

# **CHORLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025**

This is the Annual Report for the year **April 2024** to **April 2025** for Chorley Methodist Church.

Membership of the Church Council/Appointments/Team news – Rev. Helen Millward

This year we have celebrated a number of 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays, one hundredth birthday and also sadly a number of members at Chorley Methodist Church have died these will be remembered at our AGM. We have also welcomed into membership and confirmed 2 people.

The main change to the Church Council and leadership team has been to welcome Sue Procter who has taken on two roles, Church council secretary and Safeguarding Officer for the church. Rev. Derek Oldham has stood down from the leadership team but has taken on the Pastoral Administration post.

**Leadership Team** now comprises:

Rev. Helen Millward our Minister plus Ruth Malarkey, Neil Saunt, David Hulse, Sheila Halewood, Simon Hardacre (Treasurer), Sue Procter (Church Council secretary and Safeguarding Officer)

### **The Church council**

Ruth Malarkey (Senior Steward), Sue Procter (Church Council Secretary, Safeguarding Officer), Simon Hardacre (Treasurer), Neil Saunt (Steward), Sheila Halewood (Steward), Dave Hulse (Steward, Chair of the Property Committee)  
Valerie Marsden (Steward) Rev. Helen Millward (Chair of the Church Council)  
Rev. Derek Oldham (Pastoral secretary)

### **Church representatives**

Lincoln Shields, Keith Ashton, Sue Stout, Kath Hodson, Wilf Lace, Bill Almond, Margaret Boulton, Ian McCallum, Glenys Blundell, Chris Hulse, Pauline Curwen, Ruth Raynor, Alice Ditchfield

**Circuit Representative:** Tim Melling

Information on Trustees has been updated on the Charity Commission website.

## **Spirituality and Worship – Rev Helen Millward**

The 10.30 Sunday morning service continues to be the main focus of our worship, with monthly communions. Services continue to be led by Circuit Ministers, Supernumerary Ministers and Methodist Local Preachers.

There have been monthly evening services from March to September, on the last Sunday of the month. These are quieter services, communion is served in them.

## **Other activities**

- Lectio – This has taken place Monday midday most weeks with variable numbers. It is seen as helpful and will continue.
- Fellowship Group - first Thursday of month - 7.30 in foyer. Different leaders. 10-12 regular members. Explores different ideas.
- Compass group – ran as preparation for confirmation and though a small group they seemed to have found it helpful.
- We make the road by walking group has continued and is seen as valuable by the members.
- During June there will be a four session Reflective Bibles Study group using the materials of Seasons of my Soul.

## **Christmas Services**

17 Dec - Nativity Service led by SPARX with the congregation dressing up and participating

21 Dec - Blue Christmas

24 Dec – Lessons and Carols led by Church Stewards

Crib Service was held at 4pm

Midnight Communion.

25 Dec - Christmas Day - 10am - a shorter All Age service took place.

## **Easter Events**

There was a Church weekend away, led by Rev. Derek Oldham. The theme was Angels; it allowed for both teaching and fellowship and was enjoyed by the participants.

Some of the Easter services were shared with Chorley United Reformed Church.

Maundy Thursday's service was at the URC Church.

Good Friday Morning service was led by Rev. Helen Millward at Chorley Methodist Church. This was followed with a reflective time with the One Friday Display in the Crèche.

Rev Derek Oldham led the Easter morning service.

## **Schools**

Gillibrand Primary School have invited the minister in to take 2 assemblies in the last year and the whole school attended Chorley Methodist Church to share their harvest festival service.

The year 2s came in to the church for their Christingle service with their parents. It was a lovely experience.

## **Finance Report - Simon Hardacre – Treasurer** *(updated to account for End of Financial Year Sep '24 – Aug '25)*

### **General**

Chorley Methodist Church started off the financial year with balance of £54,921.31 (September 2024). Our end of financial year capital balance stood at £49,464.39 (August 2025), representing a Net reduction of £5,456.92

The Accounts and Reserves Policy will be presented to the Church Council on the 16<sup>th</sup> October, where Income & Expenditure for the year will be summarised as per below and a proposal for acceptance of the accounts/reserves policy minuted prior to submission for independent assessment. The Reserve policy will be based on maximum of six months expenditure, which is £42.5k approx. There are no restricted funds at present.

