

**Swansea and Gower Methodist Circuit**  
**Charity No 1134882**  
**Report of the Trustees For The Year**  
**Ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023**

The Trustees submit their annual report and the independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2023.

**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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 455 members, numerous worshipping adherents and community 'contacts'.

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

Other office holders (voluntary) include

Circuit Stewards – Mrs Heather Coleman, Ken Allison, Mrs Grace Coleman (Treasurer), Mrs Lynne Taylor, Mrs Laura Honour, Mr Colin Everett and Circuit Meeting Secretary – Mrs Nancy Owens

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Managing Trustees. During the year 2022/23 the following people served as members of the Circuit Meeting.

## **CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP**

### **STAFF**

Revd Howard Long  
Rev. Andrew Walker  
Rev Andrew Pearce – Associate Presbyter  
Rev Betty McNiven – Associate Presbyter  
Rev Michael Ellor – Associate Presbyter

### **LAY WORKERS**

Mr Huw Davies – Ogof Adullam  
Mrs Heather Davies – Ogof Adullam

### **CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATOR**

Mrs Louise Davies

### **SUPERNUMERARY MINISTERS**

Rev. Pam Cram – Missions Secretary/MWiB  
Rev. Margaret Adams

### **CIRCUIT ROLES**

Mrs Nancy Owens – Circuit Meeting Secretary  
Mrs Grace Coleman – Circuit Treasurer  
Mrs Heather Coleman – Circuit Steward  
Mr Ken Allison – Circuit Steward (part year)  
Mrs Laura Honour – Circuit Steward (part year)  
Mrs Lynne Taylor – Circuit Steward  
Mr Colin Everett – Circuit Steward (part year)  
Mr Alan Cram – Local Preachers Secretary (part year)  
Mrs Win Hawkins Local Preachers Secretary (part year)  
Miss Janet Neilson – Art Serve Representative  
Mr Jeff Coleman – Circuit Archivist  
Mrs Pat Davies – Circuit Safeguarding  
Mrs Sandra Pengelly – Circuit MHA representative  
Mrs Gill Worrall – Circuit Action for Children representative  
Mr Andrew Phillips – Circuit Property Secretary  
Mr Keith Morris – Circuit Property

### **CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES**

**Brunswick** Kathleen Jones, Sybil Smith, Malcolm Grimley  
**Clydach** Marilyn Harry, Alan Cram (part year)  
**Horton** Hildegard Roberts, Peter Scott, Audrey Hinnells  
**Morriston** Eleanor Cuthill  
**Mumbles** Mark Puntan, David Boakes, Caroline Buckler, Geoff Maddock, Cynthia Mumford  
**Murton** Ruth Painter, Marjorie Probert  
**Penlan** Blodwen O'Connor  
**Pitton** Carolyn Jenkins (part year), Selina Taylor, Isobel Everett  
**Reynoldston** Ian Campbell  
**Sketty** Jon Dyer, Sandra Cuthill, Les Want, Alan Jones  
**Wesley** Elaine Davies, 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:** It was not possible to appoint a new minister through the Methodist stationing system for this year and so the work of Uniting Church Sketty, Clydach and the University Chaplaincy was covered by existing staff ( Rev Andrew Pearce) and Supernumerary ministers ( Rev Linda Woollacott, Rev Noel Davies and Rev John Atkinson). A circuit administrator was appointed (Louise Davies). During the year it was agreed through the stationing system that Rev Louise Gough would be appointed to serve in the circuit from September 2023.

**Circuit Leadership Team:** The CLT is made up of all staff ( lay and ordained) and 4 circuit stewards Heather Coleman (UCS) Ken Allison ( Mumbles) Grace Coleman (Morrison) Lynne Taylor ( Pitton) and Laura Honour (UCS).

During the year Ken Allison and Laura Honour stepped down and were replaced by Colin Everett (Pitton).

**Local Preachers:** The Local Preachers met regularly online for mutual support, continuing development and LP/WL business. Alan Cram stepped down as LP/WL secretary and was replaced by Win Hawkins. Quentin Hawkins was presented with a certificate recognising 25 years as a Local preacher

**Bible Month:** The circuit supported Bible Month in June concentrating on the New Testament book of Revelation.

**Ogof Adullam Drop-in Centre:** The project re-opened in Penlan with many guests attending on three days a week. The project is overseen by a circuit management committee.

