

Report of the Trustees and
Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st August 2023
For
West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit

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West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit

Trustees Report for the year ending 31st August 2023

1. Preamble

Following the joining together of the former Worthing Methodist Circuit and the South West Sussex United Area, the new West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit has now been in existence for seven years.

The Circuit comprises 12 Methodist churches (with the former Durrington LEP now being a class of Goring) and 2 Local Ecumenical Partnerships.

2. Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Circuit Leadership Team has normally met six times a year and the Circuit Meeting has normally assembled four times a year. Meetings of the Leadership Team and the Circuit are chaired by the Superintendent Presbyter.

Our mission is to share God's love in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit in worship, teaching, caring and service. The circuit encourages each local church to engage with its community and to foster links with schools and ecumenical partners and to provide appropriate opportunities for worship and mission. The Circuit Meeting has established a number of groups as part of the outworking of the Circuit Mission Policy. Currently groups focusing on pastoral concerns, evangelism, the use of technology, global and eco concerns, and property matters meet regularly to support and develop these areas of ministry and mission.

3. Achievements and performance

The Circuit has a policy of making grants to ministers and other Circuit members varying from attending retreats, undergoing additional training and participating in conferences. The policy of the Circuit Meeting on grant making is to ensure that all applicants can demonstrate public benefit and show imagination and creativity as well as a perceived need for that for which the grant is being applied.

During the year there were six full time Methodist Presbyters and one URC minister with 75% scoping appointed to the Circuit. They were assisted by a part time lay pastor and seven part time lay employees one of whom acts as the Circuit Administrator. The Circuit also contributes to the cost of a lay employee who is employed by one of the churches.

Two of the Methodist Presbyters retired on 31st August 2022, and a Methodist presbyter and a Methodist probationer presbyter joined the ministerial team on 1st September 2022.

The Circuit Leadership Team has met regularly to review the life and ministry of the Circuit, and has made recommendations to the Circuit Meeting. The Circuit Meeting has also met and expedited the business entrusted to it.

In order to expedite the financial affairs of the Circuit, a meeting of The Finance Committee attended by local Church Treasurers and chaired by the Circuit Superintendent with the Circuit Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer in attendance has met

twice during the year, once by zoom and once in person to review the annual budget, the assessment figures and to examine the Circuit accounts and make recommendations to the Circuit Meeting.

The Circuit Property Committee meets four times a year, two meetings as Property Committee (Manses) dealing specifically with the care of manses and circuit property. This meeting organises the annual inspection of circuit manses together with making the arrangements for quinquennial inspections, makes recommendations to the Circuit Meeting and is chaired by the Superintendent Minister. The Circuit Property Committee also meets twice as Circuit Property Committee (local churches), bringing together those responsible for local church properties to agree quinquennial inspections and to facilitate good practise in caring for properties within the circuit. This meeting is also chaired by the Superintendent Presbyter.

The Circuit Preachers and Worship Leaders Meeting normally meets on a quarterly basis to discharge its business. The Meeting approved the appointment of two new Local Preachers 'On Note', and continues to support the three 'On Trial' preachers. In addition, two new Local Preachers' tutors were appointed during the year. During the year one local preacher was presented with a certificate marking 50 years of service and three Local Preachers were presented with certificates for twenty-five years of service at a Circuit Service.

The Circuit Safeguarding Trainers have met together to plan safeguarding training at Advanced and Foundation levels, and a number of training sessions have been held in different parts of the Circuit. In addition, a Circuit gathering for local church safeguarding officers meets on a twice- yearly basis.

The Circuit had arranged a number of circuit gatherings for worship and fellowship, including a One World- One Family event and an on-line Christmas Communion at midnight on Christmas Eve. The Justice and Peace Group (now renamed One World- One Family) has met throughout the year. The Circuit Action for Children Group met twice during the year. During the course of the year a number of churches in the Circuit have registered to enable them to celebrate 'same-sex' marriages.

The Circuit Ministerial Staff team has met weekly on zoom, and face to face each month.

The November 2022 Statistics for Mission figures indicated that although the Circuit has once again seen a decline in membership, the community role has remained reasonably stable but recovery from the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic has been patchy. There is much to commend within the Circuit. Several local congregations continue to explore new ways of sharing the good news, various mid-week services continue to be held; 'Fresh Expressions' of Church (for example 'Messy Church', 'Breakfast Church', 'Cafe Church' and 'Contemporary Worship') are part of several churches' regular patterns of worship. These fresh expressions of church are being offered and experienced by those who have not previously been part of traditional congregations.