### **Income**

Our Weekly Collection levels from the Envelope Scheme, Direct Debits and loose cash have remained at a consistent level of £42.5k. Other income includes regular 'Lettings' for the Church building and from our youth groups affiliated to the Church and other external users, at £10.7k. Our Gift Day raised £5.5k and our Gift Aid claim raised a value of £7.4k. Other income from a Circuit rebate of £2.2k and Chorley 'Live' event of £0.6k. Our income remains at a healthy level, to maintain our financial obligations for the Circuit Assessment and the general running expenditures of the Church, which are summarised below.

### **Expenditure**

Our Expenditure has remained relatively static, in terms of the general running of the Church, including Insurances, Consumables, Repairs or Renewal/Inspections, Broadband and Reprographics of £14k. Significant expenditure has been attributed to our Annual Church weekend away at Grange-Over-Sands, of £9.8k (attracting income of £7k) with a subsidised balance of £2.8k to fully/partially subsidise all child participants and some families. Another significant expenditure was a further £6k for planning schemes to be drafted to support the on-going project to sell the Church Hall, which is on top of the £13k spent in 2023-2024. Our Utilities costs have reduced in 2024/2025 from £11.4k to £8k due to incorrect billing in the previous financial year, therefore now more reflective of 'Actual' costs for Gas and Electricity. The Circuit Assessment obligation in 2024-2025 has reduced, due to a new calculation formula, which has benefitted Chorley Methodist Church, down from £52k in 2023-2024 to £43k.

A full set of Church Accounts for 2023-2024 were prepared, accepted by Church Council, independently assessed and submitted to the Charities Commission in June 2025.

As stated above, the accounts for 2024-2025 are drafted at the time of writing this report and will be presented to Church Council on the 16<sup>th</sup> October for acceptance, followed by independent assessment and submittal to the Charities Commission in due course (along with this annual report).

### **Safeguarding-Sue Procter**

The annual Safeguarding Policy was approved at the October meeting of the Church Council.

Sue Procter remains as the Chorley Methodist Church Safeguarding Officer.

The Church now has 33 people who are DBS registered, and work continues to keep all registrations renewed when required. All registrations are up to date, including a number of new registrations to support the start of Warm Spaces. Ruth Malarkey and Sue are both able to process registrations and renewals. Thanks to Ruth for her continued support in this.

Almost all people on the safeguarding database have now received their foundation or advanced module training or refresher training. There is one outstanding requirement for foundation training; this will be addressed as soon as an appropriate course is available.

The database will continue to be monitored to ensure all registration and training requirements are addressed as soon as possible.

The process of safer recruiting has been updated and implemented for all appointments to roles within the church. When bringing in new helpers, leaders, volunteers etc please ensure that the safe recruiting process is used.

An exercise to refresh the control of key holders for the building was undertaken by the Property Committee earlier in the year. This involved the installation of a new lock on the connecting door between the Sunday School building and the Church, and the redistribution of keys, recording the details of all key holders. It is the responsibility of all key holders to maintain the security of the building and its users and keys should not be shared or copied. Thanks to Dave Hulse for undertaking this process.

Thank you to everyone for their continued support of our Safeguarding responsibilities.

### **Pastoral-Rev Derek Oldham**

As of 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025, the church currently has the following numbers on its Pastoral List...

Number of visitors	8
Members	105
Community Role (Adherents)	36

However, we have 23 Members and 17 on the Community Role who are not allocated to a visitor.

I'm sorry but having just taken over the role of "Records Keeper", I am not aware of how the list has fluctuated over the last year due to new members being added or people sadly dying. However, over the last year, Membership classes have been held by Rev'd Helen and new Members have been added to the list, including several young people.

As you will gather from the numbers shown above, we are in need of new Visitors to fill the gap. If you feel this is something you can assist with, please do contact Rev'd Helen.

