



# **The Methodist Church**

**Northampton Circuit  
23/13**

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**"The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond  
to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out  
its discipleship in worship and mission"**

**2024 - 2025**

**Registered Charity No 1135635**



## Introduction

This is the Sixteenth annual report produced by the Northampton Methodist Circuit since its registration as a separate charity and aims to share a review of the activities of the Circuit during 2024 – 25 while also meeting all the legal requirements.

## The Vision Statement

The Northampton Methodist Circuit currently consists of two local ecumenical projects and the multi-site Northampton Methodist Church, seeking to be a discipleship movement shaped for mission.

Over the coming years we are intentional about continuing our Stepping Out programme in order to grow as a mission focused Circuit in serving our community. This means that all the resources we have, such as buildings, finances, people, structure and administration, need to be utilised and developed in such a way that they are outgoing and outward facing.

Mission is our key purpose. It is the sharing of the good news of God's love incarnate, through Jesus Christ, in our witness to the community and the wider world.

We will seek to concentrate our prayers, resources, imagination and commitments on this priority, guided by God, to continue our journey together as a Circuit seeking to promote active growth and prioritising the five marks of mission.

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

## Superintendent's letter of Greeting

As the Superintendent Minister, it gives me great pleasure to present the 2024-25 annual report and accounts for the Northampton Methodist Circuit.

The Circuit formally consists of three church bodies:

- Northampton Methodist Church: A multi-site church with eight worshipping communities in and around Northampton and the neighbouring villages.
- The Emmanuel Group of Churches: A Local Ecumenical Partnership (Anglican, Methodist, and Baptist) meeting at three sites in and around Weston Favell, including the shopping centre site.
- Kingsthorpe Community Church: A newly formed Methodist-Baptist LEP, formally recognized in March 2025, meeting on the Baptist site.

Our "Stepping Out" programme remains central to our vision of being a discipleship movement shaped for mission. To further this, we recently ran a Holy Habits Course based on *Making More Disciples*, which has helped us focus on nurturing new believers and growing in faith together. This complements our ongoing work, such as the monthly "One Voice" podcast and our stable attendance in circuit Bible study groups.

Our service to the community has been evident through support for local foodbanks and providing space for the Northampton Hope Centre's winter shelter. I am also pleased to share that we are now registered as an Eco-Circuit. We are actively encouraging all our constituent churches to register as Eco-Churches through the A Rocha movement as we strive to help safeguard the integrity of creation.

We are excited to announce that we have secured funding from the Northampton Methodist District for a Circuit Lay Mission Enabler. This role will focus on developing new and existing work with children, young people, and families. Recruitment will occur in the next connexional year.

As we move forward, we continue to manage our resources intentionally, including the successful sale of the Queensgrove building and planned refurbishments at Harpole scheduled for September 2025 and a future redevelopment project at Park Grove's Abington site, within Northampton Methodist Church. We remain committed to our journey together, seeking to encourage growth and prioritise the marks of mission in all we do.

Yours faithfully,

## **Operational review - A review of our 2024 - 2025 Mission Statement**

Our Circuit Mission statement is based on the Methodist Church commitment to Worship, Service, Evangelism, and Learning & caring. The highlighted statements are our overarching intent and the notes below show our activity during the year.

**WORSHIP**, which seeks to increase awareness of God's presence and celebrates God's love seeking to underpin everything we do in God-centred prayer

Regular worship continued to be resourced and offered at all our worshipping communities with the continued provision of circuit wide services once per quarter. Throughout the year we continued to offer weekly online worship through the Circuit website.

**SERVICE** seeking to be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.,

The year has seen the emergence of several targeted activities offering help and support into our local community specifically support of the various foodbanks and providing one of our Church buildings for use by the Northampton Hope Centre to provide storage so that its main site could be effectively used as an overnight shelter during the winter period. We have actively encouraged development of actions to encourage becoming a carbon neutral church through enrolment in the A Rocha eco church movement.

**EVANGELISM**, which is a call to all people to Christian discipleship, growing in the Christian faith alongside others seeking the same, to talk about God and to serve God in the world

The One Voice Podcast is now being produced in conjunction with the District team each month and has remained a valuable means of sharing the Christian message. There has been a number of activities to encourage youth fellowship whilst the recruitment process commenced to employ a lay worker to support the on going development of work with children and families.

