



# ST JOHN'S METHODIST CHURCH, SUDBURY

## ANNUAL REPORT 2026

Minister  
The Rev Ruth Ridge  
4 Kedington Court, Acton, CO10 0XB  
Tel: 07447091182

St John's Methodist Church  
York Road  
SUDBURY  
Suffolk  
CO10 1ND  
Church Office: 01787 373185  
Registered Charity No. 1151379

### **CHURCH STEWARDS**

Mrs G Phillips, 21 Old Court, Long Melford, CO10 9HA 01787 583557  
Miss I Hebden, 3 Singleton Court, Great Cornard, Sudbury, CO10 0EN  
01787 373736  
Mrs J Rix, "Buxtons", Old Bury Road, Alpheton, Sudbury, CO10 9BT 01284  
828775  
Mrs N Newcomb, Nayland Hall Farm, Cock Street, Leavenheath, CO6 4PJ  
01206 263263  
Mr S Willis, 5 Windsor Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0LY 01284  
828229

### **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Mrs N Newcomb, Nayland Hall Farm, Cock Street, Leavenheath, CO6 4PJ  
01206 263263  
Mrs A Smythe, 8, Reddells Close, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 2PW.  
01787 585914

### **SENIOR COMMUNION STEWARD**

Mrs D Badrick, 1 Park Road, Sudbury CO10 2QB 01787 379672

### **CHURCH COUNCIL SECRETARY**

Mrs J Reed, 7 Turkentine Close, Great Cornard, CO10 0YR 01787 310795

### **TREASURER**

Mr S Willis, 5 Windsor Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0LY 01284  
828229

**PROPERTY SECRETARY**

Mr R G Stanford, 16 Chilton Court, Sudbury, CO10 2SH 01787 882181

**CHOIR MUSICAL DIRECTOR**

Mrs C Willis, 5 Windsor Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0LY 01284 828229

**ACTION FOR CHILDREN SECRETARY**

Mrs C Willis, 5 Windsor Green, Cockfield, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0LY 01284 828229

**PASTORAL SECRETARY**

Mrs M Hearn, 27, Windmill Close, Gt Cornard, CO10 0FL 01787 377524

**LINK PERSON**

Mr R G Stanford, 16 Chilton Court, Sudbury, CO10 2SH 01787882181

**HERALD CONTACT** Mrs G Phillips, 21 Old Court, Long Melford CO10 9HA  
01787 583557

**ST. JOHN'S METHODIST CHURCH COUNCIL**

Members (Trustees) at October 2024-2025

Rev Jason Vinyard –Superintendent Minister

Rev Ruth Ridge - Chairman



Diane Badrick	Communion Steward/Christian Aid rep
Simon Badrick	Finance/Christian Aid Rep
Jane Brooker	Circuit steward/Safeguarding Officer
Rev Rita Carr	Circuit minister
Maureen Hearn	Pastoral Secretary
Isabel Hebden	Senior Steward/Playbox Committee
Norma Newcomb	Steward
Gill Phillips	Steward/CTISD/Playbox Committee
Sue Pugh	Playbox Committee
Sue Rampling	Steward [RIP October 2025]
Judith Reed	Church Council Secretary
Philip Richardson	Administrator
Rev Ruth Ridge	Minister, St John's
Julie Rix	Steward
Peter Rix	Property/Finance
Ann Smythe	CTISD Rep
Richard Stanford	Property/Finance
Rev Jason Vinyard	Circuit Superintendent

Carol Whiteman	Resigned Nov 2025
Christine Willis	Choir Director/Action for Children
Simon Willis	Treasurer/Steward
Janet Woodard	Playbox Committee
<i>Elizabeth Lee (not a member or trustee)</i>	Community Worker

## Annual Report

Minister: The Reverend Ruth Ridge

St John's Mission Statement;

**St John's invites you to share the Good News of God's love in Christ.**

**We welcome everyone, and set out to give service to the community near and far.**

### Aims

1. The furtherance of God's work in Sudbury and surrounding area and supporting that work in the wider world.
2. Propagation of the Christian faith.
3. Providing and supporting positive opportunities for the development of activities to benefit the whole community.
4. To work constructively with other churches of other denominations and as appropriate with other organisations.
5. Provide worship opportunities for all ages, and a welcoming atmosphere for all, especially newcomers.