### **Children and Young People Reports**

#### **Sunday School – Sparx – Sue Procter**

Our Sparx group has had a really great year and the numbers of children and young people joining us has continued to grow. There are now thirteen regular members of SparX and it's been great to see the children bring their friends and relatives to the group.

The children and young people have covered many topics this year including looking at the people of the Bible, people of the world, our environment and our families. We led the Christmas Nativity again this year, which the children enjoyed immensely and it was great to see how involved they all wanted to be, and how confident they have become.

One of the challenges we have is the reduced number of people on the rota to support these wonderful children. Several people have had to step back from being on the rota, which has left a core of five – Karen Fisher, Sarah Greenhalgh, Diane Nash, Ruth Raynor and Sue Procter. Kath Hodson does a great job providing resilience within the team by stepping in to cover the inevitable gaps.

We have tried to bring in new leaders through the Notices and by talking to people, and we have got one new volunteer which would give us three teams to alternate through the rota. This is still a challenge, especially as family responsibilities change over time. We are looking at ways to help manage this and continue to develop our Sparx class.

We are looking forward to our summer when we will use the theme of Noah and the Ark.

SparX have continued to raise money to sponsor Loveness. This requires £250.00 per year and in 2024/25 we successfully raised just over £398.00 through the Christmas boxes and cake sales. Thank you to everyone for their support of the young people in doing this each year. The young people also send cards to Loveness for her birthday and for Christmas.

#### **Crèche**

We no longer offer a crèche, but activity bags, puzzles and books are available in the foyer to be brought into church or played with in the foyer (accompanied by a carer)

### **Messy Church- Chris Hulse**

Messy Church meets on the second Monday of the month starting with a cuppa from 3.15 the session starts at 3.40 until 5.30. It started in 2012 and was designed for families to spend time together creatively and to Worship together in a more relaxed way. Chorley Methodist Church is affiliated to Messy Church worldwide, this means we are on a register that people can access as they move into the area. Over the years many families have been part of Messy Church and as children have grown older they have moved on to other things. At the moment we have 6 families who join us each month. A session is made up of Craft, Song, Story, Prayer, Worship and Food. Our theme this past year has been Amazing happenings, including an animal in each story. We meet September to July with a break in August. We have a team of about twelve people all who have done the Safeguarding Course and have a DBS Certificate, three of these prepare a meal we all enjoy before we leave. It's an exhausting but rewarding time together when we have the opportunity to share Jesus.

### **Toddlers- Ruth Malarkey**

Toddlers continues to run term time on Tuesdays from 9:15-11:15am in church and the former crèche room, enabling a variety of toys to be played with and giving space to toddlers to move safely between different rooms. Currently around 15 -20 children attend on a regular basis, enjoying playing with toys, dressing up and craft activities. Half way through the session, the children sit together around the small tables for their juice and biscuits. The session closes with all joining in with nursery rhymes and action songs.

### **Uniformed Organizations**

The scout groups attended the parade services for Harvest and Remembrance Sunday in 2024. They will continue to be invited to these parade services in 2025.

Rainbows, Brownies and Guides were also invited to the Harvest and Remembrance parade services.

### **Wednesday Brownie Group- Elizabeth Greenwood**

8<sup>th</sup> Chorley (Trinity) Brownies

We currently have 13 Brownies and three leaders with two further leaders in the process of leadership training.

We are involved in a countrywide recruitment drive to increase Guiding numbers at all levels.

Our Brownies have enjoyed working on the Brownie Programme and have achieved many badges over the year. This includes one Brownie being presented with the Gold Award, which is the highest badge in Brownies. It was presented to her by our Divisional Commissioner, Anne Wood.

As part of our Charities Badge, we raised money for Friends of Astley Park by completing a sponsored walk. The Brownies chose the charity by voting on several put forward. Our certificate is on display in the foyer.

8<sup>th</sup> Chorley (Trinity) Brownies have attended Church Parade and they had a Christingle Service at Christmas.

We have been to Guy's farm for a County Brownie Day and have enjoyed trips to Alabaster Jar and Tenpin Bowling.

During the last summer holidays (Aug 2024) we all enjoyed a sleepover at church and we are currently planning another one for this summer (2025).

