

**The Methodist Church**  
**Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District**

Registered Charity Number 1134902

**Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended**  
**31st August 2021**

**The Methodist Church**

**Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District**

**Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31st August 2021**

**CONTENTS**

	<b>Pages</b>
Trustees' Annual Report	2 - 8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Statement of Cash Flows	11
Notes to the Accounts	12 - 23
Declarations	24
Independent Examiner's Report	25

## Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2021

#### Reference and administrative information

**Registered charity name**                      Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

**Registered charity number**                      1134902

#### Trustees (members of the District Policy Committee)

The members of the District Policy Committee at the date of this report and those who served during the year ended 31st August 2021 are as follows:

Rev Rachel Parkinson - Chair  
Rev Pauline Salter - Deputy Chair  
Mr Andrew Beattie - Synod Secretary  
Mr Christopher Reed - District Treasurer

Rev David Alford  
Miss Rosie Bryant (appointed 1/9/21)  
Rev Christopher Collins (until 31/8/21)  
Rev Nicholas Collison  
Rev Alan Combes  
Rev Joanne Cox-Darling  
Rev Elizabeth Dunning (appointed 14/10/21)  
Rev Margaret Eales  
Mrs Angela Evans  
Rev Richard Hall  
Mr David Hemingway (appointed 27/5/21)  
Rev Roger Hides (appointed 1/9/21)  
Rev Jimione Kaci (appointed 1/9/21)  
Mrs Gillian Jolly (until 31/8/21)

Rev David Lavender  
Rev Susan Levitt  
Mr Ian Mason (until 31/8/21)  
Mr Leon Murray  
Mr Brian Oakley  
Rev Hendry Ponniah  
Mrs Margaret Reynolds (until 31/8/21)  
Rev Neil Richardson  
Rev Teddy Siwila  
Rev Julia Skitt  
Mr Keith Walton  
Mr Robert Whitehouse (until 31/8/21)  
Rev Denise Williams  
Rev Rachel Wood (appointed 1/9/21)

**Principal address**                      District Office  
Beckminster Methodist Church  
Birches Barn Road  
Wolverhampton  
WV3 7BQ

**Telephone**                                      01902 658383

**Website**                                        wsmethodist.org.uk

**Independent examiner**                      Ian Cattell FCA  
Crombies Accountants Limited  
34 Waterloo Road  
Wolverhampton  
WV1 4DG

<b>Bankers</b>	The Co-operative Bank PLC PO Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 9 Bonhill Street London EC2A 4PE
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## Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2021

#### Objectives and activities

The purpose of the Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District is laid out in Standing Order 400A of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church, namely that: *"the District is constituted to advance the mission of the Church in the region, by providing opportunities for Circuits to work together and support each other, by offering them resources of finance, personnel and expertise which may not be available locally and by enabling them to engage with the wider society of the region as a whole and address its concerns."* The central priorities of the Methodist Church are Worship, Learning and Caring, Service and Evangelism.

The District comprises around 190 local Methodist churches grouped into 12 circuits and served by a ministerial team of around 40 active ministers and around 40 lay employees. A number of supernumerary (retired) ministers also offer significant support.

There were 6,838 people holding membership of churches in the District in October 2020. Twenty-seven people were brought into membership during the year. However there were ten times that number of deaths amongst the membership. Whilst the District consistently sees a pattern of deaths outnumbering new members made, the difference is likely to be much greater in this period because of the effects of the pandemic.

For substantial parts of the twelve months reported upon, churches' buildings were not open for worship. Any expectation in the Summer of 2020 that church life would gradually return to normal patterns was overturned by mid-Autumn. In response to this, the District continued to evolve new ways of supporting churches and circuits. In addition to online meetings and Sunday worship, the Chair prepared a number of pastoral messages posted on YouTube and Probationer Ministers were provided with a 3-day retreat in their own homes, supported by physical resources sent through the post and short sessions on Zoom.

For Advent and Christmas 2020, the District encouraged circuits to consider ways of reaching out to their local communities, using people's homes as a mission base rather than the local church buildings which were closed. So successful was this *God is With Us* grant scheme that the District repurposed and repeated it, encouraging churches to make community links around Valentine's Day and Mothering Sunday.

Recognising the cumulative effect of the pandemic upon those in leadership positions, the District engaged the *Tragedy and Congregations Team* to provide training for ministers on responding to individual and collective trauma. We have also been able to keep in mind the pandemic in its global context by occasional Zoom meetings with our partners in the Free Methodist Church in Rwanda.

An important appointment to the District team has been that of Matthew McDade to the new post of District Property Consultant. Matthew brings considerable experience to the task of helping circuits assess the mission potential of their property portfolio and advising upon either development or disposal. This has proved particularly beneficial at a time when the pandemic has prompted an increasing number of congregations to draw their life as a worshipping community to a close.

A major piece of work for the District this year was in preparing for the vote at the 2021 Methodist Conference on the report on Marriage and Relationships known as *"God in Love Unites Us"*. The resolutions in the report were ones upon which many Methodist members have strongly held contradictory convictions. Our inability to meet in person to discuss sensitive topics made the task more challenging. The District Synod voted on these resolutions in April 2021, in the run-up to which a series of three online preparatory sessions were organised to ensure Synod members had opportunity to fully explore the report and hear a range of views upon it. In the event the District recorded strong majorities in favour of all the resolutions.

## Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2021

Conversations have been held throughout the year with the neighbouring Birmingham District and a plan agreed in principle to merge the two Districts by August 2025. This is in line with ambitions to streamline oversight and trusteeship functions throughout the Methodist Connexion.

As a result of the pandemic, the three-month sabbatical due to be taken by the Chair of District was spread between the summers of 2020 and 2021, with cover being provided by the Deputy Chair, the Rev'd Pauline Salter.

The District awarded £118K in grants during the year. These were all "Ministry" grants, supporting people-based activities across the entire District. No property grants were awarded this year, mainly due to the lockdown.

