

BANBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1135376

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-04-07

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

Contact

Address 1 Waller Drive
Banbury
OX16 9NS

Phone 01295 262602

Email super@banburycircuit.or.uk

Website <http://www.banburycircuit.org.uk/>

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: The Banbury Methodist Circuit is an "umbrella" for the 11 Methodist Churches in the town of Banbury, Oxfordshire and the villages which surround Banbury. It provides support and encouragement to the churches in carrying out their calling to serve God and to serve their communities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Northamptonshire
- Oxfordshire
- Warwickshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£318,918	£239,234	-	-
2024-08-31	£147,966	£313,108	-	-
2023-08-31	£143,960	£209,765	-	-
2022-08-31	£136,495	£297,978	-	-
2021-08-31	£340,487	£284,286	-	-
2020-08-31	£278,726	£224,196	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev David Ralph Alderman	Chair	2022-09-01
ANDREA CATHERINE HARDING-SMITH		
Ann Slater		2017-10-16
Anthony Giles		2020-01-01
CHRISTINE ANNE HEIGHTON		
CICELY HELEN LEWIS		
Cate Vokes		2017-02-16
Clifford Faulkner		2020-09-01
Cynthia Idle		2020-09-01
David Miles		2021-02-01
Edith Cherry		2020-09-01
Elaine Marilyn Nutt		2015-09-01
Elizabeth Rees		2015-05-01
GWENDOLINE IRENE LOVSEY		
GWENDOLINE MARIE FRANKLIN		
Helen Gardner		2017-09-01
Hugh Brooman		2020-09-01
JOAN AMY BOYLES		
JULIE ROSE STANLEY		
Janet Jones		2016-09-01
Kathryn Matthews		2021-02-01
LILIAN STAGEMAN		
LIN TURNOCK		
MARGARET SHIRLEY COOKNELL		
Margaret Stafford		2017-10-05
Mary Elizabeth Tanner		2022-09-01
Nigel Souch		2020-09-01

Name	Role	Appointed
Patricia Haley		2020-09-01
Rev CHRISTOPHER EDDY		2015-09-01
Rev Philip Robinson		2022-09-01
SHEILA JONES		
Susan Cherry		2016-02-15
WALTER STAGEMAN		
YVONNE KENNARD		2020-09-01

BANBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1135376

Accounts

Circuit Annual report 2024-2025

Introduction

Activities during the year

- Each church continues to provide pastoral care to their members and others beyond the church family.
- The Preachers and Leaders of Worship have met over the year. These meetings have involved business, fellowship and personal development.
- The Circuit continues to deliver its training programme for Office holders and volunteers, including Safeguarding; EDI; Unconscious Bias; GDPR; Local Preachers & Worship Leaders study Days.
- The Circuit Leadership Team have met throughout the year to discuss the vision for the circuit, to provide direction to the circuit and to deal with business between each Circuit Meeting.
- Local Church stewards and Treasurers met to discuss the circuit assessments and finances.
- The Circuit monthly “Circuit Services” included inviting special preachers and sharing lunch together.
- The Circuit continues to develop online services from Marlborough Road Church, between 40-60 people engage each week. We continue to receive good reports about how people who are unable to attend feel more “connected” with the church. The Circuit has helped provide IT equipment for local church use.
- The Circuit encourages children & Young People to attend “3-Generate” – The national gathering of young people.
- Middleton Cheney Church had been sold
- It was noted that Rev Chris Gaynor had given notice to leave ST Francis LEP, conversations regarding his replacement with the CoE, URC churches were underway.

Aims and organisation

“The Banbury Methodist Circuit encourages, enables and supports its churches to respond to God’s love in Christ in their communities, through worship, mission and service.”

The Circuit invites and supports both lay volunteers and ordained ministers and enables them in their work. As a result, the Circuit provides spiritual and governance guidance to the Methodist congregations throughout the Banbury area.

Brief financial review of the year

- Circuit Policy Document - Work continues to update this “living” document as required to reflect the current structure and aspirations of the Circuit post covid.
- Fixed Assets – We aim to dispose of land and buildings no longer required by the Circuit. Adderbury church had now closed and pending TMCP approval to be sold. The proceeds of sale are intended to support a Community Chaplain in the new housing in the village under the Methodist Connexional Mission strategy “New Places for New People” The Circuit continues to explore what this will look like with the Northampton Methodist District Mission Team.
- The circuit reviewed and adjusted the way Assessments were allocated to each church.

- The circuit continues draws on its reserves to help churches meet their assessments.

Income trends

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches.
The rental income relates to the rental of a manse £10,000

Expenditure trends

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with The Methodist Conference approved increases amounting to £93,605.00 plus expenses.
£33,252.00 of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion assessment, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.
The other expenditure includes Manses repairs/costs, Mission outreach and Lay employees.
Financial support of local churches finances.

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2025 the net current assets of the Circuit were £265,806 (– due to the sale of Middleton Cheney Church, and held in the Circuit Model Trust Fund*).

The *Circuit Model Trust Fund derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes. The Circuit Leadership team has drawn up a set of ground rules, which have been accepted by the Circuit Meeting, to ensure grants made from the Circuit Model Trust Fund are used effectively for mission and capital works. Currently money is being held for refurbishment projects at Marlborough Road. Funds have been released to fund the Circuit Children & Families worker and Circuit Administrator.

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remains 2 full time ordained staff and 1 Children & Families Worker, together with a Circuit Administrator with anticipated cost of living stipend/Salary increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district such that on average a 5% assessment increase has been requested from the circuit churches.

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 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102

Full Name of Charity: Banbury Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1135376

Date of registration 7th April 2010 (Previously exempted registration)

Main communication address: 1 Waller Drive Banbury OX16 9NS

The members of the Banbury Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the Local Church Managing Trustees.

Fully membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

"Circuit Ministers and officers"

Active Circuit Ministers Rev David Alderman

Rev Philip Robinson

Circuit Lay Staff Mrs Cate Vokes (Children & Families Worker)

Administrator: Ms Clare Taylor

Circuit Meeting Secretary: Mrs Janet Jones

Circuit Stewards Mr David Miles

Mrs Hazel Stagg

Mrs Mary Tanner acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year:

Independent examiner Joanna Watson CIMA
Vandyplank House,
9 High Street, Long Buckby, Northants, NN6 7RE

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

General Banking: Barclays Bank (Banbury Branch)

Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a Resource Provider within the area around Banbury 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 organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike. The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure regular acts of worship take place at each of the 10 Methodist Churches and one Local Ecumenical Partnership in its geographical area. These are open to all people, without charge.

