

## **SECTION A**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

The name of the charity is Penn Free Methodist Church and our charity no. is 1138169. The Chairman of the Trustees is Pastor Peter Simpson of Chapel Cottage, Church Road, Penn Bucks, HP10 8NU. During the year the other serving trustees were Mr Ken Luff and the Rev. Richard Mortimer.

## **SECTION B**

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The trustees administer Penn Free Methodist Church according to the Trust Deed dated 4th August 2009. The trustees are appointed by the church members, usually, though not necessarily, from outside of the body of the members. They are appointed on the basis of their being appropriately qualified to further the aims of the church as outlined in the trust deed. They take on the responsibility of financial oversight and also ensure that the church operates according to the terms of the charity's governing document. Trustees hold office until such time as they resign or retire.

## **SECTION C**

### **Objects and Activities**

The church's objectives are the advancement of the Christian religion in accordance with the doctrinal statement in the church's governing document. The church's activities, in consequence of this objective, are pastoral work within the congregation, and Christian ministry and evangelistic work within the wider community, including ministry to children and young people.

## **SECTION D**

### **Achievements and Performance**

Throughout the past year the Church has continued a visible Christian witness to the local community and further afield, and has also spoken out on national issues relevant to the upholding of a biblical Christian viewpoint. We are thankful to God for supplying our needs and for sustaining our Gospel testimony through another year.

## **SECTION E Financial Review**

The charity's accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, and are scrutinised by a qualified independent examiner, Mr. R. Marshall. Principal funding sources are the donations of church members, the donations of church attendees and the donations of other friends of the church. The main items of expenditure are the Minister's salary and property light and heat and maintenance.

Cash in hand : The Lloyds Bank current account at 31/03/24 stands at £10,456.88; the Lloyds Bank Instant Savings account at £17,192.55; and the Lloyds Bank Fixed Term Deposit account at 22,300.67.

Therefore total cash at 31/03/24 equals £49,950.10, representing a rise on the previous year £14,048.16.

Cash balances held at the end of the year are retained to finance everyday expenses in the furtherance of the church's normal work and to fund property maintenance. The trustees view the current level of reserves as adequate, given the uncertain requirements of maintaining two older properties.

Financial expenditure decisions are made by the church members' meeting, whilst the trustees maintain a general oversight and play an important advisory role, ensuring that the church's financial position remains stable.

The charity holds no funds on behalf of others.

## SECTION F

### Public Benefit Statement

The Charity Commission website states that a charity has to conform to the public benefit requirement of the Charities Act 2011. Directly quoting from the website,

"The public benefit requirement has two aspects:

#### The 'benefit aspect'

To satisfy this aspect:

- a) a purpose must be beneficial - this must be in a way that is identifiable and capable of being proved by evidence where necessary and which is not based on personal views
- b) any detriment or harm that results from the purpose (to people, property or the environment) must not outweigh the benefit - this is also based on evidence and not on personal views

#### The 'public aspect'

To satisfy this aspect the purpose must:

- a) benefit the public in general, or a sufficient section of the public - what is a 'sufficient section of the public' varies from purpose to purpose
- b) not give rise to more than incidental personal benefit - personal benefit is 'incidental' where (having regard both to its nature and to its amount) it is a necessary result or by-product of carrying out the purpose
- c) In general, for a purpose to be a charitable purpose it must satisfy both the benefit and the public aspects. However, charities for the relief (and in some cases the prevention) of poverty need only satisfy the benefit aspect" (end quote).

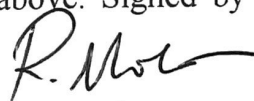

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have a due regard to the guidance on public benefit, published by the charity commission in exercising their powers or duties, and they consider that the public proclamation of the Christian Gospel by Penn Free Methodist Church amply fulfils the statutory public benefit requirement.

## Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees report above. Signed by Chairman on behalf of all trustees

Signed  (date) 24/10/24

PASTOR PETER SIMPSON, CHAIRMAN

 R. MARTIN  
24/10/24  
 KEN LUFF  
24/10/24

# PENN FREE METHODIST CHURCH

<b>INCOME/EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDING 31-03-2024</b>		
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
GIFT AID GIVING	18,510.00	30,070.00
NON-GIFT AID GIVING	10,092.26	9,449.70
GIFT AID TAX REFUND	19,409.88	0.00
LITERATURE/SALES	176.43	174.09
DEPOSIT A/C INTEREST	447.62	36.17
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>48,636.19</u></b>	<b><u>39,729.96</u></b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
MINISTER'S SALARY (GROSS)	15,885.90	14,821.72
MINISTER'S TRAVEL inc. OPEN AIR WORK	887.10	266.48
CHURCH GAS	2,513.38	2,997.96
CHURCH ELECTRICITY	995.94	1,302.96
CHURCH TELEPHONE	553.45	606.40
CHURCH MAINTENANCE	1,120.99	960.00
CHURCH INSURANCE	1,790.50	1,763.04
CHURCH WATER	188.84	174.46
COTTAGE COUNCIL TAX	2,586.84	2,459.73
COTTAGE MAINTENANCE	4,367.83	172.12
COTTAGE WATER	289.43	297.60
COTTAGE INSURANCE	562.36	531.16
ADVERTISING	420.00	300.00
WEBSITE/INTERNET/COMPUTER	355.55	504.11
VISITING PREACHERS	545.00	285.00
ORGAN/PIANO	0.00	210.00
TRACTS, POSTERS, CHURCH FLYERS, CARTRIDGES	1,424.78	669.65
SUNDRY EXPENSES	100.14	157.55
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b><u>34,588.03</u></b>	<b><u>28,479.94</u></b>
<b><u>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</u></b>	<b><u>14,048.16</u></b>	<b><u>11,250.02</u></b>
<b><u>BANK RECONCILIATION AT 31-03-24</u></b>		
Closing Balance per Bank statement 31/03/24	10,456.88	
Unpresented receipts	0.00	
Unpresented payments	0.00	
Closing Balance per Cash Book 31/03/24	<b>10,456.88</b>	
Opening Balance per Cash Book 01/04/23	13,856.34	
Receipts in year per profit and loss account less dep a/c int	48,188.57	
Payments in year per profit and loss account	34,588.03	
Transfer to Lloyds Instant account, 20-02-24	17,000.00	
Closing Balance per Cash Book 31/03/24	<b>10,456.88</b>	
Difference	0.00	
<b><u>Cash movements current and two deposit accounts combined</u></b>		
Combined opening balance per cash book 01-04-23	35,901.94	
Combined receipts in year (inc. dep a/c int)	48,636.19	
Combined payments in year	-34,588.03	

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Combined closing balance per cash book 31-03-24	49,950.10	
Fixed Term account 31-03-24 as per Bank Statement	22,300.67	
Instant account 31-03-24 as per Bank Statement	17,192.55	
Treasurer's Account 31-03-24 as per Bank Statement	10,456.88	
Combined closing balance per cash book 31-03-24	49,950.10	
Difference	0.00	
Combined opening balance per cash book 01-04-23	35,901.94	
Combined closing balance per cash book 31-03-24	49,950.10	
Surplus as per Income and Expenditure Account at 31-03-24	14,048.16	

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## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Penn Free Methodist Church ("the charity", Number 1138169)**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 as set out on pages 1 and 2.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

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 next statement.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

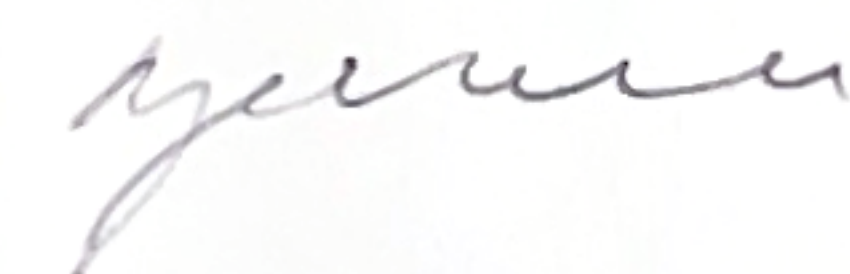
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

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.



**R J Marshall**

**Date**

25/10/24

**45 Walton Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7SR**