All the churches in the Circuit have been encouraged to engage in refurbishment and renewal projects to further their ministry and mission. To facilitate this programme of renewal grants are made by the Circuit from the Circuit Model Trust Fund. The support of the Circuit Meeting and the District Grants Committee is appreciated by churches pursuing building projects.

The majority of churches in the Circuit are now equipped with multi-media facilities providing the opportunity to use new resources in worship.

The Circuit has continued to support 'Greenways', the Methodist Home in Bognor Regis, despite the absence of regular services following the pandemic.

Plans for future years

Encourage initiatives for mission in the community.

Engage with the connexional Stationing process to provide appropriate levels of ordained staff. The Circuit Invitations Committee has been appointed for this purpose.

Continue to offer opportunities to engage in mission and evangelism training and confidence building through initiatives such as ‘Everyone an Evangelist’ and Leading your Church into Growth.’

Ensure that all those required to do so should attend appropriate safeguarding and equality, diversity and inclusion training.

1. Financial Review

Income Trends

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by 15 of the churches within the Circuit as, although Durrington LEP became a class of Goring in September 2019, it is assessed independently.

Despite the continuing impact of Covid-19 on income all churches were able to make the assessment payments due.

Monies are also received from the letting of unused properties and from investments.

Expenditure Trends

Stipend and lay employee salary expenditure has increased each financial year in line with conference approved increases.

This year the Circuit Meeting also approved a one off £500 payment to each lay employee to assist with the increase in cost of living and with effect from 22nd September 2022, the lay employee hourly rate was increased to be in line with the Methodist Church policy of paying at least Living Wage.

Approximately 19.35% of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church.

A contribution is also made to URC Mission.

Other major expenditure includes staff expenses, administration costs and manse upkeep including refurbishment.

Fund Balances

During the year the Circuit received a total unrestricted income of £565,623 and dispersed £589,419 which included the return to churches of £50,000 of the surplus from 2021/2022 using the assessment formula from that year. The resulting excess, allowing for the £50,000, was £26,204. The surplus was mainly due to a presbyter terminating his appointment early, some delays in the appointment of new lay employees and a saving on travelling costs. Income from investments was also higher than predicted due to the rise in interest rates.

As at 31st August 2023 the unrestricted free reserves of the Circuit were £329,605.

Plans for 2023/24

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis of 7 ordained staff with the anticipated increases in stipend. An allowance has been made for the employment of part time lay employees to assist them. In order to support churches, the Circuit is contributing 4% to assessment and a capping of a maximum 6% increase and 10% decrease has been applied to church contributions. As a result, the increase in assessment being requested from churches has been reduced from 6.5% to an average of 1%.

The Managing Trustees have every reason to believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

1.1 Investment policy and performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long-term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Circuits, for all large (over £20K) bequests and for proceeds from the sale of any property formerly owned by the Circuit. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The deposit income mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere. TMCP funds may only be used for particular purposes and amounted to an investment value of £351,672 at the 31st August 2023.

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the Central Finance Board (CFB) and attract good rates of interest.

1.2 Reserves level and policy

The Circuit maintains a Reserves Policy stipulating that it should hold a minimum sum equivalent to four months' average annual expenditure. In addition, the Circuit maintains an emergency fund for churches facing unexpected large expenditure. £50,000 was redistributed to the Circuit churches in 2022/23 as a result of cost savings during the previous year which resulted in a surplus. Funds amounting to circa £52,000 are designated for removal and relocation, property maintenance, Circuit education and youth etc.

Excluding property, as at 31st August 2023 the unrestricted free reserves of the Circuit totalled £329,605.

The Circuit regularly reviews ways in which it can financially support its churches and expand its mission policy and is currently supporting a project which aims to engage a lay employee at Felpham Church for three years with the emphasis on expanding youth work.

5. Trustees' Responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31st August, the Managing Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the Church's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements the Managing Trustees must:

Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently using the accruals method

Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent

Follow applicable accounting standards

Prepare accounts to comply with the Charities SORP

The Managing Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and enables them to ensure that financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Circuit and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

5.1 Risk

The Circuit is largely risk averse.

6. Structure, governance and management

The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976 and the Deed of Union 1932 and was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 24th January 2011.

6.1 Structure

West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit is part of the South East District of the Methodist Church. As such it is represented on the District Synod which meets twice a year. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by the Conference and is responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within the District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes down to Circuit level for implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory control is then exercised by the Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

6.2 Purpose of the Circuit

The primary purpose of West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit is to advance the Christian faith by providing opportunities for worship, Christian nurture and fellowship within the wider geographical area.

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

- a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church, and
- b) Any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and,
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society, or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

6.3 Governance

As part of the Methodist Church the Circuit operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Connexional Office at 25 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9SF to provide guidance on changes that could affect the Church.