The Circuit is directly involved with plans to provide a chaplaincy service in Banbury town centre.

The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
Taking religious assemblies in local schools, through “Turn the page”.
Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.
“Messy Church” operates monthly at Marlborough Road and Hinton and continues to grow.

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 Methodist 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 Policy Committee.

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 Northampton Methodist District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

	Chacombe
Marlborough Road	Cropredy
Easington	St. Francis (LEP)
Greatworth	The Fairway
Hinton	Shipston on Stour
Hornton	Wiggington

Organisations with specific linkage.

Banbury Christians Together – Membership fees are paid by the circuit rather than by individual churches, supporting the following ecumenical projects:

- Banbury Chaplaincy
- Banbury Street Pastors
- Banbury Food Bank
- Warm Spaces, including Banbury Larder

Risk Management

Risks are identified and recorded by the Circuit Leadership Team with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded, the circuit has introduced a “risk matrix”

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves. However the circuit continues to draw down on reserves to ensure that local assessments are reasonable for each church.

Adopted the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy and is ensuring it compliance across the churches. No safeguarding contracts were in place during the past year. The circuit is aware of an ongoing police investigation in one of the villages where the local church is involved in by association, but there is no risk to congregations or reputation. The District Safeguarding Officer is aware and offered advice.

The circuit office ensured GDPR compliance across the Circuit conforming to the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes requirements.

Circuit Policies are now posted on the Banbury Circuit Website (www.banburycircuit.org.uk) and are regularly updated.

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.

The circuit assessment is reviewed annually and is currently based on membership figures within the local churches. The budget for the 2023/24 financial year has been set at £181,350k. Therefore the Circuit aims to hold approx. £91k. The reason for this is threefold:- **(i)** The Circuit needs around one month's average expenditure in reserve as working capital to cover normal running costs. **(ii)** The circuit is dependent upon local churches to pay their assessment each quarter. In the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches the reserves funds will ensure that that District/Connexional assessment, stipends, salaries and other commitments are met as they fall due. **(iii)** To ensure the circuit can meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses or other circuit managed property.

In addition, currently the Circuit is also holding (unrestricted funds) monies for mission, outreach and redevelopment projects across the circuit.

Safeguarding Policy:

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

The Banbury 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.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

BANBURY CIRCUIT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2025**

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

CIRCUIT NO 23/05

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1135376

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

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

Ministers:

Rev David Alderman

Rev Phil Robinson

Circuit Stewards:

Mary Tanner

David Miles

Hazel Stagg

Treasurer:

Miss Mary Tanner

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

SECTION A		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year	
A1	RECEIPTS		£	£	£	£	£	
A2	Assessment or Share		123,193	0	0	123,193	113,380	
A3	Capital Receipts		5,311	161,579	0	166,890	0	
A4	Interest		1,165	7,680	0	8,845	8,531	
A5	Grants		1,020	0	0	1,020	0	
A6	Other receipts		13,875	5,095	0	18,970	26,055	
A7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		144,564	174,354	0	318,918 (a8)	147,966	
SECTION B								
B1	PAYMENTS							
B2	Stipends, salaries & costs		141,314	0	0	141,314	141,600	
B3	Manse Costs		3,146	0	0	3,146	14,707	
B4	Admin (phone/travel)		21,845	169	0	22,014	11,196	
B5	District Assessment		42,387	0	0	42,387	43,555	
B6	Grants & donations		250	0	0	250	16,726	
B7	District Advance Fund		0	1,302	0	1,302	9,390	
B8	Other payments		20,211	8,610	0	28,821	75,934	
B9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		229,153	10,081	0	239,234 (b9)	313,108	
SECTION C								
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YE	(a7-b8)	(84,589)	164,273	0	79,684	(165,142)	
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		(26,990)	213,103		186,113 (c6)	351,255	
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	(111,579)	377,376	0	265,797	186,113	
c4	Transfers and adjustments		9			9 (c7)	0	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	(111,570)	377,376	0	265,806 (c8)	186,113 (c6)	
SECTION D								
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS							
	(these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)							
d1	Balance brought forward from last year					0	0	
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations					585	0	
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations					585	0	
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)					0	0	

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

Signature of Treasurer Date
Name
Address

Presentation to the *Circuit Meeting for approval.

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

Signature of the Chair of the meeting
Name of the Chair of the meeting
Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Circuit

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement


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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate*

- (3) I have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

** Please circle as appropriate*

Name	Joanna Watson
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	CIMA
Address	Vandyplank House, 9 High Street, Long Buckby, Northants, NN6 7RE
Date	12th January 2026

BANBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1135376

Accounts

Circuit Annual report 2023-2024

Introduction

Activities during the year

The Circuit Meeting was delighted that Rev Phil Robinson was recommended for Ordination at The Leeds Methodist Conference, the Circuit arranged for members to attend this important event at Bradford Cathedral. Mrs Cate Voke contract as as Children & families worker was made permanent

- Each church continues to provide pastoral care to their members and others beyond the church family.
- The Preachers and Leaders of Worship have met over the year. These meetings have involved business, fellowship and personal development.
- The Circuit continues to deliver its training programme for Office holders and volunteers, including Safeguarding; EDI; Unconscious Bias; GDPR; sensitivity in preaching for Local Preachers.
- The Circuit Leadership Team have met throughout the year to discuss the vision for the circuit, to provide direction to the circuit and to deal with business between each Circuit Meeting.
- Local Church stewards and Treasurers met to discuss the circuit assessments and finances.
- The Circuit monthly "Circuit Services" included inviting special preachers and sharing lunch together.
- The Circuit continues to develop online services from Marlborough Road Church, between 30 – 50 people engage each week. We continue to receive good reports about how people who are unable to attend feel more "connected" with the church. The Circuit has helped provide IT equipment for local church use.
- Hinton Chapel has upgraded its premises and has a multi-functional space with good facilities
- The Circuit hosted Northampton Methodist District Synod, including the farewell of our District Chair, Rev Dr Helen Cameron who is President elect of the Methodist Conference (2024-25)
- The Circuit encourages children & Young People to attend "3-Generate" – The national gathering of young people.

