

North Harrow Methodist Church

TRUSTEES' REPORT

1 September 2023 - 31 August 2024

Governance

1. As a Methodist Church in England, North Harrow Methodist Church comes under the auspices of the Methodist Church whose governing body is the Methodist Conference. The authority by which the Conference acts is laid out in the Methodist Church Act 1976.

2. North Harrow Methodist Church is a registered charity number 1140257.

3. North Harrow Methodist Church is part of the Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit in the London District.

4. The Managing Trustees of North Harrow Methodist Church (NHMC) are the members of the Church Council. The composition is:

The Superintendent Minister of the Circuit and the ministers and ministerial probationers appointed to the Circuit.

Elected by the General Church Meeting to serve -

Church Stewards:

From May 2023

Marian Smith (7th year & Senior Steward from Sept 2018)

Janet Burgess (1st Year)

Church Council Secretary: Jointly Marian Smith & Graham Pearn

Treasurer: Peter Harrison (appointed Dec 2022)

Members elected by the Annual Meeting (to serve from Sept 2023) -

Jenny Briggs	(3 rd year)
Karen Harrison	(3 rd year – retired during the year)
Pauline Ingosi	(3 rd year)
Graham Pearn	(3 rd year)
Irene Taylor	(6 th year)
Steven Taylor	(2 nd year) Retired during the year

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

5. The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare, for each financial year, financial statements which give a true and fair record of the charity's financial activities

during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice 2005, Accounting and Reporting by Charities have been followed; and
- prepare the financial statements on the 'going concern' basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that activities will continue.

6. The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the North Harrow Methodist Church Fund and which will enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church and the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for taking reasonable steps to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

7. The Trustees consider these practices have been followed and their responsibilities properly discharged.

Annual Report

8. The financial year for the purposes of accounting to the Methodist Church commences on 1 September.

9. During the financial year 2023-24, the Church Council met three times. Two General Church Meetings open to all church members were also held during the year to approve the Annual Report and accounts, a special meeting was held to approve appointments for the new church year and to elect Church Stewards for 2020-21. The Finance and Property Committee met separately at regular intervals, as did the Pastoral Committee. The Church Council has oversight of those matters which concern Neighbourhood & Mission and the church family, there being no separate committees for that purpose.

10. The Church Council also has overall responsibility for implementing the Safeguarding policies of the Methodist Church. In 2006, it appointed a Safeguarding Officer, who liaises with the Circuit Safeguarding Officer. The Church's Safeguarding Policy is displayed at appropriate points around the premises.

11. The Church Council is responsible for producing a report to the General Church Meeting.

12. The following gives an indication of the work overseen or initiated by the Church Council during 2023-24:

- (1) Most Sundays there is a service at 10.30 am which includes Holy Communion once a month. Usually on the third Sunday of each month there is a more informal service called 'Come & See'. There is a Sunday evening monthly discussion group.
- (2) When Sunday services are not held at North Harrow there will be a service held at another Methodist church locally.

13. A team of volunteers staffs the church office most weekday mornings throughout the year to maintain relationships with community groups that use the premises and to ensure that essential administration is kept up-to-date. We have continued to explore possibilities for midweek activities and services that might attract a wider range of people than just our own congregation.

14. It is the duty of North Harrow Methodist Church to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which seeks to protect individuals from the consequences of improperly obtained or processed data and to ensure that individuals are not put at risk or threatened by the misuse of data.

NHMC utilises the Methodist Church in Great Britain privacy notice which can be viewed at (<https://www.tmcp.org.uk/about/data-protection/managing-trustees-privacy-notice>) or in the church office.

Full details of lawful bases, data collected, consent requirements, retention periods, etc. can be found on the NHMC Data Protection Statement which is reviewed annually and presented to the fellowship at the general Church Meeting.

The Church Council is committed to implementing not only the legal requirements of the Equality Act 2010 but all feasible action to improve access to the activities of the church. The Church Council believes this is in line with the mission of the church as well as the legal requirements of the State.

15. The membership of the church at the end of August 2022 stood at 46 and we continue to be encouraged by the number of regular adherents attending services.

Investment Policy

17. The investment of surplus funds is operated via the Central Finance Board (CFB) of the Methodist Church; CFB aims to provide a high-quality investment service seeking above-average returns for long-term investors, while ensuring that the securities held by all its funds are in line with the ethical policy of the Methodist Church.

Reserves Policy

18. During the year the Trustees agreed a reserves policy which equates to 50% of annual expenditure and is to be reviewed every September. The reserve to be held by TMCP (Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes).

Financial Statements

19. Key issues are:

1. Income rose from £82,266 to £104,098 largely due to strong income from licence fees.
2. Expenditure rose from £76,409 to £86,774 due mainly to increased energy costs. The Assessment that we are required to pay the Circuit fell slightly £40,654.
3. The outcome is that for the 12 months to 31 August 2024 the available funds rose from £87,367 to £100,274.
4. A number of legacies have been left to the church over a number of years and their value currently stands at £38,338.



