

YATTON METHODIST CHURCH TRUSTEES'

ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trustees present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered charity number 1136220

Minister Rev Jill Flowers

Church Stewards (Leadership Team)

Martin Buckley
Virginia Buckley
Malcolm Fisher
Sue Turner
Keith Woodham
John Flowers
Roger Calderbank
Yvonne Nelson
Bethan Grace Kahapolarachi

Principal address

High Street
Yatton
North Somerset
BS49 4DW

Independent Examiner

Alison Hexter BA (Econ) ACA
2 Henley Lodge
Yatton
North Somerset
BS49 4JQ

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

Yatton Methodist Church is part of the Gordano Valley Circuit (No.15), in the Bristol District (No.7) within the Methodist Church in Great Britain (The Connexion). In all matters Yatton Methodist Church is governed by "The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church". All property is owned on Model Trusts controlled by the Managing Trustees (The Church Council), who govern all areas of Yatton Methodist Church's activity. Membership of the Church Council is recorded in its minutes.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are defined in Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act of 1976 and summarized as follows:

The Purposes of the Methodist Church are the advancement of:

- a) the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the 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 being a 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.

All the activities of the Church are intended for public benefit, both spiritual and in service to the local community.

Trustees

The trustees who served the charity during the period are the members of the Church Council, and recorded in the Charity Commission online registration.

New trustees are voted on by the General Church Meeting normally held in March each year. They are made aware of the financial position of the Church and of their responsibilities as trustees.

Organisation

The Church Council of Yatton Methodist Church holds the responsibility of running its financial affairs. It is assisted in this role by the Leadership team, operating within a budget approved by the Church Council.

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Volunteers

Almost all the activities of the Church involve substantial work by volunteers, for example as Church Council members (trustees), office holders, committee members, activity group leaders and helpers.

Risks

The trustees have identified the major risks to which the charity is exposed. These risks are reviewed annually, and systems have been established to mitigate the risks.

Review of Developments, Activities and Achievements 2022 – 2023

We give thanks for much fruitfulness in the church, but also remain aware of the challenges ahead of us. Our worshipping numbers have not fully recovered since the COVID emergency, and we now have few young people on a Sunday.

Following the discontinuation of the Youth and Children's Worker role in August 2022, we continue to try and encourage youth and children's work in the church. The Youth and Children's Work Oversight Group lead this area of ministry.

Other groups within the Church continue to meet regularly including various house groups, prayer groups, Together (for ladies) and Men's Fellowship, MWiB (Methodist Women in Britain), Bread and Cheese Lunches, Energise (Urban Saints group), Supper Club for 11+ and other ad-hoc activities and events.

We are aware that with a change of Minister planned for August 2024, the church will be reviewing and resetting priorities for the next chapter in the life of the church.

Circuit leaders have given much time this year to discussions about the reconfiguration of the Circuit in the light of falling membership and the connexional shortage of ministers. From September 2024, the Circuit plans to be served by three, not four ministers, and Yatton will join the Nailsea Backwell Section.

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Financial Review

2022-23 saw a continuing recovery in church activity following the previous two years disruption due to the Coronavirus lockdowns. At the start of the year, a projected deficit of some £20,000 was in the draft budget, with a recognition that this was not viable and further work on the budget was needed.

Following further attention to our expenditure, and an appeal for increased giving, our general and property funds together, completed the year with a deficit of approx. £3,500. However, this included significant one-off items, without which there would have been a combined deficit of approx. £9,500.

The longer-term effect of high energy prices and inflation has contributed to a continuing deficit and a financial appeal for increased giving was made, to which there was a positive response.

The accounts are divided into separate funds and accounts.

1. General Account

This includes the Church's main source of income - weekly and monthly giving. Expenditure is principally the "assessment" paid to the Gordano Valley Circuit to cover Ministers' stipend and central Methodism and Circuit costs, together with the church's non-property related administration expenses.

2. Property Account

The income is made up of room hire charges arising from the use of the premises, plus income from the solar panels. This is balanced by expenditure on the maintenance, upkeep and administration of the premises. The property account is kept in balance, with any shortage of income transferred from the general account.