Aims and organisation

"The Banbury Methodist Circuit encourages, enables and supports its churches to respond to God's love in Christ in their communities, through worship, mission and service."

The Circuit invites and supports both lay volunteers and ordained ministers and enables them in their work. As a result, the Circuit provides spiritual and governance guidance to the Methodist congregations throughout the Banbury area.

Brief financial review of the year

- Circuit Policy Document - Work continues to update this "living" document as required to reflect the current structure and aspirations of the Circuit post covid.
- Fixed Assets – We aim to dispose of land and buildings no longer required by the Circuit. We continue to explore what happens with Middleton Cheney Church and Grimsbury properties. Adderbury church gave notice to "Ceased to Meet" and the proceeds of sale is intended to support a Community Chaplain in the new housing in the village under the Methodist

Connexional Mission strategy “New Places for New People” The Circuit continues to explore what this will look like with the Northampton Methodist District Mission Team.

- The circuit reviewed and adjusted the way Assessments were allocated to each church.
- The circuit continues draws on its reserves to help churches meet their assessments.

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The rental income relates to the rental of a manse £11,000

Expenditure trends

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with The Methodist Conference approved increases amounting to £86,500 plus expenses.

£43,600 of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion assessment, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

The other expenditure includes Manses repairs/costs, Mission outreach and Lay employees.

Financial support of local churches finances. Church refurbishment grants

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2024 the net current assets of the Circuit were £186,113

The Circuit Model Trust Fund derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes. The Circuit Leadership team has drawn up a set of ground rules, which have been accepted by the Circuit Meeting, to ensure grants made from the Circuit Model Trust Fund are used effectively for mission and capital works. Currently money is being held for refurbishment projects at Marlborough Road. Funds have been released to fund the Circuit Children & Families worker and Hinton Refurbishment Project.

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Active Circuit Ministers Rev David Alderman

Rev Philip Robinson

Rev Chris Gaynor

Circuit Lay Staff Mrs Cate Vokes (Children & Families Worker)

Administrator: Ms Clare Taylor

Circuit Meeting Secretary: Mrs Janet Jones

Circuit Stewards Mr David Miles

Mrs Mary Tanner acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year:

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at each of the 10 Methodist Churches and one Local Ecumenical Partnership in its geographical area. These are open to all people, without charge.

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The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.

The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.

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"Messy Church" operates monthly at Marlborough Road and Hinton and continues to grow.

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Structure, Governance and Management

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- Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting, the Circuit Finance and Property Committee and the Circuit Policy Committee.

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 Northampton Methodist District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Adderbury (<i>Closed</i>)	Chacombe
Marlborough Road	Grimsbury (<i>Closed</i>)
Cropredy	Middleton Cheney (<i>closed</i>)
Easington	St. Francis (LEP)
Greatworth	The Fairway
Hinton	Shipston on Stour
Hornton	Wiggington

Organisations with specific linkage.

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Risk Management

Risks are identified and recorded by the Circuit Leadership Team with professional advice taken as required.

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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.

The circuit assessment is reviewed annually and is currently based on membership figures within the local churches. The budget for the 2023/24 financial year has been set at £181,350k. Therefore the Circuit aims to hold approx. £91k. The reason for this is threefold:- **(i)** The Circuit needs around one month's average expenditure in reserve as working capital to cover normal running costs. **(ii)** The circuit is dependent upon local churches to pay their assessment each quarter. In the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches the reserves funds will ensure that that District/Connexional assessment, stipends, salaries and other commitments are met as they fall due. **(iii)** To ensure the circuit can meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses or other circuit managed property.

In addition, currently the Circuit is also holding (unrestricted funds) monies for mission, outreach and redevelopment projects across the circuit.

Safeguarding Policy:

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

The Banbury 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.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

BANBURY CIRCUIT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2024**

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

CIRCUIT NO 23/05

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1135376

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

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

Ministers:

Rev David Alderman

Rev Phil Robinson

Circuit Stewards:

David Miles

Treasurer:

Miss Mary Tanner

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

SECTION A		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
			£	£	£	£	£
A1	RECEIPTS						
A2	Assessment or Share		113,380	0	0	113,380	123,873
A3	Capital Receipts		0	0	0	0	0
A4	Interest		937	7,574	0	8,511	9,829
A5	Grants		0	0	0	0	0
A6	Other receipts		26,091	(6)	0	26,055	10,158
A7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		140,398	7,568	0	147,966 (a)	143,860
SECTION B							
B1	PAYMENTS						
B2	Stipends, salaries & costs		141,600	0	0	141,600	119,620
B3	Manse Costs		14,707	0	0	14,707	10,218
B4	Admin (phone/travel)		10,518	678	0	11,196	11,377
B5	District Assessment		43,555	0	0	43,555	38,281
B6	Grants & donations		16,726	0	0	16,726	300
B7	District Advance Fund		0	9,390	0	9,390	18,888
B8	Other payments		12,697	11	63,226	75,934	11,981
B9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		239,803	10,079	63,226	313,108 (b)	269,765
SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YE (a7-b9)		(99,405)	(2,511)	(63,226)	(165,142)	(65,805)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		72,415	278,838	0	351,253 (c5)	417,067
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	(26,990)	276,327	(63,226)	166,111	351,253
c4	Transfers and adjustments					0 (c7)	0
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)		(26,990)	276,327	(63,226)	166,111 (c8)	351,253 (c8)
SECTION D							
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)						
d1	Balance brought forward from last year					0	0
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations					0	0
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations					0	0
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)					0	0

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

Signature of Treasurer Date

Name

Address

Presentation to the *Circuit Meeting for approval.

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

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Circuit

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below*):

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


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

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate

(3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

* Please circle as appropriate

Name	Joanna Watson
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	CIMA
Address	Vandyplank House, 9 High Street, Long Buckby, Northants, NN6 7RE
Date	1st February 2025

BANBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1135376

Accounts



Circuit Annual report 2022-2023

Introduction

Activities during the year

The circuit welcomed Rev Phil Robinson as the new second (probationer) Minister in September 2022. Mrs Cate Voke also joined the staff team as Children & families worker, on a 23 month fix term contract.