Dear Friends,

I am always amazed, when I come to write this letter, to reflect on how much happens in a year! This year we have welcomed new members and said farewell to much loved friends, we have celebrated baptisms and weddings and have taken time to study and reflect together.

Just after our last ACM, we were able to share in a church Lent

away-day at Bradfield Church, this was a wonderful opportunity to pause and think on the deeper meaning of the Easter story, before the busyness of Holy Week. Other opportunities to study come through regular bible study sessions and discussion in Book Club and at housegroups. There is also the opportunity to read more widely as our library box continues to be regularly updated.

Worship continues to be varied and enriching and we give thanks to all preachers and ministers on the plan for their dedication in preparing and leading services. Stewards and worship leaders continue to lead worship on Local Arrangement Sundays and this provides an opportunity for others to explore whether they might be called to lead worship. If you would be interested in being involved, please speak to Isabel or one of the stewards.

St John's choir continue to enrich worship with weekly introits and anthems, as well as leading our carol service. This year they also provided entertainment for residents of William Wood House at The Hive.

Playbox continues to be a valuable part of our outreach and we thank the staff for their dedication as well as volunteers from the church who support in a variety of ways. In addition to sharing in Harvest Festival in the church, it was lovely this year to have the children in to learn about weddings. During the summer, the long-awaited improvements to the outside play area were completed and we thank Richard and the property committee for all their work on this.

Our Friday groups continue to provide more outreach to both toddlers and primary school age children. We celebrated baptisms and weddings from these groups this year and have found that a number of families now regularly come to our Messy Church sessions too.

Saturday mornings are an oasis of calm and fellowship for church members and visitors alike. A wide variety of activities have been offered this year and special events have raised funds and awareness for Transform Trade, Breast Cancer Awareness and EACH.

As a church we are looking at how we can be focused and intentional in our giving and to this end, the church council have approved a charitable giving policy and a working group to administrate this. We hope to provide feedback on this year's plans at the ACM. Giving as a church is as important as our individual giving and the policy enables us to give responsibly and to pursue further involvement with the organisations we support.

Our stewards team have continued to ably lead and guide church activities this year and we would all like to thank them for their hard work. We were all shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Sue Rampling in October. Sue had served faithfully as a steward for many years and her loss is deeply felt. It would be lovely to have someone new to join the team, if you are interested, please do speak to the minister or one of the stewards.

As ever, my heartfelt thanks go to all who enable the church to carry out the many different ministries that are part of our service to God and our local community – those whose roles are visible and those working behind the scenes. Like a jigsaw, we are incomplete without every piece. Thank you.

God bless.

Ruth.

## Pastoral Report

Membership	59
Pastoral Roll	104

### *Deceased Members*

Rev. Malcom Hill

Mrs Kathleen Hill

Mrs Susan Rampling

Mrs Christine Chaplin

*We remember with Love and Thanksgiving our friends who have died in the last year.*

### *Transferred In*

Ms Jacquelyn Ngan

Mrs Sheila Forth

*We welcome our new members into St. John's fellowship*

Maureen Hearn

## Prayer Chain

We are seven members of St. Johns who pray for others when requests are made.



I am the first point of contact and I phone the other members who then include the requests in their prayers.

We need permission of the person or close family member before names are put on the list and everything is confidential,

It is often a great help and comfort to people knowing that they are held in prayer.

*Maureen Hearn*

## **Treasurer's Report to the Annual Church Meeting** **March 2026**

The financial climate continues to be difficult for St Johns as it is for most charities, businesses and individuals. The fact that St John's continues to make such a positive impact in so many ways across the community is due to the generosity of the church family in their giving of time and skills as well as money, and for that we continue to be very grateful. At the same time, we have to recognise again this year we have lost a number of members and so the load, both financial and physical, is shared by fewer individuals.