**LEARNING and CARING**, which is equipping and resourcing people for mission and Christian relationships.

The circuit planned bible study groups have continued and attendance has remained stable. There has also been developments in provision of carers and toddlers groups along with encouraging levels of attendance of the various mid-week groups targeted at those over retirement age.

During the year the long-term working relationship between the Methodist and Baptist congregations in Kingsthorpe was formally recognised with formation of Kingsthorpe Community Church a Methodist Baptist LEP. The first stage in consolidation of Church buildings was completed with the successful sale to another Christian Church of the Queensgrove building.

## **Review of and financial position of the Circuit**

The following summary reflects the financial activities of the Circuit for the year, with the previous 3 years provided for comparison: -

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Income</b>				
Assessment contributions from circuit churches	230.3	225.1	228.4	221.0
Other income	5.6	3.8	7.4	148.8
Interest	1.1	6.4	10.1	15.2
Rental income	15.8	1.2	0.0	0.0
<b>Total income</b>	<b>252.8</b>	<b>236.5</b>	<b>245.9</b>	<b>385.0</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Ministerial Stipends	116.1	123.0	123.5	133.0
Lay Workers	19.4	24.5	26.5	28.6
Manse maintenance	11.1	21.0	12.0	5.8
Manse utility costs	19.7	18.3	20.0	15.6
Methodist Church Fund	33.5	24.6	30.9	36.7
District Assessment	6.6	5.6	8.8	9.6
Grants	5.5	2.0	0.0	10.5
Levy	8.9	6.5	101.8	189.2
Wootton running costs	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Depreciation	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Other Expenses	24.7	39.2	28.6	41.1
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>251.6</b>	<b>265.0</b>	<b>352.4</b>	<b>470.4</b>
<b>Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>(28.5)</b>	<b>(106.5)</b>	<b>(85.4)</b>
<b>Increase/ (Reduction) in manse valuation</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>217.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Building transfers with NMC</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>(209.9)</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>350.0</b>
<b>Gain/ (Loss) on Investments</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Increase/ (Decrease ) in value of funds</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>(20.8)</b>	<b>(106.5)</b>	<b>264.6</b>

## **Income trends**

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches. The 2024-25 contributions requested remained similar to those from the previous year.

Income from rentals has now ceased with the sale of the spare manse and the transfer of the Wootton building to the management of Northampton Methodist Church.

Other income during 2023-24 includes both grant income received from the District towards the production cost of the monthly One Voice podcast and the Circuit Administrators activity as District GDPR advisor along with the surplus generated by the sale of the Queensgrove Church building.

## **Expenditure trends**

All payroll costs have increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases, the drop in both manse maintenance and utility costs reflects the reduction in manses being overseen. The levy in both the last two years includes the connectional levy applied on property sales.

## **Fund balances**

As at 31 August 2025 the net current assets of the Circuit was £585k ( 2024 £322k), as at the balance sheet date this was primarily being held in the Circuit Model Trust Fund.

A significant proportion of the increase resulted from the sale of Queensgrove Church building.

## **Plans for 2025/26**

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there are remain three full time ordained staff along with usage of our local supernumerary team to provide both preaching and pastoral care support. It is anticipated that a lay worker in a mission enabler role will also be recruited during the year.

It is anticipated that schemes will be developed in line with our mission plans to refurbish a number of the circuit church buildings with work at Harpole scheduled to commence in September 2025. Sale of those identified as not required for future mission purposes while continuing to progress.

# Trustee's Annual Report on Finance and Governance

## Basis of preparation and legal framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard FRS102.

The Charity's report and accounts include all the separately established funds for which the Circuit has primary responsibility.

Full Name of Charity: Northampton Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1135635

Date of registration 22 April 2010

The circuit office is located at:  
Harpole Methodist Church  
School Lane  
Harpole  
Northampton  
NN4 4DR

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

Full membership is shown as Appendix A to this report.