- Each church continues to provide pastoral care to their members and others beyond the church family.
- The Preachers and Leaders of Worship have met over the year. These meetings have involved business, fellowship and personal development.
- Safeguarding and EDI training was rolled out during the year for Office holders and volunteers.
- The Circuit Leadership Team have met throughout the year to discuss the vision for the circuit, to provide direction to the circuit and to deal with business between each Circuit Meeting.
- Local Church stewards and Treasurers met to discuss the circuit assessments and finances.
- The Circuit monthly "Circuit Services" included inviting special preachers and having lunch together. (e.g. Aldersgate Sunday with Rev Mandy Briggs Education Officer, Bristol New Room)
- The Circuit continues to develop online services from Marlborough Road Church, between 30 – 50 people engage each week.
- Approval was given to Hinton Chapel to upgrade its premises and remove pews. The Conservation Officer was consulted and a District grant obtained to help fund the project.

Aims and organisation

"The Banbury Methodist Circuit encourages, enables and supports its churches to respond to God's love in Christ in their communities, through worship, mission and service."

The Circuit invites and supports both lay volunteers and ordained ministers and enables them in their work. As a result, the Circuit provides spiritual and governance guidance to the Methodist congregations throughout the Banbury area.

Brief financial review of the year

- Circuit Policy Document - Work continues to update this document as required to reflect the current structure and aspirations of the Circuit post covid.
- Fixed Assets – We aim to dispose of land and buildings no longer required by the Circuit. We continue to explore what happens with Middleton Cheney Church. Grimsbury Methodist Church gave notice to "Ceased to Meet" we are waiting to see how best the property can be used or sold.
- The circuit reviewed and adjusted the way Assessments were allocated to each church.
- The circuit continues draws on its reserves to help churches meet their assessments.

Income trends

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches. The rental income relates to the rental of a manse £8,969.00.

Expenditure trends

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with The Methodist Conference approved increases amounting to £77,622.00, plus expenses.

£88,413.00 of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion assessment, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

The other expenditure includes Manses repairs/costs, Mission outreach and Lay employees.

Financial support of local churches finances.

Church refurbishment grants

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2023 the net current assets of the Circuit were £351,253k.

The Circuit Model Trust Fund derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes. The Circuit Leadership team has drawn up a set of ground rules, which have been accepted by the Circuit Meeting, to ensure grants made from the Circuit Model Trust Fund are used effectively for mission and capital works. Currently money is being held for refurbishment projects at Hinton Methodist Church and Marlborough Road. Funds have been released to fund the Circuit Children & Families worker.

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remains 2 full time ordained staff and 1 Children & Families Worker with anticipated cost of living stipend/Salary increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district such that on average a 5% assessment increase has been requested from the circuit churches.

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 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102

Full Name of Charity: Banbury Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1135376

Date of registration 7th April 2010 (Previously exempted registration)

Main communication address: 1 Waller Drive Banbury OX16 9NS

The members of the Banbury Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the Local Church Managing Trustees.

Fully membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

"Circuit Ministers and officers"

Active Circuit Ministers Rev David Alderman

Rev Philip Robinson

Rev Chris Gaynor

Circuit Lay Staff Mrs Cate Vokes (Children & Families Worker)

Administrator: Ms Clare Taylor

Circuit Stewards Mrs Janet Jones

Mrs Mary Tanner acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year:

Independent examiner Joanna Watson CIMA
Vandyplank House,
9 High Street, Long Buckby, Northants, NN6 7RE

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

General Banking: Barclays Bank (Banbury Branch)

Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a Resource Provider within the area around Banbury 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 organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike. The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure regular acts of worship take place at each of the 10 Methodist Churches and one Local Ecumenical Partnership in its geographical area. These are open to all people, without charge.

The Circuit is directly involved with plans to provide a chaplaincy service in Banbury town centre.

The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.

The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.

Taking religious assemblies in local schools, through "Open the Book".

Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.

"Messy Church" operates monthly at Marlborough Road and Hinton and continues to grow.

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 Methodist conference (CPD).
- Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting, the Circuit Finance and Property Committee and the Circuit Policy Committee.

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 Northampton Methodist District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

Adderbury	Hornton
Chacombe	Marlborough Road
Cropredy	Middleton Cheney
Easington	St. Francis (LEP)
Greatworth	The Fairway
Hinton	Shipston on Stour
	Wiggington

Organisations with specific linkage.

Banbury Christians Together – Membership fees are paid by the circuit rather than by individual churches, supporting the following ecumenical projects:

- Banbury Chaplaincy
- Banbury Street Pastors
- Banbury Food Bank

Risk Management

Risks are identified and recorded by the Circuit Leadership Team with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded, the circuit has introduced a "risk matrix"

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Adopted the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy and is ensuring it compliance across the churches.

No safeguarding contracts were in place during the past year. The circuit is aware of an ongoing police investigation in one of the villages where the local church is involved in by association, but there is no risk to congregations or reputation. The District Safeguarding Officer is aware and offered advice.

The circuit office ensured GDPR compliance across the Circuit conforming to the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes requirements.

Circuit Policies are now posted on the Banbury Circuit Website (www.banburycircuit.org.uk) and are regularly updated.

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.

