

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees

Ann Adams (From Sept 2024)	Rev Gisela Lawson
Aileen Ashby	David Moll
Rev Kyung Mi Banks (From Sept 2024)	Ian Moore
Melvyn Buckett	Jayne Moore
Gill Bunch (resigned June 2024)	Michael Morrice
Kym Burgess	Judith Nicholls
Denis Compton	Alison Noakes
Loise Cushing	Rev Nicholas Oborski
Nina Curley	Thomas Oborski
Steve Curtis	Andy Osborne (from Sept 2023)
Alex Day (Resigned September 2024)	Sally Press
Rev Anne Day	Elizabeth Read
Steve Dewey	Heather Richards
Carole Gaines	Alex Sanderson
Joy Everingham (From Sept 2024)	Ian Sargeant
Frances Gawthrop	Brian Sexton
Liz George	Rev Philip Simpkins
Neil Gray	Muriel Simpson
Rita Greig	Sue Smith
Rev Gina Hoff (Resigned 31 August 2024)	Gill Ter Kuile
Rev Michael Hopkins (resigned Jan 2024)	Graham Titterington
Christopher Hunter	Mutsa Ushewokunze (From Sept 2024)
Margaret Janes	Jill Whittingham
Liz Jones	Carol Woodruffe (From March 2024)
David Kember	

Key Management Personnel

REV NICHOLAS OBORSKI
REV ANN DAY
REV GINA HOFF
REV MICHAEL HOPKINS
REV PHILLIP SIMPKINS
ELIZABETH ANNE GEORGE
DAVID WILLIAM MOLL
JAYNE BEVERLEY MOORE
MICHAEL JOHN MORRICE

HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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

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 2024

The Trustees present their report and financial statements of Hants-Surrey Border Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2024. These have been prepared in compliance 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 (Fleet 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 Ash Vale Chapel (a building owned by the Circuit) is a "Fresh Expression" of church managed jointly with St Mary's Church, Ash Vale. This is treated as a Circuit 'project' with the operating costs met from Chapel's income from users and donations with the intention of it being self-supporting.

There is a local management group with Methodist and St Mary's Church membership which has responsibility for routine maintenance of the property. A part time manager appointed by the management group has day-to-day oversight of its activities.

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 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.

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

We act as an umbrella and resourcing body for the 9 local churches, 2 LEP churches, 1 Fresh Expressions project and a Garison Worker in the Circuit. The object is 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 Circuit's governing body, and provide the link upwards to District and Conference. Anyone is welcome to attend and contribute to the meeting by invitation

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.

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 – 23/24

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 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.

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

- 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 (Fresh Expressions) based at The Chapel in Ash Vale is provided in partnership with St Mary's Church. The project is supervised by a local Management Committee with representatives from the Circuit and St Mary's PCC.

The Circuit employs a lay worker as a youth and family worker in the Aldershot military garrison who lives in a flat provided by the MOD in their base. They work with schools associated with families based in the garrison.

The churches continue to meet the challenge of a reducing membership. The Circuit is working with the local churches to understand their vision for their future.

Financial Review and Reserves

Income and expenditure

The Circuit Assessment is reviewed annually and set at a level to cover the cost of meeting its objectives, and activities listed below. It is shared between 9 local churches on an equitable basis. The LEPs pay a contribution to the Circuit on a different basis under their respective sharing agreements.

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

Overall, the net movement in funds for the year was £20,052 (2023 - £17,081)

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 £409,800 (2023 – £422,169).

General fund balance was £263,808 (2023 - £262,980).

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.

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Excluding freehold property, the balance of the unrestricted funds stands at £695,500 (2023 £675,448).

The Circuit has a balance owed to Wessex Trust of £51,472.23 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 Philip Simpkins

Date: 5 December 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS 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 2024.