## Circuit Ministers and officers

**Active Circuit Ministers** Rev David Spiers,  
Rev Samantha Gillard,  
Rev Ian Forsyth

**Circuit Stewards** Dr Hellen Okello  
Ms Charmaine Wareham-Voyce  
Miss Pam Kirkland  
Mr Phil Leeson

**Circuit Treasurer** Mr Keith Brooks,

**Administrator:** Miss Sarah Eason

Mr K Brooks acted as the principal officer overseeing the day to day financial management and accounting for the Circuit during the year.

Independent examiner Miss C Haynes (ACA)  
4 Delamere Road  
Northampton

Investment Banker Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

## **Charity objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around Northampton 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 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.

Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services.

Provision of chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions.

### **Public Benefit**

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

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

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

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

Day to day management of the Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership team along with the Local Preachers meeting, 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 District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The Circuit is a member of Shared Churches Northampton Ltd in relation to support of the Emmanuel Group of Churches.

## **Risk Management**

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Circuit Leadership Team with professional advice taken as required.

There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded.

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.

## **Safeguarding**

It is the Methodist Church's intention to value every human being as part of God's creation and the whole people of God. At the heart of the Methodist community is a deep sense of the place of welcome, hospitality and openness, which demonstrates the nature of God's grace and love for all.

Our church communities are called to be places where the transformational love of God is embodied and life in all its fullness is a gift, which is offered to all people.

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

The Northampton 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.

## **Reserves Policy**

The Reserves Policy for the Circuit is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to 4 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.

# Annual Financial Statements

## Basis of preparation

As treasurer I confirm that I have prepared the accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting

Signature of  
Treasurer

*W K Brooks*

Date 23 January  
2026

Name

W K Brooks ACMA

Address

2a Stanfield Road  
Duston  
Northampton

## Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on 23 January 2026 and were approved.

Signature of the  
Chair of the meeting

*Rev David Speirs*

23 January 2026

Name of the Chair of  
the meeting

Rev David Speirs

Date

23 January 2026

**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2025**

		Unrestricted funds	Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024- 25
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>						
Donations, legacies & grants		5,151				5,151
Church assessments		220,954				220,954
Lettings		0				-
- Miscellaneous						-
Investments		409	14,761		19	15,189
Other		17	143,663			143,680
<b>Total</b>		<b>226,531</b>	<b>158,424</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>384,974</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Stipends, salaries, NIC & Pension costs	6	155,117				155,117
District Assessment		9,592				9,592
Methodist Church Fund		36,662				36,662
Telephone & travel		8,550				8,550
Insurance, utilities, etc		15,654				15,654
Maintenance on manses		5,802				5,802
Expenditure on other Circuit property		17,216				17,216
Depreciation	9	250				250
Other Expenditure		20,840	174,497		680	196,018
Grants and Donations		10,500				10,500
Contributions to District Advance Fund			15,066			15,066
<b>Total</b>		<b>280,183</b>	<b>189,563</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>470,426</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(53,652)</b>	<b>(31,139)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(661)</b>	<b>(85,452)</b>
<b>Building transfer from NMC</b>		<b>200,000</b>	<b>350,000</b>			<b>550,000</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>48,000</b>	<b>(48,000)</b>			<b>0</b>
		194,348	270,861	0	(661)	464,548
Gains/(Losses) on revaluation of fixed assets						0
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets						0
<b>Net investment in funds</b>		<b>194,348</b>	<b>270,861</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(661)</b>	<b>464,548</b>
Total funds brought forward		1,371,697	317,548	0	2,124	1,691,369
Total funds carried forward		<b>1,566,045</b>	<b>588,409</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,463</b>	<b>2,155,917</b>

*Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for previous year ended 31 August 2024*