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**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

BANBURY CIRCUIT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2023**

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

CIRCUIT NO 23/05

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1135376

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

Ministers:

Rev David Alderman

Rev Phil Robinson

Circuit Stewards:

Mrs Janet Jones

Mrs Cate Vokes

Treasurer:

Miss Mary Tanner

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

SECTION A		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
A1	RECEIPTS		£	£	£	£	£
A2	Assessment or Share		123,973	0	0	123,973	124,869
A3	Capital Receipts		0	0	0	0	0
A4	Interest		590	9,239	0	9,829	2,046
A5	Grants		0	0	0	0	0
A6	Other receipts		9,808	350	0	10,158	9,580
A7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		134,371	9,589	0	143,960 (a8)	136,495

SECTION B		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
B1	PAYMENTS						
B2	Stipends, salaries & costs		119,620	0	0	119,620	122,201
B3	Manse Costs		10,218	0	0	10,218	63,890
B4	Admin (phone/travel)		10,327	1,050	0	11,377	12,926
B5	District Assessment		38,281	0	0	38,281	36,289
B6	Grants & donations		300	0	0	300	6,500
B7	District Advance Fund		0	18,888	0	18,888	30,112
B8	Other payments		11,070	11	0	11,081	26,360
B9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		183,816	19,949	0	203,765 (b9)	297,978

SECTION C		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YE	(a7-b8)	(59,445)	(10,360)	0	(69,805)	(161,483)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		7,860	409,206	0	417,067 (c5)	578,550
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	(47,585)	398,847	0	351,262	417,067
c4	Transfers and adjustments		129,000	(129,000)	0	(0) (c7)	0
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	72,415	278,838	0	351,253 (c8)	417,067 (c8)

SECTION D		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)						
d1	Balance brought forward from last year					0	0
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations					0	0
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations					0	0
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)					0	0

BANBURY CIRCUIT

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 and 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. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances	
e1			0			0	
e2			0			0	
e3			0			0	
e4			0			0	
e5			0			0	
e6			0			0	
e7			0			0	
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0	0	0	0 (e11)	0 (e12)	
e9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	143,960 (a8)	209,765 (b9)	65,805	(9) (c7)	417,067 (c6)	351,253 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	143,960	209,765	65,805	(9)	417,067 (x)	351,253 (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2022

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	0	0
f2	19,141	95,252
f3	0	0
f4	25,719	14,169
f5	372,207	241,833
f6		
f7	417,067 (c6)	351,253 (c8)
f8	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
f9	417,067 (x)	351,253 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1		
g2	2,366,255	2,400,000
g3		
g4		
g5		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

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

Signature of Treasurer

M E Tanner

Date

22/09/2023

Name

Miss Mary Tanner

Address

16 Guardian Court, Duke Street, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 4NL

Presentation to the *Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on

21/03/2024

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Rev David Alderman

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev David Alderman

Date

21/03/2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Banbury Methodist Circuit

Circuit

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2023

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

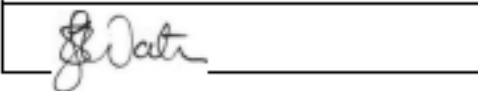
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below*):

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate

- (3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

* Please circle as appropriate

Name	Joanna Watson
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	CIMA
Address	Vandyplank House, 9 High Street, Long Buckby, Northants, NN6 7RE
Date	2nd January 2024

BANBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1135376

Accounts



Circuit Annual report 2021 - 2022

Introduction

Activities during the year

The circuit welcomed Rev David Alderman as the new Superintendent Minister in September 2021. The Rev Steve Swann and Mrs Swann gave notice that they would be leaving the circuit in August 2022.

- Each church has provided pastoral care to their members and others beyond the church family.
- The Preachers and Leaders of Worship have met over the year. These meetings have involved business, fellowship and personal development.
- The Circuit Leadership Team have met throughout the year to discuss the vision for the circuit, to provide direction to the circuit and to deal with business between each Circuit Meeting.
- Local Church stewards and Treasurers met to discuss the circuit assessments and finances.
- The Circuit has introduced monthly "Circuit Services" to help with the Sunday plan. These coming together services will be developed over the coming year.
- The Circuit gathered together on Easter Sunday afternoon as part of the District "Love is..." initiative with prayer stations and afternoon tea.
- Most Congregations have returned to our churches, but are still able to access online services from Marlborough Road Church.

Aims and organisation

"The Banbury Methodist Circuit encourages, enables and supports its churches to respond to God's love in Christ in their communities, through worship, mission and service."

The Circuit invites and supports both lay volunteers and ordained ministers and enables them in their work. As a result, the Circuit provides spiritual and governance guidance to the Methodist congregations throughout the Banbury area.

Brief financial review of the year

- Circuit Policy Document - Work continues to updated this document as required to reflect the current structure and aspirations of the Circuit post covid.
- Fixed Assets – We aim to dispose of land and buildings no longer required by the Circuit. We continue to explore what happens with Middleton Cheney Church
- The circuit reviewed and adjusted the way Assessments were allocated to each church.
- The circuit continues draws on its reserves to give each church a quarter reduction (Covid recovery) in their assessments to help local church cash flow.

Income trends

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches. The rental income relates to the rental of a manse £9,934.00

Expenditure trends

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved

increases amounting to £73,048.00, plus expenses.
£66,401 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 other expenditure includes Manses repairs/costs, Mission outreach and Lay employees.
Post Covid 19 Support for churches continues (reduction in local church assessments)
Church refurbishment grants

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2022 the net current assets of the Circuit were £578,550k.

The Circuit Model Trust Fund derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes. The Circuit Leadership team has drawn up a set of ground rules, which have been accepted by the Circuit Meeting, to ensure grants made from the Circuit Model Trust Fund are used effectively for mission and capital works. Currently money is being held for refurbishment projects at Hinton Methodist Church and Marlborough Road. Funds have been released to fund the Circuit Children & families worker.

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there remains 2 full time ordained staff and 1 Children & Families Worker with anticipated cost of living stipend/Salary increases combined with an increase in the assessment paid to the district such that on average a 1.2% assessment increase has been requested from the circuit churches.

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 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102

Full Name of Charity: Banbury Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1135376

Date of registration 7th April 2010 (Previously exempted registration)

Main communication address: 1 Waller Drive Banbury OX16 9NS

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

Fully membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

"Circuit Ministers and officers"

Active Circuit Ministers Rev David Alderman

Rev Steve Swann

Rev Chris Gaynor

Circuit Lay Staff Mrs Julie Swann (Children & Families Worker)

Administrator: Ms Clare Taylor

Circuit Stewards Mrs Janet Jones

Mrs Cate Voke

Mrs Mary Tanner acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the circuit during the year:

Independent examiner Joanna Watson CIMA
Vandyplank House,
9 High Street, Long Buckby, Northants, NN6 7RE

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Trustees for Methodist Church purposes

General Banking: Barclays Bank (Banbury Branch)

Aims and organisation

Charity objective is to act as a Resource Provider within the area around Banbury for the Methodist Church:

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- 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 organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non members alike. The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure regular acts of worship take place at each of the 11 Methodist Churches and one Local Ecumenical Partnership in its geographical area. These are open to all people, without charge.

