

# THE METHODIST CHURCH

## STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Lowestoft and East Suffolk	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 AUGUST 2023**

East Anglia	District	Circuit no	14/7
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**Registered Charity - Charity Registration number**

1135624

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)

Ministers:

Rev Martin Keenan
Deacon Linda Kinchenton

Circuit Stewards:

Rev R Soanes


Treasurer:

Rev R Soanes

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Name of Circuit

Lowestoft and East Suffolk

Circuit No  
14-07

## Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

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Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2022/23 £	Totals 2021/22 £
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## Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	660,636					660,636	821,789
Investment properties	1,405,380					1,405,380	1,426,121
Investments						0	
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	<b>2,066,016</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,066,016</b>	<b>2,247,910</b>

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## Current Assets

Debtors						0	
Loans by the Circuit	3,292					3,292	4,073
Investments with TMCP		475,193		130,112		605,305	317,262
Central Finance Board Deposits	60,559					60,559	26,397
Cash at Bank and in hand	30,098					30,098	49,429
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>93,949</b>	<b>475,193</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>130,112</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>699,254</b>	<b>397,161</b>

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## Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)						0	
Grants payable within 2022-23						0	
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net current assets/liabilities</b>	<b>93,949</b>	<b>475,193</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>130,112</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>699,254</b>	<b>397,161</b>

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<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>2,159,965</b>	<b>475,193</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>130,112</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,765,270</b>	<b>2,645,071</b>
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## Long term liabilities

(due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23						0	
Loans to the Circuit						0	
						0	
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>2,159,965</b>	<b>475,193</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>130,112</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,765,270</b>	<b>2,645,071</b>

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## Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)	2,159,965					2,159,965	2,327,809
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)		475,193				475,193	190,204
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			0			0	
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>						<b>2,635,158</b>	<b>2,518,013</b>
Restricted Funds				130,112		130,112	127,058
Endowment Funds					0	0	
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>2,159,965</b>	<b>475,193</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>130,112</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,765,270</b>	<b>2,645,071</b>

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Signed

Circuit Treasurer

Rev K. Soames

Name of Circuit

Lowestoft and East Suffolk

Circuit No

14-07

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

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022-23 £
<b>Income</b>							
1 Donations and legacies							0
2 Income from monetary investments		1,625	9,427		4,072		15,123
3 Income from investment properties		9,072					9,072
4 Assessments on Churches		116,926					116,926
5 Capital Receipts			442,723				442,723
6 Grants received							0
7 Other charitable income		10,289					10,289
8 <b>Total Income</b>		<b>137,911</b>	<b>452,150</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,072</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>594,133</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>							
9 Grants and donations		2,079					2,079
10 Salaries and associated costs		86,850					86,850
11 Property maintenance		6,044					6,044
12 Connexional assessment & model trust levy			136,842		362		137,003
13 District Assessment & Levy		29,396					29,396
14 Depreciation							0
15 Office expenses		3,170					3,170
16 Other outgoings		26,865					26,865
17 <b>Total charitable expenditure</b>		<b>154,404</b>	<b>136,842</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>291,407</b>
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments							0
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties							
20 <b>Net Income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>-16,493</b>	<b>315,508</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>302,726</b>
21 Transfers between funds		31,324	30,519		657		148
22 Other gains/(losses)							
23 <b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>14,831</b>	<b>284,989</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,054</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>302,874</b>
24 Total funds brought forward		75,826	190,203		127,058		393,087
25 <b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>90,657</b>	<b>475,192</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>130,112</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>695,962</b>

Name of Circuit ...Lowestoft and East Suffolk ..... No.....14/07.....

## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer .....  ..... Date...26.10.23

Name and address of treasurer ...Rev Robert Soanes  
7 Dene Rd Lowestoft Suffolk.....  
Post Code.....NR32 4QE.....

### Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 will \* be presented to the Circuit meeting held on: ...March 21st 2024.....

Signature of the Chair of the meeting: .....  .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting: ..... REV M. KEENAN ..... Date 21/3/24 .....

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Lowestoft And East Suffolk Methodist Circuit

Charity Number ...1135624.....

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the ...Lowestoft and East Suffolk Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 1 to 4 .  
As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

\* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit .....Lowestoft and East Suffolk Methodist Circuit No 14/07....