#### Public benefit

The activities mentioned above were undertaken so as to further the District's purposes for the public benefit and the District Policy Committee has had regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission when exercising its powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

#### Achievements and performance

- In anticipation of the retirement of the District Safeguarding Officer in August 2021, plans were made during this period to combine Safeguarding functions across the Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury and Birmingham Districts.
- As a follow-up to the Representative Synod focusing on Racial Justice, reported last year, the District provided a suite of online worship resources which were well used by churches and circuits marking Racial Justice Sunday.
- The District hosted an online welcome service for Phoebe Parkin, the Youth President of the Methodist Church for 2020/21, who comes from Telford.
- Synods provided opportunity for learning, development and spiritual nurture. Speakers this year addressed the *Methodist Way of Life* and the *Deep Silence of God*.
- The Christmas small grant scheme led to twenty-seven different projects engaging every circuit in the District. These were designed to be a source of blessing and to remind communities that "God is With Us". An example of the innovation this produced is the #BeAnAngel campaign in Codsall where the local church worked with partner locations to host large graffiti murals of angels' wings, inviting local people to "become an angel" as a starting point for further supported reflection. Combined with the Valentine's scheme, a total of £6500 was awarded in small grants.
- The Methodist President for 2020/21, Rev'd Richard Teal, made an online visitation to the District with a particular focus on encouraging our most rural circuit.
- The District Ministry and Missions Co-ordinator, Jo Yair, led the *FX Multiplier* project across this and the neighbouring Birmingham District with the aim of encouraging Fresh Expressions of Church. Nineteen separate teams engaged with this project.
- The District worked with two circuits to develop new Diaconal appointments offering community ministry in Wolverhampton and Dudley. Two deacons were appointed to begin in September 2021.

#### Financial review

The above activities and achievements illustrate the work of the District and the attached accounts show how the financial resources necessary for that work have been raised and expended. The accounts are also the means by which members of the District Policy Committee, as trustees, account for their stewardship of those funds to the circuits, the membership of the churches within the District and the wider community.

## **Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2021**

The finances of the District are held in eight different funds to account properly for the different purposes for which money comes into the District. Most of the income comes from other parts of the Methodist Church: assessments are received from the Circuits in the District to fund the work done directly and the payment to the Connexion of a contribution to the Methodist Church Fund, and distributions are received via the Connexional structure of the Methodist Church to fund grant-making activities, as explained more fully in Note 2 to the accounts.

The income of the District for the year ended 31st August 2021 was £901,711 and expenditure was £854,342. The resulting surplus of £47,369 increased reserves to £581,097 (2020 £533,728) of which £265,000 was the book value of the District Chair's manse, leaving free reserves of £316,097 across all eight funds. A review of significant matters affecting District finances is as follows:

The income of the District was down by £22,228 (2%) on the previous year. The reduction reflected the absence this year of £33,532 of non-recurring income in the previous year together with a fall of £11,865 in donations received attributable to the effects of the pandemic. These adverse variances were partially offset by an increase of £25,500 in income from the Connexion.

Expenditure was down £52,465 (6%). Grant funding fell by £81,484 and support costs were £2,091 lower, both as a result of the effects of the pandemic curtailing activities at District, Circuit and Church level. These reductions were partially offset by a payment of £20,000 as a return to circuits of the cost savings realised during the pandemic compared to the budget for the two years 2019/20 and 2020/21.

The net result was a surplus of £47,369. The District Advance Fund showed a surplus of £55,925 due to the reduction in grants awarded, and other funds were left with small deficits. All funds have adequate reserves carried forward to enable them to continue their activities. A review of significant matters affecting the finances of each fund is as follows:

#### **District Expenses Fund (unrestricted)**

The budget for the District Expenses Fund for 2020/21 was approved in March 2020 and was set with the object of breaking even. After taking into account the £20,000 cashback to circuits that objective was broadly achieved. The free reserves of the District Expenses Fund at £83,721 represent 14.1% of circuit assessments receivable in the following year, compared to a target level of 10%. The budget for 2021/22 was approved in April 2021 and provides for a deficit to bring the reserves down towards the target level.

#### **District Training Fund (designated)**

Training activities were affected by the pandemic like everything else and expenditure only amounted to £1,011. This was taken from reserves, leaving £16,300 to carry forward.

#### **Manse Fund (designated)**

There was no movement on this fund and the balance of £33,585 is carried forward.

#### **District Advance Fund (restricted)**

The District Advance Fund saw an increase in income from the levy on Circuit Model Trust Funds and a reduction in grants awarded. The resulting increase in its reserves from £49,622 to £105,547, while unintended, will leave the District in a strong position to engage with the Connexional "God for All" project commencing in September 2022.

#### **Agricultural Chaplaincy Fund (restricted)**

The Agricultural Chaplaincy Fund has now received the last of the three annual grant instalments of £22,000 from the Mission in Britain Fund. Its reserves of £63,583 are just enough to cover one year's expenditure as per its reserves policy, but further sources of income are urgently required to replace the expired grant.

## **Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2021**

#### **Children Support Fund (restricted)**

The money in this fund is left over from the annual children's holiday that ceased after 2018 and, with the consent of the donors, it is being used to offer grants to churches who want to work with children in deprived circumstances. During the year grants of £2,976 were made, leaving a balance of £9,343 available for further grant-making.

#### **Chair's Benevolent Fund (restricted)**

This fund continues with modest receipts and payments and a balance of £1,993 is carried forward.

#### **Komera Partnership Fund (restricted)**

Further donations were received and grants paid to our partners in Rwanda, and a balance of £2,025 is carried forward.

#### **Reserves policies**

The reserves policy for the District Expenses Fund is based on a free reserves target of 10% of total circuit assessments, to reflect the risk that a circuit may not be able to meet their assessment in full. For 2021/22 circuit assessments are £593,910, giving a reserves target of £59,000. The actual level of free reserves at 31st August 2021 was £83,721 or 14.1% of circuit assessments (2020 14.2%).

The District Training Fund does not have a specific reserve requirement. It has excess funds at present and no further income will be sought for the time being.

The Manse Fund reserve requirement is £40,000, to cover major repairs to the Chair's manse in excess of the annual budget, and the current fund balance is £33,585.

The reserves in the District Advance Fund are already stated after taking into account future commitments and as the annual tranche of funding is received in September/October this fund does not need more than a nominal balance of reserves at the year-end.