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

10 December 2024

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

			2024	2023
Income from:	Note		£	£
Charitable Activities	2		329,684	331,494
Donations		Grants	34,100	68,209
Investment Income		Interest	33,668	19,637
Other Trading Activities		Manse rental	32,400	19,909
Total Income			<u>429,852</u>	<u>439,249</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable Activities		Ongoing activities	3	
			<u>409,800</u>	<u>422,169</u>
Total Expenditure			<u>409,800</u>	<u>422,169</u>
Net (expenditure)/Income			<u>20,052</u>	<u>17,080</u>
Reconciliation of Funds				
Funds brought forward on 1 September 2023			<u>2,831,879</u>	<u>2,814,799</u>
Funds carried forward at 31 August 2024			<u>2,851,931</u>	<u>2,831,879</u>

THE HANTS-SURREY BORDER CIRCUIT
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	6		2,156,431		2,156,431
Current Assets					
Debtors		-		52,709	
Prepayments		226		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		754,574		709,157	
		<u>754,800</u>		<u>761,866</u>	
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(59,300)</u>		<u>(86,418)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>695,500</u>		<u>675,448</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>2,851,931</u>		<u>2,831,879</u>
Reserves					
Unrestricted income funds	8		<u>2,851,931</u>		<u>2,831,879</u>
Total Charity Funds			<u>2,851,931</u>		<u>2,831,879</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 5 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by

P. M. Simpkins

Rev. Philip Simpkins
Trustee

HANTS-SURREY BORDER METHODIST CIRCUIT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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. Therefore, 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 agreed by Circuit Meeting.

(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 2024 (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 2024 (continued)

2	INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2024	2023
		£	£
	Circuit Assessments	309,570	311,963
	Contributions	7,000	66
	Chapel Ash Vale	13,114	19,465
		<u>329,684</u>	<u>331,494</u>

3	EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2024	2023
		£	£
	Connectional and District Assessments	86,332	76,468
	Staff Costs	206,248	207,946
	Staff Expenses	15,412	15,599
	Staff Costs Office	8,208	14,066
	Property Costs	57,994	67,948
	Mission Projects	28,263	35,325
	Legal & professional Fees	4,282	908
	Bank Charges	961	1,029
	Governance Costs Independent Examiner	2100	2,880
		<u>409,800</u>	<u>422,169</u>

4	STAFF COSTS	2024	2023
		£	£
	Salaries	162,283	166,753
	Employer's National Insurance Contributions	14,920	14,686
	Employer's Pension Contributions	33,103	30,916
	Contribution to other salaries and other costs	4,150	9,657
		<u>214,456</u>	<u>222,012</u>

The average number of employees during the year were 7 6

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.

The Trustees were reimbursed expenses of £7,754 (2023 £5,964)

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 2024 (continued)

6	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS					Freehold Property
	Cost					
	At 31st August 2024					2,156,431
	At 31st August 2023					2,156,431
7	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year		2024			2023
			£			£
	Accruals		20,300			14,820
	Deferred income		39,000			71,598
			59,300			86,418
8	FUNDS	1 September 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 August 2024
		£	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted					
	General Fund	262,980	326,957	286,129	(40,000)	263,807
	Designated Funds					
	Ashvale Chapel (Freehold)	750,482				750,482
	Manse Fund (Freeholds)	1,405,949				1,405,949
	Manse Repair Fund	91,819	4,926	57,994	51,116	89,867
	Frimley Green Worker	19,527	19,000			38,527
	North Camp Worker	24,313				24,313
	Garrison Worker	211,618	33,455	37,413		207,660
	Mission Support	46,622	32,400	16,390	(10,312)	52,320
	The Chapel Ash Vale	18,569	13,114	11,874	(804)	19,005
	Total Funds	2,831,879	429,852	409,800	0	2,851,931

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

Frimley Green Worker Frimley Green Worker Fund is monies received from grants for the employment of a lay worker for the Frimley Green and Cove churches to work with families and young people

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 Camp Methodist Church

Hants - Surrey Border Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

FUNDS (continued)

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

The Chapel Ash Vale The Chapel is a Fresh Expressions church run as in partnership with St

	31 August 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	0	15,000	13,473	18,000	19,527
North Camp Lay 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
9 Total Funds	2,814,799	439,249	422,169	0	2,831,879

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible Assets	Net Current Assets	Total
	£	£	£
2024	2,156,431	695,500	2,851,931
2023	2,156,431	675,448	2,831,879