

HAXBY & WIGGINTON METHODIST CHURCH



ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023

**Haxby & Wigginton Methodist
Church Annual Report**

For the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023

Charity Commission Registered Number: 1138675

Mission Statement

Haxby & Wigginton Methodist Church seeks to be a beacon in the local community for faith in Jesus Christ and love and service to all.

Introduction

The people of Haxby & Wigginton Methodist Church are gathered by God into a community of love and service as they share the good news of Jesus Christ. For over a hundred years we have been engaged in a mission of divine worship, community outreach and Christian nurture. In this report, we offer a snapshot of way that mission has unfolded in the year just ended.

Administration

The Church is held on the 1976 Model Trust by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, and the Church Council act as Managing Trustees. During the year to 31 August 2021, the following were Managing Trustees:

Minister:	Rev Rory Dalglish
Church Council Secretary:	Sarah Tiffany
Church Stewards:	Janet Bowling Richard Freeman Jacqui Tankard

Acting Church Treasurer;	Martyn Holman
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Committee Secretaries:

Pastoral	Penny Dawson
Worship	Church Stewards
Finance & Property	Barbara Rattenbury Peter Metcalf
Safeguarding Officer	Anthony Gray

Members elected by the GCM

Olwyn Holden
David Holden
Andrew Storr
Sarah Galloway
Marlynn Hoyroyd
Anne Hysted
Helen Tulloch
Lisa Shephard

Circuit Steward	Vic Paylor/Janet Bowling
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Membership on 31 August 2023 was 317

To achieve our objectives, the Church is organised in the following way

The Minister
Church Council
Church Stewards
Pastoral Committee
Finance & Property Committee
Safeguarding

The Church Council CPD SO 603 – Secretary: Sarah Tiffany

Purpose

The Church Council has the authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry and mission of the Church. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy, and the deployment of available resources are its proper responsibility.

The Church Council should meet not less than twice per year, at such dates as are most appropriate to the ongoing life of the Church, and its relationship with its committees and the Circuit. The Church Council act as Managing Trustees of the local property and are registered with the Charity Commission. If any legal matter arises, then only those members of the Council who are of the age 18 are eligible to be Trustees and are allowed to vote.

The Church Council will appoint annually all Church Officers as determined from time to time by the Council whether on the nomination of a committee or otherwise; all such appointments being for the year commencing 1 May, apart from the Church Treasurer, whose appointment will commence on 1 September. The Council will also appoint the committees of the Church, again as from 1 May each year.

Work of God in the past year

The Church Council met on four occasions during this period (face to face) which has facilitated engaging conversations on the life and direction of our church following the global pandemic. During this time the building has fully opened and is now being used for both church groups and private use. Activity is steadily increasing, and we have welcomed a number of new groups who now meet on a regular basis.

The Church Council thanks our minister Rory Dalglish for his pastoral care and thought-provoking leadership as we continue to move forward under his guidance. We continued to explore the materials for the Methodist Way of Life and established 4 separate forums to start the conversation of how we can put this thinking in to practice in our church and wider community.

This year we successfully redefined the role of Church Treasurer and established a Finance Working Group to undertake the financial duties, responsibilities and accountabilities as a collective group. This is working very well so far in terms of process. Our financial situation remains challenging, and work has been done to rationalize the number of accounts that we have and to make sure that the full congregation is aware of the current financial status.

The Church Council approved the upgrading of our audio visual/streaming capabilities. An electrical inspection and the Quinquennial Inspection have both taken place during this period and any issues raised have been addressed. The Church Council is grateful to the Property and Finance Committee's for the work that they undertake to keep our building safe and open. The Church Council also acknowledged that there are a small number of volunteers that contribute to the various groups and activities that make up our Church Life and that it would be good to have more people involved across the provision.

Our AGM was held on the 11th June in conjunction with the monthly Church Breakfast and was well attended. The format also worked well.

As the Managing Trustees, we have legal responsibilities which have been carried out and we have supported the work of the committees where necessary. The members of the Church Council wish to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the Life, Mission and Worship of the church.

The Minister's Report

Rev. Rory Dalgliesh – Minister

This year is the seventh full year of my ministry here, and I remain deeply grateful to be working here, and for us to be so very much at home here as a family.

Our church life has returned to something like normal, though our activities are reduced, and many people's individual capacities are also reduced. We continue to use the internet as one of the ways in which our community remains connected.

Lorraine Jones continues her employment by the York Circuit until September 2024 at least, working in Haxby as a Local Pastor. Her role continues to primarily be family and children's work, often exercised outside of our building.

Sarah Tiffany continues as our church administrator for 10 hours per week.

Our worshipping patterns remain one service at 10am on a Sunday, with our "traditional" worship on Wednesdays at 10am. We continue to think carefully about how best to provide practical support and musical accompaniment for the services that we have.