		Unrestricted funds	Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023- 24
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>						
Donations, legacies & grants		5,202			1,000	6,202
Church assessments		228,365				228,365
Lettings		0				-
- Miscellaneous						-
Investments		1,068	8,971		20	10,059
Other		88	1,150			1,238
<b>Total</b>		<b>234,723</b>	<b>10,121</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>245,864</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Stipends, salaries, NIC & Pension costs	6	149,930				149,930
District Assessment		8,775				8,775
Methodist Church Fund		30,956				30,956
Telephone & travel		7,215				7,215
Insurance, utilities, etc		20,003				20,003
Maintenance on manses		12,013				12,013
Expenditure on other Circuit property		701				701
Depreciation	9	250				250
Other Expenditure		20,248	407		72	20,728
Grants and Donations						0
Contributions to District Advance Fund			101,813			101,813
<b>Total</b>		<b>250,091</b>	<b>102,220</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>352,383</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(15,368)</b>	<b>(92,099)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>(106,519)</b>
<b>Sale of 75 Kentstone Close</b>		<b>(301,773)</b>	<b>301,773</b>			<b>0</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>35,000</b>	<b>(35,000)</b>			<b>0</b>
		(282,140)	174,674	0	948	(106,519)
Gains/(Losses) on revaluation of fixed assets						0
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets						0
Net investment in funds		(282,140)	174,674	0	948	(106,519)
Total funds brought forward		1,653,837	142,875	0	1,176	1,797,888
Total funds carried forward		<b>1,371,697</b>	<b>317,549</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,124</b>	<b>1,691,369</b>

## **Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Circuit Model Trust Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Totals this year £
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>						
Land & Buildings		1,366,657				1,366,657
Equipment		4,008				4,008
Investment properties		200,000				200,000
Investments						
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		1,570,665				1,570,665
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Debtors and Prepayments		10,912				10,912
Other						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits			588,409			588,409
Central Finance Board Deposits		8,695				8,695
Cash at Bank and in hand		285			1,463	1,748
<b>Total current assets</b>		19,892	588,409		1,463	609,764
<b>Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)</b>		4,512				4,512
<b>Net current assets (liabilities)</b>		15,380	588,409		1,463	605,252
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		1,586,045	588,409		1,463	2,175,917
<b>Loans and creditors due after 1 year</b>		20,000				20,000
Provisions for liabilities and charges						
<b>Net assets</b>		1,566,045	588,409		1,463	2,155,917
<b>Funds of the Circuit</b>						
Unrestricted funds		(612)				(612)
Property reserve		1,566,657				1,566,657
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			588,409			588,409
Designated funds	12					
Restricted funds	12				1,463	1,463
<b>Total Funds</b>		1,566,045	588,409		1,463	2,155,917

## Comparative Balance Sheet for 31 August 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Circuit Model Trust Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Totals this year £
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>						
Land & Buildings		1,366,657				1,366,657
Equipment		2,416				2,416
Investment properties						
Investments						
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		1,369,073				1,369,073
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Debtors and Prepayments		11,397				11,397
Other						
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits			317,548			317,548
Central Finance Board Deposits		22,456				22,456
Cash at Bank and in hand		7,009			2,124	9,133
<b>Total current assets</b>		40,862	317,548		2,124	360,534
<b>Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)</b>		18,238				18,238
<b>Net current assets (liabilities)</b>		22,624	317,548		2,124	342,296
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		1,391,697	317,548		2,124	1,711,369
<b>Loans and creditors due after 1 year</b>		20,000				20,000
Provisions for liabilities and charges						
<b>Net assets</b>		1,371,697	317,548		2,124	1,691,369
<b>Funds of the Circuit</b>						
Unrestricted funds		5,040				5,040
Property reserve		1,366,657				1,366,657
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			317,548			317,548
Designated funds	12					
Restricted funds	12				2,124	2,124
<b>Total Funds</b>		1,371,697	317,548		2,124	1,691,369

## Notes to the Accounts

### 1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2015 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletin 2 issued in 2018.

### 2 Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are no Endowment funds. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

### 3 Accounting policies

#### Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year and land and buildings at deemed current value. Accruals accounting principles have been adopted as far as practical to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

#### Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

#### Resources Expended

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

#### Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment.

#### VAT

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

#### Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at estimated 2023 values, of which the land component is deemed to be £200,000. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The properties have been reviewed for impairment.

#### Investment Properties

Investment properties – In the 2025 accounts Wootton Trinity is deemed to not be required for the long term purposes of the charity and is included as an investment property following its transfer from Northampton Methodist Church at the point of decision to sell.

#### Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when receivable and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown in the SOFA.

