

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1140223

Trustees' Report and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023
for
ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH
METHODIST CIRCUIT

SKS Bailey Group Limited
2 Heap Bridge
Bury
BL9 7HR

ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

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for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

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ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Principal objectives and policies

The purpose of The Methodist Church is as laid down in the 1932 Deed of Union. They are the advancement of: -

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

The Circuits mission is based upon the Methodist Churches Vision Document "Our Calling" – with 4 themes as follows:

Worship – increasing awareness of God's presence and celebration of God's love.

Learning and Caring – Growing and learning through mutual support and care.

Service – To be a good neighbour and challenge injustice.

Evangelism – Make more followers of Jesus Christ

The Circuit and its churches seek to be a spiritual influence in the community and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. We aim to achieve this by encouraging, through the churches in our Circuit, acts of worship, social, and outreach activities that currently exist, but also to seek new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the Church Family. 3 ministers are currently stationed to the Circuit and together with Local Preachers, worship leaders and retired minister's work with the 11 local Churches to hold regular Acts of Worship. The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure that regular acts of worship take place as required in each of the 9 Methodist Churches and in our 2 Local Ecumenical Partnership Churches. These services are open to all people without charge. The ministers also work with the churches to support outreach and mission into the local communities working mainly with young and older people through youth clubs, lunch clubs, craft clubs, care home visits, school assemblies at various community schools and at our Methodist/Anglican Primary School, where one of our ministers is Chaplain and Governor. The Circuit website is active, and each one of our 11 churches are linked into it.

In their management and governance of the charity the Trustees have had regard to its objects and to the Guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The Circuit makes grants to Circuit churches of up to 1/3rd of the cost for repairs and maintenance to the property or to support outreach into the community.

Investment policies are as set out in the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church. The circuit does not have programme related investments. All investments are via the Trustees for Methodist Purposes or the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church and income is used as prescribed by the investment trusts.

All lay members of the Circuit board of Trustees are volunteers who give their services freely, attending a minimum of 3 circuit meetings together with various subcommittees. An estimate of 400 to 450 hours per annum.

ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT
Trustees' Report
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Circuit Review – In January 2023 there was a Circuit Vision Day to discuss the best way to move forward as a circuit with Mission in mind. The meeting included representatives from all of the churches and of different ages. The meeting was used to identify aspiration characteristics for the circuit moving into the future. The Circuit Leadership team have had discussions to work out ways to embed these characteristics. This is still work in progress as the circuit dynamics progress. Numbers of attendees have remained constant. The Circuit continues in its development of new ways of being church, sustaining the principles of our charity, since the pandemic we have continued to offer virtual meetings and meeting in person to support diversity, sustaining our community work, with some of our buildings being used for food banks, charity shops and cafes.

Safeguarding - The Circuit continues to follow the Connexional Policy on Safeguarding. Each church has a safeguarding representative and the circuit administrator employed since October 2022 is the safeguarding officer in the Circuit to ensure the adoption of safe practice amongst children and vulnerable adults. Church representatives will continue to receive training and refresher training.

Ministerial Invitations — On 1st September 2022 the circuit welcomed a new presbyter and a new deacon to replace the two presbyters who left at the end of August. Local Preachers— There have been no changes in the number of local preachers this year.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society. Para 1.20 The appointment of ministers and the support of Local Preachers has ensured continuity to the Circuit and its churches. Continued training in safeguarding ensures that best practice can be assured in caring for vulnerable people in our congregations and in our mission outreach. Grant giving has enabled churches to take forward their vision for the future by making necessary improvements to their buildings to make them fit for purpose.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

General Fund:

To hold a maximum of approx. six month's budgeted general fund expenditure costs. 2024/25 budgeted expenditure is £225,112 therefore six months is £112,556.

Circuit Advanced Fund:

- a. In order to support the mission and outreach of the 11 Circuit Churches the Circuit needs the support of three ministers. It is agreed that any short fall in annual income could be supported by up to 60% of the cost of one minister.
- b. Grants to Churches of up to 1/3 of any application for Minor property works or community outreach projects.
- c. Reserves for any major repair to manses on ministerial exchanges.
- d. District Levies top sliced based on Connexional policy – 2022/23 was £ 100,818.

In the 2022/23 accounts: -

- a. 79.30% of the Circuits income was provided by the local Churches.
- b. 71.21% of income was spent on ministerial and lay worker pay and related travel and manse costs.
- c. 15.9% of income received represented our contribution to the District, and the wider Methodist Connexion.
- d. The remainder covers costs of local preachers' expenses, grants to Churches and general administration.

ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

All investments are under the governance of the Trustees for Methodist purposes and therefore covered by their investment policy.