The scale and scope of the work funded by the Agricultural Chaplaincy Fund is significant and its funding is dependent on grants from various sources, many of which are under financial pressure. In these circumstances, reserves of up to one year's expenditure are considered appropriate to ensure the resilience of the project.

The Children Support Fund is currently using money left over following the cessation of the annual holiday to make small grants and therefore has no particular reserves requirement.

The Chair's Benevolent Fund and the Komera Partnership Fund are there to make grants to beneficiaries from the funds that have been raised for those purposes and thus do not require any specific target levels of reserves.

#### **Investment policy**

Surplus monies of the District's Funds (other than the District Advance Fund) are held in an interest-bearing deposit account with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, which is a common deposit fund reporting directly to Conference. The District Advance Fund is held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes as custodian trustees on behalf of the District, and this fund is also invested in an interest-bearing account with the Central Finance Board.

## **Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2021**

#### **Plans for the future**

A main focus for the District in 2021/22 will be to encourage Circuits and Churches to strike an appropriate balance between consolidation, rest and refreshment after the ravages of the pandemic, whilst still maintaining momentum in attending to our priorities of Worship, Learning and Caring, Service, and Evangelism.

The District will enter the first year of engagement with the Connexional *God for All* project. This will involve discerning and developing an appropriate "District Project" focused on *Church at the Margins* and *New Places for New People*.

Further progress will be made to align the life of this District with our neighbour in Birmingham, in preparation for an anticipated merger.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The District, as part of the Methodist Church, is constituted under the terms of the Deed of Union of 1932, which was promulgated under the authority of legislation that is now found in the Methodist Church Act 1976. This Act provides the foundation on which all the remainder of the constitutional structure of the Church is raised.

The governing body of the Methodist Church in Great Britain is the Conference. Under the authority of the Act and the Deed of Union, Conference makes and amends Standing Orders, which are published annually in the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church. This is the basis for governance of the Church as a connexion of local churches, circuits and districts working together within the one framework.

The District Synod is the principal body responsible for the affairs of the District and is constituted in accordance with the Deed of Union and Standing Orders. It is the church court for the District, serving as a link between the Conference and the Connexional Team on the one hand and the Circuits and Local Churches on the other. It has oversight of all District affairs.

The Synod annually appoints the members of the District Policy Committee whose responsibilities include the formulation and promotion of policy and the supervision of the use of resources of personnel, property and finance. Under charity law the members of the District Policy Committee are treated as the Trustees of the Charity and the names of the Trustees who served during the year or have been appointed since are shown above.

The District Policy Committee nominates persons to the Synod for appointment as district officers and as members of the District Policy Committee and other district committees. In addition, the Chair of the District, the Secretary of the Synod and any member of the Methodist Council nominated by the Synod are ex-officio members of the District Policy Committee.

The District is one of thirty-one Districts of the Methodist Church in Great Britain. The Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District brings together twelve Circuits, based in the City of Wolverhampton, two West Midlands Metropolitan Boroughs, parts of Staffordshire and Worcestershire, most of Shropshire, about half of Herefordshire and parts of Wales. The structure of the District and its constituent Circuits and Churches, and their inter-relationships with each other, is explained more fully in Note 2 to the accounts.



## Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2021

#### Statement of trustees' responsibilities

Charity law requires the District Policy Committee (as Trustees) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its financial activities for that period, together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the period, and adequately distinguish any material special trust or other restricted fund of the Charity. In preparing those financial statements the District Policy Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable Accounting Standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The District Policy Committee also has overall responsibility for ensuring that there is in place an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise, to provide reasonable confidence and assurance that:

- the District's administration is operating effectively and efficiently;
- the assets of the District are properly safeguarded against unauthorised loss or damage;
- proper records are maintained and information produced for management control, fiscal and statutory reasons; and
- the District complies with the relevant laws and guidelines.

This report was approved by the District Policy Committee as Trustees on 23rd March 2022 and is signed on their behalf by:

*R Parkinson*

REV R.E. PARKINSON

District Chair

*J Christopher Reed*

J.C. REED

District Treasurer

*Trustees*

# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st August 2021

		District Expenses Fund (unrestricted)	Designated Funds (unrestricted)	District Advance Fund (restricted)	Other Restrict- ed Funds (restricted)	Total Funds 2020/21	Total Funds 2019/20
	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations and grants							
Grants from connexional funds	3	27,525	-	-	22,000	49,525	44,126
Other grants and donations	4	-	-	-	29,782	29,782	58,279
<i>Total donations and grants</i>		<u>27,525</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,782</u>	<u>79,307</u>	<u>102,405</u>
Charitable activities							
Assessments on circuits	5	601,299	-	-	-	601,299	608,276
Levies on circuit model trust funds		-	-	120,687	-	120,687	85,656
Distribution from Connexional Priority Fund		-	-	96,027	-	96,027	110,957
Other charitable activities	6	1,359	-	-	-	1,359	600
<i>Total charitable activities</i>		<u>602,658</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>216,714</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>819,372</u>	<u>805,489</u>
Other trading activities	7	-	-	-	1,352	1,352	1,219
Investments	8	263	-	1,322	95	1,680	4,826
Other income	9	-	-	-	-	-	10,000
<i>Total income</i>		<u>630,446</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>218,036</u>	<u>53,229</u>	<u>901,711</u>	<u>923,939</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising funds	13	-	-	706	-	706	674
Charitable activities							
Contribution to Methodist Church Fund		532,149	-	-	-	532,149	529,636
Other charitable activities undertaken directly	14	83,923	1,011	-	63,623	148,557	139,992
Grant funding of charitable activities	15	-	-	112,005	5,719	117,724	199,208
Support costs	16	35,206	-	-	-	35,206	37,297
<i>Total charitable activities</i>		<u>651,278</u>	<u>1,011</u>	<u>112,005</u>	<u>69,342</u>	<u>833,636</u>	<u>906,133</u>
Other expenditure	17	20,000	-	-	-	20,000	-
<i>Total expenditure</i>		<u>671,278</u>	<u>1,011</u>	<u>112,711</u>	<u>69,342</u>	<u>854,342</u>	<u>906,807</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(40,832)</b>	<b>(1,011)</b>	<b>105,325</b>	<b>(16,113)</b>	<b>47,369</b>	<b>17,132</b>
Transfers between funds	18	39,400	-	(49,400)	10,000	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(1,432)</b>	<b>(1,011)</b>	<b>55,925</b>	<b>(6,113)</b>	<b>47,369</b>	<b>17,132</b>
Total funds brought forward		350,153	50,896	49,622	83,057	533,728	516,596
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u><u>348,721</u></u>	<u><u>49,885</u></u>	<u><u>105,547</u></u>	<u><u>76,944</u></u>	<u><u>581,097</u></u>	<u><u>533,728</u></u>

# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2021

	<b>District Expenses Fund (unrestricted)</b>	<b>Designated Funds (unrestricted)</b>	<b>District Advance Fund (restricted)</b>	<b>Other Restricted Funds (restricted)</b>	<b>Total Funds at 31 Aug 21</b>	<b>Total Funds at 31 Aug 20</b>
<i>Note</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>						
Tangible assets	<b>19</b>	265,000	-	-	265,000	265,000
<b>Current assets</b>						
Debtors	<b>20</b>	25	480	-	219	1,511
Cash on deposit:						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		-	393,121	-	393,121	352,899
Central Finance Board		109,690	48,075	70,167	227,932	242,934
Cash at bank		6,028	1,330	6,919	14,277	9,611
Prepaid currency cards		141	-	400	541	786
<i>Total current assets</i>		<u>115,884</u>	<u>49,885</u>	<u>393,121</u>	<u>636,595</u>	<u>607,741</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Creditors due within 1 year:						
Creditors	<b>21</b>	32,163	-	361	32,524	35,236
Grants payable	<b>22</b>	-	-	141,245	141,645	151,625
		<u>32,163</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>141,245</u>	<u>174,169</u>	<u>186,861</u>
<i>Net current assets</i>		83,721	49,885	251,876	462,426	420,880
<i>Total assets less current liabilities</i>		348,721	49,885	251,876	727,426	685,880
Creditors due after 1 year:						
Grants payable	<b>22</b>	-	-	146,329	146,329	152,152
<i>Total net assets</i>		<u><u>348,721</u></u>	<u><u>49,885</u></u>	<u><u>105,547</u></u>	<u><u>581,097</u></u>	<u><u>533,728</u></u>
<b>Represented by</b>	<b>23</b>					
Unrestricted Funds:						
District Expenses Fund		348,721			348,721	350,153
Designated Funds:						
District Training Fund			16,300		16,300	17,311
Manse Fund			33,585		33,585	33,585
Restricted Funds:						
District Advance Fund			105,547		105,547	49,622
Agricultural Chaplaincy Fund				63,583	63,583	66,743
Children Support Fund				9,343	9,343	12,319
Chair's Benevolent Fund				1,993	1,993	2,068
Komera Partnership Rwanda				2,025	2,025	1,927
<i>Total funds</i>		<u><u>348,721</u></u>	<u><u>49,885</u></u>	<u><u>105,547</u></u>	<u><u>581,097</u></u>	<u><u>533,728</u></u>

The notes on pages 11 to 23 form part of these accounts

The accounts were approved by the District Policy Committee as Trustees on 23rd March 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:

*R Parkinson*

REV R.E. PARKINSON

District Chair

# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31st August 2021

		Total Funds 2020/21	Total Funds 2019/20
	Note	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<b>See below</b>	27,961	44,156
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest receivable		1,680	4,826
<b>Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		29,641	48,982
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		606,230	557,248
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>		<b>635,871</b>	<b>606,230</b>
<b>Represented by</b>			
Cash on deposit:			
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		393,121	352,899
Central Finance Board		227,932	242,934
Cash at bank		14,277	9,611
Prepaid currency cards		541	786
		<b>635,871</b>	<b>606,230</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities</b>			
Net income/(expenditure) for the year as per Statement of Financial Activities	<b>Page 8</b>	47,369	17,132
Deduct interest receivable (investing activity)		(1,680)	(4,826)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	<b>Note 19</b>	787	25
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<b>Notes 20, 21</b>	(18,515)	31,825
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>		<b>27,961</b>	<b>44,156</b>

# **Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District**

## **Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021**

### **1 Basis of accounting and accounting policies**

#### **(a) Basis of preparation**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the following:

- i) 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 2015),
- ii) FRS 102 - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (as above), and
- iii) The Charities Act 2011.

The Charities SORP (FRS 102) has been used, despite the relevant 2008 accounting regulations still requiring use of the Charities SORP 2005, on the grounds that it is necessary to use the newer SORP in order to comply with the legal obligation to give a true and fair view.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the use of an historical insured value as the deemed cost of the District manse. The accruals basis has been used to show a true and fair view of the District's financial position and activities.

#### **(b) Public benefit entity**

The Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District (the "District") meets the definition of a public benefit entity in FRS 102 as its primary objectives require it to act so as to provide public, community or social benefit rather than to provide economic benefit to its members or participants.

#### **(c) Going concern**

The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties that would cast significant doubt on the District's ability to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future, being a period of more than 12 months from the date these accounts are approved. They reached their view having taken into account the financial position of the District shown in these accounts, budgets for the next two years, and the connexional structure of the Methodist Church of Great Britain of which the District forms an integral part.

#### **(d) Funds**

The District operates a District Expenses Fund, which is the general unrestricted fund that can be used for any District purposes and holds cash, other current assets and the District manse. In addition there are designated funds holding cash and current assets designated for particular purposes but which may be used for other District purposes at the discretion of the trustees. There are also several restricted funds holding cash and current assets which can only be used for the specified purpose because of the terms on which their funding was received whether by grant, donation or fundraising.

#### **(e) Income recognition**

Income is recognised when the District becomes entitled to the economic benefit of the income, it is probable (i.e. more likely than not) that it will be received, and its monetary value can be measured reliably. No attempt is made to measure the considerable value of services or time donated by volunteers.

The District acts as agent in the following matters:

- i) collections taken at Synod for various charities, which are paid over to the respective charities shortly afterwards; and
- ii) payments received from the Methodist Church Fund to reimburse the District for the expenses of District representatives attending the Methodist Conference.

