

SUTTON METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales · Charity number 1135076

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-03-22

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 13 Hazon Way
Epsom
KT19 8HD

Phone 07949373013

Email suttoncircuit@gmail.com

Website <http://suttonmethodistcircuit.com>

Activities

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

Activities: Advance Christian faith by supporting individual churches in Circuit. Provide facilities for public acts of worship open to members and non-members alike. Enable pastoral care throughout the circuit for the benefit of members and non-members alike with respect to the teaching of Christianity and visiting the needy by appointing ministers, organising preaching, appointing and guiding lay leaders.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Surrey
- Sutton

Finances

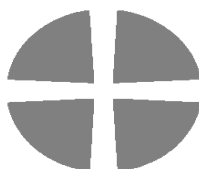
Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£389,361	£365,212	-	-
2024-08-31	£362,017	£495,035	-	-
2023-08-31	£1,223,864	£906,718	£1,660,506	6
2022-08-31	£296,130	£449,787	-	-
2021-08-31	£1,238,797	£590,467	£1,497,017	7

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Catherine Hutton	Chair	2020-09-10
Abigail Hustler		2024-05-23
Anthony Peter Woolfenden B.A.		2021-06-08
CAROLINE JULIE COOK		
CHRISTINE REUBITHA ASIRWATHAM BA CMA		
COLIN VICTOR BATTY		
Caroline Elsie Mary Kingsnorth		2014-05-15
Christine Cox		2023-09-14
DAVID COLIN WORTHINGTON		
Deacon Marie Poole		2022-09-06
EILEEN MARY RICE		
Eleanor Dorothy Pinfold LLB		2019-09-05
Eleanor Rachel Gravenor BA MA PGCE		2024-05-23
Gavin Peter Hutton		2025-09-16
JACQUELINE MERIEL WAITE		
JOHN KINGSNORTH		
JOHN WILLIAM MILLER		
JUDITH ANN YATES MA PGCE		
Jane Rosemary Barden		2022-06-07
Ka Fai Man		2020-09-10
Katharine Lindsey Castledine BA FCA CTA		2023-09-14
MAUREEN ANGELA PATEL		2015-05-21
Martin David Trenaman		
Martin Lloyd Wright		2024-05-23
Michael Robert Peter Ball		2023-06-06
NELLIE IYAMIDE GEORGIANA SHOWERS		2016-05-18

Name	Role	Appointed
PHILIP SANDIFORD		
Paul Frewin Gotts ACII		2025-09-16
RICHARD THORBURN SMITH BSC CENG		
Raviraj Saravanamuttu		2024-05-23
Rev Bethany Lynn Lewis		2021-06-08
Rev David Pitkeathly		2025-09-16
Rev Dr Jonathan Dean		2024-09-18
Rev Gill Long		2014-02-07
Rev Hendry Ponniah M Min		2023-09-14
Rev Ung Soon Nguang		2016-09-08
Richard John Cornwell		2017-05-17
Richard Vijendran Asirwatham		2021-09-09
Robert Douglas Hill BA		2023-09-14
SUSETTE ANN FORTY		

Accounts



THE METHODIST CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2025

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity - Registration number

1135076

District No / Circuit No 35/39

Ministers

Rev Catherine Hutton
Rev Bethany Lewis
Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Rev Hendry Ponniah
Deacon Marie Poole

Circuit Stewards

Mrs Maureen Patel
Mr Ka Fai Man
Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
Mrs Jane Barden

Circuit Treasurer

Mr Richard Smith

Sutton Methodist Circuit Trustees' Annual Report

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**Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Introduction

Sutton Methodist Circuit covers an area in north east Surrey. It is part of the London District. It is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1135076, and its affairs are governed by Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). It has been registered at Charities Commission as Sutton Methodist Circuit.

The Mission of the Circuit

The Mission statement of the Sutton Circuit

- enable the churches to proclaim the Gospel of Christ and further God's Kingdom.
 - be aware of God's presence through the Holy Spirit in all we do in God's name.
 - support each Church in its endeavours to fulfil its potential in responding to opportunities of service and growth.
 - enable the staff of the Circuit both ministerial and lay to fulfil their potential in a supportive Circuit environment.
 - support ecumenical ventures and to encourage further ecumenical work.
- The ministers concentrate on the mission of their local churches but support each other through regular meetings. The work of the ministers and lay members is supported with prayer. The Circuit Leadership Team (Staff and Circuit Stewards) meet regularly to plan and agree policy and oversee the ongoing work of the Circuit

Review of the year

- **Mission: Monitor progress of the mission projects funded in 2023/24.**
All projects except one have now been funded. Work is continuing or has been completed on all of them.
- **Continue exploration of means of sustaining and increasing active involvement of young people and young adults across the circuit.**
Progress has been made, especially at the larger churches where there are uniformed youth groups, family centres/nurseries and where the circuit's engagement of pastors with a focus on young people has been of significant benefit.
- **Wallington Church Development: Support the Wallington leadership in evaluating and pursuing their revised strategy based on retaining and enhancing the current church buildings.**

Wallington have decided not to pursue the redevelopment of the whole site. They will retain the church and hall and sell off the land behind the church and hall. With the funds raised they will refurbish both the church and the hall. They have already commenced the refurbishment of the church with excellent results.
- **Mission: Monitor progress of the mission projects funded between 2023 and 2025.**

The circuit churches regularly report back to the Circuit Meeting on the progress of their mission activities which arose from the circuit challenge some years ago. There is continual progress in a number of them.
- **Continue exploration of means of sustaining and increasing active involvement of young people and young adults across the circuit.**
Mission growth plans are being developed to help leaders to involve young people and adults in activities which help them to find an active place in their churches.
- **Wallington Church Development: Support the Wallington leadership in evaluating and pursuing their revised strategy based on retaining and enhancing the current church buildings.**
There is experience in the Wallington church as well as in the circuit and among the connexional heads to help Wallington to plan the way forward in selling the land behind the church and to plan for the refurbishment of the church and adjoining hall.
- **Improve the promotion of individual church events across the circuit.**
Dates, times and descriptions of events are circulated among the churches to be included in their publicity.
- **Succession Management.**
Consideration of the replacement of roles in the circuit as people stand down, mainly due to age and years service is being given.
- **Budget: produced a balanced budget for 2025/26.**
The management of the circuit funds is kept under close scrutiny, especially with the likelihood of purchasing a compliant manse and how funds are organised.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Financial Review

Budget

Each year the circuit sets a budget for income and expenditure which is approved by the Circuit Meeting.

Income

- The assessments have been received from all the churches.
- The interest received was £73,340 (2023/24 £80,062). This is again well above budget since the circuit benefited from the stabilised recovery in the money markets and an increased financial balance.
- The circuit is now operating with the funds divided between circuit operations and church development. The funds are split between the 2 areas.

Expenditure

- Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with Conference approved increases. £75,748 (2023/24 £61,831 22.5%) (22.5%) 29.5% of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church. The Manse Fund shows that £29,197 (2023/24 £21,729) was spent on manse repairs. The current balance is £65,019.
- All other items of expenditure were within budget.

Conclusions

All items in the accounts were close to budget except interest (see above) and administration (due to larger costs for service expenses). There was a surplus in the General Fund of £13,356. This is expected to occur in 2025/26, again but decrease due to interest on invested funds and the purchase of a manse which will deplete the circuit's financial reserves.

Financial effect of significant events

The reorganisation of the finances in the circuit funds has made it easier to identify the state of the circuit funds. The general fund and manse fund are held in the CAF Bank account and 2 CFB deposit funds. The model trust money is held in the trust fund at TMCP and the third CFB fund. The general fund balance was £487,313 and the manse fund balance was £65,019. The trust funds balance was £1,551,637. This indicates that there are sufficient funds to continue with the financial operation of the circuit and that there are adequate funds for circuit churches to approach for the funding of their own projects. It is expected that one manse will be let during the year and a manse to Methodist requirements will be purchased. There are adequate funds to enable this to take place.

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Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Fund balances

General Fund

As at 31st August 2025 the net current assets of the Circuit were £487,313. This is above the required reserves policy level of £339,636.

Circuit Model Trust Fund

This is an unrestricted fund and can be applied to for appropriate capital items or projects.

Factors affecting the financial future of the circuit are mainly the guarantee of income from the assessment from each church. Whereas the circuit seeks to be able to be self-sufficient from the assessment, in the event that there is a shortfall which cannot be recovered from, it is permitted to seek approval to raise funds from the Model Trust Fund. Due to previous income from previous sales, the Model Trust Fund has enough funds to be able to support the circuit.

Valuation of Properties

The manses were included in the balance sheet at historical cost for the first time in 2015/16. The current total is £132,950.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 1 year's average expenditure. This is now sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and/or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

Reserves of the Circuit

The balance of funds in the circuit at the end of the year was £1,551,637. Of this £132,950 is now the historical value of the manses. The balance comprises £487,313 in the general fund, £999,305 in the Model Trust Fund and £65,019 in the manse fund. Though the manses have been valued at historical level, their sale in the current climate would probably realise over £2m.

Volunteers

The Church is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, grants, training, safeguarding and risk. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by the Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Plans for 2025/26

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remain 4 full time staff with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district. It is anticipated that there will be a surplus on the annual costs of about £22,000. With the continued respectable interest rates, this will continue to enhance the general fund.

The following issues will be focused upon during the 2025-2026 year.

- Mission: Monitor progress of the mission projects funded between 2023 and 2025.
- Continue exploration of means of sustaining and increasing active involvement of young people and young adults across the circuit.
- Wallington Church Development: Support the Wallington leadership in evaluating and pursuing their revised strategy based on retaining and enhancing the current church buildings.
- Improve the promotion of individual church events across the circuit.
- Succession Management.
- Budget: produced a balanced budget for 2025/26.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102).

Full Name of Charity	Sutton Methodist Circuit
Registration Charity Number	1135076
Date of registration	22nd March 2010
Main communication address	Mr Paul Gotts c/o Circuit Administrator, Sutton Trinity Church, Cheam Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1DZ

The members of the Sutton Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Full membership is shown in Appendix A to this report.

Circuit Ministers and officers

Active Circuit Ministers	Rev Catherine Hutton Rev Hendry Ponniah Rev Ung Soon Nguang Deacon Marie Poole
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Circuit Stewards

Mrs Maureen Patel
Mr Ka Fai Man
Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
Mrs Jane Barden

Administrator

Mr Paul Gotts

Mr Richard T Smith acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year.

Independent Examiner

JCS Accountants Ltd
5 Robin Hood Lane, Sutton, SM1 2SW

Investment Bankers

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Methodist Church House, 25 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9SF

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a resource provider within the area around the London Borough of Sutton and the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council for the Methodist 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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The Sutton Circuit shall seek to:

Advance the Christian faith by supporting individual churches in the circuit.

Provide facilities for public acts of worship open to members and non-members alike.

Enable pastoral care throughout the circuit for the benefit of members and non-members alike with respect to the teaching of Christianity and visiting the needy by appointing ministers, organising preaching, appointing and guiding lay leaders.

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting and the Circuit Stewards.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Circuit meeting members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Sutton Trinity (Methodist/URC LEP)

Wallington

Carshalton

Banstead

Epsom

Cheam

St John's (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

St Mark's (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Risk Assessment

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded of risks identified within the circuit. This is carried out by an independent Risk Assessment Group which reports to the Trustees.

The following are the major risks in the circuit:

1. Church closures
2. Not enough lay staff to take on circuit responsibilities. Staff and volunteers who leave cannot easily be replaced.
3. Circuit churches are unable to meet the budget with their shares leading to Circuit expenditure exceeding income.

Arising from these identified risks, the circuit is aware of them all and takes them into consideration when the circuit stewards meet as a managing group and the full circuit leadership team meets to discuss policy and the future.

Factors affecting the financial future of the circuit are mainly the guarantee of income from the assessment from each church. Whereas the circuit seeks to be able to be self-sufficient from the assessment, in the event that there is a shortfall which cannot be recovered from, it is permitted to seek approval to raise funds from the Model Trust Fund.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Sutton Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Sutton Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the 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 the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
 - observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
 - make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
 - state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, 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 business.
- The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Circuit Meeting on 17th March 2026 and signed on behalf of the trustees by:

Rev Catherine Hutton
Circuit Meeting Chair

17th March 2026

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2025

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds (General Fund)	Designated Funds (Circuit Model Trust Fund)	Designated Funds (Manse Maintenance Fund)	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and legacies	2	-	28,760		28,760	10,336
Shares from churches	3	260,861			260,861	245,219
Other trading activities						
Lettings	4	26,400	-		26,400	26,400
Investments						
Interest	5	19,193	54,147		73,340	80,062
Other income						
Net sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre			-		-	-
Total income		306,454	82,907	-	389,361	362,017
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Levy on sale of BHMC			-		-	-
Trust fund management charges	6		42,803		42,803	39,502
Charitable activities						
Ministerial stipends and expenses	7 8	223,914			223,914	222,903
Ministerial invitations	8	-			-	611
Manse maintenance and servicing	9	22,387		29,197	51,584	42,652
Grants to circuit churches	10	-	23,120		23,120	166,576
Administration	11	11,797	11,994		23,791	22,791
Total		258,098	77,917	29,197	365,212	495,035
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		48,356	4,990	(29,197)	24,149	(133,018)
Transfers between funds	12	(35,000)	-	35,000	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed		-			-	-
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit						
Other gains/(losses)					-	-
Net movement in funds		13,356	4,990	5,803	24,149	(133,018)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		473,957	994,315	59,216	1,527,488	1,660,506
Total funds carried forward		487,313	999,305	65,019	1,551,637	1,527,488

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

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations

Balance carried forward

-
9,760
9,760
-

-
10,159
10,159
-

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

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

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds (General Fund)	Designated Funds (Circuit Model Trust Fund)	Designated Funds (Manse Maintenance Fund)	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and legacies	2	127	10,209		10,336	73,857
Shares from churches	3	245,219			245,219	170,722
Other trading activities						
Lettings	4	26,400	-		26,400	11,000
Investments						
Interest	5	20,987	59,075		80,062	37,563
Other income						
Net sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre			-		-	930,722
Total income		292,733	69,284	-	362,017	1,223,864
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Levy on sale of BHMC			-		-	494,289
Trust fund management charges	6		39,502		39,502	20,611
Charitable activities						
Ministerial stipends and expenses	7 8	222,903			222,903	204,176
Ministerial invitations	8	611			611	7,891
Manse maintenance and servicing	9	20,923		21,729	42,652	109,326
Grants to circuit churches	10	-	166,576		166,576	49,120
Administration	11	10,798	11,993		22,791	21,305
Total		255,235	218,071	21,729	495,035	906,718
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		37,498	(148,787)	(21,729)	(133,018)	317,146
Transfers between funds	12	(38,693)	3,693	35,000	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed		-			-	-
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit						
Other gains/(losses)					-	-
Net movement in funds		(1,195)	(145,094)	13,271	(133,018)	317,146
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		475,152	1,139,409	45,945	1,660,506	1,343,360
Total funds carried forward		473,957	994,315	59,216	1,527,488	1,660,506

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

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations

Balance carried forward

-
10,159
10,159
-

-
9,549
9,549
-

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

		Unrestricted (General Fund)	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Manse Maintenance Fund	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets*						
	Notes					
Circuit Manses & Equipment	BS1	132,950			132,950	132,950
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre			-		-	-
Investments	BS2				-	-
Total fixed assets		132,950	-	-	132,950	132,950
Current Assets						
Debtors	BS3	16,171	60,000		76,171	76,647
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	BS2		622,518		622,518	687,396
Central Finance Board Deposits	BS4	409,768	470,314	65,019	945,101	869,222
Cash at Bank and in hand	BS4	23,033	-		23,033	3,713
Total current assets		448,972	1,152,832	65,019	1,666,823	1,636,978
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	BS5	94,609	153,527		248,136	242,440
Net current assets (liabilities)		354,363	999,305	65,019	1,418,687	1,394,538
Total assets less current liabilities		487,313	999,305	65,019	1,551,637	1,527,488
Creditors and Accruals including any loans (due after more than 1 year)			-		-	-
Net assets		487,313	999,305	65,019	1,551,637	1,527,488
Funds of the Circuit						
General Fund (Unrestricted)	BS6.1	487,313			487,313	473,957
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	BS6.2		999,305		999,305	994,315
Manse Maintenance	9			65,019	65,019	59,216
Total Funds		487,313	999,305	65,019	1,551,637	1,527,488

*Details - see Note 11

Summary of the Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit 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.
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The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 17th March 2026 and were signed on their behalf

Rev Catherine Hutton
17th March 2026

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting and accounting policies

i Basis: SORP and Standards

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019, SORP(FRS102), and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, FRS 102.

ii Public benefit entity

The Sutton Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The Circuit is an unincorporated charity and its official address is Sutton Trinity Church, Cheam Road, Sutton, SM1 1DZ. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling rounded to the nearest pound.

iv FRS102 SORP2019

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the FRS102 SORP 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the 2008 accounting and reporting regulations made thereunder, based on the current version of the Charities SORP (SORP(FRS102)), as disclosed above, in order to be able to show a true and fair view, as permitted by the regulations.

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2025, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern and there are no material uncertainties affecting this conclusion.

vi Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when there is entitlement and the amount is reliably measurable once it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.

The Circuit acts as agent in three matters:

The collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds"

The administration of a payroll service for employees in Churches in the Circuit. The Circuit will carry out the payroll duties in accordance with HMRC requirements and will pay the employees from Circuit funds. This payment will be reimbursed to the Circuit during the same Connexional year so that payment of salaries, NIC and tax to HMRC will be reimbursed in the same accounting period. The amount paid and received, an equal amount, will be recorded in the SOFA as equal income and expenditure.

The administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion.

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or Churches as appropriate. Instead the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102).

In Accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees' Annual Report.

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable and it is considered more likely than not that there will be an outflow of economic benefit.

ix Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant to be accrued is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years, discounted to net present value where the difference is material, is treated as a provision for future commitments in the balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

x VAT

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

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

xi Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The freehold and/or long leasehold residential property is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing each property's gross carrying value at time of being built or purchased. No depreciation is provided because the trustees consider the residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its insurance cost and, in the absence of any evidence of impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the property would be immaterial.

xii Monetary Investments

The Circuit's investments are deposited with TMCP as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

xiii Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are recognised at the amount expected to be settled.

xiv Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits and these are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuits raise assessments against Churches in the Circuit. The District quarterly remits to The Methodist Church Fund most of the sum received from the Circuits. A small sum is retained by the District to meet its own costs. The Circuit may act as agent for ad hoc collections for various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church. These are detailed in Note BS9 below.

xv Minister's manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

- 2** Major funds in the Methodist Church are supported by donations from local churches. These total £9,760 and are reported in BS9. There were no legacies.

3 Shares from Churches

The circuit is comprised of 8 churches. Each church is invited to fund an assessment towards the stated budget of the circuit to meet the overall costs. In making its assessment payment, budgeted income from investment income, (including property letting) is taken into account. The circuit aims to cover its net core costs from the total of the assessment made. For 2024/25 this has been possible because of increased income from investments. The overall surplus on the year was just under £118,000 which is a big improvement over past years.

The assessments from churches are made quarterly in advance and are treated as a prepayment on a receivable basis. If any church has not paid its share by the due date the sum in question is treated as a debtor.

Assessment monies contributing to the district assessment paid from church to district via circuit are not recognised as income/expenditure in the accounts of the circuit. The circuit is acting as agent and monies passing through are netted off. The reported figure (£260,861) is the total assessment income (£336,609) less the assessment paid to and through the district (£14,487 and £61,261).

Church	2025	2024
Sutton Trinity	68,000	60,000
Wallington	30,000	18,000
Carshalton	39,000	35,000
Banstead	30,000	26,000
Epsom	92,000	92,000
Chinese Congregation (Epsom)	63,000	63,000
Cheam	11,000	9,750
St John's	1,409	1,300
St Mark's	2,200	2,000
Total	336,609	307,050

	2025	2024
Assessment	336,609	307,050
Deduct for:		
District	14,487	8,904
Connexion	61,261	52,927
Net income	260,861	245,219

4 Income from other trading activities

	General	Designated	Restricted	Transfers	2025	2024
Rental income letting of manses	26,400				26,400	26,400

5 Income from investments

£73,340 (2023/24 £80,062) was received as interest from TMCP trusts and CFB funds.

6 Trust Fund Management Charges

District Assessment & Levy

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members and staffing (Presbyters and lay staff graded by hours worked per week as well as investments) of all Circuits in the London District. 65% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions, 25% using relative staff proportions and 10% using each circuit's reserves.

The Levy is calculated on a sliding scale as a percentage of the Circuit's CMTF account balance as at 31 August the previous accounting year. It is taken by the Trust for Methodist Church Purposes and paid to the district in which the circuit resides for the District Advance Fund for making grants to churches in the district.

	General	Designated	2025	2024
District Expenses	-	14,487	14,487	8,904
Methodist Church Fund (MCF)		61,261	61,261	52,927
Levy on CMTF Funds	-	42,803	42,803	39,502
Totals	-	118,551	118,551	101,333

The charges listed above are taken by the Trust for Methodist Church Purposes and are paid to the district in which the circuit resides for the District Advance Fund for making grants to churches in the district.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

7 Salaries and associated costs

Stipends were paid to 3 presbyters and 1 deacon

Circuit presbyters & lay pastor	2025	2024
Stipends	139,720	135,080
National Insurance Contributions	14,735	12,471
Pension Fund Contributions	24,816	31,247
URC Levy	12,520	11,752
Computers for ministry	828	776
Travelling	4,764	6,388
Telephone	5,126	6,214
Removals, Stationing & Removal	-	611
Apprenticeship Levy	705	683
Sundry Expenses	1,676	1,025
Supernumeraries preaching	352	248
Total	205,242	206,495
Circuit administrator - part time		
Salary	17,175	15,989
National Insurance Contributions	1,411	951
Pension Fund Contributions	-	-
Apprenticeship Levy	86	79
Total	18,672	17,019
Total for all staff	223,914	223,514

In addition, the circuit employs an operations manager and a circuit administrator, a total of 6 employees.

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

The Connexion accounts for both pension schemes and shows the figures in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS has been revalued and is now in surplus. As a result, the employer contribution has been reduced from 26.9% (2024/24) to 20.0% (2025/25). No employees received benefits over £60,000 in the year.

7a Cost of Superintendent, Presbyters and Trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Presbyters and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Presbyters of the Circuit are paid by the Connexion but funded by the circuit.

The manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains the properties. The value of the council tax and water charges paid by the circuit is not disclosed here as HMRC does not regard this as a benefit-in-kind in the hands of the minister.

Each Presbyter is entitled to a 3 month sabbatical every 7 years and the expenses incurred by the Presbyter are met by the Connexion with the Circuit continuing to pay the stipend. During the year there have been no sabbaticals. The Circuit does not accrue for holiday pay cover as the remaining staff cover the holidays as needed without extra pay. Had additional cover been required the cost of this is met by the Circuit.

8 Invitation expenses

		Unrestricted	2025	2024
Travel and associated expenses		-	-	611
Removals		-	-	-
Total		-	-	611

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

9 Property

The Circuit is managing trustee for 5 manses of which 4 are occupied by ministers and a deacon stationed in the circuit. The Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council Tax, Water charges and Insurance.

The cost of ongoing maintenance and improvements to all properties is funded through a manse repairs budget and currently £35,000 is set aside each year from the General Fund and deposited in the Manse Repairs Fund. The level of the budget is reviewed by the trustees each year. If it is considered that the balance in this fund is sufficient for the following year, a request is made to the Circuit Meeting for there to be a holiday in paying for the upcoming year. This last occurred in 2022/23.

Expenditure on Manses

Manse	Maintenance Contracts	Repairs Maintenance Improvements	2025	2024
35 Arundel Road	1,080	6,424	7,504	10,909
29 West Hill Avenue	1,080	2,174	3,254	3,967
16 Hall Road	1,080	8,784	9,864	3,261
116 Manor Green Road	1,080	1,402	2,482	1,170
37 Tattenham Way	-	4,593	4,593	2,422
Survey 2 Tintagel Close		1,500	1,500	-
Total	4,320	24,877	29,197	21,729

Council tax, insurance and utilities

Manse	Council Tax	Insurance	Water Supply	2025	2024
35 Arundel Road	3,682	1,078	415	5,175	5,172
29 West Hill Avenue	3,922	1,269	469	5,660	5,621
16 Hall Road	3,682	929	304	4,915	4,949
116 Manor Green Road	3,400	850	419	4,669	4,110
37 Tattenham Way	-	1,016	-	1,016	904
Unallocated		952		952	167
Total	14,686	6,094	1,607	22,387	20,923
From Maintenance				29,197	21,729
Total				51,584	42,652

Letting Expenses

37 Tattenham Way is now let on the open market and is currently occupied and a rent of £2,200 is being received.

Manse Maintenance Fund

	2025	2024
Opening balance	59,216	45,945
Transfer from General Fund (budget)	35,000	35,000
Expenditure on manses	(29,197)	(21,729)
Balance of manse maintenance fund	65,019	59,216

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

10 Grants to circuit churches

The Sutton Circuit makes grants to the circuit churches from the funds received from the sale of a manse and a church.