The principal risks to the charity are declining church attendance and inflationary costs, plus the national shortage of presbyters. These risks are reviewed annually with representatives from the local churches.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Rochdale and Littleborough Methodist Circuit is governed by Circuit of the Methodist Church, Methodist Church Act (1976), Deed of Union (1932) and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church.

How is the charity constituted: Act of Parliament

Trustee Selection Methods: Appointed by the local Churches and existing trustees. Ministers are automatically trustees.

Churches in the circuit are members of the Churches together Ecumenical partnerships

Range of guidance produced by Methodist connection. Leaflet 'The role of a Trustee in the Methodist Church' available for all trustees.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1140223

Registered office

8 Wuerdle Farm Way
Rochdale
Lancashire
OL16 2RY

Trustees

Alan Wild (resigned 01/09/22)
Andrew Hardwick
Anna Malnut (appointed 01/09/22)
Beryl Tattersall
Cath Varley (appointed 01/09/21)
Colin Wass
David Harding (resigned 01/09/22)
David Kerr
David Wheatley
Diane Halstead (resigned 01/09/22)
Diane Hardwick (appointed 01/09/21)
Dilys Pearson
Duncan Cooper (resigned 01/09/22)
Eileen Hopkinson (resigned 01/09/22)
Glennis Crossley
Graham Booth
Graham Thompson (resigned 01/09/22)
Helen Neilsen
Jackie White
Jacqueline Whitaker
Janice Hicks

ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Trustees' Report
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees

Janet Bower
Janice Knot
Jean Spencer
Jill Hamnett
Jillian Copley
Jean Burrows
Joan Tattersall
John Carson
John Dafforne
Joyce Sanger
Ken Peden (appointed 01/09/21)
Kenneth Griffin
Leonie O'Donoghue
Les Birkett
Margaret Browning (appointed 01/09/21)
Marjorie Davies (resigned 01/09/22)
Mike Bennion
Nancy Frankland
Neil Helliwell
Nigel Eves (appointed 01/09/21)
Pauline Mackay
Peter Sanger
Rev Andrew Halstead (resigned 01/09/22)
Rev Carl Howarth (appointed 01/09/21)
Rev Helen Johnson (resigned 01/09/22)
Rev John Malnut (appointed 01/09/22)
Rev Marcianne Uwimana (appointed 01/09/22)
Rev Lawrence Copley
Rev Ruth Jackson
Ruth Tunnicliffe
Simba Gomwe
Stephanie Peden
Stephen Ashworth
Steven Tunnicliffe
Susan Downing
Susan Yates (resigned 01/09/22)
Sylvia Wild
Valerie Tomkinson (resigned 01/09/22)
Vivienne Collinson

Treasurer

Cath Varley

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 14th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

R Jackson

Rev Ruth Jackson- Superintendent Minister

Mrs Cath Varley- Treasure

R. Jackson

C Varley

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Rochdale and Littleborough Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31st August 2023 as set out on pages 6 to 7.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the 2011 Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility as independent examiner to:

- ~ examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- ~ follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- ~ to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the Directions given by the Charity commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items of disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination for the year ended 31st August 2023.

I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- ~ accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act or
- ~ the accounts do not accord with the accounting records to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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.



24 March 2024.

Mrs J Roach A.C.A
Independent Examiner
SKS Bailey Group Limited
2 Heap Bridge
Bury
BL9 7HR

ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Assessment on Churches	171,628	-	-	171,628	185,058
Bank & Trust Interest	2,431	-	-	2,431	925
Donations to Circuit Funds	280	-	-	280	1,523
Rental Income	4,500	-	-	4,500	8,064
Other income	12,159	-	-	12,159	8,598
Transfer from Trust (for Churches Grant)	-	-	-	-	16,642
Investment Income	1,578	527	837	2,942	373
Collection for External Organisations	492	-	-	492	-
Total Receipts	193,068	527	837	194,432	221,183
PAYMENTS					
Ministers Salaries/NI/Pensions	114,300	-	-	114,300	109,452
Ministers Travel Expenses	3,356	-	-	3,356	3,162
Ministers Office Expenses	3,573	-	-	3,573	3,210
Lay Worker Salaries & Expenses	9,424	-	-	9,424	9,792
Manse Repairs & Maintenance	15,257	-	-	15,257	31,227
Manse Council Tax, Water & Insurance	15,174	-	-	15,174	11,360
Property Inspections	3,912	-	-	3,912	-
Circuit Admin Costs	5,502	-	-	5,502	10,923
Visiting Preachers Allowance	615	-	-	615	887
District Assessment	35,704	-	-	35,704	33,844
Sundry Donations	300	-	-	300	3,440
Collections to External Organisations	492	-	-	492	250
Accountancy Fee	1,800	-	-	1,800	860
Investment Charges	1,310	48	80	1,438	901
CMTF Charges	100,818	-	-	100,818	1,630
Dream Team	-	-	-	-	2,317
Closing Churches Expenses	5,444	-	-	5,444	112
Grants to Churches	2,523	-	-	2,523	16,642
New Loan to churches	3,880	-	-	3,880	-
Professional fee	4,956	-	-	4,956	-
Total Payments	328,340	48	80	328,468	240,009
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(135,272)	479	757	(134,036)	(18,826)
Other recognised/ unrecognised gains/ (losses)					
Unrealised gains/(losses) on revaluation of manse	-	-	-	-	140,252
Unrealised gains/(losses) on investment assets	-	(226)	(1,020)	(1,246)	(1,326)
Realised Gains / (losses) on sale of manse	7,000	-	-	7,000	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(128,272)	253	(263)	(128,282)	120,100
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	1,514,832	17,252	28,043	1,560,127	1,440,027
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	1,386,560	17,505	27,780	1,431,845	1,560,127

