

Type of Governing document: DEED OF UNION (1932) AND METHODIST CHURCH ACT (1976)

Charity Constitution: previously excepted charities - excepted charities were not required to register but are regulated by the Charity Commission. This is because they have been excepted from the requirement to register either by legislation or an order made by us. Churches and chapels of some Christian denominations; The Charities Act 2006 required excepted charities with an annual income over £100,000 to register with us.

Charity trustee selection methods: Charity trustees for the West Norfolk Methodist Circuit are appointed as per the rules of the Methodist Church. They are a mixture of stationed ministers, volunteer elected stewards and volunteer representatives elected from individual constituent chapels within the Circuit.

Summary of the objectives of the charity:

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 PURPOSES 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.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit:

What

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES - the West Norfolk Methodist Circuit has five Methodist Ministers (four Presbyters and one Deacon) of which three are full time and two are part time, plus an Anglican who is Authorised to serve, working in the Circuit and facilitates local chapels such that religious worship may be undertaken by any and all people wishing to do so. It also makes available its services for baptisms, weddings and funerals as well as providing pastoral care. Many volunteers within the Methodist Church are Lay Preachers who lead worship and many other volunteers take on a variety of roles to promote the religious ethos of the charity.

Who

THE GENERAL PUBLIC/MANKIND - any member of the community may attend any services and can seek help and/or support from members of the charity.

How

PROVIDES SERVICES - regular local and Circuit wide religious services are provided within the Circuit on various days and at various times. Services are also held in Retirement Homes. Youth work is undertaken in the local area and Youth activities are organised and supported. A "Social Centre" in one of the church buildings is supported for the benefit of vulnerable people.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity in 2021-2022

Ordained Ministers - the Circuit continued to financially support its full time stationed Ministers plus

part time Ministers who enable the charitable objectives of the Circuit to be fulfilled amongst its members.

Circuit Policy – The circuit continued to act on the agreed policy which is reviewed annually and is on the agenda for a September meeting.

No major activities were planned due to ongoing COVID restrictions and concerns.

Growing in God – volunteers from the Circuit supported a number of local projects involving youth activities. Guiding, scouting and Boys' Brigade activities were also enabled under the auspices of the Circuit and its chapels as and when it became safe and possible to do so. Special event services were held, both on Sundays and mid-week, via Zoom, in order to enable whole Circuit participation. Mid-week activities were organised in most churches to support their communities and held when possible to do so. North Lynn church has a Sharing Agreement in place and is seeking to become an LEP with the Church of England. The building plans are now moving forward with the Vicarage already completed.

Risks- The trustees review the risks to which the charity is exposed and take steps to mitigate those risks as appropriate. Safeguarding policy is kept up-to-date with new legislation.

Reserves policy – Our reserves policy relates to our General (Unrestricted) funds which are freely available to be used for any or all of the purposes of the Circuit. Our reserve policy is to hold up to 50% of annual expenditure in hand, including the Manses Fund, but is currently about 56% standing at £123006 with the annual expenditure being £214450. These reserve funds allow for fluctuations in receipts against set payments and act as contingency funds.

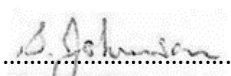
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Restricted Fund). This fund derives from the sale of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Methodist Conference. This restriction is an internal obligation although the fund may be used for a variety of purposes. The balance at the year end was £101823, with a further £62167 held in a separate account for the North Lynn church having spent £113063 from this account during the year.

The Charity Commission has previously agreed that it is appropriate for the trustees to set a policy for the management of this fund as set out below.

Money held in the Model Trust Fund will be held available to assist churches to carry out schemes beyond their own resources in addition to funding the provision of Manses and Chapels and supporting the work of the Circuit. Schemes supported this year have been:- £7500 to develop a project in Gaywood, providing space for charity work (particularly mental awareness) and a café; £10400 to re-roof Highgate Church; £16222 contribution to Ministers' Pension Reserve Fund. Support of general funding also continued for the work of the Circuit.

Signatures:

Revd R Roberts – Superintendent Minister  10 June 2023

Mrs S Johnson – Senior Circuit Steward  10 June 2023

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS					
a2	Assessment/Share	184,806			184,806	196,064
a3	Capital receipts					
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	481	1,186		1,667	1,251
a5	Grants - Distr payments					
a6	Other receipts	32,769			32,769	19,137
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS	218,056	1,186		219,242 (a8)	216,453

SECTION B		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs	126,187			126,187	127,346
b3	Manse Costs	13,419			13,419	13,110
b4	Administration etc	3,035	899		3,935	12,023
b5	District Assessment	44,505			44,505	51,628
b6	Grants & donations District		4,516		4,516	4,340
b7	Expense on Circuit property scheme NORTH LYNN PROJECT	34,122	113,213		147,335	
b8	Other payments	28,624			28,624	15,953
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS	249,892	118,628		368,520 (b9)	224,400

SECTION C		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(31,836)	(117,442)		(149,278)	(7,948)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	148,129	315,555		463,684 (c6)	471,631
c3	Sub total	116,293	198,113		314,406	463,684
c4	Transfers and adjustments	34,122	(34,122)			
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	150,415	163,991		314,406 (c8)	463,684 (c6)

SECTION D		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments 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 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						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds				(e11)	(e12)
e9	Circuit accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	219,242 (a8)	368,520 (b9)	(149,278)	463,684 (c6)	314,406 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CIRCUIT	219,242	368,520	(149,278)	463,684 (x)	314,406 (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		
f2	22,214	9,977
f3		
f4	125,915	140,438
f5	315,555	163,991
f6		
f7	463,684 (c6)	314,406 (c8)
f8	(e11)	(e12)
f9	463,684 (x)	314,406 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1	4406	3858
g2	1,143,911	1,566,662
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)