Grants made in 2023/2024	
Wallington church repairs and development	63,456
Carshalton dementia café	3,120
Epsom refurbishment of community hall kitchen	50,000
Epsom lay pastor remainder of original grant of £105,000	50,000
Total	166,576

Grants made in 2024/2025	
Carshalton dementia café	3,120
Chinese Congregation lay pastor	20,000
Total	23,120

11 Office expenses

	General	CMTF	2025	2024
Local Preacher expenses	461		461	113
Quinquennial inspections	985		985	-
Administration	401		401	
Training	1,567		1,567	780
Independent Examiner	2,000		2,000	2,640
Conference Minutes, CPD & Membership tickets	1,291		1,291	476
Administrator's expenses (travel and stationery)	1,878		1,878	2,108
Laptop for Circuit Administrator	-		-	1,155
Circuit service expenses	2,165		2,165	2,857
Website	657		657	9
Banking	60		60	60
Sundry	332		332	600
TMCP Admin/investment Management Fees	-	2,234	2,234	1,834
Value of Connexional Funds donations	-	9,760	9,760	10,159
Total	11,797	11,994	23,791	22,791

12 Transfers

The following transfers were made in the SOFA.

Manse Fund allocation	35,000
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Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

13 Trust Funds

Churches are able to seek grant funding for projects within their own church from Circuit Model Trust Fund monies. These funds are held in a CFB fund and 1 trust fund as detailed below.

Circuit CFB Fund 02647030	2025	2024
Balance at 1st September 2024	402,040	571,050
Interest	20,514	25,753
Grant received for operations manager	19,000	-
Grant to Epsom for lay pastor	(20,000)	(25,000)
Grant to Wallington		(63,456)
Loan to Wallington		(60,000)
Grant to Epsom for stage/kitchen project	(50,000)	(50,000)
Grant to Chinese congregation for lay pastor	(20,000)	
Grant to Carshalton	(6,240)	
Transfer from Model Trust Fund 8744	125,000	-
Transfer to CFB 02647010	-	-
Transfer to CFB 02647010	-	-
Interest shown in general fund in 2023/24		3,693
Balance in circuit CFB Fund 02647030 at 31st August 2025	470,314	402,040
Circuit Model Trust Fund 8744		
Balance at 1st September 2024	687,396	643,359
Interest	33,633	33,322
Sale of Sutton Trinity Tennis Club	-	60,001
Levy on sale of Sutton Trinity Tennis Club	-	(8,000)
Trinity Church lift installation	(44,502)	
Addition from sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Church	-	50
TMCP administration	(2,234)	(1,834)
District levy	(42,803)	(39,502)
Sale of 32 Carshalton Place	153,381	
Levy on sale of Carshalton Place	(37,353)	
Transfer to 02647030 for grants and circuit reserve	(125,000)	-
Levy on sale of Sutton Trinity Tennis Club	-	-
Balance in trust fund 8744 at 31st August 2025	622,518	687,396
Total amount available for grants		
Circuit CFB Fund 02647030	470,314	402,040
Circuit Model Trust Fund 8744	622,518	687,396
Total of funds available for grants at 31st August 2025	1,092,832	1,089,436

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS1 Manses & Other Property

Buildings comprise 5 manses located in the London Borough of Sutton (2), the Borough of Epsom & Ewell (2) and the Borough of Reigate & Banstead (1). The manse at 37 Tattenham Way was let on the open market and is now occupied.

The manses are valued at historical cost. Also reported for information is the insurance value of each manse.

Property	Type	Historical Cost	Year of Purchase	Insurance Value 2025	Insurance Value 2024
35 Arundel Road	manse	£4,850	1949	£841,684	£804,666
29 West Hill Avenue	manse	£450	1923	£958,581	£916,424
16 Hall Road	manse	£2,500	1962	£724,784	£692,908
116 Manor Green Road	manse	£123,000	1994	£490,983	£469,389
37 Tattenham Way	manse	£2,150	1945	£537,740	£514,090
Total		£132,950		£3,553,772	£3,397,477

	Opening cost	Additions	Disposals	Closing cost
Manses	132,950	-	-	132,950

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of one year, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in the furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

BS2 Investment Assets (and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes)

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Circuit's other funds (as listed below) are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments. The Sutton Circuit holds one trust (8744) at TMCP with a balance 8744 (£622,518). £402,042 is held in CFB fund 02647030 (Circuit Development) as funds made available for grants to enable payment of such grants and is a part of the CMTF funds held in the Central Finance Board recorded in BS4 below. The total available at 31st August 2025 is £1,092,832.

TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

BS3 Debtors and Prepayments

Trade Debtors	2025	2024
Water Insurance	-	-
Council Tax & Water Rates	1,340	1,251
Minutes of Conference etc		452
Other Debtors		
Prepayments	-	-
Stipends, Pension, NI	14,831	14,944
Loan to Wallington	60,000	60,000
Total	76,171	76,647

BS4 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Bank balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and at CAF Bank are all available on demand without loss of interest. The split of these balances across General and Designated Funds is arbitrary but wherever possible balances are not shown as negative.

	General	CFB	Designated	2025	2024
Central Finance Board	409,768	470,314	65,019	945,101	869,222
CAF Bank	23,033	-	-	23,033	3,713
Total	432,801	470,314	65,019	968,134	872,935

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS5 Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

	2025	2024
Income in Advance		
Contributions from churches	84,364	83,150
Creditors and Accruals		
Grants to Epsom & Carshalton	146,028	103,120
Payment to Trinity	7,499	52,001
Maintenance expenses	7,380	360
Ministers' expenses	-	783
Independent Examiner	2,000	2,640
Other expenses	865	386
Total	248,136	242,440

BS6 Unrestricted Funds

BS6.1 General Fund

2025	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2025
General Fund	473,957	306,454	258,098	(35,000)	13,356	487,313
2024	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2024
General Fund	475,152	292,733	255,235	(38,693)	(1,195)	473,957

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

The Circuit Meeting is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit and this is true for the fund.

BS6.2 Circuit Model Trust Fund

2025	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2025
Circuit (Model) Trust Funds	994,315	82,907	77,917		4,990	999,305
2024	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2024
Circuit (Model) Trust Funds	1,139,409	69,284	218,071	3,693	(145,094)	994,315

The purpose of the Model Trust fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and contributions from the sales of manses and church buildings in the circuit. The funds are being made available for ministry and future developments in the circuit.

Although the Model Trust fund is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise the Model Trust funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS7 Related Parties

All of the trustees are members of one or another Church within the Circuit, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP. The newly appointed Circuit Operations Manager (Mr Gavin Hutton) is the husband of the circuit superintendent Rev Catherine Hutton. It is hoped to appoint a Pastoral Support person during the year at a payroll cost of the order of £18,000. This total of around £50,000 will be borne by surplus funds in the general fund and grants of which one for £19,000 per year for 3 years for Mr Hutton has been approved.

BS8 Agency Collections and Payments

The Circuit acted as agent in collection for facilitation of the monies tabulated below. None of these collections was for related parties as defined in Note BS7 above. The Circuit carries out the payroll for lay employees in churches in the circuit, pays the 1 person and that Church then reimburses the Circuit for the exact amount. For the current year this totalled £33,415 (2024: £32,461). This person has now left the employ of St Marks church and a replacement is currently being considered.

Names of related parties	Party	Receipts 2025	Receipts 2024
Mission in Britain Fund	Connexion	1,435	1,385
Training Fund	Connexion	1,340	1,280
Property Fund	Connexion	3,845	4,109
Presbyters & Deacons Fund	Connexion	1,245	1,200
Ministers' Housing Fund	Connexion	1,895	2,185
Direct Transfer	Connexion	-	-
Total		9,760	10,159

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Appendix A

CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP

Ex-Officio:

Circuit Ministers:

Rev Catherine Hutton (Superintendent),
Rev Ung Soon Nguang, Rev Hendry Ponniah

Deacon

Marie Poole

Chairs of District:

Rev Dr Jonathan Dean & Rev Faith Nyota

Circuit Stewards:

Mrs Maureen Patel, Mr Lyndon Man, Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
Mrs Jane Barden, Mr Richard Smith (Treasurer)

Ministers of other denominations authorised by Methodist
Conference and serving Methodist people:

Rev Bethany Lewis

Circuit Meeting Secretary:

Mr Paul Gotts

Circuit Operations Manager

Mr Gavin Hutton

Secretary to Leaders of Worship and Preachers Meeting

Mr Paul Gotts

Circuit Risk Assessment Chair

Mrs Sue Forty

Elected Representatives from Churches:

Sutton

Deacons
Treasurer
Elected

Mr Richard Cornwell
Mrs Jacqueline John
Miss Eleanor Gravenor, Ms Abigail Hustler, Mr Martin Wright

St Johns

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Miss Eleanor Pinfold
Mr Anthony Woolfenden
Mrs Eileen Rice

Wallington

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Miss Judith Yates
Mrs Christine Asirwatham
Mrs Nellie Showers, Mr Ravi Saravanamuttu

Epsom

Steward
Acting Treasurer

Elected

Vacant
Mr Robert Hill
Mr Mark Angel, Mrs Katharine Castledine, Mrs Christine Cox
Mr Robert Hill

Carshalton

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mrs Caroline Kingsnorth
Mrs Caroline Cook
Mr John Kingsnorth, Miss Jacky Waite

Cheam

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mr David Worthington
Vacant
Vacant

Banstead

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Vacant
Mr Philip Sandiford
Mrs Sue Hopper

St Marks

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mr John Miller
Mr Martin Trenaman
Mr Colin Batty

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Appendix B

The offices of the members of the Circuit Meeting (Managing Trustees) are shown in Appendix A.

The following are the trustees who served during the year and are appointed by the circuit as and when necessary.

Mr Mark Angel	Mr Lyndon Man
Mrs Christine Asirwatham	Mr John Miller
Mrs Jane Barden	Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Mr Colin Batty	Mrs Maureen Patel
Mr Malcolm Booth (resigned 16/09/2025)	Mrs Eleanor Pinfold
Mrs Katharine Castledine	Rev David Pitkeathly (appointed 16/09/2025)
Mrs Caroline Cook	Rev Hendry Ponniah
Mr Richard Cornwell	Mrs Eileen Rice
Mrs Christine Cox	Mr Philip Sandiford.
Rev Dr Jonathan Dean	Mr Ravi Saravanamuttu
Mrs Sue Forty	Mrs Audrey Saunderson (resigned 16/09/2025)
Miss Eleanor Gravenor	Mrs Nellie Showers
Mr Robert Hill	Mr Richard Smith
Mrs Sue Hopper (appointed 16/09/2025)	Mr Martin Trenaman
Ms Abigail Hustler	Miss Jacky Waite
Rev Catherine Hutton	Rev Des Williamson (resigned 16/09/2025)
Mr Gavin Hutton (appointed 16/09/2025)	Mr Anthony Woolfenden
Mrs Caroline Kingsnorth	Mr David Worthington
Mr John Kingsnorth	Mr Martin Wright
Mr Jerry Lee	Miss Judith Yates
Rev Bethany Lewis	Rev Dr Jongikaya Zihle (resigned 16/09/2025)
Rev Gill Long	

Sutton Methodist Circuit
DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of Treasurer

Date

17th March 2026

Name

Richard T Smith

Address

13 Hazon Way, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8HD

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on
and were approved.

17th March 2026

Signature of the Chair of
the meeting

Name of
the Chair

Rev Catherine Hutton

Date

17th March 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Sutton Methodist Circuit

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Sutton Methodist Circuit (the Circuit) for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 7 to 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 Circuit's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 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:

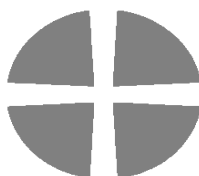
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Circuit as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) 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.

Paul Newton FCA
JCS Accountants Ltd
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Date:

Accounts



**THE METHODIST CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2024**

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity - Registration number

1135076

District No / Circuit No 35/39

Ministers

Rev Catherine Hutton
Rev Bethany Lewis
Rev Gill Long
Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Rev Hendry Ponniah
Deacon Marie Poole
Rev Desmond C Williamson

Circuit Stewards

Mrs Maureen Patel
Mr Ka Fai Man
Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
Mrs Jane Barden

Circuit Treasurer

Mr Richard Smith

Sutton Methodist Circuit Trustees' Annual Report

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**Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Introduction

Sutton Methodist Circuit covers an area in north east Surrey. It is part of the London District. It is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1135076, and its affairs are governed by Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). It has been registered at Charities Commission as Sutton Methodist Circuit.

The Mission of the Circuit

The Mission statement of the Sutton Circuit

- enable the churches to proclaim the Gospel of Christ and further God's Kingdom.
 - be aware of God's presence through the Holy Spirit in all we do in God's name.
 - support each Church in its endeavours to fulfil its potential in responding to opportunities of service and growth.
 - enable the staff of the Circuit both ministerial and lay to fulfil their potential in a supportive Circuit environment.
 - support ecumenical ventures and to encourage further ecumenical work.
- The ministers concentrate on the mission of their local churches but support each other through regular meetings. The work of the ministers and lay members is supported with prayer. The Circuit Leadership Team (Staff and Circuit Stewards) meet regularly to plan and agree policy and oversee the ongoing work of the Circuit

Review of the year

- **Mission: Monitor progress of the mission projects funded in 2022/23.**
All projects except one have now been funded. Work is continuing or has been completed on all of them.
- **Continue exploration of means of sustaining and increasing active involvement of young people and young adults across the circuit.**
Progress has been made, especially at the larger churches where there are uniformed youth groups, family centres/nurseries and where the circuit's engagement of pastors with a focus on young people has been of significant benefit.
- **Wallington Church Development: Support the Wallington leadership in evaluating and pursuing their revised strategy based on retaining and enhancing the current church buildings.**

Wallington have decided not to pursue the redevelopment of the whole site. They will retain the church and hall and sell off the land behind the church and hall. With the funds raised they will refurbish both the church and the hall. They have already commenced the refurbishment of the church with excellent results.
- **Ministry: Support the probationer Diaconal Minister toward ordination in 2024. Initiate the procedures for continuity of the ministries at Epsom beyond August 2025, when the current appointments end.**
Marie Poole was ordained in June 2024.
- **Re-introduce circuit services.**
This has already begun.
- **Further integrate the Chinese congregation at Epsom into the life of the circuit.**
Positive steps have been made to integrate the congregations and there is good cohesion supported by the ministerial staff and Lay Pastor.
- **Improve the promotion of individual church events across the circuit.**
A number of events have taken place where the publicity has been circulated across the circuit and promoted in individual church newsletters.
- **Succession Management.**
This is difficult in the current volunteer climate but progress is being made.
- **Budget: produce a balanced budget for 2024/25.**
This has been achieved with the reorganisation of funds in the circuit.
- **Long Term Strategy. Continue discussions on long term scenarios for the smaller congregations, including the Methodist congregations in the Anglican-Methodist LEPs.**
The circuit has continued to support and encourage the smaller churches and is looking at a strategy to sow the seeds of a new Methodist congregation to grow utilising existing facilities and buildings and with the support of circuit staff.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Financial Review

Budget

Each year the circuit sets a budget for income and expenditure which is approved by the Circuit Meeting.

Income

- The assessments have been received from all the churches.
- The interest received was £20,987 (2022/23 £8,804). This is well above budget since the circuit benefited from the improved recovery in the money markets late in the church year. Also, arising from the 2 sales of properties, there was a larger balance in the interest earning funds. The interest of £20,987 is that from the 3 CFB funds 02647010/020/030 and is the agreed contribution for interest for the General Fund.
- All ministry funding has been moved into the general fund. One of the manses has been let on the open market for £2,200 per month, £26,400 per annum.

Expenditure

- Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with Conference approved increases. £61,832 (2022/23 £60,028) (24.5%) of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church. The Manse Fund shows that £21,729 (2022/23 £75,911) was spent on manse repairs. The reduction was due to no ministers moving. The current balance is £59,216.
- All other items of expenditure were within budget.

Conclusions

All items in the accounts were close to budget except interest (see above) and administration (due to larger costs for service expenses). There was a surplus in the General Fund of £37,498. This is expected to occur in 2024/25, again due to interest on invested funds.

Financial effect of significant events

The reorganisation of the finances in the circuit funds has made it easier to identify the state of the circuit funds. The general fund and manse fund are held in the CAF Bank account and 2 CFB deposit funds. The model trust money is held in the trust fund at TMCP and the third CFB fund. The general fund balance was £473,957 and the manse fund balance was £59,216. The trust funds balance was £994,315. This indicates that there are sufficient funds to continue with the financial operation of the circuit and that there are adequate funds for circuit churches to approach for the funding of their own projects. It is anticipated that one manse will be sold during the year and a manse to Methodist requirements will be purchased. There are adequate funds to enable this to take place.

/continued on next page

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Fund balances

General Fund

As at 31st August 2024 the net current assets of the Circuit were £341,007. This is above the required reserves policy level of £321,605.

Circuit Model Trust Fund

This is an unrestricted fund and can be applied to for appropriate capital items or projects.

Factors affecting the financial future of the circuit are mainly the guarantee of income from the assessment from each church. Whereas the circuit seeks to be able to be self-sufficient from the assessment, in the event that there is a shortfall which cannot be recovered from, it is permitted to seek approval to raise funds from the Model Trust Fund. Due to previous income from previous sales, the Model Trust Fund has enough funds to be able to support the circuit.

Valuation of Properties

The manses were included in the balance sheet at historical cost for the first time in 2015/16. The current total is £132,950.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 1 year's average expenditure. This is now sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and/or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

Reserves of the Circuit

The balance of funds in the circuit at the end of the year was £1,527,488. Of this £132,950 is now the historical value of the manses. The balance comprises £473,957 in the general fund, £994,315 in the Model Trust Fund and £45,945 in the manse fund. Though the manses have been valued at historical level, their sale in the current climate would probably realise over £2m. During the year, the decision was taken to move all Funds into the General Fund and for CCEMC to come under the overall responsibility of the General Fund. All ministry is funded by the General Fund from 1st September 2023.

Volunteers

The Church is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, grants, training, safeguarding and risk. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by the Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Plans for 2024/25

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remain 4 full time staff with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district. It is anticipated that there will be a surplus on the annual costs of about £4,000. With the continued raised interest rates, this will continue to enhance the general fund.

The following issues will be focused upon during the 2024-2025 year.

- Mission: Monitor progress of the mission projects funded between 2022 and 2024.
- Continue exploration of means of sustaining and increasing active involvement of young people and young adults across the circuit.
- Wallington Church Development: Support the Wallington leadership in evaluating and pursuing their revised strategy based on retaining and enhancing the current church buildings.
- Improve the promotion of individual church events across the circuit.
- Succession Management.
- Budget: produced a balanced budget for 2024/25.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102).

Full Name of Charity	Sutton Methodist Circuit
Registration Charity Number	1135076
Date of registration	22nd March 2010
Main communication address	Mr Paul Gotts c/o Circuit Administrator, Sutton Trinity Church, Cheam Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1DZ

The members of the Sutton Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Full membership is shown in Appendix A to this report.

Circuit Ministers and officers

Active Circuit Ministers	Rev Catherine Hutton Rev Gill Long Rev Ung Soon Nguang Deacon Marie Poole Rev Desmond Williamson
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Circuit Stewards	Mrs Maureen Patel Mr Ka Fai Man Mr Vijendran Asirwatham Mrs Jane Barden
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Administrator	Mr Paul Gotts
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Mr Richard T Smith acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year.

Independent Examiner	Jacob, Cavenagh & Skeet 5 Robin Hood Lane, Sutton, SM1 2SW
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Investment Bankers	Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church Methodist Church House, 25 Tavistock Place Road, London, WC1H 9SF Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ
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Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a resource provider within the area around the London Borough of Sutton and the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council for the Methodist 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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The Sutton Circuit shall seek to:

Advance the Christian faith by supporting individual churches in the circuit.

Provide facilities for public acts of worship open to members and non-members alike.

Enable pastoral care throughout the circuit for the benefit of members and non-members alike with respect to the teaching of Christianity and visiting the needy by appointing ministers, organising preaching, appointing and guiding lay leaders.

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting and the Circuit Stewards.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Circuit meeting members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Sutton Trinity (Methodist/URC LEP)

Wallington

Carshalton

Banstead

Epsom

Cheam

St John's (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

St Mark's (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Risk Management

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded of risks identified within the circuit. This is carried out by an independent Risk Assessment Group which reports to the Trustees.

The following are the major risks in the circuit:

1. Church closures
2. Not enough lay staff to take on circuit responsibilities. Staff and volunteers who leave cannot easily be replaced.
3. There is a reduction in presbyters.
4. Circuit expenditure consistently exceeds income, leading to inadequate reserve levels.
5. Circuit Churches are unable to meet the budget with their shares, leading to shortfall in income to circuit.

Arising from these identified risks, the circuit is aware of them all and takes them into consideration when the circuit stewards meet as a managing group and the full circuit leadership team meets to discuss policy and the future.

Factors affecting the financial future of the circuit are mainly the guarantee of income from the shares from each church. Whereas the circuit seeks to be able to be self-sufficient from these shares, in the event that there is a shortfall which cannot be recovered from, it is permitted to seek approval to raise funds from the Model Trust Fund.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Sutton Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Sutton Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the 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 the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Circuit Meeting on 6th March 2025 and signed on behalf of the trustees by:

Rev Catherine Hutton
Circuit Meeting Chairman

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

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

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds (General Fund)	Designated Funds (Circuit Model Trust Fund)	Designated Funds (Manse Maintenance Fund)	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and legacies	2	127	10,209		10,336	73,857
Shares from churches	3	245,219			245,219	170,722
Other trading activities						
Lettings	4	26,400	-		26,400	11,000
Investments						
Interest	5	20,987	59,075		80,062	37,563
Other income						
Net sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre			-		-	930,722
Total income		292,733	69,284	-	362,017	1,223,864
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Levy on sale of BHMC			-		-	494,289
Trust fund management charges	6		39,502		39,502	20,611
Charitable activities						
Ministerial stipends and expenses	7 8	222,903			222,903	204,176
Ministerial invitations	8	611			611	7,891
Manse maintenance and servicing	9	20,923		21,729	42,652	109,326
Grants to circuit churches	10	-	166,576		166,576	49,120
Administration	11	10,798	11,993		22,791	21,305
Total		255,235	218,071	21,729	495,035	906,718
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		37,498	(148,787)	(21,729)	(133,018)	317,146
Transfers between funds	12	(38,693)	3,693	35,000	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed		-			-	-
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit						
Other gains/(losses)					-	-
Net movement in funds		(1,195)	(145,094)	13,271	(133,018)	317,146
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		475,152	1,139,409	45,945	1,660,506	1,343,360
Total funds carried forward		473,957	994,315	59,216	1,527,488	1,660,506

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

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations

Balance carried forward

-
10,159
10,159
-

-
9,549
9,549
-

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

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

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds (General Fund)	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds (Chinese Ministry)	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	23	22
					£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and legacies	2		9,549	64,308	73,857	71,062
Shares from churches	3	170,722			170,722	165,280
Other trading activities						
Lettings	4	11,000	-		11,000	55,934
Investments						
Interest	5	8,804	28,759		37,563	3,854
Other income						
Net sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre			930,722		930,722	
Total income		190,526	969,030	64,308	1,223,864	296,130
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Levy on sale of BHMC			494,289		494,289	-
Trust fund management charges	6		20,611		20,611	26,405
Charitable activities						
Ministerial stipends and expenses	7 8	164,127		40,049	204,176	221,223
Ministerial invitations	8	7,891			7,891	2,171
Manse maintenance and servicing	9	20,048	85,826	3,452	109,326	80,776
Grants to circuit churches	10	-	49,120		49,120	105,000
Administration	11	10,640	10,665		21,305	14,212
Total		202,706	660,511	43,501	906,718	449,787
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		(12,180)	308,519	20,807	317,146	(153,657)
Transfers between funds	12	245,870	(224,870)	(21,000)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets		-			-	-
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension						
Other gains/(losses)					-	-
Net movement in funds		233,690	83,649	(193)	317,146	(153,657)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		241,462	1,101,705	193	1,343,360	1,497,017
Total funds carried forward		475,152	1,185,354	-	1,660,506	1,343,360
Balance brought forward from last year						
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations			9,549			7,984
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations			9,549			7,984
Balance carried forward			-			-

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

		Unrestricted (General Fund)	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Manse Maintenance Fund	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets*						
	Notes					
Circuit Manses & Equipment	BS1	132,950			132,950	132,950
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre			-		-	-
Investments	BS2				-	-
Total fixed assets		132,950	-	-	132,950	132,950
Current Assets						
Debtors	BS3	16,647	60,000		76,647	16,188
Loans by the Circuit						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	BS2		687,396		687,396	643,359
Central Finance Board Deposits	BS4	407,966	402,040	59,216	869,222	1,017,478
Cash at Bank and in hand	BS4	3,713	-		3,713	9,361
Total current assets		428,326	1,149,436	59,216	1,636,978	1,686,386
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	BS5	87,319	155,121		242,440	158,830
Net current assets (liabilities)		341,007	994,315	59,216	1,394,538	1,527,556
Total assets less current liabilities		473,957	994,315	59,216	1,527,488	1,660,506
Creditors and Accruals including any loans (due after more than 1 year)			-		-	-
Net assets		473,957	994,315	59,216	1,527,488	1,660,506
Funds of the Circuit						
General Fund (Unrestricted)	BS6.1	473,957			473,957	475,152
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	BS6.2		994,315		994,315	1,185,354
Manse Maintenance	9			59,216	59,216	-
Total Funds		473,957	994,315	59,216	1,527,488	1,660,506

*Details - see Note 11

Summary of the Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit 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.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 6th March 2025 and were signed on their behalf

Rev Catherine Hutton

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting and accounting policies

i Basis: SORP and Standards

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019, SORP(FRS102), and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, FRS 102.

ii Public benefit entity

The Sutton Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The Circuit is an unincorporated charity and its official address is Sutton Trinity Church, Cheam Road, Sutton, SM1 1DZ. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling rounded to the nearest pound.

iv FRS102 SORP2019 (applies to 2016-17 onwards)

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the FRS102 SORP 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the 2008 accounting and reporting regulations made thereunder, based on the current version of the Charities SORP (SORP(FRS102)), as disclosed above, in order to be able to show a true and fair view, as permitted by the regulations.

