

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAIL

Trustees

Aileen Ashby	Neil Lambert (resigned Sept 2022)
Rolfe Bridson (resigned June 2023)	Gisela Lawson
Melvyn Buckett	Andrew Micklefield (resigned Sept 2022)
Gill Bunch	David Moll
Kym Burgess	Ian Moore
Denis Compton	Jayne Moore
Liz Cooper (died Dec 2022)	Michael Morrice
Loise Cushing	Judith Nicholls
Nina Curley	Alison Noakes
Steve Curtis	Nick Oborski
Alex Day (from January 2024)	Thomas Oborski
Anne Day (from Sept 2022)	Andy Osborne (from Sept 2023)
Steve Dewey	Sally Press
Carole Gaines	Elizabeth Read
Colin Gawthrop (resigned Sept 2022)	Heather Richards
Frances Gawthrop	Alex Sanderson
Liz George	Ian Sargeant
Neil Gray	Brian Sexton
Rita Greig	Philip Simpkins
Gina Hoff	Muriel Simpson
Michael Hopkins (resigned Jan 2024)	Sue Smith
Christopher Hunter	Gill Ter Kuile
Colin Johnston (resigned Sept 2023)	Graham Titterington
Margaret Janes	Jill Whittingham (from Sept 2022)
Liz Jones	Pete Wisbey (died Aug 2023)
David Kember	Carol Woodruffe (from March 2024)
Paul Kingston (resigned Sept 2022)	

Key Management Personnel

REV NICK OBORSKI	CHAIR AND SUPERINTENDENT
REV ANNE DAY	CIRCUIT PRESBYTER
REV GINA HOFF	CIRCUIT PRESBYTER
REV MICHAEL HOPKINS	CIRCUIT PRESBYTER
REV PHILIP SIMPKINS	CIRCUIT PRESBYTER
ELIZABETH ANNE GEORGE	CIRCUIT STEWARD
DAVID WILLIAM MOLL	CIRCUIT STEWARD
JAYNE BEVERLEY MOORE	CIRCUIT STEWARD
MICHAEL JOHN MORRICE	CIRCUIT STEWARD

HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAIL

Principal office

12 Glen Road
FLEET
Hampshire
GU51 3QR

Independent Examiners

Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
SM1 2SW

Bankers

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue,
Kings Hill,
West Malling
ME19 4JQ

HSBC Bank Plc.
Lansdowne House
74 High Street
Alton
GU34 1EZ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

Charity registration number: 1137593

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of Hants-Surrey Border Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023, which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102).

Structure, governance and management

The charity was established by a Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976) adopted on 26 August 2010.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees selection method:

- Certain Officers and elected representatives of local churches.
- Ministers appointed to the Circuit by the Methodist Conference.

Additional governance issues

The Circuit comprises nine churches: Aldershot, Alton, Cove, Fleet, Frimley Green, Hale, Hartley Wintney, North Camp, Rowledge and two LEPs: Elvetham Heath (LEP), The Spire (Farnham LEP). Work continued through the year to further develop the Circuit to help it effectively fulfil its purpose as mentioned below under objectives and activities.

The Circuit Assessment is reviewed annually to cover the cost of meeting the objectives, and activities listed below, and is shared between each of the churches on an equitable basis. Under Standing Orders, the Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its Presbyters, five manses and Connexional requirements. The Circuit therefore, needs to generate a reasonable surplus to meet these obligations and ensure that the 'reserves policies' relating to its various funds are maintained.

The Ash Vale Chapel is a "Fresh Expression" of church managed jointly with St Mary's Church, Ash Vale. This is regarded as a Circuit 'project', with a local management group being appointed by the Circuit Meeting to assume responsibility for routine maintenance of the property and day-to-day oversight of its activities. Within this framework, the Circuit continues to assume responsibility for the Ash Vale Chapel building, with expenditure being met from the Assessment income.

The key management personnel of the charity as listed on page 1 oversee the directing, controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

Objects of the Circuit

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of -

- the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church;
- any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;
- any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;
- any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The principal activities of the Circuit

The Circuit is where new initiatives and changes in the pattern of church life originate. This is where the staffing capacity and resources for ministry are organised, where fresh expressions of church or new pioneer ministries are launched, and where decisions to close churches in the interest of re-shaping mission priorities are debated.

We act as an umbrella and resourcing body for the 9 local churches, 2 LEP churches and 1 mission outreach project in the Circuit, so that they can effectively fulfil their mission statements to engage with all those who seek God and/or a spiritual dimension to their lives.

We organise, provide leadership of, and administer the Circuit Meeting as the governing body of the Circuit, and provide the link upwards to District and Conference. The public are welcome to attend.

We administer the stipends and expenses of ministers and salaries and expenses of lay workers in the Circuit, provide pastoral support and, where appropriate, provide their accommodation.

We promote the well-being of Circuit churches and open access to all who wish to participate in their activities, through oversight of individual church councils and their decision-making, and in consultation with their representatives in the Circuit Meeting (who are also trustees of the Circuit).