### Independent Examiner's Statement

[The Circuit's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN ENGLAND (insert name of applicable listed body)]. Delete [ ] if not applicable. AND WALS

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Signature of independent examiner R M

Name of independent examiner: RICHARD SULLIVAN

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: FCA

Name of firm (where appropriate): BARNARD JAMPSON LLP

Address: 32 QUAY VIEW BUSINESS PARK, BARNARD WAY,

LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK Post Code: NR32 2HD

Date: 8/12/2023

\* delete or circle as appropriate

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FROM 1 SEPTEMBER 2022 TO 31 AUGUST 2023

### ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NAME: LOWESTOFT AND EAST SUFFOLK METHODIST CIRCUIT

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1135624

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS: 8 CORTON ROAD, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK, NR32 4PL

TRUSTEES: THE NAMES OF THE MANAGING TRUSTEES ARE LISTED ON THE CHARITY COMMISSION WEBSITE OR ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE CIRCUIT TREASURER

### AIMS AND ORGANISATION

THE MAIN AIMS OF THE CIRCUIT POLICY ARE:

1. TO COMMISSION AND CHALLENGE OUR CHURCHES TO GROW IN FAITH AND UNDERSTANDING OF GOD AND HIS PURPOSE AND TO MAKE NEW DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.
2. TO EXCEL IN LOCAL AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT, AWARENESS AND OUTREACH, AND TO SEE GROWTH ROOTED IN LOCAL CONGREGATIONS.
3. TO CELEBRATE AND DEVELOP ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS.
4. TO ENABLE EVERYONE, STAFF AND MEMBERS ALIKE, TO REALISE, USE AND STRETCH THEIR GOD-GIVEN GRACES AND SKILLS; AND IN PARTICULAR TO DEVELOP A TEAM APPROACH THAT WILL LIBERATE THE MINISTRY TO EXERCISE THEIR GIFTS ACROSS THE CIRCUIT, EVEN THOUGH THEY WILL RETAIN PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SPECIFIC CHURCHES.
5. TO DRAW OUR CHURCHES CLOSER TOGETHER AS A CIRCUIT FAMILY, SO THAT WE CAN GIVE TRUE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO EACH OTHER.
6. THE CIRCUIT LEADERSHIP TEAM, MEETING REGULARLY EXISTS TO ADVISE THE CIRCUIT MEETING ON MATTERS OF POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT, AND TO SEE THAT THE DECISIONS OF THE CIRCUIT MEETING ARE IMPLEMENTED.

THE CIRCUIT NOW HAS EIGHT CHURCHES, AND ONE CLOSED CHURCH AND WAS SERVED BY ONE FULL-TIME MINISTER AND ONE FULL-TIME DEACON, WHO WERE WELCOMED INTO POST THIS YEAR, WORKING ON A SHARED MINISTRY BASIS SUPPLEMENTED BY ACTIVE SUPERNUMARY MINISTERS AND LAY PREACHERS. THE CIRCUIT ALSO EMPLOYS A LAY WORKER ADMINISTRATOR.

THE CIRCUIT PRODUCES A QUARTERLY PREACHING PLAN TO ENSURE REGULAR ACTS OF WORSHIP TAKE PLACE AT EACH OF THE METHODIST/LEP CHURCHES. THEY ARE OPEN TO ALL PEOPLE WITHOUT CHARGE.

### REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

DISCUSSIONS HAVE CONTINUED ACROSS THE CIRCUIT, AND DECISIONS MADE TO ENSURE THAT ALL CHURCHES ARE NOT UNNECESSARILY BURDENED FINANCIALLY WHILE THE CIRCUIT CONTINUES TO WORK TOWARDS ESTABLISHING A BALANCED BUDGET.

THE NEW MINISTER HAS EXPLORED MISSION POSSIBILITIES AT THE CLOSED PREMISES, AND IS WORKING TOWARDS ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, FOLLOWING ON FROM COVID, INPERSON ACTIVITIES HAVE STARTED TO REBUILD, BUT CONTINUE TO HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON CHURCH FINANCES. CIRCUIT RESERVES HAVE BEEN BOOSTED BY THE SALE OF A MANSE AND A REDUNDANT CHURCH, FIFTY PER CENT OF WHICH HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED FOR MISSION PROJECTS ACROSS THE CIRCUIT.