3. Designated and Restricted Funds

There are restricted funds for 'Youth and Childrens Work', 'Mission and Ministry' (from a previous gift day) and 'Charity Giving' claiming Gift Aid for Church supported overseas projects (to comply with HMRC rules).

A small number of internal organisations within the Church hold separate funds, i.e. Toddlers Group and Men's Society.

4. Accounting Policy

The accounts are presented on a receipts and payments basis using the Methodist Church standard form of accounts.

5. Reserves

Reserves are held to cover general or designated purposes and the general risks of unforeseen expenditure or a fall in anticipated income. Each year the trustees review the level of reserves. The trustees consider the church's exposure to major risks in terms of their likely impact on its income resources and expenditure. In recent years, the trustees have adopted a policy of seeking to maintain a minimum reserve based on a sum advised by the Circuit in respect of the annual assessment and 50% of other expenditure.

The minimum reserve based on this policy was some £24,000 at 31st August 2023.

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The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the trustees.

Rev Carol Challis
Chairman of the Meeting

Mrs Janet Calderbank
Church Council Secretary

Date

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED			31/08/2023		Yatton Methodist Church			
	SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year		Totals last year	
		Note	£	£	£		£	
a1	RECEIPTS							
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		50,077	5,022	55,099		53,160	
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		1,042		1,042		177	
a4	Lettings		6,777		6,777		6,710	
a5	Other receipts		14,867	0	14,867		34,041	
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		72,763	5,022	77,785	(a7)	94,087	
	SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS							
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		47,207		47,207		45,966	
b3	Donations				0			
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		3,663		3,663		4,218	
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		11,391		11,391		4,747	
b6					0			
b7	Other payments		14,294	3,793	18,087		47,350	
	TOTAL PAYMENTS		76,555	3,793	80,349	(b9)	102,281	
	SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(3,792)	1,229	(2,563)		(8,194)	
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		22,871	20,788	43,659	(c6)	51,852	
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	19,079	22,017	41,096		43,658	
c4	Transfers and adjustments		0	0	0	(c8)	0	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	19,079	22,017	41,096	(c7)	43,658	(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				17		23	
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				3,308		1,963	
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				3,192		1,969	
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)			133		17	

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ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED		31/08/2023		Yatton Methodist Church			
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 District. 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 Men's Society	864	853	11	0	133	144	
e2 Tuesday Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	
e3 Toddlers	429	433	(4)	0	189	185	
e4 Flower Club	0	0	0	0	11	11	
e4 Craft Club	850	625	225	0	0	225	
e4	0	0	0	0	0	0	
e5	0	0	0	0	0	0	
e6	0	0	0	0	0	0	
e7	0	0	0	0	0	0	
e8	0	0	0	0	0	0	
e9 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	2,143	1,910	232	0	333 (e11)	566 (e12)	
e10 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	77,785 (a7)	80,349 (b9)	(2,563)	(c8)	43,659 (c6)	41,096 (c7)	
e11 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	79,928	82,259	(2,331)	0	43,992 (x)	41,661 (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		31/08/2023		OPENING BALANCES		CLOSING BALANCES	
f1	Cash in hand			0		0	
f2	Bank Current Account			5,060		3,777	
f3	Bank Deposit Account						
f4	Central Finance Board			38,616		37,318	
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes						
f6	Other funds						
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts			43,676 (c6)		41,096 (c7)	
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)			333 (e11)		566 (e12)	
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH			44,009 (x)		41,661 (y)	
SECTION G							
OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES				At 01/09/2022		At 31/08/2023	
g1	Investments (include Endowments)						
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)			750,000		750,000	
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)							

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts above from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of Treasurer

Martin Buckley

Date

24 March 2024

Name

Martin Buckley

Address

45 Claverham Rd, Yatton, N. Somerset BS49 4LA

Presentation to the Yatton Methodist Church Council for approval

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council and were approved.

Date

24 March 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Rev. Carole Challis

Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev. Carole Challis

Date

24 March 2024

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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 41 of the 1993 Act and Section 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act and Section 44(1)9b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation (of the 2006 Regulations)

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.

Name

Mrs Alison Hexter

Signature

Mrs Alison Hexter

Any Relevant Professional qualification or body

BA (Econ) ACA

Address

2 Henley Lodge, Yatton, North Somerset

Date

24 Nov 2023