The accounts for the year 2024/2025 were approved by the accountants Moore Green and by the autumn church council. They show an overall credit of £6,631, due partly to a large bequest, but also to an increase of giving by members of the St John's community.

The church council also decided to make charitable donations equal to 10% of last year's unrestricted income which this year is a sum of £7,000. This will be paid out during March and the details are in a separate report. The budget figures below include this new expenditure.

In November, the estimated budget figures for 2025/2026 gave a projected deficit of around £15,000. This was arrived at on the basis of minimum expected income and maximum expected expenditure. This should be the 'worst case scenario' and we might expect to do better. Indeed, after 6 months of the church financial year, we have a deficit of £2,350 compared to £3,900 at the same stage last year and I currently estimate the deficit at the end of the year will be around £10,700 (Including the charitable donations).



At this time, I estimate our income will be around £7,000 down on last year. Offerings and fund raising have held up, but as interest rates continue to fall, so will our income from investments. We also expect less grant support and fewer bequests this year. Our outgoings I expect to be around £11,000 higher than last year, including the £7,000 charitable donations. A colder winter has increased the energy bill, wages have gone up, the assessment has risen and as we know, the price of all consumables is rising.

Overall, we are currently running at a deficit this year which will have to be covered by our reserves. Average giving has increased since 2024, but, as always, I would ask you all to give prayerful thought to your giving and to ways in which we might maximise our income to ease the pressure on our accounts.

In conclusion I am very grateful to all who have done what they can to reduce costs and to those who have dug that bit deeper to allow the work at St John's to continue.

Simon Willis Treasurer

## **Charitable Giving Group**

### **Annual Report 2025/6**

In November 2025, the Church Council approved a Charitable Giving Policy and agreed to donate 10% of the Church's income to international, national and local charities. For the year 2025/26, this figure was £7,000. A group to administer the distribution of funds to charities was instituted.

This group met in January 2026 and agreed the following:

- The £7,000 should be divided between 6 charities receiving £1,000 each with £1,000 kept in reserve to respond to emergency appeals.
- A mixture of international, national and local charities will be supported
- £1,000 will be donated to each of the following charities:
  - Faith comes by Hearing
  - Future Vision
  - Number 72
  - Transform Trade
  - Whitechapel Mission
  - Zimbabwe Victim Support Fund
- These decisions will be reported to the Annual Church Meeting in March and to the Church Council in June.
- The group will encourage the Annual Church Meeting to organise a collection of equipment and clothes to donate to Abi's Footprints and also to look into the possibility of renewing links with the Community School at East Meru.
- Payments will be made after the Annual Meeting in March with a request that the payment to Faith comes by Hearing is used in Zimbabwe to support projects in which Morrison is involved.
- Details of the work of all the charities will be published in the April Herald

- Newsletters will be requested from each charity and displayed on a noticeboard in the Link at St John's.
- Representatives of the local charities will be approached to come and speak to the congregation about the work of their charity.
- The Church Council in June will be asked to review the Charitable Giving Policy so that the percentage figure to be donated is known before the end of the church's financial year and the process of distributing funds can begin as soon as the final income figure is known on 1<sup>st</sup> September. Decisions will then be reported to the November Church Council meeting.
- The expectation for next year is that a new list will be compiled for consideration including suggestions from any members of the St John's community. This may contain charities from this year's list whether they were chosen this year or not.
- Any money remaining undonated in the reserve will be added to next year's pot.

The Charitable Giving Group currently has 5 members and would welcome volunteers from the St John's community to join. We would also ask people to give prayerful thought to charities they might suggest for next year and to alert the group to any emergency appeal that the church might respond to in the meantime.

Simon Willis (Chair)



## **Salt Shakers Housegroup**

Salt Salt Shakers house group meets bi- monthly usually on Tuesday evenings. We are a caring group and if anyone would like to join us they would be most welcome. We are all so very sorry that our dear friend Elaine will not be able to meet with us in the future. She has been a very faithful member since the group started over twenty years ago. We always enjoy being together throughout the year and had fun and games at our Christmas celebration in December. Again we collected for the Crisis charity and managed the sum of £130.

