

YEOVIL AND BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales · Charity number 1158290

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2014-08-19

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Vicarage Walk
Middle Street
Yeovil
BA20 1JZ

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Website www.yeovilblackmorevalemc.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE PURPOSES OF THE METHODIST CHURCH ARE AND SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN SINCE THE DATE OF UNION THE ADVANCEMENT OF - (A) THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DOCTRINAL STANDARDS AND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH; (B) ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE FOR THE TIME BEING OF ANY CONNEXIONAL, DISTRICT, CIRCUIT, LOCAL OR OTHER ORGANISATION OF THE METHODIST CHURCH; (C) ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE FOR THE TIME BEING OF ANY SOCIETY OR INSTITUTION SUBSIDIARY OR ANCILLARY TO THE METHODIST CHURCH; (D) ANY PURPOSE FOR THE TIME BEING OF ANY CHARITY BEING A CHARITY SUBSIDIARY OR ANCILLARY TO THE METHODIST CHURCH.

Activities: Provide the Circuit churches with human resources (both Ministerial and Lay), pastoraloversight and care, leadership training and education, administration and coordination, all insupport of the churches promotion of the Christian faith.

Classification

- **How:** Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Dorset
- Somerset
- Wiltshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£1,103,303	£567,067	£2,873,597	5
2023-08-31	£389,940	£352,166	-	-
2022-08-31	£272,805	£376,747	-	-
2021-08-31	£294,068	£362,219	-	-
2020-08-31	£290,973	£342,803	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Linda Francis	Chair	2021-09-01
Anne Elizabeth Cook		2023-09-01
Dr Colin FARRANT B Sc,MB,BS		2015-09-01
Elizabeth Fraser Fox		2019-09-01
GEOFFREY PHILIP GARDNER		2017-09-01
GILLIAN MARGARET MANN WALSHAM		2015-09-01
HAYDEN CHARLES WILLIAMS ACA		2017-05-11
JANET AURELIA ENGLISH B Ed		2017-09-01
Margaret Joy Evans		2015-09-01
Mark Anthony Parsons		2023-09-01
REV CHRISTINA LE MOIGNAN		2015-09-01
Rev Judy Turner-Smith BA MA DPS		2021-09-28
Rev Kate Elizabeth Konrad		2019-09-01
Rev MARGARET ANN OXENHAM		2015-09-01
Rev Soon Cheol Choi		2023-06-06
STEPHEN ALLAN WATSON		2014-09-01

Accounts



YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

(Charity Registration No. 1158290)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31 August 2024

Circuit Office, Vicarage Street Methodist Church, Middle Street, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1JZ

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

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1. Superintendent's annual report on the Circuit's achievements and performance

Throughout the whole of the year we had a full staff team comprising of 3 Methodist Presbyters. In addition, we were very fortunate to have 8 Supernumerary Ministers, 4 of whom were active. There are 10 active Local Preachers with three in training.

Within the Circuit we had 2 Lay employees; both of whom are employed by the Circuit, one is our Circuit Administrator whilst the other is the co-ordinator of our POD group in Sherborne. We have reviewed our work and the work that our employees are doing as well as adjusting their working hours where necessary.

In terms of our set-up this circuit had 9 societies worshipping and using 11 buildings at the start of our year. Very sadly we have closed another of those buildings for worship, which has been sold. However, we are still in the process of selling the 2 buildings which closed on the cusp of the previous Church Year.

Our Mission Statement is 'To know God's love; to show God's love; to share God's love' and so our aim is to work to this statement and support all of our societies and be proactive in a way which provides leadership and pastoral support to each, and to ensure that regular worship, fellowship and mission is carried out.

In line with the purposes of this charity we have worked over this last year to advance the Christian faith and fulfil our charitable status through:

- Regular acts of worship in all churches
- Small house/fellowship/prayer groups – online where necessary
- The restart of the multiple Circuit-wide groups supporting children, young people and families; women's fellowship groups and senior citizens' luncheon clubs.
- The Circuit Meeting reviewed its safeguarding policy for children, young people and vulnerable adults
- The Circuit, and all Circuit Churches, have continued to respond to the requirements of the GDPR legislation and all data files are being reviewed, and privacy notices are being approved and displayed
- The 'Circuit Policy' document has been the basis of our work and the CLT reviewed priorities and has planned for changes that will be required beyond 2023 when our current five-year financial plan comes to an end.
- The Circuit Meeting reviewed its financial controls and expenses policy again this year.
- Pastoral care of the housebound, the dying, those in hospital and others in need
- The Circuit Meeting has met four times during the year. Two of these have been 'virtual' meetings and two have been in person.

Amongst the work of 2023-2024 the discernment within the Yeovil Methodist Church' is on-going as it continues its missional work and worship, whilst exploring the viability of its two buildings. The third building has been sold. Wincanton's work with the 'Live at Home' Scheme with Methodist Homes for the Aged continued to grow and is greatly appreciated within the local community. Tisbury's 'Communita' is also developing and valued. The ecumenical work across the circuit with all of the local churches is working well.

As a circuit we have been exploring working closer with all of the adjoining circuits. This work culminated in a decision to transfer four churches out of the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit on 1 September 2024. Three churches, namely, Bell Street, Shaftesbury, Motcombe and Tisbury will become part of the Salisbury Circuit whilst Wincanton will become a part of the Somerset Mendip Circuit. One of our Presbyters, Revd Denise Binks will join the Salisbury Circuit and the manse that she lives in 7 Ridge Way, Shaftesbury will become the responsibility of the Salisbury Circuit.

We are in conversations now with the Dorset South and West Circuit regarding our remaining four churches. It is hoped that a merger will be agreed on. More work ahead.

The Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit have prepared our 2023/24 accounts we will be submitting the total sale of assets as a net figure of £598,313 alongside the annual income of £173,632. The insurance valuation of the three manses that we are disposing of in this financial year (2024/25) amounts to £1,179,066. We have been advised that this will take us above the threshold for independent examination and put us in the Charity Commission Audit class. To this end we applied for an exemption on 8 April 2025 and are awaiting the outcome from the Charity Commission.

We are very grateful to all of our members of staff, lay and ordained and to all of our volunteers for all of their prayerful dedication to their callings to serve in this Circuit in the Lord's name. We look forward to another year full of challenge and opportunity.

Revd Lin Francis
Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Trustees

2. Objectives and activities

2.1 Mission

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit Meeting trustees (under the Chair of the Superintendent Minister), who meet quarterly, have given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives, conforming with the Charities Act 2011.

Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the geographic area covered by the Circuit and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. Our Mission Statement is:-

"To know God's Love
To Show God's Love
To share God's Love"

We aim to achieve this by encouraging, through the members and adherents of churches in our Circuit, the worship, social, and outreach activities that currently exist, and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the church family.

We aim to build a Circuit formed for mission and full of generous people who are prepared to work, and develop, to build God's kingdom in this place. We share a common passion to use our gifts, graces and resources to the best of our abilities to be mission-shaped followers of Jesus Christ.

2.2 Purpose and activities of the Circuit

The Circuit is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any individual Church, of the Connexional character of the Methodist Church. The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the union the advancement of:

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church, and

- b. any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and
- c. any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and
- d. any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this Circuit is to advance the mission of the Methodist Church within the geographical area defined by the churches within Yeovil and Blackmore Vale:

- by providing opportunities for churches to work together and support each other
- by offering to churches resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The Circuit's primary activity to meet this purpose is "Circuit Ministry" - that is, the provision of a team of ministers and lay employees to deliver ministerial and families' support to all of the churches in the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale area.

All of the costs incurred to support this Circuit Ministry activity are met by the Circuit – including all staff salaries ("stipends" for ministers) and expenses, and the provision of manse housing for ministers – the Circuit is responsible for manse maintenance, phone/broadband, water, and council tax costs. The Circuit raises funds from each of the Circuit churches through an assessment regime, and, together with its other income sources, these funds are used to pay for its Circuit Ministry and other activity costs. In turn, the Circuit is assessed by the District on the size of its ministry team and pays monthly charges which fund District and central Connexion costs.

Apart from Circuit Ministry, the Circuit's other activities are:

- the award and administration of grants to Circuit churches and external bodies as appropriate and as directed by the Circuit Meeting
- raising funds (financial investment management of the Circuit's funds held with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP), and the rental of the Circuit's investment property in Yeovil (spare ministerial manse)).

The Circuit serves the local churches, its District, and the Methodist Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Methodist Church, and in programmes of training.

2.3 Circuit policy (last reviewed June 2024)

Our Policy is to: -

- Support all 4 societies and six buildings of our Circuit in a positive and proactive way by providing leadership and pastoral care and ensuring the continuance of their regular pattern of Worship and fellowship.
- Declare that our central priority is Making Disciples of Jesus and that we will facilitate initiatives of evangelism.
- Hold and work to a realistic appraisal of the future potential of our Societies and be particularly supportive of the merger of societies within the Circuit including the three churches which have merged in Yeovil to form the new Yeovil Methodist

Church, and of the merger of Sturminster Newton and King's Stag to form Vale Methodist Church.

- We plan to retain two ministers until the end of 2024-25.
- Following the move of four churches into new circuits from September 2024. The plan is that the remaining churches will move into Dorset South and West Circuit from September 2025. If this plan is not effected, to become a one minister circuit from September 2025
- To develop ministry amongst children, young people and families in the western end of the Circuit.
- Adapt ministry to the ever-changing need of the local churches, particularly in terms of Pastoral Care.
- Make the best use of the experience and abilities of the supernumerary ministers residing in our Circuit, who are very willing to offer their services.
- Lay staff in 2024/25 to work in administration and pioneering.
- Respond to requests for grants from Circuit funds, giving priority to those projects that are orientated to mission rather than just maintenance ministry.
- Ensure that we are compliant with Safeguarding processes and other regulatory demands (such as GDPR and Connexional requirements) by offering training and follow up.
- Work to create a renewed sense of belonging to the wider family of Methodism – Circuit, District, Connexion and the World Church.
- Give encouragement to the opportunities of ecumenical work – particularly in our shared Churches in Sherborne.
- Challenge our people to discover the Call of God in their lives and what this might mean in the development of a diversity of ministries.
- Through prayer and study, discover the meaning of Christian Discipleship in the Twenty-first Century and how effectively to engage in appropriate opportunities of mission and service.

3. Financial review

3.1 Circuit financial position at the end of FY 2023-24

Key points

During the year the Circuit received total income of £1,103k (FY 2022-23: £390k) and dispersed £567k (FY 2022-23: £352k). Net current assets of £921k (excluding property & land) were carried forward across the year end (FY 2022-23: £385k).

Circuit costs reduced in 2023-24 following the reduction of staffing both in ministerial and lay staffing. On the income side, the Circuit benefited in the amount of £598,313 in net capital receipts after the payment of levies from chapel sale proceeds.

Without capital receipts from redundant chapel sales, the total Circuit income does not fully cover net expenditure. The budgeted deficit in FY 2023-24 was £95k to be made up from Circuit reserves. In the event, with reduced costs and after chapel sales, the Circuit returned a net surplus of £567k.

Church incomes, and Circuit assessments

Gillingham and Preston Road, Yeovil churches were sold in early 2024. Other Circuit churches, with significantly lower memberships and yet the same buildings to maintain, no longer have enough income/funds to pay their assessments without a struggle.

In response to the ongoing financial struggles of our smaller churches and the changes within this Circuit, in June 2024 the Circuit Meeting took the decision to maintain the Circuit Assessment for 2024-2025 at the same level as the previous year 2023/2024.

3.2 Reserves policy

Cash reserves

The Circuit's cash reserves held at 31st August 2024 were as follows:

Unrestricted Funds	£
Lloyds Bank – current account	27,945
Methodist CFB	86,514
Lord Alfred Trim Bequest (TMCP)	149,105
DD Gifford Cluett Bequest (TMCP)	53,086

Unrestricted Funds	£
Circuit Model Trust Fund (TMCP)	606,033
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED	922,683
Restricted Funds - Women's Work Bequest (TMCP)	4,562
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	927,245

All cash funds are separately invested either with CFB or TMCP.

Included in the above figures is an amount of general funds of £334, designated by the Circuit Meeting for Wincanton children's work. The Circuit Meeting of 18 September 2024 released these funds to general funds.

Monetary investments

The Circuit has an additional £3,802 held in TMCP monetary investments (unrestricted) (not included in the above figures) making a total Circuit fund balance of £931,047 at 31 August 2024.

The Circuit's manses at Harbin Close Yeovil, Granville Way Sherborne and Manston Road Sturminster Newton are not currently required for ministerial accommodation and are all now treated as investment properties.

Other than these, no money is directly invested in property, securities or other forms of investment.

Policy for 2024-25

The Circuit's reserves policy covers all of its general and restricted funds. This policy is reviewed and approved annually by trustees, and submitted onwards to the Southampton District for acceptance. The Circuit's reserves policy for 2024-25 is as follows:

- Reserves policy for general funds

The Circuit aims to hold a minimum of 6 months' budgeted expenditure in its general funds at any time. This equates to £104k for 2024-25. This is to provide funds for:

- Essential cash-flow: covering short-term deficits whilst awaiting grants and assessment income, or in the event of needing to complete asset sales to replenish reserves
- Unforeseen emergencies or unexpected needs, such as unanticipated manse repair bills or other urgent projects
- Unplanned requests from Circuit churches for additional grants for repairs
- Circuit funding to support any unbudgeted Circuit church missional staffing projects
- Unexpected shortfalls in funding, perhaps, for example, the loss of assessment income in the event of the unforeseen closure of a church or churches within the Circuit.

- Reserves policy for restricted funds

Bequest for Women's Work: £4,562. Originally bequested to the "Women's Work" Methodist women's organization in Sherborne (now Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB)). This Circuit's MWiB group is seeking new members at present.

The Circuit is in discussions with geographically-adjacent Circuits with a view to different parts of this Circuit amalgamating with adjoining Circuits, leading to the possibility of at least one merger completing at the end of FY 2024-25. Accordingly, the Circuit's five-year financial plan has been dis-regarded for the purpose of this reserves policy while these amalgamation discussions continue.

3.3 Investment policy and performance

The Circuit's investment policy is to diversify its funds in bank accounts, deposit accounts, financial investment products and investment property. The Circuit has no endowment funds, currently.

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Circuits and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the Circuit. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income reflects deposit rates available

elsewhere. Short-term deposits are lodged directly with the Central Finance Board (CFB) and attract rates of interest comparable with available commercial market rates.

The Circuit's Trustees' investment policy is aligned with that of the Methodist Central Finance Board (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

There are no benchmarks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. The Circuit relies on TMCP and the CFB to review and manage the performance of the Circuit's financial investments. The Circuit Stewards regularly check that all income due is received.

Investment Property. The Circuit owns a number of manses for ministerial housing. The Circuit's policy has been to maintain any spare manses as investment property. Any empty manses that were not needed to be sold were let, where possible, to provide rental income. These properties, whether let or not, are inspected annually by the Circuit Property Secretary or by a representative (manse steward) from one of the associated churches. A professional valuation of the Circuit's investment properties was last undertaken in July 2023.

Circuit manses at Sherborne and Sturminster Newton ceased being occupied by ministers in 2023-24, and so transferred from being classed as tangible fixed assets. In light of the circuit changes it was agreed that these two properties would be sold. They are currently on the open market.

3.4 Going concern

The Circuit's amalgamation plans which cover a two-year process are under way. The transfer of the churches at Motcombe, Shaftesbury and Tisbury to the Salisbury Methodist Circuit, and of Wincanton church to the Somerset Mendip Methodist Circuit, at the end of 2023-24 has been agreed to. The trustees are confident that the resulting (smaller) Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit will remain a going concern after these changes.

The second set of proposals to amalgamate the remaining church section of Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit with the adjacent Circuit, Dorset South and West is in process, and subsequently the closure of this Circuit, is likely to happen in September 2025. The trustees fully expect this Circuit to remain a going concern until such time as these plans are agreed and implemented.

4. Structure, governance and management

4.1 Governing documents and constitution

The Circuit is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union (1932) and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 19 August 2014.

4.2 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of churches; Circuits fund the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the churches in the Circuit; most decisions are made at or ratified by the quarterly Circuit Meeting. The Circuit is a member of the Southampton District of the Methodist Church.

A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at its half yearly synods. The Southampton District reports into the Methodist Conference.

The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within each District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to church councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the church stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by church councils as the managing trustees of their church.

4.3 Governance and management

The Circuit operates within a statutory framework of regulation and additionally seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Southampton District and Methodist Connexional Offices to provide guidance on changes that could affect the Circuit.

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other ministers, the Circuit Stewards (including the Bookkeeper), the Office Administrator, together form the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) and are considered Key Management Personnel. The ministers of the Circuit undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and the trustees' meetings (Circuit Meetings).

Paid trustees are the ordained ministers. All lay staff are employed at the decision of the Circuit Meeting. In some Methodist Circuits the Circuit Meeting Secretary is a volunteer – in this Circuit, we have a lay member of staff, employed as Circuit Administrator with additional responsibilities as Circuit Meeting Secretary.

Supernumerary ministers are ministers who have retired but many still conduct worship on a voluntary basis. Their ministry is gratefully accepted by Circuit Meeting and they are appointed as trustees by the Meeting.

All other Circuit Meeting members are volunteers from churches in the Circuit. The full list of trustees of the Circuit Meeting is provided in Appendix A: all voting members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. Representatives from the churches include the Church Steward and Treasurer for each church (ex-officio Circuit Meeting members), plus each church's further representatives to Circuit Meeting, who are all elected at Annual General Meetings of their church councils.

Circuit Stewards are trustees who are elected by Circuit Meeting to serve with the specific responsibilities and duties of Circuit Steward as defined by the Methodist Church, including their participation in Circuit Leadership Team meetings. Circuit Stewards normally serve for a minimum period of 3 years, but may offer for re-election after this time.

Other voluntary appointments at this Circuit Meeting include the Senior Circuit Steward, Circuit Property Secretary, Local Preachers Secretary, etc – see Appendix A – all these are appointed as Circuit Meeting members and trustees at the decision of the Circuit Meeting.

The Circuit Meeting of all trustees meets four times a year. The trustees of the Circuit have chosen to divest powers of decision required urgently between Circuit Meetings to the CLT.

The CLT meets formally at least every two months and communicates routinely through electronic media. The team is used by the Circuit as a means of formulating, discussing and refining policy prior to proposal and debate at Circuit Meeting.

4.4 Risk management

The trustees have considered the risks that the charity is exposed to and put strategies in place to mitigate those risks. Policies are established for health and safety, safeguarding and data protection, alongside financial controls. The Circuit's financial controls include: expenses policy, procurement policy, banking and investment management policy, anti-bribery policy, conflict of interest policy, and the Circuit provides guidance to its trustees on maintaining awareness of risks from financial crime and abuse. In the Circuit's Financial Statements (Note 25) the trustees have assessed the charity's exposure to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk, and have explained how the charity manages these risks.

5. Reference and Administrative Details

5.1 Name of the charity

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit

5.2 Charity registration number

1158290 Registered in England and Wales

5.3 Principal office

Circuit Office
c/o Vicarage Street Methodist Church
Middle Street
Yeovil
BA20 1JZ
01935 432173 (answerphone available)
www.yandbvcircuit@gmail.com

5.4 Superintendent Minister

Revd Lin Francis

5.5 Circuit Administrator

Mrs Helen Coombes

5.6 Circuit Treasurer

The Circuit finances are the responsibility of the Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Circuit Stewards. They have employed a Bookkeeper to enable them in this task.

5.7 Names of trustees

All voting Members of the Circuit Meeting are trustees. The list of trustees serving from 1 September 2024 through to August 2025 is given in Appendix A.

5.8 Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
Business Banking
BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London, EC2A 4PE

5.9 Investment managers and custodian trustees

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

5.10 Independent Examiner

(First appointed: 23rd March, 2021, last reappointed: 19 June 2024):

Frances Wilde FCCA MBA(Open) DChA PgDip
Director
Warner Wilde Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors
4 Marigold Drive
Bisley Surrey GU24 9SF
Registered in England No. 6923262

6. Exemptions from disclosure

None.

7. Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

The Circuit holds no funds as custodian trustee.

The Circuit acts as an agent when it receives grants and donations that are directly passed on to external organisations, and where the Circuit plays no part in overseeing their use. In this context the Circuit undertakes the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of (a) grants requested by churches and other charities /organisations within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion and (b) donations made by Circuit churches to certain Methodist (related party) and external charitable bodies. Sums collected by the Circuit as agent for these bodies are passed on directly to them within the same financial year (or accrued as creditors). Funds received by the Circuit as agent are not recognised as an asset in the financial statements because the funds are not within its control. No fee is earned in respect of this agency arrangement and the Circuit incurs no cost through this arrangement.

8. Approvals

We confirm that the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements (Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and supporting Notes) have been approved by Trustees at the Circuit Meeting held on 19th February, 2025:

Lin Francis (signed)

Steve Watson(signed)

Rev Lin Francis
Chair of Circuit Meeting
Date:

Mr Stephen Watson
Circuit Steward
Date:

APPENDIX A Trustees

Trustees

The members of Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit meeting are the charity trustees. Membership is made up from circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches. The following were managing trustees from 1 September 2023 to 19 February 2025:

Revd Linda Francis (Superintendent)
Revd Denise Binks (to 31/08/24)
Revd Kate Konrad
Revd Christina Le Moignan (Supernumerary)
Revd Margaret Oxenham (Supernumerary)
Revd Judy Turner-Smith (Supernumerary)
Revd Soon Cheol Choi (Supernumerary)

Circuit Stewards

Mr Stephen Watson
Mrs Janet English (Senior Steward from 01.09.24)
Mrs Margaret Whitford (to 31.08.24)

Other Appointments

Mr Philip Butler (Property Secretary)
Mr Colin Farrant (Local Preachers' Tutor)
Mrs Beth Fox (Safeguarding Officer)
Revd Judy Turner-Smith * (LP&WL Secretary)

Representatives

Mrs Joy Aylen (to 31/12/23)
Mrs Jo Bathurst (to 31/12/23)
Mr Tony Cole (to 31/12/23)
Mrs Margaret Evans
Mrs Pearl Evans (to 31/12/23)
Mr George Faris
Mr Don Farquharson (to 15/04/24)
Mrs Susan Way (From 15/04/24)
Mrs Christine Fordham (to 31/08/24)
Mrs Beth Fox
Mr Geoff Gardner

Dr Bob Jones (to 31/08/24)
Mrs Ruth Jones (to 31/08/24)
Mr Mark Parsons
Mrs Sarah Upshall (to 31/08/24)
Mrs Gillian Walsham
Mrs Lynda Walters (to 31/08/24)
Mr Hayden Williams
Mr David Wooldridge (to 31/08/24)
Miss Sarah James
Mrs Anne Cook
Mrs Caroline Wolffsohn (from 18/09/24)

* Already a member in another capacity

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Current financial year		Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes					
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	227	-	-	227	18,111
Charitable activities	4	202,125	-	-	202,125	210,470
Investments	5	12,438	11,091	234	23,763	9,825
Other income	6	-	877,188	-	877,188	151,535
Total income		<u>214,790</u>	<u>888,279</u>	<u>234</u>	<u>1,103,303</u>	<u>389,941</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	25,285	150	12	25,447	3,996
Charitable activities	8	248,488	293,132	-	541,620	348,170
Total expenditure		<u>273,773</u>	<u>293,282</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>567,067</u>	<u>352,166</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	14	-	259	-	259	48,025
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>(58,983)</u>	<u>595,256</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>536,495</u>	<u>85,800</u>
Transfers between funds		<u>40,000</u>	<u>(40,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	11	<u>(18,983)</u>	<u>555,256</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>536,495</u>	<u>85,800</u>
Reconciliation of funds:						
Fund balances at 1 September 2023		<u>2,279,983</u>	<u>52,779</u>	<u>4,340</u>	<u>2,337,102</u>	<u>2,251,302</u>
Fund balances at 31 August 2024		<u>2,261,000</u>	<u>608,035</u>	<u>4,562</u>	<u>2,873,597</u>	<u>2,337,102</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Prior financial year		Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	1,969	-	16,142	18,111
Charitable activities	4	210,470	-	-	210,470
Investments	5	8,302	1,388	135	9,825
Other income	6	1,470	150,065	-	151,535
Total income		<u>222,211</u>	<u>151,453</u>	<u>16,277</u>	<u>389,941</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	3,973	11	12	3,996
Charitable activities	8	309,557	22,471	16,142	348,170
Total expenditure		<u>313,530</u>	<u>22,482</u>	<u>16,154</u>	<u>352,166</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	14	<u>48,200</u>	<u>(175)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,025</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>(43,119)</u>	<u>128,796</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>85,800</u>
Transfers between funds		<u>80,000</u>	<u>(80,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	11	<u>36,881</u>	<u>48,796</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>85,800</u>
Reconciliation of funds:					
Fund balances at 1 September 2022		<u>2,243,102</u>	<u>3,983</u>	<u>4,217</u>	<u>2,251,302</u>
Fund balances at 31 August 2023		<u>2,279,983</u>	<u>52,779</u>	<u>4,340</u>	<u>2,337,102</u>

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	16		980,000		980,000
Investment property	17		981,200		981,200
Investments	18		3,802		3,543
			<u>1,965,002</u>		<u>1,964,743</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	20	24,166		17,592	
Investments	21	812,786		255,766	
Cash at bank and in hand		114,459		139,583	
		<u>951,411</u>		<u>412,941</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	22	(30,404)		(28,170)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net current assets			921,007		384,771
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>2,886,009</u>		<u>2,349,514</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	23		(12,412)		(12,412)
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Net assets			<u>2,873,597</u>		<u>2,337,102</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	25		4,562		4,340
Unrestricted funds - general	27		2,261,000		2,279,983
Unrestricted funds - CMT	26		608,035		52,779
			<u>2,873,597</u>		<u>2,337,102</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on

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Trustee

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	30		(369,055)		44,916
Investing activities					
Proceeds from disposal of tangible fixed assets		877,188		-	
Purchase of investments		-		(49,093)	
Proceeds from disposal of investments		(557,020)		-	
Investment income received		23,763		9,825	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			343,931		(39,268)
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(25,124)		5,648
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			139,583		133,935
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			114,459		139,583

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit is an unincorporated charity.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.4 Income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, when the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources, and when the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

The Circuit acts as agent in two matters:

- the collection from Circuit Churches and individuals and payment over of their contributions, to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church – “Connexional Funds”, and to other national charities
- the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches and other charities/organisations within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion

The transactions relating to these matters are not reflected in the Circuit's transactions in the SOFA. Instead, they are shown on the SOFA as “Offerings/Gifts received for, and passed to, External Organisations”, details of which are disclosed in these Notes.

Gift Aid receivable is included as income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be a part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

No attempt has been made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers.

Grants received by the Circuit for Circuit purposes from external sources (including Connexional and/or District grants) are shown as income. The Circuit has received no performance-related grants.

Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate, and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the Circuit or have been met.

1.5 Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full when the award is made once the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or constructive obligation to make the payment and that such payment is probable. When such a grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a Provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate Fund (split between monies due in the following financial year and monies due in the longer term), the Provision being released in future years as instalments are paid within the terms originally agreed by trustees at the Circuit Meeting. No grants have been made with performance conditions attached.

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each Minister and their families. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These costs are not shown separately as benefits-in-kind for Ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of the Ministers.

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Equipment assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Equipment	3 years
-----------	---------

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

The Circuit is managing trustee of residential buildings. Those occupied by ministers stationed in the Circuit are described as "manses". All manses are shown in the Balance Sheet at their approximate market values. In November 2016 the Circuit decided to use the "Fair Value" of its manses on transitioning to SORP FRS102 (when reporting the 2015-16 financial year), and has since applied a "Deemed Cost less impairment" policy to valuing its manses in its annual financial reports. Land values are estimated at 25% of the property value. Unoccupied residential properties being used to provide investment income for the Circuit are treated as "investment property".

The Circuit trustees become the managing trustees of any Circuit chapels that close, where they are not merged with another society, at which point any such property becomes a Circuit asset.

At each reporting end date, the Circuit reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.7 Investment property

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where a property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of two years, the property is classified as "investment property" (whether let out or not) and, if let, it is let at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives. The Circuit's investment properties are revalued periodically in accordance with SORP FRS102 2019 and any change to the asset valuation is recorded in the Balance Sheet. The last such valuation was in July 2021.

1.8 Fixed asset investments

The principal monetary investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains/losses arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA with further detail provided in these Notes.

The Circuit's other monetary investments are held as cash on deposit with a maturity date of less than one year. These deposits are held both for investment purposes and also to meet short term cash commitments (principally, ministers' stipends and lay staff salaries) as they fall due. The Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (CFB) banks these funds on the Circuit's behalf.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.11 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the Circuit. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at the realisable values.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.12 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and gifts	227	-	227	1,969	-	1,969
Grants	-	-	-	-	16,142	16,142
	<u>227</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>227</u>	<u>1,969</u>	<u>16,142</u>	<u>18,111</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Charitable Activities		
Assessments on churches	158,462	194,270
Charitable rental income	17,508	16,200
Other income	26,155	-
	<u>202,125</u>	<u>210,470</u>

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Other income	12,438	11,091	234	23,763	8,302	1,388	135	9,825

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	877,188	877,188	1,470	150,065	151,535

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fundraising and publicity								
Investment management costs	25,285	150	12	25,447	3,973	11	12	3,996

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Charitable activities 2023 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	142,223	183,885
Connexional assessment and model trust levy	54,101	64,958
Property maintenance	8,537	25,715
District assessment and levy	9,979	10,398
Provisions	-	15,218
Levy on property sale	278,875	-
Other outgoings	1,500	614
	<u>495,215</u>	<u>300,788</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	12,937	1,500
Share of support and governance costs (see note 10)		
Support	30,148	38,898
Governance	3,320	6,984
	<u>541,620</u>	<u>348,170</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	248,488	309,557
Unrestricted funds - CMT	293,132	22,471
Restricted funds	-	16,142
	<u>541,620</u>	<u>348,170</u>

9 Grants payable

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Charitable activities 2023 £
Grants to institutions:		
Given to churches and projects	<u>12,937</u>	<u>1,500</u>

The Circuit also acts as an agent for its churches in order to consolidate charitable giving to other charities and related parties. Churches send payments to the Circuit with specific directions concerning to which charities/related parties they should be paid. In the current financial year £2,921 was received as agent and passed over to the relevant parties.

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

10 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Office expenses	5,546	6,307
Utilities and council tax	12,644	15,966
Insurance	2,769	5,809
Travel	7,652	8,627
Telephone	1,537	2,189
Governance costs	3,320	6,984
	<u>33,468</u>	<u>45,882</u>
Analysed between:		
Charitable activities	<u>33,468</u>	<u>45,882</u>

	2024 £	2023 £
Governance costs comprise:		
Legal and professional	1,508	5,393
Independent examiner	1,710	1,476
Bank fees	102	115
	<u>3,320</u>	<u>6,984</u>

11 Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	1,710	1,476
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	<u>(877,188)</u>	<u>(151,535)</u>

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

12 Trustees

In the year, trustees Rev Lin Francis, Rev Denise Binks and Rev Kate Konrad received gross stipends of £90,024 (2023: £110,404, 4 ministers), computer allowances of £582 (2023: £704), pension contributions of £23,435 (2023: £28,974) for their roles as ministers in the year. The circuit paid £8,743 (2023: £10,577) in employers national insurance contributions.

Trustees Lynn Heaton and Helen Coombes received remuneration from the Circuit for their employment in the year. This is in accordance with Law and Standing Order 314 as detailed by the governing documents. The remuneration included gross wages of £16,999 (2023: £21,898), employers pension contributions of £461 (2023: £632) and employers national insurance contributions of £85 (2023: £766)

None of the above are deemed to be paid on terms preferential to those that would be accorded to a member of the public with the same qualifications or experience.

The Circuit has a policy that all trustees may claim for appropriate expenses in the course of their duties on behalf of the Circuit. Some of the Circuit's supernumeraries and just one other volunteer trustee claimed and received travel expense payments in relation to their travel on Circuit business. In the current financial year, 4 trustees (2023: 8) received reimbursement of travel, office costs and supernumerary preaching fees totalling £2,596 (2023: £2,763).

13 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Ministers	3	4
Lay employees	2	3
Total	5	7

Employment costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	109,498	142,099
Social security costs	8,829	11,833
Other pension costs	23,896	29,953
	142,223	183,885

There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial; the holiday year ends on 31 August. All staff are paid at or above the living wage.

The two part time lay employees were engaged as follows: Administrator and POD Co-ordinator.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

13 Employees

(Continued)

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Aggregate compensation	123,238	151,612

14 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:						
Revaluation of investments	-	259	259	-	(175)	(175)
Revaluation of investment properties	-	-	-	48,200	-	48,200
	-	259	259	48,200	(175)	48,025

15 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

16 Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £
Cost	
At 1 September 2023	980,000
At 31 August 2024	980,000
Carrying amount	
At 31 August 2024	980,000
At 31 August 2023	980,000

In July 2021 the Circuit arranged for professional reassessment of its manses' open market values. This exercise confirmed that the property values are higher than the values shown in the accounts, i.e. that there has been no impairment loss. Accordingly, the Circuit's manses continue to be carried in the accounts at the Deemed Cost values from previous years.

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

17 Investment property

2024

£

Fair value

At 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024

981,200

The Circuit's investment property at 24 Harbin Close, Yeovil, was last revalued by a professional firm of surveyors in July 2021, in line with the Circuit's policy of revaluing its investment properties periodically. The surveyors determined that the property (land + buildings) was valued at £325,000, with the land component being 25% of this.