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Balance Sheet
31 August 2023

	Notes	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
FIXED ASSETS			
Premises	5	1,080,000	1,390,000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	10,079	9,507
Short Term Investments	6	280,912	92,332
Cash at bank and in hand		86,854	96,463
		<u>377,845</u>	<u>198,302</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors	8	(26,000)	(28,175)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>351,845</u>	<u>170,127</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,431,845</u>	<u>1,560,127</u>
FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		1,386,560	1,514,832
Restricted funds		17,505	17,252
Endowment funds		27,780	28,043
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>1,431,845</u>	<u>1,560,127</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 14th March 24 and signed on their behalf:

Rev Ruth Jackson- Superintendent Minister

Mrs Cath Varley- Treasure

R. Jackson

C. Varley

ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

INCOMING RESOURCES

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income. It is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

All expenses are allocated or apportioned to applicable expenditure headings.

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount for the obligation can be measured reliably.

PREMISES

Market value of premises, along with any realised gains/(losses), are shown at year end.

INVESTMENTS

Unlisted equity investments are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently measured at fair value. If fair value cannot be reliably measured, assets are measured at cost less impairment.

Listed investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value being recognised in income or expenditure.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2023 nor for the year ended 31 August 2022.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2023 nor for the year ended 31 August 2022.

3. STAFF COSTS

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

4. INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION FEES

	2023	2022
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	1,800	860
	<u>1,800</u>	<u>860</u>

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Market value at 1st September 2022	1,390,000	1,249,748
Disposal	(310,000)	-
Realised gain/(loss) in revaluation of manses	-	140,252
Market value at 31st August 2023	<u>1,080,000</u>	<u>1,390,000</u>

ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT
Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

6. INVESTMENTS

	Cash or cash equivalents £	Listed investments £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 September 2022	47,037	45,295	92,332
Additions	312,044	-	312,044
Disposals	(122,758)	-	(122,758)
Fair value movements	268	(974)	(706)
Transfers	-	-	-
Other movements	-	-	-
At 31 August 2023	236,591	44,321	280,912
Impairment			
At 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023	-	-	-
Carrying amount			
At 31 August 2023	236,591	44,321	280,912
At 31 August 2022	47,037	45,295	92,332

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Debtors	10,079	9,057
	<u>10,079</u>	<u>9,057</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and Deferred Income	26,000	28,175
	<u>26,000</u>	<u>28,175</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 01.9.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.8.23 £
Unrestricted fund	1,514,832	(128,272)	1,386,560
Restricted fund	17,252	253	17,505
Endowment fund	28,043	(263)	27,780
	<u>1,560,127</u>	<u>(128,282)</u>	<u>1,431,845</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	1,560,127	(128,282)	1,431,845

ROCHDALE AND LITTLEBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT
Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	215,008	(350,280)	7,000	(128,272)
Restricted funds	527	(48)	(226)	253
Endowment funds	837	(80)	(1,020)	(263)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>216,372</u>	<u>(350,408)</u>	<u>5,754</u>	<u>(128,282)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.22 £
Unrestricted funds	1,392,765	122,067	-	1,514,832
Restricted funds	17,669	(417)	-	17,252
Endowment funds	<u>29,593</u>	<u>(1,550)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,043</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,440,027	(120,100)	-	1,560,127
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,440,027</u>	<u>(120,100)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,560,127</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds	221,109	(239,294)	140,252	122,067
Restricted funds	59	(135)	(341)	(417)
Endowment funds	<u>15</u>	<u>(580)</u>	<u>(985)</u>	<u>(1,550)</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>221,183</u>	<u>(240,009)</u>	<u>138,926</u>	<u>120,100</u>