Thank you Saltshaker members and may God continue to bless us as we meet together through out this new year .

Jan Foster

## Church Annual Report – Flower Committee 2026

Many members have used the opportunity to display fresh flowers in memory of family and friends in church on Sunday mornings. We will be continuing this aid to our worship this year.



Fresh flowers will be arranged monthly. We also have two pedestals of good quality silk flowers to display on the remaining weeks.

A new Flower Rota will soon be available on the table at the back of the church to begin on Mothering Sunday 30th March, so please see if you would like to add your name. As there are fewer members available to arrange and distribute the flowers we aim to do this monthly only, and anyone is welcome to have a go at arranging (with help if you'd like it.)

We also take the flowers out after the service to give to the sick or anyone in need of cheering up. Volunteers for this would also be very welcome.

Please see if you can help in any way, and don't hesitate to speak to me to discuss any of the above.

Julie Rix



## **St John's Community Team annual report March 2025 - February 2026**

Throughout the last year our Community Team has continued to run our weekly sessions for toddlers, children and adults as part of our community engagement. Tea & Tots for babies and toddlers aged 0-5 years and their parents or carers and Thank Goodness It's Friday (T.G.I.F.) for school aged children with parents and carers, are our groups aimed at families and run weekly throughout Sudbury school term time. Coffee and Chat is our social group for adults and runs weekly throughout the year. Between the beginning of March 2025 and the end of January 2026 our social groups have welcomed approximately 1694 attendees, including 739 children, to our sessions, with members ages ranging from a few weeks old to over 90 years. We have also continued to run Messy Church services for families throughout the year, working with St Andrews Church in Great Cornard and the Salvation Army Sudbury.

Tea & Tots, open on a Friday morning from 9.30am-11.30am, is a drop in play group for families. Each week we offer equipment for free play and messy play, which help to encourage social interaction and develop fine motor skills, problem solving, and imaginative creativity. We also have a story time led by one of our volunteers, and a nursery rhyme singing session. Throughout the morning we offer free refreshments for all. The adults accompanying their babies and toddlers also have the opportunity to meet and share their worries and good news, finding valuable support with each other and our team of dedicated volunteers.

T.G.I.F. operates on Friday evenings after school from 3.30pm-5pm. Throughout the year we have continued to offer themed crafts, games and simple cooking activities, which encourage exploration of the world around us and help us to tap into our own imaginations. Themes over the year have included: a series of day trips in our make believe camper van, going on a pretend wildlife watch in which we found some delightful new species as well as our favourite animals, creating a theme park full of imaginative rides, and designing maps with challenges for each other to follow; a second round the world trip discovering (amongst other things) the importance of elephants in Thailand, the story of chocolate in the Côte d'Ivoire, the wildflowers of the dragon mountains in South Africa, and how to make German Lebkuchenherzen (gingerbread hearts) decorated with messages of love; and an adventure into the realms of myths, legends and stories, looking at the ancient myths of Greece, discovering legendary creatures and heroes, and exploring the different ways that we can tell stories. T.G.I.F. is a group in which members feel welcome and accepted, and free to explore their creativity and imaginations in a safe and nurturing environment. One parent said of how one of our young volunteers interacts with their neurodivergent child: "Nobody takes the time to talk with my son in that way, I never see him engage so much with anybody else."



Coffee & Chat is our social group for adults, although all are welcome to join us. We are open from 10.30am-12.30pm offering a safe, welcoming space to meet for a slice of cake and some friendly conversation over a hot drink. We always offer additional activities of jigsaw puzzles, board games, word searches, and crosswords, and have plenty of yarn and needles for knitting projects. We run a hobbies group once a month with a range of different crafts and activities for people to try out and share with each other. Since March hobbies have included indoor kurling, making 3D pictures, creating clay nature prints, an introduction to computer coding using LEGO Spike Education sets, a historical Sudbury talk with slides, wax resist paintings and a special film screening of the 2002 St John's stage production of *When The Lights Go On Again*.