The members of the Circuit Meeting are appointed under the terms of Standing Order 510 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church. The Superintendent is *ex officio* chair of the Circuit Meeting, but may delegate this task to other presbyters in the Circuit. The Circuit Meeting normally meets four times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the work of the Circuit as a whole.

6.4 Responsibilities of the Circuit Meeting

The responsibilities of the Circuit Meeting and other committees are set out in Standing Order 515 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

7. Reference and Administrative Details

7.1 Name of the Circuit

West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit

7.2 Charity Registration number

1139998

7.3 Superintendent Minister

The Revd Rosemarie Elaine Gaye Clarke MA

7.4 Names of Managing Trustees

See separate list

7.5 Auditor

Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
7 East Pallant
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1TR

Approved by:

Circuit Meeting Chair

Rosemarie E.G. Clarke

Circuit Treasurer

S. M. W. Leakey

Circuit Secretary

D. E. May

Dated: 5.12.23

West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit
Membership of the Circuit Meeting June 2023 (Potential membership of 82)

Ex Officio ministers and circuit stewards SO552

Rosemarie Clarke, Daniel Balsdon, Dawn Carn, Ian Couchman, Steven Donnison, Frank Okai-Sam, Helen Higgin-Botham
Bridget Quint, John Bishop, Hilary Colbourn, Christopher Monkton, Mary-Jane Newman, Suzanne Wheatley

SO785(4) supernumeraries who have informed the Superintendent that they wish to be members of the meeting

Anthony Brazier, Nigel Stapley, John Wren, Deacon Phyllis King

Lay pastors (SO 56A) Timothy Cooper

Employees under SO 570 if desired Adam Cook (Lay Employee)

Circuit meeting secretary Wendy Corney

Secretary of the Local Preachers' Meeting

From each local church a church steward and the treasurer plus up to 2 representatives plus an extra representative for churches with membership of over 200.

Hazel Denman, Deborah Dean, Anita Hayward
Penelope Ellison, Deborah Mabbitt, Julia Sutton, Doreen Field
Michael Taylor, Malcolm Lindo, Pamela North, Margaret Hatton
Carolyn Moon, Joan Kemish, Janice Davis, Linda Leaney
Lesley Barnes, Hugh Bond
Christopher Azarro, Pauline Chaloner
Michael Powell, Joy Barnes, Alison Wright
Robert Slatter, Elizabeth Slatter, Susan Bingham,
David Dixon, Janice Walter,
Margaret Bedwell, Jacqueline Gillespie, Julian Batstone
Philip Webb, , Rosemary Dixon, Pamela Couchman
Linda Croft, Elizabeth Hall, Catherine Evans
Shelagh Morgan, Robert Gamble, Marilyn Hopwood, Brian Kelley
Kenneth Jones,

Two representatives from LP meeting

Other members of the meeting (number here not to exceed representatives from churches)

David Taylor (Assistant Treasurer) David Barnes (Circuit Property)
Geoffrey Trueman (Action for Children)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Circuit (the 'charity') for the year ended 31st August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Circuit

Responsibilities of trustees

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is listed below:

- enquiry of management, those charged with governance and the entity's solicitors around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- receiving financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations; and
- auditing the risk of management override of controls including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under Section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Sheen Stickland

Sheen Stickland
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
7 East Pallant
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1TR

Date: *5/11/25*

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Donations and legacies	4	-	-	-	-	0	150
2 Income from monetary investments		14,216	11,133	-	-	25,349	4,348
3 Income from properties	5	60,087	-	-	-	60,087	67,384
4 Assessments on Churches	6	491,320	-	-	-	491,320	488,308
5 Capital Receipts		-	-	-	-	0	0
6 Grants received	7	-	-	-	-	0	0
7 Other charitable activities		-	-	-	-	0	0
8 Total from charitable activities		565,623	11,133	-	-	576,756	560,190
9 Other Income	8	-	-	-	-	0	0
10 Total income and endowments		565,623	11,133	-	-	576,756	560,190
Expenditure							
11 Grants and donations	9	-	71,000	-	-	71,000	35,000
12 Salaries and associated costs	10	352,970	-	-	-	352,970	331,425
13 Property maintenance	11	55,203	11,195	-	-	66,398	106,058
14 Connexional assessment	12	80,521	-	-	-	80,521	85,014
15 District Assessment & Levy	12	23,830	-	-	-	23,830	23,418
16 Depreciation		-	-	-	-	0	0
17 Office expenses	13	2,067	-	-	-	2,067	2,543
18 Other outgoings	14	74,828	15,119	-	-	89,947	97,835
19 Total charitable expenditure		589,419	97,314	-	-	686,733	681,293
20 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments		-	-	1,318	-	-1,318	- 2,080
21 Gains/(losses) on investment properties		-	-	-	-	0	
22 Net income/(expenditure)	-	23,796	- 87,499	-	-	-111,295	-123,183
23 Transfers between funds	15	-	-	-	-	0	0
24 Other gains/losses (Property)		1,186,949	-	-	-	1,186,949	526,049
25 Net movement in funds		1,163,153	- 87,499	-	-	1,075,654	402,866
26 Total funds brought forward		7,392,035	368,171	2,781	-	7,762,987	7,360,121
27 Total funds carried forward		8,555,188	280,672	2,781	-	8,838,641	7,762,987