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2024, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern and there are no material uncertainties affecting this conclusion.

vi Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when there is entitlement and the amount is reliably measurable once it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.

The Circuit acts as agent in three matters:

The collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds"

The administration of a payroll service for employees in Churches in the Circuit. The Circuit will carry out the payroll duties in accordance with HMRC requirements and will pay the employees from Circuit funds. This payment will be reimbursed to the Circuit during the same Connexional year so that payment of salaries, NIC and tax to HMRC will be reimbursed in the same accounting period. The amount paid and received, an equal amount, will be recorded in the SOFA as equal income and expenditure.

The administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion.

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or Churches as appropriate. Instead the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102).

In Accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees' Annual Report.

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable and it is considered more likely than not that there will be an outflow of economic benefit.

ix Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant to be accrued is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years, discounted to net present value where the difference is material, is treated as a provision for future commitments in the balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

x VAT

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

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

xi Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The freehold and/or long leasehold residential property is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing each property's gross carrying value at time of being built or purchased. No depreciation is provided because the trustees consider the residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its insurance cost and, in the absence of any evidence of impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the property would be immaterial.

xii Monetary Investments

The Circuit's investments are deposited with TMCP as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

xiii Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are recognised at the amount expected to be settled.

xiv Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits and these are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuits raise assessments against Churches in the Circuit. The District quarterly remits to The Methodist Church Fund most of the sum received from the Circuits. A small sum is retained by the District to meet its own costs. The Circuit may act as agent for ad hoc collections for various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church. These are detailed in Note BS9 below.

xv Minister's manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

- 2** Major funds in the Methodist Church are supported by donations from local churches. These total £10,159 and are reported in BS9.

There were no legacies.

The Chinese Ministry has now been incorporated into the General Fund and is no longer reported separately.

3 Shares from Churches

The circuit is comprised of 8 churches. Each church is invited to offer a share towards the stated budget of the circuit to meet the overall costs. In making its share requirement, budgeted income from investment income, (including property letting) is taken into account. The circuit aims to cover its net core costs from the total of the shares offered. For 2023/24 this has been possible because of increased income from investments. The overall surplus on the year was just under £31,000 which is a big improvement over past years.

Shares from churches are made quarterly in advance and are treated as a prepayment on a receivable basis. If any church has not paid its share by the due date the sum in question is treated as a debtor.

Share monies contributing to the district assessment paid from church to district via circuit are not recognised as income/expenditure in the accounts of the circuit. The circuit is acting as agent and monies passing through are netted off. The reported figure (£245,218) is the total share income (£307,050) less the assessment paid to and through the district (£11,824 and £50,008).

Church	2024	2023
Sutton Trinity	60,000	50,000
Wallington	18,000	28,000
Carshalton	35,000	31,000
Banstead	26,000	24,000
Epsom	92,000	85,000
Chinese Congregation (Epsom)	63,000	-
Cheam	9,750	9,750
St John's	1,300	1,300
St Mark's	2,000	1,700
Total	307,050	230,750

	2024	2023
Assessment	307,050	230,750
Deduct for:		
District	8,904	11,480
Connexion	52,927	48,548
Net income	245,219	170,722

4 Income from other trading activities

	General	Designated	Restricted	Transfers	2024	2023
Rental income letting of manses	26,400				26,400	11,000

5 Income from investments

£80,062 (2022/23 £37,563) was received as interest from TMCP trusts and CFB funds.

6 Trust Fund Management Charges

District Assessment & Levy

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members and staffing (Presbyters and lay staff graded by hours worked per week as well as investments) of all Circuits in the London District. 65% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions, 25% using relative staff proportions and 10% using each circuit's reserves.

The Levy is calculated on a sliding scale as a percentage of the Circuit's CMTF account balance as at 31 August the previous accounting year. It is taken by the Trust for Methodist Church Purposes and paid to the district in which the circuit resides for the District Advance Fund for making grants to churches in the district.

	General	Designated	2024	2023
District Expenses	-	8,904	8,904	11,480
Methodist Church Fund (MCF)		52,927	52,927	48,548
Levy on CMTF Funds	-	39,502	39,502	20,611
Totals	-	101,333	101,333	80,639

The charges listed above are taken by the Trust for Methodist Church Purposes and are paid to the district in which the circuit resides for the District Advance Fund for making grants to churches in the district.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

7 Salaries and associated costs

Stipends were paid to 4 presbyters

Circuit presbyters & lay pastor	2024	2023
Stipends	135080	123,984
National Insurance Contributions	12471	11,421
Pension Fund Contributions	31247	28,805
URC Levy	11752	11,016
Computers for ministry	776	704
Travelling	6388	4,503
Telephone	6214	5,695
Removals, Stationing & Removal	611	1,231
Apprenticeship Levy	683	621
Sundry Expenses	1025	
Supernumeraries preaching	248	484
Total	206,495	188,464
Circuit administrator - part time		
Salary	15989	14,835
National Insurance Contributions	951	803
Pension Fund Contributions	0	-
Apprenticeship Levy	79	74
Total	17,019	15,712
Total for all staff	223,514	204,176

The total £223,514 is the sum of SOFA stipends (£222,903) and Invitations (£611)

In addition, the circuit employs an active supernumerary and a circuit administrator, a total of 6 employees.

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

The Connexion accounts for both pension schemes and shows the figures in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS has been revalued and is now in surplus. As a result, the employer contribution has been reduced from 26.9% (2023/24) to 20.0% (2024/25). No employees received benefits over £60,000 in the year.

7a Cost of Superintendent, Presbyters and Trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Presbyters and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Presbyters of the Circuit are paid by the Connexion but funded by the circuit.

The manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains the property. The value of the council tax and water charges paid by the circuit is not disclosed here as HMRC does not regard this as a benefit-in-kind in the hands of the minister.

Each Presbyter is entitled to a 3 month sabbatical every 7 years and the expenses incurred by the Presbyter are met by the Connexion with the Circuit continuing to pay the stipend. During the year there have been no sabbaticals. The Circuit does not accrue for holiday pay cover as the remaining staff cover the holidays as needed without extra pay. Had additional cover been required the cost of this is met by the Circuit.

8 Invitation expenses

		Unrestricted	2024	2023
Travel and associated expenses		611	611	7,409
Removals		-	-	482
Total		611	611	7,891

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

9 Property

The Circuit is managing trustee for 5 manses of which 4 are occupied by ministers stationed in the circuit. The Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council Tax, Water charges and Insurance.

The cost of ongoing maintenance and improvements to all properties is funded through a manse repairs budget and currently £35,000 is set aside each year from the General Fund and deposited in the Manse Repairs Fund. The level of the budget is reviewed by the trustees each year. If it is considered that the balance in this fund is sufficient for the following year, a request is made to the Circuit Meeting for there to be a holiday in paying for the upcoming year. This last occurred in 2022/23.

Expenditure on Manses

Manse	Maintenance Contracts	Repairs Maintenance Improvements	2024	2023
35 Arundel Road	1,080	9,829	10,909	20,091
29 West Hill Avenue	1,080	2,887	3,967	1,725
16 Hall Road	1,080	2,181	3,261	1,201
116 Manor Green Road	1,080	90	1,170	1,197
37 Tattenham Way	-	2,422	2,422	57,357
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre		-	-	(3,100)
Total	4,320	17,409	21,729	78,471

Council tax, insurance and utilities

Manse	Council Tax	Insurance	Water Supply	2024	2023
35 Arundel Road	3,495	1,378	299	5,172	5,351
29 West Hill Avenue	3,747	1,560	314	5,621	5,737
16 Hall Road	3,495	1,196	258	4,949	4,915
116 Manor Green Road	3,247	832	31	4,110	4,435
37 Tattenham Way	-	904	-	904	2,851
Unallocated		167		167	211
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre					7,355
Total	13,984	6,037	902	20,923	30,855
From Maintenance				21,729	78,471
Total				42,652	109,326

Letting Expenses

37 Tattenham Way is now let on the open market and is currently occupied and a rent of £2,200 is being received.

Manse Maintenance Fund

	2024	2023
Opening balance	45,945	71,855
Transfer from General Fund (budget)	35,000	56,500
Expenditure on manses	(21,729)	(82,410)
Balance of manse maintenance fund	59,216	45,945

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

10 Grants to circuit churches

The Sutton Circuit makes grants to the circuit churches from the funds received from the sale of a manse and a church.

Grants made in 2023/2024	
Wallington church repairs and development	63,456
Carshalton dementia café	3,120
Epsom refurbishment of community hall kitchen	50,000
Epsom lay pastor remainder of original grant of £105,000	50,000
Total	166,576

Grants made in 2022/2023	
Cheam kitchen refurbishment	8,000
Carshalton dementia café	21,120
Chinese Congregation lay pastor	20,000
Total	49,120

11 Office expenses

	General	CMTF	2024	2023
Local Preacher expenses	113		113	129
Quinquennial inspections	-		-	525
Training	780		780	1,275
Independent Examiner	2,640		2,640	6,000
Conference Minutes, CPD & Membership tickets	476		476	459
Administrator's expenses (travel and stationery)	2,108		2,108	648
Laptop for Circuit Administrator	1,155		1,155	190
Circuit service expenses	2,857		2,857	1,354
Website	9		9	-
Banking	60		60	60
Sundry	600		600	-
TMCP Admin/Investment Management Fees	-	1,834	1,834	1,116
Value of Connexional Funds donations	-	10,159	10,159	9,549
Total	10,798	11,993	22,791	21,305

12 Transfers

The following transfers were made in the SOFA.

Manse Fund allocation	35,000
Correction to 2022/23 interest calculation	3,693

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

13 Trust Funds

Churches are able to seek grant funding for projects within their own church from Circuit Model Trust Fund monies. These funds are held in a CFB fund and 1 trust fund as detailed below.

Circuit CFB Fund 02647030	2024	2023
Balance at 1st September 2023	571,050	46,414
Interest	25,753	
Interest from trusts 13141 and 16141	-	6,223
Grant to Epsom for lay pastor	(25,000)	-
Grant to Wallington	(63,456)	
Loan to Wallington	(60,000)	
Grant to Epsom for kitchen project	(50,000)	
Balance from trusts 13141 and 16141	-	215,533
Main balance from BHMC bank account on closure	-	72,000
Transfer from Model Trust Fund 8744	-	500,000
Transfer to CFB 02647010	-	(50,000)
Transfer to CFB 02647010	-	(170,000)
Transfer grants to Carshalton, Cheam and Chinese Congregation	-	(49,120)
Interest shown in general fund in 2022/23	3,693	
Balance in circuit CFB Fund 02647030 at 31st August 2024	402,040	571,050
Circuit Model Trust Fund 8744		
Balance at 1st September 2023	643,359	391,475
Interest	33,322	22,178
Sale of Sutton Trinity Tennis Club	60,001	1,295,722
Levy on sale of Sutton Trinity Tennis Club	(8,000)	
Addition from sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Church	50	
TMCP administration	(1,834)	(1,116)
District levy	(39,502)	(20,611)
Transfer to manse fund	-	(50,000)
Transfer to 02647030 for grants and circuit reserve	-	(500,000)
Levy on sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	-	(494,289)
Balance in trust fund 8744 at 31st August 2024	687,396	643,359
Total amount available for grants		
Circuit CFB Fund 02647030	402,040	571,050
Circuit Model Trust Fund 8744	687,396	643,359
Total of funds available for grants at 31st August 2024	1,089,436	1,214,409

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS1 Manses & Other Property

Buildings comprise 5 manses located in the London Borough of Sutton (2), the Borough of Epsom & Ewell (2) and the Borough of Reigate & Banstead (1). The manse at 37 Tattenham Way was let on the open market and is now occupied.

The manses are valued at historical cost. Also reported for information is the insurance value of each manse.

Property	Type	Historical Cost	Year of Purchase	Insurance Value 2024	Insurance Value 2023
35 Arundel Road	manse	£4,850	1949	£804,666	£629,265
29 West Hill Avenue	manse	£450	1923	£916,424	£716,662
16 Hall Road	manse	£2,500	1962	£692,908	£541,867
116 Manor Green Road	manse	£123,000	1994	£469,389	£367,071
37 Tattenham Way	manse	£2,150	1945	£514,090	£402,029
Total		£132,950		£3,397,477	£2,656,894

	Opening cost	Additions	Disposals	Closing cost
Manses	132,950	-	-	132,950

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of one year, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in the furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

BS2 Investment Assets (and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes)

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Circuit's other funds (as listed below) are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments. The Sutton Circuit holds one trust (8744) at TMCP with a balance 8744 (£687,396). £402,042 is held in CFB fund 02647030 (Circuit Development) as funds made available for grants to enable payment of such grants and is a part of the CMTF funds held in the Central Finance Board recorded in BS4 below. The total available at 31st August 2024 is £1,089,438.

TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

BS3 Debtors and Prepayments

Trade Debtors	2024	2023
Water Insurance	-	-
Council Tax & Water Rates	1,251	1,189
Minutes of Conference etc	452	476
Other Debtors		17
Prepayments	-	-
Stipends, Pension, NI	14,944	14,506
Loan to Wallington	60,000	
Total	76,647	16,188

BS4 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Bank balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and at CAF Bank are all available on demand without loss of interest. The split of these balances across General and Designated Funds is arbitrary but wherever possible balances are not shown as negative.

	General	CFB	Designated	2024	2023
Central Finance Board	407,966	402,040	59,216	869,222	1,017,478
CAF Bank	3,713	-	-	3,713	9,361
Total	411,679	402,040	59,216	872,935	1,026,839

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS5 Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

	2024	2023
Income in Advance		
Contributions from churches	83,150	76,763
Creditors and Accruals		
Grants to Epsom & Carshalton	103,120	75,000
Payment to Trinity	52,001	
Maintenance expenses	360	
Ministers' expenses	783	712
Independent Examiner	2,640	6,000
Other expenses	386	355
Total	242,440	158,830

BS6 Unrestricted Funds

BS6.1 General Fund

2024	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2024
General Fund	475,152	292,733	255,235	(38,693)	(1,195)	473,957
2023	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2023
General Fund	241,462	190,526	202,706	245,870	233,690	475,152

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

The Circuit Meeting is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit and this is true for the fund.

BS6.2 Circuit Model Trust Fund

2024	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2024
Circuit (Model) Trust Funds	1,139,409	69,284	218,071	3,693	(145,094)	994,315
2023	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2023
Circuit (Model) Trust Funds	578,422	959,123	565,136	167,000	560,987	1,139,409

The purpose of the Model Trust fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and contributions from the sales of manses and church buildings in the circuit. The funds are being made available for ministry and future developments in the circuit.

Although the Model Trust fund is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise the Model Trust funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS7 Related Parties

All of the trustees are members of one or another Church within the Circuit, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP.

BS8 Agency Collections and Payments

The Circuit acted as agent in collection for facilitation of the monies tabulated below. None of these collections was for related parties as defined in Note BS7 above. The Circuit carries out the payroll for lay employees in churches in the circuit, pays the 1 person and that Church then reimburses the Circuit for the exact amount. For the current year this totalled £33,415 (2023: £32,461).

Names of related parties	Party	Receipts 2024	Receipts 2023
Mission in Britain Fund	Connexion	1,385	1,315
Training Fund	Connexion	1,280	1,230
Property Fund	Connexion	4,109	3,949
Presbyters & Deacons Fund	Connexion	1,200	965
Ministers' Housing Fund	Connexion	2,185	2,090
Direct Transfer	Connexion	-	-
Total		10,159	9,549

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Appendix A

CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP

Ex-Officio:

Circuit Ministers:

Rev Catherine Hutton (Superintendent),
Rev Ung Soon Nguang, Rev Hendry Ponniah
Rev Gill Long (active supernumerary)

Deacon

Marie Poole

Chairs of District:

Rev Dr Jonathan Dean

Circuit Stewards:

Mrs Maureen Patel, Mr Lyndon Man, Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
Mrs Jane Barden, Mr Richard Smith (Treasurer)

Ministers of other denominations authorised by Methodist
Conference and serving Methodist people:

Rev Des Williamson, Rev Bethany Lewis

Circuit Meeting Secretary:

Mr Paul Gotts (not a trustee)

Circuit Manse Secretary

Mr Philip Sandiford

Secretary to Leaders of Worship and Preachers Meeting

Mr Paul Gotts (not a trustee)

Circuit Risk Management Chairman

Mrs Sue Forty

Elected Representatives from Churches:

Sutton

Deacons
Treasurer
Elected

Mr Richard Cornwell
Vacant
Miss Eleanor Gravenor, Ms Abigail Hustler, Mr Martin Wright

St Johns

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Miss Eleanor Pinfold
Mr Anthony Woolfenden
Mrs Eileen Rice

Wallington

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Miss Judith Yates
Mrs Christine Asirwatham
Mrs Nellie Showers, Mr Ravi Saravanamuttu

Epsom

Steward
Treasurer

Elected

Vacant
Vacant
Mr Mark Angel, Mrs Katharine Castledine, Mrs Christine Cox
Mr Robert Hill

Carshalton

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mrs Caroline Kingsnorth
Mrs Caroline Cook
Mr John Kingsnorth, Miss Jacky Waite

Cheam

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mr David Worthington
Mrs Audrey Saunderson
Vacant

Banstead

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Vacant
Mr Philip Sandiford
Vacant

St Marks

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mr John Miller
Mr Martin Trenaman
Mr Colin Batty

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Appendix B

The offices of the members of the Circuit Meeting (Managing Trustees) are shown in Appendix A.

The following are the trustees who served during the year and are appointed by the circuit as and when necessary.

Mr Mark Angel	Mr John Miller
Mrs Christine Asirwatham	Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Mrs Jane Barden	Mrs Maureen Patel
Mr Colin Batty	Mrs Eleanor Pinfold
Mr Malcolm Booth	Rev Hendry Ponniah
Mrs Katharine Castledine	Mrs Eileen Rice
Mrs Caroline Cook	Rev Anne Rusbridge (resigned 18/09/2024)
Mr Richard Cornwell	Mr Philip Sandiford.
Rev Nigel Cowgill (resigned 31/08/2024)	Mr Ravi Saravanamuttu (appointed 23/05/2024)
Mrs Christine Cox	Mrs Audrey Saunderson
Rev Dr Jonathan Dean (appointed 18/09/2024)	Mr Joshua Selfe (resigned 18/09/2024)
Mrs Sue Forty	Mrs Nellie Showers
Dr David Gooch (resigned 18/09/2024)	Mr Richard Smith
Miss Eleanor Gravenor (appointed 23/05/2024)	Mr Martin Trenaman
Mr Robert Hill	Mr Vernon Tucker (resigned 01/02/2024)
Ms Abigail Hustler (appointed 23/05/2024)	Miss Jacky Waite
Rev Catherine Hutton	Dr Paul Warren (resigned 06/03/2025)
Mrs Caroline Kingsnorth	Rev Des Williamson
Mr John Kingsnorth	Mr Anthony Woolfenden
Mr Jerry Lee (appointed 01/02/2024)	Mr David Worthington
Rev Bethany Lewis	Mr Martin Wright (appointed 23/05/2024)
Rev Gill Long	Miss Judith Yates
Mr Lyndon Man	Rev Dr Jongikaya Zihle (resigned 04/03/2025)

Sutton Methodist Circuit
DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of Treasurer

Date

6th March 2025

Name

Richard T Smith

Address

13 Hazon Way, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8HD

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on
and were approved.

6th March 2025

Signature of the Chair of
the meeting

Name of
the Chair

Rev Catherine Hutton

Date

6th March 2025

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Sutton Methodist Circuit

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Sutton Methodist Circuit (the Circuit) for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 7 to 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 Circuit's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 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 Circuit 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 Report) 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.

Paul Newton FCA
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Date:

Accounts



THE METHODIST CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2023

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity - Registration number

1135076

District No / Circuit No 35/39

Ministers

Rev Catherine Hutton
Rev Bethany Lewis
Rev Gill Long
Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Rev Hendry Ponniah
Deacon Marie Poole
Rev Desmond C Williamson

Circuit Stewards

Dr David Gooch
Mrs Maureen Patel
Mr Ka Fai Man
Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
Mrs Jane Barden

Circuit Treasurer

Mr Richard Smith

Sutton Methodist Circuit Trustees' Annual Report

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Introduction

Sutton Methodist Circuit covers an area in north east Surrey. It is part of the London District. It is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1135076, and its affairs are governed by Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). It has been registered at Charities Commission as Sutton Methodist Circuit.

The Mission of the Circuit

The Mission statement of the Sutton Circuit

- enable the churches to proclaim the Gospel of Christ and further God's Kingdom.
- be aware of God's presence through the Holy Spirit in all we do in God's name.
- support each Church in its endeavours to fulfil its potential in responding to opportunities of service and growth.
- enable the staff of the Circuit both ministerial and lay to fulfil their potential in a supportive Circuit environment.
- support ecumenical ventures and to encourage further ecumenical work.

The ministers concentrate on the mission of their local churches but support each other through monthly staff planning and support meetings. The work of the ministers and lay members is supported with prayer. The Circuit Leadership Team (staff and stewards) meet formally at least twice a year to plan and agree policy, and also meet socially on occasions. The Circuit Stewards meet 5 times a year, with the Circuit Superintendent Minister, to oversee the ongoing work of the Circuit and to address the needs of the Circuit and the staff.

