



Borders Mission Circuit

Part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain



The **Methodist Church**

Borders Mission Circuit (22/13) Managing Trustees Report

1st September 2023 – 31st August 2024

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 17 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 17 congregations with 435 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, John Whitehead, Joan Spray
Joanne Docherty, Margaret Lee, Melvyn Mee, Michael Render,
Trevor Lee (Part year).**

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

Trustees.

The members of the Circuit Meeting act as trustees of the circuit property. There are currently 63 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	Huthwaite	Kirkby - The Hill
Kirkby - Trinity	Newton	Old Tupton
Pinxton Town Street	Selston	Skegby
Stonebroom	South Wingfield	Sutton New Cross
Sutton St Johns	Swanwick	Grassmoor (closed May 2024)

Outturn.

Total assets currently stand at £721,871

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.

Ms Maria Seal
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 2023 – August 2024.

Following the conversations with all Churches carried out by the Circuit Leadership Team during 2022, the draft 5-year Policy was circulated around the churches in the circuit. At the March 2024 Circuit Meeting the Policy was agreed for implementation. One of the objectives of the Plan was to develop a new Circuit Mission Plan. It was agreed that this work would begin in the new Connexional year (2024-2025), with the intention to present the Circuit Mission Plan at the March 2025 Circuit Meeting. The Plan would indicate the objectives the Circuit will adopt in pursuing its Mission. It was hoped that this would then be used to encourage each church to review and develop their own Mission Plans.

The Churches continue to face challenges including high energy costs and reducing numbers attending. The Circuit has striven to continue helping churches financially and with administrative support. Despite these challenges, overall, churches continue to be good heart and looking towards their future ministry in each of their situations.

Two Churches continue to offer online Zoom services each Sunday and one is developing its streaming service. For those unable to attend church the Weekly Worship Sheets continue to be distributed by post and email.

The Methodist Church Policies on Safeguarding are being adhered to, with courses for Foundation Training and Advanced Safeguarding Training having been provided by both Circuit and District. EDI Training sessions continue to be offered for those in posts that require it.

During this year the Circuit embarked upon the Stationing process for Superintendent Minister, Revd Robert Hurley who was in the 4th year of his five-year invitation. Revd Hurley expressed a wish to extend his invitation for a further five years. Following a period of consultation with the churches, the Circuit Invitations Committee recommended that an extension of five years be agreed.

After much discussion and consultation with the members and congregation at Grassmoor Church, it was agreed that the church would Cease to Meet. A final celebration service was held in May 2024. The building was to be disposed of at the earliest opportunity.

During the year the Circuit has carried out works to maintain and enhance the manses for which it has responsibility. Each manse is now in a state of good repair and the ministers are appreciative of the works done.

The Circuit have financially and prayerfully supported Revd. Peter Taylor in his work within Retail Chaplaincy in Idlewells Centre, Sutton-in-Ashfield. As of July 2024 these monthly outreach sessions have been supported by Captain Wendy Brown, Sutton Salvation Army who has joined Peter in this work. Positive contacts have been made with the stores and with the centre manager.

Future Plans.

The Circuit Leadership Team will continue to develop the Circuit Mission Plan and look to it being adopted in the coming year.

The Circuit identify the need for training in the areas of Safeguarding, EDI, Spirituality and Mission. It is hoped that in the coming year training can be delivered to enable our people to develop their own and the churches spiritual life. The areas of Safeguarding and EDI training will continue to be actioned in conjunction with Circuit and District Officers.

Approved by the Circuit Leadership Team on 23rd April 2025 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
Statement of Balances
31st August 2024**

Current Assets

Bank A/c's (Closing Balances)

CFB	54,372.08	
TMCP	323,375.42	
Co-op Current	52,361.21	
Restricted funds (manses)	205,159.80	from sale of manse
Restricted funds (other)	85,154.58	
Cash in Hand	0.00	
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		720,423.09

Prepayments 2023/24 (Uncleared Receipts)	1,448.25
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Total Current Assets	<hr/>	721,871.34
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Current Liabilities

Accruals 2022/23 (Uncleared Cheques)	0.00
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Total Current Liabilities	<hr/>	721,871.34
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Working Capital		<hr/> <hr/>	721,871.34
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Financed By

Bank A/c's (Opening Balances)

Current	37,671.26
Accruals from 2022/23	0.00
CFB	75,914.51
TMCP	296,020.14
Restricted funds (manses)	261,339.96
Cash in Hand	0.00

Profit/Loss	50,925.47	<hr/>	721,871.34
		<hr/> <hr/>	

Borders Misson Circuit
Profit and Loss (all accounts)
1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024

Income	£	£	£
Bank Interest			
Current Account	0.00		
CFB	1,874.12		
TMCP	28,052.62		
		29,926.74	
Church Assessment		217,825.96	
Grants & Gifts		0.00	
Redundant Churches		55,932.00	
Funds to be transferred		85,154.58	
Other Income			
Pension Contributions	6,513.50		
Sale of Wine	70.00		
Other Income	7,794.75		
		14,378.25	
Total Income			403,217.53

Expenses		
District Assessment		48,656.00
Staff Stipends		123,562.75
Staff Expenses		7,161.94
Lay Worker Salaries		31,597.28
Lay Worker Expenses		932.45
Supernumerary Expenses		200.00
Administration Expenses		
Office	4,319.44	
Office Equipment	1,829.61	
Treasurer Expenses	349.98	
Telephone /Internet	1,029.69	
Plan Printing	1,341.00	
		8,869.72

Manses		
Council Tax	7,740.43	
Insurance	1,388.94	
Water	1,750.72	
Telephone/internet	2,761.23	
		13,641.32
Repairs / Maintenance		
7 Chapel Close	34,640.53	
3 Grange Farm Close	6,468.40	
2 Bird's Lane	14,509.99	
		55,618.92
Existing Churches		0.00
Redundant Churches		15,170.98
Other Expenses		
Quinquennial Inspections	1,110.00	
Local Preachers	158.91	
Web Site	99.00	
Gifts & Grants	1,100.00	
Bank Charges	1,588.48	
Sundries	772.30	
Annual CMTF contribution	33,052.01	
Loans to churches	9,000.00	
		46,880.70
Total Expenditure		352,292.06
Profit / Loss		50,925.47
Profit / Loss (excluding Sale of Redundant Churches/Manses)		-34,229.11

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 2024 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 Date 9/12/24

Name and address of treasurer
.....

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were/will be* presented to the Circuit meeting held on 12/12/24

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting Date 12/12/24

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 2024 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 MARIA SEAL

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate) ACCOUNTING MATTERS LTD

Address 17 WELLINGTON STREET, RIPLEY

..... Post Code DES 3EH

Date 10.01.2025

* delete or circle as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY

Report on behalf of

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

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 31/08/2024	£430109
2.	Restricted Funds held "	£290314
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
£170,000	Short term working capital based on 6 months expenses
£75,000	Money drawn down from TMCP to help with church assessments
£10,109	Circuit mission based activities (eg retreat & quiet days, fellowship days, etc)

5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

£85,155	To be sent on to the Church in the Circuit where the property was sold
£205,160	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 <input type="text"/>	Full Name <input type="text"/>
Signature <input type="text"/>	Signature <input type="text"/>