The Circuit's manses at 73 Granville Way, Sherborne and at 47 Manston Road, Sturminster Newton both ceased being occupied by ministers during FY 2022-23. Accordingly, their asset values (total: £608,000) have been transferred from tangible fixed assets (see N14) to being treated as fixed asset investment properties at the end of FY 2022-23. These properties had also been valued by professional surveyors in July 2021 at £435,000 and £400,000 respectively, with 52% of Granville Way i.e. £226,200 being the Circuit's property (the remaining 48% being URC owned). This equates to a re-valuation gain of £48,200 on these two properties.

In arriving at their opinions of value the surveyors adopted the comparative method of valuation. A desk top valuation appraisal was undertaken. Inspection of the property had been undertaken by the same firm of surveyors (for the purposes of quinquennial inspection) over the last 5 years, and, appraisal included analysis of information recorded therefrom along with due consideration of comparable sales evidence which was available at the date of the valuation. Valuation was carried out in accordance with the Practice Statements in the RICS Global Valuation Standards (effective from 1st July 2017).

The Circuit has no tangible fixed assets with individual purchase value of more than £1,000 at its investment property.

18 Fixed asset investments

Monetary
investments
£

Cost or valuation

At 1 September 2023

3,543

Valuation changes

259

At 31 August 2024

3,802

Carrying amount

At 31 August 2024

3,802

At 31 August 2023

3,543

19 Financial instruments

2024

£

2023

£

Carrying amount of financial assets

Instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss

812,786

255,766

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

20 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	-	568
Other debtors	-	42
Prepayments and accrued income	24,166	16,982
	<u>24,166</u>	<u>17,592</u>

21 Current asset investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Investments held with TMCP	<u>812,786</u>	<u>255,766</u>

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund, 'Trim Bequest' and 'Cluett Bequest' are held by TMCP. Interest and other income is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium and long term investments. These are all Model Trust funds. Funds can be withdrawn on demand subject to Circuit Meeting approval, and subject to approval by TMCP to ensure that funds withdrawn are used for Model Trust purposes in accordance with Methodist Church rules.

Monies held in the Bequest for Women's Work are similarly available as above but are restricted and can only be used by the Circuit's Methodist Women in Britain group in line with their aims and objectives.

22 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	12,237	3,782
Other creditors	8,006	6,206
Accruals and deferred income	10,161	18,182
	<u>30,404</u>	<u>28,170</u>

23 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	<u>12,412</u>	<u>12,412</u>

It is the Circuit's policy to recognise committed grants immediately as expenditure out of this fund and thus accrue the unpaid amounts at the year end as liabilities.

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

24 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024 £	2023 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	23,896	29,953

Most ordained presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body.

On the other hand lay employees are contractually employees. In this District, as at 31 August 2024, one employee was enrolled in the The Pensions Trust pension scheme.

The Connexion accounts for the MMPS and shows the figures in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts.

25 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 August 2024 £
Bequest for women's work	4,340	234	(12)	4,562
Previous year:				
	At 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 August 2023 £
Bequest for women's work	4,217	16,277	(16,154)	4,340

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

26 Unrestricted funds - CMT

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the charity's activities.

	At 1 September 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 August 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	52,779	888,279	(293,282)	(40,000)	259	608,035
Previous year:	At 1 September 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 August 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	3,983	151,453	(22,482)	(80,000)	(175)	52,779

27 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 September 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 August 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wincanton children's work	334	-	-	-	-	334
General funds	2,279,649	214,790	(273,773)	40,000	-	2,260,666
	2,279,983	214,790	(273,773)	40,000	-	2,261,000
Previous year:	At 1 September 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Gains and losses	At 31 August 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wincanton children's work	334	-	-	-	-	334
General funds	2,242,768	222,211	(313,530)	80,000	48,200	2,279,649
	2,243,102	222,211	(313,530)	80,000	48,200	2,279,983

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

28 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 August 2024:				
Tangible assets	980,000	-	-	980,000
Investment properties	981,200	-	-	981,200
Investments	-	3,802	-	3,802
Current assets/(liabilities)	312,212	604,233	4,562	921,007
Long term liabilities	(12,412)	-	-	(12,412)
	<u>2,261,000</u>	<u>608,035</u>	<u>4,562</u>	<u>2,873,597</u>
	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds CMT 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 August 2023:				
Tangible assets	980,000	-	-	980,000
Investment properties	981,200	-	-	981,200
Investments	-	3,543	-	3,543
Current assets/(liabilities)	331,195	49,236	4,340	384,771
Long term liabilities	(12,412)	-	-	(12,412)
	<u>2,279,983</u>	<u>52,779</u>	<u>4,340</u>	<u>2,337,102</u>

29 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

30	Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	2024 £	2023 £
	Surplus for the year	536,495	85,800
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(23,763)	(9,825)
	Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(877,188)	-
	Fair value gains and losses on investment properties	-	(48,200)
	Fair value gains and losses on investments	(259)	175
	Movements in working capital:		
	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(6,574)	6,194
	Increase in creditors	2,234	10,772
	Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	(369,055)	44,916
31	Analysis of changes in net funds		

The charity had no material debt during the year.

Accounts



YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

(Charity Registration No. 1158290)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31 August 2023

1. Superintendent's annual report on the Circuit's achievements and performance

At the start of our year we had a full staff team comprising of 3 Methodist Presbyters, 1 URC Presbyter and 1 Methodist Deacon. During the year our URC Presbyter retired on ill health grounds and at the year end our Deacon moved to another appointment.

In addition, at the start of the year we were very fortunate to have 9 Supernumerary Ministers, 5 of whom were active and sadly one died in September. There are 10 active Local Preachers with one in training and we are blessed by having three people who have just felt God's call to start preacher training.

Within the Circuit we had 3 Lay employees; 2 being workers with children and families, one of these was employed by the Circuit and one was employed jointly by two local churches; and the other employee was our Circuit Administrator. Unfortunately, one of the children and families workers resigned at the end of December 2022. We have reviewed our work and the work that our employees are doing as well as adjusting their working hours where necessary.

In terms of our set-up this circuit had 12 societies worshipping and using 15 buildings at the start of our year. Very sadly we have closed 2 of those buildings for worship and are in the process of selling them.

Our Mission Statement is 'To know God's love; to show God's love; to share God's love' and so our aim is to work to this statement and support all of our societies and be proactive in a way which provides leadership and pastoral support to each, and to ensure that regular worship, fellowship and mission is carried out.

In line with the purposes of this charity we have worked over this last year to advance the Christian faith and fulfil our charitable status through:

- Regular acts of worship in all churches
- Small house/fellowship/prayer groups – online where necessary
- The restart of the multiple Circuit-wide groups supporting children, young people and families; women's fellowship groups and senior citizens' luncheon clubs.
- The 'Clothing Exchange' project in Gillingham to supply good quality clothing for parents with babies/toddlers and young children
- The Circuit Meeting reviewed its safeguarding policy for children, young people and vulnerable adults
- The Circuit, and all Circuit Churches, have continued to respond to the requirements of the GDPR legislation and all data files are being reviewed, and privacy notices are being approved and displayed
- The 'Circuit Policy' document has been the basis of our work and the CLT reviewed priorities and has planned for changes that will be required beyond 2023.
- The Circuit Meeting reviewed its financial controls and expenses policy again this year.
- Pastoral care of the housebound, the dying, those in hospital and others in need

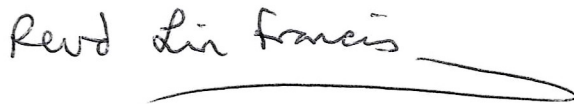
Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26/05)
Trustees' Annual Report: Year ended 31 August 2023

- The Circuit Meeting has met four times during the year. Two of these have been 'virtual' meetings and two have been in person.

The financial impact of lost income through weekly cash offerings and hall/room lettings because of the Covid epidemic is still having affects in several of our churches, Gillingham Church in particular.

Amongst the work of 2022-2023 the discernment within the Yeovil Methodist Church' is on-going as it continues its missional work and worship, whilst exploring the viability of its two buildings and selling its third. Wincanton's work with the 'Live at Home' Scheme with Methodist Homes for the Aged is continuing to grow and is greatly appreciated within the local community. Tisbury's 'Communita' is also developing and valued. The ecumenical work across the circuit with all of the local churches is working well. As a circuit we have been exploring working closer with all of the adjoining circuits.

We are very grateful to all of our members of staff, lay and ordained and to all of our volunteers for all of their prayerful dedication to their callings to serve in this Circuit in the Lord's name. We look forward to another year full of challenge and opportunity.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Revd Lin Francis". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that extends to the right.

Revd Lin Francis
Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Trustees

2. Objectives and activities

2.1 Mission

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit Meeting trustees (under the Chair of the Superintendent Minister), who meet quarterly, have given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives, conforming with the Charities Act 2011.

Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the geographic area covered by the Circuit and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. Our Mission Statement is:-

"To know God's Love

To Show God's Love

To share God's Love"

We aim to achieve this by encouraging, through the members and adherents of churches in our Circuit, the worship, social, and outreach activities that currently exist, and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the church family.

We aim to build a Circuit formed for mission and full of generous people who are prepared to work, and develop, to build God's kingdom in this place. We share a common passion to use our gifts, graces and resources to the best of our abilities to be mission-shaped followers of Jesus Christ.

2.2 Purpose and activities of the Circuit

The Circuit is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any individual Church, of the Connexional character of the Methodist Church. The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the union the advancement of:

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church, and
- b. any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and
- c. any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and
- d. any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this Circuit is to advance the mission of the Methodist Church within the geographical area defined by the churches within Yeovil and Blackmore Vale:

- by providing opportunities for churches to work together and support each other
- by offering to churches resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The Circuit's primary activity to meet this purpose is "Circuit Ministry" - that is, the provision of a team of ministers and lay employees to deliver ministerial and families' support to all of the churches in the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale area.

All of the costs incurred to support this Circuit Ministry activity are met by the Circuit – including all staff salaries ("stipends" for ministers) and expenses, and the provision of

manse housing for ministers – the Circuit is responsible for manse maintenance, phone/broadband, water, and council tax costs. The Circuit raises funds from each of the Circuit churches through an assessment regime, and, together with its other income sources, these funds are used to pay for its Circuit Ministry and other activity costs. In turn, the Circuit is assessed by the District on the size of its ministry team and pays monthly charges which fund District and central Connexion costs.

Apart from Circuit Ministry, the Circuit's other activities are:

- the award and administration of grants to Circuit churches and external bodies as appropriate and as directed by the Circuit Meeting
- raising funds (financial investment management of the Circuit's funds held with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP), and the rental of the Circuit's investment property in Yeovil (spare ministerial manse)).

The Circuit serves the local churches, its District, and the Methodist Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Methodist Church, and in programmes of training.

2.3 Circuit policy (last reviewed December 2023)

It has been agreed to dissolve the Circuit in two stages:

1. in September 2024 Bell St, Shaftesbury, Motcombe and Tisbury Churches will move into the Salisbury Circuit. Wincanton Church will move into the Somerset Mendip Circuit.
2. The remaining churches will move into one or two other adjacent Circuits at some later date, yet to be determined.

Circuit Policy until this process is complete is to:-

- Support all 10 Societies of our Circuit in a positive and proactive way by providing leadership and pastoral care and ensuring the continuance of their regular pattern of Worship and fellowship.
- Declare that our central priority is Making Disciples of Jesus and that we will facilitate initiatives of evangelism.
- Hold and work to a realistic appraisal of the future potential of our Societies and be particularly supportive of the merger of societies within the Circuit including the three churches which have merged in Yeovil to form the new Yeovil Methodist Church, and of the merger of Sturminster Newton and King's Stag to form Vale Methodist Church.
- We committed ourselves to continuing the establishment figure of four ministers and one Deacon until the end of 2022-23. Our circumstances have changed, with the early retirement of one minister, so now we plan to retain three ministers until the end of 2023-24.
- Develop ministry amongst children, young people and families in the western end of the Circuit.
- Adapt ministry to the ever changing need of the local churches, particularly in terms of Pastoral Care.
- Make the best use of the experience and abilities of the supernumerary ministers residing in our Circuit, who are very willing to offer their services.

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26/05)
Trustees' Annual Report: Year ended 31 August 2023

- Based on existing strengths, build up a team of lay employees covering a variety of roles including Administration, Children, Youth and Family Work.
- Respond to requests for grants from Circuit funds, giving priority to those projects that are orientated to mission rather than just maintenance ministry.
- Ensure that we are compliant with Safeguarding processes and other regulatory demands (such as GDPR and Connexional requirements) by offering training and follow up.
- Work to create a renewed sense of belonging to the wider family of Methodism – Circuit, District, Connexion and the World Church.
- Give encouragement to the opportunities of ecumenical work – particularly in our shared Churches at Shaftesbury and Sherborne.
- Challenge our people to discover the Call of God in their lives and what this might mean in the development of a diversity of ministries.
- Through prayer and study, discover the meaning of Christian Discipleship in the Twenty-first Century and how effectively to engage in appropriate opportunities of mission and service.

3. Financial review

3.1 Circuit financial position at the end of FY 2022-23

Key points

During the year the Circuit received total income of £390k (FY 2021-22: £273k) and dispersed £352k (FY 2021-22: £377k). Net current assets of £385k (excluding property & land) were carried forward across the year end (FY 2021-22: £335k).

Circuit costs reduced significantly in 2022-23 with a reduction in staffing numbers through having one less minister, with the ending of the families worker role at Shaftesbury and Motcombe, and with reduced hours being worked by other lay staff. On the income side, the Circuit benefited in the amount of £150,065 in capital receipts from chapel sale proceeds.

Without capital receipts from redundant chapel sales, the total Circuit income does not fully cover net expenditure. The budgeted deficit in FY 2022-23 was £163k to be made up from Circuit reserves. In the event, with reduced costs and after chapel sales, the Circuit returned a net surplus of £37,774.

Church incomes, and Circuit assessments

Church attendance numbers have not recovered to pre-Covid levels. Circuit churches in Ibberton and Broad Oak were closed and sold during 2022-23, and those at Hazelbury Bryan, Gillingham and Preston Road Yeovil are all expected to be sold in 2023-24. Other Circuit churches, with significantly lower memberships and yet the same buildings to maintain, no longer have enough income/funds to pay their assessments without a struggle.

Finding itself in a stronger financial position, and in response to the ongoing financial struggles of our churches, in June 2023 the Circuit Meeting took the decision to reduce the Circuit's assessment level by a further 10% across all Circuit churches, for 2023-24. This is additional to the 10% reductions already implemented in both 2022-23 and 2021-22 and reflects the precarious times the churches find themselves in.

3.2 Reserves policy

Cash reserves

The Circuit's cash reserves held at 31st August 2023 were as follows:

Unrestricted Funds	£
Lloyds Bank – current account	58,266
Methodist CFB	58,328
Lord Alfred Trim Bequest (TMCP)	149,105
DD Gifford Cluett Bequest (TMCP)	53,086
Circuit Model Trust Fund (TMCP)	49,236
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED	368,019
Restricted Funds - Women's Work Bequest (TMCP)	4,340
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	372,359

All cash funds are separately invested either with CFB or TMCP.

Included in the above figures is an amount of general funds of £334, designated by the Circuit Meeting for Wincanton children's work. The timing and possibility of needing to use these monies is currently uncertain, the context being that the Circuit's work with children in Wincanton ceased recently.

Monetary investments

The Circuit has an additional £3,543 held in TMCP monetary investments (unrestricted) (not included in the above figures) making a total Circuit fund balance of £375,902 at 31 August 2023.

The Circuit trustees assumed responsibility during 2022-23 for Hazelbury Bryan chapel, which became redundant. The Circuit's manses at Harbin Close Yeovil, Granville Way Sherborne and Manston Road Sturminster Newton are not currently required for ministerial accommodation and are all now treated as investment properties.

Other than these, no money is directly invested in property, securities or other forms of investment.

Policy for 2023-24

The Circuit's reserves policy covers all of its general and restricted funds. This policy is reviewed and approved annually by trustees, and submitted onwards to the Southampton District for acceptance. The Circuit's reserves policy for 2023-24 is as follows:

- Reserves policy for general funds

The Circuit aims to hold a minimum of 6 months' budgeted expenditure in its general funds at any time. This equates to £155k for 2023-24. This is to provide funds for:

- Essential cash-flow: covering short-term deficits whilst awaiting grants and assessment income, or in the event of needing to complete asset sales to replenish reserves
- Unforeseen emergencies or unexpected needs, such as unanticipated manse repair bills or other urgent projects
- Unplanned requests from Circuit churches for additional grants for repairs
- Circuit funding to support any unbudgeted Circuit church missional staffing projects
- Unexpected shortfalls in funding, perhaps, for example, the loss of assessment income in the event of the unforeseen closure of a church or churches within the Circuit.

- Reserves policy for restricted funds

Bequest for Women's Work: £4,340. Originally bequested to the "Women's Work" Methodist women's organization in Sherborne (now Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB)). This Circuit's MWiB group is seeking new members at present.

The Circuit is in discussions with geographically-adjacent Circuits with a view to different parts of this Circuit amalgamating with adjoining Circuits, leading to the possibility of at least one merger completing at the end of FY 2023-24. Accordingly, the Circuit's five-year financial plan has been dis-regarded for the purpose of this reserves policy while these amalgamation discussions continue.

3.3 Investment policy and performance

The Circuit's investment policy is to diversify its funds in bank accounts, deposit accounts, financial investment products and investment property. The Circuit has no endowment funds, currently.

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Circuits and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the Circuit. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income reflects deposit rates available elsewhere. Short-term deposits are lodged directly with the Central Finance Board (CFB) and attract rates of interest comparable with available commercial market rates.

The Circuit's Trustees' investment policy is aligned with that of the Methodist Central Finance Board (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

There are no benchmarks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. The Circuit relies on TMCP and the CFB to review and manage the performance of the Circuit's financial investments. The Circuit Treasurer regularly checks that all income due is received. The net total income received from the Circuit's monetary investments was 2.5% of income for the year (cf. 0.4% 2021-22). A net loss of £175 was recorded on the capital value of Circuit monetary investments over the year.

Investment Property. The Circuit owns a number of manses for ministerial housing. The Circuit's policy is to maintain any spare manses as investment property, potentially available for disposal to fund the activities of the Circuit in line with its financial plans and budgets agreed with the Circuit Meeting. Any empty manses not needing to be sold are let, where possible, to provide rental income. The Circuit's investment properties, whether let or not, are inspected annually by the Circuit Property Secretary or by a representative (manse steward) from one of the associated churches. A professional valuation of the Circuit's investment property was last undertaken in July 2021. The Circuit's receipts from its investment property amounted to 4.2% of income in 2022-23 (gross before allowing for property management costs).

Circuit manses at Sherborne and Sturminster Newton ceased being occupied by ministers in 2023-24, and so transferred from being classed as tangible fixed assets (total value: £608,000) to being treated as fixed asset investment properties at the end of 2022-23. In line with accounting policy, they are re-valued at this point, with a resulting re-valuation gain of £48,200 on these two properties. Refer to the Notes to the Accounts 2022-23.

3.4 Going concern

The trustees of the Circuit have every reason to believe that the Circuit is a going concern, principally because the assessment income from churches and rental property, combined with prudent use of its reserves and assets, enables it to safely cover its costs. There are no subsidiary undertakings.

The Circuit's amalgamation plans (see Circuit Policy) include the likely transfer of the churches at Motcombe, Shaftesbury and Tisbury to the Salisbury Methodist Circuit, and of Wincanton church to the Somerset Mendip Methodist Circuit, at the end of 2023-24. The trustees are confident that the resulting (smaller) Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit will remain a going concern after these changes.

Further proposals to amalgamate the remaining church sections of Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit with adjacent Circuits to the West, and subsequently to close this Circuit, are not at such advanced stages at present. The trustees fully expect this Circuit to remain a going concern until such time as these plans are agreed and implemented.

4. Structure, governance and management

4.1 Governing documents and constitution

The Circuit is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union (1932) and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 19 August 2014.

4.2 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of churches; Circuits fund the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the churches in the Circuit; most decisions are made at or ratified by the quarterly Circuit Meeting. The Circuit is a member of the Southampton District of the Methodist Church.

A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at its half yearly synods. The Southampton District reports into the Methodist Conference.

The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within each District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to church councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the church stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by church councils as the managing trustees of their church.

4.3 Governance and management

The Circuit operates within a statutory framework of regulation and additionally seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Southampton District and Methodist Connexional Offices to provide guidance on changes that could affect the Circuit.

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other ministers, the Circuit Stewards (including the Circuit Treasurer), the Office Manager, together form the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) and are considered Key Management Personnel. The ministers of the Circuit undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and the trustees' meetings (Circuit Meetings).

Paid trustees are all the ministers. One of our lay employees was also a trustee until the end of December 2022. All lay staff are employed at the decision of the Circuit Meeting. In some Methodist Circuits the Circuit Meeting Secretary is a volunteer – in this Circuit, we have a lay member of staff, employed as Circuit Administrator with additional responsibilities as Circuit Meeting Secretary.

Supernumerary ministers are ministers who have retired but many still conduct worship on a voluntary basis. Their ministry is gratefully accepted by Circuit Meeting and they are appointed as trustees by the Meeting.

All other Circuit Meeting members are volunteers from churches in the Circuit. The full list of trustees of the Circuit Meeting is provided in Appendix A: all voting members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. Representatives from the churches include the Church Steward and Treasurer for each church (ex-officio Circuit Meeting members), plus each church's further representatives to Circuit Meeting, who are all elected at Annual General Meetings of their church councils.

Circuit Stewards are trustees who are elected by Circuit Meeting to serve with the specific responsibilities and duties of Circuit Steward as defined by the Methodist Church, including their participation in Circuit Leadership Team meetings. Circuit Stewards normally serve for a minimum period of 3 years, but may offer for re-election after this time.

Other voluntary appointments at this Circuit Meeting include the Circuit Treasurer, Senior Circuit Steward, Circuit Property Secretary, Local Preachers Secretary, etc – see Appendix A – all these are appointed as Circuit Meeting members and trustees at the decision of the Circuit Meeting.

The Circuit Meeting of all trustees meets four times a year. The trustees of the Circuit have chosen to divest powers of decision required urgently between Circuit Meetings to the CLT.

The CLT meets formally at least every two months and communicates routinely through electronic media. The team is used by the Circuit as a means of formulating, discussing and refining policy prior to proposal and debate at Circuit Meeting.

4.4 Risk management

The trustees have considered the risks that the charity is exposed to and put strategies in place to mitigate those risks. Policies are established for health and safety, safeguarding and data protection, alongside financial controls. The Circuit's financial controls include: expenses policy, procurement policy, banking and investment management policy, anti-bribery policy, conflict of interest policy, and the Circuit provides guidance to its trustees on maintaining awareness of risks from financial crime and abuse. In the Circuit's Financial Statements (Note 25) the trustees have assessed the charity's exposure to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk, and have explained how the charity manages these risks.

5. Reference and Administrative Details

5.1 Name of the charity

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit

5.2 Charity registration number

1158290 Registered in England and Wales

5.3 Principal office

Circuit Office
c/o Vicarage Street Methodist Church
Middle Street
Yeovil
BA20 1JZ
01935 432173 (answerphone available)
www.yandbvcircuit@gmail.com

5.4 Superintendent Minister

Revd Lin Francis

5.5 Circuit Administrator

Mrs Helen Coombes

5.6 Circuit Treasurer

Mr Lewis Buckwell (to 31 August 2023)

5.7 Names of trustees

All voting Members of the Circuit Meeting are trustees. The list of trustees serving from 1 September 2022 through to 21 February 2024 is given in Appendix A.

5.8 Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
Business Banking
BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

5.9 Investment managers and custodian trustees

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

5.10 Independent Examiner

(First appointed: 23rd March, 2021, last reappointed: 18 September 2023):

Frances Wilde FCCA MBA(Open) DChA PgDip
Director
Warner Wilde Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors
4 Marigold Drive
Bisley Surrey GU24 9SF
Registered in England No. 6923262

6. Exemptions from disclosure

None.

7. Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

The Circuit holds no funds as custodian trustee.

The Circuit acts as an agent when it receives grants and donations that are directly passed on to external organisations, and where the Circuit plays no part in overseeing their use. In this context the Circuit undertakes the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of (a) grants requested by churches and other charities /organisations within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion and (b) donations made by Circuit churches to certain Methodist (related party) and external charitable bodies. Sums collected by the Circuit as agent for these bodies are passed on directly to them within the same financial year (or accrued as creditors). Funds received by the Circuit as agent are not recognised as an asset in the financial statements because the funds are not within its control. No fee is earned in respect of this agency arrangement and the Circuit incurs no cost through this arrangement.

8. Approvals

We confirm that the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements (Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and supporting Notes) have been approved by Trustees at the Circuit Meeting held on 21st February, 2024:

Lin Francis (signed)



Rev Lin Francis
Chair of Circuit Meeting
Date: 08-03-24

Lewis Buckwell (signed)



Mr Lewis Buckwell
Circuit Treasurer 2022-23
Date: 9th March 2024

APPENDIX A Trustees

Trustees

The members of Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit meeting are the charity trustees. Membership is made up from circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches. The following were managing trustees from 1 September 2022 to 21 February 2024:

Ministers and Lay Staff

Revd Linda Francis (Superintendent)
Revd Denise Binks
Revd Duncan Goldie (to 30/04/23)
Revd Kate Konrad
Dcn Rebekah-Joy Spinks (to 31/08/23)
Revd Christina Le Moignan (Supernumerary)
Revd Margaret Oxenham (Supernumerary)
Revd Judy Turner-Smith (Supernumerary)
Revd Soon Cheol Choi (Supernumerary) (from 06/06/23)
Mrs Lynn Heaton (Children, Young People & Families Worker & Circuit Safeguarding Officer) (to 31/12/22)

Circuit Stewards

Mr Lewis Buckwell (Treasurer) (to 31/08/23)
Mrs Janet English
Mrs Margaret Whitford (Senior Steward)
Mr Stephen Watson

Other Appointments

Mr Philip Butler (Property Secretary)
Mr Colin Farrant (Local Preachers' Tutor)
Revd Judy Turner-Smith * (LP&WL Secretary)

Representatives

Mrs Joy Aylen
Mrs Jo Bathurst
Mr Phil Butler * (to 16/12/23)
Mr Tony Cole
Mrs Anne Cook (from 01/09/23)
Mrs Margaret Evans
Mrs Pearl Evans (to 16/12/23)
Mr George Faris
Mr Don Farquharson
Mrs Christine Fordham
Mrs Beth Fox
Mr Geoff Gardner

Miss Sarah James (from 01/09/23)
Dr Bob Jones
Mrs Ruth Jones
Mrs Christine Lydford (to 29/03/23)
Mr Mark Parsons
Mr Richard Sinden (to 01/07/23)
Mr Alan Turner-Smith (to 31/08/23)
Mrs Sarah Upshall
Mrs Gillian Walsham
Mrs Lynda Walters
Mr Hayden Williams
Mr David Wooldridge

*** Already a member in another capacity**



YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

(Charity Registration No. 1158290)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year ending 31 August 2023

This Accounts Pack is intended to meet the Charities Commission's reporting requirements for unincorporated charities.

It is presented in line with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for charities preparing their annual accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS102) applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

This pack is submitted in a format to match the template accruals accounts pack "CC17a" (2020 version) provided by the Charities Commission. Sections and Notes are numbered to match those in CC17a. Any missing Notes are intentional, i.e., they are omitted where this charity has no information to disclose or report for those items.

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit

Circuit No.	26/05
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Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals this year 2022-23	Totals prev year 2021-22
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Donations and legacies inc. Gift Aid	3	1,969				1,969	2,372
Grants received	3			16,142		16,142	27,176
Assessments on churches	3	194,270				194,270	215,593
Income from monetary investments	3	8,302	1,388	135		9,825	1,564
Income from investment properties	3	16,200				16,200	15,300
Capital receipts	3	1,470	150,065			151,535	10,799
Other charitable income	3						
Internal organisations	3						
Total Income	3	222,210	151,452	16,278		389,940	272,805

Expenditure							
RAISING FUNDS	2.3 ii, 6	3,973	11	12		3,996	4,496
GRANTS AND DONATIONS	2.2 i, 6, 13			1,500		1,500	20,013
CIRCUIT MINISTRY:							
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	6, 11, 12	165,842		18,042		183,885	230,075
Property maintenance	6	25,715				25,715	13,812
Connexional assessment & model trust levy	6	47,742	17,216			64,959	54,434
District assessment & levy	6	10,398				10,398	9,624
Depreciation	6						710
Provisions	6, 21	18,618		(3,400)		15,218	712
Office expenses	6	6,307				6,307	7,303
Telephone, travel	6	10,816				10,816	10,754
Insurance, utilities	6	21,775				21,775	22,004
Fees and charges	2.3 ii, 6	1,729	5,255			6,984	2,713
Other outgoings	6	614				614	98
Internal organisations	6						
Total Charitable Expenditure	6	313,529	22,483	16,154		352,166	376,747

Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(91,319)	128,970	123		37,774	(103,942)
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	17		(175)			(175)	(4,400)
Gains/(losses) on investment properties	17	656,200				656,200	
Net income/(expenditure)		564,881	128,795	123		693,800	(108,342)
Transfers between funds	27	80,000	(80,000)				
Gains/(losses) on fixed assets for the charity's own use	14	(608,000)				(608,000)	
Other gains/(losses)							
Net movement in funds	27	36,881	48,795	123		85,800	(108,342)
Total funds brought forward		2,243,102	3,983	4,217		2,251,302	2,359,644
Total funds carried forward		2,279,984	52,778	4,340		2,337,102	2,251,302

For information only: Money received and passed on to External Organisations

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External

Organisations

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External

Organisations

Balance carried forward

2.2 i, 8
2.2 i, 8

2,458
2,458

4,533
4,533

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit

Circuit No.	26/05
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Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes to the 2021-22 accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2021-22	Totals prev year 2020-21
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Donations and legacies inc. Gift Aid	3	2,372				2,372	1,968
Grants received	3			27,176		27,176	28,852
Assessments on churches	3	215,593				215,593	244,890
Income from monetary investments	3	1,146	398	20		1,564	1,255
Income from investment properties	3	15,300				15,300	14,080
Capital receipts	3	6,800	4,000			10,799	
Other charitable income	3						2,688
Internal organisations	3						334
Total Income	3	241,211	4,398	27,196		272,805	294,068

Expenditure							
RAISING FUNDS	2.3 ii, 6	4,325	158	12		4,496	4,676
GRANTS AND DONATIONS	2.2 i, 6, 13	20,013				20,013	3,021
CIRCUIT MINISTRY:							
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	6, 11, 12	206,298		23,776		230,075	237,745
Property maintenance	6	13,812				13,812	18,207
Connexional assessment & model trust levy	6	53,046	1,388			54,434	54,645
District assessment & levy	6	9,624				9,624	8,964
Depreciation	6	710				710	710
Provisions	6, 21	(2,688)		3,400		712	(4,412)
Office expenses	6	7,303				7,303	9,284
Telephone, travel	6	10,754				10,754	5,286
Insurance, utilities	6	22,004				22,004	17,239
Fees and charges	2.3 ii, 6	2,713				2,713	2,245
Other outgoings	6	98				98	4,609
Internal organisations	6						
Total Charitable Expenditure	6	348,012	1,547	27,188		376,747	362,219

Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(106,801)	2,851	8		(103,942)	(68,151)
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	17		(4,400)			(4,400)	1,144
Gains/(losses) on investment properties	17						(15,000)
Net income/(expenditure)		(106,801)	(1,549)	8		(108,342)	(82,007)
Transfers between funds	27	50,000	(50,000)				
Gains/(losses) on fixed assets for the charity's own use	14						(100,000)
Other gains/(losses)							
Net movement in funds	27	(56,801)	(51,549)	8		(108,342)	(182,007)
Total funds brought forward		2,299,903	55,532	4,209		2,359,644	2,541,651
Total funds carried forward		2,243,102	3,983	4,217		2,251,302	2,359,644

For information only: Money received and passed on to External Organisations

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External

Organisations

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External

Organisations

Balance carried forward

2.2 i, 8
2.2 i, 8

4,533
4,533

11,869
11,869

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit

Circuit No. 26/05

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

		General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
Notes to the Accounts		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets								
Circuit manses & equipment	14	980,000					980,000	1,588,000
Investment properties	17	981,200					981,200	325,000
Investments	17		3,543				3,543	3,717
Total fixed assets		1,961,200	3,543				1,964,743	1,916,717
Current Assets								
Debtors and Prepayments	19	17,592					17,592	23,786
Loans by Circuit	17.6							
Investments with TMCP	17.4, 24	202,191	49,236		4,340		255,766	206,673
Central Finance Board deposits	24	59,056					59,056	66,483
Cash at Bank and in hand	24	80,193		334			80,527	67,452
Total current assets		359,030	49,236	334	4,340		412,940	364,394
Current Liabilities								
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)	20	21,963					21,963	26,409
Grants payable in <1yr	20	6,206					6,206	3,400
Total current liabilities		28,169					28,169	29,809
Net current assets/liabilities		330,861	49,236	334	4,340		384,771	334,585
Total assets less current liabilities		2,292,061	52,778	334	4,340		2,349,514	2,251,302
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)	20							
Grants payable after one year	20	12,412					12,412	
Loans to the Circuit	20							
Total net assets or liabilities		2,279,649	52,778	334	4,340		2,337,102	2,251,302
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)		2,279,649					2,279,649	2,242,768
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			52,778				52,778	3,983
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				334			334	334
Total Unrestricted Funds							2,332,762	2,247,086
Other Funds (Restricted)					4,340		4,340	4,217
Endowment Funds								
Total Funds		2,279,649	52,778	334	4,340		2,337,102	2,251,302

Name of Circuit: Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit No 26/05

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-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 L Buckwell Date 9th March 2024

Name and address of treasurer:

Lewis Buckwell, Dragonfly Cottage, Woodbridge Lane,
Bedchester, Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 0BF

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 21 FEBRUARY 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Lin Francis

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd Lin Francis Date 08-03-24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1158290

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out in these pages. 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: Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit No 26/05

Independent Examiner's Statement

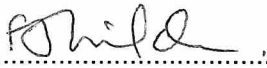
The Circuit's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

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; or
- the accounts 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
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts

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: Frances Wilde

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: FCCA DChA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Warner Wilde Limited

Address: 4 Marigold Drive, Bisley, Surrey GU24 9SF

Date 18 March 2024

* delete or circle as appropriate

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
2022-2023**

Note 1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

i Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the second edition of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*, effective from 1 January 2019 ("SORP FRS102 2019"), and in accordance with the 'true and fair override' provision contained therein.

ii Public benefit entity

The Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under SORP FRS102 2019.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The accounting policies adopted are those outlined in Note 2.

iv Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

v SORP FRS102 2019

These accounts are compliant with SORP FRS102 2019.

vi Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the 9 Church Councils within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Church Councils and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

1.2 Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2023, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

1.3 Changes to accounting policies for 2022-23

None.

