

Trustees Annual Report Stokesley Methodist Circuit
Reg No 1147112
Stokesley Circuit Policy & Financial Review
Year ended 31st August 2024

Aims of the Circuit:

- To ensure and sustain the Circuits Viability and future
- Support the six Churches which make up the Circuit
- Ensure that there is good financial management and safeguarding procedures in place for the benefit of its members and the general public.
- Reach out to the Community which we serve and make a difference to peoples lives.

Financial Review:

Policy:

- To ensure ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the six churches in the Circuit.
- The support of a ministerial team of two presbyter ministers and admin staff.
- The maintenance of three Circuit manses and Chapel House. One of the Manses is rented out.

Financial Management

- Under Methodist Church Standing Orders the Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its ministers, the maintenance of its manses and support to the District.
- Each church shares the cost of running the Circuit and is the basis of each Church's Assessment.
- We maintain Circuit properties to a high standard. A major refurbishment of Chapel House cost £40k in the year
- Whilst recording a deficit of £41k the underlying trend excluding the refurbishment was at 'break even'

Key Financial indicators

- Total Income was £175153 (85% of our operating income comes from Church assessments)
- Total Expenditure was £216390 (65% of our operating expenditure is on stipends & salaries)

- Net Deficit was £41237
- At an Operating Level, excluding building refurbishment, there was a deficit of £1035.
- Total Funds were £181626
- Endowments (restricted Funds) were an additional £15184
- Other Assets & Liabilities were £9928
- Overall it was difficult year for the Circuit and its Churches. The underlying trends are also of concern with Income down 5% and expenditure up 14% in 2024.

Reserves Policy

- This document and accounts includes all funds held by the Circuit Meeting as charity Trustees.
- These relate to to our general (unrestricted) funds which are freely available to be used for any or all the purpose of the Circuit.
- Our reserves policy is to hold six months expenditure. We have increased our holding with CFB where it it will attract additional interest.
- The Circuit has sufficient funds to finance its future plans

Future Plans

- Each Church and the Circuit continues to review its Mission & Vision to ensure that it has clear understanding as to how it intends to move forward.
- Churches are not seeing significant growth in members and this puts pressure on existing people and finances.
- We recognize that whilst the future holds challenges it also offers opportunity for growth. The objective to be sustainable and to widen its appeal to both members and the wider community.
- As part of our review we recognized the importance of Safeguarding and supporting Church representatives by appointing a Circuit Safeguarding Officer.

Designated Funds

The Charity Commission has agreed that it is appropriate for the Trustees to set a policy for the management of the Circuit Funds

John Howard Whitehead

Circuit Treasurer

March 2025

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Stokesley Methodist Circuit	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 August 2024**

Darlington	District	Circuit no	13.5
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1147112

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

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(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)

Ministers:

Rev. Andrew Robinson - Superintendent
Rev. Robert Weir

Circuit Stewards:

Steve Smith - Circuit Steward

Treasurer:

John Howard Whitehead

SECTION A		Un - restricted Funds	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS					
a2	Assessment/Share	128,672			128,672	140,140
a3	Capital receipts					
a4	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	8,359			8,359	4,118
a5	Grants					
a6	Other receipts	38,122			38,122	28,702
a7	TOTAL RECEIPTS	175,153			175,153 (a8)	172,960

SECTION B						
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Stipends, salaries, NIC, Pension and travel costs	101,121			101,121	87,453
b3	Manse Costs	19,588			19,588	13,876
b4	Administration etc	8,044			8,044	8,084
b5	District Assessment	27,076			27,076	27,100
b6	Grants & donations					
b7						
b8	Other payments	60,561			60,561	17,926
b9	TOTAL PAYMENTS	216,390			216,390 (b9)	154,439

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a7-b9)	(41,237)		(41,237)	18,521
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year				222,863 (c6)	204,342
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	(41,237)		181,626	222,863
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	(41,237)		181,626 (c8)	222,863

SECTION D						
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts should not be included in total receipts/payments above)					
d1	Balance brought forward from last year					1,131
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations					
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations					
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1 + d2 - d3)					1,131

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Circuit accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Circuit 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 receipts and payments totals of the Circuit. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold of £250,000, 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 Circuit and connected Circuit Organisations.

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CIRCUIT - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
f5 Include only CFB Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
q1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trust accounts this is inserted in line f5)

Name of Circuit

Stokesley Methodist Circuit

1147112

Declarations and Scrutiny

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

Signature of treasurer *John Howard Whitehead*

12th March 2025

Name and address of treasurer John Howard Whitehead

..... 33 Skottowe Crescent, Great Ayton, North Yorkshire

TS9 6DS

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were/will be*

presented to the Circuit meeting held on 12Th March 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .. *Rob Weir*

Name of the Chair of the meeting Robert Weir

12th March 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Stokesley Methodist Circuit

Charity Number ... 1147112

Responsibilities and basis of report

Stokesley Methodist Circuit

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the

Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 1 to 5 As the Circuit'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 Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Circuit

Stokesley Methodist Circuit

1147112

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 ... Paul Alistair Tranter

Name of independent examiner Paul Alistair Tranter

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCA (ICAEW)

Name of firm (where appropriate) Paul Tranter & Co

Address 31 High Street, Stokesley, North Yorkshire

..... Post Code TS9 5AD

Date 4Th March 2025

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THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED
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