Revd. Julie King
Minister North Harrow Methodist Church



Peter Harrison
Treasurer

PJH
18th April 2025

CHURCH
ACCOUNTS
THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

North Harrow Methodist Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2024

Harrow & Hillingdon Circuit

Circuit no 35/36

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1140257

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:

Revd Julie King

Church Stewards:

Ms Marian Smith

Mrs Janet Burgess

Treasurer:

Peter HARRISON

North Harrow Methodist Church
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 01 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Receipts					
Offerings and tax recoverable	29,458.13	14.02	-	29,472.15	-
Bank & CFB interest and investment income	1,884.46	-	-	1,884.46	-
Lettings	64,186.30	-	-	64,186.30	-
Other receipts	6,366.66	1,189.31	-	7,555.97	-
Internal organisations (income)	769.00	220.00	-	989.00	-
Total income	102,664.55	1,423.33	-	104,087.88	-
Payments					
Circuit assessment or share	40,654.00	-	-	40,654.00	-
Donations	1,326.90	-	-	1,326.90	-
Repairs and maintenance	19,805.97	-	-	19,805.97	-
Utilities, insurances etc	19,039.72	-	-	19,039.72	-
Other payments	1,640.91	-	-	1,640.91	60.00
Internal organisations (expenditure)	3,496.02	810.29	-	4,306.31	-
Total expenditure	85,963.52	810.29	-	86,773.81	60.00
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	16,701.03	613.04	-	17,314.07	(60.00)
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	7,201.63	-	-	7,201.63	-
Gross transfers between funds - out	(3,186.36)	(4,015.27)	-	(7,201.63)	-
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	20,716.30	(3,402.23)	-	17,314.07	(60.00)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	83,142.27	4,414.49	-	87,556.76	87,616.76
Total funds carried forward	103,858.57	1,012.26	-	104,870.83	87,556.76

North Harrow Methodist Church

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA Report) for year ending 31st August 2024

Standard Form of Accounts - Receipts & Payments

	Unrestricted General Fund and Legacies & Special Donations Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Fund	Total Funds 2023/24	Total Funds 2022/23
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Offerings & Tax Recoverable	29458.13		14.02	29472.15	32906.27
Interest	1884.46			1884.46	1264.28
Lettings	64186.30			64186.30	47137.25
Other Income	7135.66		1409.31	8544.97	958.17
				0.00	
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	102664.55		1423.33	104087.88	82265.97
RESOURCES USED					
Circuit	40654.00			40654.00	41554.00
Donations	1326.90			1326.90	0.00
Utilities & Insurance	19039.72			19039.72	14561.24
Repairs & Maintenance	19805.97			19805.97	9335.41
Other Payments	5136.93		810.29	5947.22	10958.48
TOTAL RESOURCES USED	85963.52		810.29	86773.81	76409.13
BALANCE INCOMING/OUTGOING RESOURCES FOR YEAR	16701.00		613.00	17314.00	5856.84
TRANSFERS					1000.00
NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT	20716.30		-3402.23	17314.07	6856.84
TOTAL FUND B/FWD	83142.27		4414.49	87556.76	70379.60
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	103858.57		1012.26	104870.83	77236.44

Harrow & Hillingdon Circuit of The Methodist Church
North Harrow Methodist Church
CURRENT ASSETS (broken down to show individual funds)

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	2023/24	2022/23
General Fund	51,820.98	37,899.93
Legacies and Special Donations Fund	38,228.36	38,149.12
Net Lettings Deposits	-10.00	200.00
Net Collections for Other Organisations	340.10	-10.00
Unrestricted Funds Total (excl rows 8 and 9)	90,379.44	75,859.05
<i>Designated Funds</i>		
Mission Action Plan Fund	803.45	410.96
Unrestricted Designated Funds Total	803.45	410.96
COMBINED TOTAL – UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	91,182.89	76,270.01
RESTRICTED FUNDS		
Benevolence Fund	1,012.26	966.43
Restricted Funds Total	1,012.26	966.43
COMBINED TOTAL – UNRESTRICTED & RESTRICTED FUNDS	92,195.15	77,236.44
OTHER DESIGNATED FUNDS – INTERNAL CHURCH GROUPS		
Badminton Club	0.00	1,129.65
Flower Fund	111.29	188.29
NORMADS	711.12	1,375.86
Stroke Group	0.00	3,448.06
Crossroads Stroke Club	3,973.04	0.00
Young Church	3,283.73	3,818.58
Combined Designated Church Groups Total	8,079.18	10,130.32
ALL FUNDS TOTAL	100,274.33	87,366.76

NORTH HARROW METHODIST CHURCH: BALANCE SHEET

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31 Aug 2024

Funds

CHURCH FUNDS	96,461	
General Fund		51,821
Benevolence Fund		1,012
Legacies and Special Donations Fund		38,228
Mission Action Plan Fund		803
Accounts Receivable (Debtors)		4,596
MONEY HELD FOR OTHERS	330	
<i>Collections for other organisations (still to be paid)</i>		340
<i>Lettings Deposits (still to be returned)</i>		-10
OTHER CHURCH GROUP FUNDS	8,079	
Badminton Club		0
Flower Fund		111
NORMADS		711
Stroke Group		0
Crossroads Stroke Club		3,973
Young Church		3,284
TOTAL FUNDS HELD	104,870	

SUMMARY OF HOW FUNDS ARE HELD

Current Assets

Charities Aid Foundation	58,100	
	<i>North Harrow</i>	53,086
	<i>NORMADS</i>	711
	<i>Stroke Group</i>	0
	<i>Crossroads Stroke Club</i>	3,973
	<i>Badminton Club</i>	0
	<i>Collections for other organisations (still to be paid)</i>	340
	<i>Lettings Deposits</i>	-10
Central Finance Board	910	
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	38,228	
Other Bank Accounts/Cash of Church Groups	3,395	
Flower Fund		111
Young Church		3284
TOTAL CHURCH ASSETS	104,870	
MONEY HELD FOR OTHERS	330	
TOTAL FUNDS HELD	105,200	

Name of Church NORTH HARROW No

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 

Name of independent examiner JOHN CHRISTOPHER

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 

..... Post Code 

Date 10/4/25

* delete or circle as appropriate