We prepare the quarterly Circuit preaching plan that assigns ministers and lay preachers to church services, to which all are welcome.

We encourage ecumenical work and activities with other Christian denominations and their congregations.

We periodically sponsor events within the Circuit that are open to all.

Public Benefit

The Trustees are aware of their duty, set out in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006, to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The Circuit is part of the Methodist church which exists, to:

1. Increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
2. Help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care; and
3. Be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

The trustees consider that for these reasons the charity meets these public benefit requirements.

Review of Progress - 22/23

Through the local churches represented in the Circuit, and the resources allocated to them, the following achievements have been made:

Continued opportunities for public worship in many of the larger towns and villages in the Circuit.

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The continued ability to offer occasional services (e.g. baptisms, weddings, funerals) to both church members and others, as required.

Continued pastoral care of a wide range of age groups, both within the church membership and the wider community.

Continued participation in various community-based projects.

Continued support for the work of local charities and community groups.

The continued management and maintenance of properties required to achieve the aims and objectives of the Circuit.

The ecumenical arts and community project based at The Chapel in Ash Vale has been enhanced by the development of a music studio which will be used as a resource for training individuals and community groups. The project is managed through a local committee in partnership with St Mary's Church.

The churches continue to recover from the effects of COVID and meeting the challenge of reducing membership. The Circuit continues to work with the local churches to understand their vision for their future.

Financial Review and Reserves

Income and expenditure

Overall, the net movement in funds for the year was £17,081 (2022 - (£39,821)).

Reserves policy

The Trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain that are appropriate to the Circuit's needs. This is based on the Circuit's size and the level of financial commitments held.

The Trustees aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The Trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily.

General fund expenditure during the financial year was £422,169 (2022 – £453,426).

General fund balance was £262,980 (2022 - £269,753).

This represents around 11 months expenditure - more than the 6 months required by the Circuit's Reserves Policy.

Other unrestricted (designated) funds are generally performing satisfactorily.

Excluding freehold property, the balance of the unrestricted funds stands at £675,448 (2022 £658,368).

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Circuit has a balance owed to Wessex Trust of £26,611 as its contribution towards the new manse required for Church on the Heath. This will be released when the sharing agreement has been signed.

Risk Analysis and Management

The Trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The law requires those responsible for the administration of charities to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for that year. In preparing those financial statements, they are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

They have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charity has appropriate systems of control, financial and otherwise.

Those responsible for the administration of charities are required to keep proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

For and on behalf of the trustees



Rev Nick Oborski

Date: 10 June 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT (the Charity) for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity'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 charity's accounts as 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.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Paul Newton FCA
Jacob Cavenagh & Skeet
5 Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SW

Dated 13 June 2024

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		2023		2022
Income from:		Note	£	£
Charitable Activities		2	331,494	322,858
Donations	Grants		68,209	52,347
Investment Income	Interest		19,637	2,636
Other Trading Activities	Manse rental		19,909	35,764
Total Income			<u>439,249</u>	<u>413,605</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable Activities	Ongoing activities	3	422,169	371,400
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets			82,026
Total Expenditure			<u>422,169</u>	<u>453,426</u>
Net Income/(expenditure)			<u>17,080</u>	<u>(39,821)</u>
Reconciliation of Funds				
Funds brought forward on 1 September 2022			<u>2,814,799</u>	<u>2,854,620</u>
Funds carried forward at 31 August 2023			<u>2,831,879</u>	<u>2,814,799</u>

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	6		2,156,431		2,156,431
Current Assets					
Debtors		52,709			
Cash at bank and in hand		709,157		721,233	
		761,866		721,233	
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(86,418)		(62,865)	
Net current assets			675,448		658,368
Total assets less current liabilities			2,831,879		2,814,799
Reserves					
Unrestricted income funds	8		2,831,879		2,814,799
Total Charity Funds			2,831,879		2,814,799

Approved by the Trustees on 10 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by



Rev. Nick Oborski
Trustee

HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT was formed on 1st September 2012. The principal office is.
12 Glen Road
FLEET
GU51

(a) **Basis of accounting**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102"), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102, the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. The circuit is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the circuit. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

(b) **Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

(c) **Income**

Voluntary income and donations (including legacies) are accounted for once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be reliably measured. Where material assets are donated to the circuit for its use, these are capitalised at the estimated market value at the date of the gift and included under income.

(d) **Expenditure**

Expenditure is accrued as soon as a liability is considered probable, discounted to present value for longer term liabilities. Charitable expenditure includes all support costs in respect of the charity activities.

(e) **Grants payable**

Grants payable are accounted for as they are paid over.

(f) **Governance**

This comprises all the expenditure incurred in meeting the constitutional requirements of the charity and is included in charitable expenditure.

HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(g) **Fixed assets**

Land and buildings are included at deemed cost. Freehold land is not depreciated. Where the charity adopts a policy of maintaining properties to a standard that prolongs their lives and enhances their residual value, the charity considers any depreciation arising to be insignificant and the properties are not depreciated.