This has been a difficult year with deaths, and with serious illness and diagnoses.

These have taken their toll on the community as we work out who we are and what we're about now.

I am grateful to all who pitch in to help our life be as good as it is, even if it still does and perhaps always will feel like the various loads could be shared out more.

Church Steward's Report **Purpose CPD SO 634**

The Church Stewards are corporately responsible, together with the Minister, for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the life and activity of the Church.

The role of the Church Stewards is to serve the mission and ministries of the Church with prayer, creativity and vision.

By their service and example, they guide, encourage and support individuals and other groups within the Church.

The Church Stewards will implement decisions made by the Church Council, and act between meetings of the Church Council in respect of all matters that are not under the purview of any of the Church committees.

In all instances, however, the Church Stewards will remain accountable to the Church Council. The Church Stewards will, by mutual consent, ensure that at least one of its members is a representative on every Church Committee.

Church Stewards will be elected by the General Church Meeting to serve a rotating 4-year term.

Insofar as is possible, Church Stewards should accurately reflect the diversity of the congregation with respect to age, gender and race. However, as the appointment of Church Steward gives a seat on the Pastoral Committee Church Stewards must be at least 18 years of age.

Work of God in the past year

The Sunday and Wednesday services continue to have a regular attendance often including new visitors and a small number of regular young people attending on a Sunday. The stewards appreciate the support of those who assist in helping facilitate worship. The introduction of breakfast Church has offered opportunity for fellowship and to get to know each other through hearing our stories. We feel that we are a very welcoming church and we hope that, as we learn more about what it means to be inclusive, that we are seen as welcoming to all. Coffee and chat after our services continues to be really important, as it is an opportunity for us to talk and get to know each other better, another chance to tell "our stories" if we want to. The Stewards continue to meet with Rory and Lorraine, praying and talking about the life of our church as we look ahead, thinking about our mission both within our church building and in the wider community. Any important issues are taken to the Church Council, so we always like to hear thoughts, ideas and concerns from the church family, so please do talk to us any time. We have managed as a team

of three, however, it leaves little room for contingency and ideally four stewards would be good. We pray that we move forward as a church family with God as our guide and we pray for new initiatives and new beginnings.

A Vision for Families

Having a church where families are welcomed, embraced and nurtured by the whole church family. Where they are given opportunities to worship and encounter God in a way that is meaningful and relevant to them, and which will promote a lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ.

To support families as they seek to build strong relationships and a positive home life. To help them navigate their way through life's seasons and encourage faith in the family. To have solid relationships with the wider community in order to promote family life.

Local Pastor and Family Ministry Co-Ordinator- Lorraine Jones

From September 2021, I took on the dual role of Local Pastor and Families worker. This role has been confirmed until August 2025. The role has carried on being exploratory as we continue to discern where God is leading in our Church and Community. From this, we can understand where our priorities are and how the local pastor and family work role can best support that. We are all challenged to explore what it means to be a Church in today's world. With Rory and others, we are looking for opportunities for us to explore that together.

This report is a review of the year to August 2023 but I briefly mention beyond this and with a view to the Horizon.

Young Church

This continues to be a joy and a challenge. Numbers are low, usually below 6, but it is always a privilege to spend time with the young people of our church. I never fail to be amazed by their insights, their humour and their capacity for eating biscuits. Along with the other leaders, I continue to worry about the future of young church; in many ways it feels like we are limping on. But I know those who are there value the time together enormously. We keep praying and thinking and trying to discern the future of Young Church as part of the future of the church as a whole. The young people were very keen to explore the idea of a co-ordinating a Church Magazine. Permission has been given by the Church Council to give this a try, so the first edition will be out in time for Advent 23.

Uniform Event

This ecumenical partnership and partnership with the community has been a real success. There have been three of these now. Having learned what worked well in the first two, we tweaked the plan to make it work even better in the summer of 2023. This time we were also able to offer refreshments and it was lovely to see people lingering and hooking up with people they haven't seen for a while. This year we partnered with RAY to give them the excess uniform. Some people from the community popped in to pick up some uniform and stayed to help. Next year we hope to involve the community more. We were interviewed by the Connexion and the Uniform Bank appeared on the Methodist Church Website.

Open the Book

Our ecumenical team have been back into schools – we now cover 4 schools including the Forest of Galtres Anglican/Methodist School in Shipton by Beningborough. The team is very committed and continues to be a blessing to the schools (and has enormous fun into the bargain). We have enough members to alternate weeks in school, so we easily cover holidays and absences. Of all of the things in the life of the Church that we scratch our head over, this is one of the few 'no brainers'. It just makes sense on so many levels. We build relationship with the schools, it is easy to do, we bring the love of God to the children and teachers every other week, the team love it and the schools love it. Win win win!