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates for 2022-23

None.

1.5 Prior year errors

None.

Note 2 Accounting policies**2.1 [NOT USED]****2.2 Income****i Recognition of income**

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, when the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources, and when the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

The Circuit acts as agent in two matters:

- the collection from Circuit Churches and individuals and payment over of their contributions, to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church – “Connexional Funds”, and to other national charities
- the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches and other charities/organisations within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion

The transactions relating to these matters are not reflected in the Circuit's transactions in the SOFA. Instead, they are shown on the SOFA as *“Offerings/Gifts received for, and passed to, External Organisations”*, details of which are disclosed in these Notes.

ii Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses.

iii Grants received

Grants received by the Circuit for Circuit purposes from external sources (including Connexional and/or District grants) are shown as income. The Circuit has received no performance-related grants.

iv Legacies

Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate, and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the Circuit or have been met.

v Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included as income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be a part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

vi Volunteer help

No attempt has been made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers.

vii Settlement of insurance claims

Insurance claims (when applicable) are only included in the SOFA, as an item of other income, when the

2.3 Expenditure and Liabilities**i Liability recognition**

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

ii Governance and support costs

The Circuit is a "smaller charity" (defined by SORP FRS102 2019 as below £500k gross income), and one of the reliefs offered to smaller charities in SORP FRS102 2019 is the freedom to adapt the SOFA format to suit the needs of the charity. Costs have been allocated to cost categories consistent with current Methodist Church practice. Governance and support costs have not been categorised in the SOFA but estimates of governance and support costs are provided separately in these Notes.

iii Grants made

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full when the award is made once the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or constructive obligation to make the payment and that such payment is probable. When such a grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a Provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate Fund (split between monies due in the following financial year and monies due in the longer term), the Provision being released in future years as instalments are paid within the terms originally agreed by trustees at the Circuit Meeting. No grants have been made with performance conditions attached.

iv Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

v Basic financial instruments: Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the Circuit. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

vi VAT

vii Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

viii Expenses

The Circuit has a policy, agreed at Circuit Meeting by trustees in 2014, that all trustees may claim for appropriate expenses in the course of their duties on behalf of the Circuit. Further details of the Circuit's Expenses Policy were agreed by trustees in June 2021 with additional revisions in June 2023.

Claims for books, materials, stationery and postage must be submitted with receipts. All claims are submitted on standard forms for scrutiny by the Circuit Treasurer. As with all expenditure, any payment is counter-authorised by another, named, Trustee before payment.

Motor vehicle travel cost rates are set by Connexion in agreement with HMRC. Currently they are 45p/mile for cars and 24p/mile for motorcycles. If passengers are taken on journeys for Circuit business then a further 5p/mile per passenger may be claimed.

Expenses are typically paid monthly in arrears. September payments are therefore counted as accruals against the previous financial period.

ix Redundancy and termination payments

Redundancy and termination payments are recognised as a liability and an expense only when the charity is demonstrably committed either: (a) to terminate the employment of an employee or group of employees before the normal retirement date; or (b) to provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made in order to encourage voluntary redundancy. (FRS102 28.34). The charity is demonstrably committed to a termination only when it has a detailed formal plan for the termination and is without realistic possibility of withdrawal from the plan. (FRS102 28.35).

2.4 Assets

i Tangible fixed assets

The Circuit is managing trustee for six residential buildings. Those occupied by ministers stationed in the Circuit are described as "manses". All manses are shown in the Balance Sheet at their approximate market values. In November 2016 the Circuit decided to use the "Fair Value" of its manses on transitioning to SORP FRS102 (when reporting the 2015-16 financial year), and has since applied a "Deemed Cost less impairment" policy to valuing its manses in its annual financial reports. Land values are estimated at 25% of the property value. Unoccupied residential properties being used to provide investment income for the Circuit are treated differently - as "investment property" - see Note 2.4 iv.

Equipment assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. Typically a 3-year depreciation policy is then utilised. Any tangible fixed assets provided by the Circuit at the Circuit's manses (equipment/furnishings provided by the Circuit which are not part of the fabric of the property) are similarly treated if they individually cost at least £1,000.

The Circuit trustees become the managing trustees of any Circuit chapels that close, where they are not merged with another society, at which point any such property becomes a Circuit asset.

ii Intangible and heritage assets

The Circuit has no intangible or heritage assets.

iii Monetary Investments

The principal monetary investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains/losses arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA with further detail provided in these Notes.

The Circuit's other monetary investments are held as cash on deposit with a maturity date of less than one year. These deposits are held both for investment purposes and also to meet short term cash commitments (principally, ministers' stipends and lay staff salaries) as they fall due. The Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (CFB) banks these funds on the Circuit's behalf.

iv Investment Property

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where a property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of two years, the property is classified as "investment property" (whether let out or not) and, if let, it is let at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives. The Circuit's investment properties are revalued periodically in accordance with SORP FRS102 2019 and any change to the asset valuation is recorded in the Balance Sheet. The last such valuation was in July 2021.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church manages a Common Deposit Fund and pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members from at least 12 to more than 100.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches within the same geographical region, typically between 10 and 30. In our case 9.

Circuit Meeting: The trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Church and others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Church.

CLT: Circuit Leadership Team. A group of Circuit trustees responsible, at the will of the Circuit Meeting, for the day to day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Currently, this Circuit's CLT comprises the ministers stationed within the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards, the Circuit Administrator and the Circuit Property Secretary.

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund (unrestricted).

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and churches in Great Britain.

Connexional Funds: The designated and/or restricted funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of its charitable and mission objectives.

CPD: "The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church", published by order of the Methodist Conference, with revisions each year.

District: a group of contiguous Circuits, usually between 15 and 30.

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard.

FY: Financial year.

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.

Lay employees: Non presbyteral staff employed either full or part time on formal written contracts.

M&M Fund: Ministry and Mission Fund of the United Reformed Church

MC: Methodist Church.

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme.

Pensions Trust: The Pensions Trust, the provider of the Circuit's defined contribution pension scheme for Lay Employees.

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or ordained Methodist ministers and/or deacons who have pastoral and administrative responsibility for the Churches within the Circuit.

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities.

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice.

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the Custodian Trustee and title holder of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds.

Note 3 Analysis of income

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
Analysis						
Donations and legacies:	Donations	1,551			1,551	1,805
	Gift Aid	418			418	567
	Legacies					
	Grants received		16,142		16,142	27,176
	Assessments on churches	194,270			194,270	215,593
Total		196,238	16,142		212,380	245,142
Charitable activities:	Internal organisations					
	Other charitable income					
	Total					
Income from investments:	Income from monetary investments	9,690	135		9,825	1,564
	Income from investment properties	16,200			16,200	15,300
	Total	25,890	135		26,025	16,864
Other:	Gains on disposal of tangible fixed assets held for charity's own use					
	Transfers/gains on investment properties	656,200			656,200	
	Capital receipts	151,535			151,535	10,799
Total		807,735			807,735	10,799
TOTAL INCOME		1,029,862	16,278		1,046,140	272,805

Other information:

All income in the prior year was unrestricted except for: (please provide description and amounts)

A grant of £10,000 was received from Southampton Methodist District to support the Circuit's Diaconal project. Grants were also received to support the Circuit Family Worker (Shaftesbury and Motcombe), as follows: £2,143 (Bell Street United Church, Shaftesbury), £1,286 (Motcombe MC). Government grants totalling £1,214 were received from the Department of Work and Pensions (Access to Work grant to provide practical administrative support to the Circuit's Deacon). A grant of £1,500 was awarded to the Circuit by Methodist Insurance plc to fund a Circuit initiative led by our Deacon in Hazelbury Bryan ("Encounter project") to provide mental health resources and support at the local school and for struggling families. £135 in investment income was received into the (restricted) Bequest for Women's Work (funds held for the Circuit's Methodist Women in Britain activities).

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the reporting period, please give the reason for the conversion.

N/A

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the prior period, please give the reason for the conversion.

N/A

Change of use of Circuit manses from occupied by ministers (assets for the charity's own use) to unoccupied (investment property assets)

An investment property transfer/gain of £656,200 (£608,000 transfer plus £48,200 gain on revaluation) is recorded due to the change in nature of two of the Circuit's manses from being occupied by ministers during the financial year, to becoming unoccupied by ministers at the end of the year and, accordingly, being readied for leasing as Circuit investment properties. This gain is offset by a recorded loss (£608,000 transfer) on occupied manse values (fixed assets for the charity's own use) in the Expenditure section (Note 6). Refer to accounting policies: Notes 2.4i and 2.4iv.

Note 4 Analysis of receipts of government grants

	Description	This year £
Government grant 1	Department of Work and Pensions Access to Work grant to provide practical administrative support to the Circuit's Deacon.	1,214
Government grant 2		-
Government grant 3		-
Other		-
	Total	1,214

	Description	Last year £
Government grant 1		-
Government grant 2		-
Government grant 3		-
Other		-
	Total	-

	This year	Last year
<i>Please provide details of any unfulfilled conditions and other contingencies attaching to grants that have been recognised in income.</i>	None	-

	This year	Last year
<i>Please give details of other forms of government assistance from which the charity has directly benefited.</i>	None	-

Note 6 Analysis of expenditure								
Analysis	This year				Last year			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £
Expenditure on raising funds:								
investment management costs	588	12		600	763	12		775
rent collection/property management fees	1,944			1,944	1,836			1,836
rented property insurance	851			851	745			745
repairs to rented properties	601			601	1,140			1,140
Raising funds	3,984	12		3,996	4,484	12		4,496
Expenditure on grants and donations:								
CMTF grants for property schemes								
other grants and donations		1,500		1,500	20,013			20,013
Grants and donations		1,500		1,500	20,013			20,013
Expenditure on charitable activities - CIRCUIT MINISTRY:								
stipends (presbyters & deacons)	101,454	10,000		111,454	128,893	10,000		138,893
NIC (presbyters & deacons)	10,627			10,627	10,267			10,267
pension (presbyters & deacons)	28,975			28,975	27,787			27,787
apprenticeship levy on ministers' stipends	556			556	533			533
salaries (lay employees)	20,126	8,042		28,168	31,433	13,776		45,210
NIC (lay employees)	1,206			1,206	2,678			2,678
pension (lay employees)	978			978	2,551			2,551
lay payroll charge & lay salary apprenticeship levy	621			621	706			706
supernumeraries - preaching fees	1,300			1,300	1,450			1,450
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	165,842	18,042		183,885	206,298	23,776		230,075
manse and redundant chapel repairs	25,715			25,715	11,157			11,157
manse quinquennials					280			280
church quinquennials					2,375			2,375
Property maintenance	25,715			25,715	13,812			13,812
Connexional assessment (Methodist Church Fund)	47,742			47,742	48,708			48,708
URC Synod levy					4,338			4,338
TMCP MTF levy (DAF charge)	17,216			17,216	1,388			1,388
Connexional assessment and model trust levy	64,959			64,959	54,434			54,434
district assessment	10,398			10,398	9,624			9,624
District Assessment and levy	10,398			10,398	9,624			9,624
depreciation					710			710
Depreciation					710			710
provisions	18,618	(3,400)		15,218	(2,688)	3,400		712
Provisions	18,618	(3,400)		15,218	(2,688)	3,400		712
stationery, postage etc	5,281			5,281	5,890			5,890
office rent	700			700	1,000			1,000
circuit equipment	325			325	413			413
Office expenses	6,307			6,307	7,303			7,303
telephone & broadband	2,189			2,189	2,661			2,661
travel - ministers	6,145			6,145	6,239			6,239
travel - lay employees	260			260	435			435
travel - supernumeraries & lay preachers	1,944			1,944	832			832
travel - circuit trustees/volunteers	278			278	587			587
travel - stationing								
Telephone & travel	10,816			10,816	10,754			10,754
insurance	5,809			5,809	4,741			4,741
council tax	12,871			12,871	13,439			13,439
water, electricity	3,095			3,095	3,824			3,824
Insurance, utilities, etc	21,775			21,775	22,004			22,004

Note 6 Analysis of expenditure

Analysis	This year				Last year			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £
bank admin charges	115			115	106			106
professional fees	6,869			6,869	2,607			2,607
Fees and charges	6,984			6,984	2,713			2,713
training	610			610	88			88
removals, relocation								
recruitment								
other miscellaneous	4			4	10			10
Other outgoings	614			614	98			98
Internal Organisations								
Internal Organisations								
Total Expenditure on charitable activities - CIRCUIT MINISTRY:	332,028	14,642		346,670	325,061	27,176		352,238
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	336,012	16,154		352,166	349,559	27,188		376,747

Note 8 Funds received as agent

The Circuit acts as an agent for its churches in order to consolidate charitable giving to other charities and related parties. Churches send payments to the Circuit with specific directions concerning to which charities/related parties they should be paid. This giving is summarised below:-

Description/name of party	Related party - Notes	Amount received		Amount paid out		Balance held at period end	
		This year	Last year	This year	Last year	This year	Last year
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations to Action for Children / from Circuit churches	Action for Children is a Methodist charity	50	265	50	265	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Relief and Development Fund / from Circuit churches	Methodist Relief and Development Fund is a Methodist charity	280	170	280	170	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Church Fund for Property / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church Fund for Property is a Methodist Connexional Fund	210	410	210	410	-	-
Donations to the Fund for the Support of Presbyters & Deacons / from Circuit churches	Fund for the Support of Presbyters & Deacons is a Methodist Connexional Fund	190	340	190	340	-	-
Donations to Junior Mission for All (Methodist Church World Mission Fund) / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church World Mission Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	-	302	-	302	-	-
Donations to the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust / from Circuit churches	Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust is a Methodist charity	95	384	95	384	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Ministers Housing Society / from Circuit churches	Methodist Ministers Housing Society is a Methodist charity	250	350	250	350	-	-
Donations to Methodist Homes Association / from Circuit churches	Methodist Homes Association is a Methodist charity	200	500	200	500	-	-
Donations to the Mission in Britain Fund / from Circuit churches	Mission in Britain Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	230	440	230	440	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Church World Mission Fund (Methodist Women in Britain Easter Offering) / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church World Mission Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	191	922	191	922	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Church World Mission Fund / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church World Mission Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	140	350	140	350	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Ministers Pension Reserve Fund / from Circuit churches	Methodist Ministers Pension Reserve Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	-	100	-	100	-	-
Retirement gift for Revd Duncan Goldie / donations from individual church members	Revd Duncan Goldie - retired during 2022-23	475	-	475	-	-	-
Leaving gift for Deacon Rebekah-Joy Spinks / donations from individual church members	Dcn Rebekah-Joy Spinks - stationed to Preston Circuit and relocated at the end of 2022-23	146	-	146	-	-	-
Total		2,458	4,533	2,458	4,533	-	-

Note 9

Governance and Support Costs

The Circuit's primary activity is "Circuit Ministry" - that is, the provision of a team of ministers and lay employees to deliver ministerial and families support to all of the churches in the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale area. The costs incurred to support the provision of Circuit Ministry are categorised in the SOFA under Methodist Church standard headings (accounting policy: Note 2.3 ii), including:

- Stipends, salaries and associated costs
- Property maintenance
- Connexional assessment & model trust levy
- District assessment & levy
- Office expenses
- Telephone, travel
- Insurance, utilities.

All of these costs are directly related to the size of the ministry team (ministers and lay employees).

In the table overleaf is estimated the proportion of the above Circuit Ministry support costs which relate to the governance of this charity. Included in the calculation of estimated governance costs are the following:

- an estimate of the time spent by ministers and non-administrative lay staff on governance issues at Circuit and church meetings, and staff meetings. This is an estimate because time spent on governance is not recorded by our ministers and lay staff. To arrive at this estimate, the following broad assumptions have been made:
 - Each minister attends an average of 2 council meetings per small church plus 4 per large church per annum, plus 4 Circuit Meetings, and 10 CLT meetings. 1 hour of each meeting is spent discussing governance-related topics
 - Lay staff attend Circuit Meetings (4 per annum), plus church councils at their attached churches, and attend a supervisory meeting with a minister 4 times a year
 - During FY 2022-23, 4 ministers and 1 lay employee have spent 0.5 hours on governance-related topics at supervision meetings (every 2 months)
 - During FY 2022-23, the Circuit had 4 FTE ministers, and 1 part-time lay employee (total 0.3 FTE equivalent) other than the Circuit Administrator (see below), where an FTE equates to 40 hours per week
 - approx. total hours spent on governance per annum: 158h (ministers), 60h (lay).
- Based on these time estimates, the proportions of total minister time and total lay employee time have been applied to all the Circuit Ministry activity costs identified above, to calculate an approximate overall governance cost estimate.
- 100% of the Circuit office function (Circuit Administrator and all associated office costs). The Circuit Office provides administrative and HR support to the Superintendent Minister and other Circuit trustees and, accordingly, 100% of this cost is regarded as governance costs (ref: SORP FRS102 2019 Appendix 1, page 186).
- Independent examiner fees. [Note: other fees and charges incurred in FY 2022-23 are not included below.]

These estimates indicate that the Circuit's governance costs are in the order of £17,000 p.a., i.e. approximately 5% of the charity's total expenditure (FY 2021-22: £22,000 6%).

The other activities of the Circuit are (Note 6):

- raising funds
- the award and administration of grants to Circuit churches and external bodies as appropriate and as directed by the Circuit Meeting

Apart from its paid ministry team, the Circuit operates many of its functions using trustee volunteers, and there are no support costs incurred by the Circuit associated with the above two activities.

This year

	Circuit Ministry activity - governance costs 2022-23								£
	Stipends, salaries etc	Property maintenance	Connexion assessment	District assessment	Office expenses	Telephone, travel	Insurance, utilities	Fees and charges	Grand total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Governance	12,328	334	655	143	1,794	60	283	1,476	17,072
Total	12,328	334	655	143	1,794	60	283	1,476	17,072

Last year

	Circuit Ministry activity - governance costs 2021-22								£
	Stipends, salaries etc	Property maintenance	Connexion assessment	District assessment	Office expenses	Telephone, travel	Insurance, utilities	Fees and charges	Grand total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Governance	16,249	170	789	155	2,581	83	334	1,422	21,782
Total	16,249	170	789	155	2,581	83	334	1,422	21,782

Note 10	Details of certain items of expenditure
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10.1 Fees for examination of the accounts

Details are provided here of the amount paid for statutory external scrutiny of accounts and other services provided by the Circuit's independent examiner:

	This year £	Last year £
Independent examiner's fees	1,476	1,422
Assurance services other than audit or independent examination	-	-
Tax advisory fees	-	-
Other fees (for example: financial advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner	-	-

Note 11 Paid employees

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	139,622	184,102
Employer National Insurance costs	11,833	12,945
Pension costs (defined benefit scheme)	28,975	27,787
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	978	2,551
Other employee benefits	0	0
Total staff costs	181,408	227,385

This year:

Details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

All Methodist ministers' stipends are paid directly by the Methodist Connexion stipends team (finance department, The Methodist Church, London), who then charge the Circuit for all payments made.

The manses are provided for all ministers by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains these properties, and pays the Council Tax and water charges. Manse costs paid by the Circuit are not disclosed here as employee benefits since HMRC does not regard this as a benefit-in-kind in the hands of the minister.

Last year:

Details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

As above

Details of the number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) fell within each band of £10,000 from £60,000 upwards:

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

Band	Number of employees	
	This year	Last year
£60,000 to £69,999	-	-
£70,000 to £79,999	-	-
£80,000 to £89,999	-	-
£90,000 to £99,999	-	-
£100,000 to £109,999	-	-

The total amount paid to key management personnel (includes trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity.

Amounts shown exclude employer pension costs. For specific amounts paid to individual trustees, see Note 28.

This year	Last year
£	£
133,007	160,766

11.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	-	-
Charitable Activities	6	7
Governance	1	1
Other	-	-
Total	7	8

11.3 Ex-gratia payments to employees and others (excluding trustees)

The nature of the payment

This year	N/A
Last year	N/A

The legal authority or reason for making the payment

This year	N/A
Last year	N/A

The amount of the payment (or value of any waiver of a right to an asset)

This year £	Last year £
-	-

11.4 Redundancy payments

Total amount of payment

This year £	Last year £
-	-

The nature of the payment (cash, asset etc.)

-	-
---	---

The extent of redundancy funding at the balance sheet date

This year £	Last year £
-	-

Accounting policy for any redundancy or termination payments:

Refer to Note 2.3ix

Note 12	Defined contribution pension scheme or defined benefit scheme accounted for as a defined contribution scheme
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12.1 Defined contribution pension scheme

Amount of contributions recognised in the SOFA as an expense

This year	Last year
£	£
978	2,551

The basis for allocating the liability and expense of defined contribution pension scheme between activities and between restricted and unrestricted funds:

The Circuit offers a defined contribution pension plan to lay employees, administered by The Pensions Trust (TPT). Most of the Circuit's lay employees have opted to join this scheme. The Circuit makes a contribution of 6% of lay employees' salary, in line with Methodist Connexional directives. The expense of all these defined contributions is allocated wholly to the Circuit Ministry activity in the SOFA, paid for from general (unrestricted) funds. The liabilities of the scheme are managed by TPT.

12.2 This section applies where the charity participates in a defined benefit pension plan but is unable to ascertain its share of the underlying assets and liabilities.

Confirmation that although the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution plan, it is a defined benefit plan.

N/A

Such information as is available about the plan's surplus or deficit and the implications, if any, for the reporting charity for this year and last year, if different

N/A

12.3 Please complete this section where the charity participates in a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan that is accounted for as a defined contribution plan.

Describe the extent to which the charity can be liable to the plan for other entities' obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan. If this is different for last year, provide details

N/A

Provide an explanation of how any liability arising from an agreement with a multi-employer plan to fund a deficit has been determined. If this is different for last year, provide details

N/A

Note 13 Grant making

Please refer also to Note 6

This year:**13.1 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)**

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs	Total
			£	£
ENCOUNTER Project - see below	-	-	1,394	1,394
Hazelbury Bryan Primary School (ENCOUNTER Project)	106	-	-	106
	-	-	-	-
Total	106	-	1,394	1,500

Note: the Circuit was a prize-winner in a national competition and was awarded a grant of £1,500 by Methodist Insurance plc towards funding for the Circuit's ENCOUNTER Project. Led by our Deacon, this project was set up to support the mental health of vulnerable youngsters in the Hazelbury Bryan area by means of improving their access to computer technology. The funds were used to purchase activity packs, laptop computers, computer ancillary equipment and consumables. A remainder of £105.83 was gifted to Hazelbury Bryan Primary School towards the same goals (subsidising costs of a printer/ consumables in support of widening youngsters' access to computer technology). The cost of the Deacon's time spent running all the activities in this project was met fully by the Circuit.

Note: the Circuit provided a grant to support a Children and Families Worker for Shaftesbury and Motcombe, for the period from September to December 2022. The Circuit's grant was matched by the District. During FY 2022-23 this joint Circuit/District grant funding amounted to £3,400 deferred from FY 2021-22. This expense is not shown as a grant since it forms part of the Circuit's employer costs itemised in Note 6 - and these costs were taken as a provision in 2021-22's accounts. The remainder of the £6,828.65 cost of this role was met from grants received from Circuit churches in Shaftesbury (£2,142.49) and Motcombe (£1285.75).

13.2 Grants made to institutions

Name of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Hazelbury Bryan Primary School	ENCOUNTER Project - to support mental health and computer access of vulnerable youngsters in the Hazelbury Bryan area	106
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		106
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		106

Last year:**13.3 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)**

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs	Total
			£	£
Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS)	20,000	-	-	20,000
	-	-	-	-
Total	20,000	-	-	20,000

13.4 Grants made to institutions

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Methodist Minister's Pension Scheme (MMPS)	Circuit contribution to Methodist Ministers' Pension Reserve Fund	20,000
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		20,000
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		20,000

Note 14 Tangible fixed assets

14.1 Cost or valuation

Note 14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land & buildings - manse properties	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
At the beginning of the year	1,588,000.00	-	-	-	1,588,000.00
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	(608,000.00)	-	-	-	(608,000.00)
At end of the year	980,000.00	-	-	-	980,000.00

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

**Basis			SL	
** Rate			3 years	

At beginning of the year	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	-	-

14.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	1,588,000	-	-	-	1,588,000
Net book value at the end of the year	980,000	-	-	-	980,000

14.4 Impairment

This year: a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

[For information only]: In July 2021 the Circuit arranged for professional reassessment of its manses' open market values. This exercise confirmed that the property values are higher than the values shown in the accounts, i.e. that there has been no impairment loss. Accordingly, the Circuit's manses continue to be carried in the accounts at the Deemed Cost values from previous years.

Last year: a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

N/A

14.5 Revaluation

The Circuit's accounting policy is "cost less impairment" (not revaluation) for the Circuit's manse properties - see Note 2.4 i.

Equipment owned by the Circuit, and fixtures and fittings provided by the Circuit at the Circuit's manses, are all identified, capitalised and depreciated if they individually cost at least £1,000. Refer to Note 2.4 i.

14.6 Other disclosures

(i) The amount of borrowing costs, if any, capitalised in the construction of tangible fixed assets and the capitalisation rate used.

(ii) The amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets.

(iii) Details of the existence and carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment to which the charity has restricted title or that are pledged as security for liabilities.

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-
-	-

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

** Method of depreciation: SL = straight line; RB = reducing balance). Rate of depreciation: for straight line, the anticipated life of the asset (in years); for reducing balance, the percentage annual deduction.

Note 17 Investment assets

17.1 Fixed asset investments (please provide for each class of investment)

	Cash & cash equivalents	Listed investments	Investment properties	Social investments	Monetary investments (CMTF @ TMCP)	Total
Carrying (fair) value at beginning of period		-	325,000	-	3,717	328,717
Add: additions to investments during period*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: disposals at carrying value	-	-	-	-	-	0
Less: impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Reversal of impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add/(deduct): transfer in/(out) in the period	-	-	608,000	-	-	608,000
Add/(deduct): net gain/(loss) on revaluation	-	-	48,200	-	(175)	48,025
Carrying (fair) value at end of year	-	-	981,200	-	3,543	984,743

*additions resulting from acquisitions through business combinations, if any.

Please note that Fair Value in this context is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm's length transaction. For traded securities, the fair value is the value of the security quoted on the London Stock Exchange Daily Official List or equivalent. For other assets where there is no market price on a traded market, it is the trustees' or valuers' best estimate of fair value.

17.2 Breakdown of investments shown above agreeing with the balance sheet, differentiating between those held at fair value and those held at cost less impairment.

This year:

	Analysis of investments	
	Fair value at year end	Cost less impairment
	£	£
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	981,200	-
Social investments	-	-
Monetary investments (CMTF @ TMCP)	3,543	-
Total	984,743	-
Grand total (Fair value at year end+Cost less impairment)		984,743

Last year:

	Analysis of investments	
	Fair value at year end	Cost less impairment
	£	£
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	325,000	-
Social investments	-	-
Monetary investments (CMTF @ TMCP)	3,717	-
Total	328,717	-
Grand total (Fair value at year end+Cost less impairment)		328,717

17.3 The Circuit holds investment properties, so the following information is provided:

(i) An explanation of the methods and significant assumptions in determining the fair value of investment property held by the charity:

The Circuit's investment property at 24 Harbin Close, Yeovil, was last revalued by a professional firm of surveyors in July 2021, in line with the Circuit's policy of revaluing its investment properties periodically. The surveyors determined that the property (land + buildings) was valued at £325,000, with the land component being 25% of this.

The Circuit's manses at 73 Granville Way, Sherborne and at 47 Manston Road, Sturminster Newton both ceased being occupied by ministers during FY 2022-23. Accordingly, their asset values (total: £608,000) have been transferred from tangible fixed assets (see N14) to being treated as fixed asset investment properties at the end of FY 2022-23. These properties had also been valued by professional surveyors in July 2021 at £435,000 and £400,000 respectively, with 52% of Granville Way i.e. £226,200 being the Circuit's property (the remaining 48% being URC owned). This equates to a re-valuation gain of £48,200 on these two properties.

In arriving at their opinions of value the surveyors adopted the comparative method of valuation. A desk top valuation appraisal was undertaken. Inspection of the property had been undertaken by the same firm of surveyors (for the purposes of quinquennial inspection) over the last 5 years, and, appraisal included analysis of information recorded therefrom along with due consideration of comparable sales evidence which was available at the date of the valuation. Valuation was carried out in accordance with the Practice Statements in the RICS Global Valuation Standards (effective from 1st July 2017).

The Circuit has no tangible fixed assets with individual purchase value of more than £1,000 at its investment property.

(ii) Name of independent valuer, if applicable, and relevant qualifications

ADRIAN MALE FRICS, Christophers Chartered Surveyors

(iii) Details of any restrictions on the ability to realise investment property or on the remittance of income or disposal proceeds

The Circuit's investment properties at Harbin Close, Yeovil and at 73 Granville Way, Sherborne are currently occupied by private tenants, and the recently-vacated property at 47 Manston Road, Stuminstor Newton is being prepared ready for leasing. Any sales of these properties would need to be subject to vacant possession by the Circuit by serving notice to the tenants. Furthermore, Circuit manses are Model Trust properties under Methodist Church rules and the Circuit would be required to obtain consent from the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) prior to undertaking any property disposal. Under Methodist Standing Order 970, the Connexional Priority Fund (CPF) levy shall be charged by TMCP on all capital money arising from a sale. The amount of levy chargeable is nil on the first £20,000, 20% on any excess over £20,000 up to £100,000 and 40% on any excess over £100,000 (Standing Order 972). Any leasing of Circuit property is subject to TMCP approval, to ensure model tenancy agreement terms are in place. There are no constraints on the Circuit's use of rent income from investment property while leased.

(iv) An explanation of any contractual obligations for the purchase, construction or development of investment property or for repairs, maintenance or enhancements

Where an investment property is leased, the Circuit has contractual obligations for repairs and maintenance under the terms of the lease. As responsible property owners, the Circuit continues to repair and maintain any vacant investment properties with a view to their lease or eventual sale.

17.4 Current asset investments - breakdown

Current assets are itemised on the Balance Sheet (see Section B), which has been prepared to align with Methodist Church standard reporting and with SORP FRS102 2019. See also Note 24.

17.5 Guarantees

	This year	Last year
Details and amount of any guarantee made to or on behalf of a third party	N/A	N/A
Name of the entity or entities benefiting from those guarantees	N/A	N/A
An explanation of how the guarantee furthers the charity's aims	N/A	N/A

17.6 Concessionary loans

Amount of concessionary loans made (*Multiple loans made may be disclosed in aggregate provided that such aggregation does not obscure significant information*).

Description	This year £	Last year £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

Amount of concessionary loans received (*Multiple loans received may be disclosed in aggregate provided that such aggregation does not obscure significant information*).

Description	This year £	Last year £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

Terms and conditions eg interest rate, security provided

Value of any concessionary loans which have been committed but not taken up at the reporting date

Amounts payable within 1 year

Amounts payable after more than 1 year

Amounts receivable within 1 year

Amounts receivable after more than 1 year

This year	Last year

17.7 Additional information

Information about the significance of investments to the charity's financial position or performance eg. terms and conditions of loans or the use of hedging to manage financial risk.

The Circuit has no loans. The Circuit is not dependent on income from monetary investments, which accounted for only 2.5% of its income in 2022-23 (0.6% last year). The Circuit's income from its investment property (gross before deduction of property management expenses) was £16,200 (4.2% of income) in 2022-23 (£15,300, 5.6% of income, last year).

For all investments measured at fair value, the basis for determining the value, including any assumptions applied when using a valuation technique.

See 17.3(i) above.

Where a charity has provided financial assets as a form of security, the carrying amount of the financial asset pledged as security and the terms and conditions relating to its pledge.

N/A

Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

19.1 Analysis of debtors

	This year £	Last year £
Trade debtors	568	0
Prepayments and accrued income	16,981	16,915
Other debtors	42	6,871
Total	17,592	23,786

Please complete 19.2 where a material debtor is recoverable more than a year after the reporting date.

19.2 Analysis of debtors recoverable in more than 1 year (included in debtors above)

	This year £	Last year £
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	-	-
Total	-	-

Note 20**Creditors and accruals****20.1 Analysis of creditors**

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	6,206	3,400	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	3,782	1,297	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	18,181	25,112	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Total	28,169	29,809	-	-

20.2 Deferred income

This note applies if the charity has deferred income

The reasons why income is deferred

This year	Last year
N/A	

Movement in deferred income account

Balance at the start of the reporting period
 Amounts added in current period
 Amounts released to income from previous periods
 Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Note 21 Provisions for liabilities and charges

Please complete this note if you have included in charity expenditure any provisions. A provision is made when the charity has a liability of uncertain timing or amount.