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts		General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023	Totals 2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets							
Circuit Property & Equipment	BS1	8,225,583				8,225,583	7,038,634
Investment properties						0	0
Investments						0	0
Total fixed assets		8,225,583	0	0	0	8,225,583	7,038,634
Current Assets							
Debtors and Prepayments	BS2	21,873				21,873	22,470
Loans by the Circuit	BS2	2,000				2,000	3,000
Investments with TMCP	BS3		351,672			351,672	368,171
Central Finance Board Deposits	BS4	481,445				481,445	501,618
Cash at Bank and in hand	BS4	12,376		2,781		15,157	11,254
Total current assets		517,694	351,672	2,781	0	872,147	906,513
Current liabilities							
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)	BS5	188,089				188,089	182,160
Grants payable within 2023-24	BS6		47,000			47,000	0
Total current liabilities		188,089	47,000	0	0	235,089	182,160
Net current assets/liabilities		329,605	304,672	2,781	0	637,058	724,353
Total assets less current liabilities		8,555,188	304,672	2,781	0	8,862,641	7,762,987
Long term liabilities							
(due after more than one year)							
Grants payable from 2024-25	BS7		24,000			24,000	0
Loans to the Circuit						0	0
						0	0
Net assets		8,555,188	280,672	2,781	0	8,838,641	7,762,987
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	BS8	8,555,188				8,555,188	7,392,035
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	BS9		280,672			280,672	368,171
Total Unrestricted Funds						8,835,860	7,760,206
Restricted Funds	BS10			2,781		2,781	2,781
Endowment Funds	BS10				0	0	0
Total Funds		8,555,188	280,672	2,781	0	8,838,641	7,762,987

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 5.12.23
and were signed on its behalf by:

Rosemarie E.G. Clarke
Ann Wootley
W. H. H. H.

Circuit Meeting Chair
Circuit Treasurer
Circuit Secretary

West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit**Circuit No****36/08****Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 August 2023**

	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(118,205)	(200,172)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	85,436	71,732
Disposal of property, plant and equipment	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(32,769)	(128,440)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(32,769)	(128,440)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	881,043	1,009,483
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	848,274	881,043
Net income / (expenditure) for the reporting period	(111,295)	(123,183)
Adjustments for:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(85,436)	(71,732)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	1,597	(4,268)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	76,929	(989)
Net cash used in operating activities	(118,205)	(200,172)
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	2023	2022
	£	£
Investments with TMCP	351,672	368,171
Central Finance Board Deposits	481,445	501,618
Cash at Bank and in hand	15,157	11,254
Total cash and cash equivalents	848,274	881,043

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

Basis of accounting and accounting policies

i Accounting standard

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102))*.

ii Public benefit entity

The West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

iv Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

v FRS102 & THE CHARITIES SORP (FRS 102)

This is the seventh year that the FRS102 SORP 2015 has applied to the Circuit's accounts. These accounts are compliant with FRS102 (March 2018) and with the Charities SORP (FRS102) (second edition-October 2019). The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable charity law in England this being the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Accounting and Reporting Regulations 2008. In accordance with Regulation 8(4) (d) of the Regulations the charity trustees have departed from the requirement of Regulation 8(5) by following the Charities SORP (FRS102) (second edition-October 2019) to the extent necessary to give a true and fair view in the circumstances.

vi Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2023, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

vii Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

viii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when there is entitlement and it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.

No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers.

Individual amounts categorised as "*other income*" in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Circuit acts as agent in two matters:

- the collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church – "Connexional Funds"
- the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion.

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or Churches as appropriate.

The time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees' Annual Report. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

ix Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable and it is considered more likely than not that there will be outflow of economic benefit.

x Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions.

xi VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xii Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by the Circuit are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and individually cost at least £1,000.