Worship

The Family Area that was set up at the back of church continues to be appreciated by the families and young people who visit the church.

Part of my role has been to help co-ordinate special times in the churches life to happen – eg Advent and HWMC Annual Report August 2023

Lent. I have also organised the Community Nativity, which is always a joy to host and a lot of fun for everyone involved. My role also continues to work with Baptism families and, with Rory, to make them and their family feel welcome on their child's special day.

It has also been a privilege to see and encourage young people taking an active role in the service, whether reading, communion or singing.

Pastoral Support

While it is the privilege and joy of the whole church to support each other pastorally, sometimes extra support or co-ordinating is required. This involves working with the pastoral secretary, Rory and others in occasional visits, cards, flowers, calls, texts and chats. We continue to scratch our heads about the best way forward for the Church to support each other pastorally, given that the former system of pastoral visitors is no longer viable for all, though still happens in pockets and is very much valued.

Administration

Last year, I helped set up the finance group so the role of treasurer could be managed among a group of people rather than being held by one person. This is now successfully up and running, so I have stepped down.

I also work with the Safeguarding Lead and with Sarah, our Office Admin in co-ordinating and organising our important records.

Eco Church

Work began in 2019 with one of our interns on looking at working towards Eco Church. She did some excellent work. I came to pick this up as one of my own personal callings and as a way to engage with the congregation and communities. St Marys Church are also working towards Eco Church so it makes sense to work together. A local group started to meet to see what we could do in our churches and communities to make a difference and to gain Eco Church Status. There have been Eco events at both St Marys and the Methodist Church towards this (for example the Uniform Event). For our own Church, work on Eco Church in general was put on the back burner as the group concentrated on getting the community garden off the ground (we are still waiting on action from the NHS for this). In the meantime, Eco Church kicked off again at the request of the group and we have now achieved Bronze award. We have many ideas and plans, starting with an ecumenical Climate Sunday Service in September.

A group covering all areas of Eco church now meets monthly on zoom or in person to meet people from across York who are also working towards Eco Church. It is a thriving group. In so many ways we are all really quite tired and weary – this seems to be one of the few areas where the energy is. In terms of Local Pastor work – wherever the work involved building relationships, partnering with the community and bringing people together, that fits nicely within my role. The hours of reading, podcast listening, attending workshops and planting – that's just because I love it and comes under my volunteering time.

Building Community

The IT workshop, while appreciated by those who came, has now run its course and space needs to be made to free up time for other things. The cinema night and games night was also well received by the church family, but very few folk in the community came. We may rethink putting these on. The Church also obtained funding to run 'Peaced Together' – workshops organised and run by a team of people (some from this Church) to support women on a 10 week course using the creative arts. My role is to act as chaplain (and to make tea!).

Partnering with people in the community has also been encouraging and comes with the realisation that we do not have to do everything ourselves; let's support others where they are doing great work. For example, we have been able to support the Haxby Foodshare through Christmas and Harvest collections and support for clubs in the summer. There is also excellent work with our community going on elsewhere in the church; this will be covered by other voices in this report. I am now part of a small group of community activity co-ordinators who keep each other informed and help each other out wherever possible. It's very useful to be in contact with these people.

Working with staff and stewards

It has been a privilege and a joy to work with the other staff and stewards and church council as we try to

navigate our way through the fog of uncertainty which is the future of the church we love.

The previous report set out the challenges we face as a congregation; the world has changed beyond recognition over the past couple of decades, but noticeably so in the last few years. Today we face a challenge as a church: who are we as Christians and Methodists in today's world and how do we reach out to those in our community and to our world, to 'be a beacon' of God's love? I am looking forward to exploring this with everyone. The hope and prayer of the Church leadership is that we will learn and grow and discern the way forward as a Church.

As always, I am blessed by the support and encouragement of the Church congregation.

Monday Monkeys -Lisa Shephard

Monday Monkeys continues to happen every Monday during term time, from 10 -11.30am. We run totally on volunteers, 6 leaders and also a team of 8 refreshment servers who work in pairs on a rotating rota, one of which comes to vacuum throughout after sessions, we are all connected to Church.

Our aim is to give children, aged 3 and under, a safe place to play alongside their peers while their parents or grandparents build relationships and receive support from local people. To enable this to happen we limit numbers to 30 families each week, unless it's Christmas or Easter when we use the Sanctuary space for singing and play so have additional space.

