



Borders Mission Circuit

Part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain



The **Methodist Church**

Borders Mission Circuit (22/13) Managing Trustees Report

1st September 2022 – 31st August 2023

Governance.

The Borders Mission Circuit operates under the governance of the Methodist Conference. Conference is regulated by the Deed of Union 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976.

Registration with the Charity Commission.

The Borders Mission Circuit has been registered with the Charity Commission since 1st April 2014 with the number 1156488.

Circuit Mission Statement.

Our calling is to demonstrate to others that the love of God is for all people. We will seek to do this in the following ways:

- As Circuit, Churches, and Individuals we will be intentional about both making and growing followers of Jesus.
- As a Circuit we will promote Christian worship of God by making worship relevant and inclusive through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- As a Circuit we will help churches to think and work collaboratively – have ‘porous boundaries’ – and make best use of the skills of lay and ordained ministries, developing a more flexible outlook. This will help avoid the spreading of resources too thinly and allow us to invest in areas of potential growth and distinct need.
- As a Circuit we will encourage churches to transform communities by breaking down economic, geographical and spiritual boundaries / borders and challenge injustice.
- As Circuit, Churches and Individuals we will ensure the safety of all people within our churches.
- As Circuit, Churches and Individuals we will use our God-given resources for the furtherance of the Kingdom and God’s glory.
- As a Circuit we will be prayerful in all things, giving God all thanks and glory through Jesus Christ in the communion of the Holy Spirit as we look for the coming Kingdom.
- As a Circuit we will encourage churches to provide opportunities for continuous learning, through: Bible study, fellowship groups, prayer meetings, quiet days and retreats. We will promote growth in both social and personal spirituality.

Nature and purpose.

Standing Order 500 of the Constitutional Discipline and Practice of the Methodist Church states that the Circuit is the primary unit through which churches express their inter-connection in the Body of Christ for the purposes of mission, mutual encouragement and help.

Responsibilities.

The Circuit provides ministerial oversight and pastoral care to its 18 congregations through:

- Providing a team of 3 presbyteral ministers and 2 Layworkers.
- 6 supernumerary presbyters 3 of whom have preached and helped with other tasks.
- Providing lay preachers to lead worship.

- Allocating financial and other resources.
- Providing advice through its lay officers.
- Providing training and other special events.
- Maintaining 3 circuit manses.

Organisation.

The Circuit is an umbrella organisation serving 18 congregations with 485 members and with an additional number on the community roll. One congregation is a Local Ecumenical Partnership between the Methodist and Church of England churches. The Circuit Meeting is responsible for the affairs of the Circuit and the development of Circuit policy. It exercises spiritual leadership and administrative efficiency and acts as a focal point for the working fellowship of the churches, overseeing their pastoral, training and evangelistic work. Currently 4 meetings are held each year when officers are appointed, accounts adopted, grant applications approved, reports on Circuit work received, good news from the churches is shared and the business of the Circuit taken forward.

Between Circuit Meetings the Circuit Leadership Team is responsible for the affairs of the Circuit. It meets as required and consists of:

Circuit Ministers: **Rev Robert Hurley, Rev Peter Taylor, Rev Simon Rose.**

Circuit Stewards (who also hold responsibility for circuit finance):

**Jill Renshaw, Joan Spray, John Whitehead,
Joanne Docherty, Margaret Lee, Melvyn Mee,
Trevor Lee.**

Circuit Administrators: **Amanda Hurley and Patrick Dawson**

Trustees.

The members of the Circuit Meeting act as trustees of the circuit property. There are currently 64 trustees being the Circuit Ministers, the Circuit Stewards, the Circuit office holders and stewards, treasurers and representatives of its constituent congregations. The Circuit administrator acted as secretary during this financial year.

Contact address.

Rev Robert Hurley
7 Chapel Close
Blackwell
Alfreton
Derbyshire
DE55

Policies.

The Circuit currently has policies in place with regards to safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults, data protection and reserves.

Related parties.

The Circuit forms part of the Nottingham and Derby District of the Methodist Church and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference. The circuit comprises the following list of churches:

Alfreton Wesley	Birchwood	Clay Cross Central
Crich Wesley	Grassmoor	Huthwaite
Kirkby The Hill	Kirkby Trinity	Newton
Old Tupton	Skegby	Pinxton Town Street
Selston	Stonebroom	South Wingfield
Swanwick	Sutton New Cross	Sutton St Johns

Outturn.