The freehold property is shown in the accounts at a reinstatement value provided at 25th December each year. The reinstatement value of Manses has been based on a cost provided by the Quinquennial Surveyor from time to time and adjusted annually by Methodist Insurance using indexation. Other freehold properties will in many cases have been the subject of a valuation prepared by a Methodist Insurance valuer and indexed as above. No depreciation is provided because the trustees consider the current residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its historical cost and, in the absence of any evidence of impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the property would be immaterial.

From time to time the Circuit may be required to assume responsibility for Church premises following closure and cessation of worship. This results in the Circuit becoming Managing Trustees for the property.

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

xiii (a) Monetary Investments

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as basic financial instruments under FRS102 and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

xiii (b) Property

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its current staffing requirements. Where this is the case, the property is let at market rates on a six-month tenancy agreement unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives.

When worship ceased at Cornerstone Methodist Church on 31st July 2015 and the Church Council was dissolved on 31st August 2015, the associated properties were transferred to Worthing Methodist Circuit in accordance with the resolution passed by the Church Council and unanimously approved by the Circuit trustees at the Circuit Meeting of 16th June 2015.

Sale of the buildings comprising the former Cornerstone church was completed on 14th March 2018. The property known as Cornerstone Hall is included in the assets passed to the Circuit and is occupied under licence by The New Montessori Pre-School.

xiv Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash (Basic Financial Instruments)

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or the amount advanced to the Circuit. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

xv Methodist Connexional Funds

The Methodist Church Connexion raises assessments against Circuits and these are paid quarterly to their Districts. The Circuits raise assessments against Churches in the Circuit. The District quarterly remits to The Methodist Church Fund most of the sum received from Churches with a small sum being retained by District to meet its own costs. The Circuit may act as an agent for *ad hoc* collections for various funds controlled and administered by the Methodist Church.

xvi Endowment Funds

Where the Circuit holds money that may not be spent and must be retained (as capital) to generate an income the money or assets to be retained are classified as an Endowment Fund. The capital will be shown in the balance sheet in the column for Endowment Funds. The income may be restricted or unrestricted depending on the terms of the endowment.

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

xvii Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide residential accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits in kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

xviii Pension Costs and Other Post-Retirement Benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

2. Glossary of terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain and provides investment advice to those entities

Church: a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 200

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30

Circuit Meeting: The trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Churches and others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Church

CLT (Circuit Leadership Team): A group (comprising mostly but not exclusively) of Circuit trustees responsible for the day-to-day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Generally, the CLT comprises the Presbyters and Deacons stationed within the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards and others by virtue of the role they undertake for the Circuit.

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund

Connexion: The Methodist Church in GB which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches in Great Britain

District: a group of contiguous Circuits, usually between 15 and 30

DAF: District Advance Fund

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

Lay Employees: Personnel employed by the Circuit on generally accepted employment terms

MCF: Methodist Church Fund

NEST: The National Employment Savings Trust, the organisation through which the Circuit arranges a pension scheme for its Lay Employees

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

3. Merger of Accounts and Change of Name

A resolution was passed at the Circuit Meeting of 13 June 2016 stating that:

"With effect from 1 September 2016, a new Circuit will be created which comprises the Churches in the current Worthing Circuit and the Methodist Churches and two Single Congregational LEPs in the current South West Sussex United Area".

South West Sussex United Area was dissolved with the Charity Commission on 14 June 2017. As a result, the accounts of the South West Sussex United Area were brought into the accounts of Worthing Methodist Circuit during the financial year 2016/2017 and the necessary adjustments made.

On the 1st September 2017 the newly formed Circuit changed its name to West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit and all necessary amendments were made.

4. Donations and Legacies

No donations or legacies were received this year for general use.

5. Income from Property

Cornerstone Hall	£13,192	Less Costs	£ 0	
Murray Road	£12,500		£ 1,260	
Roundle Avenue	£18,360		£ 2,423	
Storrington	<u>£16,035</u>		<u>£ 2,653</u>	
	<u>£60,087</u>		<u>£ 6,336</u>	<u>NET INCOME</u> <u>£53,751</u>

6. Assessments on Churches

For the purposes of Assessment, the Circuit this year comprises of 15 Churches and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall net costs of the Circuit.

At the Circuit Meeting of 11th September 2019 it was reported that the Methodist Synod, the Baptist equivalent and the URC had given approval for Durrington to cease as an LEP and become a class of Goring as a result of which they were brought into the assessment process with effect from the financial year 2020 to 2021.

In making its Assessment, budgeted income from investment income (including property letting) is taken into account.

In this financial year Assessment on the Churches was calculated using a formula based on 50% membership and 50% income with increases in contributions capped at 8%.