21.1 Movements in recognised provisions and funding commitment during the period

Balance at the start of the reporting period
Amounts added in current period
Amounts charged against the provision in the current period
Unused amounts reversed during the period
Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
3,400	2,688
18,618	3,400
(3,400)	(2,688)
-	-
18,618	3,400

21.2 Please provide:

- a brief description of any obligations on the balance sheet and the expected amount and timing of resulting payments;

This year	Last year
(a) District grant of £1,700 plus matching Circuit grant of £1,700 deferred from FY 2021-22 to use in FY 2022-23 towards support for the Family Worker at Shaftesbury and Motcombe (b) Circuit grant of £18,618 (£6,206 p.a. for 3 years) was awarded in June 2023 towards funding for the new Tisbury Outreach Worker for the 3 year period commencing FY 2023-24.	(a) District grant of £2,688 deferred from FY 2020-21 to use in FY 2021-22 towards support for the Family Worker at Shaftesbury and Motcombe (b) An additional District grant of £5,100 was awarded in 2022 for the Family Worker for calendar year 2022 - a provision for one third of this (£1,700) is made for FY 2022-23 (c) Matching additional Circuit grant of £5,100 was awarded for the Family Worker for calendar year 2022 - a provision for one third of this (£1,700) is made for FY 2022-23.
It is fully expected the £6,206 p.a. Tisbury grant amount will be spent in the next three years.	
None	None

- an indication of the uncertainties about the amount or timing of those outflows; and

- the amount of any expected reimbursement, stating the amount of any asset that has been recognised for that expected reimbursement.

21.3 For any funding commitment that is not recognised as a liability or provision, provide details of commitment made, the time frame of that commitment, any performance-related conditions and details of how the commitment will be funded (with contracts for capital expenditure separately identified).

This year	Last year
The Circuit has contracts or obligations for the following:	
Office accommodation: an informal arrangement with a Circuit church. A reduced contribution of £700 was made for rent/lighting/heating during the year (2021-22: £1,000), with £0 contribution (2021-22: £450) for telephone and broadband costs, since the Circuit's use of the office facility has reduced.	
The Sherborne and Yeovil investment properties each attract a grounds maintenance charge via estate management companies.	
In addition there are short term obligations as follows:	
- telephones at the Circuit manses along with various maintenance contracts (building alarms/security systems) at some manses and at the Circuit Office;	
- photocopier rental at the Circuit Office.	
The total annual cost of these is not considered material.	
Further short-term liabilities have arisen recently for:	
- insurance and utilities costs for the redundant chapel at Hazelbury Bryan (and any others that may close during the year) - from closure until sold;	
- professional fees to surveyors, solicitors and agents during property disposal;	
- CPF Levy (see Note 17), payable to TMCP on property disposal.	
All such costs to be funded from the property sale - likely in 2023-24.	

21.4 Where unrestricted funds have been designated to a fund commitment, please disclose the nature of any amounts designated and the likely timing of that expenditure.

An amount of £334 is being held as "designated funds" for children's work in Wincanton. The Wincanton monies are designated unless and until it becomes apparent that there will be no replacement children's group activity there. The timing and possibility of needing to use these Wincanton monies is currently uncertain, the context being that the Circuit's work with children in Wincanton ceased in recent years.
--

Note 24 Cash at bank and in hand

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church are short term deposits available on demand without loss of interest. The Circuit's account with Lloyds Bank plc is its current account.

TMCP works through the agency of CFB. Monies are held by TMCP on the Circuit's behalf are short term cash investments in the Circuit's Model Trust Fund, the "Trim Bequest", and "Cluett Bequest". These are all Model Trust funds. Funds can be withdrawn on demand subject to Circuit Meeting approval, and subject to approval by TMCP to ensure that funds withdrawn are used for Model Trust purposes in accordance with Methodist Church rules. Such purposes might include, for example, repair/maintenance and caretaking of trust property, support of personnel serving in the Circuit, payments to Methodist organisations/charities, etc.. It is the responsibility of the Circuit Meeting to ensure that any funds withdrawn take account of trustees' other obligations including assessments, building maintenance, reserves policy, and mission policy.

Monies held in the Bequest for Women's Work are similarly available as above but are restricted and can only be used by the Circuit's Methodist Women in Britain group in line with their aims and objectives.

2022-23							2021-22
General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Trim Bequest	Cluett Bequest	Women's Bequest (restricted)	Total	
Funds held with TMCP	52,778		149,105	53,086	4,340	259,309	210,390
Central Finance Board deposits	59,056					59,056	66,483
Cash at bank (Lloyds Bank plc)	80,193	334				80,527	67,452
Totals	139,248	334	149,105	53,086	4,340	398,891	344,326

Note 25 Fair value of assets and liabilities

25.1 Below are provided details of the charity's exposure to credit risk (the risk of incurring a loss due to a debtor not paying what is owed), liquidity risk (the risk of not being able to meet short term financial demands) and market risk (the risk that the value of an investment will fall due to changes in the market) arising from financial instruments to which the charity is exposed at the end of the reporting period and explain how the charity manages those risks.

Credit risk:

- The Circuit's primary sources of income are: assessments from churches, grants (e.g. from Southampton Methodist District) and rental income from its investment property. The risk of default on these payments is considered to be low.

Liquidity risk:

- The Circuit maintains a reserves policy of keeping six months' budgeted expenditure in hand, to be able to meet unforeseen short term financial demands alongside its ongoing financial obligations. To avoid spending beyond its available funds, the sale of Circuit assets (e.g. the Circuit's investment property, or any chapels becoming redundant in the interim) provides a means to replenish the Circuit's reserves. On this basis, the Circuit's exposure to liquidity risk is low.

Market risk:

- The Circuit's financial investments are managed on its behalf by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. These include £3,543 invested in the CFB's Managed Mixed Fund (£3,022) and Managed Fixed Interest Fund (£521). The Managed Mixed Fund provides a diversified blend of investment funds, with a bias towards equities. It is preferred by many Methodist investors who are looking for a balance of long term capital appreciation and income, through a diversified portfolio. Other Circuit funds are held on deposit with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church. The proportion of Circuit reserves held by TMCP in the two CFB financial investment funds is approximately 1.4% of the Circuit's TMCP-held assets (0.9% of the Circuit's total cash funds), and this is regarded as a low level of exposure to market risk.

- The asset values of the Circuit's manses are determined on a Fair Value basis. The Circuit's manses and investment property represent, unsurprisingly, the majority of the Circuit's assets, and in the event of a collapse in the housing market the Circuit would undoubtedly be significantly affected.

- If any Circuit properties (whether manses or redundant chapels) are disposed of, this results (after CPF levy - see Note 17) in capital receipts to the Circuit's general funds in line with Methodist Standing Orders, for onward application for Circuit purposes (grants, Circuit ministry, etc) as determined by Circuit Meeting decisions.

- The recent trend for smaller chapels to close has led to the Circuit's financial position improving, through such capital receipts. The Circuit expects to sell two, possibly three, chapel buildings in 2023-24.

25.2 Details of the amount of change in the fair value of basic financial instruments (debtors, creditors, investments (see section 11, FRS 102 SORP)) measured at fair value through the SoFA that is attributable to changes in credit risk.

This year	Last year
N/A	N/A

Note 27 Charity funds

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

Details are provided here of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period. The 'Total funds' figure below reconciles to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

* Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or U *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
General Fund	U		329,768	222,210	(313,529)	80,000		318,449
Manses for the charity's own use (fixed asset values)	U	Ministerial accommodation	1,588,000	-	-	(608,000)		980,000
Investment property (manses unoccupied by Circuit ministers) (fixed asset values)	U	Rental income; investment	325,000	-	-	608,000	48,200	981,200
Circuit Model Trust Fund	U	General - see Note 24	3,983	151,452	(22,483)	(80,000)	(175)	52,778
Designated funds	U	Wincanton childrens' activities £334; Tisbury Outreach Worker £18,618	334					334
Diaconal grants	R	Diaconal support - see Note 3		10,000	(10,000)			
Family Worker grants	R	Support of Family Worker at Shaftesbury & Motcombe - see Note 3		3,429	(3,429)			
Government grants (DWP Access to Work)	R	Practical administrative support to the Circuit's Deacon		1,214	(1,214)			
Methodist Insurance grant for the Circuit's "Encounter" Project	R	Mental health resources and support at Hazelbury Bryan Primary School and for struggling families		1,500	(1,500)			
Bequest for Women's Work	R	Methodist Women in Britain - see Note 24	4,217	135	(12)			4,340
Total Funds			2,251,302	389,940	(352,166)		48,025	2,337,102

27.2 Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

Details are provided here of the movements of material individual funds in the previous reporting period. The 'Total funds' figure below reconciles to last year's 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or U *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
General Fund	U		386,569	241,211	(348,012)	50,000		329,768
Manses for the charity's own use (fixed asset values)	U	Ministerial accommodation	1,588,000	-	-			1,588,000
Investment property (manses unoccupied by Circuit ministers) (fixed asset values)	U	Rental income; investment	325,000	-	-			325,000
Circuit Model Trust Fund	U	General - see Note 24	55,532	4,398	(1,547)	(50,000)	(4,400)	3,983
Designated funds	U	Wincanton childrens' activities	334					334
Diaconal grants	R	Diaconal support - see Note 3b		12,000	(12,000)			
Family Worker grants	R	Support of Family Worker at Shaftesbury & Motcombe - see Note 3b		15,176	(15,176)			
Bequest for Women's Work	R	Methodist Women in Britain - see Note 24	4,209	20	(12)			4,217
Total Funds			2,359,644	272,805	(376,747)		(4,400)	2,251,302

27.3 Transfers between funds

This year

There were no transfers between unrestricted and restricted funds, between endowment and restricted funds, or between endowment and unrestricted funds.

Last year

There were no transfers between unrestricted and restricted funds, between endowment and restricted funds, or between endowment and unrestricted funds.

Note 28 Transactions with trustees and related parties

Details of the charity's transactions with related parties (other than the trustee expenses explained in guidance notes) are provided in this note.

28.1 Trustee remuneration and benefits**This year**

The following trustees received remuneration or other benefits from the Circuit in their capacity as paid Methodist and URC ministers, and lay employees, with the Circuit:

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other ministers, the Circuit Stewards including the Circuit Treasurer, plus the Circuit Administrator and Circuit Property Secretary, together form the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) and are considered Key Management Personnel. The ministers of the Circuit undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. All voting members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. Our Circuit Administrator is a member of CLT and a lay employee but is not a trustee. Paid trustees are all the ministers, and one of our lay employees (the Family Worker). All other trustees are volunteers. All lay staff are employed at the decision of the Circuit Meeting.

The cost of all stipends, employer's NIC, employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the ministers of the Circuit are met by the Circuit. The Methodist Connexion finance team in London pays all Methodist ministers' salaries after deductions (employee NI, tax and pension payments). Connexion charges the Circuit for these costs plus employer NI and employer pension payments, and pays all tax and NI due to HMRC. Similarly, the Circuit pays no remuneration/ benefits to lay staff directly - payments are made by the Methodist Church and costs charged to the Circuit.

Apart from the four ministers and the two lay workers mentioned no other key management personnel or member of the Circuit Meeting was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the Circuit, although certain expense costs were reimbursed - see 28.2 below.

The amounts of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to these trustees by the charity are shown below:

Name of trustee	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value				
		Remuneration	Pension contribution	Redundancy (including loss of office)/ex gratia	Other	TOTAL
		£	£	£	£	£
Revd Lin Francis (Superintendent Minister)	Methodist standing orders	29,797	7,244			37,040
Revd Denise Binks (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	27,104	7,244			34,348
Revd Kate Konrad (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	27,104	7,244			34,348
Dcn Rebekah-Joy Spinks (Deacon)	Methodist standing orders	27,104	7,244			34,348
Mrs Helen Coombes (Circuit Administrator)*	Methodist standing orders	9,635	0			9,635
Mrs Lynn Heaton (Families Worker)**	Methodist standing orders	12,262	632			12,894
		133,007				162,613

*key management personnel (CLT member) but not a trustee

**trustee for only part of this financial year

Details of why remuneration or other employment benefits were paid.

See notes above.

Where an ex gratia payment has been made to a trustee, provide an explanation of the nature of the payment.

N/A

Last year

The following trustees received remuneration or other benefits from the Circuit in their capacity as paid Methodist and URC ministers, and lay employees, with the Circuit:

As Note 28.1 above.

The amounts of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to these trustees by the charity are shown below:

Name of trustee	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value				
		Remuneration	Pension contribution	Redundancy (including loss of office)/ex gratia	Other	TOTAL
		£	£	£	£	£
Revd Lin Francis (Superintendent Minister)	Methodist standing orders	28,577	6,947			35,524
Revd Denise Binks (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	25,995	6,947			32,942
Revd Kate Konrad (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	25,995	6,947			32,942
Dcn Rebekah-Joy Spinks (Deacon)	Methodist standing orders	25,995	6,947			32,942
Revd Duncan Goldie (URC Minister)	URC M&M orders	25,900	3,859		1,380	31,139
Mrs Helen Coombes (Office Manager)*	Lay employment contract	11,399	522			11,921
Mrs Lynn Heaton (Families Worker)	Lay employment contract	16,906	1,014			17,920
		160,766				195,329

*key management personnel (CLT member) but not a trustee

Details of why remuneration or other employment benefits were paid.

See notes above. With regard to Revd Goldie, the Circuit payments shown are for 92% of his remuneration and benefits; the remaining 8% being paid by Mere URC church. "Other" payment of £1,380 to Revd Goldie is URC car allowance cost met by the Circuit in 2021-22.

Where an ex gratia payment has been made to a trustee, provide an explanation of the nature of the payment.

N/A

28.2 Trustees' expenses

The Circuit has a published Expenses Policy (see Note 2.2 viii) under which all trustees and other volunteers may claim for appropriate expenses in the course of their duties on behalf of the Circuit.

Some (not all) of the Circuit's supernumeraries and just one other volunteer trustee claimed and received travel expense payments in relation to their travel on Circuit business.

Under Methodist standing orders, supernumerary ministers can claim preaching fees as expenses, at a fixed rate per service set by the Methodist Conference.

Note that trustee expenses shown here are those claimed by volunteers (including supernumerary ministers). Circuit staff, i.e. ministers and lay workers, are also trustees but the expenses they have claimed are itemised separately in Note 6.

Type of expenses reimbursed	This year	Last year
	£	£
Travel	1,388	1,419
Subsistence	-	-
Accommodation	-	-
Office expenses (stationery, postage, materials, books)	-	75
Telephone	-	-
Reimbursed removals and relocation costs	-	-
Supernumerary preaching fees	1,300	1,450
	-	-
TOTAL	2,688	2,944

The number of trustees reimbursed for expenses or who had expenses paid by the charity was:

8 (15 including Circuit staff)	13 (21 including Circuit staff)
-----------------------------------	------------------------------------

28.3 Transaction(s) with related parties

Details are given here of transactions undertaken by (or on behalf of) the charity in which a related party has a material interest.

This year

The Circuit's related parties include the Methodist Connexion, the Southampton Methodist District, the churches within the Circuit, and other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP. All of these entities have their own trustees or directors. All of the Circuit trustees are members of one or another Church within the Circuit and may also be trustees in their churches.

Charges made by, and income received from, CFB and TMCP are included in Note 3. The Circuit is principally funded by donations received from Circuit churches, and from the District. Income received from these parties is detailed in Note 3.

A small number of Circuit trustees made donations (without conditions) direct to the Circuit during 2022-23 - the aggregate figure for these received donations was £1,969 including Gift Aid tax recovered (2021-22: £2,372).

Monies passed on to external organisations by the Circuit acting as agent are all to Methodist related parties (see Note 8). These amounts are not otherwise included in these accounts.

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction(s)	Amount	Balance at period end	Provision for bad debts at period end	Amounts written off during reporting period
			£	£	£	£

In relation to the transactions above, please provide the terms and conditions, including any security and the nature of any payment (consideration) to be provided in settlement.

For any related party, please provide details of any guarantees given or received.

Last year

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction(s)	Amount	Balance at period end	Provision for bad debts at period end	Amounts written off during reporting period
			£	£	£	£
Mr Malcolm English	via family	Labour + materials	948	-	-	-

In relation to the transactions above, please provide the terms and conditions, including any security and the nature of any payment (consideration) to be provided in settlement.

Terms for services and materials provided: payment on satisfactory completion.

For any related party, please provide details of any guarantees given or received.

None.

Accounts



YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

(Charity Registration No. 1158290)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31 August 2022

1. Superintendent's annual report on the Circuit's achievements and performance

During the last year, Yeovil & Blackmore Vale, like every other Methodist Circuit, has had to deal with the effects of the Covid19 Pandemic. Most of our churches have re-opened for public worship, but not all. A lot of the older people from our congregations haven't returned to worship and so the regular posting and emailing of "Worship at home" services has continued. Online Zoom services have been offered on Sunday evenings, as have bible study groups.

We have a full staff team comprising of 3 Methodist Presbyters, 1 URC Presbyter and 1 Methodist Deacon. A new Superintendent Minister was appointed from 1st September 2021. In addition, at the start of the year we were very fortunate to have 8 Supernumerary Ministers, 4 of whom were active, and 12 active Local Preachers with three in training. During the year there have been changes. Our URC Presbyter is now on long-term sick leave. One Supernumerary minister has died. 2 Local Preachers have died, and 5 have resigned. The three in training have now become one in training, one has been accredited as a full LP and one has transferred out.

Within the Circuit we have 3 Lay employees. 2 are workers with children and families, one of these is employed by the Circuit and one is employed jointly by two local churches; and the other employee is our Circuit Administrator. We have reviewed our work and the work that our employees are doing as well as adjusting their working hours where necessary.

In terms of our set-up this circuit had 13 societies worshipping and using 17 buildings at the start of our year. Very sadly we have closed 2 of those buildings for worship and are in the process of selling them. We have also merged two other societies; Kings Stag and Sturminster Newton to create one new society/church: Vale Methodist Church, which has two buildings.

Our Mission Statement is 'To know God's love; to show God's love; to share God's love' and so our aim is to work to this statement and support all of our societies and be proactive in a way which provides leadership and pastoral support to each, and to ensure that regular worship, fellowship and mission is carried out.

In line with the purposes of this charity we have worked over this last year to advance the Christian faith and fulfil our charitable status through:

- Regular acts of worship in all churches when it has been possible
- Small house/fellowship/prayer groups – online where necessary
- To restart the multiple Circuit-wide groups supporting children, young people and families; women's fellowship groups; senior citizens' luncheon clubs where possible
- The 'Clothing Exchange' project established in Gillingham to supply good quality clothing for parents with babies/toddlers and young children
- The Circuit Meeting reviewed its safeguarding policy for children, young people and vulnerable adults
- The Circuit, and all Circuit Churches, have continued to respond to the requirements of the GDPR legislation and all data files are being reviewed, and privacy notices are being approved and displayed

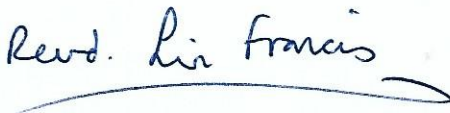
Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26-05)
Trustees' Annual Report: Year ended 31 August 2022

- The 'Circuit Policy' document has been the basis of our work and the CLT and Circuit Meeting have reviewed our priorities and planned for changes during the period to 2025/26 when our current five-year financial plan comes to an end.
- The Circuit Meeting reviewed its financial controls and expenses policy this year.
- Pastoral care of the housebound, the dying, those in hospital and others in need
- The Circuit Meeting has met four times during the year. Two of these have been 'virtual' meetings and two have been in person.

The financial impact of lost income through weekly cash offerings and hall/room lettings was quite dramatic in the previous year and the effects have still been with us in this last year. We are dealing with depleted finances in several of our churches.

The major work of 2020-2021 had been to reassess the effectiveness of the Methodist Church presence in Yeovil and the way in which effective mission can be maintained given the resources (human and property) in the town. The Circuit believed and still believes that having three individual church communities in one town is not sustainable in the long term and that change is required to cut administration and governance, thus releasing energy for outreach. The newly created 'Yeovil Methodist Church' has, in this year 2021-2022, continued to look at the future of the three buildings, and one church building at Preston Road is now being sold. Sunday worship is happening at one church, midweek worship at the other and missional activities happen at both. There isn't long term viability for this arrangement and so conversations and discernment are ongoing.

We are very grateful to all of our members of staff, lay and ordained and to all of our volunteers for all of their prayerful dedication to their callings to serve in this Circuit in the Lord's name. We look forward to another year full of challenge and opportunity.



Revd Lin Francis
Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Trustees

2. Objectives and activities

2.1 Mission

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit Meeting trustees (under the Chair of the Superintendent Minister), who meet quarterly, have given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives, conforming with the Charities Act 2011.

Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the geographic area covered by the Circuit and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. Our Mission Statement is:-

"To know God's Love

To Show God's Love

To share God's Love"

We aim to achieve this by encouraging, through the members and adherents of churches in our Circuit, the worship, social, and outreach activities that currently exist, and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the church family.

We aim to build a Circuit formed for mission and full of generous people who are prepared to work, and develop, to build God's kingdom in this place. We share a common passion to use our gifts, graces and resources to the best of our abilities to be mission-shaped followers of Jesus Christ.

2.2 Purpose and activities of the Circuit

The Circuit is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any individual Church, of the Connexional character of the Methodist Church. The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the union the advancement of:

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church, and
- b. any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and
- c. any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and
- d. any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this Circuit is to advance the mission of the Methodist Church within the geographical area defined by the churches within Yeovil and Blackmore Vale:

- by providing opportunities for churches to work together and support each other
- by offering to churches resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The Circuit's primary activity to meet this purpose is "Circuit Ministry" - that is, the provision of a team of ministers and lay employees to deliver ministerial and families' support to all of the 15 churches in the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale area.

All of the costs incurred to support this Circuit Ministry activity are met by the Circuit – including all staff salaries ("stipends" for ministers) and expenses, and the provision of

manse housing for ministers – the Circuit is responsible for manse maintenance, phone/broadband, water, and council tax costs. The Circuit raises funds from each of the Circuit churches through an assessment regime, and, together with its other income sources, these funds are used to pay for its Circuit Ministry and other activity costs. In turn, the Circuit is assessed by the District on the size of its ministry team and pays monthly charges which fund District and central Connexion costs.

Apart from Circuit Ministry, the Circuit's other activities are:

- the award and administration of grants to Circuit churches and external bodies as appropriate and as directed by the Circuit Meeting
- raising funds (financial investment management of the Circuit's funds held with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP), and the rental of the Circuit's investment property in Yeovil (spare ministerial manse)).

The Circuit serves the local churches, its District, and the Methodist Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Methodist Church, and in programmes of training.

2.3 Circuit policy (last reviewed December 2022)

Our Policy is to:-

- Support all 10 Societies of our Circuit in a positive and proactive way by providing leadership and pastoral care and ensuring the continuance of their regular pattern of Worship and fellowship.
- Declare that our central priority is Making Disciples of Jesus and that we will facilitate initiatives of evangelism.
- Hold and work to a realistic appraisal of the future potential of our Societies and be particularly supportive of the merger of societies within the Circuit including the three churches which have merged in Yeovil to form the new Yeovil Methodist Church, and of the merger of Sturminster Newton and King's Stag to form Vale Methodist Church.
- Commit ourselves to continuing the establishment figure of four ministers and one deacon until the end of 2022-23, then four ministers to the end of 2024-25 (reducing to three ministers if circumstances arise at any time before then), with a plan to retain three ministers only beyond 2024-25. The Circuit's five-year financial plan, which is reviewed annually, includes for the use of capital released by the sale of redundant buildings.
- Develop ministry amongst children, young people and families in the western end of the Circuit.
- Adapt ministry to the ever changing need of the local churches, particularly in terms of Pastoral Care.
- Make the best use of the experience and abilities of the supernumerary ministers residing in our Circuit, who are very willing to offer their services.
- Based on existing strengths, build up a team of lay employees covering a variety of roles including Administration, Children, Youth and Family Work.
- Respond to requests for grants from Circuit funds, giving priority to those projects that are orientated to mission rather than just maintenance ministry.

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26-05)
Trustees' Annual Report: Year ended 31 August 2022

- Ensure that we are compliant with Safeguarding processes and other regulatory demands (such as GDPR and Connexional requirements) by offering training and follow up.
- Work to create a renewed sense of belonging to the wider family of Methodism – Circuit, District, Connexion and the World Church.
- Give encouragement to the opportunities of ecumenical work – particularly in our shared Churches at Shaftesbury and Sherborne.
- Challenge our people to discover the Call of God in their lives and what this might mean in the development of a diversity of ministries.
- Through prayer and study, discover the meaning of Christian Discipleship in the Twenty-first Century and how effectively to engage in appropriate opportunities of mission and service.

3. Financial review

3.1 Circuit financial position at the end of FY 2021-22

Key points

During the year the Circuit received total income of £272k (FY 2020-21: £294k) and dispersed £377k (FY 2020-21: £362k).

Net current assets of £335k (excluding property & land) were carried forward across the year end (FY 2020-21: £438k).

Church incomes, and Circuit assessments

The Circuit's churches have still not returned to pre-Covid attendance levels, even though virtual church services have all but ceased. Furthermore, the bigger of our churches have large, expensive, buildings to maintain and yet still are having to cope with reduced rental income due to the slow re-opening of community activities that hire their halls and rooms.

The Circuit continues to make savings in travel costs and office expenses compared with pre-Covid levels, having been accustomed through Covid to holding virtual meetings. Meetings (trustees, leadership team, staff etc) are often held remotely by Zoom where appropriate, to reduce costs. In 2021-22 savings have also been made in salary costs, with our Circuit Office Manager stepping down to a lower responsibility Circuit Administrator role on fewer hours. The majority of other expenditure items came in very close to budget this year, yet overall we ended the year with a deficit of £108k compared with a planned deficit of £119k (the deficit being budgeted use of Circuit reserves, within our five-year plan), i.e. a saving of £11k cf. budget. This is despite the fact that trustees voted to donate a grant of £20k in Circuit funds to the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme's Pension Reserve Fund, in response to a Connexional appeal in December 2021. Last year (2019-20) we achieved a £29k saving against budget.

In response to the ongoing financial struggles of our churches, in June 2022 the Circuit Meeting took the decision to reduce the Circuit's assessment level by 10% across all Circuit churches, for 2022-23. This is additional to the 10% reduction already agreed and implemented for 2021-22 and reflects the precarious times the churches find themselves in. It is anticipated that the Circuit will need to maintain Circuit assessments at this lower level for the foreseeable future. In view of the current large rises in UK inflation rates, and the huge increases in energy costs, it is unclear whether even this lower level of assessments will be low enough.

Review of Circuit plans and assessment distribution

The Circuit's five-year plan is normally reviewed annually. The Circuit's previous plan was for the ongoing deployment of four ministers (presbyters and/or deacons), plus a five-year Diaconal outreach project, which ends in August 2023. In June 2022, the Circuit Meeting took the decision to adopt a five-year plan (commencing FY 2021-22) to maintain four ministers (apart from the Deacon) to the end of FY 2024-25, after which the number would reduce to three. In the event that circumstances lead to one of our ministers leaving the

Circuit before the end of 2024-25, it was decided that the number of ministers would reduce to three from that point. The decision to reduce the Circuit ministry team size was made to reflect the reduction in the number of Circuit churches (10 active fellowships from 2022-23) and the reduced church attendance and income levels across the Circuit.

In June 2022 the Circuit trustees also took the decision to re-distribute the Circuit's assessment charges more fairly between its churches, and a new, formulaic, mechanism for splitting the total assessment required has been agreed for 2022-23 onwards.

3.2 Reserves policy

Cash reserves

The Circuit's cash reserves held at 31st August 2022 were as follows:

Unrestricted Funds	£
Lloyds Bank – current account	64,445
Methodist CFB	63,467
Lord Alfred Trim Bequest (TMCP)	149,105
DD Gifford Cluett Bequest (TMCP)	53,086
Circuit Model Trust Fund (TMCP)	266
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED	330,368
Restricted Funds - Women's Work Bequest (TMCP)	4,217
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	334,585

All cash funds are separately invested either with CFB or TMCP.

Included in the above figures is an amount of general funds of £334, designated by the Circuit Meeting for Wincanton children's work. The timing and possibility of needing to use these monies is currently uncertain, the context being that the Circuit's work with children in Wincanton ceased recently.

Monetary investments

The Circuit has an additional £3,717 held in TMCP monetary investments (unrestricted) (not included in the above figures) making a total Circuit fund balance of £338,302 at 31 August 2022.

The Circuit trustees have assumed responsibility during 2021-22 for two chapels which have become redundant, at Ibberton and Hazelbury Bryan. The Circuit chapel at Broad Oak also

closed in 2021-22. Other than this and the Circuit's investment property (an unused manse in Yeovil), no money is directly invested in property, securities or other forms of investment.

Policy for 2022-23

The Circuit's reserves policy covers all of its general and restricted funds. This policy is reviewed and approved annually by trustees, and submitted onwards to the Southampton District for acceptance. The Circuit's reserves policy for 2022-23 is as follows:

- Reserves policy for general funds

The Circuit aims to hold a minimum of 6 months' budgeted expenditure in its general funds at any time. This equates to £199k for 2022-23. This is to provide funds for:

- Essential cash-flow: covering short-term deficits whilst awaiting grants and assessment income, or in the event of needing to complete asset sales to replenish reserves
- Unforeseen emergencies or unexpected needs, such as unanticipated manse repair bills or other urgent projects
- Unplanned requests from Circuit churches for additional grants for repairs
- Circuit funding to support any unbudgeted Circuit church missional staffing projects
- Unexpected shortfalls in funding, perhaps, for example, the loss of assessment income in the event of the unforeseen closure of a church or churches within the Circuit.

The Circuit's five-year plan has a committed spend of £410k of its cash reserves over the remainder of the five-year period to August 2026. Adding the requirement to hold six months' expenditure in reserve, these figures demonstrate that the Circuit's currently available cash funds are entirely committed and will need to be supplemented through asset sales in the near future (see 3.4).

- Reserves policy for restricted funds

Bequest for Women's Work: £4,217. This bequest was originally made to the Sherborne branch of the "Women's Work" Methodist women's organisation. "Women's Work" joined with the Methodist "Women's Fellowship" in 1987 to form the "Women's Network, which became "Methodist Women in Britain" in 2011. This Circuit's Methodist Women in Britain group is seeking new members at present.

3.3 Investment policy and performance

The Circuit's investment policy is to diversify its funds in bank accounts, deposit accounts, financial investment products and investment property. The Circuit has no endowment funds, currently.

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Circuits and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the Circuit. These sums are invested in unitised

investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income reflects deposit rates available elsewhere. Short-term deposits are lodged directly with the Central Finance Board (CFB) and attract rates of interest comparable with available commercial market rates.

The Circuit's Trustees' investment policy is aligned with that of the Methodist Central Finance Board (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

There are no benchmarks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. The Circuit relies on TMCP and the CFB to review and manage the performance of the Circuit's financial investments. The Circuit Treasurer regularly checks that all income due is received. The net total income received from the Circuit's monetary investments was 0.4% for the year. Whilst £4,000 of these monetary investments were sold by the Circuit in 2021-22, a net loss of £400 was also recorded on the value of Circuit monetary investments over the year.

Investment Property. The Circuit owns a number of manses for ministerial housing. The Circuit's policy is to maintain any spare manses as investment property, potentially available for disposal to fund the activities of the Circuit in line with its financial plans and budgets agreed with the Circuit Meeting. Any empty manses not needing to be sold are let, where possible, to provide rental income. The Circuit's investment properties, whether let or not, are inspected annually by the Circuit Property Secretary or by a representative (manse steward) from one of the associated churches. A professional valuation of the Circuit's investment property was last undertaken in July 2021. The Circuit's receipts from its investment property amounted to 5.6% of income in 2021-22 (gross before allowing for property management costs).

3.4 Management of deficits and asset disposals

Currently, the total Circuit income does not fully cover net expenditure. The budgeted deficit in FY 2021-22 was £119k to be made up from Circuit reserves (actual: £108k deficit). In the five year plan up to FY 2025-26 this deficit is budgeted to stay around £100k p.a. as the Circuit continues to use its cash reserves on staffing.

Recently-closed chapels at Ibberton and Hazelbury Bryan are now the responsibility of the Circuit trustees, and Circuit officers have commenced the process to dispose of these assets. Broad Oak chapel (class of Sturminster Newton – now Vale Methodist Church) has also closed and Circuit officers are assisting its managing trustees with the building's disposal. Yeovil Methodist Church has recently taken the decision to close its chapel building at Preston Road, and again Circuit officers are expecting to assist with its disposal.

The Circuit trustees have yet to determine how they wish to use the proceeds from all these sales. Although the pressure to use the funds from these sales towards Circuit reserves will be high, the Circuit has other assets that it could use to replenish its reserves (spare manses) towards meeting its ongoing ministry costs. Depending on what applications it receives from Circuit churches, trustees may find they have some options to reserve grants of specific amounts from the funds generated, for specific new Circuit projects.

The Circuit has an empty manse currently let in Yeovil, and will have one additional spare manse in Sturminster Newton in September 2023 when the Circuit diaconal project ends. A further manse will become available when the Circuit eventually reduces to three ministers (September 2025 or sooner) in line with its five-year plan.

Sale of one spare manse will definitely be required early in FY 2023-24 to complement the assessment income the Circuit receives from its churches, in order to allow the Circuit to finance its new five-year plan through replenishment of the Circuit's reserves.

3.5 Going concern

The trustees of the Circuit have every reason to believe that the Circuit is a going concern, principally because our churches have continued to meet their assessments and the Circuit has adequate reserves and assets to cover any shortfall in anticipated income. There are no subsidiary undertakings.

4. Structure, governance and management

4.1 Governing documents and constitution

The Circuit is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union (1932) and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 19 August 2014.

4.2 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of churches; Circuits fund the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the churches in the Circuit; most decisions are made at or ratified by the quarterly Circuit Meeting. The Circuit is a member of the Southampton District of the Methodist Church.

A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at its half yearly synods. The Southampton District reports into the Methodist Conference.

The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within each District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to church councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the church stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by church councils as the managing trustees of their church.