Messy Church is aimed at providing an alternative format for worship that is more accessible to families; with crafts based on specific bible themes, worship and singing relating to the crafts, and a shared meal. Services are held once a month and we alternate locations between St John's and St



Andrew's, with helpers from each church present at every Messy Church. Our numbers for Messy Church attendees are varied, with an average of 6 children attending services at St John's.



Our Community Team enjoys getting involved in church celebrations and all of our groups contributed to the church Harvest decorations in October. During Tea & Tots we thought about our favourite foods, where they come from, and how they grow; and making 'Thank you for Harvest' bunting and autumn nature suncatchers. At T.G.I.F. we explored the story of chocolate from bean to bar, making a series of pictures showing each stage, and talking about the importance of Fairtrade for farmers and crop sustainability. Our Messy Church members explored the way we farm our food. They created LEGO models of farm machinery, thinking about how farming might look in the future and how we can overcome some of the challenges farmers face. During Coffee & Chat we crafted decorative string pumpkins and made a flower display that highlighted the importance of different plant pollinators in our food production.



In December, we also took part in the Sudbury Christmas Tree Festival, held in St Peter's Church [Sudbury Arts Centre]. Decorations were made by members of all of our groups and were inspired by our imaginary journey around the world in T.G.I.F. This journey showed us that everywhere, various communities set aside time throughout the year to come together in celebration; to share in joy, love, hope, renewal and remembrance, and to give thanks for that which we have been gifted. We called our tree *Joy Around the World* to remind us that celebrations unite us in bringing people together, and that we all have the capacity to share in joy and to show love and kindness to one another.

We have a member of the Citizens Advice Bureau who has begun to come regularly to our community group sessions. They are able to talk with our members, offering information and informal advice and helping to direct people to the correct services if further action is needed. This seems to have been well received by our members, who have found it useful to have a regular point of contact with Citizens Advice.

The Community Team has organised two fundraising events for our groups. In April our young members of T.G.I.F. organised and ran a Danceathon to raise money for East Anglia Children's Hospice in memory of their friend Stephen Pinder. Members from all of our groups took part in this event, dancing non-stop for two hours, raising £624. In October we took part in the Wear It Pink campaign run by Breast Cancer Now. We encouraged members to wear pink to our groups, offered pink themed games and activities, and the children in T.G.I.F. made cakes in the shape of breasts to share with loved ones to remind them to check themselves regularly. We raised £150 for Breast Cancer Now.



The Community Team also support the work of Transform Trade and the Fairtrade Foundation. In September, as part of Fairtrade Fortnight, we hosted a special Saturday Morning Tea Party, providing a wide range of Fairtrade beverages and sweet treats made using Fairtrade ingredients. Throughout Fairtrade Fortnight we spent time in our groups providing information about Fairtrade goods and discussing the importance of Fairtrade for farming communities and environmental sustainability worldwide. At the end of February, we are also hosting a fundraising event in support of Transform Trade's Big Brew at 40.

Elizabeth Lee



### **Churches Together Report**

Churches Together in Sudbury and District continue to draw Christians from the Sudbury area together in prayer, worship, fellowship and service.

This year we have continued to hold four annual united services, in Autumn we shared with the Eden's Project as they updated us on their work, in late November we shared in the St Nicholas Hospice Light up a life service – a wonderful opportunity to reflect on loved ones who have died. The New Year began with a service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity as we joined with Christians across the world to pray with and for each other and in May we celebrate the work of Christian Aid. These services are open to all and are a great opportunity to worship with friends from other churches.

We have also hosted four open Forum meetings, chances to share fellowship, to pray together and to deepen our understanding of serving God in our local context. This year we have shared in a forum creatively exploring prayer, been updated on the schools work co-ordinated by Future Vision, discussed how we can respond to the homeless and those in vulnerable housing and heard about new work in the Great Cornard area. Topics for this year include 'Home for Good' a charity working with families with fostered, adopted children and children in special guardianship and work in prisons.

Prayer breakfasts continue weekly and hospitality from churches around Sudbury is greatly appreciated. This is a wonderful opportunity to pray together for the town and the world. Kettle and Fish continues to run a cafe at Suffolk Road and is supported by a good crowd of regulars. More people are always welcome so do pass word around, we meet 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4th Thursdays 10am-1.30pm.