Total assets currently stand at £670,945

Income.

The Circuit derives its income chiefly through the Circuit assessment payments from local churches and the sale of property.

Reserves policy.

The Circuit reserves policy is appended to this report.

Independent examiner.

Mr Daniel Drewry, AAT
Accounting Matters Limited,
17 Wellington Street
Ripley
Derbyshire
DE5 3EH

Bank details.

Co-operative Bank Plc
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Review of activities September 2022 – August 2023.

After the decision in 2022 to consider the future life of the Circuit, the Circuit Leadership Team undertook a series of conversations with each of the churches. It was the intention to identify the current situation of each church and how it views its mission and ministry amongst the community of which they are part. Following the conversations, a provisional report was produced that identified some areas of support that could be provided to the churches to ease some of the burden of administration and property issues. It was also felt that the spiritual life of the churches and Circuit also needs to be addressed and this was also to be considered.

The report also considered a 5-year plan that would enable churches and Circuit to plan within this planning horizon and give a greater sense of stability.

It is acknowledged that these are still challenging times for churches with the additional costs imposed on them because of the higher energy costs being paid. Reducing numbers and the ageing congregations also concern many of the churches and the Circuit, but in general, the Circuit is in good heart and looking to the future with a sense of hope.

Zoom services continue each week in two of the Circuit churches and the weekly worship sheets sent out to those who are unable to attend church are greatly appreciated.

The Methodist Church policies on Safeguarding are being adhered to, with courses for initial Foundation Training, Refresher Foundation Training and Advanced Safeguarding Training all having been provided by the Circuit and District.

Following the stationing of both Revd Nicola Briggs and Revd Ann Anderson to other posts, the Circuit was pleased to be able to welcome Revd Simon Rose and his family to take up his role as Circuit Minister with responsibility for the Kirkby, Birchwood, Pinxton, Selston and Huthwaite churches.

Deacon Samantha Taylor, who continues to reside in the Circuit and given permission to serve in an appointment outside of the control of the church, serves as a Hospital Chaplain at Kings Mill Hospital. She also continues to support the work of the Circuit by continuing to preach in churches across the Circuit.

As a result of the reduction in the number of presbyteral staff to be stationed to the Circuit it was agreed to dispose of one of the Circuit manses. The manse at Stretton was sold at auction and the monies realised restricted for proposed updates to be made to the remaining three manses.

Future Plans.

Following the Circuit conversations, there is to be a series of follow up conversations with all of the churches to consider the proposals made by the Circuit Leadership Team. If agreed, then the CLT will continue to develop the 5-year plan, taking into account any changes in the number of churches that may occur.

It was agreed that the Circuit would provide training for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion as required by the Connexion.

A programme of works to maintain and update the Circuit manses is to be developed.

Approved by the Circuit Leadership Team on Tuesday 19th March 2024 and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Robert Hurley (Superintendent Minister of the Borders Mission Circuit).

Revd Robert Hurley.

Superintendent Minister.

All signatures and addresses have been removed under GDPR Regulations, a signed copy of the Report is retained at the Borders Mission Circuit Office.

Borders Misson Circuit
Profit and Loss (all accounts)
1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023

Income	£	£	£
Bank Interest			
Current Account	0.00		
CFB	659.54		
TMCP	11,729.05		
		<hr/>	12,388.59
Church Assessment		152,092.46	
Grants & Gifts		1,404.16	
Redundant Churches	191,672.16		
Annesley	0.00		
Pilsley	0.00		
	<hr/>		191,672.16
Sale of manses		261,339.96	
Other Income			
Pension Contributions	0.00		
Sale of Wine	72.60		
Mission	0.00		
Youth Work	0.00		
District Contribution	0.00		
	<hr/>		72.60
Total Income			618,969.93
Expenses			
District Assessment		61,380.00	
Staff Stipends		114,496.01	
Staff Expenses		6,610.60	
Lay Worker Salaries		29,876.06	
Lay Worker Expenses		1,271.38	
Supernumerary Expenses		180.00	
Administration Expenses			
Office	3,733.23		
Office Equipment	1,605.44		
Treasurer Expenses	350.00		
Telephone /Internet	967.58		
Plan Printing	1,222.90		
	<hr/>		7,879.15