The receipts and payments for the above matters are not income or expenditure of the District and are therefore not reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities.

# **Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District**

## **Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021**

### **1 Basis of accounting and accounting policies (continued)**

#### **(f) Expenditure recognition**

Expenditure is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the District to pay out resources, it is probable (i.e. more likely than not) that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

#### **(g) Grants payable**

The District makes a significant number of grants to third parties in furtherance of its objects, sometimes as one-off payments and sometimes as a series of periodic payments that may cover several years. As soon as a grant is awarded to a third party they have a valid expectation that the District will discharge its obligation to make the payments whenever they are to become due. This creates a constructive obligation in respect of the total value of the award. Even though multi-year grant awards are subject to annual monitoring, no specific conditions are imposed that would make the awards conditional and payment of the full amount is therefore probable. Accordingly all awards are immediately recognised as expenditure and a liability for future payments is recorded.

#### **(h) Value added tax**

Since the District is not registered for value added tax ("VAT"), all input VAT is charged with the expense to which it relates.

#### **(i) Pensions**

All employees of the District are either auto-enrolled in or invited to join The Pensions Trust defined contribution pension scheme. The District's contribution is set at 6% of salary and the District has no liability beyond making its contributions and paying over the deductions for the employees' contributions. There were no contributions outstanding at the year-end.

#### **(j) Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost more than £1,000. They are valued at historical cost, except for the District Chair's manse, which is stated at deemed cost, being its insured value in 2011. The manse is currently the only fixed asset held and it is assessed each year for any indication of impairment.

#### **(k) Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided to write-off the cost of a fixed asset, less its residual value, over its useful economic life. In the case of the manse, its residual value is estimated and provided it is not less than cost no depreciation is required.

#### **(l) Debtors and creditors**

Debtors are stated at the amount the District expects to receive or the amount it has paid in advance for goods or services. Creditors are stated at the amount the District expects to pay or the amount it has received as an advance payment for goods or services.

## **Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District**

### **Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021**

#### **2 Controlling body, connected organisations and glossary of terms**

The ultimate controlling body of the District is the Conference of the Methodist Church in Great Britain.

The "Conference" is a representative body drawn from across the Connexion, and is the policy-making and governing body of the Church. It makes and amends Standing Orders, which are published annually in the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church, as the basis for governance of the Church throughout the Connexion.

The "Connexion" is the larger connected community of the Methodist Church in Great Britain, comprising the Conference, the central team of Connexional Officers and support systems directed by the Methodist Council, and the regional organisation of Districts, Circuits and Churches.

"Districts" are regional bodies comprising a number of Circuits.

"Circuits" are local groupings of churches.

"Churches" are the local places to which Methodists belong.

Each of the entities in these layers of the church community is a separate charity with its own trustees and many of the District's trustees are also trustees of some of these. However, the District has no significant influence over any of these entities nor, with the exception of the Conference, do they have significant influence over the District. The District is bound by the Standing Orders laid down by Conference as law and policy but within that framework it is able to determine for itself how to fulfill its role. All the entities within the Connexion are therefore connected organisations in relation to the District but, because of the lack of significant influence, they are not considered related parties for accounting purposes.

The District receives grants from Connexional funds to support certain aspects of its work. It also receives the proceeds of an annual levy set by Conference charged on money held in trust funds by its Circuits. Conference has also set a levy to be charged on most property sales within the Connexion for the Connexional Priority Fund. Part of the proceeds of this fund is distributed annually to the Districts.

Conference has established the Methodist Church Fund as a major source of finance for the activities of the Church and it determines an assessment to be paid into the fund each year, which is allocated between the Districts. The Districts in turn make an assessment on their Circuits to collect the Methodist Church Fund assessment together with a contribution to District expenses.

Many Circuits and Churches make grants and donations and provide personnel to support District activities. The District in turn makes grants to Circuits and Churches for personnel and property projects.

The "Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes" is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all property held on Methodist model trusts.

The "Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church" manages a common deposit fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities.

Insurance cover is provided to the District by Methodist Insurance PLC.

## Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

### Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

#### 3 Grants from connexional funds

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Connexional Priority Fund grant supporting the reaffirmation of "Our Calling" to support the work of the Ministry & Mission Co-ordinator (District Expenses Fund)	22,525	22,126
Mission in Britain Fund grant to fund the appointment of area co-ordinators for the Agricultural Chaplaincy (restricted fund)	22,000	22,000
Grant to fund the recruitment of a District Property Consultant (District Expenses Fund)	5,000	-
	<u>49,525</u>	<u>44,126</u>

The first two of the above grants represent annual instalments of three-year grants in each case. The total amounts awarded were £140,800 but instalment payments are subject to the work for which the grants were awarded being delivered, and to monitoring and evaluation. The third grant above was a one-off payment.

#### 4 Other grants and donations

	Agric. Chaplain- cy Fund (restricted) £	Chair's Benevol- ent Fund (restricted) £	Komera Partner- ship Fund (restricted) £	Other Funds £	Total Funds £
<b>2020/21</b>					
Donations from churches	1,767	125	50	-	1,942
Donations from individuals	110	-	600	-	710
Grant from Shropshire & Marches Circuit	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Grant from Hereford Diocese	16,000	-	-	-	16,000
Other donations and grants	185	100	595	-	880
Gift aid	106	-	144	-	250
	<u>28,168</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>1,389</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,782</u>
<b>2019/20</b>					
Donations from churches	8,358	302	50	746	9,456
Donations from individuals	1,838	-	2,185	50	4,073
Grant from Shropshire & Marches Circuit	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Grant from Hereford Diocese	16,000	-	-	-	16,000
Flood appeal donations	4,405	12,227	-	-	16,632
Other donations and grants	1,023	-	500	-	1,523
Gift aid	446	-	149	-	595
	<u>42,070</u>	<u>12,529</u>	<u>2,884</u>	<u>796</u>	<u>58,279</u>

#### 5 Assessments on circuits

The Methodist Conference levies an annual assessment on the Circuits through the several Districts to finance the Methodist Church Fund ("MCF"). The assessment is payable by the Districts who then collect Circuit assessments to cover the MCF assessment plus a contribution to District expenses and training.