Assessments are paid quarterly or monthly in advance.

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

6. Assessment on Churches Continued

Church	2023	2022
Bognor Regis	21,140	24,044
Chichester	59,916	59,372
Durrington	4,128	3,824
Felpham	37,304	36,260
Goring	40,348	38,968
Lancing	21,696	20,788
Littlehampton	20,532	19,012
Offington	83,728	80,624
Rustington	75,028	76,448
Selsey	13,176	12,204
Shoreham	20,928	21,552
Southwick	52,220	51,036
Steyning	10,080	10,216
Storrington	21,904	25,440
Westergate	9,192	8,520
TOTAL	£491,320	£488,308

7. Grants Income

This year the Circuit received no grants.

8. Other Income

This year the Circuit received no other income.

9. Grants and Donations

This year the Circuit approved a grant of £36,000 payable in equal amounts over 3 years to support a pioneer lay employee post at Felpham Church and £35,000 towards the installation of a soft play area at Offington Park Church.

10. Salaries and Associated Costs

At 1st September 2022 stipends and associated expenses were paid to six Methodist presbyters and one URC minister on a 75% stipend. The URC minister appointed to Littlehampton on a 25% stipend vacated his pastorate on 14th October 2022.

At 1st September 2022, 7 part time lay employees and a pastor responsible for Selsey Church were employed.

The Circuit also made a contribution towards the costs of the lay employee contracted to Rustington.

	2023	2022
Methodist Stipends (including NI & Pension)	225,280	216,116
URC Ministry & Mission	40,152	48,680
Lay Employees	66,407	49,084
Expenses - Post Stationery etc.	977	843
Expenses - Telephone and Broadband	6,422	4,446
Expenses - Travel	13,732	12,256
TOTAL	£352,970	£331,425

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

10. Salaries and Associated Costs Continued

Pensions

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the relevant pension scheme.

Lay employees have the option of joining a pension scheme which the Circuit has arranged with NEST.

In the case of Lay Employees, contribution levels have been set at 6% of gross salary for both employer and employee.

The Circuit as employer contributes to the pensions of those employees earning in excess of the Lower Earnings Limit used for Automatic Enrolment.

11. Property Maintenance

The Circuit is Managing Trustee for 10 manses, Lyndhurst Road Methodist Church and Cornerstone Hall.

6 manses were permanently occupied during this financial year by ministers stationed in the Circuit and the Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council Tax, Water Rates, telephone and broadband (with ministers making a contribution) and insurance.

In addition, the Beth Salem, Chichester manse was occupied by a URC minister with the Circuit being responsible for 75% of Council Tax, Water Rates, telephone and broadband (with the minister making a contribution) and insurance.

The Circuit was also responsible for a third of the costs relating to the URC minister in charge of Littlehampton LEP until he vacated his pastorate on 14th October 2022.

Lyndhurst Road is on a 25-year lease to West Sussex County Council. Maintenance is overseen by the Circuit Managing Trustees but West Sussex County Council are responsible for the payment of all costs.

Cornerstone Hall is occupied under licence by the New Montessori Pre-School with them reimbursing gas, electricity and water charges to the Circuit. Rent is payable monthly in advance and is normally amended annually in line with the June Retail Price Index with effect from 1st September. Due to unusual cost of living rises, on 1st September 2022 an increase of 4% was agreed instead.

During the year the New Montessori Pre-School also requested a rent holiday and an agreement was signed on 31st March 2023 detailing that with effect from 1st April 2023 for a period of six months ending September 2023 the licence fee would be subject to a rent holiday of 100%, the resulting arrears of £10,635 to be paid during the period 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025.

Since signing the agreement, the New Montessori Pre-School have notified the Circuit of their intention to repay the arrears earlier than originally agreed with the first monthly payment of £886.25 being made on 1st September 2023.

Of the remaining 3 properties, Murray Road Selsey, Southdown Way Storrington and Roundle Avenue Bognor Regis are let on 1 year tenancy agreements.

The cost of ongoing maintenance and improvements are the responsibility of the Circuit except in the case of Lyndhurst Road where financial responsibility belongs to West Sussex County Council.

As the URC have a 24.23% share in the Beth Salem, Chichester manse they have a proportionate responsibility for the cost of any capital works carried out on the property.

At 1st September 2022 the Circuit was responsible for one third of costs at 24, The Plantation, Worthing as Littlehampton LEP's minister is shared with two other URC churches. During the period of the ministries the Circuit was proportionately responsible for minor maintenance but major repairs were the responsibility of the URC as they own the property. These arrangements terminated when the minister vacated his pastorate on 14th October 2022.

