



The Methodist Church

Annual Report of Alcombe Methodist Church

1st September 2020 – 31st August 2021

Reference and administrative details

- Alcombe Methodist Church is a Registered Charity, No 1147036.

- **Correspondence Addresses:**

Jean Armin,
Alcombe Methodist Church secretary
Mews End Cottage
Quay Lane
Minehead
TA24 5QU

arm1n_admin@btinternet.com

Managing Trustees

Jean Armin
Patrick Armin
Jen Bates
Eileen Burley
Margaret Ellis
Margaret Nevell
Jeanette Perkins
Clive Wooldridge
Lynne Wooldridge
Christine Hope
Janys Pentland

Acronyms used in this report are as follows:

WSC – West Somerset Circuit

AMC – Alcombe Methodist Church

LA – Local Arrangement

LPCW – Lay Pastoral & Community Worker

LWP – Leaders of Worship and Preachers

WL – Worship Leader

Structure, governance and management

Presbyter in pastoral charge

Rev Nick Lakin

Lay pastoral and community workers

Penny Williams

Rose Woods (until March 2021)

Children's & Families Worker

Rebecca Edwards

Church Stewards

Patrick Armin (Property)

Jen Bates (UNTIL 1 JULY 2021)

Christine Hope

Margaret Nevell

Church Treasurer

Margaret Ellis (JEAN ARMIN FROM 4 AUG 2021)

Church Secretary

Jean Armin

Leadership structure

Church Council Meetings *(meeting twice per year)*

Presbyter in pastoral charge

All members of the church who are willing to serve (SO 610 (x))

Church Leadership Team *(meeting as and when required)*

Presbyter in pastoral charge

All church stewards

Church secretary

Church treasurer

Activities

- **Alcombe Methodist Church (AMC) is part of the West Somerset Circuit (WSC), whose Mission Statement states:**

'We are committed to working together as a Circuit to enable personal growth and every church to be a place of welcome, love and acceptance in the name of Jesus Christ.'

Alcombe Methodist Church and WSC are run according to the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church in Great Britain. (Registered Charity No. 1132208.)

WORSHIP

1. WSC produces in each quarter a plan for the worship of the whole circuit, which includes a planned preacher for each service held at AMC. The Church holds a public service of worship each Sunday morning at 10.30am. It holds a

public service of Alternative Worship once per month at 6.30 pm on a Sunday evening.

2. On 23 March 2020, the church closed due to the national lockdown and remained closed until Pentecost Sunday, 23 May, 2021. During this time, worship was offered as a twice-weekly circuit video service at 10.30 am on Sunday mornings and at 7.30 pm on a Thursday evening. Weekly written devotions were circulated electronically where possible, and in paper format where required. From Sunday 23 May 2021, live worship resumed in the church building at 10.30 am each week.

3. When the church building is open for live worship, services of Holy Communion are held once per month in one of the morning worship services.

4. Clive Wooldridge is the accredited Worship Leader at AMC. Clive assists visiting preachers leading the worship services and will assist the Church Stewards in the leading of any Local Arrangement services that are planned at the church.

5. AMC works with ecumenical partners, whenever appropriate.

6. AMC is available for Baptisms and funerals, whenever required. It is also a registered building for the solemnisation of marriages.

PASTORAL CARE

Rev Nick Lakin, the WSC Superintendent Presbyter, has pastoral charge of AMC. He is oversight of the pastoral care of the church community and is assisted in this task by the Lay Pastoral and Community Workers, with Penny Williams holding particular responsibility for AMC. There is also a pastoral group system operating in the church, where each member and adherent is placed with a pastoral group leader, who share in the work of pastoral care. Circuit staff are kept informed of particular pastoral needs or requests, however, much of the pastoral work is undertaken by the pastoral group leaders. Except for the period when the church was closed, meetings of the church pastoral visitors take place as and when required, but at least once per annum. The church pastoral committee meetings offer an opportunity for that church to identify its pastoral needs, offer training, share experiences and thereby to promote good practice. During the pandemic, pastoral support was primarily offered via phone calls.

DISCIPLESHIP, NURTURE and LEARNING

Discipleship, Nurture and Learning at AMC covers a wide range of activities, which include...

- a) A regular pattern of worship, prayer and fellowship groups, including rites of passage: baptisms, weddings and funerals
- b) Annual ecumenical holiday club for children aged 5-11
- c) Fortnightly on a Tuesday, coffee and chat meeting followed by Bible study & prayer

- d) Church events for fellowship, fun and fundraising
- e) Training for volunteer workers with children and young people
- f) Bi-monthly Messy Church and weekly 'Mustard Seeds' toddler group
- g) Safeguarding training is available for all those required to attend
- h) Special worship occasions, including monthly 'Alternative Worship'
- i) 'Alcombe Friendship Centre' meetings fortnightly for those who are alone and lonely, offering a cooked meal, an interesting talk and an opportunity for fellowship
- j) During the period when the church was closed due to the pandemic, the above activities and events were temporarily suspended.

EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH

AMC is committed to support, encourage and challenge the members of the church in their life and mission. Evangelism and outreach is about having a Christian presence in the local community; being salt and light in the local area. This involves making connections with the various groups who use the building and moving outside the church building to make connections with the local community. AMC supports other charitable agencies, such as Action for Children, MHA, All We Can etc. AMC also actively supports the West Somerset Food Cupboard. AMC's building serves as a venue for a wide variety of Church and community events. During the period when the church was closed due to the pandemic, most of these activities were suspended.

SAFEGUARDING

Lynne Wooldridge is the Church Safeguarding Coordinator who liaises between AMC and WSC on matters relating to safeguarding, and keeps the Church Council up to date with any changes in legislation and procedures. AMC holds a copy of the current WSC Safeguarding Policy document. The Church Council has adopted the church safeguarding policy and reviews this policy annually. WSC runs the Creating Safer Space Foundation Module as and when required so that all those who need to attend this training from AMC are able to do so.

COMMUNICATIONS

WSC produces a Circuit magazine, 'The Messenger', published ten times per year. This magazine is a showcase for events around the circuit, including AMC. AMC produces a weekly notice sheet to help disseminate information and to aid communication, which is circulated primarily electronically with paper copies being available for those who are not able to receive communication electronically. The church stewards have an important role in making sure that communication happens amongst the church community at AMC. During the pandemic, 'The Messenger' continued to be produced, being circulated electronically where possible.

WSC has developed its own website, <https://westsomerset.2day.uk/> Chaz Hardiman is the webmaster.

PROPERTY

Patrick Armin is the property coordinator for AMC, supported by the property committee, which meets as and when required. Patrick keeps an overview of all property matters within the life of AMC. Patrick made regular visits to the property during the pandemic to check security and respond to any maintenance issues that arose.

FINANCE

Margaret Ellis is the AMC treasurer, supported by the church secretary, Jean Armin. Margaret is responsible for overseeing the correct procedures and accounting relating to AMC church finances.

Achievements and performance

- **Main achievements of the year**

During the period of the pandemic, the main achievement of the church was to maintain contact and pastoral support in appropriate ways, according to the context the pandemic restrictions allowed.

Since the summer of 2021, the church hall has been used as a vaccination centre, which has enabled the church to provide support for the local community in this vital work during the pandemic.

Progress of Aims and Objectives for AMC during the period 01 09 19 - 31 08 20

UNTIL THE NATIONAL LOCKDOWN BEGAN ON 23 MARCH 2020 AND AMC CLOSED, PROGRESS WAS BEING MADE TOWARDS ALL OF THESE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.

1. To build up the life of the church and Circuit through a fortnightly lunchtime Bible Study and prayer.
2. To regroup pastoral care to be more effective
3. To review the future of the Organ School
4. To continue to hold a regular meetings of the Bright Hour and the Wesley Guild
5. To attend safeguarding training, including both foundation and refresher sessions, wherever required

Aims and Objectives for AMC during the period 01 09 20 - 31 08 21

The main aim for this Connexional year is to open the church whenever the managing trustees decided by majority vote that it is safe to do so and to gradually introduce whatever activities are deemed appropriate according to government and Methodist Church guidance. The managing trustees voted to open the church for live worship from Sunday 23 May, with restrictions in place according to the Risk Assessment prepared for this purpose. None of the other church activities were deemed possible for the remainder of this Connexional year.