Manses		
Council Tax	2,144.09	
Insurance	2,482.79	
Water	1,663.19	
Telephone/internet	2,334.94	
		8,625.01
Repairs / Maintenance		
7 Chapel Close	3,606.00	
3 Grange Farm Close	2,382.00	
2 Bird's Lane	2,985.66	
Main Road, Stretton	1,109.00	
		10,082.66
Existing Churches		0.00
Redundant Churches		2,551.88
Other Expenses		
Quinquennial Inspections	4,080.00	
Removals	0.00	
Training	600.00	
Youth	0.00	
Mission	0.00	
Local Preachers	143.72	
Web Site	0.00	
Gifts & Grants	2,677.30	
Bank Charges	732.57	
Sundries	1,493.39	
Annual CMTF contribution	10,212.34	
Pension contributions	0.00	
Birchwood Loan	0.00	
		19,939.32

Total Expenditure	262,892.07
Profit / Loss	356,077.86

**Borders Misson Circuit
Statement of Balances
31st August 2023**

Current Assets

Bank A/c's (Closing Balances)

Current	0.00	
CFB	75,914.51	
TMCP	296,020.14	
Co-op Current	37,671.26	
Restricted funds	261,339.96	from sale of manse
Cash in Hand	0.00	
	<hr/>	670,945.87

Total Current Assets

670,945.87

Current Liabilities

Accruals 2022/23 (Uncleared Cheques)	0.00
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Total Current Liabilities

670,945.87

Working Capital

670,945.87

Financed By

Bank A/c's (Opening Balances)

Current	39,846.73
Accruals from 2021/22	0.00
CFB	22,190.13
TMCP	252,831.15
Cash in Hand	0.00

Profit/Loss

356,077.86

670,945.87

Name of Circuit BORDERS MISSION No 22/13

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 Joanne.Docherty Date 21/11/23

Name and address of treasurer

..... Post Code.....

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 13/12/23

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting ROBERT HURLEY Date 13.12.23

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

..... BORDERS MISSION Circuit

Charity Number: 1156488

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the BORDERS MISSION Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages ... to 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 BORDERS MISSION No 22/13

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I ~~have~~/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner

Name of independent examiner Daniel Drewry

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner AAT

Name of firm (where appropriate) Accounting Matters Ltd

Address 17 Wellington Street

Ripley, Derbyshire Post Code DE5 3EH

Date 7/12/2023

* delete or circle as appropriate

Form reviewed

May-23

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of

Borders Mission

Circuit Meeting

To

Notts & Derby District

(*Circuit Meeting/District)

We submit our annual report in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Conference and the Charity Commission guidance in CC19.

- (i) The trustees have established their mission aims taking into account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money
- (ii) Mission initiatives/projects have been costed or estimates made of projected future costs which take into account the needs of the buildings and the requirements of the Quinquennial Inspection Report/s

(iii) We have agreed a Reserves Policy which is set out overleaf and is recorded in the trustees' minutes and our Annual Report

(iv) We recognise the need to be accountable as charity trustees for all the money which comes into our hands and will provide further information as required by the Circuit/District/Connexion

(v) Our Report is attached overleaf

* please delete as appropriate

To be completed by Receiving Body

The

*Circuit Meeting/District received the RESERVES POLICY of

*Church Council/Circuit Meeting/District

Policy accepted and acknowledgement sent to the trustees

YES ☐ / NO ☐

Policy noted and the following enquiries made of the trustees

Responses received and any further action taken

*Circuit/District

Signatures

Date.....

* Please delete as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY of

Borders Mission Circuit(*Church Council ☐/Circuit Meeting ☒/District ☐)

1.	General Funds held at Y/E 31/08/23	£409,606
2.	Restricted Funds held " (sale of manse)	£261,340
3.	Endowment Funds held "	£0

4. Reserves policy for General Funds

£50,000	Money set aside for church projects annually
£125,000	Money drawn down from TMCP annually over 5 years
£150,000	Short term working capital based on 6 months expenses
£75,000	Money drawn down from TMCP to help with church assessments
£9,606	Circuit mission based activities (eg retreat & quiet days, fellowship days, etc)

5. Policy for Restricted Funds

Funds to be used for the continued maintenance and capital expenditure on repairs/updating of Circuit manses.

6. Terms relating to Endowment Funds held

n/a

This Reserves Policy has been approved by

Borders Mission Circuit(*Church Council ☐/Circuit Meeting ☒/District ☐)

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name JOANNE DOCHERTY	Full Name CAROL SIMPSON
Signature	Signature