



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **1 September 2022**

Period start date To **31 August 2023**

Period end date

Charity name: **Bents Green Methodist Church**

Charity registration number: **1135850**

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Set out in the Methodist Church Act 1976, clause 4. In summary: The purposes of the Methodist Church are the advancement of (a) the Christian faith, in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of the Methodist Church and (b) any charitable purpose of any body of the Methodist Church or related organisation. The Mission Statement of Bents Green Methodist Church is: "To be a community church sharing the love of Jesus."
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to provide regular public acts of worship open to all, regardless of church membership 2) to provide sacred space for prayer and contemplation 3) to teach the tenets and practice of Christianity through sermons, study courses and small groups 4) to undertake pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved, and marking important life passages such as marriages, births and deaths with suitable acts of public worship and celebration 5) to promote Christianity through the organisation of informational, educational and entertaining events of general public interest 6) to encourage and develop faith through the provision of age-appropriate groups (youth, parents with toddlers, seniors) with a Christian ethos 7) to support other compatible charities in the UK and overseas with financial gifts and prayer.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	When planning our activities for the year, the Church Council has considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Local Churches, Circuits and Districts are not defined as (external) grant-making bodies

Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Funds for on-going maintenance and any future capital investment projects are deposited with Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes as required by Standing Orders.
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The main part of our church activities is undertaken by lay persons (volunteers).
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The main activities and achievements during the year may be summarised as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintaining a weekly programme of 3 services of public worship, with two Sunday services and one mid-week. Christingle and the Carol Service have the biggest attendances, with a children's choir taking part. Messy Church was held quarterly. 2. Providing a wide range of activities for young people, including Junior Church, Sunbeams and Sunrise (for under 5s), Lighthouse (for 5 – 11 year-olds), Lampstand (for 11 – 18 year-olds), Girls' Brigade, and an annual panto. About 90 children and young people take part in an average week, some attending two or three activities. During the panto season (October to February) this rises to about 150, with about 200 attending on average each week. 3. Running and developing daytime activities, including Friendship Club, Games and Craft, and hosting a fortnightly Dementia Café. 4. Reaching out to the community, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a regular link with WORK, a local charity providing worthwhile occupations for young people with learning difficulties - our Youth Worker working in 3 local schools - a Community Fun Day held on 17 June. 5. Encouraging the development of the faith of members through house groups, a weekly tea and toast group, and a men's group. 6. Providing pastoral support to the growing proportion of the congregation who are frail. 7. Providing facilities for community groups to meet on our premises, including Scottish country dancers, Rhythm time for babies and toddlers, Keep fit, WI, Friends of Porter Valley, Clog dancers, Tai Chi, and various children's parties.

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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	The record of achievements shown above demonstrates that the church has satisfied (in full or in part) each of its objectives. At all times, the leadership and trustees have set our goals in line with our mission statement.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	There was no specific fundraising in support of the church itself. However, several church groups request donations from participants/users to help sustain their activities. Initiatives within/supported by the church have raised funds for Christian Aid, the Sheffield Cathedral Archer Project, the World Day of Prayer charity and Action for Children. Various individuals within the church also conducted their own fundraising initiatives for Christian charities.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Investment funds are deposited with the Central Finance Board (CFB) of the Methodist Church, as per Standing Orders. The church has no control over the selection and performance of its investments.
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The church's income for the year was £89,856; expenditure was £97,696 resulting in an overspend of £7,840.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The Church Council has decided that reserves of a minimum of 3 months' average expenditure (approximately £25,000) should be held to meet unforeseen expenditure, such as necessary repairs to the buildings.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	At the end of the reporting period our current account balance was £63,295 and our CFB balance £18,251, so that total cash reserves were £81,546. This satisfies the church's reserves policy.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Not applicable. The church is on a sound financial footing and sufficient resources are in place to continue our ministry.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The church's principal sources of funds are (in descending order of significance): weekly offerings; lettings to community groups; Gift Aid recovery; Circuit income (re Youth Minister); donations.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Investment funds are deposited with the Central Finance Board (CFB) of the Methodist Church, as per Standing Orders. As such, the church has no control over the selection and performance of its investments.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p>The Church Council has a strong regard to the prevailing risks to persons and property, and has in place a comprehensive Health & Safety Policy (reviewed annually). All external users of the church are notified of their responsibilities through room booking procedures. Annual fire drills are conducted during Sunday services, and health & safety training is provided for all officials.</p> <p>Property is inspected at regular intervals, with a full professional inspection conducted every 5 years. A principal responsibility of the Resources Committee is to ensure that the property is maintained effectively, and all prevailing regulations and obligations observed.</p> <p>The church has a Safeguarding Policy which is reviewed and endorsed annually. All requirements to ensure full protection for children and vulnerable persons are rigorously observed.</p> <p>Financial risks are also managed through stringent controls. Church Council examines and approves the annual church</p>

		budget and requires an update on the church's accounts at each meeting. Spending is controlled on a day-to-day basis by the Resources Committee, and items in excess of a pre-approved limit are individually authorised by Church Council. A Reserves Policy is in place to guard against unforeseen deficits, and fund-raising appeals are made to address shortfalls or to enable special projects of significant expense.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Act of Parliament (Methodist Church Act 1976)
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Trust
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Appointed by Church Council or the General Church Meeting. All presbyters (i.e. ordained ministers) are trustees ex-officio. Circuit also appoints a Circuit Steward to the Councils of each of its churches