(h) **Debtors**

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

(i) **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of opening of the deposit.

(j) **Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation arising from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at their settlement amount.

(k) **Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

(l) **Pension contributions**

Contributions to personal pension schemes are charged as they fall due.

HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

2	INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2023	2022
		£	£
	Circuit Assessments	311,929	311,241
	Contributions	66	8,089
	Chapel Ash Vale	19,465	3,528
		<u>331,459</u>	<u>322,858</u>

3	EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2023	2022
		£	£
	Connectional and District Assessments	76,468	70,495
	Staff Costs	207,946	186,318
	Staff Expenses	15,599	9,911
	Staff Costs Office	14,066	12,223
	Property Costs	67,948	63,331
	Mission Projects	35,325	25,089
	Legal & professional Fees	908	1,020
	Bank Charges	1,029	133
	Governance Costs Independent Examiner	2,880	2,880
		<u>422,169</u>	<u>371,400</u>

4	STAFF COSTS	2023	2022
		£	£
	Salaries	166,753	149,599
	Employer's National Insurance Contributions	14,686	11,990
	Employer's Pension Contributions	30,916	24,796
	Contribution to other salaries and other costs	9,657	12,197
		<u>222,012</u>	<u>198,582</u>

The average number of employees during the year were	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>
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No employees received remuneration of more than £60,000

5 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION

The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Presbyters, who are Trustees, are paid by the Methodist Connection, but their costs are funded by the Circuit. These are included in the staff costs note in these accounts.

There were no other related party transactions in the year.

HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

6	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS					Freehold Property	
	Cost						
	At 31st August 2023					2,156,431	
	At 31st August 2022					2,156,431	
7	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year					2023	2022
						£	£
	Accruals					14,820	1,440
	Deferred income					71,598	61,425
						86,418	62,865
8	FUNDS	1 September 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 August 2023	
		£	£	£	£	£	
	Unrestricted						
	General Fund	269,753	332,166	269,548	(69,391)	262,980	
	Designated Funds						
	Ashvale Chapel (Freehold)	750,482	-	-	-	750,482	
	Manse Fund (Freeholds)	1,405,949	-	-	-	1,405,949	
	Manse Repair Fund	99,767	-	67,948	60,000	91,819	
	Frimley Green Worker	-	15,000	13,473	18,000	19,527	
	North Camp Worker	11,604	12,709	-	-	24,313	
	Garrison Worker	207,492	40,000	35,874	-	211,618	
	Mission Support	66,511	19,909	21,798	(18,000)	46,622	
	The Chapel Ash Vale	3,241	19,465	13,528	9,391	18,569	
	Total Funds	2,814,799	439,249	422,169	0	2,831,879	

The **Designated Funds** are represented by the Charity's cash reserves and fixed asset investments

General Fund General reserves comprise the funds which are either not designated or restricted.

Ashvale Chapel (Freehold) Ash Vale Chapel is a freehold church used by the Circuit for a fresh expressions church

Manse Fund (Freeholds) Manse Fund is the 5 freehold properties used by the Circuit to house Presbyters

Manse Repair Fund Manse Repair Fund is monies set aside to maintain and refurbish the manse dwellings used by the Presbyters

North Camp Worker North Camp Lay Worker Fund represents monies received as grants to be used for the employment of a families and youth worker at North

Garrison Worker Garrison Worker Fund represents funds set aside to employ a worker to support families and youth in the Aldershot Garrison.

Mission Support Mission Support is funds available to circuit churches for specific mission projects

The Chapel Ash Vale The Chapel is a Fresh Expressions church run as a joint venture with St Mary's Church Ash Vale PCC.

HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (continued)

FUNDS (continued)	1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted					
General Fund	182,222	293,877	301,821	95,475	269,753
Designated Funds					
Ashvale Chapel (Freehold)	750,482	-	-	-	750,482
Manse Fund (Freeholds)	1,673,449	-	-	(267,500)	1,405,949
Manse Repair Fund	28,803	29,600	58,636	100,000	99,767
North Camp Lay Worker	11,196	12,347	11,939		11,604
Garrison Worker	-	40,000	32,508	200,000	207,492
Mission Support	67,056	34,253	33,554	(1,244)	66,511
The Chapel Ash Vale	13,372	3,528	14,968	1,309	3,241
General Reserve	42,849	-	-	(42,849)	-
Benevolent Fund	65	-	-	(65)	-
AUE Shared Manse	2,115	-	-	(2,115)	-
Circuit Model Trust Fund	48,611	-	-	(48,611)	-
Restricted Funds					
Alma Adley	34,400	-	-	(34,400)	-
Total Funds	2,854,620	413,605	453,426	-	2,814,799

9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible Assets £	Net Current Assets £	Total £
2023	2,156,431	675,448	2,831,879
2022	2,156,431	658,368	2,814,799