Churches Together also continues to support Christian work around Sudbury by supporting organisations such as Future Vision, Storehouse, No. 72 and Abi's Footprints. We also support worldwide organisations such as Christian Aid and members are active in raising the profile of Fair Trade in the area.

Please do consider attending some of the Churches Together events, it is a wonderful way to deepen our Christian faith and to make new friends as well as to see what God is doing in the local area!

Ruth

## **Bible Study Group.**

We have continued to meet regularly during this year, usually on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.



Our recent studies have included Ezra, Nehemiah , Acts chs 1 – 9 and selected passages from Luke chs 19 – 24 about the last days of Jesus' earthly life and his Ascension.

We all enjoy studying the chosen Bible readings and also enjoy discussions on the meaning of those readings for the people who lived in 'Bible Times' and for us today.

Recently we have been delighted to welcome some new members to our group. New members are always welcome!

Isabel Hebden.

## **The Exchange Book Club**

We are a small group who enjoy reading and we meet every two months to discuss the current book which has been chosen by the members.



There is a wide variety of books chosen and they are often not obviously religiously themed but are thought provoking.

We welcome new members so if you enjoy reading please come along one Tuesday even if you haven't read the current book.

Nita

## Playbox Report 2026

Our continued thanks to Jane Sharp the Chairperson of the Management Committee for her support to the Playbox staff and children and the PMC for their continued support throughout the year.

Many thanks to Richard Stanford for being 'Mr Fix it' for us and always there to help.

We saw 18 children off to primary school in July 25 and we had a brilliant leavers P.E activity for the parents to see some of the activities we get up to.

The extension to the garden area that Playbox paid to have done in the summer holidays has made a huge difference to the space available for all the children who use the hall to play outside.

September saw us with 43 on the register which made for a very busy start to the term for the 5 full time members of staff.

The children performed 'The Lively woolly sheep' Nativity for their families which was a great success and enjoyed by the large number who attended.

After 30 years at Playbox Mrs Mansfield is retiring in February 2026 and a new administrator has been found to join the team.

We continue to put our plans and activities on the website to keep parents/carers up to date with what is happening.

## **PROPERTY REPORT FOR AGM 2026**

The Property and Finance Committee have been meeting regularly to ensure the smooth running and maintenance of Church and Halls. The new extended Play Area for our Ofsted Pre-school (Playbox) has been completed and deemed a grand improvement. The ongoing Checks on Fire Alarm Emergency lighting and Health & safety risk assessments along with Defibrillator checks which has been taken out several times, have all been undertaken and logged. The buildings all seem to be holding up very well, We will need to repaint some external doors this year when it stops raining, and we are getting quotes to replace the floor covering in the link which is a large area so it will be quite expensive. We also look forward to our Quinquennial Inspection this year when a Surveyor comes in and does a very very close inspection.

Richard Stanford, Property Secretary  
March 2026

## **ST JOHN'S CHURCH CHOIR REPORT 2026**

The choir are still few in number, but we continue to do our best to provide music for weekly services as well as for special occasions.

This year, we did something slightly different for the Carol Service: I started with the idea of using folk music in the service. This idea was enhanced by Richard Stanford's willingness to accompany us on his guitar. Two of the choir pieces were based on old English folk tunes, and we performed a 'folksy' version of Silent Night (which was originally performed to guitar accompaniment). Singing successive verses of 'While shepherds watched their flocks' to different tunes was another well-established folk tradition. It is said that every village had their own tune to this carol, which at one time



was the only one permitted to be sung in church! We also included John Rutter's 'Nativity Carol' in honour of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The choir sang again at the Christmas Tree Festival in St Peter's (having missed last year), and it was lovely to have a group from the congregation come to support us there.

We also performed at the Hive for residents of William Wood House care home. This event was very well received, and it was great to be joined again by Richard, hotfoot from duties as Santa, and by the St Lawrence Handbell Ringers from Great Waldingfield.