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<p>New Church Council members are given directions (web links) to the relevant information produced by the Methodist Connexion and the Charity Commission that describe the responsibilities of a trustee. Council members are reminded of these responsibilities at Council meetings, and on joining Council are required to state that they have no impediments that prevent them from acting as a trustee.</p> <p>Training in specific roles (e.g. Treasurer, Property Steward) is offered by the local Methodist Circuit at intervals.</p>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>The Church Council has authority and oversight over the entire ministry and mission of the Church. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its proper responsibility.</p> <p>The Council executes policy through its three committees or teams, each with delegated powers for an aspect of the Church's life and ministry. The committees are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources, including premises, finance, room bookings and employment • Pastoral • Worship Co-ordinators <p>Day-to-day organisation is in the hands of the Church Stewards, who work closely with the Minister. They meet with representatives of the committees bi-monthly in the Leadership Team, which brings together the different aspects of church life, and takes a longer term strategic view of the church's life and mission.</p>

		<p>Bents Green is one of 50 churches in the Sheffield Circuit, within the Sheffield District of the Methodist Church.</p> <p>As with all Methodist churches, Bents Green Church Council is accountable to its Circuit and District, and ultimately to the Methodist Conference.</p>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Bents Green co-operates on an ecumenical basis with churches in the Ecclesall (postcode S11) area.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Bents Green Methodist Church
Other name the charity uses	n/a
Registered charity number	1135850
Charity's principal address	Ringinglow Road, Sheffield, S11 7PU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Rev. Philip Peacock	Minister & Chair		Ex-officio
2	Rev. Romeo Pedro	Minister & Superintendent		Ex-officio
3	John Wilkins	Church Council Secretary and Resources Committee Chair		Church Council
4	Katrin Hackett	Designated Circuit Steward		Circuit Meeting
5	Peter Larder	Senior Church Steward		General Church Meeting
6	Jonathan Trezise	Church Steward & Property Steward		General Church Meeting & Church Council
7	Diane Mason	Church Treasurer & Gift Aid Secretary		Church Council
8	Cherry Mair	Children & Youth Minister		Church Council
9	Daphne Wilkins	Pastoral Coordinator		Church Council
10	Glenn Evans	Safeguarding Officer		Church Council
11	C Lesley Wallace	Children & Youth Ministries		Church Council
12	Julie Talbot	Property Steward		Church Council
13	Diane Hallatt	GDPR Secretary		Church Council
14	Alison Trezise	Church Meeting Representative	From 4 July 2023	General Church Meeting
15	Christèle Hall	Church Meeting Representative		General Church Meeting
16	Katie Vernon	Church Meeting Representative		General Church Meeting
17	Ruth Larder	Church Meeting Representative	From 4 July 2023	General Church Meeting
18	Juliet Murray	Church Meeting Representative	Till 4 July 2023	General Church Meeting
19	Nini Brady	Church Meeting Representative	Till 1 March 2023	General Church Meeting

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
	Not applicable	

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		Custodian Trustee

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	No such assets are held	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects		
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets		

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent examiner	Dr Jenny Bywaters	107 Button Hill, Sheffield S11 9HG

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable

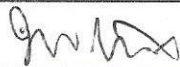
Other optional information

None

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	P. Peacock	
Full name(s)	Philip Peacock	John Wilkins
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary

Date 20 March 2024.

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Bents Green	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2023

Circuit	Circuit no.	2501
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1135850

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)

Minister:

Phillip Peacock

Church Stewards:

Peter Larder

Jonathan Tresize

Treasurer:

Diane Mason

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	60,321		60,321	76,834
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	667		667	84
a4	Lettings	14,320		14,320	11,273
a5	Other receipts	6,404	8,144	14,548	16,497
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	81,712	8,144	89,856 (a7)	104,688
SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	39,000		39,000	35,000
b3	Donations				
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	3,055		3,055	5,562
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	17,511		17,511	13,056
b6					
b7	Other payments	30,329	7,801	38,130	35,764
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	89,895	7,801	97,696 (b9)	89,382
SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(8,183)	343	(7,840)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	75,031	14,355	89,386 (c6)	74,080
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	66,848	14,698	81,546
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	66,848	14,698	81,546 (c8)
					89,386 (c6)
SECTION D					
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)			£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E****Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church 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 income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, 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 District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS		Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	Friendship Club					1,413	1,413
e2	Girls Brigade	2,248	1,804	444		1,275	1,719
e3	Craft & Chatter	855	1,191	(336)		771	435
e4	Floodlight	4,405	4,903	(498)		1,508	1,009.88
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	7,508	7,899	(391)		4,967 (e11)	4,576 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	89,856 (a7)	97,696 (b9)	(7,840)	(c7)	89,386 (c6)	81,546 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	97,364	105,595	(8,231)		94,353 (x)	86,122 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward		TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	70,803	63,295
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	18,583	18,251
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	89,386 (c5)	81,546 (c8)
Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	4,967 (e11)	4,576 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	94,353 (x)	86,122 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	3,419,669	3,905,232
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 Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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

Name of Church .. Bents Green

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer D Mason Date 7/11/23

Name and address of treasurer Diane Mason

32 Alms Hill Rd, Sheffield , S11 9RS

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting P. Peacock

Name of the Chair of the meeting PHILIP PEACOCK Date 8/11/23

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

..... Bents Green

Charity Number . 1135850

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages ... to As the Church'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 Church'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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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.

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 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 *Jerry Bywaters*

Name of independent examiner *Dr. Jerry Bywaters*

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner —

Name of firm (where appropriate) —

Address *107 Button Hill, Sheffield,*

South Yorks Post Code *S11 9HG*

Date *9.10.23*

* delete or circle as appropriate