4.3 Governance and management

The Circuit operates within a statutory framework of regulation and additionally seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Southampton District and Methodist Connexional Offices to provide guidance on changes that could affect the Circuit.

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other ministers, the Circuit Stewards (including the Circuit Treasurer), the Office Manager, together form the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) and are considered Key Management Personnel. The ministers of the Circuit undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and the trustees' meetings (Circuit Meetings).

Paid trustees are all the ministers, and one of our lay employees (one of our Children, Young People and Families Workers who spends a defined portion of her employed time as Circuit Safeguarding Officer). All lay staff are employed at the decision of the Circuit Meeting. In some Methodist Circuits the Circuit Meeting Secretary is a volunteer – in this Circuit, we have a lay member of staff, employed as Circuit Manager, who acts as Circuit Administrator and Circuit Meeting Secretary.

Supernumerary ministers are ministers who have retired but many still conduct worship on a voluntary basis. Their ministry is gratefully accepted by Circuit Meeting and they are appointed as trustees by the Meeting.

All other Circuit Meeting members are volunteers from churches in the Circuit. The full list of trustees of the Circuit Meeting is provided in Appendix A: all voting members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. Representatives from the churches include the Church Steward and Treasurer for each church (ex-officio Circuit Meeting members), plus each church's further representatives to Circuit Meeting, who are all elected at Annual General Meetings of their church councils.

Circuit Stewards are trustees who are elected by Circuit Meeting to serve with the specific responsibilities and duties of Circuit Steward as defined by the Methodist Church, including their participation in Circuit Leadership Team meetings. Circuit Stewards normally serve for a minimum period of 3 years, but may offer for re-election after this time.

Other voluntary appointments at this Circuit Meeting include the Circuit Treasurer, Senior Circuit Steward, Circuit Property Secretary, Local Preachers Secretary, etc – see Appendix A – all these are appointed as Circuit Meeting members and trustees at the decision of the Circuit Meeting.

The Circuit Meeting of all trustees meets four times a year. The trustees of the Circuit have chosen to divest powers of decision required urgently between Circuit Meetings to the CLT.

The CLT meets formally at least every two months and communicates routinely through electronic media. The team is used by the Circuit as a means of formulating, discussing and refining policy prior to proposal and debate at Circuit Meeting.

4.4 Risk management

The trustees have considered the risks that the charity is exposed to and put strategies in place to mitigate those risks. Policies are established for health and safety, safeguarding and data protection, alongside financial controls. The Circuit's financial controls include: expenses policy, procurement policy, banking and investment management policy, anti-bribery policy, guidance on managing conflicts of interest, and guidance on maintaining awareness of risks from financial crime and abuse. In the Circuit's Financial Statements (Note 25) the trustees have assessed the charity's exposure to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk, and have explained how the charity manages these risks.

5. Reference and Administrative Details

5.1 Name of the charity

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit

5.2 Charity registration number

1158290 Registered in England and Wales

5.3 Principal office

Circuit Office
c/o Vicarage Street Methodist Church
Middle Street
Yeovil
BA20 1JZ
01935 432173 (answerphone available)
www.yandbvcircuit@gmail.com

5.4 Superintendent Minister

Revd Lin Francis

5.5 Circuit Administrator

Mrs Helen Coombes

5.6 Circuit Treasurer

Mr Lewis Buckwell

5.7 Names of trustees

All voting Members of the Circuit Meeting are trustees. The list of trustees serving from 1 September 2021 through to March 2023, is given in Appendix A.

5.8 Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
Business Banking
BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

5.9 Investment managers and custodian trustees

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

5.10 Independent Examiner

(First appointed: 23rd March, 2021, last reappointed: 14 September 2022):

Frances Wilde FCCA MBA(Open) DChA PgDip
Director
Warner Wilde Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors
4 Marigold Drive
Bisley Surrey GU24 9SF
Registered in England No. 6923262

6. Exemptions from disclosure

None.

7. Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

The Circuit holds no funds as custodian trustee.

The Circuit acts as an agent when it receives grants and donations that are directly passed on to external organisations, and where the Circuit plays no part in overseeing their use. In this context the Circuit undertakes the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of (a) grants requested by churches and other charities /organisations within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion and (b) donations made by Circuit churches to certain Methodist (related party) and external charitable bodies. Sums collected by the Circuit as agent for these bodies are passed on directly to them within the same financial year (or accrued as creditors). Funds received by the Circuit as agent are not recognised as an asset in the financial statements because the funds are not within its control. No fee is earned in respect of this agency arrangement and the Circuit incurs no cost through this arrangement.

8. Approvals

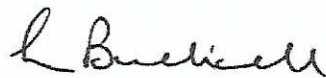
We confirm that the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements (Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and supporting Notes) have been approved by Trustees at the Circuit Meeting held on 15th March, 2023:

Lin Francis (signed)



Revd Lin Francis
Chair of Circuit Meeting
Date: 17-03-23

Lewis Buckwell (signed)



Mr Lewis Buckwell
Circuit Treasurer
Date: 16th March, 2023

APPENDIX A Trustees

The members of Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit meeting are the charity trustees. Membership is made up from circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches. The following were managing trustees from 1 September 2021 to date:

Ministers and Lay Staff

Revd Linda Francis (Superintendent)
Revd Denise Binks
Revd Duncan Goldie
Revd Kate Konrad
Dcn Rebekah-Joy Spinks
Revd Christina Le Moignan (Supernumerary)
Revd Margaret Oxenham (Supernumerary)
Revd Judy Turner-Smith (Supernumerary) (from 28/9/21)
Mrs Lynn Heaton (Children, Young People and Families Worker and Circuit Safeguarding Officer)

Circuit Stewards

Miss Sarah James (to 28/6/22)
Mr Stephen Watson
Mrs Janet English
Mrs Margaret Whitford (Senior Steward)
Mr Lewis Buckwell (Treasurer)

Other Appointments

Mr Philip Butler (Property Secretary)
Mr Colin Farrant (Local Preachers' Tutor)
Mrs Christine Lydford (MWiB President) (to 31/8/22)
Mr Adam Miller (Archivist) (to 1/10/21)
Revd Margaret Oxenham * (Acting LP&WL Secretary from 10/3/22 to 14/9/22)
Revd Judy Turner-Smith * (LP&WL Secretary from 14/9/22)

Representatives

Mrs Joy Aylen
Mrs Jo Bathurst
Mr John Bathurst
Mr Phil Butler *
Mr Tony Cole
Mr Daniel England (to 31/8/22)
Mrs Margaret Evans
Mrs Pearl Evans
Mr George Faris
Mr Don Farquharson (from 6/4/22)
Mrs Christine Fordham (from 15/03/22)
Mrs Beth Fox
Mr Geoff Gardner
Mrs Lis Gosney (to 31/8/22)
Mr Alan Harrison (to 31/8/22)
Dr Bob Jones
Mrs Ruth Jones
Mrs Norma Le Poidevin (to 31/8/22)
Mrs Mary Leamon (to 14/12/21)

Mrs Christine Lydford * (from 1/9/22)
Mrs Esther May (to 31/8/22)
Mr Adam Miller * (to 1/10/21)
Mrs Carole Miller (to 28/9/21)
Mr Terrence Miller (to 1/10/21)
Miss Janet Le Moignan (to 6/4/22)
Mrs Lindsay Parsons (from 28/9/21 to 31/8/22)
Mr Mark Parsons (from 28/9/21)
Mr Robert Rickards (to 31/8/22)
Mr Richard Sinden (from 28/9/21)
Mrs Rachel Tudrau (from 28/9/21 to 31/8/22)
Mr Alan Turner-Smith (from 1/9/22)
Mrs Sarah Upshall
Mrs Gillian Walsham
Mrs Lynda Walters
Mr Hayden Williams
Mr Ron Williams (to 31/8/22)
Mr David Wooldridge

* Already a member in another capacity



YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

(Charity Registration No. 1158290)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year ending 31 August 2022

This Accounts Pack is intended to meet the Charities Commission's reporting requirements for unincorporated charities.

It is presented in line with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for charities preparing their annual accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS102) applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

This pack is submitted in a format to match the template accruals accounts pack "CC17a" (2020 version) provided by the Charities Commission. Sections and Notes are numbered to match those in CC17a. Any missing Notes are intentional, i.e., they are omitted where this charity has no information to disclose or report for those items.

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit

Circuit No.	26/05
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Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals this year 2021-22	Totals last year 2020-21
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Donations and legacies inc. Gift Aid	3	2,372				2,372	1,968
Grants received	3			27,176		27,176	28,852
Assessments on churches	3	215,593				215,593	244,890
Income from monetary investments	3	1,146	398	20		1,564	1,255
Income from investment properties	3	15,300				15,300	14,080
Capital receipts	3	6,800	4,000			10,799	
Other charitable income	3						2,688
Internal organisations	3						334
Total Income	3	241,211	4,398	27,196		272,805	294,068

Expenditure							
RAISING FUNDS	2.3 ii, 6	4,325	158	12		4,496	4,676
GRANTS AND DONATIONS	2.2 i, 6, 13	20,013				20,013	3,021
CIRCUIT MINISTRY:							
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	6, 11, 12	206,298		23,776		230,075	237,745
Property maintenance	6	13,812				13,812	18,207
Connexional assessment & model trust levy	6	53,046	1,388			54,434	54,645
District assessment & levy	6	9,624				9,624	8,964
Depreciation	6	710				710	710
Provisions	6, 21	(2,688)		3,400		712	(4,412)
Office expenses	6	7,303				7,303	9,284
Telephone, travel	6	10,754				10,754	5,286
Insurance, utilities	6	22,004				22,004	17,239
Fees and charges	2.3 ii, 6	2,713				2,713	2,245
Other outgoings	6	98				98	4,609
Internal organisations	6						
Total Charitable Expenditure	6	348,012	1,547	27,188		376,747	362,219

Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(106,801)	2,851	8		(103,942)	(68,151)
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	17		(4,400)			(4,400)	1,144
Gains/(losses) on investment properties	17						(15,000)
Net income/(expenditure)		(106,801)	(1,549)	8		(108,342)	(82,007)
Transfers between funds	27	50,000	(50,000)				
Gains/(losses) on fixed assets for the charity's own use	14						(100,000)
Other gains/(losses)							
Net movement in funds	27	(56,801)	(51,549)	8		(108,342)	(182,007)
Total funds brought forward		2,299,903	55,532	4,209		2,359,644	2,541,651
Total funds carried forward		2,243,102	3,983	4,217		2,251,302	2,359,644

For information only: Money received and passed on to External Organisations

Balance brought forward from last year					
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	2.2 i, 8		4,533		11,869
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	2.2 i, 8		4,533		11,869
Balance carried forward					

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit

Circuit No.	26/05
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Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes to the 2020-21 accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2020-21	Totals prev year 2019-20
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Donations and legacies inc. Gift Aid	3a	1,968				1,968	928
Grants received	1.3, 3b			28,852		28,852	28,304
Assessments on churches	3c	244,890				244,890	240,224
Income from monetary investments	1.3, 3d	784	457	14		1,255	3,921
Income from investment properties	3e	14,080				14,080	14,400
Capital receipts	3f						
Other charitable income	3g	2,688				2,688	
Internal organisations	3h	334				334	
Total Income	3i	264,744	457	28,866		294,068	287,777

Expenditure							
RAISING FUNDS	1.3, 2.3 ii, 6a	4,454	214	8		4,676	3,560
GRANTS AND DONATIONS	1.3, 2.2 i, 6b, 13	3,021				3,021	3,100
CIRCUIT MINISTRY:							
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	6c, 11, 12	208,893		28,852		237,745	234,998
Property maintenance	6d	18,207				18,207	5,487
Connexional assessment & model trust levy	6e	51,795	2,850			54,645	48,896
District assessment & levy	6f	8,964				8,964	8,367
Depreciation	1.5, 6g	710				710	710
Provisions	6h, 21	(4,412)				(4,412)	(7,100)
Office expenses	6i	9,284				9,284	7,893
Telephone, travel	6j	5,286				5,286	13,049
Insurance, utilities	6k	17,239				17,239	16,864
Fees and charges	1.3, 2.3 ii, 6l	2,245				2,245	1,330
Other outgoings	6m	4,609				4,609	1,034
Internal organisations	6n						0
Total Charitable Expenditure	6o	330,294	3,064	28,861		362,219	338,187

Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(65,550)	(2,607)	6		(68,151)	(50,410)
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	17		1,144			1,144	(107)
Gains/(losses) on investment properties	17	(15,000)				(15,000)	
Net income/(expenditure)		(80,550)	(1,463)	6		(82,007)	(50,517)
Transfers between funds	27	50,000	(50,000)				
Gains/(losses) on fixed assets for the charity's own use	14	(100,000)				(100,000)	
Other gains/(losses)							
Net movement in funds	27	(130,550)	(51,463)	6		(182,007)	(50,517)
Total funds brought forward		2,430,454	106,995	4,203		2,541,651	2,592,169
Total funds carried forward		2,299,903	55,532	4,209		2,359,644	2,541,651

For information only: Money received and passed on to External Organisations

Balance brought forward from last year	1.5			5
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	1.3, 2.2 i, 8		11,869	12,382
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	1.3, 2.2 i, 8		11,869	12,382
Balance carried forward				

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit

Circuit No. 26/05

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

		General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
Notes to the Accounts		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets								
Circuit manses & equipment	14	1,588,000					1,588,000	1,588,710
Investment properties	17	325,000					325,000	325,000
Investments	17		3,717				3,717	8,117
Total fixed assets		1,913,000	3,717				1,916,717	1,921,827
Current Assets								
Debtors and Prepayments	19	23,786					23,786	15,608
Loans by Circuit	17.6							
Investments with TMCP	17.4, 24	202,191	266		4,217		206,673	263,821
Central Finance Board deposits	24	66,483					66,483	90,942
Cash at Bank and in hand	24	67,118		334			67,452	93,926
Total current assets		359,577	266	334	4,217		364,394	464,296
Current Liabilities								
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)	20	26,409					26,409	23,791
Grants payable in <1yr	20	3,400					3,400	2,688
Total current liabilities		29,809					29,809	26,479
Net current assets/liabilities		329,768	266	334	4,217		334,585	437,817
Total assets less current liabilities		2,242,768	3,983	334	4,217		2,251,302	2,359,644
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)	20							
Grants payable after one year	20							
Loans to the Circuit	20							
Total net assets or liabilities		2,242,768	3,983	334	4,217		2,251,302	2,359,644
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)		2,242,768					2,242,768	2,299,569
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			3,983				3,983	55,532
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				334			334	334
Total Unrestricted Funds							2,247,086	2,355,435
Other Funds (Restricted)					4,217		4,217	4,209
Endowment Funds								
Total Funds		2,242,768	3,983	334	4,217		2,251,302	2,359,644

Name of Circuit: Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit No 26/05

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 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 L Buckwell Date 16th March, 2023

Name and address of treasurer:
Lewis Buckwell, Dragonfly Cottage, Woodbridge Lane,
Bedchester, Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 0BF

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will be*

presented to the Circuit meeting held on 15th March 2023

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Revd. Lin Francis

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd Lin Francis Date 17-03-23

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1158290

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages 1 to 4. 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

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Name of Circuit: Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit No 26/05

Independent Examiner's Statement

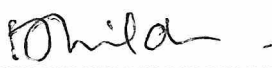
The Circuit's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

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; or
- the accounts 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
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts

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: Frances Wilde

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: FCCA DChA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Warner Wilde Limited

Address: 4 Marigold Drive, Bisley, Surrey GU24 9SF

Date 20 March 2023

* delete or circle as appropriate

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
2021-2022**

Note 1 Basis of preparation**1.1 Basis of accounting****i Accounting framework**

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the second edition of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*, effective from 1 January 2019 ("SORP FRS102 2019"), and in accordance with the 'true and fair override' provision contained therein.

ii Public benefit entity

The Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under SORP FRS102 2019.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The accounting policies adopted are those outlined in Note 2.

iv Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

v SORP FRS102 2019

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with SORP FRS102 2019.

vi Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the 15 Church Councils within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Church Councils and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

1.2 Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2022, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

1.3 Changes to accounting policies for 2021-22

None.

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates for 2021-22

None.

1.5 Prior year errors

None.

Note 2 Accounting policies**2.1 [NOT USED]****2.2 Income****i Recognition of income**

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, when the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources, and when the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

The Circuit acts as agent in two matters:

- the collection from Circuit Churches and individuals and payment over of their contributions, to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church – “Connexional Funds”, and to other national charities
- the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches and other charities/organisations within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion

The transactions relating to these matters are not reflected in the Circuit's transactions in the SOFA. Instead, they are shown on the SOFA as *“Offerings/Gifts received for, and passed to, External Organisations”*, details of which are disclosed in these Notes.

ii Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses.

iii Grants received

Grants received by the Circuit for Circuit purposes from external sources (including Connexional and/or District grants) are shown as income. The Circuit has received no performance-related grants.

iv Legacies

Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate, and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the Circuit or have been met.

v Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included as income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be a part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

vi Volunteer help

No attempt has been made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers.

vii Settlement of insurance claims

Insurance claims (when applicable) are only included in the SOFA, as an item of other income, when the

2.3 Expenditure and Liabilities**i Liability recognition**

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

ii Governance and support costs

The Circuit is a "smaller charity" (defined by SORP FRS102 2019 as below £500k gross income) and one of the reliefs offered to smaller charities in SORP FRS102 2019 is the freedom to adapt the SOFA format to suit the needs of the charity. Costs have been allocated to cost categories consistent with current Methodist Church practice. Governance and support costs have not been categorised in the SOFA but estimates of governance and support costs are provided separately in these Notes.

iii Grants made

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full when the award is made once the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or constructive obligation to make the payment and that such payment is probable. When such a grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a Provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate Fund (split between monies due in the following financial year and monies due in the longer term), the Provision being released in future years as instalments are paid within the terms originally agreed by trustees at the Circuit Meeting. No grants have been made with performance conditions attached.

iv Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

v Basic financial instruments: Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the Circuit. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

vi VAT

vii Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

viii Expenses

The Circuit has a policy, agreed at Circuit Meeting by trustees in 2014, that all trustees may claim for appropriate expenses in the course of their duties on behalf of the Circuit. Further details of the Circuit's Expenses Policy were agreed by trustees in June 2021.

Claims for books, materials, stationery and postage must be submitted with receipts. All claims are submitted on standard forms for scrutiny by the Circuit Treasurer. As with all expenditure any payment is counter-authorised by another, named, Trustee before payment.

Motor vehicle travel cost rates are set by Connexion in agreement with HMRC. Currently they are 45p/mile for cars and 24p/mile for motorcycles. If passengers are taken on journeys for Circuit business then a further 5p/mile per passenger may be claimed.

Expenses are typically paid monthly in arrears. September payments are therefore counted as accruals against the previous financial period.

ix Redundancy and termination payments

Redundancy and termination payments are recognised as a liability and an expense only when the charity is demonstrably committed either: (a) to terminate the employment of an employee or group of employees before the normal retirement date; or (b) to provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made in order to encourage voluntary redundancy. (FRS102 28.34). The charity is demonstrably committed to a termination only when it has a detailed formal plan for the termination and is without realistic possibility of withdrawal from the plan. (FRS102 28.35).

2.4 Assets

i Tangible fixed assets

The Circuit is managing trustee for six residential buildings. Those occupied by ministers stationed in the Circuit are described as "manses". All manses are shown in the Balance Sheet at their approximate market values. In November 2016 the Circuit decided to use the "Fair Value" of its manses on transitioning to SORP FRS102 (when reporting the 2015-16 financial year), and has since applied a "Deemed Cost less impairment" policy to valuing its manses in its annual financial reports. Land values are estimated at 25% of the property market value. Unoccupied residential properties being used to provide investment income for the Circuit are treated differently - as "investment property" - see Note 2.4 iv.

Equipment assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. Typically a 3-year depreciation policy is then utilised. Any tangible fixed assets provided by the Circuit at the Circuit's manses (equipment/furnishings provided by the Circuit which are not part of the fabric of the property) are similarly treated if they individually cost at least £1,000.

The Circuit trustees become the managing trustees of any Circuit chapels that close, where they are not merged with another society, at which point any such property becomes a Circuit asset.

ii Intangible and heritage assets

The Circuit has no intangible or heritage assets.

iii Monetary Investments

The principal monetary investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains/losses arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA with further detail provided in these Notes.

The Circuit's other monetary investments are held as cash on deposit with a maturity date of less than one year. These deposits are held both for investment purposes and also to meet short term cash commitments (principally, ministers' stipends and lay staff salaries) as they fall due. The Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (CFB) banks these funds on the Circuit's behalf.

iv Investment Property

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where a property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of two years, the property is classified as "investment property" (whether let out or not) and, if let, it is let at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives. The Circuit's investment properties are revalued periodically in accordance with SORP FRS102 2019 and any change to the asset valuation is recorded in the Balance Sheet. The last such valuation was in July 2021.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church manages a Common Deposit Fund and pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members from at least 12 to more than 100.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches within the same geographical region, typically between 10 and 30. In our case 16.

Circuit Meeting: The trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Church and others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Church.

CLT: Circuit Leadership Team. A group of Circuit trustees responsible, at the will of the Circuit Meeting, for the day to day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Currently, this Circuit's CLT comprises the ministers stationed within the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards, the Circuit Administrator and the Circuit Property Secretary.

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund (unrestricted).

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and churches in Great Britain.

Connexional Funds: The designated and/or restricted funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of its charitable and mission objectives.

CPD: "The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church", published by order of the Methodist Conference, with revisions each year.

District: a group of contiguous Circuits, usually between 15 and 30.

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard.

FY: Financial year.

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.

Lay employees: Non presbyteral staff employed either full or part time on formal written contracts.

M&M Fund: Ministry and Mission Fund of the United Reformed Church

MC: Methodist Church.

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme.

Pensions Trust: The Pensions Trust, the provider of the Circuit's defined contribution pension scheme for Lay Employees.

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or ordained Methodist ministers and/or deacons who have pastoral and administrative responsibility for the Churches within the Circuit.

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities.

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice.

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds.

Note 3 Analysis of income

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
Analysis						
Donations and legacies:	Donations	1,805			1,805	1,852
	Gift Aid	567			567	116
	Legacies					
	Grants received		27,176		27,176	28,852
	Assessments on churches	215,593			215,593	244,890
Total		217,965	27,176		245,142	275,710
Charitable activities:	Internal organisations					334
	Other charitable income					2,688
	Total					3,022
Income from investments:	Income from monetary investments	1,146	20		1,166	1,255
	Income from investment properties	15,300			15,300	14,080
	Total	16,446	20		16,466	15,335
Other:	Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets held for charity's own use	398			398	
	Capital receipts	10,799			10,799	
	Total	11,198			11,198	
TOTAL INCOME		245,609	27,196		272,805	294,068

Other information:

All income in the prior year was unrestricted except for: (please provide description and amounts)

Grants were received to support the Circuit's Diaconal project as follows: £10,000 (Southampton Methodist District), £1,000 (Sturminster Newton MC), £1,000 (King's Stag MC). Grants were also received to support the Circuit Family Worker (Shaftesbury and Motcombe), as follows: £5,100 (Southampton Methodist District), £6,957.78 (Bell Street United Church, Shaftesbury), £3,118.62 (Motcombe MC). £20 in investment income was received into the (restricted) Bequest for Women's Work (funds held for the Circuit's Methodist Women in Britain activities).

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the reporting period, please give the reason for the conversion.

N/A

Where any endowment fund is converted into income in the prior period, please give the reason for the conversion.

N/A

Within the income items above the following items are material: (please disclose the nature, amount and any prior year amounts)

Note 6 Analysis of expenditure

Analysis	This year				Last year			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £
Expenditure on raising funds:								
investment management costs	763	12		775	638	8		647
rent collection/property management fees	1,836			1,836	2,289			2,289
rented property insurance	745			745	727			727
repairs to rented properties	1,140			1,140	1,014			1,014
Raising funds	4,484	12		4,496	4,668	8		4,676
Expenditure on grants and donations:								
CMTF grants for property schemes								
other grants and donations	20,013			20,013	3,021			3,021
Grants and donations	20,013			20,013	3,021			3,021
Expenditure on charitable activities - CIRCUIT MINISTRY:								
stipends (presbyters & deacons)	128,893	10,000		138,893	140,568			140,568
NIC (presbyters & deacons)	10,267			10,267	9,950			9,950
pension (presbyters & deacons)	27,787			27,787	27,464			27,464
apprenticeship levy on ministers' stipends	533			533	529			529
salaries (lay employees)	31,433	13,776		45,210	22,335	28,852		51,187
NIC (lay employees)	2,678			2,678	3,165			3,165
pension (lay employees)	2,551			2,551	3,001			3,001
lay payroll charge & lay salary apprenticeship levy	706			706	730			730
supernumeraries - preaching fees	1,450			1,450	1,150			1,150
Stipends, salaries and associated costs	206,298	23,776		230,075	208,893	28,852		237,745
manse and redundant chapel repairs	11,157			11,157	17,707			17,707
manse quinquennials	280			280				
church quinquennials	2,375			2,375	500			500
Property maintenance	13,812			13,812	18,207			18,207
Connexional assessment (Methodist Church Fund)	48,708			48,708	47,064			47,064
URC Synod levy	4,338			4,338	4,732			4,732
TMCP MTF levy (DAF charge)	1,388			1,388	2,850			2,850
Connexional assessment and model trust levy	54,434			54,434	54,645			54,645
district assessment	9,624			9,624	8,964			8,964
District Assessment and levy	9,624			9,624	8,964			8,964
depreciation	710			710	710			710
Depreciation	710			710	710			710
provisions	(2,688)	3,400		712	(4,412)			(4,412)
Provisions	(2,688)	3,400		712	(4,412)			(4,412)
stationery, postage etc	5,890			5,890	8,011			8,011
office rent	1,000			1,000	1,000			1,000
circuit equipment	413			413	273			273
Office expenses	7,303			7,303	9,284			9,284
telephone & broadband	2,661			2,661	2,667			2,667
travel - ministers	6,239			6,239	2,100			2,100
travel - lay employees	435			435	258			258
travel - supernumeraries & lay preachers	832			832	121			121
travel - circuit trustees/volunteers	587			587	42			42
travel - stationing					99			99
Telephone & travel	10,754			10,754	5,286			5,286
insurance	4,741			4,741	2,879			2,879
council tax	13,439			13,439	11,855			11,855
water, electricity	3,824			3,824	2,505			2,505
Insurance, utilities, etc	22,004			22,004	17,239			17,239

Note 6 Analysis of expenditure

Analysis	This year				Last year			
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £
bank admin charges	106			106	147			147
professional fees	2,607			2,607	2,098			2,098
Fees and charges	2,713			2,713	2,245			2,245
training	88			88	10			10
removals, relocation					4,599			4,599
recruitment								
other miscellaneous	10			10				
Other outgoings	98			98	4,609			4,609
Total Expenditure on charitable activities - CIRCUIT MINISTRY:	325,061	27,176		352,238	325,669	28,852		354,522
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	349,559	27,188		376,747	333,358	28,861		362,219

Note 8 Funds received as agent

The Circuit acts as an agent for its churches in order to consolidate charitable giving to other charities and related parties. Churches send payments to the Circuit with specific directions concerning to which charities/related parties they should be paid. This giving is summarised below:-

Description/name of party	Related party - Notes	Amount received		Amount paid out		Balance held at period end	
		This year	Last year	This year	Last year	This year	Last year
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations to Action for Children / from Circuit churches	Action for Children is a Methodist charity	265	80	265	80	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Relief and Development Fund / from Circuit churches	Methodist Relief and Development Fund is a Methodist charity	170	110	170	110	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Church Fund for Property / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church Fund for Property is a Methodist Connexional Fund	410	705	410	705	-	-
Donations to the Fund for the Support of Presbyters & Deacons / from Circuit churches	Fund for the Support of Presbyters & Deacons is a Methodist Connexional Fund	340	313	340	313	-	-
Donations to Junior Mission for All (Methodist Church World Mission Fund) / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church World Mission Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	302	421	302	421	-	-
Donations to the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust / from Circuit churches	Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust is a Methodist charity	384	420	384	420	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Ministers Housing Society / from Circuit churches	Methodist Ministers Housing Society is a Methodist charity	350	328	350	328	-	-
Donations to Methodist Homes Association / from Circuit churches	Methodist Homes Association is a Methodist charity	500	415	500	415	-	-
Donations to the Mission in Britain Fund / from Circuit churches	Mission in Britain Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	440	820	440	820	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Church World Mission Fund (Methodist Women in Britain Easter Offering) / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church World Mission Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	922	50	922	50	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Church World Mission Fund / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church World Mission Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	350	828	350	828	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Ministers Pension Reserve Fund / from Circuit churches	Methodist Ministers Pension Reserve Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	100	-	100	-	-	-
Donations for leaving gift for superintendent / from Circuit churches	Rev'd P Arnold	-	1,000	-	1,000	-	-
Donations for ordination gift for Deacon / from Circuit churches	Dcn R-J Spinks	-	379	-	379	-	-
District Grant for Vine Youth Ministry	Vine Youth Ministry	-	6,000	-	6,000	-	-
Total		4,533	11,869	4,533	11,869	-	-

The Circuit's primary activity is "Circuit Ministry" - that is, the provision of a team of ministers and lay employees to deliver ministerial and families support to all of the 15 churches in the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale area. The costs incurred to support the provision of Circuit Ministry are categorised in the SOFA under Methodist Church standard headings (accounting policy: Note 2.3 ii), including:

- Stipends, salaries and associated costs
- Property maintenance
- Connexional assessment & model trust levy
- District assessment & levy
- Office expenses
- Telephone, travel
- Insurance, utilities.

All of these costs are directly related to the size of the ministry team (ministers and lay employees).

In the table overleaf is estimated the proportion of the above Circuit Ministry support costs which relate to the governance of this charity. Included in the calculation of estimated governance costs are the following:

- an estimate of the time spent by ministers and non-administrative lay staff on governance issues at Circuit and church meetings, and staff meetings. This is an estimate because time spent on governance is not recorded by our ministers and lay staff. To arrive at this estimate, the following broad assumptions have been made:
 - Each minister attends an average of 2 council meetings per small church plus 4 per large church per annum, plus 4 Circuit Meetings, and 10 CLT meetings. 1 hour of each meeting is spent discussing governance-related topics
 - Lay staff attend Circuit Meetings (4 per annum), plus church councils at their attached churches, and attend a supervisory meeting with a minister 4 times a year
 - During FY 2021-22, 5 ministers and 2 lay employees have spent 0.5 hours on governance-related topics at supervision meetings (every 2 months)
 - During FY 2021-22, the Circuit had 5 FTE ministers, and 2 lay employees (total 1.5 FTE equivalent) other than the Circuit Administrator (see below), where an FTE equates to 40 hours per week
 - approx. total hours spent on governance per annum: 158h (ministers), 60h (lay).
- Based on these time estimates, the proportions of total minister time and total lay employee time have been applied to all the Circuit Ministry activity costs identified above, to calculate an approximate overall governance cost estimate.
- 100% of the Circuit office function (Circuit Administrator and all associated office costs). The Circuit Office provides administrative and HR support to the Superintendent Minister and other Circuit trustees and, accordingly, 100% of this cost is regarded as governance costs (ref: SORP FRS102 2019 Appendix 1, page 186).
- Independent examiner fees. [Note: other fees and charges incurred in FY 2021-22 are not included below.]

These estimates indicate that the Circuit's governance costs are in the order of £22,000 p.a., i.e. approximately 6% of the charity's total expenditure (FY 2020-21: £28,000 8%).

The other activities of the Circuit are (Note 6):

- raising funds
- the award and administration of grants to Circuit churches and external bodies as appropriate and as directed by the Circuit Meeting

Apart from its paid ministry team, the Circuit operates many of its functions using trustee volunteers, and there are no support costs incurred by the Circuit associated with the above two activities.

This year

	Circuit Ministry activity - governance costs 2021-22								£
	Stipends, salaries etc	Property maintenance	Connexion assessment	District assessment	Office expenses	Telephone, travel	Insurance, utilities	Fees and charges	Grand total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Governance	16,249	170	789	156	2,581	82	334	1,422	21,783
Total	16,249	170	789	156	2,581	82	334	1,422	21,783

Last year

	Circuit Ministry activity - governance costs 2020-21								£
	Stipends, salaries etc	Property maintenance	Connexion assessment	District assessment	Office expenses	Telephone, travel	Insurance, utilities	Fees and charges	Grand total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Governance	22,553	269	762	145	2,600	69	262	1,320	27,980
Total	22,553	269	762	145	2,600	69	262	1,320	27,980

Note 10	Details of certain items of expenditure
----------------	--

10.1 Fees for examination of the accounts

Details are provided here of the amount paid for statutory external scrutiny of accounts and other services provided by the Circuit's independent examiner:

	This year £	Last year £
Independent examiner's fees	1,422	1,320
Assurance services other than audit or independent examination	-	-
Tax advisory fees	-	-
Other fees (for example: financial advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner	-	-

Note 11 Paid employees

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	184,102	191,756
Employer National Insurance costs	12,945	13,115
Pension costs (defined benefit scheme)	27,787	27,464
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	2,551	3,001
Other employee benefits	0	0
Total staff costs	227,385	235,336

This year:

Details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

All Methodist ministers' stipends are paid directly by the Methodist Connexion stipends team (finance department, Methodist House, London), who then charge the Circuit for all payments made. The Circuit's URC minister's remuneration package is handled centrally by the URC "Ministry & Mission" office in London, and the Circuit pays the URC Church monthly for these costs. The manses are provided for all ministers by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains these properties, and pays the Council Tax and water charges. Manse costs paid by the Circuit are not disclosed here as employee benefits since HMRC does not regard this as a benefit-in-kind in the hands of the minister.