The Circuit is directly involved with plans to provide a chaplaincy service in Banbury town centre .

- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools, through "Open the Book".
- Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.

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 Methodist conference (CPD).
- Day to day management of the circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting, the Circuit Finance and Property Committee and the Circuit Policy Committee.

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 Northampton Methodist District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the circuit:

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Greatworth	Shipston on Stour
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Organisations with specific linkage.

Banbury Christians Together – Membership fees are paid by the circuit rather than by individual churches, supporting the following ecumenical projects:

- Banbury Chaplaincy
- Banbury Street Pastors
- Banbury Food Bank

Risk Management

Risks are identified and recorded by the Circuit Leadership Team with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded, the circuit has introduced a "risk matrix"

Income and Expenditure is being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Adopted the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy and is ensuring it compliance across the churches.

No safeguarding contracts were in place during the past year.

The circuit office ensured GDPR compliance across the Circuit.

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.

The circuit assessment is reviewed annually and is currently based on membership figures within the local churches. The budget for the 2021/22 financial year has been set at £151.000. Therefore the Circuit aims to hold approx. £76K. The reason for this is threefold:- (i) The Circuit needs around one month's average expenditure in reserve as working capital to cover normal running costs. (ii) The circuit is dependent upon local churches to pay their assessment each quarter. In the event of any inability to raise the full Circuit Assessment from churches the reserves funds will ensure that that District/Connexional assessment, stipends, salaries and other commitments are met as they fall due. (iii) To ensure the circuit can meet any unforeseen item of major expenditure on manses or other circuit managed property.

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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.

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

The Banbury 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.

CIRCUIT
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
ACCOUNTS

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

BANBURY CIRCUIT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2022**

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT	CIRCUIT NO 23/05
---------------------------------------	-------------------------

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1135376

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

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

Ministers:

Rev David Alderman
Rev Steve Swann

Circuit Stewards:

Mrs Janet Jones
Mrs Cate Vokes

Treasurer:

Miss Mary Tanner

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

SECTION A		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
A1 RECEIPTS			£	£	£	£	£
A2	Assessment or Share		124,869	0	0	124,869	95,818
A3	Capital Receipts		0	0	0	0	109,162
A4	Interest		114	1,932	0	2,046	1,975
A5	Grants		0	0	0	0	0
A6	Other receipts		9,563.10	17	0	9,580	133,532
A7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		134,546	1,949	0	136,495 (a8)	340,487

SECTION B							
B1 PAYMENTS							
B2	Stipends, salaries & costs		122,201	0	0	122,201	125,261
B3	Manse Costs		63,590	0	0	63,590	15,889
B4	Admin (phone/travel)		11,449	1,477	0	12,926	16,389
B5	District Assessment		36,289	0	0	36,289	30,071
B6	Grants & donations		6,500	0	0	6,500	6,681
B7	District Advance Fund		0	30,112	0	30,112	27,442
B8	Other payments		26,349	11	0	26,360	62,553
B9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		266,378	31,600	0	297,978 (b9)	284,286

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YE	(a7-b8)					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YE		(131,832)	(29,651)	0	(161,483)	56,201
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		19,691	558,857		578,550 (c5)	522,349
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	(112,140)	529,206	0	417,067	578,550
c4	Transfers and adjustments		128,000	(128,000)		0 (c7)	0
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	7,860	401,206	0	417,067 (c8)	578,550 (c6)

SECTION D					
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS				
(these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)					
d1	Balance brought forward from last year			0	0
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			0	184
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			0	184
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)			0	0

BANBURY CIRCUIT

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 and 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. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1			0			0
e2			0			0
e3			0			0
e4			0			0
e5			0			0
e6			0			0
e7			0			0
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0	0	0	0	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
e9 Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	136,495 (a8)	297,978 (b8)	161,483	0 (c7)	578,550 (c6)	417,067 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	136,495	297,978	161,483	0	578,550 (x)	417,067 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2022

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	0	0
f2 Bank Current Account	45,109	19,141
f3 Bank Deposit Account	0	0
f4 Central Finance Board	11,584	25,719
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	521,857	372,207
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	578,550 (c6)	417,067 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	578,550 (x)	417,067 (y)

SECTION G
OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,237,883	2,366,255
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

H Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
 I5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
 g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line I5)

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

Signature of Treasurer

M E Tanner

Date

14/09/2022

Name

Miss Mary Tanner

Address

16 Guardian Court, Duke Street, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 4NL

Presentation to the *Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on

23/03/2023

and were approved.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Rev David Alderman

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev David Alderman

Date

23/03/2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Banbury Methodist Circuit

Circuit

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2022

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

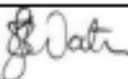
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate

- (3) I have not obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

* Please circle as appropriate

Name	Joanna Watson
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	CIMA
Address	Vandyplank House, 9 High Street, Long Buckby, Northants, NN6 7RE
Date	24th January 2023

BANBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1135376

Accounts



Circuit Annual report 2020-21

Introduction

Activities during the year

COVID-19 Pandemic during 2020, forced the closure of all our buildings for part of the year. Whilst this has been challenging worship continued through the regular posting and emailing of "Worship at home" services that could be used in people's homes. The Circuit continues to provide weekly sheets to those who feel unable to attend public worship. Online worship was established at Marlborough Road Church using video conferences and pre-recorded material made available on YouTube. A plan to continue and develop this digital ministry after the pandemic has been established. Pastoral care continued by phone and letter and via Zoom coffee mornings.

The circuit welcomed Shipston on Stour and Wigginton Methodist Churches into the family of churches of the Banbury Circuit.

- Each church has provided pastoral care to their members and others beyond the church family.
- The Preachers and Leaders of Worship have met over the year. These meetings have involved business, fellowship and personal development.
- The Circuit Leadership Team have met throughout the year to discuss the vision for the circuit, to provide direction to the circuit and to deal with business between each Circuit Meeting.
- A new Superintendent Minister has been appointed from 1st September 2021.

Aims and organisation

"The Banbury Methodist Circuit encourages, enables and supports its churches to respond to God's love in Christ in their communities, through worship, mission and service."