The allocation of the MCF assessment between Districts is based on staffing numbers at Circuit and District level. The allocation of the Circuit assessment between the Circuits is provisionally agreed between the District Treasurer and the Circuit Treasurers, subject to the approval of the District Policy Committee, and is based on a number of factors, including staffing levels and membership and attendance statistics.

The Circuit Treasurers believe this produces a fairer way of allocating the costs between Circuits. Accordingly the District cannot be said to act merely as agent for the collection of the MCF assessment and the full Circuit assessments are therefore shown as income of the District and the MCF assessment paid to the Connexion is shown as expenditure.



# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

<b>5 Assessments on circuits (continued)</b>	<b>District Expenses Fund (unrestricted)</b>	<b>Designated Funds (unrestricted)</b>	<b>District Advance Fund (restricted)</b>	<b>Other Restricted Funds (restricted)</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>2020/21</b>					
For Methodist Church Fund	532,149	-	-	-	532,149
For District expenses	69,150	-	-	-	69,150
	<u>601,299</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>601,299</u>
<b>2019/20</b>					
For Methodist Church Fund	529,636	-	-	-	529,636
For District expenses and training	71,740	6,900	-	-	78,640
	<u>601,376</u>	<u>6,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>608,276</u>

<b>6 Other charitable activities</b>	<b>District Expenses Fund (unrestricted)</b>	<b>District Expenses Fund (unrestricted)</b>
	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
	£	£
Circuit contribution to cost of employing lay worker	1,359	600
	<u>1,359</u>	<u>600</u>

<b>7 Other trading activities</b>	<b>Komera Partnership Fund (restricted)</b>	<b>Komera Partnership Fund (restricted)</b>
	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
	£	£
Sale of beneficiary-made merchandise	1,352	1,219
	<u>1,352</u>	<u>1,219</u>

The merchandise is made in Rwanda by women working together for peace and the well-being of their communities under a project set up by the Peacekeeping, Healing and Reconciliation Programme ("PHARP"), one of the partners supported by the Komera Partnership Fund. The proceeds have been remitted as grants to PHARP.

<b>8 Investment income</b>	<b>District Expenses Fund (unrestricted)</b>	<b>Designated Funds (unrestricted)</b>	<b>District Advance Fund (restricted)</b>	<b>Other Restricted Funds (restricted)</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
Interest receivable:					
2020/21	263	-	1,322	95	1,680
2019/20	1,201	-	3,077	548	4,826

# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

### 9 Other income

	District Advance Fund (restricted) 2020/21 £	District Advance Fund (restricted) 2019/20 £
Repayment of unspent grant made in previous year	-	10,000

### 10 Payments to trustees

The members of the District Policy Committee are the trustees of the District and none of them received any remuneration for their role as trustee. One of the trustees, Mrs Margaret Reynolds, was paid under a contract of employment as District Safeguarding Officer, as follows:

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Safeguarding Officer:		
Salary	15,007	14,517
Employer's national insurance contributions	855	803

The Chair of the District, Rev Rachel Parkinson, is a trustee and is regarded as the sole key management person of the District. Under the authority of the Methodist Conference, the Chair was paid by the Connexion and was required to occupy the manse owned and maintained by the District. Total annual costs were as follows:

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Stipend and chair's allowance	31,905	31,065
Employer's national insurance contributions	3,191	3,075
Employer's contributions to defined benefit pension scheme	6,866	6,685
District manse maintenance and running costs	9,722	8,436
	<u>51,684</u>	<u>49,261</u>

During the year two (2019/20 four) trustees received reimbursement of expenses incurred in carrying out their duties:

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Cost of travel for District purposes	370	2,802
Postage, telephone, stationery, hospitality, conferences and sundries	958	2,084
	<u>1,328</u>	<u>4,886</u>

### 11 Independent examiner

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Fees charged for independent examination of accounts	<u>1,620</u>	<u>1,620</u>

The independent examiner did not carry out any other work for the District during the year.

# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

<b>12 Staff costs</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Average number of full-time employees during the year	2.0	2.0
Average number of part-time employees during the year	5.8	4.8
Average full-time equivalent number of staff during the year	4.7	4.2
	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2019/20</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Salaries	139,463	122,919
Employer's national insurance contributions	10,583	9,381
Employer's contributions to defined contribution pension scheme	6,639	6,318
Apprenticeship levy	697	614
	<u>157,382</u>	<u>139,232</u>
Charged to:		
District Expenses Fund (unrestricted)	95,781	79,687
Agricultural Chaplaincy Fund (restricted)	61,601	59,545
	<u>157,382</u>	<u>139,232</u>

All staff are paid at a rate above the living wage and no employees received emoluments of more than £60,000. Members of staff served as Agricultural Chaplain, Ministry and Mission Co-ordinator, Safeguarding Officer and in other support and administrative posts.

<b>13 Expenditure on raising funds</b>	<b>District Advance Fund (restricted) 2020/21</b>	<b>District Advance Fund (restricted) 2019/20</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes investment management fees	<u>706</u>	<u>674</u>

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes hold the District Advance Fund as custodian trustees and invest it in a deposit fund at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church. The management fee is 0.2%pa of the fund value at the beginning of the year.

## 14 Other charitable activities undertaken directly

	<b>District Expenses Fund (unrestricted)</b>	<b>Designated Funds (unrestricted)</b>	<b>District Advance Fund (restricted)</b>	<b>Other Restricted Funds (restricted)</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>2020/21</b>					
Ministry & Mission Co-ordinator	39,622	-	-	-	39,622
Intergenerational Lay Worker	9,098	-	-	-	9,098
Safeguarding costs	17,145	-	-	-	17,145
Property Consultant	14,423	-	-	-	14,423
Agricultural chaplaincy costs	-	-	-	63,323	63,323
Supervision and other District services	3,635	-	-	-	3,635
Training and other activities	-	1,011	-	300	1,311
	<u>83,923</u>	<u>1,011</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,623</u>	<u>148,557</u>
<b>2019/20</b>					
Ministry & Mission Co-ordinator	39,613	-	-	-	39,613
Intergenerational Lay Worker	9,248	-	-	-	9,248
Safeguarding costs	17,502	-	-	-	17,502
Agricultural chaplaincy costs	-	-	-	65,006	65,006
Supervision and other District services	2,729	-	-	-	2,729
Training and other activities	985	4,609	-	300	5,894
	<u>70,077</u>	<u>4,609</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,306</u>	<u>139,992</u>

# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

### 15 Grant funding of charitable activities

	District Expenses Fund (unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	District Advance Fund (restricted) £	Other Restricted Funds (restricted) £	Total Funds £
<b>2020/21</b>					
Grants paid in year:					
Local ecumenical organisations	-	-	30,153	-	30,153
Grants to circuits and churches	-	-	97,555	-	97,555
Grants to partners in Rwanda	-	-	-	2,643	2,643
Other grants	-	-	-	3,076	3,076
	-	-	127,708	5,719	133,427
Grants awarded but unpaid at end of year	-	-	287,574	-	287,574
Grants awarded but unpaid at start of year	-	-	(303,277)	-	(303,277)
	-	-	112,005	5,719	117,724
<b>2019/20</b>					
Grants paid in year:					
Local ecumenical organisations	6,768	-	19,686	-	26,454
Grants to circuits and churches	-	-	133,550	-	133,550
Grants to partners in Rwanda	-	-	-	4,303	4,303
Tenbury Wells flood relief (from flood appeal)	-	-	-	4,500	4,500
Other grants	-	-	540	6,600	7,140
	6,768	-	153,776	15,403	175,947
Grants awarded but unpaid at end of year	-	-	303,277	-	303,277
Grants awarded but unpaid at start of year	-	-	(280,016)	-	(280,016)
	6,768	-	177,037	15,403	199,208

All these grants were made to organisations and none was made to an individual.

The grants awarded during the year from the District Advance Fund are for personnel, ecumenical, outreach or property projects related to mission and ministry, predominantly within circuits or local churches.

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Personnel, ecumenical and outreach projects	112,005	166,057
Property projects	-	10,980
	112,005	177,037

There were 19 grants awarded during the year, of which the following grants were the largest and accounted for 68% of the total, each being payable in annual instalments:

Dudley and Netherton Circuit - to support the appointment of a Deacon for three years from September 2021	£ 30,000
Dudley and Netherton Circuit - to continue to support the employment of a circuit mission enabler and administrator for a further three years from September 2021	£ 25,500
Berkswich Methodist Church, Stafford Circuit - to support the employment of a lay outreach worker for three years from September 2021	£ 21,000

There are no support costs included in the cost of grant funding as they would not be material. The District Advance Fund is overseen by the Resourcing Mission Committee, the work of which is largely carried out by its officers, predominantly the District Grants Officer, on a voluntary basis.

# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

### 16 Support costs

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Chair's travel and miscellaneous expenses	818	2,006
Administration staff costs	18,486	17,861
District office expenses	3,357	4,062
District manse expenses	9,722	8,436
Synod expenses	820	1,088
Meeting, travel and other administrative expenses	383	2,185
Governance costs	1,620	1,659
	<u>35,206</u>	<u>37,297</u>

### 17 Other expenditure

	District Expenses Fund (unrestricted) 2020/21 £	District Expenses Fund (unrestricted) 2019/20 £
Savings from reduced expenditure during pandemic returned to circuits	<u>20,000</u>	<u>-</u>

The budget for 2020/21 was approved in March 2020 and that determined the circuit assessments required in 2020/21. This was just before the restrictions to combat the Covid-19 pandemic were imposed and, in the event, the actual outcomes for 2019/20 and 2020/21 were severely impacted. Some charitable activities undertaken directly had to be scaled back and incurred lower than normal expenses and there were also savings in support costs.

The pandemic affected six months of 2019/20 and the savings compared to budget were about £12,000. In March 2020 the further savings in 2020/21 were estimated at £8,000 and the District Policy Committee agreed to return £20,000 to circuits to support churches that were struggling financially. It was agreed that the refund be shared equally between the five circuits with the lowest amount of unrestricted cash reserves per member. The refund was approved by Synod on 24th April 2021.

### 18 Transfers between funds

	District Expenses Fund (unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	District Advance Fund (restricted) £	Other Restricted Funds (restricted) £	Total Funds £
<b>2020/21 transfers to/(from) funds</b>					
Ministry & Mission Co-ordinator costs	18,000	-	(18,000)	-	-
Agricultural chaplaincy costs	-	-	(10,000)	10,000	-
Intergenerational Lay Worker costs	10,400	-	(10,400)	-	-
District Property Consultant costs	11,000	-	(11,000)	-	-
	<u>39,400</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(49,400)</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>2019/20 transfers to/(from) funds</b>					
Ministry & Mission Co-ordinator costs	18,000	-	(18,000)	-	-
Agricultural chaplaincy costs	-	-	(10,000)	10,000	-
Intergenerational Lay Worker costs	10,400	-	(10,400)	-	-
Coach fares to 3Generate	1,160	-	(1,160)	-	-
Underspend on manse maintenance	(1,000)	1,000	-	-	-
	<u>28,560</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>(39,560)</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>

# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

### 19 Tangible fixed assets

District manse	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Deemed cost	<u>265,000</u>	<u>265,000</u>

The Chair's manse is stated at deemed cost, being its insured value in 2011. The manse was professionally valued at £370,000 by Jackson Lile & Close on 27th January 2020 and accordingly no depreciation has been provided.