Last year:

Details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

As above

Details of the number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) fell within each band of £10,000 from £60,000 upwards:

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

Band	Number of employees	
	This year	Last year
£60,000 to £69,999	-	-
£70,000 to £79,999	-	-
£80,000 to £89,999	-	-
£90,000 to £99,999	-	-
£100,000 to £109,999	-	-

The total amount paid to key management personnel (includes trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity.

Amounts shown exclude employer pension costs. For specific amounts paid to individual trustees, see Note 28.

This year	Last year
£	£
160,766	163,673

11.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	-	-
Charitable Activities	7	7
Governance	1	1
Other	-	-
Total	8	8

11.3 Ex-gratia payments to employees and others (excluding trustees)

The nature of the payment

This year	N/A
Last year	N/A

The legal authority or reason for making the payment

This year	N/A
Last year	N/A

The amount of the payment (or value of any waiver of a right to an asset)

This year £	Last year £
-	-

11.4 Redundancy payments

Total amount of payment

This year £	Last year £
-	1,171

The nature of the payment (cash, asset etc.)

-	cash
---	------

The extent of redundancy funding at the balance sheet date

This year £	Last year £
-	-

Accounting policy for any redundancy or termination payments:

Refer to Note 2.3ix

Note 12	Defined contribution pension scheme or defined benefit scheme accounted for as a defined contribution scheme
----------------	---

12.1 Defined contribution pension scheme

Amount of contributions recognised in the SOFA as an expense

This year	Last year
£	£
2,551	3,001

The basis for allocating the liability and expense of defined contribution pension scheme between activities and between restricted and unrestricted funds:

The Circuit offers a defined contribution pension plan to lay employees, administered by The Pensions Trust (TPT). Most of the Circuit's lay employees have opted to join this scheme. The Circuit makes a contribution of 6% of lay employees' salary, in line with Methodist Connexional directives. The expense of all these defined contributions is allocated wholly to the Circuit Ministry activity in the SOFA, paid for from general (unrestricted) funds. The liabilities of the scheme are managed by TPT.

12.2 This section applies where the charity participates in a defined benefit pension plan but is unable to ascertain its share of the underlying assets and liabilities.

Confirmation that although the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution plan, it is a defined benefit plan.

N/A

Such information as is available about the plan's surplus or deficit and the implications, if any, for the reporting charity for this year and last year, if different

N/A

12.3 Please complete this section where the charity participates in a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan that is accounted for as a defined contribution plan.

Describe the extent to which the charity can be liable to the plan for other entities' obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan. If this is different for last year, provide details

N/A

Provide an explanation of how any liability arising from an agreement with a multi-employer plan to fund a deficit has been determined. If this is different for last year, provide details

N/A

Note 13 Grant making*Please refer also to Note 6***This year:****13.1 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)**

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs	Total
			£	£
Methodist Minister's Pension Scheme (MMPS)	20,000	-	-	20,000
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total	20,000	-	-	20,000

Note: the Circuit provided a grant to support the Children and Families Worker for Shaftesbury and Motcombe. The Circuit's grant was matched by the District. During FY 2021-22 this joint Circuit/District grant funding amounted to £9487.62 including funds of £2687.62 deferred from FY 2020-21. This expense is not shown as a grant since it forms part of the Circuit's employer costs itemised in Note 6. The remainder of the £19564.01 cost of this role was met from grants received from Circuit churches in Shaftesbury (£6,957.78) and Motcombe (£3,118.62). A further £3400 of District/Circuit grants for this purpose have been set aside as a provision for 2022-23.

13.2 Grants made to institutions

Name of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Methodist Minister's Pension Scheme (MMPS)	Circuit contribution to Methodist Ministers' Pension Reserve Fund	20,000
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		20,000
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		20,000

Last year:**13.3 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)**

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs £	Total £
Vine Youth Ministry	3,000	-	-	3,000
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total	3,000	-	-	3,000

13.4 Grants made to institutions

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Vine Youth Ministry	Outreach in schools	3,000
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		3,000
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		3,000

Note 14 Tangible fixed assets

14.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold land & buildings - manse properties	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
At the beginning of the year	1,588,000		-	2,129	1,590,129
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	1,588,000	-	-	2,129	1,590,129

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

**Basis			SL	
** Rate			3 years	

At beginning of the year	-	-	-	1,419	1,419
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	710	710
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	2,129	2,129

14.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	1,588,000	-	-	710	1,588,710
Net book value at the end of the year	1,588,000	-	-	0	1,588,000

14.4 Impairment

This year: a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

[For information only]: In July 2021 the Circuit arranged for professional reassessment of its manses' open market values. This exercise confirmed that the property values are higher than the values shown in the accounts, i.e. that there has been no impairment loss. Accordingly, the Circuit's manses continue to be carried in the accounts at the Deemed Cost values from previous years.

Last year: a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

N/A

14.5 Revaluation

The Circuit's accounting policy is "cost less impairment" (not revaluation) for the Circuit's manse properties - see Note 2.4 i.

Equipment owned by the Circuit, and fixtures and fittings provided by the Circuit at the Circuit's manses, are all identified, capitalised and depreciated if they individually cost at least £1,000. Refer to Note 2.4 i.

14.6 Other disclosures

(i) The amount of borrowing costs, if any, capitalised in the construction of tangible fixed assets and the capitalisation rate used.

(ii) The amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets.

(iii) Details of the existence and carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment to which the charity has restricted title or that are pledged as security for liabilities.

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-
-	-

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

** Method of depreciation: SL = straight line; RB = reducing balance. Rate of depreciation: for straight line, the anticipated life of the asset (in years); for reducing balance, the percentage annual deduction.

Note 17 Investment assets

17.1 Fixed asset investments (please provide for each class of investment)

	Cash & cash equivalents	Listed investments	Investment properties	Social investments	Monetary investments (CMTF @ TMCP)	Total
Carrying (fair) value at beginning of period		-	325,000	-	8,117	333,117
Add: additions to investments during period*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: disposals at carrying value	-	-	-	-	(4,000)	(4,000)
Less: impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Reversal of impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add/(deduct): transfer in/(out) in the period	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add/(deduct): net gain/(loss) on revaluation	-	-	-	-	(400)	(400)
Carrying (fair) value at end of year	-	-	325,000	-	3,717	328,717

*additions resulting from acquisitions through business combinations, if any.

Please note that Fair Value in this context is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm's length transaction. For traded securities, the fair value is the value of the security quoted on the London Stock Exchange Daily Official List or equivalent. For other assets where there is no market price on a traded market, it is the trustees' or valuers' best estimate of fair value.

17.2 Breakdown of investments shown above agreeing with the balance sheet, differentiating between those held at fair value and those held at cost less impairment.

This year:

	Analysis of investments	
	Fair value at year end	Cost less impairment
	£	£
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	325,000	-
Social investments	-	-
Monetary investments (CMTF @ TMCP)	3,717	-
Total	328,717	-
Grand total (Fair value at year end+Cost less impairment)		328,717

Last year:

	Analysis of investments	
	Fair value at year end	Cost less impairment
	£	£
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	325,000	-
Social investments	-	-
Monetary investments (CMTF @ TMCP)	8,117	-
Total	333,117	-
Grand total (Fair value at year end+Cost less impairment)	333,117	

17.3 The Circuit holds investment properties, so the following information is provided:

(i) An explanation of the methods and significant assumptions in determining the fair value of investment property held by the charity:

The Circuit's investment property at 24 Harbin Close, Yeovil, was last revalued by a professional firm of surveyors in July 2021, in line with the Circuit's policy of revaluing its investment properties periodically. The surveyors determined that the property (land + buildings) was valued at £325,000, with the land component being 25% of this.

In arriving at their opinions of value the surveyors adopted the comparative method of valuation. A desk top valuation appraisal was undertaken. Inspection of the property had been undertaken by the same firm of surveyors (for the purposes of quinquennial inspection) over the last 5 years, and, appraisal included analysis of information recorded therefrom along with due consideration of comparable sales evidence which was available at the date of the valuation. Valuation was carried out in accordance with the Practice Statements in the RICS Global Valuation Standards (effective from 1st July 2017).

The Circuit has no tangible fixed assets with individual purchase value of more than £1,000 at its investment property.

(ii) Name of independent valuer, if applicable, and relevant qualifications

ADRIAN MALE FRICS, Christophers Chartered Surveyors

(iii) Details of any restrictions on the ability to realise investment property or on the remittance of income or disposal proceeds

The Circuit's investment property is currently let to private tenants, and any sale of the property would need to be subject to vacant possession by the Circuit under the notice terms of the lease. Furthermore, Circuit manses are Model Trust properties under Methodist Church rules and the Circuit would be required to obtain consent from the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) prior to undertaking any property disposal. Under Methodist Standing Order 970, the Connexional Priority Fund (CPF) levy shall be charged by TMCP on all capital money arising from a sale. The amount of levy chargeable is nil on the first £20,000, 20% on any excess over £20,000 up to £100,000 and 40% on any excess over £100,000 (Standing Order 972). Any leasing of Circuit property is subject to TMCP approval, to ensure model tenancy agreement terms are in place. There are no constraints on the Circuit's use of rent income from investment property while leased.

(iv) An explanation of any contractual obligations for the purchase, construction or development of investment property or for repairs, maintenance or enhancements

The Circuit has contractual obligations for repairs and maintenance to its investment property under the terms of the lease (it is currently let to private tenants at market rates).

17.4 Current asset investments - breakdown

Current assets are itemised on the Balance Sheet (see Section B), which has been prepared to align with Methodist Church standard reporting and with SORP FRS102 2019. See also Note 24.

17.5 Guarantees

	This year	Last year
Details and amount of any guarantee made to or on behalf of a third party	N/A	N/A
Name of the entity or entities benefiting from those guarantees	N/A	N/A
An explanation of how the guarantee furthers the charity's aims	N/A	N/A

17.6 Concessionary loans

Amount of concessionary loans made (*Multiple loans made may be disclosed in aggregate provided that such aggregation does not obscure significant information*).

Description	This year £	Last year £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

	-	-
Total	-	-

Amount of concessionary loans received (*Multiple loans received may be disclosed in aggregate provided that such aggregation does not obscure significant information*).

Description	This year £	Last year £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

Terms and conditions eg interest rate, security provided

Value of any concessionary loans which have been committed but not taken up at the reporting date

Amounts payable within 1 year

Amounts payable after more than 1 year

Amounts receivable within 1 year

Amounts receivable after more than 1 year

This year	Last year

17.7 Additional information

Information about the significance of investments to the charity's financial position or performance eg. terms and conditions of loans or the use of hedging to manage financial risk.

For all investments measured at fair value, the basis for determining the value, including any assumptions applied when using a valuation technique.

Where a charity has provided financial assets as a form of security, the carrying amount of the financial asset pledged as security and the terms and conditions relating to its pledge.

The Circuit has no loans. The Circuit is not dependent on income from monetary investments, which accounted for only 0.6% of its income in 2021-22 (0.4% last year). The Circuit's income from its investment property (gross before deduction of property management expenses) accounted for 5.6% of income in 2021-22 (4.8% last year).

See 17.3(i) above.

N/A

Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

19.1 Analysis of debtors

	This year £	Last year £
Trade debtors	0	846
Prepayments and accrued income	16,915	11,994
Other debtors	6,871	2,768
Total	23,786	15,608

Please complete 19.2 where a material debtor is recoverable more than a year after the reporting date.

19.2 Analysis of debtors recoverable in more than 1 year (included in debtors above)

	This year £	Last year £
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	-	-
Total	-	-

Note 20 Creditors and accruals

20.1 Analysis of creditors

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	3,400	2,688	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	1,297	1,488	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	25,112	22,303	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Total	29,809	26,479	-	-

20.2 Deferred income

This note applies if the charity has deferred income

The reasons why income is deferred

This year	Last year
N/A	

Movement in deferred income account

Balance at the start of the reporting period
 Amounts added in current period
 Amounts released to income from previous periods
 Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Note 21 Provisions for liabilities and charges

Please complete this note if you have included in charity expenditure any provisions. A provision is made when the charity has a liability of uncertain timing or amount.

21.1 Movements in recognised provisions and funding commitment during the period

Balance at the start of the reporting period
Amounts added in current period
Amounts charged against the provision in the current period
Unused amounts reversed during the period
Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
2,688	7,100
3,400	2,688
(2,688)	(7,100)
-	-
3,400	2,688

21.2 Please provide:

- a brief description of any obligations on the balance sheet and the expected amount and timing of resulting payments;

- an indication of the uncertainties about the amount or timing of those outflows; and

- the amount of any expected reimbursement, stating the amount of any asset that has been recognised for that expected reimbursement.

This year	Last year
(a) District grant of £2688 deferred from FY 2020-21 to use in FY 2021-22 towards support for the Family Worker at Shaftesbury and Motcombe (b) An additional District grant of £5100 was awarded in 2022 for the Family Worker for calendar year 2022 - a provision for one third of this (£1700) is made for FY 2022-23 (c) Matching additional Circuit grant of £5100 was awarded for the Family Worker for calendar year 2022 - a provision for one third of this (£1700) is made for FY 2022-23.	(a) Grant to Vine Youth Ministry: £3,000 FY 2020-21 being the final year. (b) Commitment to spend £4,100 of the Circuit's funds towards the cost of the Family Worker at Shaftesbury and Motcombe; FY 2020-21 being the final year. (c) The Family Worker at Shaftesbury and Motcombe was furloughed from the end of January 2021 to early April 2021. An amount of District grant received in FY 2020-21 to support the Family Worker, equal to Government furlough payments received of £2688, has been deferred to FY 2021-22, and so a new provision for this cost has been included in this year's expenditure.
It is fully expected the £3400 grant amounts deferred to FY 2022-23 will be spent in Sept-Dec 2022 i.e. in FY 2022-23.	
None	None

21.3 For any funding commitment that is not recognised as a liability or provision, provide details of commitment made, the time frame of that commitment, any performance-related conditions and details of how the commitment will be funded (with contracts for capital expenditure separately identified).

This year	Last year
The Circuit has contracts or obligations for the following: Office accommodation: an informal arrangement with a Circuit church. A contribution of £1,000 was made for rent/lighting/heating during the year (2020-21: £1,000), plus £450 (2020-21: £450) for telephone and broadband costs. The Sherborne manse, and the investment property in Yeovil, each attract a grounds maintenance charge via estate management companies. In addition there are short term obligations as follows: - telephones at the Circuit office and the Circuit manses along with various maintenance contracts (building alarms/security systems). - photocopier rental at the Circuit Office. The total annual cost of these is not considered material. Further short-term liabilities have arisen recently for: - insurance and utilities costs for redundant chapels at Ibberton and Broad Oak (and any others that close during the year) - from closure until sold. - professional fees to surveyors, solicitors and agents during property disposals. - CPF Levy (see Note 17), payable to TMCP on property disposals. All such costs to be funded from the property sales - likely in 2022-23 or 2023-24.	

21.4 Where unrestricted funds have been designated to a fund commitment, please disclose the nature of any amounts designated and the likely timing of that expenditure.

An amount of £334 is being held as "designated funds", for children's work in Wincanton unless and until it becomes apparent that there will be no replacement children's group activity there. The timing and possibility of needing to use these monies is currently uncertain, the context being that the Circuit's work with children in Wincanton ceased recently.

Note 24 Cash at bank and in hand

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church are short term deposits available on demand without loss of interest. The Circuit's account with Lloyds Bank plc is its current account.

TMCP works through the agency of CFB. Monies are held by TMCP on the Circuit's behalf are short term cash investments in the Circuit's Model Trust Fund, the "Trim Bequest", and "Cluett Bequest". These are all Model Trust funds. Funds can be withdrawn on demand subject to Circuit Meeting approval, and subject to approval by TMCP to ensure that funds withdrawn are used for Model Trust purposes in accordance with Methodist Church rules. Such purposes might include, for example, repair/maintenance and caretaking of trust property, support of personnel serving in the Circuit, payments to Methodist organisations/charities, etc.. It is the responsibility of the Circuit Meeting to ensure that any funds withdrawn take account of trustees' other obligations including assessments, building maintenance, reserves policy, and mission policy.

The Circuit is holding £334 of designated monies (see Note 21.4).

Monies held in the Bequest for Women's Work are similarly available as above but are restricted and can only be used by the Circuit's Methodist Women in Britain group in line with their aims and objectives.

2021-22							2020-21
General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Trim Bequest	Cluett Bequest	Women's Bequest (restricted)	Total	
Funds held with TMCP	3,983		149,105	53,086	4,217	210,390	263,821
Central Finance Board deposits	66,483					66,483	90,942
Cash at bank (Lloyds Bank plc)	67,118	334				67,452	93,926
Totals	133,601	334	149,105	53,086	4,217	344,326	448,688

Note 25 Fair value of assets and liabilities

25.1 Below are provided details of the charity's exposure to credit risk (the risk of incurring a loss due to a debtor not paying what is owed), liquidity risk (the risk of not being able to meet short term financial demands) and market risk (the risk that the value of an investment will fall due to changes in the market) arising from financial instruments to which the charity is exposed at the end of the reporting period and explain how the charity manages those risks.

Credit risk:

- The Circuit's primary sources of income are: assessments from churches, grants (e.g. from Southampton Methodist District) and rental income from its investment property. The risk of default on these payments is considered to be low.

Liquidity risk:

- The Circuit maintains a reserves policy of keeping six months' budgeted expenditure in hand, to be able to meet unforeseen short term financial demands alongside its ongoing financial obligations. Further Circuit resources are planned to be used in accordance with the Circuit's 5-year plan - these amounts are included and detailed in the reserves policy. Under the current plan, the Circuit's currently available reserves are entirely committed. To avoid spending beyond its available funds, the sale of Circuit assets (e.g. the Circuit's investment property, or any chapels becoming redundant in the interim) will be required in the next few years, to replenish the Circuit's reserves. This will enable the Circuit to continue to hold a minimum of six months' expenditure in its general funds at any time whilst funding, on an annual basis, the ongoing commitments made in its financial plan. On this basis, the Circuit's exposure to liquidity risk is low.

Market risk:

- The Circuit's financial investments are managed on its behalf by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. These include £3,717 invested in the CFB's Managed Mixed Fund (£3,156) and Managed Fixed Interest Fund (£561). The Managed Mixed Fund provides a diversified blend of investment funds, with a bias towards equities. It is preferred by many Methodist investors who are looking for a balance of long term capital appreciation and income, through a diversified portfolio. Other Circuit funds are held on deposit with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church. The proportion of Circuit reserves held by TMCP in the two CFB financial investment funds is approximately 1.7% of the Circuit's TMCP-held assets (1.1% of the Circuit's total cash funds), and this is regarded as a low level of exposure to market risk.

- The asset values of the Circuit's manse are determined on a Fair Value basis. The Circuit's manse and investment property represent, unsurprisingly, the majority of the Circuit's assets, and in the event of a collapse in the housing market the Circuit would undoubtedly be significantly affected.

- If any Circuit properties are disposed of, this results (after CPF levy - see Note 17) in capital receipts to the Circuit's general funds in line with Methodist Standing Orders, for onward application for Circuit purposes (grants, Circuit ministry, etc) as determined by Circuit Meeting decisions.

25.2 Details of the amount of change in the fair value of basic financial instruments (debtors, creditors, investments (see section 11, FRS 102 SORP)) measured at fair value through the SoFA that is attributable to changes in credit risk.

This year	Last year
N/A	N/A

Note 27 Charity funds

27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period

Details are provided here of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period. The 'Total funds' figure below reconciles to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

* Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or U *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
General Fund	U		2,299,569	241,211	(348,012)	50,000		2,242,768
Circuit Model Trust Fund	U	General - see Note 24	55,532	4,398	(1,547)	(50,000)	(4,400)	3,983
Designated funds	U	Wincanton childrens' activities	334					334
Diaconal grants	R	Diaconal support - see Note 3		12,000	(12,000)			
Family Worker grants	R	Support of Family Worker at Shaftesbury & Motcombe - see Note 3		15,176	(15,176)			
Bequest for Women's Work	R	Methodist Women in Britain - see Note 24	4,209	20	(12)			4,217
Total Funds			2,359,644	272,805	(376,747)		(4,400)	2,251,302

27.2 Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

Details are provided here of the movements of material individual funds in the previous reporting period. The 'Total funds' figure below reconciles to last year's 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or U *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
General Fund	U		2,430,453	264,745	(330,295)	49,666	(115,000)	2,299,569
Circuit Model Trust Fund	U	General - see Note 24	106,995	457	(3,064)	(50,000)	1,144	55,532
Designated funds	U	Wincanton childrens' activities				334		334
Diaconal grants	R	Diaconal support - see Note 3b		14,000	(14,000)			
Family Worker grants	R	Support of Family Worker at Shaftesbury & Motcombe - see Note 3b		14,852	(14,852)			
Bequest for Women's Work	R	Methodist Women in Britain - see Note 24	4,203	14	(8)			4,209
Total Funds			2,541,651	294,068	(362,219)		(113,856)	2,359,644

27.3 Transfers between funds

This year

There were no transfers between unrestricted and restricted funds, between endowment and restricted funds, or between endowment and unrestricted funds.

Last year

There were no transfers between unrestricted and restricted funds, between endowment and restricted funds, or between endowment and unrestricted funds.

Note 28 Transactions with trustees and related parties

Details of the charity's transactions with related parties (other than the trustee expenses explained in guidance notes) are provided in this note.

28.1 Trustee remuneration and benefits**This year**

The following trustees received remuneration or other benefits from the Circuit in their capacity as paid Methodist and URC ministers, and lay employees, with the Circuit:

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other ministers, the Circuit Stewards including the Circuit Treasurer, plus the Circuit Administrator and Circuit Property Secretary, together form the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) and are considered Key Management Personnel. The ministers of the Circuit undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. All voting members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. Our Circuit Administrator is a member of CLT and a lay employee but is not a trustee. Paid trustees are all the ministers, and one of our lay employees (the Family Worker who also takes responsibility for safeguarding). All other trustees are volunteers. All lay staff are employed at the decision of the Circuit Meeting.

The cost of all stipends, employer's NIC, employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the ministers of the Circuit are met by the Circuit. The Methodist Connexion finance team in London pays all Methodist ministers' salaries after deductions (employee NI, tax and pension payments). Connexion charges the Circuit for these costs plus employer NI and employer pension payments, and pays all tax and NI due to HMRC. The URC Mission and Ministry team similarly makes a monthly charge to the Circuit for the employment costs of the Circuit's URC minister. For all of the Circuit's Methodist and URC ministers, the Circuit does not pay any minister directly - the payment is made by the central church organisation and the costs are charged to the Circuit. Similarly, the Circuit pays no remuneration/ benefits to lay staff directly - payments are made by the Methodist Church and costs charged to the Circuit.

Apart from the five ministers and the two lay workers mentioned no other key management personnel or member of the Circuit Meeting was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the Circuit, although certain expense costs were reimbursed - see 28.2 below.

The amounts of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to these trustees by the charity are shown below:

Name of trustee	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value				
		Remuneration	Pension contribution	Redundancy (including loss of office)/ex gratia	Other	TOTAL
		£	£	£	£	£
Revd Lin Francis (Superintendent Minister)	Methodist standing orders	28,577	6,947			35,524
Revd Denise Binks (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	25,995	6,947			32,942
Revd Kate Konrad (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	25,995	6,947			32,942
Dcn Rebekah-Joy Spinks (Deacon)	Methodist standing orders	25,995	6,947			32,942
Revd Duncan Goldie (URC Minister)	URC M&M orders	25,900	3,859		1,380	31,139
Mrs Helen Coombes (Circuit Administrator)*	Lay employment contract	11,399	522			11,921
Mrs Lynn Heaton (Families Worker)	Lay employment contract	16,906	1,014			17,920
		160,766				195,329

*key management personnel (CLT member) but not a trustee

Details of why remuneration or other employment benefits were paid.

See notes above. With regard to Revd Goldie, the Circuit payments shown are for 92% of his remuneration and benefits; the remaining 8% being paid by Mere URC church. "Other" payment of £1,380 to Revd Goldie is URC car allowance cost met by the Circuit in 2021-22.

Where an ex gratia payment has been made to a trustee, provide an explanation of the nature of the payment.

N/A

Last year

The following trustees received remuneration or other benefits from the Circuit in their capacity as paid Methodist and URC ministers, and lay employees, with the Circuit:

As Note 28.1 above.

The amounts of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to these trustees by the charity are shown below:

Name of trustee	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value				
		Remuneration	Pension contribution	Redundancy (including loss of office)/ex gratia	Other	TOTAL
		£	£	£	£	£
Revd Paul Arnold (Superintendent Minister)	Methodist standing orders	28,245	6,866			35,111
Revd Denise Binks (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	25,693	6,866			32,559
Revd Kate Konrad (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	25,693	6,866		515	33,074
Dcn Rebekah-Joy Spinks (Deacon)	Methodist standing orders	25,693	6,866			32,559
Revd Duncan Goldie (URC Minister)	URC M&M orders	25,392	3,783		1,462	30,637
Mrs Helen Coombes (Office Manager)*	Lay employment contract	16,551	993			17,544
Mrs Lynn Heaton (Families Worker)	Lay employment contract	16,406	984			17,390
		163,673				198,874

*key management personnel (CLT member) but not a trustee

Details of why remuneration or other employment benefits were paid.

See notes above. With regard to Revd Goldie, the Circuit payments shown are for 92% of his remuneration and pension; the remaining 8% being paid by Mere URC church. "Other" payment of £1462 to Revd Goldie is URC car allowance cost met by the Circuit in 2020-21. In addition to remuneration and pension payments, Revd Konrad received payment from the Circuit of £515 (gross: taxed via Methodist Finance, London) to compensate her for privately-contracted telephone/broadband expenses during 2020-21.

Where an ex gratia payment has been made to a trustee, provide an explanation of the nature of the payment.

N/A

28.2 Trustees' expenses

The Circuit has a published Expenses Policy (see Note 2.2 viii) under which all trustees may claim for appropriate expenses in the course of their duties on behalf of the Circuit.

Some (not all) of the Circuit's supernumeraries and local preachers and just two other volunteer trustees have claimed and received travel expense payments in relation to their travel on Circuit business.

Under Methodist standing orders, supernumerary ministers can claim preaching fees as expenses, at a fixed rate per service set by the Methodist Conference. Other reimbursed volunteer expenses (telephone and office costs, and certain removal expenses) are identified in Note 6 and summed below.

Note that trustee expenses shown here are those claimed by volunteers (including supernumerary ministers). (Circuit staff, i.e. ministers and lay workers, are also trustees but the expenses they have claimed are itemised separately in Note 6.)

Type of expenses reimbursed	This year	Last year
	£	£
Travel	1,419	162
Subsistence	-	-
Accommodation	-	-
Office expenses (stationery, postage, materials, books)	75	513
Telephone		
Reimbursed removals and relocation costs		
Supernumerary preaching fees	1,450	1,150
	-	-
TOTAL	2,944	1,825

The number of trustees reimbursed for expenses or who had expenses paid by the charity was:

13 (21 including Circuit staff)	10 (18 including Circuit staff)
--	--

28.3 Transaction(s) with related parties

Details are given here of transactions undertaken by (or on behalf of) the charity in which a related party has a material interest.

This year

The Circuit's related parties include the Methodist Connexion, the Southampton Methodist District, the churches within the Circuit, and other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP. All of these entities have their own trustees or directors. All of the Circuit trustees are members of one or another Church within the Circuit and may also be trustees in their churches.

Charges made by, and income received from, CFB and TMCP are included in Note 3. The Circuit is principally funded by donations received from Circuit churches, and from the District. Income received from these parties is detailed in Note 3.

The husband of one of the Circuit's 2021-22 trustees was paid to undertake minor repairs to a minister's manse - see below. Circuit trustees are empowered under the charity's governing documents (the Methodist Church Act, 1976) to use the services of trustees and connected persons (ref: CPD Book II Part 2 para 16(p)(i)).

A small number of Circuit trustees made donations (without conditions) direct to the Circuit during 2021-22 - the aggregate figure for these received donations was £2,372 including Gift Aid tax recovered (2020-21: £1,668).

Monies passed on to external organisations by the Circuit acting as agent are all to Methodist related parties (see Note 8). These amounts are not otherwise included in these accounts.

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction(s)	Amount	Balance at period end	Provision for bad debts at period end	Amounts written off during reporting period
			£	£	£	£
Mr Malcolm English	via family	Labour + materials	948	-	-	-

In relation to the transactions above, please provide the terms and conditions, including any security and the nature of any payment (consideration) to be provided in settlement.

Terms for services and materials provided: payment on satisfactory completion.

For any related party, please provide details of any guarantees given or received.

None.

Last year

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction(s)	Amount	Balance at period end	Provision for bad debts at period end	Amounts written off during reporting period
			£	£	£	£
Mr Daniel England	via family	Circuit printing costs	1044	-	-	-
Vine Youth Ministries	via family	Circuit grant for schools work	3000	-	-	-

In relation to the transactions above, please provide the terms and conditions, including any security and the nature of any payment (consideration) to be provided in settlement.

Terms for magazine printing expenses: payment on receipt of goods.

For any related party, please provide details of any guarantees given or received.

None.

Accounts



YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

(Charity Registration No. 1158290)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31 August 2021

1. Superintendent's annual report on the Circuit's achievements and performance

During the last year, Yeovil & Blackmore Vale, like every other Methodist Circuit, has had to respond to the very great challenges forced upon it by the Covid19 Pandemic. The full-time ministerial staff, along with our supernumerary colleagues and the large number of committed volunteers in every church, have sought to continue the work of leading worship, pastoral care, mission and service within the severe restrictions placed upon us by public health guidelines which have necessitated our buildings to be closed for significant periods, and many of our activities have had to be suspended.

Rev Joyce Norman, for reasons of age and health, has had to step down from active ministry, but the Circuit continues to hold a deep sense of gratitude for the generous and attentive work undertaken by the three other (active) Supernumerary ministers and thirteen (active) accredited local preachers and three local preachers in training – without their regular and consistent ministry Sunday-by-Sunday, the worshipping life of the Circuit could not be sustained. Our pioneer minister, Deacon Rebekah-Joy Spinks, was due to be ordained in June 2020, but, because of Covid restrictions at last year's Conference, the ordination finally took place in June 2021.

At the start of the year, the Circuit employed four part-time lay staff (x3 workers with children and families; x1 administrator). The Covid lockdowns and inability to meet, meant that the work with children, young people and families had to be altered radically. The imagination shown by staff in creating new ways of staying in touch with young people and families was commendable. However, it was with huge sadness that the Circuit was required to make Anne Cook redundant in the Autumn of 2020 as it was becoming impossible to keep the role functioning in the southern and eastern part of the Circuit. Additionally, Natalie Kay, the Children & Families Worker appointed to work at Bell Street United Church (united Methodist & URC) and Motcombe Methodist Church, was put on furlough for several months. It was possible to keep Lynn Heaton's work fully active as she was deployed to use time setting up 'The Pod' project at No. 54 – a mission and outreach project pioneered by the Cheap Street Church, Sherborne.

In addition, it is impossible to quantify the voluntary time and effort that has been given by our team of Circuit Stewards and numerous members of individual churches across the Circuit. Our large team of Stewards, Pastoral Visitors, Junior Church helpers, caterers, secretaries, property officers, etc., do outstanding work to ensure the smooth running of our churches and adhere to the best practices required of our denomination.

For significant periods of the year, worship in the seventeen church buildings (along with the Ashmore congregation meeting in the Village Hall) was suspended. It was possible to re-open a number of the church buildings during the Autumn of 2020, but the subsequent lockdown in the early months of 2021 once again meant that churches opted to cease public worship in order to avoid undue mixing and prevent possible infection. This has had considerable consequences across a wide spectrum of church activities and mission. A variety of groups (parent and toddler, women's fellowships, Bible study, lunch clubs, coffee mornings, youth clubs, etc) have not been able to function (in person) - although, it has been possible to transfer some events to 'virtual' platforms such as Zoom or Teams.

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26-05)
Trustees' Annual Report: Year ended 31 August 2021

There have been financial consequences as churches have had to cope with a shortfall of income through weekly cash offerings and loss of rental income from community groups who hire church halls and other rooms in our buildings. Our ministers have been severely hampered in their role as leaders of worship; ministering to the sick and dying whether at home or in hospital; and, taking part in social activities and other community events linked to the life of our congregations. All Circuit staff members have sought to adjust to the challenges and, throughout the year, their greater confidence and ability in using conferencing platforms such as 'Zoom' has allowed us to offer three 'online' services across the Circuit each Sunday morning, plus one service in the evening. Additionally, midweek virtual meetings for worship, fellowship and business have allowed church and Circuit life to continue, often exceeding initial expectations. It has been recognised that for a significant minority of our people, internet technology is not something they can access and for some, connectivity in rural locations means interrupted signal and therefore every effort has been made to ensure that for those who want it, worship material has been distributed via email, post and hand delivery. 'Visiting' has been done via phone calls and email and the Children & Families workers and pioneer minister (Deacon Rebekah-Joy Spinks) have worked creatively to produce activity packs and other resources to keep in touch with children and parents.

With the promise of the full relaxation of Covid restrictions in late July '21, it is hoped (at the time of writing this report) that all church buildings will be fully re-opened and with the necessary risk assessment documents having been completed, congregations will be able to fully utilise their buildings for the wide variety of purposes that was the case prior to the outbreak of Covid in Spring 2020.

The financial impact of lost income through weekly cash offerings and hall/room lettings has been dramatic, leaving the finances of several churches in a seriously depleted state. The Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) has been in touch with all churches assuring them of our continued support and all church treasurers are aware that if a congregation has immediate and pressing cash-flow problems, Circuit funds may be available for loans or grants, if required. The CLT and Circuit treasurer have begun the process of re-calculating the Circuit Five Year Financial strategy and it is becoming clear that some major changes are required in church assessment levels and the consequent staffing levels. The Circuit treasurer (Lewis Buckwell) will continue to work in 2021-22 on a revised policy of allocating assessment levels which will need to be agreed as promptly as possible in order to give clarity to churches about their financial commitments in the coming years. During the last year, the Circuit's empty manse at 24 Harbin Close, Yeovil, has been let to tenants.