Pastoral Committee - Penny Dawson (Pastoral Secretary)

Purpose CPD SO 644

To consider matters relating to Church membership

To arrange training for membership

To recommend to the Church Council candidates for membership

To make arrangements for services of confirmation

To prepare a report on membership for the Church Council

To encourage the practice of fellowship, through house groups and other groups

To ensure the effectiveness of the work of pastoral visitors and house groups

Members

The Minister

Local Pastor

Pastoral Secretary

Pastoral Visitors

Home Group Representatives

Cradle Roll Secretary and Visitors

Signs of God's work in the past year

The Pastoral committee take care of matters relating to church membership. We arrange membership training and recommend candidates to the Church Council. We report to the Church Council on pastoral matters at every meeting and keep them updated on pastoral movements. New people are welcomed into our church and every attempt is made to make them feel valued.

We have several house groups who meet fortnightly and follow the same studies. As well as the studies some house groups keep in contact by WhatsApp and enjoy informal meetings such as barbecues or walks when partners and families are often invited to join in. Other groups, for example Sunday @ 2, Sunday @ 8 and Luncheon Club, use these methods and pastoral care is offered within all church led groups.

As we have very few pastoral visitors, we have been looking at different ways to support the congregation. The team meets regularly to find solutions to this problem in a church the size of ours but it is an ongoing challenge. Coffee after both the Sunday and Wednesday services is well supported and a good opportunity to meet new people and chat informally.

If you feel you would like to talk about any pastoral matters, please feel free to contact either Rory or Lorraine.

Sunday @ 8

Sunday @ 8 are a group of young at heart middle agers who meet on the second Sunday of the month either in each other's homes or the Mountain Room depending on the activity. We enjoy a mixed programme including speakers, activities and social events. Amongst the speakers we have enjoyed hearing from Judith Stodddart about her work as a Deacon and Emma Chester about her work as PA to the prison governor at Full Sutton prison. We've also enjoyed several walks, a treasure hunt around the Snickleways of York and a table games evening. Our annual day out, this year to Castle Howard, was very well attended. If you feel this group could be for you keep an eye on the notices and come and join us. You'll be assured of a warm welcome.

Finance report Please Statement of Accounts as of 31 August 2022

Finance & Property - *Barbara Rattenbury (Secretary)*

Purpose

The responsibilities of the Committee are to advise the Church Council, as Managing Trustees, to ensure that the church acts in a proper manner as steward of all the financial resources entrusted to it and for the proper upkeep of the premises to ensure that they are well maintained and, in a condition, suitable for the needs of the work of the church.

It also ensures that proper controls are in operation to ensure the safe control of all monies given to the church, and that all expenditure is authorised within the confines of the annual budget which it prepares for adoption by the Church Council.

Annually it prepares a schedule of expenditure on maintenance, heating, lighting, etc, for incorporation within the annual budget.

Health & Safety and Security are also within its remit, and it oversees the terms and conditions for to the use of the premises by groups and organisations.

The work of God in the past year.

The Committee met 3 times during the year.

- The independently examined accounts, which can be found elsewhere in the report.
- Issues to do with the use of the building were dealt with as they arose.
- A new Financial Support Group was formed to oversee the various aspects of the Church's finances.

The Committee would like to express sincere thanks to those who have helped to keep the premises warm and welcoming for everyone coming through our doors during the last year, particularly the new Finance Support Group (Martyn Holman, Wendy O'Callaghan, Helen Gray, David Holden, Anthony Gray and Peter Metcalf), Peter Metcalf (Chairman), Mike Whitworth (Health and Safety/Insurance), Sarah Tiffany (Lettings), Marianna Watson (Gift Aid), Helena Rigby (Envelopes).

Hopes and aspirations for the coming year.

Our aim is to continue to oversee the financial and property spheres of the life of the church to enable it's people and those it serves to continue to grow in faith and love of Jesus Christ.

Safeguarding – *Anthony Gray, Safeguarding Officer*

There is less Safeguarding activity following the Coronavirus pandemic. This is because some groups have now stopped meeting.

The Church Safeguarding Policy, and guidelines for those working with Children, and/or Vulnerable Adults were approved by Church Council in January 2023. This is done on a yearly basis

Some training courses, including advanced safeguarding were held in person and online. I have now completed my advanced safeguarding training. Childline posters are on display throughout the building.

I have been working with the church Families worker and administrator on safeguarding issues, including new/renewal DBS checks. A shared database for all 3 people to access the information is being tried.