### 20 Debtors

	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Prepayments - deposits for retreat fees and manse maintenance	480	885
Accrued income - gift aid refund receivable	219	626
Other debtors	25	-
	<u>724</u>	<u>1,511</u>

### 21 Creditors

	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Accrued expenses		
Reimbursement of employees' and volunteers' expenses	1,005	892
Accrued expenses due to third party suppliers	1,620	2,674
Bristol Methodist District - Probationers' Retreat	-	1,114
Use of facilities at Beckminster Methodist Church	-	40
	<u>2,625</u>	<u>4,720</u>
Deferred income		
Grants received in advance	22,975	27,525
Charges received in advance for 2022 Rwanda trip	6,750	-
Other creditors	174	2,991
	<u>32,524</u>	<u>35,236</u>

### 22 Liabilities for grants payable in future years

	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Grants payable within one year:		
District Advance Fund grants	141,245	151,125
Children Support Fund grant	400	500
	<u>141,645</u>	<u>151,625</u>
Grants payable after more than one year:		
District Advance Fund grants:		
Payable in - 2021/22	-	97,177
2022/23	91,743	51,575
2023/24	50,043	3,400
2024/25	4,543	-
	<u>146,329</u>	<u>152,152</u>
Total grant commitments	<u>287,974</u>	<u>303,777</u>

# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

### 23 Summary of fund movements

	Fund balances brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers between funds (Note 18)	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>2020/21 Unrestricted fund movements</b>					
District Expenses Fund	350,153	630,446	671,278	39,400	348,721
District Training Fund	17,311	-	1,011	-	16,300
Manses Fund	33,585	-	-	-	33,585
	<u>401,049</u>	<u>630,446</u>	<u>672,289</u>	<u>39,400</u>	<u>398,606</u>
<b>2020/21 Restricted fund movements</b>					
District Advance Fund	49,622	218,036	112,711	(49,400)	105,547
Agricultural Chaplaincy Fund	66,743	50,263	63,423	10,000	63,583
Children Support Fund	12,319	-	2,976	-	9,343
Chair's Benevolent Fund	2,068	225	300	-	1,993
Komera Partnership Fund	1,927	2,741	2,643	-	2,025
	<u>132,679</u>	<u>271,265</u>	<u>182,053</u>	<u>(39,400)</u>	<u>182,491</u>
<b>2020/21 Total fund movements</b>	<b><u>533,728</u></b>	<b><u>901,711</u></b>	<b><u>854,342</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>581,097</u></b>
<b>2019/20 Unrestricted fund movements</b>					
District Expenses Fund	340,068	625,303	643,778	28,560	350,153
District Training Fund	15,020	6,900	4,609	-	17,311
Manses Fund	32,585	-	-	1,000	33,585
	<u>387,673</u>	<u>632,203</u>	<u>648,387</u>	<u>29,560</u>	<u>401,049</u>
<b>2019/20 Restricted fund movements</b>					
District Advance Fund	57,203	209,690	177,711	(39,560)	49,622
Agricultural Chaplaincy Fund	53,004	64,518	68,506	17,727	66,743
Children Support Fund	14,523	896	3,100	-	12,319
Chair's Benevolent Fund	2,066	12,529	4,800	(7,727)	2,068
Komera Partnership Fund	2,127	4,103	4,303	-	1,927
	<u>128,923</u>	<u>291,736</u>	<u>258,420</u>	<u>(29,560)</u>	<u>132,679</u>
<b>2019/20 Total fund movements</b>	<b><u>516,596</u></b>	<b><u>923,939</u></b>	<b><u>906,807</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>533,728</u></b>

## **Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District**

### **Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021**

#### **24 Unrestricted funds**

##### **(a) District Expenses Fund**

This is the general fund used for running the District and has no restrictions. It is financed principally by circuit assessments and the fund balance includes the book value of the District manse (£265,000).

##### **(b) Designated funds**

These funds are designated for particular purposes by the District Policy Committee but they are not held on terms that prevent their use for other District purposes if the Committee so resolve.

The District Training Fund is used to fund ministerial and lay training. From 1st September 2020 this fund will be financed by transfers from the District Advance Fund ("DAF") as and when required. Although the DAF is a restricted fund its purposes include the support of personnel working in the District and transfers to the Training Fund will be made by grants awarded in the usual way in accordance with the DAF policy as long as the Training Fund continues to meet that purpose of the DAF.

The Manse Fund is used as a reserve to cover occasional heavy expenditure on maintenance of the District manse. Manse maintenance is charged to the District Expenses Fund but any underspend compared to budget is transferred to the Manse Fund and any overspend is covered by drawing on the Manse Fund.

#### **25 Restricted funds**

##### **(a) District Advance Fund**

This fund is set up under Methodist Standing Orders and is funded by a levy on the end-of-year balances of the Circuit Model Trust Funds of the Circuits in the District and by a distribution from the Connexional Priority Fund, as part of the process of moving money around the Connexion to enable it to best be used for the mission of the Church. The fund is administered by the Resourcing Mission Committee who award grants in accordance with the fund policy to support personnel or property projects related to mission and ministry and to support outreach, evangelism and ecumenical work.

##### **(b) Other restricted funds**

The Agricultural Chaplaincy Fund finances the work of Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy, a joint Methodist and Anglican initiative among rural communities in the Welsh borders. Its income comes mainly from grants and donations from a range of Methodist and Anglican sources and it employs a full-time chaplain and a part-time area co-ordinator, who are supported by a team of volunteers.

The Children Support Fund is used to make grants to churches who are working with children in deprived circumstances.

The Chair's Benevolent Fund provides modest sums from donations to allow the Chair to meet cases of personal need in a confidential way.

The Komera Partnership Fund supports the District's partnership with the Free Methodist Church of Rwanda and the Peacebuilding Healing and Reconciliation Programme of Rwanda with funds from donations and fundraising activities.



## Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

### Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

#### DECLARATIONS

##### Treasurer

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the District and that they include all funds under the control of the District Policy Committee.

Signature of Treasurer

*J Christopher Reed*

Date 23rd March 2022

Name

J. Christopher Reed FCA TEP

Address

3 Castlecroft Lane  
Wolverhampton  
WV3 8JX

##### Approval by the District Policy Committee

The trustees' annual report and accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021 were approved by the District Policy Committee as trustees on 23rd March 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:

Signature of Chair of the meeting

*R Parkinson*

Date 23rd March 2022

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev Rachel E. Parkinson

# Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

## Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury Methodist District ("the District") for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the District, you, the members of the District Policy Committee, 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 District'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

Since the District's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the District as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) 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.

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.

Signature of Examiner

*I Cattell*

Name of Examiner

Ian Cattell FCA

Relevant professional body

The Institute of Chartered Accountants  
in England and Wales

Address of Examiner

Crombies Accountants Limited  
34 Waterloo Road  
Wolverhampton  
WV1 4DG

Date

23rd March 2022