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

11. Property Maintenance Continued

This year an amount of £22,000 was included in Assessment for maintenance and improvements with the under spend of £4,106 being transferred to the Property Provision Fund at the end of the financial year.

It is usual Circuit policy to make application to the Circuit Model Trust Fund for money to be released for the payment of major works/refurbishment.
During this financial year the following applications have been made:

Property and Project	Amount
Replacement Boiler at Southwick Manse	2,459
Replacement Boiler at Cornerstone Hall	5,600
Refurbishment of Ensuite Shower at Bognor Manse	3,100
TOTAL	£11,159

West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit	2023	2022
Council Tax	18,375	19,014
Insurance	8,813	7,443
Letting Costs	6,336	6,058
Maintenance	17,894	24,999
Quinquennials	200	1,400
Water Rates	3,585	3,504
TOTAL	£55,203	£62,418
Less Property Provision Transfer	-	-£13,999
TOTAL	£55,203	£48,419

12. Connexional and District Assessments

The Assessments are calculated relative to the proportion of church members, ministers and lay workers and are payable to the District quarterly in advance.

13. Office Expenses

	2023	2022
Plans and Publications	685	963
Postage Print and Stationery	692	1,038
Telephone and Website	690	542
TOTAL	£2,067	£2,543

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

14. Other Outgoings

General Fund

	2023	2022
Audit Fee/Accountancy	5,098	4,889
Bank Charges	60	123
Central Payroll	576	576
Land Registration Fees	6,099	
Local Preachers	120	64
Miscellaneous	1,217	1499
Supernumeraries	5,178	4351
Training	1,508	936
Contingency Transfers *	4,406	5000
Transfers to Churches **	50,000	55,000
Travel	566	974
TOTAL	£74,828	£73,412

		2023	2022
* One World – One Family	Annual Provision	300	0
* Property Provision	Annual Under Spend	4,106	0
* Removal and Relocation	Annual Provision	0	5,000
TOTAL		£4,406	£5,000

It was reported at the Circuit Meeting 16.6.22 that the Justice and Peace Group had changed their name to One World – One Family

** £50,000 of the surplus from the financial year ending 31st August 2022 was returned to churches using the same formula as was used to calculate assessment in that year.

	2023	2022
Bognor	2,462	2,692
Chichester	6,079	6,585
Durrington	392	517
Felpham	3,713	3,940
Goring	3,990	4,216
Lancing	2,129	2,427
Littlehampton	1,946	2,141
Offington	8,255	9,040
Rustington	7,828	8,353
Selsey	1,250	1,356
Shoreham	2,206	2,449
Southwick	5,226	6,169
Steyning	1,046	1,147
Storrington	2,605	3003
Westergate	873	965
TOTAL	£50,000	£55,000

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

Payments to Trustees

It is Circuit policy to offer to reimburse Circuit Trustees for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties. The Trustees are not employees of the Circuit.

Payments have been made to 4 Trustees totalling £491. (2022: 6 Trustees totalling £1,600).

TMCP

During the year the Circuit paid TMCP, the custodians of the Circuit's investments:

Administration Charges

	2023	2022
Circuit Model Trust Fund 10250	867	1,206
Circuit Various Bequests Fund 21326	182	182
Doris Brazier Bequest Fund 16673	0	6
TOTAL	£1,049	£1,394

Circuit/District Payment

	2023	2022
Circuit Model Trust Fund 10250	£14,070	£22,999

15. Transfers

No transfers were made during the year

BS1 Property

Properties are shown in the accounts at their insurance valuation.

Valuations are reviewed annually by Methodist Insurance.

WEST SUSSEX (COAST AND DOWNS) METHODIST CIRCUIT	31st August 2023	31st August 2022
4 Gorse Avenue, Worthing	561,148	474,340
24 Ashurst Drive, Goring	490,774	414,852
13 Southdown Way, Storrington	428,022	361,808
The Finches, Elm Grove, Lancing	481,268	406,817
Manor Road, Southwick	364,535	308,142
4 Roundle Avenue, Bognor Regis	529,533	447,615
Aldersgate, Murray Road, Selsey	460,470	389,236
60 Westlands, Rustington	665,463	562,517
Beth Salem, The Drive, Chichester	821,905	694,758
28 Kyoto Court, Bognor Regis	605,343	511,698
Cornerstone Hall, Worthing	1,236,786	1,083,008
Lyndhurst Road, Worthing	1,580,336	1,383,843
TOTAL	£8,225,583	£7,038,634

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

BS2 Debtors and Prepayments

Sums shown as Debtors and Paid in Advance at 1 September 2022 have been brought into the accounts during 2022/23.