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Haxby & Wigginton Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

York	Circuit	Circuit no.	29/33
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1138675

If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number**

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev'd Rory Dalglish

Church Stewards:

Mrs Janet Bowling
Mr Richard Freeman
Ms Jacqui Tankard

Treasurer:

Martin Holman/Church Finance Group

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	96,489		96,489	111,620
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2,193		2,193	197
a4	Lettings	8,048		8,048	5,347
a5	Other receipts	15,968	2,266	18,234	19,610
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	122,697	2,266	124,963 (a7)	136,775
SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	79,500		79,500	92,190
b3	Donations	6,030	3,784	9,814	7,310
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	14,307		14,307	15,051
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	9,407		9,407	6,947
b6					
b7	Other payments	10,962	255	11,217	11,477
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	120,206	4,039	124,245 (b9)	132,975
SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	2,492 (1,773)	719	3,800
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	75,481	1,558	77,039 (c6)	73,239
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	77,972 (215)	77,757	77,039
c4	Transfers and adjustments				
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	77,972 (215)	77,757 (c8)	77,039 (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				
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 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 Church. 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	Monday Monkeys	1,229	1,014	215		952	1,167
e2	Flying Ducks Theatre Group					2,728	2,728
e3	Sunday at Eight	41	17	24		51	75
e4	Who Let the Dad's out					18	18
e5	Luncheon Club	5,151	5,160	(9)		2,333	2,324
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	6,421	6,191	230		6,082 (e11)	6,312 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	124,963 (a7)	124,245 (b9)	719	(c7)	77,039 (c6)	77,757 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	131,384	130,436	949		83,121 (x)	84,069 (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 August 2023**

		OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand	15	21
f2	Bank Current Account - Cooperative Bank	15,996	8,568
	Bank Current Account - HSBC	2,325	0
f3	Bank Deposit Account - HSBC	1,628	0
f4	Central Finance Board	40,132	51,729
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	16,944	17,439
f6	Other funds		
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	77,039 (c6)	77,757 (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	6,082 (e11)	6,312 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	83,121 (x)	84,069 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

		At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1	Investments (include Endowments)		
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)		
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 and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer Date 20.12.23

Name and address of treasurer 29 Moor Lane Haxby York

Post Code YO32 2PQ

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 ~~were~~/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 18/1/24

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Rory Dalgliesh Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Haxby & Wigginton Methodist Church

Charity Number . 1138675

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Haxby & Wigginton Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 2 to 3. As the Church'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 Church's accounts 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church . Haxby & Wigginton Methodist Church

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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.

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner N A Mudge

Name of independent examiner NICK MUDGE

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner Former FCMA

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

..... Post Code

Date 19 December 2023

* delete or circle as appropriate

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ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023

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Purpose

The Church Council has the authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry and mission of the Church. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy, and the deployment of available resources are its proper responsibility.

The Church Council should meet not less than twice per year, at such dates as are most appropriate to the ongoing life of the Church, and its relationship with its committees and the Circuit. The Church Council act as Managing Trustees of the local property and are registered with the Charity Commission. If any legal matter arises, then only those members of the Council who are of the age 18 are eligible to be Trustees and are allowed to vote.

The Church Council will appoint annually all Church Officers as determined from time to time by the Council whether on the nomination of a committee or otherwise; all such appointments being for the year commencing 1 May, apart from the Church Treasurer, whose appointment will commence on 1 September. The Council will also appoint the committees of the Church, again as from 1 May each year.

Work of God in the past year

The Church Council met on four occasions during this period (face to face) which has facilitated engaging conversations on the life and direction of our church following the global pandemic. During this time the building has fully opened and is now being used for both church groups and private use. Activity is steadily increasing, and we have welcomed a number of new groups who now meet on a regular basis.

The Church Council thanks our minister Rory Dalglish for his pastoral care and thought-provoking leadership as we continue to move forward under his guidance. We continued to explore the materials for the Methodist Way of Life and established 4 separate forums to start the conversation of how we can put this thinking in to practice in our church and wider community.

This year we successfully redefined the role of Church Treasurer and established a Finance Working Group to undertake the financial duties, responsibilities and accountabilities as a collective group. This is working very well so far in terms of process. Our financial situation remains challenging, and work has been done to rationalize the number of accounts that we have and to make sure that the full congregation is aware of the current financial status.

The Church Council approved the upgrading of our audio visual/streaming capabilities. An electrical inspection and the Quinquennial Inspection have both taken place during this period and any issues raised have been addressed. The Church Council is grateful to the Property and Finance Committee's for the work that they undertake to keep our building safe and open. The Church Council also acknowledged that there are a small number of volunteers that contribute to the various groups and activities that make up our Church Life and that it would be good to have more people involved across the provision.

Our AGM was held on the 11th June in conjunction with the monthly Church Breakfast and was well attended. The format also worked well.

As the Managing Trustees, we have legal responsibilities which have been carried out and we have supported the work of the committees where necessary. The members of the Church Council wish to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the Life, Mission and Worship of the church.

The Minister's Report

Rev. Rory Dalgliesh – Minister

This year is the seventh full year of my ministry here, and I remain deeply grateful to be working here, and for us to be so very much at home here as a family.