Financial Review

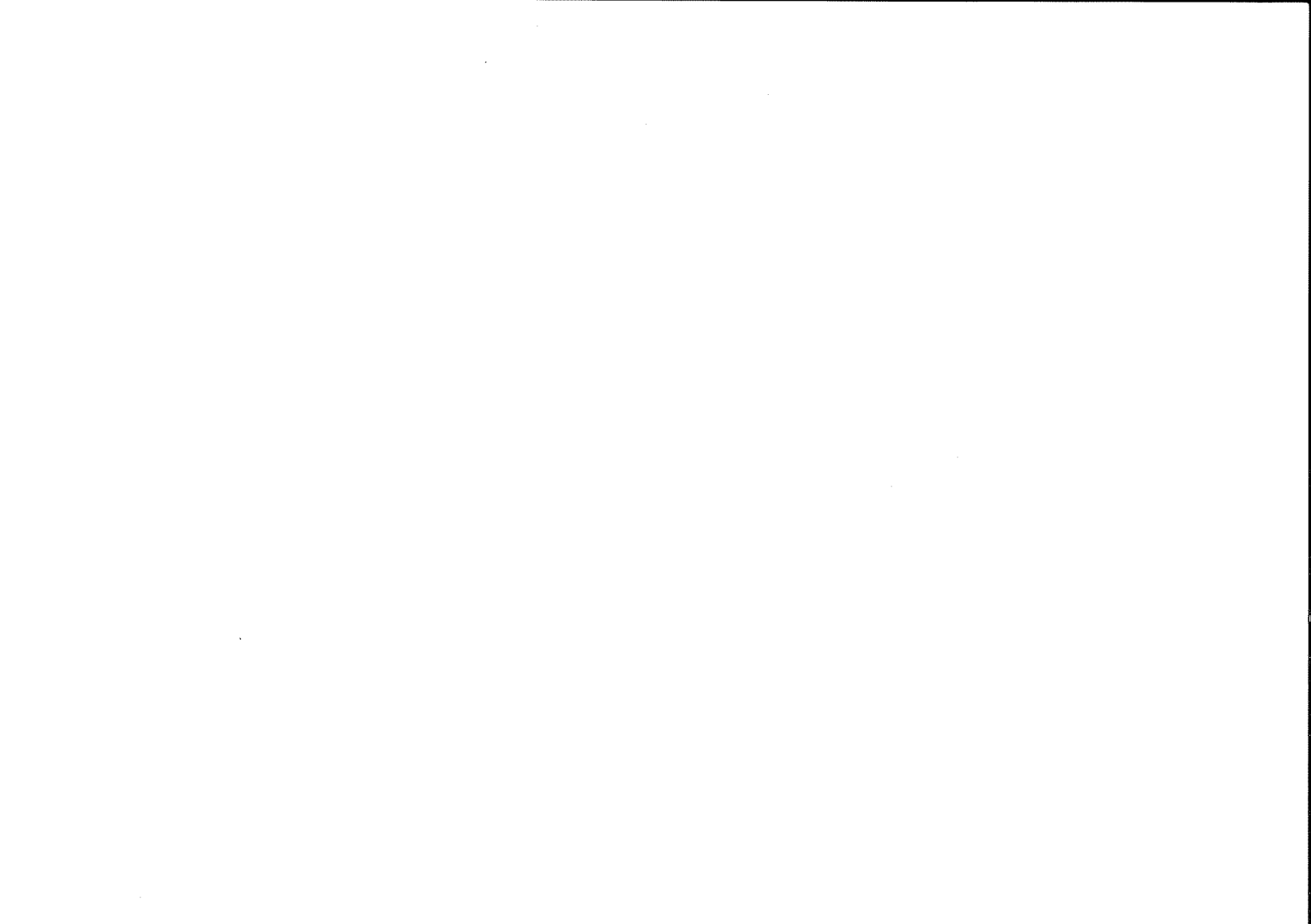
INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED accounts to be added here

Public benefit statement

The trustees of Alcombe Methodist Church have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the charity commission in exercising their responsibilities.

This annual report has been approved by the Alcombe Methodist Church Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10 November 2021.

SignedN P LAKIN..... (Chair of the Church Council Meeting)



THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Alcombe Methodist

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Circuit	Circuit no	24/25
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1147036

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

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

Minister:

Rev Nicholas Lakin

Church Stewards:

Mr Patrick Armin

Mrs Margaret Nevell

Mrs Christine Hope

Treasurer:

Mrs Jean Armin

SECTION A

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	10,153		10,153	11,959
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	23,082		23,082	25,807
a4	Lettings	2,760		2,760	2,093
a5	Other receipts	77,984		77,984	63,668
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	113,979		113,979 (a7)	103,527

SECTION B

b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	36,199		36,199	39,398
b3	Donations	50		50	2,165
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	914		914	2,174
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	1,527		1,527	5,746
b6	Community/Family worker/Wages	49,737		49,737	60,593
b7	Other payments	7,039		7,039	14,740
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	95,465		95,465 (b9)	124,815

SECTION C

c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	18,514		18,514	(21,289)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		86,639	65	86,704 (c6)	107,993
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	105,153	65	105,218	86,704
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	105,153	65	105,218 (c8)	86,704 (c6)

SECTION D

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)				
			£		£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		65		45
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				53
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				33
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)	65		65

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 Wesley Guild					199	199
e2 Bossington Church	866	1,211	(344)		4,036	3,692
e3 Timberscombe Church	117	5,791	(5,675)		5,726	51
e4 Alcombe Friendship Centre					240	240
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	983	7,002	(6,019)		10,202 (e11)	4,182 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	113,979 (a7)	95,465 (b9)	18,514	(c7)	86,704 (c6)	105,218 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	114,962	102,467	12,495		96,905 (x)	109,400 (y)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	50	32
f2 Bank Current Account	5,097	3,880
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	24,989	32,527
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds	56,568	68,778
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	86,704 (c6)	105,218 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	10,202 (e11)	4,182 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	96,905 (x)	109,400 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	938,227	1,027,197
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	1,630,787	1,350,787
g3 Other Assets	143,777	128,777
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church: Alcombe Methodist Church

Charity No 1147036

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date: 09/03/2022

Name and address of treasurer : Mrs Jean Armin

Mews End Cottage, Quay Lane, Minehead Post Code: TA24 5QU

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 9.3.22....

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev Nick Lakin

Date: 09/03/2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Alcombe Methodist Church

Charity Number 1147036

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Alcombe Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 2 to 3. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Name of Church: Alcombe Methodist Church

Charity No 1147036

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 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 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: K H D Preston BSc, FCA, TEP

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ICAEW

Name of firm: Amherst & Shapland Limited

Address: 4 Irnham Road, Minehead, Somerset

Post Code: TA24 5DG

Date: 01 August 2022