

Swansea and Gower Methodist Circuit
Charity No 1134882
Report of the Trustees For The Year
Ended 31st August 2021

The Trustees submit their annual report and the independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2021.

Legal and administrative information

The governing body of the Circuit is the annual conference of the Methodist Church. The Methodist Church Act 1976 gives the authority under which the Methodist Church acts. The constitutional practice and discipline of the Methodist Church governs the activities of the Circuit.

The Methodist Church is no longer excepted from the need to register as a charity and on 12th March 2010 the Circuit registered as a separate charity under the Charities Act 2006 and has been allocated the Registered Number 1134882.

Superintendent Minister: Rev Howard Long

Circuit Address: Swansea and Gower Circuit Office, Mumbles Methodist Church, Mumbles, Swansea SA3 4DH

Organisational Structure

The Swansea and Gower Circuit is made up of eleven churches. These are - Pitton, Horton, Reynoldston, Murton, Mumbles, Uniting Church Sketty, Brunswick, Penlan, Wesley, Morriston, Clydach. There are approximately 450 members, numerous worshipping adherents and community 'contacts'.

There are 8 members of staff. These are Rev Howard Long – Superintendent Minister, Rev Andrew Walker, Rev Leslie Noon, Rev Andrew Pearce (Associate Minister – Anglican) and Rev Michael Ellor Associate Minister – Anglican) Rev Betty McNiven (Associate Minister – Anglican) and Lay Workers – Huw Davies and Heather Davies.

Other office holders (voluntary) include

Circuit Stewards – Mrs Heather Coleman, Ken Allison, Circuit Treasurer – Mrs Grace Coleman, Mrs Lynne Taylor Circuit Meeting Secretary – Mrs Nancy Owens

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Managing Trustees. During the year 2020/21 the following people served as members of the Circuit Meeting.

CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP

STAFF

Revd Howard Long
Rev. Leslie Noon
Rev. Andrew Walker

Rev Andrew Pearce
Rev Michael Ellor
Rev Betty McNiven
Rev. Pam Cram
Rev. Malcolm Guest
Rev Frieder Kreschnak
Rev Margaret Adams

LAY WORKERS

Mr Huw Davies – Ogof Adullum
Mrs Heather Davies – Ogof Adullum

CIRCUIT ROLES

Mrs Nancy Owens – Secretary
Mrs Grace Coleman – Steward (Treasurer)
Mrs Heather Coleman – Steward
Mrs Lynne Taylor – Steward/ Safeguarding Co-ordinator (Admin)
Mr Ken Allison – Steward
Mrs Laura Honour - Steward
Mr Alan Cram – Local Preachers Secretary
Rev Pam Cram - MWiB
Mr Jeff Coleman – Archivist
Miss Janet Nielson – Art Serve
Mrs Sandra Pengelly – Methodist Homes
Mrs Sybil Smith – Mission
Mrs Pat Davies – Safeguarding (referrals)
Mrs Gill Worrall – Action for Children
Mr Andrew Phillips – Property
Mr Keith Morris – Property

CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES

Kath Jones
Sybil Smith
Malcolm Grimley
Hildegard Roberts
Peter Scott
Eleanor Cuthill
Irene Dendle
Douglas Dendle
Richard Williams
Diane Norton
David Boakes
Caroline Buckler
Geoff Maddock
Cynthia Mumford
Owain Davies
Ruth Painter

Marjorie Probert
Blodwen O'Connor
Carolyn Jenkins
Patrick Jenkins
Selina Taylor
Ian Campbell
Jane Closs
Geoff Noon
Sandra Cuthill
Les Want
Alan Jones
Elaine Davies
Maureen Estcourt
Brinley Jones

Mission and Purpose

The Circuit is constituted to advance the mission of the Methodist Church in the Swansea and Gower area by providing opportunities for churches to work together and support each other. It does this by offering resources and expertise which may not be available locally. The Circuit also services the local Churches in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church, and in programmes of training.

Priorities for the Methodist Church

In partnership with others wherever possible, the Methodist Church will concentrate its prayers, resources, imagination and commitments on this priority:

To proclaim and affirm its conviction of God's love in Christ, for us and for all the world; and renew confidence in God's presence and action in the world and in the Church

As ways towards realising this priority, the Methodist Church will give particular attention to the following:

- Underpinning everything we do with God-centred worship and prayer
- Supporting community development and action for justice, especially among the most deprived and poor in Britain and worldwide
- Developing confidence in evangelism and in the capacity to speak of God and faith in ways that make sense to all involved
- Encouraging fresh ways of being Church
- Nurturing a culture in the Church which is people-centred and flexible

Swansea and Gower Circuit Policy

As a Circuit we affirm the Priorities of the Methodist Church and seek to:

- Express the Gospel through worship, word and action in ways that will speak to the needs and culture of the people around us.

- Nurture Christian understanding and lifestyle through fellowship groups, study groups and prayer groups in the Churches.
- Encourage growth in church membership through worship and evangelism, mission and pastoral care.
- Support existing chaplaincies and develop other chaplaincy work wherever possible.
- Work in partnership with other churches wherever possible in order for us to share in God's mission more effectively.
- Play a full part in the work of the Methodist Church in Wales while being inspired and challenged as part of the worldwide Church of Christ.
- Be sensitive to environmental issues and be good stewards of our natural resources.

Review of the Year

Staffing: Rev Leslie Noon was invited to serve in the circuit for a further two years from September 2020. Rev Betty McNiven was welcomed to serve as an Associate Presbyter offering pastoral support at Wesley Brynhyfryd.