Our church life has returned to something like normal, though our activities are reduced, and many people's individual capacities are also reduced. We continue to use the internet as one of the ways in which our community remains connected.

Lorraine Jones continues her employment by the York Circuit until September 2024 at least, working in Haxby as a Local Pastor. Her role continues to primarily be family and children's work, often exercised outside of our building.

Sarah Tiffany continues as our church administrator for 10 hours per week.

Our worshipping patterns remain one service at 10am on a Sunday, with our "traditional" worship on Wednesdays at 10am. We continue to think carefully about how best to provide practical support and musical accompaniment for the services that we have.

This has been a difficult year with deaths, and with serious illness and diagnoses.

These have taken their toll on the community as we work out who we are and what we're about now.

I am grateful to all who pitch in to help our life be as good as it is, even if it still does and perhaps always will feel like the various loads could be shared out more.

Church Steward's Report **Purpose CPD SO 634**

The Church Stewards are corporately responsible, together with the Minister, for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the life and activity of the Church.

The role of the Church Stewards is to serve the mission and ministries of the Church with prayer, creativity and vision.

By their service and example, they guide, encourage and support individuals and other groups within the Church.

The Church Stewards will implement decisions made by the Church Council, and act between meetings of the Church Council in respect of all matters that are not under the purview of any of the Church committees.

In all instances, however, the Church Stewards will remain accountable to the Church Council. The Church Stewards will, by mutual consent, ensure that at least one of its members is a representative on every Church Committee.

Church Stewards will be elected by the General Church Meeting to serve a rotating 4-year term.

Insofar as is possible, Church Stewards should accurately reflect the diversity of the congregation with respect to age, gender and race. However, as the appointment of Church Steward gives a seat on the Pastoral Committee Church Stewards must be at least 18 years of age.

Work of God in the past year

The Sunday and Wednesday services continue to have a regular attendance often including new visitors and a small number of regular young people attending on a Sunday. The stewards appreciate the support of those who assist in helping facilitate worship. The introduction of breakfast Church has offered opportunity for fellowship and to get to know each other through hearing our stories. We feel that we are a very welcoming church and we hope that, as we learn more about what it means to be inclusive, that we are seen as welcoming to all. Coffee and chat after our services continues to be really important, as it is an opportunity for us to talk and get to know each other better, another chance to tell "our stories" if we want to. The Stewards continue to meet with Rory and Lorraine, praying and talking about the life of our church as we look ahead, thinking about our mission both within our church building and in the wider community. Any important issues are taken to the Church Council, so we always like to hear thoughts, ideas and concerns from the church family, so please do talk to us any time. We have managed as a team

of three, however, it leaves little room for contingency and ideally four stewards would be good. We pray that we move forward as a church family with God as our guide and we pray for new initiatives and new beginnings.

A Vision for Families

Having a church where families are welcomed, embraced and nurtured by the whole church family. Where they are given opportunities to worship and encounter God in a way that is meaningful and relevant to them, and which will promote a lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ.

To support families as they seek to build strong relationships and a positive home life. To help them navigate their way through life's seasons and encourage faith in the family. To have solid relationships with the wider community in order to promote family life.

Local Pastor and Family Ministry Co-Ordinator- Lorraine Jones

From September 2021, I took on the dual role of Local Pastor and Families worker. This role has been confirmed until August 2025. The role has carried on being exploratory as we continue to discern where God is leading in our Church and Community. From this, we can understand where our priorities are and how the local pastor and family work role can best support that. We are all challenged to explore what it means to be a Church in today's world. With Rory and others, we are looking for opportunities for us to explore that together.

This report is a review of the year to August 2023 but I briefly mention beyond this and with a view to the Horizon.

Young Church

This continues to be a joy and a challenge. Numbers are low, usually below 6, but it is always a privilege to spend time with the young people of our church. I never fail to be amazed by their insights, their humour and their capacity for eating biscuits. Along with the other leaders, I continue to worry about the future of young church; in many ways it feels like we are limping on. But I know those who are there value the time together enormously. We keep praying and thinking and trying to discern the future of Young Church as part of the future of the church as a whole. The young people were very keen to explore the idea of a co-ordinating a Church Magazine. Permission has been given by the Church Council to give this a try, so the first edition will be out in time for Advent 23.

Uniform Event

This ecumenical partnership and partnership with the community has been a real success. There have been three of these now. Having learned what worked well in the first two, we tweaked the plan to make it work even better in the summer of 2023. This time we were also able to offer refreshments and it was lovely to see people lingering and hooking up with people they haven't seen for a while. This year we partnered with RAY to give them the excess uniform. Some people from the community popped in to pick up some uniform and stayed to help. Next year we hope to involve the community more. We were interviewed by the Connexion and the Uniform Bank appeared on the Methodist Church Website.