#### Debtors and Prepayments

The prepayment included in the accounts is in respect of ministerial stipends paid in August due on 1<sup>st</sup> September..

#### Creditors

Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter assessment received in August.

#### 4 Payment to Trustees

There were no payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting, this excludes stipends.

Trustee expenses

	2024/25	2023/24
Number of Trustees	7	7
Total amount	£7,890	£7,667

Expense payments primarily relate to reimbursement for travel and computing costs

#### 5 Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	Nil	Nil
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	Nil	Nil

#### 6 Paid employees

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	121,395	113,825
Employer's National Insurance costs	12,987	10,700
Pension costs	20,089	24,828
Apprenticeship levy	646	577
Total staff costs	155,117	149,930

Average number of employees in the year were:

4	4
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#### 7 Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

At the 31st August 2025 there are capital commitments.

£50,000

£0

No Contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2025.

#### 8 For information only Money received and passed on to External Organisations

	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Balance brought forward from last year		
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	0	0
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	0	0
Balance carried forward	0	0

## 9 Tangible Fixed Assets

### Cost or valuation

	Land £	Manse £	Other buildings £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Payments on account and assets under constructio n £	Total £
Balance brought forward	160,000	1,206,657		5,511		1,372,168
Additions				1,842		1,842
Revaluations (+/-)						
Disposals (-)			( 350,000)			(350,000)
Transfers * (+/-)	40000		510000			550,000
Balance carried forward	200,000	1,206,657	160,000	7,353		1,574,010

### Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward				3,095		3,095
Depreciation charge for year (-)				250		250
Revaluations (+/-)						
Disposals (-)						
Transfers* (+/-)						
Balance carried forward				3,345		3,345

### Net book value

Brought forward	200,000	1,206,657		2,416		1,369,073
Carried forward	200,000	1,206,657	160,000	4,008		1,570,665

### Sale of Queensgrove Church building

	£	£
Sale proceeds		510,000
Less building valuation		350,000
		160,000
Cost of sale		
Agents fees	12,660	
Legal costs	3,300	
Sundry other costs	377	
		16,337
Profit on sale		143,663

Of the sale proceeds the levy taken for wider Methodist purposes was £173,465 on this transaction, this is refundable on receiving approval for the proposed Park Grove modernisation project.

## 10 Investment assets

The Circuit has no common investment fund holdings

## 11 Loans

The Circuit currently has a loan from the District of £20,000 in respect of initial funding related to the redevelopment of the Kingsthorpe Church This has been treated as a long term creditor.

## 12 Analysis of restricted and designated funds

Restricted Fund Name	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
Restricted fund						
Benevolent Fund	2,124	19	680		1,463	Support for individuals in specific need
2023/24	1,176	1,020	72		2,124	
Designated funds						
Development Fund	0	0	0		0	Available for funding outreach and development work
2023/24	0	0	0		0	
Totals	2,124	19	680		1,463	
2022/23	1,176	1,020	72		2,124	

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Northampton Circuit**

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2025 and is carried out under Sections 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

**Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

As Trustees, you 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is preparing accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Institute of Chartered Accountants England & Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 the 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 you as 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 ; and
  - 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.
- (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 at the balance sheet date.

Name	Miss C Haynes ACA
Qualification reference	ACA ICAEW 7945127
Address	4 Delamere Road Northampton NN4 8QG
Date	11 May 2026

## CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP

### MINISTERS

Rev David Speirs  
Rev Dr Samantha Gillard  
Rev Ian Forsyth

### CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATOR

Miss Sarah Eason

### CIRCUIT STEWARDS

Miss Pam Kirkland  
Dr Hellen Okello  
Ms Charmaine Wareham-Voyce  
Mr Philip Leeson

### CIRCUIT TREASURER

Mr Keith Brooks

### Circuit Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Mrs Jenny Brooks

### CIRCUIT CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES

#### NORTHAMPTON METHODIST CHURCH

Mrs Pat Oliver  
Mrs Kate Stretton  
Mr Paul Deakin  
Mrs Fran Perry

#### EMMANUEL GROUP

Mrs Maureen Timms

#### KINGSTHORPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mr Trevor Clarke  
Mr Duncan Bolton