**Men's Shed:** The Men's Shed was officially opened. Swansea Council leaders, members of the community and many friends from the circuit attended the Open Day

**Penlan:** Penlan Church Council (made up of trustees from other churches) continued to oversee the property and mission of the church.

**Safeguarding:** Training sessions continued throughout the circuit. The Annual Safeguarding Policy for the circuit was agreed.

**Property:** The Wesley Building Scheme was ongoing. The sale of the Morrison chapel was completed. Discussions at Murton regarding the consolidating the work in the hall and the chapel on one site were ongoing. The work on Sketty manse was ongoing. A number of Quinquennial reports were completed throughout the year.

**Eco Grants:** The circuit continued to offer grants to support churches as they work to become more environmentally friendly.

**Circuit Strategy:** A document detailing circuit strategy for the next five years was presented by the Circuit Leadership Team and distributed to the churches for discussion and action.

**Wales Methodist Synod.** The circuit was fully represented at all Synod meetings that took place throughout the year including the annual Synod (Sept 2022), Ministerial Synod ( March 2023) and the Synod Policy Committee ( Online). 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 both online and in person
- 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 2023/24
- Completed an annual GDPR and Safeguarding audit
- Arranged EDI Training for all Staff and Office Holders.
- 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 received regular supervision
- 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 2023

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals This Year	Previous Year Totals
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Incoming Resources</b>						
Assessment or Share	196,268				196,268	196,580
Capital Receipts						
Interest and Investment Income	639	7,947			8,586	1,255
Grants	4,000				4,000	4,000
Profit on Sale of Buildings	21,660				21,660	62,000
Other Income	8,000	0			8,000	29,887
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>230,567</b>	<b>7,947</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>238,514</b>	<b>293,722</b>
Stipends, Salaries, NIC & Pension costs	88,095				88,095	110,026
District Assessment	37,988				37,988	4,963
Methodist Church Fund	4,909				4,909	38,373
Telephone & Travel	4,567				4,567	3,549
Insurance, Utilities etc	17,383				17,383	12,540
Maintenance on Manses	16,549				16,549	5,549
Other Expenditure	31,472				31,472	17,129
Grants & Donations	0	24,622			24,622	55,745
Professional Fees	0	2,470			2,470	0
CPF Levy	0	20,578			20,578	32,858
Contributions to District Advance Funds	0				0	0
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>200,963</b>	<b>47,670</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>248,633</b>	<b>280,732</b>
<b>Net Incoming Resources</b>	<b>29,604</b>	<b>-39,723</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-10,119</b>	<b>12,990</b>
Total Funds Brought Forward	730,347	225,493				942,850
Funds transfer	-81,660	81,660				
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward at Year End</b>	<b>678,291</b>	<b>267,430</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-10,119</b>	<b>955,840</b>

# SWANSEA & GOWER METHODIST CIRCUIT

## Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals This Year	Previous Year Totals
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>						
Manse	580,979				580,979	640,979
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	580,979	0	0	0	580,979	640,979
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Debtors and Prepayments	11,808		0		11,808	6,401
Central Finance Board and Trustees for Methodist Purposes Deposit	18,114	267,430			285,544	242,998
Cash at Bank and in Hand	83,138		756		83,894	84,500
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	113,060	267,430	756	0	381,246	333,899
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 year)	15,748		756		16,504	19,038
Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	97,312	267,430	0	0	364,742	314,861
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>	678,291	267,430	0	0	945,721	955,840
Loans and creditors due after 1 year	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provision for liabilities and charges	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Assets</b>	678,291	267,430	0	0	945,721	955,840
<b>Funds of the Circuit</b>						
General Fund (Unrestricted)	678,291				678,291	730,347
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)		267,430			267,430	225,493
<b>Total Funds</b>	678,291	267,430	0	0	945,721	955,840

To be Approved by the Swansea & Gower Circuit on June 20<sup>th</sup> 24 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 2023.

#### **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:

10/05/2024

Name:

CARL WEST

Relevant professional qualification or Body:

ACA

Address:

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SWANSEA

SA1 5RW