

Rustington Methodist Church

Trustees Report for the year ending 31st August 2023

1.0 Aims and Purposes

Our mission is to affirm God's presence, proclaim God's love and demonstrate God's action.

We aim to achieve this by developing worship, social outreach activities that currently exist, and by seeking new ways to extend the fellowship of the Church family.

We endorse the understanding of the Methodist Church in Great Britain that the church exists for:

- **Worship:** to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.
- **Learning and Caring:** to help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- **Service:** to be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.
- **Evangelism:** to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

2.0 Objectives and activities

In partnership with others wherever possible, Rustington 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.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Church Council meets at least four times a year under the leadership of the presbyter in pastoral charge. The work of the Church Council is delegated to a variety of teams and working parties including the Church Stewards, Resources (Property and Finance) Committee, Pastoral Committee and Safeguarding.

3.0 Achievements and performance

The Church funds and grants made to other bodies are all detailed in the Church accounts.

In the course of the year Rustington Methodist Church has provided regular acts of public worship on Sundays and other significant days of the Christian year, and joined with Rustington Churches Together to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Lent and a walk of witness on Good Friday. It has joined with other churches in the West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Circuit to bid farewell to ministers, and to celebrate other Christian festivals. The Church makes its premises available to the wider community, and community groups meet on the premises on a weekly basis.

Worship services have been held at 9.30 and 10.45. On most Sundays one of the services was live streamed/available as a recording online. The Church Preschool has continued to operate throughout.

The church has a system of Pastoral Care based on a team of volunteer Pastoral Visitors, and both formal and informal pastoral networks operate effectively.

The Link magazine has been published at intervals throughout the year. It has also been available online.

3.1 Plans for future years

Rustington Methodist Church is part of the West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Circuit.

The Church Council -

- Encourages initiatives for mission in the community

- Supports Churches Together in Rustington

- Ensures that all those required to do so attend appropriate safeguarding and EDI training.

4.0 Financial Review

Please see the accompanying accounts.

There were no significant events.

The Managing Trustees have every reason to believe that the Church is a going concern. Trustees do not foresee any factors that will significantly affect the financial performance or position in the next year or two.

The church holds no freehold property.

The church's principal sources of funds are from the free-will gifts of the members of the congregation, lettings and donations from groups and from fund-raising events.

4.1 Investment policy and performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long-term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements on the FTSE100 index. The deposit mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere. The Managing Trustees' investment policy is aligned with that of the CFB and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the Central Finance Board (CFB) and attract the normal current rate of interest.

4.2 Reserves Level and policy

Please see the accompanying Reserves level and policy agreed by the Church Council.

5.0 Trustees' Responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31st August the Managing Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the Church's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements the Managing Trustees must:

Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

Follow applicable accounting standards

Prepare accounts to Charity Commission standards using The Methodist Church Standard Form of Accounts

The Managing Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and enables them to ensure that financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

5.1 Risk

The Church is largely risk averse.

6.0 Structure, governance and management

The Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church.

6.1 Structure

Rustington Methodist Church is part of the West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Circuit. As such it is represented on the Circuit Meeting which meets four times a year. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by the Conference and is responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within the District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes these down to the Circuit Meeting for implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this

regulatory control is then exercised by the Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

6.2 Purpose of the Church

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of:

a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church, and b) Any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and, c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society, or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of Rustington Methodist Church is to advance the Christian faith by providing opportunities for worship, Christian nurture and fellowship within the wider Rustington Community.

6.3 Governance

The Church operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Connexional Office at 25 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5JR to provide guidance on changes that could affect the Church.

The members of the Church Council are appointed under the terms of S.O. 610(2). The Superintendent is ex officio chair of the Church Council but may delegate this task to other presbyters in the Circuit. The Church Council normally meets four times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the work of other groups within the life of the Church.

6.4 Responsibilities of the Church Council

The responsibilities of the Church Council and other committees are set out in Standing Orders 603 – 604 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

7.0 Reference and Administrative Details

7.1 Name of the Church: Rustington Methodist Church

7.2 Charity Registration number: Our charity registration number is 1134885

7.3 Superintendent Minister The Revd Rosemarie E G Clarke

Presbyter in Pastoral Charge The Revd Rosemarie E G Clarke

7.4 Names of Managing Trustees (in y/e 31/8/23)

Mrs Brigitte Alexander (*from 26/10/22*)

Mrs Dorothy Benison (*from 23/4/23*)

Mrs Sue Bingham

Mr John Bishop

Mrs Marian Clacher (*from 23/4/23*)

Mr Alan Clarke (*until 27/6/23*)

Mrs Christine Clarke.