### **Wednesday Guide Group**

The Guide group continued to meet on a Wednesday, term time, from September to February half term. As numbers had reduced and due to a lack of leaders in the Chorley area, the group has amalgamated with Hollinshead Street and now meet there.

### **Rainbows Group- Kelly and Harriet**

8th Chorley Trinity Methodist Rainbows and 9th Chorley Trinity Methodist Brownies are 2 units that run concurrently on a Friday night between 5-6.30; during term time. We have an amazing team that comprises of 2 warranted leaders; 4 incredible assistant leaders and 2 wonderful Guide helpers, none of which we can do without. We currently have 20 Brownies and 15 Rainbows with more on a list to start Rainbows in September. We make sure to pack in a full and varied program which has included our own bear festival, artist badge, Mary Poppins themed afternoon and spent time learning about the weather. Trips have included a visit to Astley Park, our twice annual trip to the cinema, pantomime, our end of term visit to a trampoline park in a few weeks and most excitedly we've just announced our plans to take Brownies to Paris including Disney Land next year!! We are 2 happy, healthy, thriving, lively units who do everything they can to give the girls every opportunity they possibly can get

### **Outreach & Fundraising**

#### **Warm Space**

Warm Space is a new initiative starting in September 2024 whereby the Church opened part of its premises on one morning a week from September to April as a warm and welcoming space. It seeks to offer outreach and support to the Community in particular to those people who are isolated or find it difficult to meet their own and their family's needs over the winter.

### **The Cheerful Noise Singing Group-June Moore**

The singing sessions are still doing well and are attended by people from the church and outside the church.

The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month between 1.30-3.00 we start with tea and coffee and then start singing a collection of Golden Oldies. It's a chance for everyone to meet socially in a safe environment and have some fun.

### **Ladies Circle- Glenys Blundell**

We are a group of very friendly Ladies from Church and a few from outside - about 25 in all - who meet on the second Tuesday of every month at Church to listen to a speaker and have a good chat over tea and biscuits. Topics this year have included travels to India, a magic show, dialect poetry, avoiding scams, climbing Everest, Russia and Charity work - to name a few. The group has been meeting since 1964, first at Park Road and now here at Chorley Methodist and we continue to be a happy and welcoming cohort of ladies. We have sadly lost a few of our members in recent times and would really welcome anyone interested in joining us. . The July meeting will be on Tuesday 8th and Mary Curwen will bring us up to date with her latest travels - -Boston, Egypt and Italy, to name a few. Come along.

### **Craft afternoon**

The craft group has continued to meet on the last Tuesday afternoon of the month. This year we have tried a variety of new crafts, such as macramé and tile pictures, whilst enjoying a coffee and chat.

### **Coffee Morning**

Coffee mornings have continued and although they been quiet some months, regular attendees have enjoyed the fellowship.

### **Fundraising Team**

The fundraising team has had a busy year planning lots of social and fundraising events – Beetle Drive; Chocolate Bingo; Quiz; Fashion Show; Coffee, cake and Jazz. Following on from our success as a venue for Chorley Live in October 2024, we launched our own music events – CMC Live, running quarterly with 3 local music acts performing.

Chorley Methodist Church continues to support Christian Aid through the distribution of envelopes during Christian Aid week in May each year. In 2024 this raised £1,153.42, thanks to the support and dedication of a dozen or so willing volunteers from our congregation, co-ordinated by Kate Fletcher. Thank you to everyone for their support.

### **Board Games**

From September 2024 we have been running a monthly board games evening, playing a variety of different games.



## **Property- David Hulse**

Over the year the Church has undertaken the following:

1. Maintenance and upgrade of the fabric of the Church.
2. Maintenance of the grounds.
3. An Annual Property Inspection and Checklist
4. Service Contracts for the gas central heating and the fire alarm,
5. A Health and Safety Risk Assessment of the building.
6. Servicing of the Fire Extinguishers.
7. PAT testing of any portable electrical equipment.
8. A register of keyholders

## **Church Halls project – Neil Saunt**

The Sunday School Redevelopment:

Since the original decision was made to dispose of the site with the benefit of an outline planning permission for over 55's accommodation, a great deal of work has been undertaken to achieve that outcome. Initially, Peter Gilkes & Co were retained to advise on process and procedure particularly with regards to the issue of the Building being locally listed.