Open the Book

Our ecumenical team have been back into schools – we now cover 4 schools including the Forest of Galtres Anglican/Methodist School in Shipton by Beningborough. The team is very committed and continues to be a blessing to the schools (and has enormous fun into the bargain). We have enough members to alternate weeks in school, so we easily cover holidays and absences. Of all of the things in the life of the Church that we scratch our head over, this is one of the few 'no brainers'. It just makes sense on so many levels. We build relationship with the schools, it is easy to do, we bring the love of God to the children and teachers every other week, the team love it and the schools love it. Win win win!

Worship

The Family Area that was set up at the back of church continues to be appreciated by the families and young people who visit the church.

Part of my role has been to help co-ordinate special times in the churches life to happen – eg Advent and HWMC Annual Report August 2023

Lent. I have also organised the Community Nativity, which is always a joy to host and a lot of fun for everyone involved. My role also continues to work with Baptism families and, with Rory, to make them and their family feel welcome on their child's special day.

It has also been a privilege to see and encourage young people taking an active role in the service, whether reading, communion or singing.

Pastoral Support

While it is the privilege and joy of the whole church to support each other pastorally, sometimes extra support or co-ordinating is required. This involves working with the pastoral secretary, Rory and others in occasional visits, cards, flowers, calls, texts and chats. We continue to scratch our heads about the best way forward for the Church to support each other pastorally, given that the former system of pastoral visitors is no longer viable for all, though still happens in pockets and is very much valued.

Administration

Last year, I helped set up the finance group so the role of treasurer could be managed among a group of people rather than being held by one person. This is now successfully up and running, so I have stepped down.

I also work with the Safeguarding Lead and with Sarah, our Office Admin in co-ordinating and organising our important records.

Eco Church

Work began in 2019 with one of our interns on looking at working towards Eco Church. She did some excellent work. I came to pick this up as one of my own personal callings and as a way to engage with the congregation and communities. St Marys Church are also working towards Eco Church so it makes sense to work together. A local group started to meet to see what we could do in our churches and communities to make a difference and to gain Eco Church Status. There have been Eco events at both St Marys and the Methodist Church towards this (for example the Uniform Event). For our own Church, work on Eco Church in general was put on the back burner as the group concentrated on getting the community garden off the ground (we are still waiting on action from the NHS for this). In the meantime, Eco Church kicked off again at the request of the group and we have now achieved Bronze award. We have many ideas and plans, starting with an ecumenical Climate Sunday Service in September.

A group covering all areas of Eco church now meets monthly on zoom or in person to meet people from across York who are also working towards Eco Church. It is a thriving group. In so many ways we are all really quite tired and weary – this seems to be one of the few areas where the energy is. In terms of Local Pastor work – wherever the work involved building relationships, partnering with the community and bringing people together, that fits nicely within my role. The hours of reading, podcast listening, attending workshops and planting – that's just because I love it and comes under my volunteering time.

Building Community

The IT workshop, while appreciated by those who came, has now run its course and space needs to be made to free up time for other things. The cinema night and games night was also well received by the church family, but very few folk in the community came. We may rethink putting these on. The Church also obtained funding to run 'Peaced Together' – workshops organised and run by a team of people (some from this Church) to support women on a 10 week course using the creative arts. My role is to act as chaplain (and to make tea!).

Partnering with people in the community has also been encouraging and comes with the realisation that we do not have to do everything ourselves; let's support others where they are doing great work. For example, we have been able to support the Haxby Foodshare through Christmas and Harvest collections and support for clubs in the summer. There is also excellent work with our community going on elsewhere in the church; this will be covered by other voices in this report. I am now part of a small group of community activity co-ordinators who keep each other informed and help each other out wherever possible. It's very useful to be in contact with these people.

Working with staff and stewards

It has been a privilege and a joy to work with the other staff and stewards and church council as we try to

navigate our way through the fog of uncertainty which is the future of the church we love.

The previous report set out the challenges we face as a congregation; the world has changed beyond recognition over the past couple of decades, but noticeably so in the last few years. Today we face a challenge as a church: who are we as Christians and Methodists in today's world and how do we reach out to those in our community and to our world, to 'be a beacon' of God's love? I am looking forward to exploring this with everyone. The hope and prayer of the Church leadership is that we will learn and grow and discern the way forward as a Church.

As always, I am blessed by the support and encouragement of the Church congregation.

Monday Monkeys -Lisa Shephard

Monday Monkeys continues to happen every Monday during term time, from 10 -11.30am. We run totally on volunteers, 6 leaders and also a team of 8 refreshment servers who work in pairs on a rotating rota, one of which comes to vacuum throughout after sessions, we are all connected to Church.