Revd Rosemarie E G Clarke

Mrs Sue Cooper

Mr Colin Fraser

Mrs Ruth Fraser (*until 23/4/23*)

Mr Patrick Khoo (*until 23/4/23*)

Mrs Mary Lax (*from 23/4/23*)

Mr Ken Marshall

Rev Frank Okai-Sam

Ms Carole Pickworth

Mrs Mollie Priest (*until 11/7/23*)

Dr Rebecca Richards

Mr Simon Richards

Mrs Joan Salmon

Mrs Karen Scrivens (*from 26/10/22*)

Mr Robert Slatter

Mrs Elizabeth Slatter

Mrs Verena Thrift

Mrs Paula Trahern

Mrs Pam Warren (*until 23/4/23*)

Mrs Ann Waters

7.5 Independent Examiner Mr Steven R Trigg ACMA, CGMA of Trigg Accountancy

March 2024

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Rustington Methodist

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

West Sussex (Coast & Downs)

Circuit

Circuit no.

36/8

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

11348885

**If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number**

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Rosemarie Elaine Gaye Clarke

Church Stewards:

Mrs Elizabeth Slatter

Mrs Susan Bingham

Mrs Christine Clarke

Mrs Susan Cooper

Mr Patrick Khoo

Mrs Pamela Warren

Treasurer:

Mr Robert Slatter

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	68,762		68,762	72,805
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	5,359		5,359	377
a4	Lettings	6,953		6,953	2,965
a5	Other receipts	30,594		30,594	35,527
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	111,668		111,668 (a7)	111,674

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	74,685		74,685	76,093
b3	Donations	2,650		2,650	3,900
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	16,334		16,334	5,774
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	8,855		8,855	7,090
b6					
b7	Other payments	30,721		30,721	38,185
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	133,245		133,245 (b9)	131,042

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(21,577)	(21,577)	(19,368)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		210,006	210,006 (c6)	229,374
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	188,429	188,429	210,006
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	188,429	188,429 (c8)	210,006 (c6)

SECTION D					
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		£		£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		1,982		2,735
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		1,982		2,735
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E****Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	Rascals Pre-School Group	82,373	96,296	(13,923)		83,181	69,258
e2	Mod Mums	1,228	1,375	(147)		1,631	1,484
e3	Stepping Stones	2,960	2,464	496		1,699	2,195
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	86,561	100,135	(13,574)		86,511 (e11)	72,937 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	111,668 (a7)	133,245 (b9)	(21,577)	(c7)	210,006 (c6)	188,429 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	198,229	233,380	(35,151)		296,517 (x)	261,366 (y)
		TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	110	110
f2 Bank Current Account	13,767	11,670
f3 Bank Deposit Account	5,866	4,782
f4 Central Finance Board	1,363	458
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	188,900	171,409
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	210,006 (c6)	188,429 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	86,511 (e11)	72,937 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	296,517 (x)	261,366 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,675,843	2,900,613
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church .. RUSTINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date... 25-2-24 .

Name and address of treasurer Mr Robert H Slatter

14 Jervis Avenue Rustington Littlehampton Sussex BN162AU

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 27th November 2023

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ... Rosemarie E.G. Clarke

Name of the Chair of the meeting ... ROSEMARIE E.G. CLARKE ... Date 25th February 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

..... Rustington Methodist

Charity Number . 11348885

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Rustington Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 1 to 5 As the Church'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 Church'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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church .. Rustington Methodist

Independent Examiner's Statement

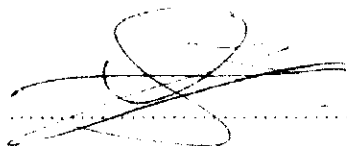
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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~~/have not* 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 Mr Steven R Trigg

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ACMA/CGMA

Name of firm (where appropriate) Trigg Accountancy

Address 75 Windroos Drive

..... Littlehampton

BN17 6FA

Date 30th January 2024

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THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Rustington Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

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West Sussex (Coast & Downs)	Circuit	Circuit no.	36/8
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Name of the Chair of the meeting ... ROSEMARIE E.G. CLARKE ... Date 25th February 2024

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Charity Number . 11348885

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Name of Church ... Rustington Methodist

Independent Examiner's Statement

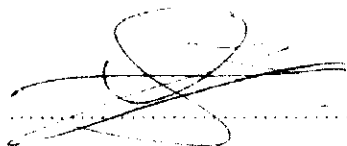
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Signature of independent examiner



Name of independent examiner Mr Steven R Trigg

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ACMA/CGMA

Name of firm (where appropriate) Trigg Accountancy

Address 75 Windroos Drive

..... Littlehampton

BN17 6FA

Date 30th January 2024

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