Review of the year

- **Mission: Continue encouragement and support, financial or otherwise, of circuit churches to enable mission opportunities to be identified and progressed. Hold a further consultation with church leaders.**
Churches were invited to submit proposals for mission centred projects to be funded by the Circuit. Funding was subsequently agreed for a number of projects.
- **Youth work: Explore means of sustaining and increasing active involvement of young people and young adults across the circuit. Consider the case for a circuit youth worker.**
Discussions continue but the practicality of a youth worker covering several circuit churches is a cause of concern.
- **Wallington Church Development. Progress the development. Support the Wallington leadership and congregation, with special emphasis on sustaining youth work.**
The project has stalled due to inability to reach agreement with the selected developer. The emphasis has now shifted to re-examining the possibility of retaining and refurbishing the current building(s).
- **Diaconal Ministry: Recognise and support the particular strengths of the diaconal ministry at Carshalton and Wallington.**
The Circuit, together with the Carshalton and Wallington Churches, is supporting the newly appointed Probationer Deacon in her progress towards ordination, through individual mentoring and a support group. Pastoral work is recognised as a particular strength.
- **Property: Complete the sale of the Bandon Hill site. Establish the condition of the Tattenham Way property and refurbish either to sell or to let. Prepare the Cheam manse for the incoming minister.**
The sale of Bandon Hill site was completed with the achieved price being several times the initial valuation. The Tattenham Way property was refurbished and let on an initial two year tenancy. The Cheam manse was redecorated on schedule for the new minister and his family.
- **Staffing: Appoint a part time presbyter to the Banstead church and for pastoral support at Epsom. Fill the forthcoming vacancy at the Sutton church either through the stationing process or by other means. Move the Superintendency to the Epsom church.**
The part time presbyter was appointed. The Sutton vacancy was filled through stationing. The superintendency has moved to the Epsom church.
- **Energy Costs: Establish a strategy for targeted emergency support of circuit churches, including the role of the Model Trust Fund.**
No specific targeted funding has been made available for energy cost support but churches are able to apply to the Circuit Development Fund (formerly the Model Trust Fund) for grants towards energy related projects, particularly green energy projects.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

■ **Budget: Produce a balanced budget for 2023/24**

A balanced budget has been set for 2023/24, largely because circuit churches have been able to move back toward pre-pandemic 'share' offers and because of increased investment income due to rising interest rates.

■ **Long Term Strategy: Commence discussions on the long-term scenarios for the smaller congregations, including the Methodist congregations in the Anglican – Methodist LEPS.**

This remains a strategic objective.

Financial Review

Budget

Each year the circuit sets a budget for income and expenditure which is approved by the Circuit Meeting.

Income

- The shares have been received from all the churches.
- The interest received was £8,804 (2021/22 £661). This is above budget since the circuit benefited from the recovery in the money markets late in the church year. In addition Bandon Hill Methodist Centre was sold for £1,317,900 net. There was a levy of £494,289 by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes leaving a net sale price of £823,611.
- The use of a manse by the Chinese presbyter has continued for a final year to provide an income of £21,000.
- The closure of Bandon Hill Methodist Church realised a net sale price of £823,611 (see above). This was deposited in the model trust fund 8744 and is available for grants to churches and extra funding requirements in the circuit.

Expenditure

- Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases. £60,028 (2021/22 £61,464) (20.3%) of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church. The Manse Fund shows that £75,911 was spent on manse repairs of which the main cost was refurbishment of the Tattenham Way manse for letting with most of the remainder being spent on the Cheam manse following Rev Dr David Dickinson's retirement and the arrival of Rev Hendry Ponniah at Sutton Trinity. The current balance is £45,945.
- All other items of expenditure were within budget.

Conclusions

All items in the accounts were close to budget. There was an expected deficit on expenditure on budgeted items in the General Fund of £25,911. A further £20,000 deficit is expected in 2023/24. However, a change in allocation of interest from the Circuit Development CFB fund being included in the general fund is expected to alleviate and even clear the originally budgeted deficit.

Financial effect of significant events

The effect of Covid-19 has diminished considerably and the churches are mainly showing a small increase in their funds. This has shown in the reduction of the circuit's deficit. Circuit reserves were again used to offset the deficit. However, at the end of the year there was a restructuring of the circuit funds. Initially £50,000 was granted to the Manse Fund to enable the Tattenham Way manse to be refurbished ready for letting. It is anticipated that most of this will be recovered in letting income over 2 years. Then it was agreed that £500,000 would be transferred to the general fund (£220,000 to the CFB reserves account) to build the reserve level to 100%. £280,000 was transferred to the Circuit Development CFB fund for making grants to churches over a period of 3 years.

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Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Fund balances

General Fund

As at 31st August 2023 the net current assets of the Circuit were £121,555. This is below the required reserves policy level of £228,000 and has now been addressed with the addition of £220,000 to the reserves fund.

Circuit Model Trust Fund

This is an unrestricted fund and can be applied to for appropriate capital items or projects.

Factors affecting the financial future of the circuit are mainly the guarantee of income from the shares from each church. Whereas the circuit seeks to be able to be self-sufficient from these shares, in the event that there is a shortfall which cannot be recovered from, it is permitted to seek approval to raise funds from the Model Trust Fund. Due to previous income from previous sales, the Model Trust Fund has enough funds to be able to support the circuit. With the addition of £823,611 from the sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre, there are sufficient funds available for current and future requirements. Discussions are already in place to determine the future of the circuit financially.

Valuation of Properties

The manse were included in the balance sheet at historical cost for the first time in 2015/16. The current total is £132,950.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 1 year's average expenditure. This is now sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manse and/or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

Reserves of the Circuit

The balance of funds in the circuit at the end of the year was £1,660,506. Of this £132,950 is now the historical value of the manse. The balance comprises £475,152 in the general fund, £1,139,409 in the Model Trust Fund and £45,945 in the manse fund. Though the manse have been valued at historical level, their sale in the current climate would probably realise over £2m. During the year, the decision was taken to move the Chinese Ministry Fund into the General Fund and to move the Chinese ministry to come under the overall responsibility of the General Fund. Thus Rev Ung Soon Nguang, though not changing his work responsibilities, is funded by the General Fund from 1st September 2023.

Volunteers

The Church is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with mission, manse, finance, policy, grants, training, safeguarding and risk. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by the Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Plans for 2023/24

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remain 4 full time staff (3 ordained, one deacon) with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district. It is anticipated that there will be a shortfall on the annual costs of about £20,000 and it has been agreed that the reserves in the general fund can be drawn upon to enable this. However, it has now been decided to include the interest from the circuit development fund in the general fund. With the significant increase in interest rates, this will enhance the general fund and it is anticipated that the expected deficit will be overcome and that there will be a surplus on the general fund by August 2024.

The following issues will be focused upon during the 2023-2024 year.

- Mission: Monitor progress of the mission projects funded in 2022/23.
- Continue exploration of means of sustaining and increasing active involvement of young people and young adults across the circuit.
- Wallington Church Development: Support the Wallington leadership in evaluating and pursuing their revised strategy based on retaining and enhancing the current church buildings.
- Ministry: Support the probationer Diaconal Minister toward ordination in 2024. Initiate the procedures for continuity of the ministries at Epsom beyond August 2025, when the current appointments end.
- Re-introduce Circuit services.
- Chinese Ministry: Further integrate the Chinese congregation at Epsom into the life of the circuit.
- Improve the promotion of individual church events across the circuit.
- Succession Management.
- Budget: produced a balance budget for 2024/25.
- Long Term Strategy: Continue discussions on long term scenarios for the smaller congregations, including the Methodist congregations in the Anglican – Methodist LEPs.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102).

Full Name of Charity	Sutton Methodist Circuit
Registration Charity Number	1135076
Date of registration	22nd March 2010
Main communication address	Dr David Gooch c/o Circuit Administrator, Sutton Trinity Church, Cheam Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1DZ

The members of the Sutton Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Full membership is shown in Appendix A to this report.

Circuit Ministers and officers

Active Circuit Ministers	Rev Catherine Hutton Rev Gill Long Rev Ung Soon Nguang Deacon Marie Poole Rev Desmond Williamson
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Circuit Stewards	Dr David Gooch Mrs Maureen Patel Mr Ka Fai Man Mr Vijendran Asirwatham Mrs Jane Barden
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Administrator	Mr Paul Gotts
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Mr Richard T Smith acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year.

Auditor	Jacob, Cavenagh & Skeet 5 Robin Hood Lane, Sutton, SM1 2SW
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Investment Bankers	Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ
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Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a resource provider within the area around the London Borough of Sutton and the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council for the Methodist 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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The Sutton Circuit shall seek to:

Advance the Christian faith by supporting individual churches in the circuit.

Provide facilities for public acts of worship open to members and non-members alike.

Enable pastoral care throughout the circuit for the benefit of members and non-members alike with respect to the teaching of Christianity and visiting the needy by appointing ministers, organising preaching, appointing and guiding lay leaders.

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting and the Circuit Stewards.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Circuit meeting members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Sutton Trinity (Methodist/URC LEP)

Wallington

Carshalton

Banstead

Epsom

Cheam

St John's (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

St Mark's (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Risk Management

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded of risks identified within the circuit. This is carried out by an independent Risk Assessment Group which reports to the Trustees.

The following are the major risks in the circuit:

1. Church closures
2. Not enough lay staff to take on circuit responsibilities. Staff and volunteers who leave cannot easily be replaced.
3. There is a reduction in presbyters.
4. Circuit expenditure consistently exceeds income, leading to inadequate reserve levels.
5. Circuit Churches are unable to meet the budget with their shares, leading to shortfall in income to circuit.

Arising from these identified risks, the circuit is aware of them all and takes them into consideration when the circuit stewards meet as a managing group and the full circuit leadership team meets to discuss policy and the future.

Factors affecting the financial future of the circuit are mainly the guarantee of income from the shares from each church. Whereas the circuit seeks to be able to be self-sufficient from these shares, in the event that there is a shortfall which cannot be recovered from, it is permitted to seek approval to raise funds from the Model Trust Fund.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Sutton Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Sutton Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the 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 the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Circuit Meeting on 1st February 2024 and signed on behalf of the trustees by:

Rev Catherine Hutton
Circuit Meeting Chairman

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

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

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds (General Fund)	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds (Chinese Ministry)	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and legacies	2		9,549	64,308	73,857	71,062
Shares from churches	3	170,722			170,722	165,280
Other trading activities						
Lettings	4	11,000	-		11,000	55,934
Investments						
Interest	5	8,804	28,759		37,563	3,854
Other income						
Net sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre			930,722		930,722	
Total income		190,526	969,030	64,308	1,223,864	296,130
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Levy on sale of BHMC			494,289		494,289	-
Trust fund management charges	6		20,611		20,611	26,405
Charitable activities						
Ministerial stipends and expenses	7 8	164,127		40,049	204,176	221,223
Ministerial invitations	8	7,891			7,891	2,171
Manse maintenance and servicing	9	20,048	85,826	3,452	109,326	80,776
Grants to circuit churches	10	-	49,120		49,120	105,000
Administration	11	10,640	10,665		21,305	14,212
Total		202,706	660,511	43,501	906,718	449,787
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		(12,180)	308,519	20,807	317,146	(153,657)
Transfers between funds	12	245,870	(224,870)	(21,000)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed		-			-	-
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit						
Other gains/(losses)					-	-
Net movement in funds		233,690	83,649	(193)	317,146	(153,657)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		241,462	1,101,705	193	1,343,360	1,497,017
Total funds carried forward		475,152	1,185,354	-	1,660,506	1,343,360

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations

Balance carried forward

-
9,549
9,549
-

-
7,984
7,984
-

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

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

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds (General Fund)	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds (Chinese Ministry)	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and legacies	2		8,034	63,028	71,062	61,502
Shares from churches	3	165,280			165,280	175,845
Bandon Hill Methodist Church funds					-	59,343
Bandon Hill Methodist Church valuation			-		-	365,000
Other trading activities						
Lettings	4	-	55,934		55,934	23,788
Investments						
Interest	5	661	3,193		3,854	1,416
Other income						
Net surplus on disposal of 7 Waverley Way			-		-	551,903
Total income		165,941	67,161	63,028	296,130	1,238,797
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Trust fund management charges	6		26,405		26,405	896
Levy on sale of 7 Waverley Way	5		-		-	255,761
Charitable activities						
Ministerial stipends and expenses	7 8	182,034		39,189	221,223	226,325
Ministerial invitations	8	2,171			2,171	-
Manse maintenance and servicing	9	20,711	56,908	3,157	80,776	77,353
Grants to circuit churches	10	-	105,000		105,000	21,500
Administration	11	4,277	9,935		14,212	8,632
Total		209,193	198,248	42,346	449,787	590,467
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		(43,252)	(131,087)	20,682	(153,657)	648,330
Transfers between funds	12	(10,500)	31,500	(21,000)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed		-			-	-
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit						
Other gains/(losses)					-	-
Net movement in funds		(53,752)	(99,587)	(318)	(153,657)	648,330
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		295,214	1,201,292	511	1,497,017	848,687
Total funds carried forward		241,462	1,101,705	193	1,343,360	1,497,017

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations

Balance carried forward

-
7,984
7,984
-

-
8,959
8,959
-

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

		Unrestricted (General Fund)	Designated Funds	Restricted (Chinese Ministry)	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets*	Notes					
Circuit Manses & Equipment	BS1	132,950			132,950	132,950
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre			-		-	365,000
Investments	BS2				-	-
Total fixed assets		132,950	-	-	132,950	497,950
Current Assets						
Debtors	BS3	16,188			16,188	16,528
Loans by the Circuit						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	BS2		643,359		643,359	607,008
Central Finance Board Deposits	BS4	475,483	541,995	-	1,017,478	274,798
Cash at Bank and in hand	BS4	9,361	-		9,361	81,072
Total current assets		501,032	1,185,354	-	1,686,386	979,406
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	BS5	158,830	-		158,830	88,996
Net current assets (liabilities)		342,202	1,185,354	-	1,527,556	890,410
Total assets less current liabilities		475,152	1,185,354	-	1,660,506	1,388,360
Creditors and Accruals including any loans (due after more than 1 year)			-		-	45,000
Net assets		475,152	1,185,354	-	1,660,506	1,343,360
Funds of the Circuit						
General Fund (Unrestricted)	BS6.1	475,152			475,152	241,462
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	BS6.2		1,185,354		1,185,354	1,101,705
Restricted funds	BS7			-	-	193
Total Funds		475,152	1,185,354	-	1,660,506	1,343,360

*Details - see Note 11

Summary of the Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit 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.

		Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	2023	2022
Internal Organisations						
Chinese Ministry Fund	BS7	193	64,308	64,501	-	-
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre		86,457	327	86,784	-	454,127
Total		86,650	64,635	151,285	-	454,127

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 1st February 2024 and were signed on their behalf

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Statement of Cash Flows for year ended 31st August 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cashflows from operating activities		
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(625,965)	(84,689)
Cashflows from investing activities		
Interest receivable	37,563	3,854
Proceeds on sale of freehold property	1,295,722	-
Net cash provided by investing activities	1,333,285	3,854
Change in cash & cash equivalents in the reporting period	707,320	(80,835)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	962,878	1,043,713
Cash & cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	1,670,198	962,878
Classified on the Balance Sheet as:-		
Investments with TMCP	643,359	607,008
Central Finance Board Deposits	1,017,478	274,798
Cash at bank and in hand	9,361	81,072
	1,670,198	962,878
Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cashflow from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure) from reporting activities (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	317,146	(153,657)
Adjustments for:-		
Non-cash donations	-	-
(Gains)/losses on sale of freehold property	(930,722)	-
Interest receivable	(37,563)	(3,854)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	340	1,231
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	24,834	71,591
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(625,965)	(84,689)

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting and accounting policies

i Basis: SORP and Standards

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019, SORP(FRS102), and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, FRS 102.

ii Public benefit entity

The Sutton Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The Circuit is an unincorporated charity and its official address is Sutton Trinity Church, Cheam Road, Sutton, SM1 1DZ. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling rounded to the nearest pound.

iv FRS102 SORP2019 (applies to 2016-17 onwards)

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the FRS102 SORP 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the 2008 accounting and reporting regulations made thereunder, based on the current version of the Charities SORP (SORP(FRS102)), as disclosed above, in order to be able to show a true and fair view, as permitted by the regulations.

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2023, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern and there are no material uncertainties affecting this conclusion.

vi Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when there is entitlement and the amount is reliably measurable once it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.

The Circuit acts as agent in three matters:

The collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds"

The administration of a payroll service for employees in Churches in the Circuit. The Circuit will carry out the payroll duties in accordance with HMRC requirements and will pay the employees from Circuit funds. This payment will be reimbursed to the Circuit during the same Connexional year so that payment of salaries, NIC and tax to HMRC will be reimbursed in the same accounting period. The amount paid and received, an equal amount, will be recorded in the SOFA as equal income and expenditure.

The administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion.

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or Churches as appropriate. Instead the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102).

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees' Annual Report.

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable and it is considered more likely than not that there will be an outflow of economic benefit.

ix Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant to be accrued is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years, discounted to net present value where the difference is material, is treated as a provision for future commitments in the balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

x VAT

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

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

xi Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The freehold and/or long leasehold residential property is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing each property's gross carrying value at time of being built or purchased. No depreciation is provided because the trustees consider the residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its insurance cost and, in the absence of any evidence of impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the property would be immaterial.

xii Monetary Investments

The Circuit's investments are deposited with TMCP as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

xiii Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are recognised at the amount expected to be settled.

xiv Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits and these are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuits raise assessments against Churches in the Circuit. The District quarterly remits to The Methodist Church Fund most of the sum received from the Circuits. A small sum is retained by the District to meet its own costs. The Circuit may act as agent for ad hoc collections for various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church. These are detailed in Note BS9 below.

xv Minister's manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

2 Donations and legacies	General	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2023	2022
Donations	-	-	-	64,308	64,308	63,078
Balance of BHMC account transferred to Sutton Circuit	-	-	-	-	-	-
Valuation of BHMC	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connexional Funds	-	-	9,549	-	9,549	7,984
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	9,549	64,308	73,857	71,062

The Chinese ministry was supported by the Malaysian Conference (£6,028) and donations from the Chinese Congregation (£57,000). These total £63,028.

3 Shares from Churches

The circuit is comprised of 8 churches. Each church is invited to offer a share towards the stated budget of the circuit to meet the overall costs. In making its share requirement, budgeted income from investment income, (including property letting) is taken into account. The circuit aims to cover its net core costs from the total of the shares offered. For 2022/23 this has not been possible because every church's finances has been affected by Covid-19. The circuit has agreed to underwrite reduced share offers from the churches by £53,000 by drawing on its general fund reserves.

Shares from churches are made quarterly in advance and are treated as a prepayment on a receivable basis. If any church has not paid its share by the due date the sum in question is treated as a debtor.

Share monies contributing to the district assessment paid from church to district via circuit are not recognised as income/expenditure in the accounts of the circuit. The circuit is acting as agent and monies passing through are netted off. The reported figure (£165,280) is the total share income (£226,744) less the assessment paid to and through the district (£7,676 and £53,788). In addition £4,240 was received into the general fund on the closure of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre.

Church	2023	2022
Sutton Trinity	50,000	45,000
Wallington	28,000	28,000
Carshalton	31,000	28,000
Banstead	24,000	20,000
Epsom	85,000	93,400
Cheam	9,750	9,750
St John's	1,300	1,195
St Mark's	1,700	1,399
Total	230,750	226,744

	2023	2022
Assessment	230,750	226,744
Deduct for:		
District	11,480	7,676
Connexion	48,548	53,788
Net income	170,722	165,280

4 Income from other trading activities

	General	Designated	Restricted	Transfers	2023	2022
Letting of manses	11,000	-	-	21,000	32,000	21,000
BHMC Lettings	0	-	-	-	-	55,934
Total rental income	11,000	-	-	21,000	32,000	76,934

The trustees have determined that the property at 37 Tattenham Way is to be made available as a manse for the minister of the Chinese Congregation. Since the Chinese Congregation's finances are separated because of identifying and separating grant income, the contribution from the Chinese Congregation is considered as a rent totalling £21,000 for the year.

5 Income from investments

£37,563 (2021/22 £3,854) was received as interest from TMCP trusts and CFB funds. In addition, £1,327,951 was received as gross from the sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre and interest. A levy of £494,289 was paid to TMCP following the sale.

This left a balance on the sale of £823,611.

6 Trust Fund Management Charges

District Assessment & Levy

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members and staffing (Presbyters and lay staff graded by hours worked per week) of all Circuits in the London District. 65% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions, 25% using relative staff proportions and 10% using each circuit's reserves.

The Levy is calculated on a sliding scale as a percentage of the Circuit's CMTF account balance as at 31 August the previous accounting year. It is taken by the Trust for Methodist Church Purposes and paid to the district in which the circuit resides for the District Advance Fund for making grants to churches in the district.

	General	Designated	2023	2022
District Expenses	-	11,480	11,480	7,676
Methodist Church Fund (MCF)	-	48,548	48,548	53,788
Levy on CMTF Funds	-	20,611	20,611	26,418
Totals	-	80,639	80,639	87,882

The charges listed above are taken by the Trust for Methodist Church Purposes and are paid to the district in which the circuit resides for the District Advance Fund for making grants to churches in the district.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

7 Salaries and associated costs

Stipends were paid to 3 English presbyters, 1 Chinese presbyter and 1 lay pastor (for 9 months).

Circuit presbyters & lay pastor	2023	2022
Stipends	123,984	140,505
National Insurance Contributions	11,421	12,791
Pension Fund Contributions	28,805	29,238
URC Levy	11,016	11,016
Computers for ministry	704	684
Travelling	4,503	3,932
Telephone	5,695	4,817
Removals, Stationing & Removal		1,151
Apprenticeship Levy	621	1,381
Sundry Expenses	1,231	
Supernumeraries preaching	484	340
Total	188,464	205,855
Circuit administrator - part time		
Salary	14,835	14,280
National Insurance Contributions	803	763
Pension Fund Contributions	-	-
Apprenticeship Levy	74	325
Total	15,712	15,368
Total for all staff	204,176	221,223

In addition, the circuit employs an active supernumerary and a circuit administrator, a total of 7 employees.

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

The Connexion accounts for both pension schemes and shows the figures in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented. No employees received benefits over £60,000 in the year.

7a Cost of Superintendent, Presbyters and Trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Presbyters and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Presbyters of the Circuit are paid by the Connexion but funded by the circuit.

The manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains the property. The value of the council tax and water charges paid by the circuit is not disclosed here as HMRC does not regard this as a benefit-in-kind in the hands of the minister.

Each Presbyter is entitled to a 3 month sabbatical every 7 years and the expenses incurred by the Presbyter are met by the Connexion with the Circuit continuing to pay the stipend. During the year there have been no sabbaticals. The Circuit does not accrue for holiday pay cover as the remaining staff cover the holidays as needed without extra pay. Had additional cover been required the cost of this is met by the Circuit.

8 Invitation expenses

		Unrestricted	2023	2022
Travel and associated expenses		482	7,409	1,735
Removals		7,407	482	436
Total		7,891	7,891	2,171

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

9 Property

The Circuit is managing trustee for 5 manse of which 4 are occupied by ministers stationed in the circuit. The Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council Tax, Water charges and Insurance.

The cost of ongoing maintenance and improvements to all properties is funded through a manse repairs budget and £35,000 is set aside each year from the General Fund. The level of the budget is reviewed by the trustees each year.

Expenditure on Manses

Manse	Maintenance Contracts	Repairs Maintenance Improvements	2023	2022
35 Arundel Road	1,080	19,011	20,091	7,576
29 West Hill Avenue	1,080	645	1,725	4,512
16 Hall Road	1,080	121	1,201	7,310
7 Waverley Way	-	840	840	-
116 Manor Green Road	1,080	117	1,197	13,093
37 Tattenham Way	630	56,727	57,357	1,481
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre		2,560	2,560	22,936
Total	4,950	80,021	84,971	56,908

Council tax, insurance and utilities

Manse	Council Tax	Insurance	Water Supply	2023	2022
35 Arundel Road	3,302	1,486	563	5,351	5,118
29 West Hill Avenue	3,607	1,653	477	5,737	5,861
16 Hall Road	3,302	1,318	295	4,915	4,764
116 Manor Green Road	3,079	983	373	4,435	3,730
37 Tattenham Way	1,602	1,050	199	2,851	4,223
Unallocated		211		211	172
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre		855		855	
Total	14,892	7,556	1,907	24,355	23,868
From Maintenance				84,971	56,908
Total				109,326	80,776

Letting Expenses

37 Tattenham Way is now let on the open market and is currently occupied and a rent of £2,200 is being received.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) (Trusts 8744 13141 16141 CFB 02647030)

	2023	2022
Opening balance	578,422	708,591
Interest income 8744	22,178	-
Interest income (02647030, 13141, 16141)	6,223	3,185
Sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre (BHMC)	1,295,722	-
Transfer balance of BHMC	72,000	
Levy on sale of BHMC	(494,289)	-
Transfer to Manse Fund	(50,000)	
Transfer to General Fund	(220,000)	
Grants to 3 churches for mission work	(49,120)	
District levy	(1,116)	(1,950)
TMCP administration	(20,611)	(26,404)
Transfer Epsom grant (transfer Sept 2023)	-	(105,000)
Closing balance	1,139,409	578,422

Manse Maintenance Fund

	2023	2022
Opening balance	71,856	78,908
Transfer from General Fund (budget)	-	31,500
Transfer from Model Trust Fund 8744	50,000	-
Transfer from Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	6,500	
Expenditure on manses	(82,411)	(38,552)
Balance of manse maintenance fund	45,945	71,856

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Bandon Hill Methodist Centre

Opening balance		451,427
Interest	358	
Total income		358
Utilities	(2,007)	
Insurance	(855)	
Sundry	(553)	
Transferred to General Fund	(4,240)	
Transfer to Circuit Model Trust Fund	(437,630)	
Transfer to Manse Fund	(6,500)	
Total expenditure		(451,785)
Closing balance		-

Bandon Hill Methodist Centre was sold in April 2023 for £1,325,000. There were expenses and £1,295,722 was deposited in the Model Trust Fund 8744. There was a levy of £494,288, leaving net proceeds of £801,434.