A local listing does not give the building any statutory status but it does require the local planning authority to take into account on an application for planning permission the heritage and community use issues which justified the listing in the first place. This has been an obstacle to progress but guidance on the issue has been forthcoming from the planning department which has proved to be extremely helpful.

Our appointed architects Gilling Dod, prepared a series of concept drawings which ranged from adaptation of the building to complete demolition and our professional advice is that the latter course of action is the sustainable way forward. An extra Church council meeting was held on 27 March 2025 whereby this option was voted on and agreed.

Accordingly, Gilling Dod are preparing an application for outline planning permission based on the drawings exhibited here and which take into account the observations of the local authority and hopefully the robust views expressed by some of the local community. Attached to this report is the original statement provided to GD outlining the reasoning behind the original decision to dispose and also a second statement in support of the application.(See Appendix 1 and 2).

That application will be lodged over the course of the next month with a decision date hopefully 13 weeks thereafter. Our thanks to both Peter Gilkes & Co and Gilling Dod should be noted and recorded for their hard work and encouragement throughout.

## **Appendix 1 -**

Trinity Methodist Church school rooms (Hereinafter called the school rooms) were formally opened in 1937. Prior to their construction the church had used accommodation on Market Street, Chorley, as a Sunday school, some distance from the church. There is no immediate record of how the building work was financed but the church building nearby was largely funded by the congregation and there is no reason to suppose that the congregation did not finance the building of the school rooms themselves.

The school rooms are substantial and comprise:

1. A central large hall with a stage area. This of itself is of significant area and in size it is not wholly on adjacent to a provincial theatre
2. Around the central hall are eight schoolrooms of varying sizes.
3. A large kitchen
4. Toilet facilities It was built to accommodate a sizable need.

In the entrance lobby to the school rooms are commemorative boards recording the names of the young children and young people who commence their journey through the Sunday school and then the church in 1937. On the boards are 161 names! This, therefore, was a Sunday school of considerable magnitude and obviously required a considerable adult presence from the church itself to sustain it.

The use of the school rooms was not confined to just Sundays. It was, and continued to be for many years used as a host venue for events and activities both for Trinity Church itself, the local Methodist Circuit and the wider community. Concerts and theatre productions featured on a regular basis attended by significant numbers both from within and without the church. There was a thriving inter Church badminton league and matches in the hall attracted considerable numbers of spectators. There are also many fond memories of the Circuit Youth Week.

The school rooms were able to offer homes to uniformed organizations such as the Scouts, the Guides, Cubs and Brownies not all of whom were associated with the church. There was a regular youth club on Friday and Sunday nights which opened its doors to the community at large. The school rooms have been able to offer mother and toddler and baby play groups. Small groups ranging from chess clubs to gardening clubs have rented facilities in the school rooms often at fees which barely covered the cost of heating and lighting because the church felt itself financially able to do so.

This had started to change and the building was being used less at the end of the 1990's into the early 2000s. The cost of maintenance was also starting to increase. Conversations had started about whether maintaining the school rooms was possible.

It was in the mid-2000s that Genesis Care, an organization offering daycare to Older people, with a special focus on those who had dementia, started to use the building. Even with Genesis Care's active use of a number of rooms the rentals received were

not enough to cover the maintenance costs. Their eventual departure from the school rooms perhaps summarises the final decline of the school rooms and its usage.

Shortly after Genesis Care started to use the school rooms discussions started on bringing together the two remaining Chorley circuit churches, Trinity Methodist Church and Park Road Methodist Church. The eventual decision was to amalgamate on the Trinity site becoming Chorley Methodist Church.

The funds raised from the sale of the Park Road Church were used to modernise the church making this building more adaptable and able to be used in a variety of ways.

The school rooms usage and maintenance has declined for many reasons. As the years have gone by the school rooms have ceased to be a centre of many people's lives.