One major piece of work undertaken during this year has been the project to reassess the effectiveness of the Methodist Church presence in Yeovil and the way in which effective mission can be maintained given the resources (human and property) in the town. Rev Kate Konrad has worked carefully and creatively to get each of the three congregations to recognise what they are able to offer (in terms of mission and service) and what will be required in order to fulfil this work. The Circuit believes that having three individual church communities in one town is not sustainable in the long term and that change is required to cut administration and governance, thus releasing energy for outreach. The church councils of the three congregations (Vicarage Street, Preston Road & St Mark's) have all voted in favour of forming one church, to be known as, 'Yeovil Methodist Church' (this is a model of 'one church on three sites'). The future of the three buildings is yet to be finalised, but further work is being planned via a Connexionally-approved property survey to assess which would be the best site(s) in which to focus future work and worship. This would have been a

demanding job at any time, but given the difficulties of meeting and communicating during this past year, the Circuit owes a huge debt of gratitude to Rev Kate Konrad for the way in which she has made progress on this essential task.

In line with the purposes of this charity we have worked over this last year to advance the Christian faith and fulfil our charitable status through:

- Regular acts of worship in all churches when it has been possible (and further development of online services using the 'Zoom' platform during the pandemic).
- Small house/fellowship/prayer groups have largely been unable to meet and therefore online 'Zoom' groups have been developed.
- The multiple Circuit-wide groups supporting children, young people and families; women's fellowship groups; three senior citizens' luncheon clubs; and three regular prayer breakfasts, have almost entirely closed – it is hoped these activities will recommence as soon as possible.
- The 'Clothing Exchange' project established in Gillingham to supply good quality clothing for parents with babies/toddlers and young children is reopening again in August '21.
- The Circuit Meeting reviewed its safeguarding policy for children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- The Circuit, and all Circuit Churches, have continued to respond to the requirements of the GDPR legislation and all data files are being reviewed, and privacy notices are being approved and displayed.
- The 'Circuit Policy' document has been the basis of our work and the CLT continues to review priorities and plan for changes that are likely to be required beyond 2023 when our current five-year financial plan comes to an end.
- The Circuit Meeting reviewed its financial controls and expenses policy this year.
- In this financial year, the Circuit gave a grant of £4,100 to Bell Street and Motcombe churches as support for the Family Worker (Ms Natalie Kay). One other grant was made during the year: £3,000 to 'Vine Youth Ministry' to support their schools outreach work.
- Education and training with all ages, including four local preachers in training (x3 'on trial'); and two Circuit 'Safer Spaces' safeguarding training courses (foundation module), delivered 'virtually' during the year.
- Pastoral care of the housebound, the dying, those in hospital and others in need (and via phone call and email during the pandemic lockdown).
- The Circuit Meeting has met four times during the year. Three of these have been 'virtual' meetings and one (June '21) has been in person. Three meetings have been convened to conduct the general business of the Circuit and one has been to debate and express voting opinions on the Connexional Report on marriage & relationships – 'God in Love Unites Us.' The outcome of the voting on the five Resolutions (whilst not a part of the official denominational process of decision-making) was referred to the District and was included in the Synod debate and voting. The Circuit Meeting also sent two Memorials to Conference, one urging the Conference not to adopt the changes contained in the report; the other encouraging the Conference to adopt a two-thirds voting threshold for this important piece of legislation.
- In spite of all the difficulties and dilemmas of the past year, the Circuit continues to call, and seeks to equip, all members for effective mission and service in the life of the Circuit churches and in the wider community.

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26-05)
Trustees' Annual Report: Year ended 31 August 2021

The Circuit Meeting is made up of trustees who are ex-officio because of an office they hold at individual churches, or who are elected to represent their churches at this body, on an annual basis. The Circuit Meeting has met four times during the year - two meetings having been cancelled due to the Covid lockdown restrictions. Essential business has been conducted by the CLT in-between Circuit Meetings using devolved powers entrusted to it by the Circuit Meeting. Leadership of the Circuit is provided by the team of ministers together with the treasurer and five Circuit stewards, the Circuit property secretary, and the Circuit office manager – together, these form the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT). This team meets regularly to oversee the work of the Circuit and to formulate policy. In concluding this report, I would like to offer my thanks to all staff and volunteers who have given much time and energy in ensuring that the life of the Circuit and its churches has continued during this tough and unprecedented year.



Rev Paul R Arnold
Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Trustees
31st July, 2021

2. Objectives and activities

2.1 Mission

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit Meeting trustees (under the Chair of the Superintendent Minister), who meet quarterly, have given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives, conforming with the Charities Act 2011.

Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the geographic area covered by the Circuit and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. Our Mission Statement is:-

"To know God's Love
To Show God's Love
To share God's Love"

We aim to achieve this by encouraging, through the members and adherents of churches in our Circuit, the worship, social, and outreach activities that currently exist, and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the church family.

We aim to build a Circuit formed for mission and full of generous people who are prepared to work, and develop, to build God's kingdom in this place. We share a common passion to use our gifts, graces and resources to the best of our abilities to be mission-shaped followers of Jesus Christ.

2.2 Purpose and activities of the Circuit

The Circuit is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any individual Church, of the Connexional character of the Methodist Church. The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the union the advancement of:

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church, and
- b. any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and
- c. any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and
- d. any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this Circuit is to advance the mission of the Methodist Church within the geographical area defined by the churches within Yeovil and Blackmore Vale:

- by providing opportunities for churches to work together and support each other
- by offering to churches resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The Circuit's primary activity to meet this purpose is "Circuit Ministry" - that is, the provision of a team of ministers and lay employees to deliver ministerial and families' support to all of the 18 churches in the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale area.

All of the costs incurred to support this Circuit Ministry activity are met by the Circuit – including all staff salaries ("stipends" for ministers) and expenses, and the provision of

manse housing for ministers – the Circuit is responsible for manse maintenance, phone/broadband, water, and council tax costs. The Circuit raises funds from each of the Circuit churches through an assessment regime, and, together with its other income sources, these funds are used to pay for its Circuit Ministry and other activity costs. In turn, the Circuit is assessed by the District on the size of its ministry team and pays monthly charges which fund District and central Connexion costs.

Apart from Circuit Ministry, the Circuit's other activities are:

- the award and administration of grants to Circuit churches and external bodies as appropriate and as directed by the Circuit Meeting
- raising funds (financial investment management of the Circuit's funds held with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP), and the rental of the Circuit's investment property in Yeovil (spare ministerial manse)).

The Circuit serves the local churches, its District, and the Methodist Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Methodist Church, and in programmes of training.

2.3 Circuit policy (last reviewed November 2018)

Support all 18 Societies of our Circuit in a positive and proactive way by providing leadership and pastoral care and ensuring the continuance of their regular pattern of Worship and fellowship.

Declare that our central priority is Making Disciples of Jesus and that we will facilitate initiatives of evangelism.

Hold and work to a realistic appraisal of the future potential of our Societies and, in particular, encourage our three Yeovil Societies to explore the future shape of Methodism in the town.

Commit ourselves to continuing the establishment figure of 4 Ministers (Presbyters &/or Deacons) by using the financial resources released by the sale of redundant buildings until at least 2020. (This policy is to be reviewed during 2021-22).

To develop ministry amongst children, young people and families in the southern and eastern end of the circuit through an additional full-time member of staff - a Deacon to undertake Pioneer ministry based in Sturminster Newton.

Make the best use of the experience and abilities of the supernumerary ministers residing in our Circuit, who are very willing to offer their services.

Based on existing strengths, build up a team of lay employees covering a variety of roles including Administration, Children, Youth and Family Work.

Respond to requests for grants from Circuit funds, giving priority to those projects that are orientated to mission rather than just maintenance ministry.

Explore possibilities of using external expertise to enable those of our local Societies facing difficulties in recruiting specific post holders (e.g. treasurers) to comply with the myriad regulations and requirements.

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26-05)
Trustees' Annual Report: Year ended 31 August 2021

Ensure that we are compliant with Safeguarding processes and other regulatory demands (including Connexional) by offering training and follow up.

Work to create a renewed sense of belonging to the wider family of Methodism – Circuit, District, Connexion and the World Church.

Give encouragement to the opportunities of ecumenical work – particularly in our shared Churches at Shaftesbury and Sherborne.

Challenge our people to discover the Call of God in their lives and what this might mean in the development of a diversity of ministries.

Through prayer and study, discover the meaning of Christian Discipleship in the Twenty-first Century and how effectively to engage in appropriate opportunities of mission and service.

3. Financial review

3.1 Circuit financial position at the end of FY 2020-21

Key points

During the year the Circuit received total income of £294k (FY2019-20: £288k) and dispersed £362k (FY2019-20: £338k).

Net current assets of £438k (excluding property & land) were carried forward across the year end (FY2020-21: £505k).

Church incomes, and Circuit assessments

All of the Circuit's churches, despite the national "post-Covid" re-opening in the summer of 2021, have yet to return to normal in-building attendance levels, while Covid-19 remains rampant in the general UK population. Virtual church services continue to be held, to support those unable, or yet unwilling, to visit their church in person. Many of our fellowships are finding it hard to find ways to return their income to pre-Covid levels. Furthermore, the bigger of our churches have large, expensive, buildings to maintain and yet have had to cope without rental income due to the closure of community activities that hire their halls and rooms.

This being the second year of Covid-19, the Circuit has learned to adapt its methods and activities wherever it can to be able to continue to deliver ministerial and families support to all of the 18 churches in the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale area. As in 2019-20, the financial impact on the Circuit's finances has been that savings have been made in travel costs and office expenses. In 2020-21 savings have also been made in salary costs, with one member of our lay staff being made redundant. Despite property maintenance costs being high this year, overall we ended the year with a deficit of £68k compared with a planned deficit of £97k (the deficit being budgeted use of Circuit reserves, within our 5 year plan). Last year (2019-20) was similar, with a £34k saving against budget.

The combination of these two factors – churches struggling to maintain their incomes, and recent savings by the Circuit against budgeted spend – was the basis of the Circuit Meeting decision in March 2021 to reduce the Circuit's assessment level by 10% across all Circuit churches, for 2021-22. It is anticipated that this same lower level of Circuit assessment may be maintained for 2022-23 and, indeed, it is further proposed to move the Circuit to an ongoing lower level of Circuit charges on churches (with annual inflation-related adjustments) for the foreseeable future.

Review of Circuit plans and income needs

The Circuit's current five-year plan (last reviewed in March 2020) applies for the period from September 2019 through to August 2024, and is (currently) for the ongoing deployment of four ministers (presbyters and/or deacons). Within this plan, the Circuit also remains committed to a five-year project, commenced in September 2018, to appoint a deacon in an outreach role focused initially on the southern region of the Circuit based at Sturminster Newton and working with the Hazelbury Bryan, Ibberton and Kings Stag fellowships.

The Circuit normally revises its five-year financial plans annually. In March 2021, the Circuit Meeting considered three options for its ministry team size for its plan for the five years commencing 2020-21. The decision taken was to extend the debate on these options and resolve this question early in the next financial year, 2021-22. The Circuit Meeting's decision will directly impact the level of funds which the Circuit needs to continue to operate its ministry team.

Sales of Circuit assets (a spare manse, or a redundant church, for example) will be required over the next few years to complement the assessment income the Circuit receives from its churches.

The individual payments received from Circuit churches have, to date, been set on a historical basis. We have begun to investigate whether there is a different, more formulaic, mechanism for splitting the total assessment required between the Circuit's churches and the Circuit hopes to develop this during FY 2021-22 for first implementation in FY 2022-23.

In summary, the Circuit is facing the need, in the 2021-22 financial year, to make major trustee decisions as to its ongoing ministry team size, the level of its reserve funds and asset disposals needed to support this team, and how to re-distribute the Circuit's assessment charges fairly between its churches.

3.2 Reserves policy

Cash reserves

The Circuit's cash reserves held on 31st August 2021 were as follows:

Unrestricted Funds	£
Lloyds Bank – current account	93,926
Methodist CFB	90,942
Lord Alfred Trim Bequest (TMCP)	159,105
DD Gifford Cluett Bequest (TMCP)	53,093
Circuit Model Trust Fund (TMCP)	47,415
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED	444,479
Restricted Funds - Women's Work Bequest (TMCP)	4,209
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	448,688

All cash funds are separately invested either with CFB or TMCP.

Included in the above figures is an amount of general funds of £334, designated by the Circuit Meeting for Wincanton children's work. This amount is funds received in 2020-21 from the

Wincanton Tots and Toys children's activity group, which has disbanded. The Circuit retains this money as designated funds for similar children's work in Wincanton unless and until it becomes apparent there will be no replacement activity there. The timing and possibility of needing to use these monies is currently uncertain, the context being that the Circuit's work with children in Wincanton ceased recently.

Monetary investments

The Circuit has an additional £8,117 held in TMCP monetary investments (not included in the above figures). Other than this and the Circuit's investment property (an unused manse in Yeovil), no money is directly invested in property, securities or other forms of investment.

The Circuit's reserves policy covers all of its general and restricted funds. This policy is reviewed and approved annually by trustees, and submitted onwards to the Southampton District for acceptance. This policy is as follows:

Reserves policy for general funds

The Circuit aims to hold a minimum of 6 months' budgeted expenditure in its general funds at any time. This equates to £194k for 2021-22. This is to provide funds for:

- Essential cash-flow: covering short-term deficits whilst awaiting grants and assessment income, or in the event of needing to complete asset sales to replenish reserves
- Unforeseen emergencies or unexpected needs, such as unanticipated manse repair bills or other urgent projects
- Unplanned requests from Circuit churches for additional grants for repairs
- Circuit funding to support any unbudgeted Circuit church missional staffing projects
- Unexpected shortfalls in funding, perhaps, for example, the loss of assessment income in the event of the unforeseen closure of a church or churches within the Circuit.

Each of the three financial five-year plan options being considered currently (see 3.1) would have different impacts on the Circuit's reserves, from a committed spend of £435k of its cash reserves over the next five years at the high end of the range down to £282k of reserves committed spend over five years at the lower end. Adding the requirement to hold six months' expenditure in reserve, these figures demonstrate that the Circuit's currently available cash funds are, in effect, entirely committed.

To avoid spending beyond its available funds, the sale of Circuit assets (either through sale of a surplus manse or redundant church premises) will be required in the next few years, to replenish the Circuit's reserves – regardless of which of the three financial plan options is adopted. This approach will enable the Circuit to continue to hold a minimum of six months' expenditure in its general funds at any time whilst funding, on an annual basis, the ongoing commitments made in its financial plan.

Reserves policy for restricted funds

Bequest for Women's Work: £4,209. This bequest was originally made to the Sherborne branch of the "Women's Work" Methodist women's organisation. "Women's Work" joined with another Methodist women's group called "Women's Fellowship" in 1987 to form the "Women's Network". In 2011, Women's Network became "Methodist Women in Britain". This Circuit's Methodist Women in Britain group is seeking to discern possible future use of these funds.

3.3 Investment policy and performance

The Circuit's investment policy is to diversify its funds in bank accounts, deposit accounts, financial investment products and investment property. The Circuit has no endowment funds, currently.

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Circuits and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the Circuit. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income reflects deposit rates available elsewhere. Short-term deposits are lodged directly with the Central Finance Board (CFB) and attract rates of interest comparable with available commercial market rates.

The Circuit's Trustees' investment policy is aligned with that of the Methodist Central Finance Board (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

There are no benchmarks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. The Circuit relies on TMCP and the CFB to review and manage the performance of the Circuit's financial investments. The Circuit Treasurer regularly checks that all income due is received. The net total income received from the Circuit's monetary investments was 0.4% for the year. A net gain of £1,144 was recorded on the value of Circuit monetary investments during 2020-21.

Investment Property. The Circuit owns a number of manses for ministerial housing. The Circuit's policy is to maintain any spare manses as investment property, potentially available for disposal to fund the activities of the Circuit in line with its financial plans and budgets agreed with the Circuit Meeting. Any empty manses not needing to be sold are let, where possible, to provide rental income. The Circuit's investment properties, whether let or not, are inspected annually by the Circuit Property Secretary or by a representative (manse steward) from one of the associated churches. A professional valuation of the Circuit's investment property was undertaken in July 2021, resulting in an increase of £5,000 in its book value. The Circuit's income from its investment property amounted to 4.8% of income in 2020-21.

3.4 Going concern

The trustees of the Circuit have every reason to believe that the Circuit is a going concern, principally because our churches have continued to meet their assessments and the Circuit has adequate reserves and assets to cover any shortfall in anticipated income. There are no subsidiary undertakings.

3.5 Deficits

Currently, the total Circuit income does not fully cover net expenditure. The budgeted deficit in FY 2020-21 was £97k to be made up from Circuit reserves (actual: £68k deficit). In the current five year plan up to FY 2023-24 this deficit is budgeted to stay around £100k p.a. as the Circuit continues to use its cash reserves on staffing. Lower than budgeted deficits over the last two years (due to the pandemic - as noted above) have enabled the Circuit to adjust its assessments on churches downwards for FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23. The overall projected result on Circuit funds is for its current 'spare' reserves to be depleted over the period to FY 2023-24. This is in line with the five-year plan to FY 2023-24, which commits the use of spare Circuit cash reserves to fund the work of the Circuit during a period of extended Circuit Ministry that includes the current Diaconal project. After this, the sale of one or more Circuit assets (either through sale of a surplus manse or redundant church premises) is likely then to be required, to replenish the Circuit's cash reserves, again as planned in accordance with Circuit policy (see 2.3).

4. Structure, governance and management

4.1 Governing documents and constitution

The Circuit is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union (1932) and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 19 August 2014.

4.2 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of churches; Circuits fund the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the churches in the Circuit; most decisions are made at or ratified by the quarterly Circuit Meeting. The Circuit is a member of the Southampton District of the Methodist Church.

A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at its half yearly synods. The Southampton District reports into the Methodist Conference.

The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within each District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to church councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the church stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by church councils as the managing trustees of their church.

4.3 Governance and management

The Circuit operates within a statutory framework of regulation and additionally seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Southampton District and Methodist Connexional Offices to provide guidance on changes that could affect the Circuit.

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other ministers, the Circuit Stewards (including the Circuit Treasurer), the Office Manager, together form the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) and are considered Key Management Personnel. The ministers of the Circuit undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and the trustees' meetings (Circuit Meetings).

Paid trustees are all the ministers, and one of our lay employees (one of our Children, Young People and Families Workers who spends a defined portion of her employed time as Circuit Safeguarding Officer). All lay staff are employed at the decision of the Circuit Meeting. In some Methodist Circuits the Circuit Meeting Secretary is a volunteer – in this Circuit, we have a lay member of staff, employed as Circuit Manager, who acts as Circuit Administrator and Circuit Meeting Secretary.

Supernumerary ministers are ministers who have retired but many still conduct worship on a voluntary basis. Their ministry is gratefully accepted by Circuit Meeting and they are appointed as trustees by the Meeting.

All other Circuit Meeting members are volunteers from churches in the Circuit. The full Constitution of the Circuit Meeting is provided in Appendix A: all voting members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. Also included in Appendix A are details of the constitutional provisions for representation of each church, with the number of trustees representing each church at the Circuit Meeting being dependent on the size of their church membership. The Church Steward and Treasurer for each church (ex-officio Circuit Meeting members), plus each church's representatives to Circuit Meeting, are all elected at Annual General Meetings of their church councils.

Circuit Stewards are trustees who are elected by Circuit Meeting to serve with the specific responsibilities and duties of Circuit Steward as defined by the Methodist Church, including their participation in Circuit Leadership Team meetings. Circuit Stewards normally serve for a minimum period of 3 years, but may offer for re-election after this time.

Other voluntary appointments at this Circuit Meeting include the Circuit Treasurer, Senior Circuit Steward, Circuit Property Steward, Local Preachers Secretary, etc – see Appendix A – all these are appointed as Circuit Meeting members and trustees at the decision of the Circuit Meeting.

The Circuit Meeting of all trustees meets four times a year. The trustees of the Circuit have chosen to divest powers of decision required urgently between Circuit Meetings to the CLT.

The CLT meets formally at least every two months and communicates routinely through electronic media. The team is used by the Circuit as a means of formulating, discussing and refining policy prior to proposal and debate at Circuit Meeting.

4.4 Risk management

The trustees have considered the risks that the charity is exposed to and put strategies in place to mitigate those risks. Policies are established for health and safety, safeguarding and data protection, alongside financial controls. The Circuit's financial controls include: expenses policy, procurement policy, banking and investment management policy, anti-bribery policy, guidance on managing conflicts of interest, and guidance on maintaining awareness of risks from financial crime and abuse.

5. Reference and Administrative Details

5.1 Name of the charity

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit

5.2 Charity registration number

1158290 Registered in England and Wales

5.3 Principal office

Circuit Office
c/o Vicarage Street Methodist Church
Middle Street
Yeovil
BA20 1JZ
01935 432173 (answerphone available)
www.yandbvcircuit@gmail.com

5.4 Superintendent Minister

Rev Paul Arnold (2020-21), replaced by Rev Lin Francis from 1 September 2021.

5.5 Circuit Manager

Mrs Helen Coombes

5.6 Circuit Treasurer

Mr Lewis Buckwell

5.7 Names of trustees

All voting Members of the Circuit Meeting are trustees. The list, as at September 2020, is given in Appendix A.

5.8 Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
Business Banking
BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

5.9 Investment managers and custodian trustees

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

5.10 Independent Examiner

(Appointed 23rd March, 2021):

Frances Wilde FCCA MBA(Open) DChA PgDip
Director
Warner Wilde Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors
4 Marigold Drive
Bisley Surrey GU24 9SF
Registered in England No. 6923262

6. Exemptions from disclosure

None.

7. Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

The Circuit holds no funds as custodian trustee. It does, however, from time to time, receive from churches contributions to certain Methodist (related party) and external charitable bodies. These sums are collected by the Circuit as agent for these bodies and are passed on directly to them within the same financial year (or accrued as creditors).

In 2020-21 we have applied a change of accounting policy to also treat the Circuit as an agent when it receives grants that are directly passed on to external organisations, and where the Circuit plays no part in overseeing the grant's use. In this context the Circuit undertakes the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by churches and other charities /organisations within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion.

Funds received by the Circuit as agent are not recognised as an asset in the financial statements because the funds are not within its control.

No fee is earned in respect of this agency arrangement and the Circuit incurs no cost through this arrangement.

8. Approvals

We confirm that the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements (Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet and supporting Notes) have been approved by Trustees at the Circuit Meeting held on 15th March, 2022:

Lin Francis (signed)



Rev Lin Francis
Chair of Circuit Meeting
Date:

21 March 2022

Lewis Buckwell (signed)



Mr Lewis Buckwell
Circuit Treasurer

Date: 21/3/22

APPENDIX A Trustees

CONSTITUTION OF CIRCUIT MEETING SEPTEMBER 2020

Church Steward and the Treasurer from each church
plus a number of representatives based on church membership
1 for churches with membership 30-59, 2 for 60-119 and 3 for 120+ would become members of the Circuit Meeting.

Revd Paul Arnold	Superintendent Minister
Revd Denise Binks	Minister
Revd Duncan Goldie	Minister
Revd Kate Konrad	Minister
Deacon Rebekah Joy Spinks	Deacon
Mrs Helen Coombes **	Circuit Administrator/Circuit Meeting Secretary
Mrs Lynn Heaton	Children, Young People and Families Worker (& Circuit Safeguarding Officer)
Revd Margaret Oxenham	Supernumerary Minister
Revd Gordon Elford	Supernumerary Minister
Revd Ruth Farrant **	Supernumerary Minister
Revd Christina Le Moignan	Supernumerary Minister
Revd Richard Clarke ***	Supernumerary Minister
Revd Joyce Norman ***	Supernumerary Minister
Mrs Norma Bartlett	Circuit Steward
Miss Sarah James	Circuit Steward
Mr Stephen Watson	Circuit Steward
Mrs Margaret Whitford	(Senior) Circuit Steward
Mr Lewis Buckwell	Circuit Steward, & Treasurer (Incoming)
Dr Kevin Fisher	Circuit Steward, & Treasurer (Outgoing)
OTHER APPOINTMENTS	
Mr Philip Butler	Circuit Property Steward
Mrs Kate Rawlins	Local Preachers & Worship Leaders Secretary and LWPT
Mr Colin Farrant	Local Preachers' Tutor
Mrs Christine Lydford *	MWiB President
Mr Adam Miller *	Circuit Archivist
BELL STREET, SHAFTESBURY with ASHMORE (87)	
Mr Martin Forsyth **	Contact Steward
Mrs Ruth Jones	Treasurer

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26-05)
Trustees' Annual Report: Year ended 31 August 2021

Mrs Lis Gosney
Vacant
Vacant

Representative 1
Representative 2
Representative Ashmore

CHEAP STREET with LONGBURTON (99)

Mrs Sue Way
Mr John Stinchcombe
Mr Geoff Gardner
Vacant
Vacant
Mrs Jan English

Secretary
Treasurer
Representative 1
Representative 2
Representative 2
Longburton Rep

GILLINGHAM (55)

Mrs Elizabeth Rickards
Miss Heidi Epps
Mr Robert Rickards

Church Steward
Treasurer
Representative

HAZELBURY BRYAN (13)

Mr Terrence Miller
Mrs Carole Miller

Steward & Treasurer
Representative

IBBERTON (7)

Mrs Mary Leamon
Mr Adam Miller

Steward
Treasurer

KINGS STAG (5)

Mrs Esther May
Mrs Norma Le Poidevin

Steward
Treasurer

MARNHULL (19)

Mrs Gillian Walsham
Mr Hayden Williams
Mrs Sally Williams

Steward
Treasurer
Reserve Representative

MOTCOMBE (18)

Mr David Wooldridge
Mrs Sarah Upshall
Mr John Taylor

Treasurer
Steward
Reserve Representative

PRESTON ROAD, YEOVIL (68)

Mr Brian Cowling
Mr Peter Cleall

Church Secretary
Treasurer

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26-05)
Trustees' Annual Report: Year ended 31 August 2021

Mr Bob Killick
Mr John Harwood

Representative 1
Representative 2

ST MARK'S, YEOVIL (48)

Mr Daniel England
Mrs Margaret Evans
Mr Richard England
Mr Richard Sinden

Senior Steward
Treasurer
Representative
Reserve Representative

STURMINSTER NEWTON with BROAD OAK (14)

Christine Lydford
Mrs Beth Fox
Mr Alan Harrison
Mr Adam Miller *
Mrs Adrienne Richardson

Steward
Treasurer
Representative
Representative Broad Oak
Reserve Representative

TISBURY (15)

Mr. Ken Elcock
Mrs Joy Aylen

Steward
Treasurer

VICARAGE STREET (56)

Mrs Thelma Stevens
Mr Stephen Watson
Mr Cliff Howell

Steward
Treasurer
Representative 1

WINCANTON (16)

Mrs Lynda Walters
Dr Bob Jones
Mr Tony Cole

Joint Steward
Joint Steward
Treasurer

YETMINSTER (6)

Mrs June Goss **

Church Secretary (not servicing as Circ Mtg Rep)

Mrs Sue Gilbey **

Treasurer (not servicing as Circ Mtg Rep)

**** Not a voting member of the Circuit Meeting**

*** Already a member in another capacity**

Have decided not to participate, but are entitled to become Members again in future if they so choose.

Blue highlights indicate that the church has Representative(s) or a Reserve Representative but have under 30 members. This is usually because the Steward and/or Treasurer do not attend the meeting.



YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

(Charity Registration No. 1158290)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year ending 31 August 2021

This Accounts Pack is intended to meet the Charities Commission's reporting requirements for unincorporated charities.

It is presented in line with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) for charities preparing their annual accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS102) applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

This pack is submitted in a format to match the template accruals accounts pack "CC17a" (2020 version) provided by the Charities Commission. Sections and Notes are numbered to match those in CC17a. Any missing Notes are intentional, i.e., they are omitted where this charity has no information to disclose or report for those items.

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit	Circuit No. 26/05
--	--------------------------

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year (RESTATED)
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Donations and legacies	3a	1,968				1,968	928
2 Grants received	1.3, 3b			28,852		28,852	28,304
3 Assessments on churches	3c	244,890				244,890	240,224
4 Income from monetary investments	1.3, 3d	784	457	14		1,255	3,921
5 Income from investment properties	3e	14,080				14,080	14,400
6 Capital receipts	3f						
7 Other charitable income	3g	2,688				2,688	
8 Internal organisations	3h	334				334	
9 Total Income	3i	264,744	457	28,866		294,068	287,777
Expenditure							
10 RAISING FUNDS	1.3, 2.3 ii, 6a	4,454	214	8		4,676	3,560
11 GRANTS AND DONATIONS	1.3, 2.2 i, 6b, 13	3,021				3,021	3,100
12 CIRCUIT MINISTRY: Stipends, salaries and associated costs	6c, 11, 12	208,893		28,852		237,745	234,998
13 Property maintenance	6d	18,207				18,207	5,487
14 Connexional assessment & model trust levy	6e	51,795	2,850			54,645	48,896
15 District assessment & levy	6f	8,964				8,964	8,367
16 Depreciation	1.5, 6g	710				710	710
17 Provisions	6h, 21	(4,412)				(4,412)	(7,100)
18 Office expenses	6i	9,284				9,284	7,893
19 Telephone, travel	6j	5,286				5,286	13,049
20 Insurance, utilities	6k	17,239				17,239	16,864
21 Fees and charges	1.3, 2.3 ii, 6l	2,245				2,245	1,330
22 Other outgoings	6m	4,609				4,609	1,034
23 Internal organisations	6n						0
24 Total Charitable Expenditure	6o	330,294	3,064	28,861		362,219	338,187
25 Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(65,550)	(2,607)	6		(68,151)	(50,410)
26 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	17		1,144			1,144	(107)
27 Gains/(losses) on investment properties	17	(15,000)				(15,000)	
28 Net income/(expenditure)		(80,550)	(1,463)	6		(82,007)	(50,517)
29 Transfers between funds	27	50,000	(50,000)				
30 Gains/(losses) on fixed assets for the charity's own use	14	(100,000)				(100,000)	
31 Other gains/(losses)							
32 Net movement in funds	27	(130,550)	(51,463)	6		(182,007)	(50,517)
33 Total funds brought forward		2,430,454	106,995	4,203		2,541,651	2,592,169
34 Total funds carried forward		2,299,903	55,532	4,209		2,359,644	2,541,651

For information only: Money received and passed on to External Organisations

Balance brought forward from last year	1.5			5
Offerings/Gifts - received for External Organisations	1.3, 2.2 i, 8		11,869	12,382
Offerings/Gifts - passed to External Organisations	1.3, 2.2 i, 8		11,869	12,382
Balance carried forward				

Items shaded green are RESTATED - see Notes to the accounts

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit	Circuit No. 26/05
--	--------------------------

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020 (RESTATED)

	Notes to the 2020-21 accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2019-20	Totals prev year 2018-19
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1 Donations and legacies		928				928	1,007
2 Grants received	1.3			28,304		28,304	33,471
3 Assessments on churches		240,224				240,224	235,704
4 Income from monetary investments		2,466	1,418	36		3,921	4,821
5 Income from investment properties	2.3 ii	14,400				14,400	8,176
6 Capital receipts							
7 Other charitable income							60
8 Internal Organisations							
9 Total Income		258,018	1,418	28,341		287,777	283,239
Expenditure							
10 Raising funds	1.3, 2.3 ii	3,229	323	8		3,560	
11 Grants and donations	1.3, 2.2 i	3,100				3,100	40,000
12 Stipends, salaries and associated costs	2.3 ii	206,694		28,304		234,998	210,236
13 Property maintenance	2.3 ii	5,487				5,487	14,089
14 Connexional assessment & model trust levy		43,317	5,579			48,896	47,657
15 District assessment & levy		8,367				8,367	7,123
16 Depreciation	1.5	710				710	510
17 Provisions		(7,100)				(7,100)	
18 Office expenses	2.3 ii	7,893				7,893	3,996
19 Telephone, travel	2.3 ii	13,049				13,049	17,266
20 Insurance, utilities		16,864				16,864	18,081
21 Fees and charges	1.3, 2.3 ii	1,330				1,330	2,145
22 Other outgoings		1,034				1,034	12,032
23 Internal organisations		0				0	
24 Total Charitable Expenditure		303,972	5,902	28,313		338,187	373,135
25 Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)		(45,954)	(4,484)	28		(50,410)	(89,896)
26 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments			(107)			(107)	115
27 Gains/(losses) on investment properties							
28 Net income/(expenditure)		(45,954)	(4,591)	28		(50,517)	(89,781)
29 Transfers between funds		50,028	(50,000)	(28)		0	
30 Gains/(losses) on fixed assets for the charity's own use							
31 Other gains/(losses)							
32 Net movement in funds		4,074	(54,591)	0		(50,517)	(89,781)
33 Total funds brought forward		2,426,380	161,586	4,203		2,592,169	2,681,950
34 Total funds carried forward		2,430,454	106,995	4,203		2,541,651	2,592,169

For information only: Money received and passed on to External Organisations

Balance brought forward from last year

Offerings/Gifts - received for External

Organisations

Offerings/Gifts - passed to External

Organisations

Balance carried forward

	5
1.3, 2.2 i	12,382
1.3, 2.2 i	12,382

5
6,471
6,471
5

Items shaded green are RESTATED - see Notes to the accounts

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit

Circuit No. 26/05

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

		General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year (RESTATED)
Notes to the Accounts		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets								
Circuit manses & equipment	14	1,588,710					1,588,710	1,689,419
Investment properties	17	325,000					325,000	340,000
Investments	17		8,117				8,117	6,973
Total fixed assets		1,913,710	8,117				1,921,827	2,036,393
Current Assets								
Debtors and Prepayments	19	15,608					15,608	14,609
Loans by Circuit	17.6							
Investments with TMCP	17.4, 24	212,198	47,415		4,209		263,821	316,415
Central Finance Board deposits	24	90,942					90,942	59,627
Cash at Bank and in hand	24	93,591		334			93,926	148,652
Total current assets		412,338	47,415	334	4,209		464,296	539,303
Current Liabilities								
Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 yr)	20	23,791					23,791	26,945
Grants payable in <1yr	20	2,688					2,688	7,100
Total current liabilities		26,479					26,479	34,045
Net current assets/liabilities		385,859	47,415	334	4,209		437,817	505,259
Total assets less current liabilities		2,299,569	55,532	334	4,209		2,359,644	2,541,651
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)	20							
Grants payable after one year	20							
Loans to the Circuit	20							
Total net assets or liabilities		2,299,569	55,532	334	4,209		2,359,644	2,541,651
Funds of the Circuit								
General Fund (Unrestricted)		2,299,569					2,299,569	2,430,454
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			55,532				55,532	106,995
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)				334			334	
Total Unrestricted Funds							2,355,435	2,537,448
Other Funds (Restricted)					4,209		4,209	4,203
Endowment Funds								
Total Funds		2,299,569	55,532	334	4,209		2,359,644	2,541,651

Items shaded green are RESTATED - see Notes to the accounts

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Name of Circuit: Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit No 26/05

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 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 L Buckwell Date 21/3/22

Name and address of treasurer:
Lewis Buckwell, Dragonfly Cottage, Woodbridge Lane,
Bedchester, Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 0BF

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were ~~will be~~*

presented to the Circuit meeting held on TUESDAY 15 MARCH 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Revd Lin Francis

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd Lin Francis Date 21-03-22

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit

Charity Number 1158290

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 1 to 4. 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

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Name of Circuit: Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit No 26/05

Independent Examiner's Statement

The Circuit's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

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; or
- the accounts 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
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts

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: Frances Wilde

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: FCCA DChA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Warner Wilde Limited
Address: 4 Marigold Drive, Bisley, Surrey GU24 9SF

Date 22 March 2022

* delete or circle as appropriate

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
2020-2021**

Note 1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

i Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the second edition of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*, effective from 1 January 2019 ("SORP FRS102 2019"), and in accordance with the 'true and fair override' provision contained therein.

ii Public benefit entity

The Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under SORP FRS102 2019.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The accounting policies adopted are those outlined in Note 2.

iv Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

v SORP FRS102 2019

This is the sixth year that the SORP FRS102 has applied to this Circuit's accounts. These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with SORP FRS102 2019.

vi Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the 16 Church Councils within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Church Councils and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

1.2 Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2021, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

1.3 Changes to accounting policies for 2020-21

i Nature of change in accounting policy

New policies introduced with this 2020-21 financial report:

[Note 2.2 i]: Acting as agent for grants received and passed on

[Note 2.3 ii]: Governance and support costs

[Note 2.3 ii]: Revised SOFA categories

[Note 2.3 ii]: "Raising funds" expenditure category

[Note 2.4 i]: Tangible fixed assets - change of policy

[Note 2.4 i]: Investment property - change of policy re: revaluation

[Notes 2.2 iii, iv, v, vii; 2.3 ii, iv, vii, ix; and 2.4 ii]: Newly-documented policies that describe existing practice.

ii Reasons for change

[Note 2.2 i]: Change of policy to treat the Circuit as an agent when it receives grants that are directly passed on to external organisations, and where the Circuit plays no part in overseeing the grant's use.