Designated Funds

	2023	2022
Manse Maintenance Fund	45,945	71,856
Circuit Model Trust Fund (including sale of BHMC £801,433)	1,139,409	578,422
Original valuation of BHMC		365,000
Sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre (2021/22 Outstanding bank balance)		86,427
Connexional Funds (£9,549 (2021/22 £7,984)) leaves zero balance		
Closing balance of model trust and available funds	1,185,354	1,101,705

10 Grants to circuit churches

In 2022 There was one grant of £105,000 to Epsom Methodist Church spread over 5 years. By request there was not a payment in the financial year 2022/23 but £30,000 will be paid in September 2023. The payments in the remaining 3 years are £25,000, £15,000 and £5,000. There were also grants made available to all the churches in the circuit. During the year grants were paid to Cheam (£8,000), Carshalton (£21,120), TCEMC (£20,000).

11 Office expenses

	General	CMTF	2023	2022
Local Preacher expenses	129		129	-
Quinquennial inspections	525		525	-
Training	1,275		1,275	468
Independent Auditor	6,000		6,000	1,260
Conference Minutes, CPD & Membership tickets	459		459	364
Administrator's expenses (travel and stationery)	648		648	456
Laptop for Circuit Administrator	190		190	-
Circuit service expenses	1,354		1,354	1,499
Website	-		-	149
Banking	60		60	81
TMCP Admin/investment Management Fees	-	1,116	1,116	1,951
Value of Connexional Funds donations	-	9,549	9,549	7,984
Total	10,640	10,665	21,305	14,212

12 Transfers

The following transfers were made in the SOFA.

Rent for manse for Chinese minister	21,000
Allocation to General Fund	220,000
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre funds now in the General Fund	4,870

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

13 Trust Funds

Churches are able to seek grant funding for projects within their own church from Circuit Model Trust Fund monies. These funds are held in a CFB fund and 3 trust funds as detailed below.

Circuit CFB Fund 02647030	2023	2022
Balance at 1st September 2022	46,416	24,323
Interest		194
Interest from trusts 13141 and 16141	6,223	399
Grant to Epsom will not be paid until 2023/24	-	-
Balance from trusts 13141 and 16141	215,533	
Main balance from BHMC bank account on closure	72,000	21,500
Transfer from Model Trust Fund 8744	500,000	-
Transfer to CFB 02647010	(50,000)	-
Transfer to CFB 02647010	(170,000)	-
Transfer grants to Carshalton, Cheam and Chinese	(49,120)	-
Balance in circuit CFB Fund 02647030 at 31st August 2023	571,052	46,416
Trust fund 13141		
Balance at 1st September 2022	202,325	202,325
Interest	5,842	732
Transfer of interest	(5,842)	(732)
Transfer balance to CFB 02647030	(202,325)	-
Balance in trust fund 13141 at 31st August 2023	-	202,325
Trust fund 16141		
Balance at 1st September 2022	13,208	13,208
Interest	381	44
Transfer of interest	(381)	(44)
Transfer balance to CFB 02647030	(13,208)	-
Balance in trust fund 16141 at 31st August 2023	-	13,208
Circuit Model Trust Fund 8744		
Balance at 1st September 2022	316,473	468,732
Interest	22,178	1,982
Sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	1,295,722	-
TMCP administration	(1,116)	(1,336)
District levy	(20,611)	(26,405)
Transfer to manse fund	(50,000)	(51,500)
Transfer to 02647030 for grants and circuit reserve	(500,000)	-
Levy on sale of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	(494,289)	-
Outstanding payments for 4 years on Epsom grant		(75,000)
Balance in trust fund 8744 at 31st August 2023	568,357	316,473
Total amount available for grants		
Circuit CFB Fund 02647030	571,052	46,416
Trust Fund 13141	-	202,325
Trust Fund 16141	-	13,208
Circuit Model Trust Fund 8744	568,357	316,473
Total of funds available for grants at 31st August 2023	1,139,409	578,422

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS1 Manses & Other Property

Buildings comprise 5 manses located in the London Borough of Sutton (2), the Borough of Epsom & Ewell (2) and the Borough of Reigate & Banstead (1). The manse at 37 Tattenham Way was let on the open market and is now occupied.

The manses are valued at historical cost. Also reported for information is the insurance value of each manse.

Property	Type	Historical Cost	Year of Purchase	Insurance Value 2023	Insurance Value 2022
35 Arundel Road	manse	£4,850	1949	£629,265	£493,971
29 West Hill Avenue	manse	£450	1923	£716,662	£562,577
16 Hall Road	manse	£2,500	1962	£541,867	£425,364
116 Manor Green Road	manse	£123,000	1994	£367,071	£288,149
37 Tattenham Way	manse	£2,150	1945	£402,029	£315,592
Total		£132,950		£2,656,894	£2,085,653

	Opening cost	Additions	Disposals	Closing cost
Manses	132,950	-	-	132,950
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	365,000	-	(365,000)	-

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of one year, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in the furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

BS2 Investment Assets (and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes)

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Circuit's other funds (as listed below) are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments. The Sutton Circuit holds one trust (8744) at TMCP with a balance 8744 (£568,357). £571,052 is held in CFB fund 02647030 (Circuit Development) as funds made available for grants to enable payment of such grants and is a part of the CMTF funds held in the Central Finance Board recorded in BS4 below. The total available at 31st August 2023 is £1,139,409

TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

BS3 Debtors and Prepayments

Trade Debtors	2023	2022
Water Insurance	-	1,090
Council Tax & Water Rates	1,189	1,506
Minutes of Conference etc	476	459
Other Debtors	17	(27)
Prepayments	-	
Stipends, Pension, NI	14,506	13,500
Total	16,188	16,528

BS4 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Bank balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and at CAF Bank are all available on demand without loss of interest. The split of these balances across General, Designated and Restricted Funds is arbitrary but wherever possible balances are not shown as negative.

	General	CFB	Restricted	2023	2022
Central Finance Board	475,483	541,995	-	1,017,478	274,798
CAF Bank	9,361	-	-	9,361	5,199
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	-	-	-	-	75,873
Total	484,844	541,995	-	1,026,839	355,870

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS5 Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

	2023	2022
Income in Advance		
Contributions from churches	76,763	56,688
Creditors and Accruals		
Grant to Epsom	75,000	45,000
Ministers' expenses	712	740
Auditor/Independent Examiner	6,000	1,260
Other expenses	355	308
Total	158,830	103,996

BS6 Unrestricted Funds

BS6.1 General Fund

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2023
241,462	190,526	202,706	245,870	233,690	475,152

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2022
295,214	165,941	209,193	(10,500)	(53,752)	241,462

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

The Circuit Meeting is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit and this is true for the fund.

BS6.2 Circuit Model Trust Fund, Manse Fund and Bandon Hill Methodist Centre Fund

	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2023
Circuit (Model) Trust Funds	578,422	959,123	565,136	167,000	560,987	1,139,409
Manse Fund	71,856	-	82,411	56,500	(25,911)	45,945
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	451,427	358	3,415	(448,370)	(451,427)	-
Connexional Funds	-	9,549	9,549	-	-	-
	1,101,705	969,030	660,511	(224,870)	83,649	1,185,354

	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2022
Circuit (Model) Trust Funds	708,591	3,187	133,356	-	(130,169)	578,422
Manse Fund	78,908	-	38,552	31,500	(7,052)	71,856
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	413,793	55,990	18,356		37,634	451,427
Connexional Funds	-	7,984	7,984	-		
	1,201,292	59,177	190,264	31,500	(99,587)	1,101,705

The purpose of the Model Trust fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and contributions from the sales of manses and churches buildings in the circuit. The funds are being made available for future developments in the circuit.

Although the Model Trust fund is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise the Model Trust funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

BS7 Restricted Funds (Chinese Ministry)

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2023
193	64,308	43,501	(21,000)	-

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2022
511	63,028	42,346	(21,000)	193

With the move of the Chinese ministry formally into the circuit ministry, the Chinese Ministry Fund has closed with a zero balance. Its functions are all now incorporated into the General Fund.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS8 Related Parties

All of the trustees are members of one or another Church within the Circuit, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP.

BS9 Agency Collections and Payments

The Circuit acted as agent in collection for facilitation of the monies tabulated below. None of these collections was for related parties as defined in Note BS8 above. The Circuit carries out the payroll for lay employees in churches in the circuit, pays the 1 person and that Church then reimburses the Circuit for the exact amount. For the current year this totalled £33,415 (2022: £32,461).

Names of related parties	Party	Receipts 2023	Receipts 2022
Mission in Britain Fund	Connexion	1,315	1,100
Training Fund	Connexion	1,230	1,035
Property Fund	Connexion	3,949	3,289
Presbyters & Deacons Fund	Connexion	965	815
Ministers' Housing Fund	Connexion	2,090	1,745
World Mission fund	Connexion	-	-
Direct Transfer	Connexion	-	-
Total		9,549	7,984

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Appendix A

CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP

Ex-Officio:

Circuit Ministers:

Rev Catherine Hutton (Superintendent),
Rev Ung Soon Nguang, Rev Hendry Ponniah
Rev Gill Long (active supernumerary)
Rev Anne Rusbridge (supernumerary)

Deacon

Marie Poole

Chairs of District:

Rev Nigel Cowgill, Rev Jongikaya Zihle

Circuit Stewards:

Dr David Gooch
Mrs Maureen Patel, Mr Lyndon Man, Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
Mrs Jane Barden, Mr Richard Smith (Treasurer)

Ministers of other denominations authorised by Methodist
Conference and serving Methodist people:

Rev Des Williamson, Rev Bethany Lewis

Circuit Meeting Secretary:

Mr Paul Gotts (not a trustee)

Circuit Manse Secretary

Mr Philip Sandiford

Secretary to Leaders of Worship and Preachers Meeting

Mr Paul Gotts (not a trustee)

Circuit Risk Management Chairman

Mrs Sue Forty

Elected Representatives from Churches:

Sutton

Deacons
Treasurer
Elected

Mr Richard Cornwell
Mr Malcolm Booth
Vacant

St Johns

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mrs Eleanor Pinfold
Mr Anthony Woolfenden
Mrs Eileen Rice

Wallington

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Miss Judith Yates
Mrs Christine Asirwatham
Mrs Nellie Showers

Epsom

Steward
Treasurer

Elected

Vacant
Mr Richard Smith
Mr Joshua Selfe, Dr Paul Warren, Mr Mark Angel,
Mrs Katharine Castledine, Mrs Christine Cox, Mr Robert Hill

Carshalton

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mrs Caroline Kingsnorth
Mrs Caroline Cook
Mr John Kingsnorth, Miss Jacky Waite

Cheam

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mr David Worthington
Mrs Audrey Saunderson
Vacant

Banstead

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Vacant
Mr Vernon Tucker
Vacant

St Marks

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mr John Miller
Mr Martin Trenaman
Mr Colin Batty

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Appendix B

The offices of the members of the Circuit Meeting (Managing Trustees) are shown in Appendix A.

The following are the trustees who served during the year and are appointed by the circuit as and when necessary.

Mr Mark Angel (appointed 14/09/2023)	Mr Lyndon Man
Mrs Christine Asirwatham	Mr John Miller
Mrs Jane Barden	Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Mr Colin Batty	Mrs Maureen Patel
Miss Elaine Bliss (resigned 02/02/2023)	Mrs Eleanor Pinfold
Mr Malcolm Booth	Rev Hendry Ponniah (appointed 14/09/2023)
Miss Shirley Breeden (died, recorded 02/02/2023)	Mrs Eileen Rice
Mrs Katharine Castledine (appointed 14/09/2023)	Rev Anne Rusbridge
Mrs Caroline Cook	Mr Philip Sandiford.
Mr Richard Cornwell	Mrs Audrey Saunderson
Rev Nigel Cowgill	Mr Joshua Selfe (appointed 02/02/2023)
Mrs Christine Cox (appointed 14/09/2023)	Mrs Nellie Showers
Rev Dr David Dickinson (resigned 14/09/2023)	Mr Richard Smith
Mrs Sue Forty	Mrs Kathryn Thompson (resigned 06/06/2023)
Dr David Gooch	Mr Martin Trenaman
Mr Robert Hill (appointed 14/09/2023)	Mr Vernon Tucker
Rev Catherine Hutton	Miss Jacky Waite
Mrs Val Imms (resigned 14/09/2023)	Dr Paul Warren (appointed 14/09/2023)
Mr Stanley Jeyeraj (resigned 14/09/2023)	Rev Des Williamson
Mrs Jacqueline John (resigned 02/02/2023)	Mr Anthony Woolfenden
Mrs Caroline Kingsnorth	Mr David Worthington
Mr John Kingsnorth	Miss Judith Yates
Rev Bethany Lewis	Rev Dr Jongikaya Zihle
Rev Gill Long	

Sutton Methodist Circuit
DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of Treasurer

Date

1st February 2024

Name

Richard T Smith

Address

13 Hazon Way, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8HD

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on
and were approved.

1st February 2024

Signature of the Chair of
the meeting

Name of
the Chair

Rev Catherine Hutton

Date

1st February 2024

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Sutton Methodist Circuit

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Sutton Methodist Circuit (the "Charity") for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Sutton Methodist Circuit (continued)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Sutton Methodist Circuit (continued)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the charity, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to financial reporting legislation and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Charities Act 2011.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by making enquiries of management, considering the internal controls in place and discussion amongst the engagement team.

We determined that the principal risks were related to recognition of the disposal of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre (BHMC), presentation of separately disclosed items and management override of controls.

In response to the risks identified we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to reviewing trustees' minutes, evaluating the internal controls, agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation and testing the calculation of net gains on disposal of BHMC.

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Sutton Methodist Circuit (continued)

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Other matter

The charity's income was below the threshold where an audit was required in the prior year therefore the comparative figures are not audited.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Dated:

Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Sutton Methodist Circuit

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Sutton Methodist Circuit (the Circuit) for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 7 to 20.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 Circuit's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 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:

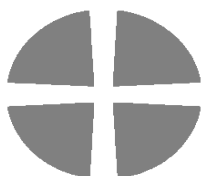
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Circuit as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) 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.

Paul Newton FCA
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Date:

Accounts



THE METHODIST CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2022

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity - Registration number

1135076

District No / Circuit No 35/39

Ministers

Rev Dr David Dickinson
Rev Catherine Hutton
Rev Bethany Lewis
Rev Gill Long
Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Deacon Marie Poole
Rev Desmond C Williamson

Circuit Stewards

Dr David Gooch
Mrs Maureen Patel
Mr Ka Fai Man
Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
Mrs Jane Barden

Circuit Treasurer

Mr Richard Smith

Sutton Methodist Circuit Trustees' Annual Report

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Introduction

Sutton Methodist Circuit covers an area in north east Surrey. It is part of the London District. It is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1135076, and its affairs are governed by Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). It has been registered at Charities Commission as Sutton Methodist Circuit.

The Mission of the Circuit

The Mission statement of the Sutton Circuit

- enable the churches to proclaim the Gospel of Christ and further God's Kingdom.
- be aware of God's presence through the Holy Spirit in all we do in God's name.
- support each Church in its endeavours to fulfil its potential in responding to opportunities of service and growth.
- enable the staff of the Circuit both ministerial and lay to fulfil their potential in a supportive Circuit environment.
- support ecumenical ventures and to encourage further ecumenical work.

The ministers concentrate on the mission of their local churches but support each other through monthly staff planning and support meetings. The work of the ministers and lay members is supported with prayer. The Circuit Leadership Team (staff and stewards) meet formally at least twice a year to plan and agree policy, and also meet socially on occasions. The Circuit Stewards meet 5 times a year, with the Circuit Superintendent Minister, to oversee the ongoing work of the Circuit and to address the needs of the Circuit and the staff.

Review of the year

- **Review the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic on the circuit churches and develop a support strategy.**
The churches continued to suffer from reduced income, primarily from reduced congregations and fewer lettings. The circuit budgeted for a deficit for a second year in order to enable church shares to be reduced according to need. The circuit will draw on reserves if required to maintain a satisfactory balance in the General Fund.
- **Review the effect on Circuit Finances with particular reference to circuit 'shares'. Monitor adherence to the revised 2021/22 budget and produce a budget for 2022/23. Develop a strategy for circuit reserves.**
A deficit on the General Fund meant that the balance went below the reserves level. This deficit was anticipated in the budget. Attention will be given to drawing from the circuit reserves if required. A budget for 2022/23 has been prepared and this again is showing a deficit, but much smaller. Churches will be approached to increase their share for 2023/24. A strategy for the use of circuit reserves for the circuit and churches will be addressed.
Revised guidelines have been agreed for applications for grants from the Circuit Model Trust Fund.
- **Review future circuit staffing and formulate stationing strategy for September 2023.**
A Deacon was appointed as minister for the Carshalton and Wallington Churches from September 2022, necessitating a review of the provision for Eucharist and church pastoral oversight. A profile has been prepared and submitted for a presbyter for the Sutton Church vacancy for September 2023. The Circuit Superintendency will move to the Epsom Church from that date.
- **Appoint a lay worker and caretaker for the Bandon Hill Methodist Centre. Establish a new management structure for September 2022. Monitor the financial performance and effectiveness of the centre.**
An advertisement for a lay worker for the proposed centre failed to produce any applicants. The primary user of the buildings ceased to operate during the year, affecting the financial sustainability of the centre. It also became apparent that, as we emerged from the pandemic, the potential volunteer base within the circuit was no longer sufficient. It was therefore concluded that the project was no longer viable and the site was subsequently placed on the market.
- **Discuss and agree the updated Circuit Development Plan with church leaders by July 2022.**
A Circuit Leadership Team 'awayday' was held to review how churches had fared during the pandemic and to identify potential mission opportunities within the circuit. These will be discussed further at the September Circuit Meeting.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

■ **Determine the future direction of Wallington Methodist Church by June 2022.**

The site has been marketed with a view to contracting with a property developer on a 'joint venture' basis. The site would be sold on a leasehold basis to the preferred developer, who would construct their own flats and the new church premises to the church's specification and at no cost to the church. Six offers to bid for the development have been received and are being assessed. A pre-planning application will shortly be submitted, to be followed by a public consultation.

Financial Review

Budget

Each year the circuit sets a budget for income and expenditure which is approved by the Circuit Meeting.

Income

- The shares have been received from all the churches.
- The interest received of £661 is reported in the SOFA. This is below budget due to the continued low level of interest in the money markets.
- The use of 37 Tattenham Way by the Chinese presbyter has continued to provided an income of £21,000.
- The closure of Bandon Hill Methodist Church released their funds to be under circuit control. Their use has not been decided, but they will continue to be available for Bandon Hill's expenses while the future of the church is decided.

Expenditure

- Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases. £61,464 (29.4%) of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church. The Manse Fund shows that £38,552 was spent on manse repairs of which the main cost was refurbishment of the second Epsom manse following Chris Shaw's move to Oswestry and Ung Soon Nguang's move into it. The current balance is £71,855.
- All other items of expenditure were within budget.

Conclusions

All items in the accounts were close to budget. There was an expected deficit on expenditure on budgeted items in the General Fund of £53,752. A further £20,000 deficit is expected in 2022/23.

Financial effect of significant events

The further effect of Covid-19 has continued to have a significant effect on the circuit's finances. This had been expected and allowance had been made for a deficit of over £50,000. This enabled all the churches to maintain their reduced level of share offers to help them in their own finances. Many of the churches still have not had full collections each Sunday and have also lost letting income. The shortfall on the budget is again being met from circuit reserves. The circuit recognises that the current balance in the general fund of £108,511 is below the reserves level. However, there are sufficient funds on deposit and a draw-down on these may be taken if required in 2022/23.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Fund balances

General Fund

As at 31st August 2022 the net current assets of the Circuit were £108,512. This is below the required reserves policy level of £140,000 and will be addressed during the year 2022/23.

Circuit Model Trust Fund

This is an unrestricted fund and can be applied to for appropriate capital items or projects.

Factors affecting the financial future of the circuit are mainly the guarantee of income from the shares from each church. Whereas the circuit seeks to be able to be self-sufficient from these shares, in the event that there is a shortfall which cannot be recovered from, it is permitted to seek approval to raise funds from the Model Trust Fund. Due to previous income from previous sales, the Model Trust Fund has enough funds to be able to support the circuit.

Valuation of Properties

The manses were included in the balance sheet at historical cost for the first time in 2015/16. The current total is £132,950.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 6 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and/or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

Reserves of the Circuit

The balance of funds in the circuit at the end of the year was £1,343,360. Of this £132,950 is now the historical value of the manses and £365,000 is the value of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre. The balance comprises £108,512 in the general fund, £578,422 in the Model Trust Fund, £71,856 in the manse fund and £86,427 in the Bandon Hill Methodist Centre fund. A further £193 is held in a restricted fund.. Though the manses have been valued at historical level, their sale in the current climate would probably realise over £2m.

Volunteers

The Church is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, grants, training, safeguarding and risk. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by the Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Plans for 2022/23

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remain 3 full time staff (2 ordained, one deacon) and one pastor in the English and Chinese speaking congregations with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district. It is anticipated that there will be a shortfall on the annual costs of about £20,000 and it has been agreed that the reserves in the general fund can be drawn upon to enable this.

The following issues will be focused upon during the 2022-2023 year.

- Mission: Continue encouragement and support, financial or otherwise, of circuit churches to enable mission opportunities to be identified and progressed. Hold a further consultation with church leaders
- Youth work: Explore means of sustaining and increasing active involvement of young people and young adults across the circuit. Consider the case for a circuit youth worker.
- Wallington Church Development. Progress the development. Support the Wallington leadership and congregation, with special emphasis on sustaining youth work.
- Diaconal Ministry: Recognise and support the particular strengths of the diaconal ministry at Carshalton and Wallington.
- Property: Complete the sale of the Bandon Hill site. Establish the condition of the Tattenham Way property and refurbish either to sell or to let. Prepare the Cheam manse for the incoming minister.
- Staffing: Appoint a part time presbyter to the Banstead church and for pastoral support at Epsom. Fill the forthcoming vacancy at the Sutton church either through the stationing process or by other means. Move the Superintendency to the Epsom church.
- Energy Costs: Establish a strategy for targeted emergency support of circuit churches, including the role of the Model Trust Fund.
- Budget: Produce a balanced budget for 2023/24
- Long Term Strategy: Commence discussions on the long-term scenarios for the smaller congregations, including the Methodist congregations in the Anglican – Methodist LEPS.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102).

Full Name of Charity	Sutton Methodist Circuit
Registration Charity Number	1135076
Date of registration	22nd March 2010
Main communication address	Dr David Gooch c/o Circuit Administrator, Sutton Trinity Church, Cheam Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1DZ

The members of the Sutton Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Full membership is shown in Appendix A to this report.

Circuit Ministers and officers

Active Circuit Ministers	Rev Dr David Dickinson Rev Catherine Hutton Rev Gill Long Rev Ung Soon Nguang Deacon Marie Poole Rev Desmond Williamson
--------------------------	--

Circuit Stewards	Dr David Gooch Mrs Maureen Patel Mr Ka Fai Man Mr Vijendran Asirwatham Mrs Jane Barden
------------------	--

Administrator	Mr Paul Gotts
---------------	---------------

Mr Richard T Smith acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year.

Independent Examiner	Jacob, Cavenagh & Skeet 5 Robin Hood Lane, Sutton, SM1 2SW
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Investment Bankers	Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ
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Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a resource provider within the area around the London Borough of Sutton and the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council for the Methodist 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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The Sutton Circuit shall seek to:

Advance the Christian faith by supporting individual churches in the circuit.

Provide facilities for public acts of worship open to members and non-members alike.

Enable pastoral care throughout the circuit for the benefit of members and non-members alike with respect to the teaching of Christianity and visiting the needy by appointing ministers, organising preaching, appointing and guiding lay leaders.

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting and the Circuit Stewards.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Circuit meeting members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Sutton Trinity (Methodist/URC LEP)

Wallington

Carshalton

Banstead

Epsom

Cheam

St John's (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

St Mark's (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Risk Management

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded of risks identified within the circuit. This is carried out by an independent Risk Assessment Group which reports to the Trustees.