Many of the activities referred to above lost support or relevance and withered away or declined to the point where the school rooms were just too large. Sadly, this is most evident in relation to its primary purpose, the Sunday School whose numbers listed on those boards are now a long distant memory.

The congregation of the church itself has declined meaning there is an insufficient number of people who are active enough to organise staff and support large-scale activities in the school rooms. The nature of the school rooms and financial difficulties bleed into each other. The school rooms have remained largely unchanged since 1937. They are not equipped to deal with the circumstances or expectations of the 21st-century in respect of facilities heating light and environmental requirements and the finance is simply not there to remedy any of this.

From being a valuable day-to-day asset for the church and the wider community, the school rooms now represent an enormous and unsustainable burden to the church which threatens in due course to take the church down. Roof repairs alone, initially to the flat roofs will cost around £34,000 and the large pitched roof is also in need of significant repair if not replacement with the probable cost around £100,000 and the money simply is not there.

Mention has been made of Genesis Care. Genesis Care had discussions with the local authority to devise a joint scheme whereby the school rooms would be adapted to provide residential care for dementia sufferers. The local authority withdrew from the proposals because of costs. Covid has also had an effect on the usage of the building, the time the building stood empty had a detrimental impact upon the site. Another factor has been the modernising of the Church building itself making it more versatile and able to provide space for many different activities which had previously taken place in the hall. The value now in the school rooms lies in their disposal value so that the church itself can be maintained and adapted, to provide community facilities relevant to the 21st century.

## **Appendix 2 - CMC Development**

### Added Benefits and Future Plans

Chorley Methodist Church is a lively and engaging church family which recognises it's buildings provide an important community asset as well as a place of worship.

The Church has been exploring opportunities to continue to develop the church building and the wider Sunday school complex for some time. Looking for a way forward to respond to current and future needs for the church family and the wider community.

This saw the modernisation of the church building, completed in 2013, enabling the worship space to become a multi-functional asset, offering a varied range of events and activities through the week for the Chorley community, including:

- Sunday Worship
- Messy Church – weekday tea time worship and meal for families
- Fellowship
- Sparx – Sunday worship and learning for children and young people
- Book Club
- Choir
- Singing group
- Painting classes
- Craft sessions
- Toddlers group
- Ladies Circle – bringing ladies from the church and local community together with invited speakers
- Rainbows, Brownies and Guides
- Warm Space – a warm and welcoming space for meeting, having a brew and something to eat
- Coffee mornings – inc. Raffle, Lego Bricks, Pre-loved clothes, books etc
- Music evening
- Chorley Live venue
- Chorley Methodist Church Live
- Afternoon activities
- Fund raising events focused on bringing the community together e.g. Chocolate bingo, Board Games evenings, Quizzes
- Rental for meetings, birthdays celebrations, training etc
- Elections

The use of the building has continued to develop, even more so since the pause on activities caused by COVID. To help accommodate this expansion the kitchen area has recently been refurbished.

Our ambition for the church continues to expand as we see the growing need for greater outreach to our local community. We see CMC has an important role in offering more

support and opportunities for the people who live near the church, and more widely across Chorley.

#### Our Ambition:

To create more opportunities to use the church building by modernising the existing facilities and enhancing our offer. Extending the existing footprint at the rear and side to maximise useful internal space. This would increase the range and size of events that can be accommodated, including being able to accommodate multiple meetings and events at the same time with effective security and safeguarding arrangements.

This would be focused around the development of:

- A new access at the rear of the church, offering a bright welcoming space.
- Toilets and Baby changing facilities
- Catering kitchen suitable for larger functions and events
- Event Hall with adjustable space
- Administration space
- Vestry/small meeting room/comfy space

This development would create a modern attractive building which:

- Is in keeping with the existing church buildings
- Is sustainable
- Is energy and water efficient
- Has resilient hard flooring
- Is easy to clean and maintain
- Has sufficient and versatile storage space
- Wi-Fi connectivity

Development context: CMC approached Chorley BC to consider a joint enterprise with Genesis Care developing the current Sunday school buildings, the council pulled out on cost grounds. The council had significant doubts about the viability of the development of the Sunday School building in its current form. This strongly suggests that we as a Church, the Community around us and indeed any other sizeable organisation would find it impossible/extremely difficult to make anything of the site as it stands.