The Circuit invites and supports both lay volunteers and ordained ministers and enables them in their work. As a result, the Circuit provides spiritual and governance guidance to the Methodist congregations throughout the Banbury area.

Brief financial review of the year

- Circuit Policy Document – This is to be reviewed in 2022 (after the appointment of the new Superintendent minister) and will updated as required to reflect the current structure and aspirations of the Circuit post covid.
- Fixed Assets – We aim to dispose of land and buildings no longer required by the Circuit. Work is well on its way to dispose of Middleton Cheney Church
- The circuit draw on its reserves to give each church a quarter reduction (Covid holiday) in their assessments to help local church cash flow, with the loss of hire income.

Income trends

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches.
The rental income relates to the rental of a manse £9,934.00 and income generated from Circuit merger with Chipping Norton & Stour Circuit (Shipton on Stour & Wigginton Methodist Churches)

Expenditure trends

Stipend expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved `increases amounting to £73,048.00, plus expenses.
£95,818.00 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 other expenditure includes Manses repairs/costs, Mission outreach and Lay employees.
Covid 19 Support for churches (reduction in local church assessments).
Church refurbishment grants.

Fund balances

As at 31 August 2021 the net current assets of the Circuit were £578,550k.

Monies held in *the Circuit Model Trust Fund* derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes. The Circuit Leadership team has drawn up a set of ground rules, which have been accepted by the Circuit Meeting, to ensure grants made from the Circuit Model Trust Fund are used effectively for mission and capital works. Currently money is being held for refurbishment projects at Hinton Methodist Church and Marlborough Road. Funds have been released to fund the Circuit Children & families worker.

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Plans for 2021-22

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- 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 Banbury Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of The Methodist Connexional Safeguarding Policy; Safer recruitment policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Banbury 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.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS**

BANBURY CIRCUIT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2021**

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

CIRCUIT NO 23/05

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1135376

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

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

Ministers:

Rev Lin Francis

Rev Steve Swann

Circuit Stewards:

Mrs Janet Jones

Mrs Cate Vokes

Treasurer:

Miss Mary Tanner

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

SECTION A		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
A1	RECEIPTS		£	£	£	£	£
A2	Assessment or Share		95,818	0	0	95,818	114,223
A3	Capital Receipts		0	109,162	0	109,162	152,612
A4	Interest		26	1,949	0	1,975	4,043
A5	Grants		0	0	0	0	0
A6	Other receipts		40,055	93,466	0	133,532	7,848
A7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		135,919	204,577	0	340,487 (a8)	278,726

SECTION B							
B1	PAYMENTS						
B2	Stipends, salaries & costs		125,261	0	0	125,261	110,764
B3	Manse Costs		15,889	0	0	15,889	8,000
B4	Admin (phone/travel)		15,424	965	0	16,389	6,373
B5	District Assessment		30,071	0	0	30,071	18,539
B6	Grants & donations		4,681	2,000	0	6,681	300
B7	District Advance Fund		0	27,442	0	27,442	23,384
B8	Other payments		39,683	22,870	0	62,553	56,836
B9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		231,009	53,277	0	284,286 (b9)	224,196

SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YE	(a7-b8)	(95,099)	151,300	0	56,201	54,530
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		2,790	519,557	0	522,348 (c6)	467,818
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	(92,309)	670,857	0	578,549	522,348
c4	Transfers and adjustments		112,000	(112,000)		0 (c7)	0
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	19,691	558,857	0	578,549 (c8)	522,348 (c8)

SECTION D					
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS				
	(these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)				
d1	Balance brought forward from last year			0	0
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations			(184)	0
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations			(184)	0
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)			0	0

BANBURY CIRCUIT

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page.

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 and 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. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1			0			0
e2			0			0
e3			0			0
e4			0			0
e5			0			0
e6			0			0
e7			0			0
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0	0	0	0	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
e9 Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	348,487 (a8)	284,286 (b8)	(56,201)	0 (c7)	522,348 (c6)	578,549 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	348,487	284,286	(56,201)	0	522,348 (x)	578,549 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

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

SECTION F
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2019

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	0	0
f2 Bank Current Account	38,828	45,109
f3 Bank Deposit Account	0	0
f4 Central Finance Board	963	11,584
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	482,557	521,857
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	522,348 (c6)	578,550 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	522,348 (x)	578,550 (y)

SECTION G
OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2020
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,237,883	2,179,575
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

M Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

F5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

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

Signature of Treasurer Date

Name

Address

Presentation to the *Circuit Meeting for approval.

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

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Circuit

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~):

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

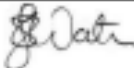
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate*

(3) I ~~have~~/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

** Please circle as appropriate*

Name	Joanna Watson
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	CIMA
Address	Vandyplank House, 9 High Street, Long Buckby, Northants, NN6 7RE
Date	29th October 2021

BANBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1135376

Accounts



Banbury Methodist Circuit
(Registered Charity No: 1135376)

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
AUGUST 2020**

Address for Correspondence:

Superintendent Minister:

Revd Lin Francis

1 Waller Drive, Banbury, Oxfordshire, OX16 9NS

Independent Examiner:

Ms Joanna Watson CIMA

Vandyplank House, 9, High Street, Long Buckby, Northants NN6 7RE

THE SHAPE OF THE BANBURY METHODIST CIRCUIT

The Banbury Methodist Circuit is the umbrella support for eleven Methodist churches (one Local Ecumenical Partnership) straddling the two counties of Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire.

The churches are situated in Banbury and in the villages which surround the town. The churches are:

- Adderbury
- Chacombe
- Cropredy
- Easington
- Fairway
- Greatworth
- Grimsbury
- Hinton
- Horton
- Marlborough Road
- Middleton Cheney
- St Francis (LEP)

Middleton Cheney ceased to worship and therefore closed on 24th March 2019

During the year, there have been two full-time presbyters, eight supernumerary ministers (four of them active), and eleven local preachers, serving the worship of the circuit. In addition, we had a full-time Children & Families Worker and a part-time Administrator.

OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT READS:

The purpose of the Banbury Methodist Circuit is to support, enable and encourage our churches in worship, learning and caring, service and faith-sharing.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR

- During the year 2019/2020 there have been 354 Sunday services held across the Circuit. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic 22 have been Circuit Services on zoom.
- There have been two Circuit Services at Marlborough Road, the aim of which is to bring the Circuit together and provide our smaller chapels with a sense of belonging to something bigger.

- There have been 28 midweek Communion Services held on Thursday mornings.
- Bible Studies and Fellowship have been held across the Circuit churches, especially during the periods of Advent and Lent.
- There have been significant numbers of "ecumenical" services in the villages as regular arrangements for shared worship have continued.
- Each church has provided pastoral care to their members and others beyond the church family.
- The Preachers and Leaders of Worship have met on four occasions over the year. These meetings have involved business, fellowship and personal development.
- The Circuit Leadership Team have met on several occasions throughout the year to discuss the vision for the circuit, to provide direction to the circuit and to deal with business between each Circuit Meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis. The Circuit's total income for the year 2019-20 was £278,726.

Expenditure for the year was £224,196.

During the year, income minus expenditure £54,530.

The reserves policy for 2019-20 set out the Circuit's plans for use of all funds carried forward from 2018-19 and includes investment in resources for mission.

It is anticipated that income will exceed expenditure in 2020-21 because we will be selling one Church Property. In the longer term, the Circuit is taking steps to develop plans for church growth.

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

BANBURY CIRCUIT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2020

NORTHAMPTON METHODIST DISTRICT

CIRCUIT NO 23/05

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1135376

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

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

Ministers:

Rev Lin Francis

Rev Steve Swann

Circuit Stewards:

Mrs Janet Jones

Mrs Cate Vokes

Treasurer:

Miss Mary Tanner

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

SECTION A		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
A1	RECEIPTS		£	£	£	£	£
A2	Assessment or Share		114,223	0	0	114,223	112,041
A3	Capital Receipts		0	152,612	0	152,612	0
A4	Interest		91	3,952	0	4,043	3,571
A5	Grants		0	0	0	0	0
A6	Other receipts		7,848	0	0	7,848	44,655
A7	TOTAL RECEIPTS		122,162	156,564	0	278,726 (a8)	160,267

SECTION B		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
B1	PAYMENTS		£	£	£	£	£
B2	Stipends, salaries & costs		110,764	0	0	110,764	115,718
B3	Manse Costs		8,000	0	0	8,000	8,605
B4	Admin (phone/travel)		5,516	857	0	6,373	3,949
B5	District Assessment		18,539	0	0	18,539	33,860
B6	Grants & donations		0	300	0	300	0
B7	District Advance Fund		0	23,384	0	23,384	0
B8	Other payments		15,911	40,925	0	56,836	14,660
B9	TOTAL PAYMENTS		158,730	65,466	0	224,196 (b9)	176,792

SECTION C		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YE (a7-b8)		(36,568)	91,098	0	54,530	(16,525)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		39,358	428,459	0	467,818 (c6)	484,343
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)		2,790	519,557	0	522,348	467,818
c4	Transfers and adjustments		37,000	(37,000)	0	0 (c7)	0
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)		39,790	482,557	0	522,348 (c8)	467,818 (c6)

SECTION D		Note	General unrestricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund (m)	Restricted Funds (r)	Totals this year	Totals last year
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)						
d1	Balance brought forward from last year					0	0
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations					0	300
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations					0	300
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)					0	0

BANBURY CIRCUIT

SUMMARY OF CIRCUIT ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION REPORTING TO THE CIRCUIT MEETING

SECTION E Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 and 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. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances	
c1			0			0	
c2			0			0	
c3			0			0	
c4			0			0	
c5			0			0	
c6			0			0	
c7			0			0	
c8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	0	0	0	0 (e11)	0 (e12)	
c9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	278,726 (a8)	224,196 (b9)	(54,530)	0 (c7)	467,818 (c6)	522,348 (c8)
c10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	278,726	224,196	(54,530)	0	467,818 (x)	522,348 (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2019

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	0	0
f2 Bank Current Account	11,314	38,828
f3 Bank Deposit Account	0	0
f4 Central Finance Board	28,044	963
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	428,459	482,557
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL	467,818 (e6)	522,348 (e8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance totals above) (e12)	0 (e11)	0 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	467,818 (x)	522,348 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2019
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land and Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,179,575	1,798,517
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
 f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
 g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

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

Signature of Treasurer Date

Name

Address

Presentation to the *Circuit Meeting for approval.

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

Unaudited went to the Circuit Meeting 16-9-20

The audited accounts will be presented on 16-3-21

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Circuit

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below*):

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

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

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate

(3) I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

* Please circle as appropriate

Name

Signature

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Address

Date



Banbury Methodist Circuit

Circuit Reserves Policy 2020-2021

This document sets out our reserves policy for all the funds held by the Circuit Meeting as charity trustees. It includes the Circuit Model Trust Fund which is no longer classified as a restricted fund.

Aim

1. To secure and sustain the Circuit's financial viability and future.
2. To give reassurance that the Circuit, which is a charity, intends to use all of the money coming into its care for the purposes of the charity.

Three step process

1. **Mission Statement**

The Circuit's Mission Statement is "The Banbury Methodist Circuit encourages, enables and supports its churches to respond to God's love in Christ in their communities, through worship, mission and service." And was approved at the Circuit Meeting in September 2020.

2. **Financial plans**

The circuit assessment is reviewed annually and is currently based on membership figures within the local churches. The budget for the current financial year has been set at £139,820.

3. **Reserves Policy**

The total funds in hand at the opening of the current financial year were £522,348. This figure includes the Model Trust Fund balance.

The Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its ministers, maintenance of the manses & disused Chapels and all costs of running the Circuit.

The table below summarises the Circuit's intended use of its total funds for the year 2020/21, amounting to £522,348 at 31 August 2020.

(The funds available at 31 August 2019 were £467,818)

Reserves available:	£522,348
General reserve to cover contingencies	112,098
Subsidy to general funds	25,000
Maintenance and decorating Manses	16,000
Development work	70,000
Disposal by sale of Middleton Cheney	15,000
Lay Employees	180,952
Middleton Cheney running costs	6,000
New technology	6,000
Training	7,000
Hinton Development Project	84,298
TOTAL	£522,348