Our aim is to give children, aged 3 and under, a safe place to play alongside their peers while their parents or grandparents build relationships and receive support from local people. To enable this to happen we limit numbers to 30 families each week, unless it's Christmas or Easter when we use the Sanctuary space for singing and play so have additional space.

Pastoral Committee - Penny Dawson (Pastoral Secretary)

Purpose CPD SO 644

To consider matters relating to Church membership

To arrange training for membership

To recommend to the Church Council candidates for membership

To make arrangements for services of confirmation

To prepare a report on membership for the Church Council

To encourage the practice of fellowship, through house groups and other groups

To ensure the effectiveness of the work of pastoral visitors and house groups

Members

The Minister

Local Pastor

Pastoral Secretary

Pastoral Visitors

Home Group Representatives

Cradle Roll Secretary and Visitors

Signs of God's work in the past year

The Pastoral committee take care of matters relating to church membership. We arrange membership training and recommend candidates to the Church Council. We report to the Church Council on pastoral matters at every meeting and keep them updated on pastoral movements. New people are welcomed into our church and every attempt is made to make them feel valued.

We have several house groups who meet fortnightly and follow the same studies. As well as the studies some house groups keep in contact by WhatsApp and enjoy informal meetings such as barbecues or walks when partners and families are often invited to join in. Other groups, for example Sunday @ 2, Sunday @ 8 and Luncheon Club, use these methods and pastoral care is offered within all church led groups.

As we have very few pastoral visitors, we have been looking at different ways to support the congregation. The team meets regularly to find solutions to this problem in a church the size of ours but it is an ongoing challenge. Coffee after both the Sunday and Wednesday services is well supported and a good opportunity to meet new people and chat informally.

If you feel you would like to talk about any pastoral matters, please feel free to contact either Rory or Lorraine.

Sunday @ 8

Sunday @ 8 are a group of young at heart middle agers who meet on the second Sunday of the month either in each other's homes or the Mountain Room depending on the activity. We enjoy a mixed programme including speakers, activities and social events. Amongst the speakers we have enjoyed hearing from Judith Stodddart about her work as a Deacon and Emma Chester about her work as PA to the prison governor at Full Sutton prison. We've also enjoyed several walks, a treasure hunt around the Snickleways of York and a table games evening. Our annual day out, this year to Castle Howard, was very well attended. If you feel this group could be for you keep an eye on the notices and come and join us. You'll be assured of a warm welcome.

Finance report Please Statement of Accounts as of 31 August 2022

Finance & Property - *Barbara Rattenbury (Secretary)*

Purpose

The responsibilities of the Committee are to advise the Church Council, as Managing Trustees, to ensure that the church acts in a proper manner as steward of all the financial resources entrusted to it and for the proper upkeep of the premises to ensure that they are well maintained and, in a condition, suitable for the needs of the work of the church.

It also ensures that proper controls are in operation to ensure the safe control of all monies given to the church, and that all expenditure is authorised within the confines of the annual budget which it prepares for adoption by the Church Council.

Annually it prepares a schedule of expenditure on maintenance, heating, lighting, etc, for incorporation within the annual budget.

Health & Safety and Security are also within its remit, and it oversees the terms and conditions for to the use of the premises by groups and organisations.

The work of God in the past year.

The Committee met 3 times during the year.

- The independently examined accounts, which can be found elsewhere in the report.
- Issues to do with the use of the building were dealt with as they arose.
- A new Financial Support Group was formed to oversee the various aspects of the Church's finances.

The Committee would like to express sincere thanks to those who have helped to keep the premises warm and welcoming for everyone coming through our doors during the last year, particularly the new Finance Support Group (Martyn Holman, Wendy O'Callaghan, Helen Gray, David Holden, Anthony Gray and Peter Metcalf), Peter Metcalf (Chairman), Mike Whitworth (Health and Safety/Insurance), Sarah Tiffany (Lettings), Marianna Watson (Gift Aid), Helena Rigby (Envelopes).

Hopes and aspirations for the coming year.

Our aim is to continue to oversee the financial and property spheres of the life of the church to enable it's people and those it serves to continue to grow in faith and love of Jesus Christ.

Safeguarding – *Anthony Gray, Safeguarding Officer*

There is less Safeguarding activity following the Coronavirus pandemic. This is because some groups have now stopped meeting.

The Church Safeguarding Policy, and guidelines for those working with Children, and/or Vulnerable Adults were approved by Church Council in January 2023. This is done on a yearly basis

Some training courses, including advanced safeguarding were held in person and online. I have now completed my advanced safeguarding training. Childline posters are on display throughout the building.

I have been working with the church Families worker and administrator on safeguarding issues, including new/renewal DBS checks. A shared database for all 3 people to access the information is being tried.