustees believe that the charity has adequate resources and reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The 2019-20 financial year has been dramatically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Churches had to close for worship from March 2020 and were only able to open on a restricted basis for a short period since then. The Circuit decided to reduce the assessment burden on the majority of churches by 100% for quarter 1 and 50% for quarter 2 of the 2020-21 financial year, with the increased deficit to be met from reserves.

4 Gains on investments

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Property revaluation (Unrealised)	87,890	(11,492)
Investment property revaluation (Unrealised)	24,000	-
	<u>111,890</u>	<u>(11,492)</u>

5 Payment to Trustees

Five trustees received remuneration in relation to their employment with the Charity as ministers or lay employees. There were no other payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit.

	2019/20	2018/19
Trustee expenses reimbursed		
Number of Trustees reimbursed	11	8
Total amount reimbursed	<u>£13,868</u>	<u>£9,157</u>

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel costs for attending meetings, plus reimbursement of costs paid directly by Circuit Officers (principally in relation to property repairs).

6 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	1,140	1,140
Other fees (e.g.: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner	720	720
	<u>1,860</u>	<u>1,860</u>

7 Paid employees

Staff costs paid during the year were:	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	102,915	97,693
Employer's National Insurance costs	8,515	8,389
Pension costs	15,529	20,309
Total staff costs	<u>126,959</u>	<u>126,391</u>
Average monthly employees in the year were:	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

No employees receive employee benefits of more than £60,000.

8 Other outgoings

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Travel	5,892	5,719
Telephone and internet	1,045	270
Training	222	150
Utilities	1,337	1,573
Council tax	7,181	6,883
Insurance	5,299	4,100
Removal expenses	9,156	0
Other expenses	3,590	6,126
MTF administration	461	525
Total	<u>34,183</u>	<u>25,346</u>

9 Grants

During the year a grant of £218 was made to an employee for 50% of the cost of preacher training.

10 Related Party Transactions

During the year the charity made a concessionary loan to a church within the circuit. See note 16 for more details.

Included within other income is £5,144 received from Bracknell and The Pines to cover the cost of what could have been claimed under the government's furlough job retention scheme for an employee.

11 Debtors and Prepayments

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Debtors	12,324	500
Stipends paid in advance	9,059	5,988
HMRC JRS Grant	1,075	0
Total	<u>22,458</u>	<u>6,488</u>
Concessionary loan	15,000	0
Grand total	<u>37,458</u>	<u>6,488</u>
Amounts due in more than 1 year		
Concessionary loan	<u>12,000</u>	<u>0</u>

12 Current liabilities

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Creditors	3,360	5,285
Assessments received in advance	625	44,278
Total	<u>3,985</u>	<u>49,563</u>

13 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2020 there are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities.

14 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Investment Properties £	Land £	Manses £	Total £
Cost and valuation				
Balance brought forward	88,000	1,017,583	824,958	1,842,541
Additions	0	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	24,000	45,418	42,472	87,890
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers (+/-)	522,884	(252,223)	(270,661)	(522,884)
Balance carried forward	<u>634,884</u>	<u>810,778</u>	<u>596,769</u>	<u>1,407,547</u>
Accumulated depreciation				
Balance brought forward	0	0	0	0
Depreciation charge for year (-)	-	-	-	-
Revaluations (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Disposals (-)	-	-	-	-
Transfers* (+/-)	-	-	-	-
Balance carried forward	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net book value				
Brought forward	88,000	1,017,583	824,958	1,842,541
Carried forward	<u>634,884</u>	<u>810,778</u>	<u>596,769</u>	<u>1,407,547</u>

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed values, uprated annually using the Nationwide index of house prices for the Outer South East region.

One of the properties was unoccupied at the year end. This is not expected to be temporary and therefore the property has been reclassified as investment property.

Cost or valuation at 31st August 2020 is represented by:

	Investment Properties £	Land £	Manses £	Total £
Cost		553,474	448,652	1,002,126
Valuation in 2013		273,433	221,647	495,080
Valuation in 2014		58,140	47,128	105,268
Valuation in 2015		48,675	39,457	88,132
Valuation in 2016		43,565	35,315	78,880
Valuation in 2017		38,256	30,851	69,107
Valuation in 2018		7,978	7,462	15,440
Control acquired over asset (at valuation)	88,000			
Valuation in 2019		(5,938)	(5,554)	(11,492)
Valuation in 2020	24,000	45,418	42,472	87,890
Property reclassification	522,547	(252,223)	(270,661)	(522,884)
As at 31 st August 2020	<u>634,884</u>	<u>810,778</u>	<u>596,769</u>	<u>1,407,547</u>

15 Investments

During the prior period the circuit assumed responsibility for a chapel and associated land following closure and cessation of worship for a church within the circuit. The property was initially recognised at its anticipated net sale price as determined by a professional valuation and after taking into consideration the levy to be charged by the Connexion. This has subsequently been revalued to reflect an accepted offer.

The circuit has no common investment fund holdings.

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Manses Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month.

TCMP 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 Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure 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.

16 Loans

During the period the charity granted a concessionary loan of £15,000 to Bracknell Church to be repaid back over 5 years.

Church	Date granted	Amount	Period	Balance brought forward	Additions	Repaid this year	Balance Carried Forward	Amount due in more than 1 year
		£		£	£	£	£	£
Bracknell	November 2019	15,000	5 years	0	15,000	0	£15,000	£12,000

17 Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted fund name	At 01.09.19 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Extraordinary items £	At 31.08.20 £
General	2,008,770	200,010	231,475	11,526	111,890	0	2,100,721
Circuit Model Trusts	230,626	1,917	9,492	0	0	0	223,051
Designated Manse Maintenance	30,824	0	0	-11,524	0	0	19,300

Restricted fund name	01.09.19 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	31.08.20 £	Purpose of the fund
Alma Adley Bequest Fund	0	2	0	-2	0	0	May be utilised for the purpose of the circuit

Comparatives for movement in funds

Unrestricted fund name	01.09.18 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Extraordinary items £	31.08.19 £
General	1,959,434	191,171	215,174	-7,726	43,940	92,557	2,008,770
Circuit Model Trusts	253,267	2,111	24,752	0	0	0	230,626
Designated Manse Maintenance	23,098	0	0	7,726	0	0	30,824

During the prior period, following closure and cessation of worship for a church within the circuit, the circuit assumed responsibility for a chapel and associated land. This was recognised at £88,000, its anticipated net sale price as determined by a professional valuation after taking into consideration the levy to be charged by the Connexion. This plus cash transferred of £4,557 are included within extraordinary items.

Restricted fund name	01.09.18 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	31.08.19 £	Purpose of the fund
Alma Adley Bequest Fund	9,193	78	9,271	0	0	0	May be utilised for the purpose of the circuit

18 For information only Money received and passed on to External Organisations

	2019/20 £	2018/19 £
Balance brought forward	46	0
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	0	46
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	0	0
Balance carried forward	46	46