Similarly, it is expected that payments in advance at 1st September 2023 will be expensed in 2023/24.

DEBTORS	2023	2022
Credit Owed re BT incorrect charging	41	0
Reimbursement re Travel Expenses	261	0
1 st Monthly Repayment re Rent Holiday	886	0
TOTAL	£1,188	£0

PREPAYMENTS	2023	2022
Insurance	3,651	3,039
Insurance re Littlehampton Minister's Manse	0	194
Agents Fee re Southdown Way	189	0
Tenancy Deposit Scheme Fee	6	0
Methodist Stipends	16,777	18,686
Methodist Stipend Apprenticeship Levy	62	68
Council Tax re Littlehampton Minister's Manse	0	483
TOTAL	£20,685	£22,470

LOANS TO CHURCHES	2023	2022
Loan to Shoreham for Roof Repair *	0	3,000
Loan to Bognor for Roof Repair	2,000	0
TOTAL	£2,000	£3,000

	2023	2022
DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS GRAND TOTAL	£23,873	£25,470

* The loan to Shoreham was repaid on 22nd February 2023.

BS3 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust, Various Bequests and the Doris Brazier Bequest Permanent Endowment are held by TMCP in CFB Managed Mixed Funds and/or Trustees Interest Funds with dividends and interest credited to the accounts each month.

These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property.

TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

TMCP	Trust Number	CFB Managed Mixed Fund		Trustees Interest Fund	
		2023	2022	2023	2022
Model Trust Fund	10250	29,716	31,034	256,178	273,228
Various Bequests	21326	-	-	65,778	63,909
TOTAL		£29,716	£31,034	£321,956	£337,137

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

BS4 Central Finance Board (CFB) and Bank Balances

Monies are held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church in two accounts named West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Circuit and West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Circuit 2 a/c* with interest being received monthly.

* Approval was sought at the Circuit Meeting held on 12th December 2018 to change the name of the former Cornerstone Methodist Church Worthing account.

West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Methodist Circuit hold a Cash account with CAF Bank the monthly fee for which is £5.

A fee of £0.50 is chargeable for each cheque issued.

Monthly interest is also received on the account.

The funds in all these accounts are available on demand without charges or loss of interest.

The Circuit holds an instant access Standard Deposit account with Methodist Chapel Aid with interest being received into the General Fund half-yearly.

BS5 Current Liabilities, Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

All sums accrued at 31 August 2022 were paid during the year to 31 August 2023.

It is expected that all sums accrued at 31st August 2022 will be paid during the year to 31st August 2023.

CURRENT LIABILITIES	2023	2022
Circuit Education and Youth	180	180
One World – One Family (Formerly Justice and Peace)	1,077	794
Property Provision	41,088	36,434
Removal and Relocation Fund	9,994	10,846
TOTAL	£52,339	£48,254

CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS	2023	2022
Audit Fee	4,620	4,440
Audit Letter Charge	0	14
Blake Morgan Invoice	4,299	0
Blake Morgan Outstanding Work	1,800	0
BT Lancing Bill	0	69
BT Offington Bill	0	66
Circuit BBQ Costs	20	0
Outstanding Work at Offington Manse	0	1,550
Outstanding Work at Goring Manse	0	7,800
Outstanding Work at Goring Manse	0	2,313
Outstanding Work at Rustington Manse	0	400
Paine Manwaring Invoice	0	108
S Harmour Invoice	1,440	0
T Knight Invoice	480	0
TOTAL	£12,659	£16,760

Year ended 31 August 2023

Notes to the Accounts

BS5 Current Liabilities, Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance Continued

INCOME IN ADVANCE	2023	2022
Assessments in Advance	121,741	117,146
Rent re Southdown Way	1,350	0
TOTAL	£123,091	£117,146

	2023	2022
GRAND TOTAL	£188,089	£182,160

BS6 Grants Payable Within 2023-24

The Circuit has approved a grant of £36,000 to Felpham Church to support a pioneer lay employee post, the first £12,000 of which is payable in the first year. £35,000 has also been approved towards the installation of a soft play area at Offington Park Church.

BS7 Grants Payable From 2024-25

The remaining two payments of £12,000 approved by the circuit to support a pioneer lay employee at Felpham Church are due to be paid in years two and three of the project.

BS8 General Fund

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes.

BS9 Circuit Model Trust

The purposes of the funds are for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Their main source of income is legacies and formulaically determined contributions from the sale of manses and church buildings in the Circuit. Although these are technically Unrestricted Funds under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required to utilise them. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

BS10 Restricted and Endowment Funds

£2,781 is held as restricted funds to be used for acts of benevolence at the discretion of the Circuit Superintendent.