



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 September 2023 Period start date To 31 August 2024
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	1) .To provide regular acts of public 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 births, marriages and deaths with suitable acts of public worship and celebration. 5) To promote Christianity through the organisation of informational, educational and entertaining events of public interest. 6) To make our premises available for community groups to use, and to engage with the community off our premises, promoting well-being and social cohesion. 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 the activities for the year, the Church Council has considered the Commission's 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 ongoing 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 activity is undertaking by lay 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. Maintained a weekly programme of 3 services of public worship, with two Sunday services and one mid-week. Additional services included a Christingle and Messy Church was held quarterly. 2. Kept the worship area in good order. Offered prayer on some Saturday mornings. People have made use of the worship area for their own individual prayer and contemplation. 3. In addition to sermons and teaching in 1 above, a wide range of activities for children and young people has been provided, including Junior Church, two Carer and Toddler groups (under 5s), an after-school group (5-11 yrs), a youth group (11-18 yrs), and Girls' Brigade; and, for adults, house groups and 'tea & toast' have met. 4. A pastoral care team has operated and baptisms, marriages and funerals have taken place. The church has hosted a fortnightly Dementia Café and provided a weekly Games and Crafts group (a warm welcoming space, reducing social isolation). 5. A women's group (Caya) has met occasionally and a Christian band (Outcry) offered worship and teaching each month. The annual pantomime drew in additional children and young people. A community Fun Day took place in June. 6. Community groups, including Scottish country dancers, Rhythm Time for babies and toddlers, Keep-fit, WI, Friends of Porter Valley, Clog dancers and Tai Chi, have met on our premises and various children's parties have taken place. There is a regular link with WORK, a local charity providing occupations for young people with learning difficulties, and our Youth Worker has worked in four local schools.

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	The congregation was asked to contribute to a special fund for repair inside and out of a wall of the church. The target sum (£10k) was met. In addition, several church groups request donations from participants to help sustain their activities, and initiatives supported by the church have raised funds for Christian Aid, the Sheffield Cathedral Archer Project, and Methodist Women in Britain. Many individuals within the church also conducted their own fundraising activities for Christian charities.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Investment funds are deposited with the Central Finance Board and the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, as per Standing Orders. The church has no role in the selection and performance of these 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 £101,698, and expenditure was £91,162, resulting in an underspend of £10,536. This was largely because the Circuit did not draw down £18,500 of our assessment.
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 £53,368 and our CFB balance £38,714, so that total cash reserves were £92,082. 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	We have budgeted for an overspend of 25k in 2024/25, but the Church has sufficient resources to continue its 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 a Sunday service.</p> <p>Property is inspected at regular intervals, with a full professional inspection every 5 years. A principal task of the Resources Committee is to ensure that the property is maintained effectively, and all regulations observed.</p> <p>The church has a Safeguarding Policy which is reviewed and endorsed annually. All requirements to ensure 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 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.</p>
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	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.

to appoint one or more trustees		
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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	<p>Bents Green co-operates with other local Methodist churches, and on an ecumenical basis with churches in the Ecclesall (postcode S11) area.</p>
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	Ruth Larder	Church Meeting Representative		General Church Meeting
12	Julie Talbot	Property Steward		Church Council
13	Diane Hallatt	GDPR Secretary		Church Council
14	Alison Trezise	Church Meeting Representative		General Church Meeting
15	Christèle Hall	Church Meeting Representative		General Church Meeting
16	Katie Vernon	Church Meeting Representative		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	
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		Custodian Trustees

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

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

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

Date *30/3/25.*

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Bents Green	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

Circuit	Circuit no.	2501
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1135850

If not a registered charity **His 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	42,550	27,560	70,110	60,321
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	964		964	667
a4	Lettings	15,255		15,255	14,320
a5	Other receipts	6,715	8,654	15,369	14,548
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	65,484	36,214	101,698 (a7)	89,856

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	23,500		23,500	39,000
b3	Donations				
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	4,314		4,314	3,055
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	20,653		20,653	17,511
b6					
b7	Other payments	17,136	25,559	42,695	38,130
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	65,603	25,559	91,162 (b9)	97,696

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(119)	10,655	10,536	(7,840)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		66,848	14,698	81,546 (c6)	89,386
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	66,729	25,353	92,082	81,546
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	66,729	25,353	92,082 (c8)	81,546 (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 2024 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	719	1,534	(815)		815	
e2	Girls Brigade	2,283	2,629	(346)		1,719	1,373
e3	Craft & Chatter	1,391	1,582	(191)		435	244
e4	Floodlight	5,061	5,004	57		1,010	1,067
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	9,454	10,749	(1,295)		3,978 (e11)	2,684 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	101,698 (a7)	91,162 (b9)	10,536	(c7)	81,546 (c6)	92,082 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	111,152	101,911	9,241		85,524 (x)	94,766 (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 2024

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	63,295	53,368
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	18,251	38,714
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	81,546 (c6)	92,082 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	3,978 (e11)	2,684 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	85,524 (x)	94,766 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	3,905,232	4,022,386
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

No. 1135850

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 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 1/11/24

Name and address of treasurer Diane Mason

32 Alms Hill Rd, Sheffield S119RS

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 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 8/11/24

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 Bents Green Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 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

Name of Church Bents Green

No. 1135850

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~~ 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 *Jenny Bywaters*

Name of independent examiner JENNY BYWATERS

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner N/A

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 107 Button Hill

..... Sheffield Post Code S11 9HJ

Date 31.10.24

* delete or circle as appropriate