Chris Willis



ST JOHNS METHODIST CHURCH

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 AUGUST 2025

MOORE GREEN  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
SUDBURY SUFFOLK

## THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

**St Johns Methodist Church Sudbury**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

Bury St Edmunds	Circuit	Circuit no.	1403
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1151379

If not a registered charity His 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. Ruth Ridge**

Church Stewards:

Miss I Hebden	
Mrs N Newcombe	
Mrs G Phillips	
Mrs S Rampling	
Mrs J Rix	
Mr S Willis	

Treasurer:

**Mr S Willis**



SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	39,243.68	114.75	<b>39,358.43</b>	34,616.44
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	3,912.31	62.09	<b>3,974.40</b>	4,419.08
a4	Lettings				1,000.00
a5	Other receipts	32,583.93	4,722.00	<b>37,305.93</b>	32,660.21
a6	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>75,739.92</b>	<b>4,898.84</b>	<b>80,638.76</b> (a7)	<b>72,695.73</b>

SECTION B					
b1	<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	42,474.50		<b>42,474.50</b>	43,852.00
b3	Donations	610.00	100.00	<b>710.00</b>	516.00
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	5,738.12		<b>5,738.12</b>	5,925.71
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	7,224.31		<b>7,224.31</b>	9,726.22
b6					
b7	Other payments	12,438.99	5,422.05	<b>17,861.04</b>	17,978.00
b8	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>68,485.92</b>	<b>5,522.05</b>	<b>74,007.97</b> (b9)	<b>77,997.93</b>

SECTION C					
c1	<b>NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b>	(a6-b8)	7,254.00	(623.21)	<b>6,630.79</b>
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		86,185.08	3,365.69	<b>89,550.77</b> (c6)
c3	<b>Sub total</b>	<b>(c1+c2)</b>	<b>93,439.08</b>	<b>2,742.48</b>	<b>96,181.56</b>
c4	Transfers and adjustments		(8,188.99)	8,188.99	(c7)
c5	<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>(c3+c4)</b>	<b>85,250.09</b>	<b>10,931.47</b>	<b>96,181.56</b> (c8)
					<b>89,550.77</b> (c6)

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			547.00
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		2,410.70	1,328.00
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		2,410.70	1,875.00
d4	<b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID</b>	(d1+d2-d3)		



**St Johns Methodist Church  
Sudbury**

**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
e1 The Playbox	148,458.00	123,158.00	25,300.00	(3,500.00)	16,097.00	37,897.00
e2 SJCT	1,697.84	1,628.79	69.05		340.38	409.43
e3 Flower Fund					67.02	67.02
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	150,155.84	124,786.79	25,369.05	(3,500.00)	16,504.40 (e11)	38,373.45 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	80,638.76 (a7)	74,007.97 (b9)	6,630.79	(c7)	89,550.77 (c6)	96,181.56 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	230,794.60	198,794.76	31,999.84	(3,500.00)	106,055.17 (x)	134,555.01 (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 2025**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	4,431.12	7,225.51
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	59,620.14	63,456.54
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	25,499.51	25,499.51
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	89,550.77 (c6)	96,181.56 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	16,504.40 (e11)	38,373.45 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	106,055.17 (x)	134,555.01 (y)

**SECTION G**

**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)		
g3 Other Assets		
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 ...St Johns Methodist Church Sudbury..... No...14302.....

## Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 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 ..... *SS Willis* ..... Date...18/11/2025.....

Name and address of treasurer .....John Simon Willis

5 Windsor Green Cockfield..... Post Code IP30 0LY

### Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 18/11/2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ..... *R. K. Ridge* .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting      Rev Ruth Ridge      Date 18/11/2025



St Johns Methodist Church (registered charity number 1151379)

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Johns Methodist Church**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 which are set out on Methodist Church standard form of accounts document comprising the Income and Expenditure Account, Statement of assets and liabilities and internal organisation report forms.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

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').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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.

### **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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



**Vincent Chandler FCA FCCA**

Moore Green

Chartered Accountants

22 Friars Street

Sudbury

Suffolk

CO10 2AA

Date ..... 04/11/2025 .....