Circuit Leadership Team: Mrs Laura Honour was welcomed into her new role as a circuit steward. The CLT is made up of all staff (lay and ordained) and 5 circuit stewards Heather Coleman (UCS) Ken Allison (Mumbles) Grace Coleman (Morriston) Lynne Taylor (Pitton) and Laura Honour (UCS)

Local Preachers: The Local Preachers met regularly online for mutual support, continuing development and LP/WL business. Rev John Atkinson stood down as LP tutor and was replaced by Rev Andrew Pearce. Miss Sue Raad became a fully accredited Local Preacher following the successful completion of her course.

Bible Month: The circuit supported Bible Month in June concentrating on the New Testament book of Mark

Ogof Adullam Drop-in Centre: The project moved to Penlan church following the closure of Brunswick but remained closed for much of the year due to lockdown restrictions.

Men's Shed: The circuit trustees approved the siting of a Men's Shed at Penlan.

Penlan: In order to oversee the planned work at Penlan and given the fact that there is no congregation meeting at the church it was decided to form a church council comprising circuit officers and members of other churches and chaired by the Superintendent minister. The church council reports to the circuit trustees twice a year.

Ty Ogof Recovery Housing – The circuit took the decision to not continue with the Ty Ogof Recovery Housing Project

The Circuit Project for the year was Creation Wise (second year)

Safeguarding: Training sessions continued online throughout the circuit.

Property: All of the churches remained closed throughout much of the year due to the pandemic. The CLT prepared risk assessments for those churches that re-opened for special services and events.

The circuit sold two properties. Brunswick and the Channel View manse.

Building work was completed in Wesley Brynhyfryd (the fitting of internal doors) Murton Hall (refurbishment of WC block) and UCS – (new Hall). Repair work was completed at Mumbles following flood damage.

Eco Awards – UCS, Clydach and Pitton all received Eco awards throughout the year

Wales Methodist Synod. The circuit was fully represented at all Synod meetings that took place online throughout the year including the annual Synod (Sept 2020), a special Synod to vote on the God in Love Unites Us Report (April 2021) and the Synod Policy Committee. The Superintendent Minister chaired the Synod Schemes and Grants committee which met online three times during the year.

In the course of the year the Swansea and Gower Circuit has:

- Prepared the preaching plan and organised acts of worship mainly online using Zoom
- Arranged four Circuit Meetings dealing with business relating to the Circuit and to formulate plans for the future including agreeing the budget and church assessments for the financial year 2021/22
- Completed an annual GDPR and Safeguarding audit
- Arranged meetings of the Ogof Adullam Management Team
- Arranged 2 meetings of the Circuit Mission Committee
- Arranged 6 meetings of the Circuit Leadership Team to discuss the life of the Circuit
- Each minister has received 6 Supervision sessions.
- Arranged 4 meetings of the Local Preachers and Worship Leaders as well as various study sessions

SWANSEA & GOWER METHODIST CIRCUIT

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2021

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals This Year	Previous Year Totals
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources						
Assessment or Share	204,742				204,742	210,687
Capital Receipts						
Interest and Investment Income	26	255			281	380
Grants	4,000				4,000	4,000
Profit on Sale of Manse	75,388				75,388	0
Other Income	9,048	0			9,048	5,308
Total Incoming Resources	293,204	255	0	0	293,459	220,375
Stipends, Salaries, NIC & Pension costs	122,701				122,701	135,276
District Assessment	1,345				1,345	4,518
Methodist Church Fund	38,525				38,525	38,525
Telephone & Travel	4,856				4,856	9,801
Insurance, Utilities etc	13,272				13,272	15,370
Maintenance on Manses	5,011				5,011	8,726
Other Expenditure	23,333	4,492			27,825	9,760
Grants & Donations	0				0	0
Professional Fees	4,689				4,689	0
CPF Levy	0	84,180			84,180	0
Contributions to District Advance Funds	0				0	0
Total Resources Expended	213,732	88,672	0	0	302,404	221,976
Net Incoming Resources	79,472	-88,417	0	0	-8,945	-1,601
Total Funds Brought Forward	922,774	29,021				953,396
Funds transfer	-260,311	260,311				
Total Funds Carried Forward at Year End	741,935	200,915	0	0	-8,945	951,795

SWANSEA & GOWER METHODIST CIRCUIT

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals This Year	Previous Year Totals
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets						
Manses	700,979				700,979	890,591
Total Fixed Assets	700,979	0	0	0	700,979	890,591
Current Assets						
Debtors and Prepayments	0		5,991		5,991	12,867
Central Finance Board and Trustees for Methodist Purposes Deposit	17,433	200,915			218,348	46,430
Cash at Bank and in Hand	54,677		32,164		86,841	67,062
Total Current Assets	72,110	200,915	38,155	0	311,180	126,359
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 year)	31,154		38,155		69,309	65,155
Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	40,956	200,915	0	0	241,871	61,204
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	741,935	200,915	0	0	942,850	951,795
Loans and creditors due after 1 year	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provision for liabilities and charges	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net Assets	741,935	200,915	0	0	942,850	951,795
Funds of the Circuit						
General Fund (Unrestricted)	741,935				741,935	922,774
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)		200,915			200,915	29,021
Total Funds	741,935	200,915	0	0	942,850	951,795

To be Approved by the Swansea & Gower Circuit on JUNE 16th and signed on their behalf

Rev. Howard Long

Grace Coleman

Registered Charity No. 1134882

Independent Examiner's Report

to the trustees of Swansea & Gower Methodist Circuit (Charity Number 1134882)

I report on the circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiners' Report

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


Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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

Signed: 

Date: 21/06/2022

Name: CARL WEST

Relevant professional qualification or Body: ACA

Address: 144 WALTER ROAD
SWANSEA
SA1 5RW