The following are the major risks in the circuit:

1. Church closures
2. Not enough lay staff to take on circuit responsibilities. Staff and volunteers who leave cannot easily be replaced.
3. There is a reduction in presbyters.
4. Circuit expenditure consistently exceeds income, leading to inadequate reserve levels.
5. Circuit Churches are unable to meet the budget with their shares, leading to shortfall in income to circuit.

Arising from these identified risks, the circuit is aware of them all and takes them into consideration when the circuit stewards meet as a managing group and the full circuit leadership team meets to discuss policy and the future.

Factors affecting the financial future of the circuit are mainly the guarantee of income from the shares from each church. Whereas the circuit seeks to be able to be self-sufficient from these shares, in the event that there is a shortfall which cannot be recovered from, it is permitted to seek approval to raise funds from the Model Trust Fund.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Sutton Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Sutton Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the 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 the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Circuit Meeting on 2nd February 2023 and signed on behalf of the trustees by:

Rev Dr David Dickinson
Circuit Meeting Chairman

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

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

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds (General Fund)	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds (Chinese Ministry)	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and legacies	2		8,034	63,028	71,062	61,502
Shares from churches	3	165,280			165,280	175,845
Bandon Hill Methodist Church funds					-	59,343
Bandon Hill Methodist Church valuation			-		-	365,000
Other trading activities						
Lettings	4	-	55,934		55,934	23,788
Investments						
Interest	5	661	3,193		3,854	1,416
Other income						
Net surplus on disposal of 7 Waverley Way			-		-	551,903
Total income		165,941	67,161	63,028	296,130	1,238,797
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Trust fund management charges	6		26,405		26,405	896
Levy on sale of 7 Waverley Way	5		-		-	255,761
Charitable activities						
Ministerial stipends and expenses	7 8	182,034		39,189	221,223	226,325
Ministerial invitations	8	2,171			2,171	-
Manse maintenance and servicing	9	20,711	56,908	3,157	80,776	77,353
Grants to circuit churches	10	-	105,000		105,000	21,500
Administration	11	4,277	9,935		14,212	8,632
Total		209,193	198,248	42,346	449,787	590,467
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		(43,252)	(131,087)	20,682	(153,657)	648,330
Transfers between funds	12	(10,500)	31,500	(21,000)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed		-			-	-
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit						
Other gains/(losses)					-	-
Net movement in funds		(53,752)	(99,587)	(318)	(153,657)	648,330
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		295,214	1,201,292	511	1,497,017	848,687
Total funds carried forward		241,462	1,101,705	193	1,343,360	1,497,017

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations

Balance carried forward

-
7,984
7,984
-

-
8,959
8,959
-

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

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

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds (General Fund)	CMTF, Manses BMMC (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds (Chinese Ministry)	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and legacies	2			61,502	61,502	62,073
Shares from churches	3	175,845			175,845	243,815
Bandon Hill Methodist Church funds	2		59,343		59,343	
Bandon Hill Methodist Church valuation			365,000		365,000	
Other trading activities						
Lettings	4	410	23,378		23,788	1,092
Investments						
Interest	5	377	1,039		1,416	4,469
Other income						
Net surplus on disposal of 7 Waverley Way			551,903		551,903	
Total income		176,632	1,000,663	61,502	1,238,797	311,449
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Trust fund management charges	6		896		896	913
Levy on sale of 7 Waverley Way	5		255,761		255,761	-
Charitable activities						
Ministerial stipends and expenses	7 8	188,601		37,724	226,325	220,759
Ministerial invitations	8	-			-	5,269
Manse maintenance and servicing	9	24,240	49,914	3,199	77,353	49,313
Grants to circuit churches	10	-	21,500		21,500	-
Administration	11	8,129	503		8,632	4,442
Total		220,970	328,574	40,923	590,467	280,696
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		(44,338)	672,089	20,579	648,330	30,753
Transfers between funds	12	(154,000)	175,000	(21,000)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed		-			-	-
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes						
Other gains/(losses)					-	-
Net movement in funds		(198,338)	847,089	(421)	648,330	30,753
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		493,552	354,203	932	848,687	817,934
Total funds carried forward		295,214	1,201,292	511	1,497,017	848,687

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations

Balance carried forward

Page 8

-	-
8,959	10,442
8,959	10,442
-	-

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

		Unrestricted (General Fund)	Designated Funds	Restricted (Chinese Ministry)	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets*		Notes				
Circuit Manses & Equipment	BS1	132,950			132,950	132,950
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre			365,000		365,000	365,000
Investments	BS2				-	-
Total fixed assets		132,950	365,000	-	497,950	497,950
Current Assets						
Debtors	BS3	16,528			16,528	17,759
Loans by the Circuit						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	BS2		607,008		607,008	684,268
Central Finance Board Deposits	BS4	145,781	128,824	193	274,798	309,722
Cash at Bank and in hand	BS4	5,199	75,873		81,072	49,723
Total current assets		167,508	811,705	193	979,406	1,061,472
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	BS5	58,996	30,000		88,996	62,405
Net current assets (liabilities)		108,512	781,705	193	890,410	999,067
Total assets less current liabilities		241,462	1,146,705	193	1,388,360	1,497,017
Creditors and Accruals including any loans (due after more than 1 year)			45,000		45,000	
Net assets		241,462	1,101,705	193	1,343,360	1,497,017
Funds of the Circuit						
General Fund (Unrestricted)	BS6.1	241,462			241,462	295,214
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	BS6.2		1,101,705		1,101,705	1,201,292
Restricted funds	BS7			193	193	511
Total Funds		241,462	1,101,705	193	1,343,360	1,497,017

*Details - see Note 11

Summary of the Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit 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.

		Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	2022	2021
Internal Organisations						
Chinese Ministry Fund	BS7	511	63,028	63,346	193	511
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre		48,793	55,989	18,356	86,426	48,793
Total		49,304	119,017	81,702	86,619	49,304

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 2nd February 2023 and were signed on their behalf

Rev Dr David Dickinson

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Statement of Cash Flows for year ended 31st August 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cashflows from operating activities		
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(84,689)	(269,746)
Cashflows from investing activities		
Interest receivable	3,854	1,416
Proceeds on sale of freehold property	-	689,403
Net cash provided by investing activities	3,854	690,819
Change in cash & cash equivalents in the reporting period	(80,835)	421,073
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	1,043,713	622,640
Cash & cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	962,878	1,043,713
Classified on the Balance Sheet as:-		
Investments with TMCP	607,008	684,268
Central Finance Board Deposits	274,798	309,722
Cash at bank and in hand	81,072	49,723
	962,878	1,043,713
Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cashflow from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure) from reporting activities (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(153,657)	648,330
Adjustments for:-		
Non-cash donations	-	(365,000)
(Gains)/losses on sale of freehold property	-	(551,903)
Interest receivable	(3,854)	(1,416)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	1,231	232
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	71,591	11
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(84,689)	(269,746)

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting and accounting policies

i Basis: SORP and Standards

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019, SORP(FRS102), and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, FRS 102.

ii Public benefit entity

The Sutton Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The Circuit is an unincorporated charity and its official address is Sutton Trinity Church, Cheam Road, Sutton, SM1 1DZ. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling rounded to the nearest pound.

iv FRS102 SORP2019 (applies to 2016-17 onwards)

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the FRS102 SORP 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the 2008 accounting and reporting regulations made thereunder, based on the current version of the Charities SORP (SORP(FRS102)), as disclosed above, in order to be able to show a true and fair view, as permitted by the regulations.

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2022, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern and there are no material uncertainties affecting this conclusion.

vi Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when there is entitlement and the amount is reliably measurable once it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.

The Circuit acts as agent in three matters:

The collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds"

The administration of a payroll service for employees in Churches in the Circuit. The Circuit will carry out the payroll duties in accordance with HMRC requirements and will pay the employees from Circuit funds. This payment will be reimbursed to the Circuit during the same Connexional year so that payment of salaries, NIC and tax to HMRC will be reimbursed in the same accounting period. The amount paid and received, an equal amount, will be recorded in the SOFA as equal income and expenditure.

The administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion.

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or Churches as appropriate. Instead the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102).

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees' Annual Report.

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable and it is considered more likely than not that there will be an outflow of economic benefit.

ix Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant to be accrued is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years, discounted to net present value where the difference is material, is treated as a provision for future commitments in the balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

x VAT

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

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

xi Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The freehold and/or long leasehold residential property is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing each property's gross carrying value at time of being built or purchased. No depreciation is provided because the trustees consider the residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its insurance cost and, in the absence of any evidence of impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the property would be immaterial.

xii Monetary Investments

The Circuit's investments are deposited with TMCP as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

xiii Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are recognised at the amount expected to be settled.

xiv Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits and these are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuits raise assessments against Churches in the Circuit. The District quarterly remits to The Methodist Church Fund most of the sum received from the Circuits. A small sum is retained by the District to meet its own costs. The Circuit may act as agent for ad hoc collections for various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church. These are detailed in Note BS9 below.

xv Minister's manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Notes to the Accounts

2 Donations and legacies	General	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2022	2021
Donations	-	-	50	63,028	63,078	61,502
Balance of BHMC account transferred to Sutton Circuit	-	-	-	-	-	59,343
Valuation of BHMC	-	-	-	-	-	365,000
Connexional Funds	-	-	7,984	-	7,984	-
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	8,034	63,028	71,062	485,845

The Chinese ministry was supported by the Malaysian Conference (£6,028) and donations from the Chinese Congregation (£57,000). These total £63,028.

3 Shares from Churches

The circuit is comprised of 8 churches. Each church is invited to offer a share towards the stated budget of the circuit to meet the overall costs. In making its share requirement, budgeted income from investment income, (including property letting) is taken into account. The circuit aims to cover its net core costs from the total of the shares offered. For 2021/22 this has not been possible because every church's finances has been affected by Covid-19. The circuit has agreed to underwrite reduced share offers from the churches by £53,000 by drawing on its general fund reserves.

Shares from churches are made quarterly in advance and are treated as a prepayment on a receivable basis. If any church has not paid its share by the due date the sum in question is treated as a debtor.

Share monies contributing to the district assessment paid from church to district via circuit are not recognised as income/expenditure in the accounts of the circuit. The circuit is acting as agent and monies passing through are netted off. The reported figure (£165,280) is the total share income (£226,744) less the assessment paid to and through the district (£7,676 and £53,788).

Church	2022	2021
Sutton Trinity	45,000	45,000
Wallington	28,000	28,000
Bandon Hill	-	-
Carshalton	28,000	28,000
Banstead	20,000	20,000
Epsom	93,400	104,000
Cheam	9,750	9,750
St John's	1,195	1,160
St Mark's	1,399	1,399
Total	226,744	237,309

	2022	2021
Assessment	226,744	237,309
Deduct for:		
District	7,676	7,676
Connexion	53,788	53,788
Net income	165,280	175,845

4 Income from other trading activities

	General	Designated	Restricted	Transfers	2022	2021
Rental income	-	-	-	21,000	21,000	21,000
BHMC Lettings	-	55,934	-	-	55,934	23,788
Total rental income	-	55,934	-	21,000	76,934	44,788

The trustees have determined that the property at 37 Tattenham Way is to be made available as a manse for the minister of the Chinese Congregation. Since the Chinese Congregation's finances are separated because of identifying and separating grant income, the contribution from the Chinese Congregation is considered as a rent totalling £21,000 for the year.

5 Income from investments

£3,854 (2020/21 £1,416) was received as interest from TMCP trusts and CFB funds.

6 Trust Fund Management Charges

District Assessment & Levy

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members and staffing (Presbyters and lay staff graded by hours worked per week) of all Circuits in the London District. 65% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions, 25% using relative staff proportions and 10% using each circuit's reserves.

The Levy is calculated on a sliding scale as a percentage of the Circuit's CMTF account balance as at 31 August the previous accounting year. It is taken by the Trust for Methodist Church Purposes and paid to the district in which the circuit resides for the District Advance Fund for making grants to churches in the district.

	General	Designated	2022	2021
District Expenses	7,676	-	7,676	896
Methodist Church Fund (MCF)	53,788	-	53,788	53,788
Levy on CMTF Funds	13	26,405	26,418	25,418
Levy on sale of 7 Waverley Way	-	-	-	255,761
Totals	61,477	26,405	87,882	310,445

The charges listed above are taken by the Trust for Methodist Church Purposes and are paid to the district in which the circuit resides for the District Advance Fund for making grants to churches in the district.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

7 Salaries and associated costs

Stipends were paid to 3 English presbyters, 1 Chinese presbyter and 1 lay pastor (for 9 months).

Circuit presbyters & lay pastor	2022	2021
Stipends	140,505	147,453
National Insurance Contributions	12,791	13,680
Pension Fund Contributions	29,238	28,966
URC Levy	11,016	11,016
Computers for ministry	684	676
Travelling	3,932	2,195
Telephone	4,817	4,375
Apprenticeship Levy	1,381	547
Sundry Expenses	1,151	2,458
Supernumeraries preaching	340	101
Total	205,855	211,467
Circuit administrator - part time		
Salary	14,280	14,124
National Insurance Contributions	763	734
Pension Fund Contributions	-	-
Apprenticeship Levy	325	
Total	15,368	14,858
Total for all staff	221,223	226,325

In addition, the circuit employs an active supernumerary and a circuit administrator, a total of 7 employees.

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

The Connexion accounts for both pension schemes and shows the figures in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented. No employees received benefits over £60,000 in the year.

7a Cost of Superintendent, Presbyters and Trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Presbyters and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Presbyters of the Circuit are paid by the Connexion but funded by the circuit.

The manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains the property. The value of the council tax and water charges paid by the circuit is not disclosed here as HMRC does not regard this as a benefit-in-kind in the hands of the minister.

Each Presbyter is entitled to a 3 month sabbatical every 7 years and the expenses incurred by the Presbyter are met by the Connexion with the Circuit continuing to pay the stipend. During the year there have been no sabbaticals. The Circuit does not accrue for holiday pay cover as the remaining staff cover the holidays as needed without extra pay. Had additional cover been required the cost of this is met by the Circuit.

8 Invitation expenses

		Unrestricted	2022	2021
Travel and associated expenses		1,735	1,735	-
Removals		436	436	-
Total		2,171	2,171	-

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

9 Property

The Circuit is managing trustee for 5 manses of which 4 are occupied by ministers stationed in the circuit. The Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council Tax, Water charges and Insurance. One manse (116 Manor Green Road) is now occupied by the minister of the Chinese Congregation and they pay for his occupation, the council tax and water rates.

The cost of ongoing maintenance and improvements to all properties is funded through a manse repairs budget and £31,500 is set aside each year from the General Fund. The level of the budget is reviewed by the trustees each year. For the year 2022/23 it has been agreed that the manse repairs budget of £31,500 will not be paid into the Manse Fund. This is to alleviate the cost to the churches and also reflects the fact that there is sufficient in the Manse Fund to pay for expected charges during the year.

Expenditure on Manses

Manse	Maintenance Contracts	Repairs Maintenance Improvements	2022	2021
35 Arundel Road	1,080	6,496	7,576	1,992
29 West Hill Avenue	1,080	3,432	4,512	9,858
16 Hall Road	1,080	6,230	7,310	2,396
7 Waverley Way	-	-	-	966
116 Manor Green Road	1,080	12,013	13,093	6,549
37 Tattenham Way	1,080	401	1,481	1,511
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre		22,936	22,936	
Total	5,400	51,508	56,908	23,272

Council tax, insurance and utilities

Manse	Council Tax	Insurance	Water Supply	2022	2021
35 Arundel Road	3,148	1,437	533	5,118	4,957
29 West Hill Avenue	3,469	1,580	812	5,861	5,704
16 Hall Road	3,148	1,294	322	4,764	4,643
7 Waverley Way	-	-	-	-	2,704
116 Manor Green Road	2,082	1,008	640	3,730	4,512
37 Tattenham Way	3,049	1,066	108	4,223	4,252
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre		-		-	3,127
Unallocated		172		172	667
Total	14,896	6,557	2,415	23,868	30,566
From Maintenance				56,908	46,787
Total				80,776	77,353

Letting Expenses

37 Tattenham Way was notionally let by the Circuit to the Chinese Congregation at Epsom for £1,750pcm. This realised a total of £21,000 for the Connexional year. This agreement was transferred to 116 Manor Green Road at the end of August 2022.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) (Trusts 8744 13141 16141 CFB 02647030)

	2022	2021
Opening balance	1,073,591	296,841
Donations	-	(21,500)
Interest income	3,185	1,010
Sale of 7 Waverley Way	-	689,403
Levy on sale of 7 Waverley Way	-	(255,761)
Valuation of Bandon Hill Methodist church	-	365,000
District levy	(26,404)	(506)
TMCP administration	(1,950)	(896)
Balance of Epsom grant	(105,000)	-
Closing balance	943,422	1,073,591

Manse Maintenance Fund

	2022	2021
Opening balance	78,908	57,362
Transfer from General Fund (budget)	31,500	37,500
Expenditure on manses	38,552	15,954
Balance of manse maintenance fund	71,856	78,908

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Bandon Hill Methodist Centre

Opening balance	48,793	48,793
Donations (funds included alongside MTF)	50	
Lettings	55,934	
Gift aid	-	
Interest	6	
Sundry	-	
Total income		55,990
Maintenance	(2,207)	
Caretaker	(968)	
Cleaning	(5,205)	
Utilities	(3,701)	
Insurance	-	
Building project	(6,077)	
Sundry	(198)	
Total expenditure		(18,356)
Closing balance		86,427

During 2022 it was realised that it was not going to be possible to open the Bandon Hill church as a community centre. It had not been possible to recruit a part time pastor and there had not been a significant interest locally to use the premises. Therefore it was decided to sell the church and at the end of August 2022 this was progressing satisfactorily. It is hoped that it will be sold during the 2022/23 year.

Mr Michael Patel, the husband of the trustee Mrs Maureen Patel, received employee benefits of £585 during the year for his role as caretaker of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre.

Designated Funds

	2022	2021
Manse Maintenance Fund	71,856	78,908
Circuit Model Trust Fund	578,422	571,091
Sale of 7 Waverley Way		137,500
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre transfer of funds	86,427	48,793
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre valuation	365,000	365,000
Closing balance	1,101,705	1,201,292

10 Grants to circuit churches

There was one grant of £105,000 to Epsom Methodist Church spread over 5 years. £30,000 was paid in this year and £75,000 carried forward to the remaining 4 years (£30,000, £25,000, £15,000, £5,000)

11 Office expenses

	General	CMTF	2022	2021
Local Preacher expenses	-		-	-
Quinquennial inspections	-		-	950
Training	468		468	-
Independent Examiner/Auditor	1,260		1,260	4,836
Conference Minutes, CPD & Membership tickets	364		364	641
Administrator's expenses (travel and stationery)	456		456	209
Laptop for Circuit Administrator	-		-	170
Circuit service expenses	1,499		1,499	1,104
Website	149		149	135
Banking	81		81	84
TMCP Admin/investment Management Fees	-	1,951	1,951	503
Value of Connexional Funds donations	-	7,984	7,984	-
Total	4,277	9,935	14,212	8,632

12 Transfers

The following transfers were made in the SOFA.

Rent for manse for Chinese minister	21,000
Budget for manse repairs	31,500

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

13 Trust Funds

Churches are able to seek grant funding for projects within their own church from Circuit Model Trust Fund monies. At 31st August 2022 these totalled £578,423. These funds are held in a CFB fund and 3 trust funds as detailed below.

Circuit CFB Fund 02647030	2022	2021
Balance at 1st September 2021	24,323	45,471
Interest	194	60
Interest from trusts 13141 and 16141	399	292
Grant to Epsom was received and paid	-	-
Grant to St Marks	21,500	(21,500)
Balance in circuit CFB Fund 02647030 at 31st August 2022	46,416	24,323
Trust fund 13141		
Balance at 1st September 2021	202,325	201,354
Interest	732	1,729
Transfer taxi payment from 16141 to 13141		971
TMCP administration	(577)	(403)
Transfer of interest	(155)	(1,326)
Balance in trust fund 13141 at 31st August 2022	202,325	202,325
Trust fund 16141		
Balance at 1st September 2021	13,208	13,208
Interest	48	44
Taxi to and from Carshalton each Sunday for previous year from 13141		
Taxi to and from Carshalton each Sunday for current year		
TMCP administration	(37)	(26)
Transfer of interest	(11)	(16)
Balance in trust fund 16141 at 31st August 2022	13,208	13,210
Circuit Model Trust Fund 8744		
Balance at 1st September 2021	468,733	35,837
Interest	1,982	223
Sale of 7 Waverley Way		689,403
TMCP administration	(1,336)	(73)
District levy	(26,405)	(896)
Grants to St Marks and Epsom	(51,500)	(255,761)
Outstanding payments for 4 years on Epsom grant	(75,000)	
Balance in trust fund 8744 at 31st August 2022	316,474	468,733
Total amount available for grants		
Circuit CFB Fund 02647030	46,416	24,323
Trust fund 13141	202,325	202,325
Trust fund 16141	13,208	13,210
Circuit Model Trust Fund 8744	316,474	468,733
Total of funds available for grants at 31st August 2022	578,423	708,591

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS1 Manses & Other Property

Buildings comprise 5 manses located in the London Borough of Sutton (2), the Borough of Epsom & Ewell (2) and the Borough of Reigate & Banstead (1). The manse at 37 Tattenham Way was made available to the Chinese Congregation at Epsom for their presbyter. Because of their grant reliance finance structure they are accounted separately from the Circuit General Fund. They make an annual contribution of £21,000 (£1,750pcm) towards the manse.

The manses are valued at historical cost. Also reported for information is the insurance value of each manse.

Property	Type	Historical Cost	Year of Purchase	Insurance Value 2022	Insurance Value 2021
35 Arundel Road	manse	£4,850	1949	£493,971	£481,926
29 West Hill Avenue	manse	£450	1923	£562,577	£548,859
16 Hall Road	manse	£2,500	1962	£425,364	£414,992
7 Waverley Way	manse		1991	£0	£428,378
116 Manor Green Road	manse	£123,000	1994	£288,149	£281,123
37 Tattenham Way	manse	£2,150	1945	£315,592	£307,897
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	Centre	£365,000			
Total		£497,950		£2,085,653	£2,463,175

	Opening cost	Additions	Disposals	Closing cost
Freehold property	497,500	-	-	497,500

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of one year, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in the furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

BS2 Investment Assets (and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes)

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Circuit's other funds (as listed below) are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments. The Sutton Circuit holds three trusts at TMCP, numbers with balances 8744 (£316,474), 13141 (£202,325) and 16141 (£13,208). £46,416 is held in CFB fund 02647030 as funds made available for grants to enable payment of such grants and is a part of the CMTF funds held in the Central Finance Board recorded in BS4 below. The total available at 31st August 2021 is £578,423.

TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

BS3 Debtors and Prepayments

Trade Debtors	2022	2021
Water Insurance	1,090	1,486
Council Tax & Water Rates	1,506	1,457
Minutes of Conference etc	459	411
Other Debtors	(27)	(302)
Prepayments		
Stipends, Pension, NI	13,500	14,707
Total	16,528	17,759

BS4 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Bank balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and at CAF Bank are all available on demand without loss of interest. The split of these balances across General, Designated and Restricted Funds is arbitrary but wherever possible balances are not shown as negative.

	General	CMTF	Restricted	2022	2021
Central Finance Board	145,781	128,824	193	274,798	309,722
CAF Bank	5,199	75,873	-	81,072	49,723
Total	150,980	204,697	193	355,870	359,445

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS5 Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

	2022	2021
Income in Advance		
Contributions from churches	56,688	56,540
Creditors and Accruals		
Grant to Epsom	75,000	-
Ministers' expenses	740	723
Auditor/Independent Examiner	1,260	4,800
Other expenses	308	342
Total	133,996	62,405

BS6 Unrestricted Funds

BS6.1 General Fund

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2022
295,214	165,941	209,193	(10,500)	(53,752)	241,462

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2021
493,552	176,632	220,970	(154,000)	(198,338)	295,214

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

The Circuit Meeting is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit and this is true for the fund.