The proposals presented to develop the site, following the demolition of the existing building offers the church and the wider community the opportunity to make best use of the site and offer attractive accommodation for the over 55's.

Critically, all future development opportunities are reliant on the sale of the existing Sunday school buildings.

## THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Chorley Methodist Church
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31 August 2025**

<b>Chorley &amp; Leyland Circuit</b>	<b>Circuit no</b>	<b>41203</b>
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**Registered Charity - Charity Registration number**

1151134
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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 Helen Millward
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Church Stewards:

Neil Saunt	Sheila Halewood
Ruth Malarkey	David Hulse

Treasurer:

Simon Hardacre
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SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	49,822		<b>49,822</b>	51,391
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	1,727		<b>1,727</b>	2,170
a4	Lettings	4,117		<b>4,117</b>	4,113
a5	Other receipts	23,806		<b>23,806</b>	27,440
a6	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>79,471</b>		<b>79,471 (a7)</b>	<b>85,114</b>

SECTION B					
b1	<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	43,277		<b>43,277</b>	52,442
b3	Donations				
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	4,346		<b>4,346</b>	7,271
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	16,228		<b>16,228</b>	19,435
b6					
b7	Other payments	21,077		<b>21,077</b>	19,838
b8	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>84,928</b>		<b>84,928 (b9)</b>	<b>98,986</b>

SECTION C					
c1	<b>NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(a6-b8)</b>	<b>(5,457)</b>	<b>(5,457)</b>	<b>(13,873)</b>
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		54,921	<b>54,921 (c6)</b>	68,794
c3	<b>Sub total</b>	<b>(c1+c2)</b>	<b>49,464</b>	<b>49,464</b>	<b>54,921</b>
c4	Transfers and adjustments				<b>(c7)</b>
c5	<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>(c3+c4)</b>	<b>49,464</b>	<b>49,464 (c8)</b>	<b>54,921 (c6)</b>

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

**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 2025 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
1 Mother and Toddler Group	1,245	831	415		66	481
2 Ladies Circle	354	369	(15)		413	398
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	1,599	1,200	400		479 (e11)	879 (e12)
9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	79,471 (a7)	84,928 (b9)	(5,457)	(c7)	54,921 (c6)	49,464 (c8)
10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	81,071	86,128	(5,057)		55,400 (x)	50,343 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

**SECTION F****STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2025**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
Cash in hand		
Bank Current Account	275	294
Bank Deposit Account	26,886	26,735
Central Finance Board	27,960	22,436
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
Other funds		
SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	54,921 (c6)	49,464 (c8)
Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	479 (e11)	879 (e12)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	55,400 (x)	50,343 (y)

**SECTION G****OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2024
Investments (include Endowments)		
Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,400,000	2,400,000
Other Assets		
Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
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)



## DECLARATIONS

### Treasurer

I confirm that I have prepared the accounts from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council

Signature of Treasurer



Date

16/10/25

Name

Simon Hardacre

Address


67, Park Road  
Chorley  
Lancashire  
PR7 1QZ

### Presentation to the \*Church Council for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Church Council on  
and were approved.

16/10/2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting

Rev. Helen Millward

Date

16/10/2025

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Chorley Methodist Church

This Report is on the Church Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August

2025

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

Haslam Financial Services Ltd (appointed examiner)

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general 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 or 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below\*):

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply appropriate*

- (3) I ~~have~~/have not\* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

*\* Please circle as appropriate*

Name

Signature

Relevant Professional qualification or body

Address

Date

### Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general 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 or 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

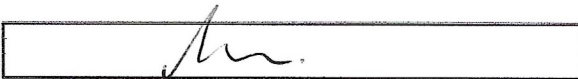
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below\*):

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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- (3) I ~~have~~/have not\* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB"), which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

*\* Please circle as appropriate*

Name	PETER HASLAM
Signature	
Relevant Professional qualification or body	ACMA, MAAT
Address	12, NEW CHURCH ROAD BOLTON BL1 5QP
Date	19 Jul 2026