BS6.2 Circuit Model Trust Fund, Manse Fund and Bandon Hill Methodist Centre Fund

	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2022
Circuit (Model) Trust Funds	708,591	3,187	133,356	-	(130,169)	578,422
Manse Fund	78,908	-	38,552	31,500	(7,052)	71,856
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	413,793	55,990	18,356		37,634	451,427
Connexional Funds	-	7,984	7,984	-	-	-
	1,201,292	67,161	198,248	31,500	(99,587)	1,101,705

	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Surplus/Deficit	2021
Circuit (Model) Trust Funds	296,841	552,913	278,663	137,500	411,750	708,591
Manse Fund	57,362	-	15,954	37,500	21,546	78,908
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	-	447,750	33,957	-	413,793	413,793
	354,203	1,000,663	328,574	175,000		1,201,292

The purpose of the Model Trust fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and contributions from the sales of manses and churches buildings in the circuit. The funds are being made available for future developments in the circuit. The Manse Fund has sufficient funds available to complete the work at the Wallington manse following the change of presbyter in August 2022.

Although the Model Trust fund is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise the Model Trust funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

BS7 Restricted Funds (Chinese Ministry)

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2022
511	63,028	42,346	(21,000)	193

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2021
932	61,502	40,923	(21,000)	511

The only Restricted Fund is that for the Chinese Ministry. This fund pays for the stipend, housing and expenses of the minister in pastoral charge of the Chinese Congregation at Epsom. It is supported by occasional grants from the Methodist Connexion, a gift in lieu of a stipend from the Malaysian Conference and an annual contribution from the Chinese Congregation. Each year the Chinese Congregation will make their contribution to maintain a small balance in the fund. Currently a £100,000 grant from the Methodist Connexion ended in August 2021. The leaders of the Chinese Congregation are investigating further grants.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

BS8 Related Parties

All of the trustees are members of one or another Church within the Circuit, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP.

Analysis of investment

	2022	2021
Investments listed on a recognised Stock Exchange		-
Investments held in common investment funds,	655,719	816,699
Securities not listed on a recognised Stock Exchange		-
Other investments		-
Total	655,719	816,699
Change in investment values		
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	993,989	618,934
Add: additions to investments at cost	329,781	1,065,516
Less: disposals at carrying value	(441,965)	(690,461)
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation		-
Carrying (market) value at end of year	881,805	993,989

BS9 Agency Collections and Payments

The Circuit acted as agent in collection for facilitation of the monies tabulated below. None of these collections was for related parties as defined in Note BS8 above. The Circuit carries out the payroll for lay employees in churches in the circuit, pays the 1 person and that Church then reimburses the Circuit for the exact amount. For the current year this totalled £33,415 (2021: £32,461).

Names of related parties	Party	Receipts 2022	Receipts 2021
Mission in Britain Fund	Connexion	1,100	1,230
Training Fund	Connexion	1,035	1,155
Property Fund	Connexion	3,289	3,699
Presbyters & Deacons Fund	Connexion	815	915
Ministers' Housing Fund	Connexion	1,745	1,960
World Mission fund	Connexion	-	-
Direct Transfer	Connexion	-	-
Total		7,984	8,959

BS10 Independent Examiner

An accrual has been made for the fee of the independent examiner.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Appendix A

CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP

Ex-Officio:

Circuit Ministers:

Rev Dr David Dickinson (Superintendent),
Rev Catherine Hutton, Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Rev Gill Long (active supernumerary)
Rev Anne Rusbridge (supernumerary)

Deacon

Marie Poole

Chairs of District:

Rev Nigel Cowgill, Rev Jongikaya Zihle

Circuit Stewards:

Dr David Gooch
Mrs Maureen Patel, Mr Lyndon Man, Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
Mrs Jane Barden, Mr Richard Smith (Treasurer)

Ministers of other denominations authorised by Methodist
Conference and serving Methodist people:

Rev Des Williamson, Rev Bethany Lewis

Circuit Meeting Secretary:

Mr Paul Gotts (not a trustee)

Circuit Manse Secretary

Mr Philip Sandiford

Secretary to Leaders of Worship and Preachers Meeting

Mr Paul Gotts (not a trustee)

Circuit Risk Management Chairman

Mrs Sue Forty

Elected Representatives from Churches:

Sutton

Deacons
Treasurer
Elected

Mr Richard Cornwell
Mr Malcolm Booth
Mrs Jacqueline John

St Johns

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mrs Eleanor Pinfold
Mr Anthony Woolfenden
Mrs Eileen Rice

Wallington

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Miss Judith Yates
Mrs Christine Asirwatham
Mr Stanley Jeyeraj, Mrs Nellie Showers

Epsom

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mrs Kathryn Thompson
Mr Richard Smith
Mrs Val Imms

Carshalton

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mrs Caroline Kingsnorth
Mrs Caroline Cook
Mr John Kingsnorth, Miss Jacky Waite

Cheam

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mr David Worthington
Mrs Audrey Saunderson
Vacant

Banstead

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Miss Shirley Breeden
Mr Vernon Tucker
Miss Elaine Bliss

St Marks

Steward
Treasurer
Elected

Mr John Miller
Mr Martin Trenaman
Mr Colin Batty

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Appendix B

The offices of the members of the Circuit Meeting (Managing Trustees) are shown in Appendix A.

The following are the trustees who served during the year and are appointed by the circuit as and when necessary.

Mrs Christine Asirwatham	Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Mrs Jane Barden (appointed 07/06/2022)	Mrs Maureen Patel
Mr Colin Batty	Mrs Eleanor Pinfold
Miss Elaine Bliss	Mrs Eileen Rice
Mr Malcolm Booth	Rev Dr Philip Richter (resigned 31/08/2022)
Miss Shirley Breeden	Rev Rosemary Richter (resigned 31/08/2022)
Mrs Caroline Cook	Rev Anne Rusbridge
Mr Richard Cornwell	Mr Philip Sandiford.
Rev Nigel Cowgill	Mrs Audrey Saunderson
Rev Dr David Dickinson	Mr Chris Shaw (resigned 07/06/2022)
Mrs Sue Forty	Mrs Nellie Showers
Dr David Gooch	Mr Richard Smith
Mrs Lisa Halstead (resigned 07/06/2022)	Mrs Kathryn Thompson (appointed 07/06/2022)
Rev Catherine Hutton	Mr Martin Trenaman
Mrs Val Imms	Mr Vernon Tucker
Mr Stanley Jeyeraj	Miss Jacky Waite
Mrs Jacqueline John	Rev Des Williamson
Mrs Caroline Kingsnorth	Mr Anthony Woolfenden
Mr John Kingsnorth	Mr David Worthington
Rev Bethany Lewis	Miss Judith Yates
Rev Gill Long	Rev Dr Jongikaya Zihle
Mr Lyndon Man	
Mr John Miller	

Sutton Methodist Circuit
DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of Treasurer

Date

2nd February 2023

Name

Richard T Smith

Address

13 Hazon Way, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8HD

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on
and were approved.

2nd February 2023

Signature of the Chair of
the meeting

Name of
the Chair

Rev Dr David Dickinson

Date

2nd February 2023

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Sutton Methodist Circuit

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Sutton Methodist Circuit (the Circuit) for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages 7 to 20.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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 Circuit's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 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:

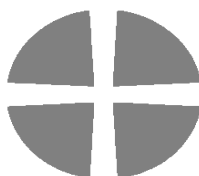
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Circuit as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) 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.

Paul Newton FCA
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Date:

Accounts



THE METHODIST CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2021

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Registered Charity - Registration number

1135076

District No / Circuit No 35/39

Ministers

Rev Dr David Dickinson
Rev Gill Long
Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Rev Rosemary Richter
Rev Catherine Hutton
Rev Dr Philip Richter
Rev Desmond C Williamson

Circuit Stewards

Dr David Gooch
Mrs Maureen Patel
Mr Ka Fai Man
Mr Vijendran Asirwatham

Circuit Treasurer

Mr Richard Smith

Sutton Methodist Circuit Trustees' Annual Report

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**Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Introduction

Sutton Methodist Circuit covers an area in north east Surrey. It is part of the London District. It is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1135076, and its affairs are governed by Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976). It has been registered at Charities Commission as Sutton Methodist Circuit.

The Mission of the Circuit

The Mission statement of the Sutton Circuit

- enable the churches to proclaim the Gospel of Christ and further God's Kingdom.
- be aware of God's presence through the Holy Spirit in all we do in God's name.
- support each Church in its endeavours to fulfil its potential in responding to opportunities of service and growth.
- enable the staff of the Circuit both ministerial and lay to fulfil their potential in a supportive Circuit environment.
- support ecumenical ventures and to encourage further ecumenical work.

The ministers concentrate on the mission of their local churches but support each other through monthly staff planning and support meetings. The work of the ministers and lay members is supported with prayer. The Circuit Leadership Team (staff and stewards) meet formally at least twice a year to plan and agree policy, and also meet socially on occasions. The Circuit Stewards meet 5 times a year, with the Circuit Superintendent Minister, to oversee the ongoing work of the Circuit and to address the needs of the Circuit and the staff.

Review of the year

- **Monitor the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic on the circuit churches and develop a support strategy.**
The attendance at worship at all the churches in the circuit either did not take place or was severely curtailed by the restriction imposed due to Covid-19. Consequently giving was reduced and the finances of all the churches was affected. The circuit decided to allow the churches to reduce their share offers so that they could manage their finances. The circuit agreed to provide an extra £53,000 from reserves to support this loss of income.
- **Review the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic on Church and Circuit Finances. Monitor adherence to the revised 2020/21 budget and produce a budget for 2021/22.**
Because of the loss of income, there was a deficit on the circuit general fund of £44,338. This was taken from the general fund reserves. With the continuation of the restrictions caused by the pandemic, the circuit agreed to allow this reduction to continue for a further year into 2021/22.
- **Review future circuit staffing and formulate stationing strategy for September 2022.**
The circuit is losing Revd Rosemary Richter (full time) and Revd Philip Richter (part time) when Rosemary 'sits down' in August 2022. An appointment profile for a presbyter to minister to the Carshalton, Wallington and Banstead churches from September 2022 has been produced and will be submitted to the September Circuit Meeting for approval and forwarding to the Stationing Committee.

Revd Ung Soon Nguang has indicated a wish to extend his ministry for a further two years from September 2022. A recommendation to approve this will be submitted to the September Circuit Meeting.
- **Discuss and agree the updated Circuit Development Plan with church leaders by July 2022.**
It was not possible for the leaders to meet in July 2021 due to the pandemic. The Circuit Development Plan will be addressed in the summer of 2022.
- **Determine the future direction of Wallington Methodist Church by June 2021.**
Due to further options being proposed concerning the use of the Wallington church site, discussions have continued and it is hoped to have a formal plan during 2022.

Sutton Methodist Circuit TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

- **Determine by March 2021 the future beyond August 2021 of the Bandon Hill Methodist Centre.**
The centre has been operating under the auspices of Wallington Methodist Church during 2020/2021, providing continuity for the organisations using it at the time of the closure of the church. It has been successful and has maintained a sound financial status. Proposals for expanding the work of the centre have been developed in collaboration with Sutton Community Action. Building work has taken place to install toilets between the church sanctuary and the rear corridor so that the church sanctuary itself is self-contained. A budget has been put in place for 2021/22 with the inclusion of funding for a part-time community outreach worker and a job description will be submitted to the September Circuit Meeting for approval. An application has been made to the District Advance Fund for support finance.

Financial Review

Budget

Each year the circuit sets a budget for income and expenditure which is approved by the Circuit Meeting.

Income

- The shares have been received from all the churches.
- The interest received of £1,416 is reported in the SOFA.
- The use of 37 Tattenham Way by the Chinese presbyter has provided an income of £21,000.
- 7 Waverley Way was sold in June 2021 for £700,000. There were expenses of £10,597 and the levy on the sale by TMCP was £255,761. Hence the net receipt was £433,642. This was placed in the Model Trust Fund 8744 and is available across the circuit for grant support for churches. If the need arose, funds could be drawn from this to replace losses on the general fund reserves caused by Covid-19.

Expenditure

- Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases. £61,464 (17.7%) of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church. The new Manse Fund has enabled the circuit to budget with greater awareness of the costs of manse repairs and refurbishments. During the year £15,957 was spent on the manses. The main expense was £3,880 to complete the work required following the arrival of Rev Catherine Hutton. The current balance is £78,908.
- All other items of expenditure were within budget.

Conclusions

All items in the accounts were close to budget. There was an expected deficit on expenditure on budgeted items in the General Fund of £44,338. A further £50,000 deficit is expected in 2021/22.

Financial effect of significant events

The advent of Covid-19 has had a significant effect on the circuit's finances. This had been expected and allowance made for a deficit of over £50,000. This enabled all the churches to reduce their share offers to help them in their own finances. Many of the churches have not had full collections each Sunday and have also lost letting income. The shortfall on the budget is being met from circuit reserves. It is fortunate that there are sufficient funds to enable this and still to leave the expected balance at 31st August 2021 above the reserves level (£165,214 over £130,000). This does indicate that the circuit could support the churches for a further year if the Covid-19 pandemic continues for longer than expected.

Sutton Methodist Circuit TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Fund balances

General Fund

As at 31st August 2021 the net current assets of the Circuit were £162,264, giving more than 6 months cover for expenditure not including funds in the CMTF.

Circuit Model Trust Fund

This is an unrestricted fund and can be applied to for appropriate capital items or projects.

Factors affecting the financial future of the circuit are mainly the guarantee of income from the shares from each church. Whereas the circuit seeks to be able to be self-sufficient from these shares, in the event that there is a shortfall which cannot be recovered from, it is permitted to seek approval to raise funds from the Model Trust Fund. Due to the income from St George's and the sale of 7 Waverley Way, the Model Trust Fund has enough funds to be able to support the circuit.

Valuation of Properties

The manses were included in the balance sheet at historical cost for the first time in 2015/16. The original total of £270,450 was reduced to £132,950 with the sale of 7 Waverley Way (value £137,500). Hence their value of £132,950 will be used in future. No comparison with previous years is required.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 6 months' average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses and/or to be able to continue, in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches.

Reserves of the Circuit

The balance of funds in the circuit at the end of the year was £1,497,017. Of this £132,950 is now the historical value of the manses. The balance comprises £167,958 in the general fund, £708,591 in the Model Trust Fund, £78,908 in the manse fund and £413,793 in the Bandon Hill Methodist Centre fund. A further £511 is held in a restricted fund (total £1,497,017). Though the manses have been valued at historical level, their sale in the current climate would probably realise over £2m.

Volunteers

The Church is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, grants, training, safeguarding and risk. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by the Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Plans for 2021/22

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remain 4 full time ordained staff and one lay pastor in the English and Chinese speaking congregations with anticipated cost of living stipend increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district. It is anticipated that there will be a shortfall on the annual costs of about £50,000 and it has been agreed that the reserves in the general fund can be drawn upon to enable this.

The following issues will be focused upon during the 2021-2022 year.

- Assess the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic on the circuit churches and develop a support strategy.
- Review the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on Church and Circuit Finances. Monitor adherence to the revised 2021/22 budget and produce a budget for 2022/23.
- Review future circuit staffing and formulate a stationing strategy for September 2023.
- Appoint a lay worker and caretaker for the Bandon Hill Methodist Centre. Establish a new management structure for September 2022. Monitor the financial performance and effectiveness of the centre.
- Discuss and agree the updated Circuit Development Plan with church leaders by July 2022.
- Determine the future direction of Wallington Methodist Church by June 2022.

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2019 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102).

Full Name of Charity	Sutton Methodist Circuit
Registration Charity Number	1135076
Date of registration	22nd March 2010
Main communication address	Dr David Gooch c/o Circuit Administrator, Sutton Trinity Church, Cheam Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1DZ

The members of the Sutton Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Full membership is shown in Appendix A to this report.

Circuit Ministers and officers

Active Circuit Ministers	Rev Dr David Dickinson Rev Catherine Hutton Rev Gill Long Rev Ung Soon Nguang Rev Rosemary Richter Rev Dr Philip Richter Rev Desmond Williamson
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Circuit Lay Worker	Mr Chris Shaw
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Circuit Stewards	Dr David Gooch Mrs Maureen Patel Mr Ka Fai Man Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
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Administrator	Mr Paul Gotts
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Mr Richard T Smith acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year.

Auditor	Jacob, Cavenagh & Skeet 5 Robin Hood Lane, Sutton, SM1 2SW
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Investment Bankers	Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 9 Bonhill Street, London EC2A 4PE Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ
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Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a resource provider within the area around the London Borough of Sutton and the Epsom & Ewell Borough Council for the Methodist 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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The Sutton Circuit shall seek to:

Advance the Christian faith by supporting individual churches in the circuit.

Provide facilities for public acts of worship open to members and non-members alike.

Enable pastoral care throughout the circuit for the benefit of members and non-members alike with respect to the teaching of Christianity and visiting the needy by appointing ministers, organising preaching, appointing and guiding lay leaders.

Public Benefit

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting and the Circuit Stewards.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Circuit meeting members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Circuit is part of the London District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Sutton Trinity (Methodist/URC LEP)

Wallington

Carshalton

Banstead

Epsom

Cheam

St John's (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

St Mark's (Anglican/Methodist LEP)

Sutton Methodist Circuit
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Risk Management

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded of risks identified within the circuit. This is carried out by an independent Risk Assessment Group which reports to the Trustees.

The following are the major risks in the circuit:

1. Church closures
2. Not enough lay staff to take on circuit responsibilities. Staff and volunteers who leave cannot easily be replaced.
3. There is a reduction in presbyters.
4. Circuit expenditure consistently exceeds income, leading to inadequate reserve levels.
5. Circuit Churches are unable to meet the budget with their shares, leading to shortfall in income to circuit.

Arising from these identified risks, the circuit is aware of them all and takes them into consideration when the circuit stewards meet as a managing group and the full circuit leadership team meets to discuss policy and the future.

Factors affecting the financial future of the circuit are mainly the guarantee of income from the shares from each church. Whereas the circuit seeks to be able to be self-sufficient from these shares, in the event that there is a shortfall which cannot be recovered from, it is permitted to seek approval to raise funds from the Model Trust Fund. This has been enhanced by the sale of 7 Waverley Way.

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Sutton Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Sutton Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the 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 the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, 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 business.

The trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Circuit Meeting on 3rd February 2022 and signed on behalf of the trustees by:

Rev Dr David Dickinson
Circuit Meeting Chairman

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

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds (General Fund)	CMTF, Manse BHC (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds (Chinese Ministry)	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and legacies	2			61,502	61,502	62,073
Shares from churches	3	175,845			175,845	243,815
Bandon Hill Methodist Church funds	2		59,343		59,343	
Bandon Hill Methodist Church valuation			365,000		365,000	
Other trading activities						
Lettings	4	410	23,378		23,788	1,092
Investments						
Interest	5	377	1,039		1,416	4,469
Other income						
Net surplus on disposal of 7 Waverley Way			551,903		551,903	
Total income		176,632	1,000,663	61,502	1,238,797	311,449
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Trust fund management charges	6		896		896	913
Levy on sale of 7 Waverley Way	5		255,761		255,761	-
Charitable activities						
Ministerial stipends and expenses	7 8	188,601		37,724	226,325	220,759
Ministerial invitations	8	-			-	5,269
Manse maintenance and servicing	9	24,240	49,914	3,199	77,353	49,313
Grants to circuit churches	10	-	21,500		21,500	-
Administration	11	8,129	503		8,632	4,442
Total		220,970	328,574	40,923	590,467	280,696
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		(44,338)	672,089	20,579	648,330	30,753
Transfers between funds	12	(154,000)	175,000	(21,000)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed		-			-	-
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes						
Other gains/(losses)					-	-
Net movement in funds		(198,338)	847,089	(421)	648,330	30,753
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		493,552	354,203	932	848,687	817,934
Total funds carried forward		295,214	1,201,292	511	1,497,017	848,687

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisation

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations

Balance carried forward

-	-
8,959	10,442
8,959	10,442
-	-

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

	Notes to the accounts	Unrestricted funds (General Fund)	CMTF & Manse (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds (Chinese Ministry)	Total 2019-20	Total 2018-19
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and legacies	2			62,073	62,073	309,102
Shares from churches	3	243,815			243,815	271,948
Other trading activities						
Letting of manse(s)	4	1,092			1,092	-
Investments						
Interest	5	1,984	2,485		4,469	4,852
Total income		246,891	2,485	62,073	311,449	585,902
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds						
Trust fund management charges	6		913		913	930
Charitable activities						
Ministerial stipends and expenses	7 8	183,378		37,381	220,759	245,326
Ministerial invitations	8	5,269			5,269	-
Manse maintenance	9	22,946	23,274	3,093	49,313	47,859
Grants to circuit churches	10	-				15,000
Administration	11	2,810	1,632		4,442	7,699
Total		214,403	25,819	40,474	280,696	316,814
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)		32,488	(23,334)	21,599	30,753	269,088
Transfers between funds	12	(16,500)	37,500	(21,000)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
assets						
benefit pension schemes						
Other gains/(losses)						
Net movement in funds		15,988	14,166	599	30,753	269,088
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		477,564	340,037	333	817,934	548,846
Total funds carried forward		493,552	354,203	932	848,687	817,934

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisation

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisation:

Balance carried forward

-
10,442
10,442
-

-
10,259
10,259
-

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

		Unrestricted (General Fund) £	CMTF, Manses BHMC (Unrestricted) £	Restricted (Chinese Ministry) £	Totals this year £	Totals last year £
Tangible Fixed Assets*						
	Notes					
Circuit Manses & Equipment	BS1	132,950			132,950	270,450
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre			365,000		365,000	
Investments	BS2				-	-
Total fixed assets		132,950	365,000	-	497,950	270,450
Current Assets						
Debtors	BS3	17,759			17,759	17,991
Loans by the Circuit						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	BS2		684,268		684,268	251,370
Central Finance Board Deposits	BS4	195,432	113,779	511	309,722	367,565
Cash at Bank and in hand	BS4	11,478	38,245		49,723	3,705
Total current assets		224,669	836,292	511	1,061,472	640,631
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	BS5	62,405			62,405	62,394
Net current assets (liabilities)		162,264	836,292	511	999,067	578,237
Total assets less current liabilities		295,214	1,201,292	511	1,497,017	848,687
Creditors and Accruals including any loans (due after more than 1 year)					-	
Net assets		295,214	1,201,292	511	1,497,017	848,687
Funds of the Circuit						
General Fund (Unrestricted)	BS6.1	295,214			295,214	493,552
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	BS6.2		1,201,292		1,201,292	354,203
Restricted funds	BS7			511	511	932
Total Funds		295,214	1,201,292	511	1,497,017	848,687
*Details - see Note 11						
Summary of the Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit 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.						
Internal Organisations		Opening balance	Receipts	Payments	2021	2020
Chinese Ministry Fund	BS7	932	61,502	61,923	511	932
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre		-	82,750	33,957	48,793	-
Total		932	144,252	95,880	49,304	932

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 3rd February 2022 and were signed on their behalf

Rev Dr David Dickinson

Statement of Cash Flows for year ended 31st August 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cashflows from operating activities		
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(269,746)	4,568
Cashflows from investing activities		
Interest receivable	1,416	4,468
Proceeds on sale of freehold property	689,403	-
Net cash provided by investing activities	690,819	4,468
Change in cash & cash equivalents in the reporting period	421,073	9,036
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	622,640	613,604
Cash & cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	1,043,713	622,640
Classified on the Balance Sheet as:-		
Investments with TMCP	684,268	251,370
Central Finance Board Deposits	309,722	367,565
Cash at bank and in hand	49,723	3,705
	1,043,713	622,640
Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cashflow from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure) from reporting activities (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	648,330	30,753
Adjustments for:-		
Non-cash donations	(365,000)	-
(Gains)/losses on sale of freehold property	(551,903)	-
Interest receivable	(1,416)	(4,468)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	232	(1,205)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	11	(20,512)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(269,746)	4,568

Notes to the Accounts

1 Basis of accounting and accounting policies**i Basis: SORP and Standards**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019, SORP(FRS102), and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, FRS 102.

ii Public benefit entity

The Sutton Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The Circuit is an unincorporated charity and its official address is Sutton Trinity Church, Cheam Road, Sutton, SM1 1DZ. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The accounts are prepared in pounds sterling rounded to the nearest pound.

iv FRS102 SORP2019 (applies to 2016-17 onwards)

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the FRS102 SORP 2019. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and the 2008 accounting and reporting regulations made thereunder, based on the current version of the Charities SORP (SORP(FRS102)), as disclosed above, in order to be able to show a true and fair view, as permitted by the regulations.

v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2021, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern and there are no material uncertainties affecting this conclusion.

vi Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when there is entitlement and the amount is reliably measurable once it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.

The Circuit acts as agent in three matters:

The collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds"

The administration of a payroll service for employees in Churches in the Circuit. The Circuit will carry out the payroll duties in accordance with HMRC requirements and will pay the employees from Circuit funds. This payment will be reimbursed to the Circuit during the same Connexional year so that payment of salaries, NIC and tax to HMRC will be reimbursed in the same accounting period. The amount paid and received, an equal amount, will be recorded in the SOFA as equal income and expenditure.

The administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion.

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or Churches as appropriate. Instead the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102).

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees' Annual Report.

viii Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable and it is considered more likely than not that there will be an outflow of economic benefit.

ix Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant to be accrued is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years, discounted to net present value where the difference is material, is treated as a provision for future commitments in the balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

x VAT

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

Notes to the Accounts**xi Tangible fixed assets**

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The freehold and/or long leasehold residential property is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing each property's gross carrying value at time of being built or purchased. No depreciation is provided because the trustees consider the residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its insurance cost and, in the absence of any evidence of impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the property would be immaterial.

xii Monetary Investments

The Circuit's investments are deposited with TMCP as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

xiii Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are recognised at the amount expected to be settled.

xiv Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits and these are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuits raise assessments against Churches in the Circuit. The District quarterly remits to The Methodist Church Fund most of the sum received from the Circuits. A small sum is retained by the District to meet its own costs. The Circuit may act as agent for ad hoc collections for various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church. These are detailed in Note BS9 below.

xv Minister's manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

Notes to the Accounts

2 Donations and legacies	General	Unrestricted	Model Trust & Manse Fund	Restricted	2021	2020
Donations	-	-	-	61,502	61,502	62,073
Balance of BHMC account transferred to Sutton Circuit	-	59,343	-		59,343	-
Valuation of BHMC		365,000				
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	424,343	-	61,502	120,845	62,073

The Chinese ministry was supported by grants from the Methodist Connexion (£20,000), the Malaysian Conference (£6,002) and donations from the Chinese Congregation (£35,500). These total £61,502.

The Bandon Hill Methodist Centre was incorporated into the Sutton Methodist Circuit accounts with a balance of £59,343. It was valued at £365,000. £244,550 for the building and £120,450 for the land.

3 Shares from Churches

The circuit is comprised of 8 churches. Each church is invited to offer a share towards the stated budget of the circuit to meet the overall costs. In making its share requirement, budgeted income from investment income, (including property letting) is taken into account. The circuit aims to cover its net core costs from the total of the shares offered. For 2020/21 this has not been possible because every church's finances has been affected by Covid-19. The circuit has agreed to underwrite reduced share offers from the churches by £53,000 by drawing on its general fund reserves.

Shares from churches are made quarterly in advance and are treated as a prepayment on a receivable basis. If any church has not paid its share by the due date the sum in question is treated as a debtor.

Share monies contributing to the district assessment paid from church to district via circuit are not recognised as income/expenditure in the accounts of the circuit. The circuit is acting as agent and monies passing through are netted off. The reported figure (£175,845) is the total share income (£237,309) less the assessment paid to and through the district (£7,676 and £53,788).

Church	2021	2020
Sutton Trinity	45,000	60,000
Wallington	28,000	34,943
Bandon Hill	-	12,000
Carshalton	28,000	35,000
Banstead	20,000	24,000
Epsom	104,000	124,000
Cheam	9,750	9,750
St John's	1,160	1,160
St Mark's	1,399	1,746
Total	237,309	302,599

	2021	2020
Assessment	237,309	302,599
Deduct for:		
District	7,676	10,580
Connexion	53,788	48,204
Net income	175,845	243,815

4 Income from other trading activities

	General	CMTF & Manse	Restricted	Transfers	2021	2020
Rental income	410			21,000	21,410	22,092
BHMC Lettings		23,378			23,378	-
Total rental income	410	23,378	-	21,000	44,788	22,092

The trustees have determined that the property at 37 Tattenham Way is to be made available as a manse for the minister of the Chinese Congregation. Since the Chinese Congregation's finances are separated because of identifying and separating grant income, the contribution from the Chinese Congregation is considered as a rent totalling £21,000 for the year. In addition, the supernumerary minister originally residing at 7 Waverley Way paid a lower rent for the manse until his retirement home was ready for occupation.

5 Income from investments and sale of property

£1,416 (2019/20 £4,459) was received as interest from TMCP trusts and CFB funds.

7 Waverley Way was sold for its asking price of £700,000. The costs were estate agents (£7,560), solicitors (£2,557), survey (£480), a net receipt of £689,403. There was a levy of £255,761 by TMCP on the sale leaving a net surplus of £433,642.

6 Trust Fund Management Charges

District Assessment & Levy

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members and staffing (Presbyters and lay staff graded by hours worked per week) of all Circuits in the London District. 65% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions, 25% using relative staff proportions and 10% using each circuit's reserves.

The Levy is calculated on a sliding scale as a percentage of the Circuit's CMTF account balance as at 31 August the previous accounting year. It is taken by the Trust for Methodist Church Purposes and paid to the district in which the circuit resides for the District Advance Fund for making grants to churches in the district.

	General	CMTF & Manse	2021	2020
District Expenses	7,676		7,676	10,588
Methodist Church Fund (MCF)	53,788		53,788	48,204
Levy on CMTF Funds	13	896	909	913
Totals	61,477	896	62,373	59,705

The charges listed above are taken by the Trust for Methodist Church Purposes and are paid to the district in which the circuit resides for the District Advance Fund for making grants to churches in the district.

7 Salaries and associated costs

Stipends were paid to 3 English presbyters, 1 Chinese presbyter and 1 lay pastor.

Circuit presbyters & lay pastor	2021	2020
Stipends	147,453	141,077
National Insurance Contributions	13,680	13,428
Pension Fund Contributions	28,966	28,556
URC Levy	11,016	10,856
Computers for ministry	676	495
Travelling	2,195	3,639
Telephone	4,375	4,927
Removal, Stationing & Relocation Costs	-	5,269
Apprenticeship Levy	547	493
Sundry Expenses	2,458	2,148
Supernumeraries preaching	101	266
Total	211,467	211,154
Circuit administrator - part time		
Salary	14,124	14,124
National Insurance Contributions	734	750
Pension Fund Contributions	-	-
Total	14,858	14,874
Total for all staff	226,325	226,028

In addition, the circuit employs an active supernumerary and a circuit administrator, a total of 7 employees.

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

On the other hand lay employees are contractually employees and have the option of joining a pension scheme which the circuit has arranged with in this case Scottish Widows. This is a defined contribution scheme and the Circuit contributes as employer to this scheme.

The Connexion accounts for both pension schemes and shows the figures in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented. No employees received benefits over £60,000 in the year.

7a Cost of Superintendent, Presbyters and Trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other Presbyters and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Presbyters of the Circuit are paid by the Connexion but funded by the circuit.

The manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains the property. The value of the council tax and water charges paid by the circuit is not disclosed here as HMRC does not regard this as a benefit-in-kind in the hands of the minister.

Each Presbyter is entitled to a 3 month sabbatical every 7 years and the expenses incurred by the Presbyter are met by the Connexion with the Circuit continuing to pay the stipend. During the year there have been no sabbaticals. The Circuit does not accrue for holiday pay cover as the remaining staff cover the holidays as needed without extra pay. Had additional cover been required the cost of this is met by the Circuit.

8 Invitation expenses

		Unrestricted	2021	2020
Travel and associated expenses		-	-	649
Removals		-	-	4,620
Total		-	-	5,269

9 Property

The Circuit is managing trustee for 5 manses of which 4 are occupied by ministers stationed in the circuit. One manse (116 Manor Green Road) is now occupied by a Lay Pastor at the Epsom church who is considered to be one of the Circuit staff. With the exception of the manse for the Lay Pastor (from September 2017), the Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council Tax, Water charges and Insurance. The Epsom church pays these expenses as part of their support of the Lay Pastor through their Circuit Share.

The cost of ongoing maintenance and improvements to all properties is funded through a manse repairs budget and £37,500 is set aside each year from the General Fund. The level of the budget is reviewed by the trustees each year. This will reduce to £31,500 for 2021/22 with the sale of 7 Waverley Way.

Expenditure on Manses

Manse	Maintenance Contracts	Repairs Maintenance Improvements	2021	2020
35 Arundel Road	1,080	1,825	2,905	1,992
29 West Hill Avenue	1,080	4,135	5,215	9,858
16 Hall Road	1,080	310	1,390	2,396
7 Waverley Way	720	1,050	1,770	966
116 Manor Green Road	1,080	2,374	3,454	6,549
37 Tattenham Way	1,080	143	1,223	1,511
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre		30,830	30,830	
Total	6,120	40,667	46,787	23,272

Council tax, insurance and utilities

Manse	Council Tax	Insurance	Water Supply	2021	2020
35 Arundel Road	3,001	1,431	525	4,957	4,759
29 West Hill Avenue	3,349	1,576	779	5,704	5,484
16 Hall Road	3,001	1,286	356	4,643	4,268
7 Waverley Way	1,872	816	16	2,704	2,889
116 Manor Green Road	2,903	995	614	4,512	4,359
37 Tattenham Way	2,944	1,053	255	4,252	4,107
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre		3,127		3,127	
Unallocated		667		667	175
Total	17,070	10,951	2,545	30,566	26,041
From Maintenance				46,787	23,272
Total				77,353	49,313

Letting Expenses

37 Tattenham Way was notionally let by the Circuit to the Chinese Congregation at Epsom for £1,750pcm. This realised a total of £21,000 for the Connexional year.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) (Trusts 8744 13141 16141 CFB 02647030)

	2021	2020
Opening balance	296,841	296,901
Donations	(21,500)	-
Interest income	1,010	2,485
Sale of 7 Waverley Way	689,403	-
Levy on sale of 7 Waverley Way	(255,761)	-
Valuation of Bandon Hill Methodist church	365,000	
District levy	(506)	(506)
TMCP administration	(896)	(913)
St George's taxi	-	(1,126)
Closing balance	1,073,591	296,841

Manse Maintenance Fund

	2021	2020
Opening balance	57,362	43,136
Transfer from General Fund (budget)	37,500	37,500
Expenditure on manses	15,954	23,274
Balance of manse maintenance fund	78,908	57,362

Bandon Hill Methodist Centre

Opening balance	-	
Donations (funds included alongside MTF)	57,148	
Lettings	22,560	
Gift aid	2,197	
Interest	29	
Sundry	816	
Total income		82,750
Maintenance	(1,025)	
Caretaker	(1,301)	
Cleaning	(6,626)	
Utilities	(3,117)	
Insurance	(3,127)	
Building project	(18,150)	
Sundry	(611)	
Total expenditure		(33,957)
Closing balance		48,793

When Bandon Hill closed, it was decided that it could be reopened as a community centre for the benefit of the neighbourhood. This was followed through and for the first year its work was overseen by a management committee. It was felt that the existing groups using the building should continue and this has taken place. The Bandon Hill church funds were incorporated into the circuit accounts from 1st September 2020. The balance at the start was considered as a donation for accounting purposes. The table above shows that £57,148 was passed into the circuit accounts. Money has been spent during the year in bringing the premises up to a standard for community use - mainly the installation of toilets between the old sanctuary and the remainder of the premises. These have cost (as can be seen) £18,150 to date. There is still a small amount of work to complete. However, excepting this one-off cost, there was a surplus of £9,795 on the accounts.

Mr Michael Patel, the husband of the trustee Mrs Maureen Patel, received employee benefits of £1,301 during the year for his role as caretaker of Bandon Hill Methodist Centre.

Unrestricted Funds

	2021	2020
Manse Maintenance Fund	78,908	57,362
Circuit Model Trust Fund	571,091	296,841
Sale of 7 Waverley Way	137,500	-
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre transfer of funds	48,793	-
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre valuation	365,000	
Closing balance	1,201,292	354,203

10 Grants to circuit churches

There was one grant of £21,500 to St Mark's church during the year.

11 Office expenses

	General	CMTF	2021	2020
Local Preacher expenses	-		-	-
Quinquennial inspections	950		950	
Administration			-	100
Training	-		-	100
Auditor	4,836		4,836	960
Conference Minutes, CPD & Membership tickets	641		641	725
Administrator's expenses (travel and stationery)	209		209	744
Laptop for Circuit Administrator	170		170	-
Circuit service expenses	1,104		1,104	1,307
Website	135		135	
Banking	84		84	
TMCP Admin/investment Management Fees	-	503	503	506
Total	8,129	503	8,632	4,442

12 Transfers

The following transfers were made in the SOFA.

Rent for manse for Chinese minister	21,000
Budget for manse repairs	37,500
Book value of 7 Waverley Way	137,500

13 Trust Funds

Churches are able to seek grant funding for projects within their own church from Circuit Model Trust Fund monies. At 31st August 2021 these totalled £708,591. These funds are held in a CFB fund and 3 trust funds as detailed below.

Circuit CFB Fund 02647030	2021	2020
Balance at 1st September 2020	45,471	43,726
Interest	60	318
Interest from trusts 13141 and 16141	292	1,427
Grant to St Marks	(21,500)	
Balance in circuit CFB Fund 02647030 at 31st August 2021	24,323	45,471
Trust fund 13141		
Balance at 1st September 2020	202,325	201,354
Interest	681	1,729
Transfer taxi payment from 16141 to 13141		971
TMCP administration	(405)	(403)
Transfer of interest	(276)	(1,326)
Balance in trust fund 13141 at 31st August 2021	202,325	202,325
Trust fund 16141		
Balance at 1st September 2020	13,208	15,305
Interest	44	130
Taxi to and from Carshalton each Sunday for previous year from 13141		(971)
Taxi to and from Carshalton each Sunday for current year		(1,126)
TMCP administration	(26)	(31)
Transfer of interest	(16)	(99)
Balance in trust fund 16141 at 31st August 2021	13,210	13,208
Circuit Model Trust Fund 8744		
Balance at 1st September 2020	35,837	36,516
Interest	223	307
Sale of 7 Waverley Way	689,403	
TMCP administration	(73)	(73)
District levy	(896)	(913)
Levy on sale of 7 Waverley Way	(255,761)	
Balance in trust fund 8744 at 31st August 2021	468,733	35,837
Total amount available for grants		
Circuit CFB Fund 02647030	24,323	45,471
Trust fund 13141	202,325	202,325
Trust fund 16141	13,210	13,208
Circuit Model Trust Fund 8744	468,733	35,837
Total of funds available for grants at 31st August 2021	708,591	296,841

BS1 Manses & Other Property

Buildings comprise 5 manses located in the London Borough of Sutton (2), the Borough of Epsom & Ewell (2) and the Borough of Reigate & Banstead (1). The manse at 37 Tattenham Way was made available to the Chinese Congregation at Epsom for their presbyter. Because of their grant reliance finance structure they are accounted separately from the Circuit General Fund. They make an annual contribution of £21,000 (£1,750pcm) towards the manse.

The manses are valued at historical cost. Also reported for information is the insurance value of each manse.

Property	Type	Historical Cost	Year of Purchase	Insurance Value 2021	Insurance Value 2020
35 Arundel Road	manse	£4,850	1949	£493,971	£481,926
29 West Hill Avenue	manse	£450	1923	£562,577	£548,859
16 Hall Road	manse	£2,500	1962	£425,364	£414,992
7 Waverley Way	manse		1991	£0	£428,378
116 Manor Green Road	manse	£123,000	1994	£288,149	£281,123
37 Tattenham Way	manse	£2,150	1945	£315,592	£307,897
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	Centre	£365,000			
Total		£497,950		£2,085,653	£2,463,175

	Opening cost	Additions	Disposals	Closing cost
Freehold property	270,450	365,000	(137,500)	497,950

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of one year, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in the furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

BS2 Investment Assets (and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes)

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Circuit's other funds (as listed below) are held by TMCP in Trustees Interest Funds on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments. The Sutton Circuit holds three trusts at TMCP, numbers with balances 8744 (£468,734), 13141 (£202,325) and 16141 (£13,210). £24,322 is held in CFB fund 02647030 as funds made available for grants to enable payment of such grants and is a part of the CMTF funds held in the Central Finance Board recorded in BS4 below. The total available at 31st August 2021 is £708,591.

TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

BS3 Debtors and Prepayments

Trade Debtors	2021	2020
Water Insurance	990	1,290
Council Tax & Water Rates	1,457	1,374
Minutes of Conference etc	411	641
Other Debtors	194	-
Prepayments		
Stipends, Pension, NI	14,707	14,686
Total	17,759	17,991

BS4 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Bank balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and at CAF Bank are all available on demand without loss of interest. The split of these balances across General, Designated and Restricted Funds is arbitrary but wherever possible balances are not shown as negative.

	General	CMTF	Restricted	2021	2020
Central Finance Board	195,432	113,779	511	309,722	367,565
CAF Bank	11,478	38,245	-	49,723	3,705
Total	206,910	152,024	511	359,445	371,270

BS5 Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

	2021	2020
Income in Advance		
Contributions from churches	56,540	60,290
Creditors and Accruals		
Grant to Epsom	-	-
Ministers' expenses	723	801
Connexional grant for officer	-	-
Auditor	4,800	960
Other expenses	342	343
Total	62,405	62,394

BS6 Unrestricted Funds

BS6.1 General Fund

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gain/Loss	2021
493,552	176,632	220,970	(154,000)		295,214

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gain/Loss	2020
477,564	246,891	214,403	(16,500)	-	493,552

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit.

The Circuit Meeting is aware that grant applications must demonstrate public benefit and this is true for the fund.

BS6.2 Circuit Model Trust Fund, Manse Fund and Bandon Hill Methodist Centre Fund

	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gain/Loss	2021
Circuit (Model) Trust Funds	296,841	552,913	278,663	137,500		708,591
Manse Fund	57,362	-	15,954	37,500		78,908
Bandon Hill Methodist Centre	-	447,750	33,957			413,793
	354,203	1,000,663	328,574	175,000		1,201,292

	Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfer	2020
Circuit (Model) Trust Funds	296,901	2,485	2,545	-	296,841
Manse Fund	43,136	-	23,274	37,500	57,362
	340,037	2,485	25,819	37,500	354,203

The purpose of the Model Trust fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and contributions from the sales of manses and churches buildings in the circuit. The funds are being made available for future developments in the circuit. The Manse Fund has sufficient funds available to complete the work at the Wallington manse following the change of presbyter in August 2022.

Although the Model Trust fund is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise the Model Trust funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

BS7 Restricted Funds (Chinese Ministry)

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2021
932	61,502	40,923	(21,000)	511

Opening	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2020
333	62,073	40,474	(21,000)	932

The only Restricted Fund is that for the Chinese Ministry. This fund pays for the stipend, housing and expenses of the minister in pastoral charge of the Chinese Congregation at Epsom. It is supported by occasional grants from the Methodist Connexion, a gift in lieu of a stipend from the Malaysian Conference and an annual contribution from the Chinese Congregation. Each year the Chinese Congregation will make their contribution to maintain a small balance in the fund.

BS8 Related Parties

All of the trustees are members of one or another Church within the Circuit, other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP.

BS9 Agency Collections and Payments

The Circuit acted as agent in collection for facilitation of the monies tabulated below. None of these collections was for related parties as defined in Note BS8 above. The Circuit carries out the payroll for lay employees in churches in the circuit, pays the 1 person and that Church then reimburses the Circuit for the exact amount. For the current year this totalled £32,461 (2020: £34,306).

Names of related parties	Party	Receipts 2021	Receipts 2020
Mission in Britain Fund	Connexion	1,230	1,163
Training Fund	Connexion	1,155	881
Property Fund	Connexion	3,699	2,380
Presbyters & Deacons Fund	Connexion	915	635
Ministers' Housing Fund	Connexion	1,960	1,361
World Mission fund	Connexion	-	22
Direct Transfer	Connexion	-	4,000
Total		8,959	10,442

BS10 Auditor

An accrual has been made for the fee of the auditor.

CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP

Ex-Officio:

Circuit Ministers:

Rev Dr David Dickinson (Superintendent),
 Rev Catherine Hutton, Rev Rosemary Richter
 Rev Anne Rusbridge, Rev Gill Long
 Rev Ung Soon Nguang, Rev Dr Philip Richter (active supernumerary)

Lay Pastor

Mr Chris Shaw

Chairs of District:

Rev Nigel Cowgill, Rev Jongikaya Zihle

Circuit Stewards:

Dr David Gooch
 Mrs Maureen Patel, Mr Lyndon Man, Mr Vijendran Asirwatham
 Mr Richard Smith (Treasurer)

Ministers of other denominations authorised by Methodist
 Conference and serving Methodist people:

Rev Des Williamson, Rev Bethany Lewis

Circuit Meeting Secretary:

Mr Paul Gotts (not a trustee)

Circuit Manse Secretary

Mr Philip Sandiford

Secretary to Leaders of Worship and Preachers Meeting

Mr Paul Gotts (not a trustee)

Circuit Risk Management Chairman

Mrs Sue Forty

Elected Representatives from Churches:

Sutton

Deacons
 Treasurer
 Elected

Mrs Jacqueline John
 Mr Malcolm Booth
 Mr Richard Cornwell

St Johns

Steward
 Treasurer
 Elected

Mrs Eleanor Pinfold
 Mr Tony Woolfenden
 Mrs Eileen Rice

Wallington

Steward
 Treasurer
 Elected

Miss Judith Yates
 Mrs Christine Asirwatham
 Mr Stanley Jeyaraj, Mrs Nellie Showers

Epsom

Steward
 Treasurer
 Elected

Mrs Lisa Halstead
 Mr Richard Smith
 Mrs Val Imms

Carshalton

Steward
 Treasurer
 Elected

Mrs Caroline Kingsnorth
 Mrs Caroline Cook
 Mr John Kingsnorth, Miss Jacky Waite

Cheam

Steward
 Treasurer
 Elected

Mr David Worthington
 Mrs Audrey Saunderson
 Vacant

Banstead

Steward
 Treasurer
 Elected

Mr Philip Sandiford
 Mr Vernon Tucker
 Miss Elaine Bliss

St Marks

Steward
 Treasurer
 Elected

Mr John Miller
 Mr Martin Trenaman
 Mr Colin Batty

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Appendix B

The offices of the members of the Circuit Meeting (Managing Trustees) are shown in Appendix A.

The following are the trustees who served during the year and are appointed by the circuit as and when necessary.

Mr Segun Akindele (resigned 10/09/2020)	Mr Darren Murton (resigned 08/06/2021)
Mrs Christine Asirwatham	Rev Ung Soon Nguang
Mrs Jane Barden (resigned 08/06/2021)	Mrs Maureen Patel
Mr Colin Batty	Mrs Eleanor Pinfold
Miss Elaine Bliss (appointed 08/06/2021)	Mrs Eileen Rice
Mr Malcolm Booth	Rev Dr Philip Richter
Miss Shirley Breeden (appointed 08/06/2021)	Rev Rosemary Richter
Mrs Caroline Cook	Rev Anne Rusbridge
Mr Richard Cornwell	Mr Philip Sandiford.
Rev Nigel Cowgill	Mr Ravi Saravanamuttu (resigned 09/09/2021)
Mr John Dawson (resigned 10/09/2020)	Mrs Audrey Saunderson
Rev Dr David Dickinson	Mr Chris Shaw
Mrs Sue Forty	Mrs Nellie Showers
Dr David Gooch	Mr Richard Smith
Mrs Lisa Halstead (appointed 08/06/2021)	Mr Martin Trenaman
Rev Catherine Hutton (appointed 10/09/2020)	Mr Vernon Tucker
Mrs Val Imms	Miss Jacky Waite
Mr Alan Jameson (resigned 10/09/2020)	Rev Dr Mark Wakelin (resigned 31/08/2020)
Mr Stanley Jeyeraj	Rev Des Williamson
Mrs Jacqueline John	Mr Anthony Woolfenden (appointed 08/06/2021)
Mrs Margaret Kercher (resigned 08/06/2021)	Mr David Worthington
Mrs Caroline Kingsnorth	Mr John Wroe (resigned 09/09/2021)
Mr John Kingsnorth	Miss Judith Yates
Rev Bethany Lewis (appointed 08/06/2021)	Rev Michaela Youngson (resigned 09/09/2021)
Rev Gill Long	Rev Ernest Yu (resigned 09/09/2021)
Mr Lyndon Man (appointed 06/02/2020)	Rev Dr Jongikaya Zihle
Mr John Miller	

**Sutton Methodist Circuit
DECLARATIONS**

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of Treasurer

Date

3rd Feb 2022

Name

Richard T Smith

Address

13 Hazon Way, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 8HD

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on
and were approved.

3rd Feb 2022

Signature of the Chair of
the meeting

Name of
the Chair

Rev Dr David Dickinson

Date

3rd Feb 2022

Sutton Methodist Circuit

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Sutton Methodist Circuit

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Sutton Methodist Circuit (the "Charity") for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 August 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.