[Note 2.3 ii]: Governance and support costs have not been categorised in the SOFA either previously or this year, but, estimates of governance and support costs have now been provided separately in these Notes, as a change in reporting this year to comply with SORP FRS102 2019.

[Note 2.3 ii]: SOFA categories have been changed this year to correspond with recent Methodist Church guidance for Circuit accounts.

[Note 2.3. ii]: Raising funds. In order to align with SORP FRS102 2019 and CC17a (the Charity Commission Accruals Accounts Pack, June 2020), the reallocation of SOFA categories this year now includes a new "Raising Funds" expenditure category. This category includes financial investment management costs, investment property insurance and maintenance, and property management (estate agents') fees. Treatment of investment property income has been changed from the previously-adopted "net" (of agents' fees) basis to allow these property management fees to be reported.

[Note 2.4 i]: Tangible fixed assets provided by the Circuit at the Circuit's manses are now treated the same as other tangible fixed assets and are identified, capitalised and depreciated under the new policy if they individually cost at least £1,000. (This replaces the Circuit's previous policy of providing an estimate for fixtures and fittings at each property, valued on a "new for old" replacement basis.) An annual impairment review of all tangible fixed assets is undertaken.

[Note 2.4 iv]: Circuit investment property is now revalued periodically, in line with SORP FRS102 2019.

[Notes 2.2 iii, iv, v, vii; 2.3 ii, iv, vii, ix; and 2.4 ii]: represent no change to previous undocumented policies that have been historically practised by this Circuit. Rather, these policies are newly documented here for completeness, and to demonstrate alignment with CC17a and SORP FRS102 2019).

iii Amounts of adjustments

[Note 2.2 i]: The decision to change this policy reduces both the income and expenditure of the Circuit by £6,000 in 2020-21. (Note that the same value grant was also received and passed on in 2019-20.)

[Note 2.3 ii]: Governance and support costs: no adjustment.

[Note 2.3 ii]: New SOFA expenditure categories. 2019-20 expenditure has been restated in accordance with the new categorisation, for comparison purposes, and this restated 2019-20 SOFA is included with these 2020-21 financial reports. The SOFAs for reporting periods earlier than 2019-20 have not been restated. There are no changes to the 2019-20 Balance Sheet.

[Note 2.3 ii]: Raising Funds. 2019-20 restated as above.

[Note 2.4 i]: Tangible fixed assets at the Circuit's manses recorded in the Balance Sheet under this new policy: £NIL. Under the previous policy, an estimate of £20,000 per manse (x5 manses = £100,000) had been included in the manse values in the Balance Sheet. A similar estimate of £20,000 had similarly been included in the investment property's valuation; an adjustment of -£20,000 has been applied.

[Note 2.4 iv]: The Circuit's investment property was revalued in July 2021, leading to a +£5,000 adjustment to the Balance Sheet (net adjustment from 2.4 i and iv: -£15,000).

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates for 2020-21

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the 2020-21 reporting period.

1.5 Prior year errors

The Circuit's purchase of a CCTV video surveillance system installed in September 2019 at the Circuit Office at a cost of £2,128 had not previously been capitalised and depreciated as a tangible fixed asset. This has now been corrected, and Balance Sheet and SOFA figures for FY 2019-20 have been restated in this Accounts Pack.

Monies held for external organisations: An amount held as "monies for external organisations" of £5 had historically been carried forward on the Circuit's SOFA reports every year dating back for many years, and it is unclear what external organisation this was being held for. This amount is regarded as immaterial. An adjustment has been made to remove the amount of £5 from these monies brought forward from FY 2019-20. This adjustment has no other effect on the Circuit's accounts.

Note 2 Accounting policies

2.1 [NOT USED]

2.2 Income

i Recognition of income

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, when the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources, and when the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

The Circuit acts as agent in two matters:

- the collection from Circuit Churches and individuals and payment over of their contributions, to various Funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church – "Connexional Funds", and to other national charities
- the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches and other charities/organisations within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion

The transactions relating to these matters are not reflected in the Circuit's transactions in the SOFA. Instead, they are shown on the SOFA as "*Offerings/Gifts received for, and passed to, External Organisations*", details of which are disclosed in these Notes.

ii Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses.

iii Grants received

Grants received by the Circuit for Circuit purposes from external sources (including Connexional and/or District grants) are shown as income. The Circuit has received no performance-related grants.

iv Legacies

Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate, and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the Circuit or have been met.

v Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included as income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be a part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

vi Volunteer help

No attempt has been made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers.

vii Settlement of insurance claims

Insurance claims (when applicable) are only included in the SOFA, as an item of other income, when the insurance claim income recognition criteria are met (5.53 to 5.55 FRS102 SORP 2019).

2.3 Expenditure and Liabilities

i Liability recognition

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

ii Governance and support costs

The Circuit is a "smaller charity" (defined by SORP FRS102 2019 as below £500k gross income) and one of the reliefs offered to smaller charities in SORP FRS102 2019 is the freedom to adapt the SOFA format to suit the needs of the charity. Costs have been allocated to cost categories consistent with current Methodist Church practice. Governance and support costs have not been categorised in the SOFA but estimates of governance and support costs are provided separately in these Notes.

iii Grants made

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full when the award is made once the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or constructive obligation to make the payment and that such payment is probable. When such a grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a Provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate Fund (split between monies due in the following financial year and monies due in the longer term), the Provision being released in future years as instalments are paid within the terms originally agreed by trustees at the Circuit Meeting. No grants have been made with performance conditions attached.

iv Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

v Basic financial instruments: Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the Circuit. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

vi VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

vii Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

viii Expenses

The Circuit has a policy, agreed at Circuit Meeting by trustees in 2014, that all trustees may claim for appropriate expenses in the course of their duties on behalf of the Circuit. Further details of the Circuit's Expenses Policy were agreed by trustees in June 2021.

Claims for books, materials, stationery and postage must be submitted with receipts. All claims are submitted on standard forms for scrutiny by the Circuit Treasurer. As with all expenditure any payment is counter-authorised by another, named, Trustee before payment.

Motor vehicle travel cost rates are set by Connexion in agreement with HMRC. Currently they are 45p/mile for cars and 24p/mile for motorcycles. If passengers are taken on journeys for Circuit business then a further 5p/mile per passenger may be claimed.

Expenses are typically paid monthly in arrears. September payments are therefore counted as accruals against the previous financial period.

ix Redundancy and termination payments

Redundancy and termination payments are recognised as a liability and an expense only when the charity is demonstrably committed either: (a) to terminate the employment of an employee or group of employees before the normal retirement date; or (b) to provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made in order to encourage voluntary redundancy. (FRS102 28.34). The charity is demonstrably committed to a termination only when it has a detailed formal plan for the termination and is without realistic possibility of withdrawal from the plan. (FRS102 28.35).

2.4 Assets

i Tangible fixed assets

The Circuit is managing trustee for six residential buildings. Those occupied by ministers stationed in the Circuit are described as "manses". All manses are shown in the Balance Sheet at their approximate market values. In November 2016 the Circuit decided to use the "Fair Value" of its manses on transitioning to SORP FRS102 (when reporting the 2015-16 financial year), and has since applied a "Deemed Cost less impairment" policy to valuing its manses in its annual financial reports. Land values are estimated at 25% of the property market value. Unoccupied residential properties being used to provide investment income for the Circuit are treated differently - as "investment property" - see Note 2.4 iv.

Equipment assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. Typically a 3-year depreciation policy is then utilised. Any tangible fixed assets provided by the Circuit at the Circuit's manses (equipment/furnishings provided by the Circuit which are not part of the fabric of the property) are similarly treated if they individually cost at least £1,000.

At each reporting end date, the Circuit reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

ii Intangible and heritage assets

The Circuit has no intangible or heritage assets.

iii Monetary Investments

The principal monetary investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains/losses arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA with further detail provided in these Notes.

The Circuit's other monetary investments are held as cash on deposit with a maturity date of less than one year. These deposits are held both for investment purposes and also to meet short term cash commitments (principally, ministers' stipends and lay staff salaries) as they fall due. The Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (CFB) banks these funds on the Circuit's behalf.

iv Investment Property

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where a property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of two years, the property is classified as "investment property" (whether let out or not) and, if let, it is let at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives. The Circuit's investment properties are revalued periodically in accordance with SORP FRS102 2019 and any change to the asset valuation is recorded in the Balance Sheet.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church manages a Common Deposit Fund and pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members from at least 12 to more than 100.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches within the same geographical region, typically between 10 and 30. In our case 16.

Circuit Meeting: The trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Church and others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Church.

CLT: Circuit Leadership Team. A group of Circuit trustees responsible, at the will of the Circuit Meeting, for the day to day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Currently, this Circuit's CLT comprises the ministers stationed within the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards, the Circuit Administrator and the Circuit Property Secretary.

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund (unrestricted).

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and churches in Great Britain.

Connexional Funds: The designated and/or restricted funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of its charitable and mission objectives.

District: a group of contiguous Circuits, usually between 15 and 30.

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard.

FY: Financial year.

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.

Lay employees: Non presbyteral staff employed either full or part time on formal written contracts.

MC: Methodist Church.

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme.

Pensions Trust: The Pensions Trust, the provider of the Circuit's defined contribution pension scheme for Lay Employees.

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or ordained Methodist ministers and/or deacons who have pastoral and administrative responsibility for the Churches within the Circuit.

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities.

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice.

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds.

Note 3: ANALYSIS OF INCOME

Note 3a Donations & legacies (SOFA line 1)

This category of income includes donations received from trustees and others directly to the Circuit together with any associated Gift Aid reclaimed from HMRC. This amounted to £1,968 (previous year £928):

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Donations and gifts	£1,852				£1,852	£759
Gift aid	£116				£116	£169
Legacies						
Other						
Totals	£1,968				£1,968	£928

Note 3b Grants received (SOFA line 2)

Grant income was received as shown in the table below:

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20 (RESTATED)
Southampton District - Diaconal support			£10,000		£10,000	£10,000
Hazelbury Bryan MC - Diaconal support			£2,000		£2,000	£2,000
Sturminster Newton MC - Diaconal support			£1,000		£1,000	£1,000
King's Stag MC - Diaconal support			£1,000		£1,000	£1,000
Southampton District - Family Worker support			£4,100		£4,100	£4,100
Bell Street United Church - Family Worker support			£8,064		£8,064	£7,653
Motcombe MC - Family Worker support			£2,688		£2,688	£2,551
Totals			£28,852		£28,852	£28,304

A further grant of £6,000 from Southampton District was received for Vine Youth Ministries (VYM). This was paid on to VYM by the Circuit together with the Circuit's own grant (see Note 14). Southampton District's grant for VYM was treated as "Money Received and Passed on to External Organisations" and has been excluded from Circuit income and expenditure - refer to Note 1.3.

The grants from District and individual churches to support the Circuit's Diaconal project and to support the Family Worker were all paid into the Circuit current account to offset costs incurred during the year.

The grants for the Family Worker from the Bell Street and Motcombe churches represent the surplus cost over the Financial Year for the Family Worker based at Shaftesbury/Motcombe (salary, NI, pension, plus expenses claimed by the Family Worker from Circuit funds, minus the grant funding from District and committed payments from Circuit funds). This surplus cost of £10,752 (£10,204 2019-20) was split 75% to Shaftesbury & 25% to Motcombe.

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Income: sub-totals carried forward:	£1,968		£28,852		£30,820	£29,232

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	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Income: sub-totals brought forward:	£1,968		£28,852		£30,820	£29,232

Note 3c Assessments on Churches (SOFA line 3)

This is the primary source of regular income for the Circuit at the heart of the Methodist connexional structure. There are 16 church councils in the Circuit and these separate charitable bodies act together via the Circuit to support ministry in the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale area. This includes the primary expense of ministerial staff and lay workers together with their associated costs. The churches also, through quarterly Circuit Meetings, decide on grants to be made from Circuit funds for work in specific churches and elsewhere.

Each church is assessed for an annual contribution to meet net Circuit expenditure (taking into account other sources of income available to the Circuit). The Circuit has now been in existence for 7 years and the individual payments received from Churches are largely determined on a historical basis. Currently the total does not cover net expenditure. The budgeted deficit in FY 2020-21 was £96,855 to be made up from Circuit reserves. In the current 5 Year Plan up to 2024 this reserves-funded deficit has been budgeted to continue.

During FY 2021-22, we plan to review and seek to agree a more formulaic mechanism for splitting the total Circuit assessment required between our 16 churches. The amounts paid during FY 2020-21 by the individual churches are shown below. Their payments amounted to an increase of approximately 2% on previous year levels set by the Circuit:

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Bell St. Shaftesbury + Ashmore	£41,742				£41,742	£40,950
Cheap St. Sherborne	£39,744				£39,744	£38,964
Gillingham	£38,184				£38,184	£37,434
Vicarage St. Yeovil	£27,360				£27,360	£26,826
Preston Rd. Yeovil	£24,570				£24,570	£24,090
St. Mark's Yeovil	£13,662				£13,662	£13,422
Sturminster Newton + Broad Oak	£12,969				£12,969	£12,696
Tisbury	£9,858				£9,858	£9,666
Marnhull	£8,910				£8,910	£8,736
Motcombe	£8,772				£8,772	£8,598
Wincanton	£8,094				£8,094	£7,938
Hazelbury Bryan	£4,014				£4,014	£3,936
Yetminster	£2,141				£2,141	£2,124
Ibberton	£1,914				£1,914	£1,878
Longburton	£1,590				£1,590	£1,622
King's Stag	£1,366				£1,366	£1,344
Totals	£244,890				£244,890	£240,224

Assessments on churches are monthly in advance and are treated as pre-payments on a receivables basis. St Marks church, Yeovil, is repaying a Circuit loan of £7,500 at £1,500pa. This amount is included in the assessment table above.

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Income: sub-totals carried forward:	£246,858		£28,852		£275,710	£269,456

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	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Income: sub-totals brought forward:	£246,858		£28,852		£275,710	£269,456

Note 3d Income from monetary investments (SOFA line 4)

The majority of Circuit funds are held in basic interest accounts, without exposure to financial money markets, thereby respecting our current low-risk approach to reserves. A small amount of reserves in the CMTF are held in funds approved by TMCP/CFB, resulting in dividend income as shown below plus gains/losses on assets shown separately on line 26 of the SOFA.

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
CFB	£70				£70	£646
TMCP interest	£714	£121	£14		£849	£3,143
TMCP dividends		£336			£336	£132
Totals	£784	£457	£14		£1,255	£3,921

Note 3e Income from investment properties (SOFA line 5)

The Circuit has 6 residential buildings in its portfolio, all of which have been used to house ministers in the past (manses).

During financial year 2020-21 the Circuit trustees budgeted for 5 Ministers to be in residence in manses (at Yeovil, Gillingham, Shaftesbury, Sherborne and Sturminster Newton).

This left us one property which we have been commercially leasing at market rates and using for investment income. This "spare" manse is in Yeovil at Harbin Close. The tenants occupying the property left in June 2021 and a new tenant was arranged by our estate agents, and agreed with TMCP (as required under Methodist Church rules), within a few weeks.

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20 (RESTATED)
Rental income (gross receipts)	£14,080				£14,080	£14,400
Totals	£14,080				£14,080	£14,400

The property is being let through estate agents under an Assured Shorthold Tenancy. The Circuit pays management fees (12% of income) to the agents and pays maintenance costs via the agent. Most running costs are paid directly by the tenant.

The figure reported in Line 5 of the SOFA is the GROSS Income received. Related expenditure is reported for FY 2020-21 under the "Raising Funds" category (SOFA line 10). See Notes 1.3 ii and 6b.

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20 (RESTATED)
Income: sub-totals carried forward:	£261,722	£457	£28,866		£291,046	£287,777

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	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Income: sub-totals brought forward:	£261,722	£457	£28,866		£291,046	£287,777

Note 3f Capital receipts (SOFA line 6)

There were no Capital Receipts (2020-21 - £NIL). The same was the case in 2019-20.

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Totals						

Note 3g (also CC17a Note 4) Other charitable Income (SOFA line 7)

Other charitable income of £2,688 was the amount received in the form of furlough payments under the UK Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme in relation to the Family Worker for Shaftesbury and Motcombe, who was furloughed from the end of January 2021 to early April 2021.

The Circuit had received a grant from Southampton District to support this Family Worker until August 2021 (see Note 3b). It was agreed with the District that a portion of the District's grant should be applied towards extending support for the Family Worker's role beyond August 2021, i.e. into the start of FY 2021-22. An amount of District grant equal to the Government furlough payments received (£2,688) has been held over until FY 2021-22 by the Circuit for this purpose. A provision of this amount has been made in this year's accounts (see Note 6h).

There are no unfulfilled conditions or other contingencies attaching to these payments received. No other forms of government assistance have been received. No government grants were received in the previous year.

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Government furlough payments	£2,688				£2,688	
Totals	£2,688				£2,688	

Note 3h Internal organisations' income (SOFA line 8)

An amount of £334 was received by the Circuit from the recently disbanded Wincanton Tots and Toys group. This money is now being held (with the Circuit's consent) as "designated funds", within the Circuit's general funds, for children's work in Wincanton unless and until it becomes apparent that there will be no replacement children's group activity there. The Circuit has no other internal organisation funds.

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Wincanton Tots and Toys (closing balance)	£334				£334	
Totals	£334				£334	

Note 3i Total income (SOFA line 9)

The sum total of the Circuit's income for 2020-21 (analysed in Notes 3a to 3h) is:

	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
TOTAL INCOME:	£264,744	£457	£28,866		£294,068	£287,777

Note 6: ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE**Note 6a Expenditure on raising funds (SOFA line 10)**

Circuit expenditure on raising funds in 2020-21 was limited purely to (i) cost of financial investment management of the Circuit's funds held with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) (management charges based on 0.2% of the value of the individual funds at the beginning of the year), and (ii) costs associated with the rental of the Circuit's investment property in Yeovil (spare ministerial manse) - these costs were: rent collection (estate agents' fees), insurance, and repairs and maintenance. See also Notes 2.2 ii, 2.2 iii, and 3e.

	2020-21				2019-20			
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Investment management costs (TMCP)	£424	£214	£8		£424	£323	£8	
Investment property costs	£4,029				£2,804			
Totals	£4,454	£214	£8		£3,229	£323	£8	£3,560

Notes 6b to 6o Expenditure on charitable activities**Note 6b Grants and donations (SOFA line 11)**

A grant to Vine Youth Ministry (VYM) was approved by the trustees at the Circuit Meeting held on 13th December 2018. A total payment of £10,000 was authorised to be made; £4,000 in FY 2018-19 and £3,000 in each of FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21. VYM is a Registered Charity (No. 1131007) providing outreach to schools and young people in the Somerset & Dorset area. The Southampton Methodist District also supports VYM (see Note 8).

The Circuit's trustees also committed to support the work and costs of the Family Worker based at Shaftesbury & Motcombe at the June 2018 Meeting. A total of £13,000 was committed, spread over 3 years at £4800; £4100; £4100. This grant money, together with an equivalent amount for this project from the Southampton District, is not shown here but is included in lay worker expenditure, and the recharge to the 2 churches involved was reduced by this grant amount (See Note 3b).

The Circuit made a donation of £21 in FY 2020-21 towards an ordination gift for its Deacon, (total gift value: £400, which was paid for predominantly from funds raised by the Circuit churches).

	2020-21				2019-20			
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Vine Youth Ministry	£3,000				£3,000			
Retirement, leaving and ordination gifts	£21				£100			
Totals	£3,021				£3,100			£3,100

	2020-21				2019-20			
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Expenditure: subtotals carried forward	£7,475	£214	£8		£6,329	£323	£8	
								£6,660

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		2020-21		2019-20	
		Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Expenditure: subtotals brought forward		£7,475	£214	£8	£7,697
				£323	£6,660

Note 6c Stipends, salaries and associated costs (SOFA line 12)

This category is, by far, the biggest item of expenditure in the Circuit's activities but is clearly at the heart of what we do in our community. The Circuit paid stipends to 3 Methodist presbyters, 1 Methodist deacon, and 1 URC presbyter in this financial year. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that ministers (which term includes presbyters and deacons) are not employees of the church. For simplicity, however, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms 'employer' and 'employee' are used as they would be in an employing body. Costs (stipends, employer's National Insurance, pension, apprenticeship levy) are shown in the table below:

		2020-21		2019-20	
		Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Methodist Connexion: 4 FTE ministers		£143,063			£139,125
URC Synod salary costs: Rev Duncan Goldie		£35,448			£35,423
Salary costs: lay employees		£29,231		£28,852	£59,925
Supernumerary preaching fees		£1,150			£525
Totals		£208,893		£28,852	£234,998

Stipends are paid directly to Methodist ministers through the Methodist Connexional payroll. The Circuit pays the Connexion a month in advance so August direct debits are treated as pre-payments. Most ordained Methodist presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS), which is a defined benefit scheme.

The Circuit also has a URC minister, Rev Duncan Goldie, stationed at Sherborne since June 2018. Rev Goldie's remuneration package is handled centrally by the URC office through their "Ministry & Mission" (M&M) Fund office in London. The URC deducts a monthly direct debit from the Circuit to cover Rev Goldie's gross salary, employer pension, and employer National Insurance costs.

In FY 2020-21 the Circuit employed 4 part-time lay staff, one in administration and three in family/children's work. The Circuit's family lay worker in the southern area of the Circuit (Hazelbury Bryan-centred) was made redundant in October 2020 as a direct result of the Covid pandemic.

Unlike ministers, lay staff are contractually employees and have the option of joining a pension scheme, which the Circuit has arranged with The Pensions Trust. This is a defined benefit scheme and the Circuit contributes 6% of salary (in line with Methodist Connexional directives) as employer to this scheme. Salary costs (salaries, employer's National Insurance, pension, apprenticeship levy, payroll admin charges) for these lay workers, including the redundancy pay, are detailed above.

Supernumeraries are ministers who have retired but many still conduct worship and for that are paid £25 per service (a figure set by the Methodist Conference) plus travelling expenses. All supernumerary ministers are encouraged to claim these expenses but not all do so. Local Preachers are accredited by the Connexion to conduct worship services in our churches around the Circuit. The Circuit encourages them to claim travelling expenses, but not all do so. All expense claims are made in accordance with the Circuit's Expenses Policy, at rates given in Note 2.3 viii).

		2020-21		2019-20	
		Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Expenditure: subtotals carried forward		£216,367	£214	£28,861	£245,442
				£323	£241,658

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Restricted	Endow
Expenditure: subtotals brought forward	£216,367	£214	£28,861	£245,442	£213,022	£28,313
					£323	£241,658

Note 6d Property maintenance (SOFA line 13)

As previously stated, the Circuit is Managing Trustee for 5 manse occupied by ministers stationed in the Circuit. For all manse there were "annual" type costs relating to routine servicing of gas boilers and appliances, alarm systems and electrical checks. The property at Sherborne attracts "grounds maintenance" fees via an estate management company. None of this expenditure was considered as a benefit-in-kind to the resident Ministers under HMRC guidelines. The Circuit's Property Secretary is involved in arranging and overseeing all maintenance work. Annual inspections are also carried out. The Circuit believes that all 5 properties are in good condition and that there is no requirement to identify accruals for work at this time.

Significant maintenance costs are generally sustained when refurbishing manse in-between minister occupations. At the end of FY 2020-21 our Superintendent (Gillingham-based) was stationed to another Circuit and the manse has been refitted, with some expensive repairs, before arrival of the new Superintendent at the start of FY 2021-22. The Yeovil manse required a new boiler this year.

All premises in the Circuit, churches and manse, are required by Connexion to have an independent survey every 5 years. The cost of these "quinquennial" surveys is borne at Circuit level. Any actions identified in these surveys must be acted upon by the individual churches or, in the case of manse, by the Circuit.

The total costs of manse and church maintenance items to the Circuit are disclosed in the table below:-

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Restricted	Endow
Barnaby Mead, Gillingham	£13,781			£13,781	£404	£404
Ridge Way, Shaftesbury	£126			£126	£640	£640
Poplar Drive, Yeovil	£3,257			£3,257	£581	£581
Granville Way, Sherborne	£316			£316	£996	£996
Mansford Road, Sturminster Newton	£226			£226	£391	£391
Quinquennials (churches and manse)	£500			£500	£2,475	£2,475
Totals	£18,207			£18,207	£5,487	£5,487

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Restricted	Endow
Expenditure: subtotals carried forward	£234,574	£214	£28,861	£263,649	£218,509	£28,313
					£323	£247,145

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CHURCH

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Restricted	Endow
Expenditure: subtotals brought forward	£234,574	£214	£28,861	£263,649	£28,313	£247,145

Note 6e Connexional assessment & model trust levy (SOFA line 14)

	2020-21				2019-20			
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Methodist Church Fund Connexional assessment	£47,063				£38,585			
Model Trust Levy		£2,850				£5,579		
URC M&M payment	£4,732				£4,732			
Totals	£51,795	£2,850			£43,317	£5,579		£48,896

The Methodist Church Fund assessment is the Circuit's contribution to the running costs of the Connexion. The payment is calculated using a formula based on prior-year ministerial and lay staffing levels of the 12 Circuits in the District. It is reviewed annually and adjusted in September of each period.

The Model Trust levy is deducted by TMCP from the Circuit's CMTF as one payment on 1st September each year based on total funds in the CMTF on 31st August of the previous period. On 31st August 2020 this was £106,995.

The current measure of Model Trust Lew is set at:-

2.50% for the first £100,000

5.00% for the next £150,000

7.50% for funds above £250,000

This calculation gave a Levy of £2,850 deducted from the Circuit's CMTF. The levy is paid on by TMCp to the Southampton District Advance Fund, which is used to support many initiatives in the 12 Circuits of the District including mission and outreach.

The URC Ministry & Mission (M&M) figure is the equivalent charge for the running costs of the URC Wessex Synod and the national URC organisation. It is calculated on a formula based on URC membership numbers in our 2 ecumenical partnerships at Sherborne & Shaftesbury. This is reviewed annually and adjusted in January of each period. There was no M&M increase in January 2020.

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Expenditure: subtotals carried forward	£286,369	£3,064	£28,861		£318,294	£296,041

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

	2020-21				2019-20			
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Expenditure: subtotals brought forward	£286,369	£3,064	£28,861		£261,826	£5,902	£28,313	
				£318,294				£296,041

Note 6f District assessment & levy (SOFA line 15)

2020-21						2019-20					
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21		Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2019-20
District assessment	£8,964				£8,964		£8,367				£8,367
Totals	£8,964				£8,964		£8,367				£8,367

The District assessment is the Circuit's contribution to the running costs of the Southampton District. The payment is calculated using a formula based on prior-year ministerial and lay staffing levels of the 12 Circuits in the District. It is reviewed annually and adjusted in September of each period.

Note 6g Depreciation (SOFA line 16)

2020-21										2019-20 (RESTATED)			
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21		Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2019-20 (RESTATED)		
Depreciation	£710				£710		£710				£710		
Totals	£710				£710		£710				£710		

The Circuit's purchase of a CCTV video surveillance system installed in September 2019 at the Circuit Office at a cost of £2,128 had not been capitalised or depreciated as a tangible fixed asset in last year's accounts. This has now been corrected, and Balance Sheet and SOFA figures for FY 2019-20 have been restated in this Accounts Pack; depreciation for FY 2019-20 has been included at one third of the purchase value, in line with the depreciation policy stated in Note 2.4 i. This annual depreciation of £710 has also been applied as an FY 2020-21 SOFA expense.

Note 6h Provisions (SOFA line 17)

	2020-21				2019-20			
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Vine Youth Ministry	(£3,000)			(£3,000)	(£3,000)			(£3,000)
Family Worker	(£4,100)			(£4,100)	(£4,100)			(£4,100)
Deferred District Grant - Family Worker	£2,688			£2,688				
Totals	(£4,412)			(£4,412)	(£7,100)			(£7,100)

In accordance with Circuit policy the grants approved in 2018 for the work of VYM and the Shaftesbury/Motcombe family worker had already been provided for in the balance sheet for this Financial Year 2020-21.

An amount of District grant received in FY 2020-21 to support the Family Worker at Shaftesbury and Motcombe, equal to Government furlough payments received, has been deferred to FY 2021-22, and so a new provision for this cost has been included in this year's expenditure (see also Note 6b).

Expenditure: subtotals carried forward	£291,631	£3,064	£28,861		£323,555	£263,803	£5,902	£28,313		£298,018
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YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CHURCH

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	QMTF	Restricted	Endow	Restricted	Endow
Expenditure: subtotals brought forward:	£291,631	£3,064	£28,861	£323,555	£263,803	£298,018

Note 6i **Office expenses (SOFA line 18)**

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Unrestricted	Restricted
	£8,011				£6,534	
Stationery, postage, materials, photocopying etc						
Office rent	£1,000				£1,100	
Circuit equipment	£273				£259	
Totals:	£9,284				£7,893	

This category aggregates the monies spent by all ministers, lay staff and other trustees (volunteers) on office expenses. The Circuit rents office space from Vicarage Street Church in Yeovil - the rental fee includes a contribution towards heat and light costs. Office costs shown include Circuit website maintenance, and the costs of printing the Circuit's quarterly newsletter and distributing it throughout the Circuit churches.

Note 6j Telephone and travel (SOFA line 19)

	2020-21				2019-20			
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Telephone and broadband	£2,667			£2,667	£2,841			£2,841
Travel - ministers	£2,100			£2,100	£7,623			£7,623
Travel - lay employees	£269			£269	£1,467			£1,467
Travel - supernumeraries & local preachers	£121			£121	£1,118			£1,118
Travel - Circuit (other trustees/volunteers)	£31			£31				
Travel - stationing	£99			£99				
Total:	£5,286			£5,286	£13,049			£13,049

This category aggregates the monies spent by all ministers, lay staff and other trustees (volunteers) on telephone/broadband costs and travel. The Circuit contribution towards telephone/broadband services at the Circuit office in Yeovil is also included here. Stationing travel refers to travelling costs of ministers visiting the Circuit whilst considering a new appointment in the Circuit.

Note 6k Insurance, utilities, etc (SOFA line 20)

	2020-21				2019-20			
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow
Insurance	£2,879				£2,879			
Council tax	£11,855				£11,855			
Water	£2,505				£2,505			
Total:	£17,239				£17,239			£16,864

The Circuit pays for council taxes, water rates and insurances on these properties. HMRC does not regard these expenses as benefits-in-kind in the hands of the minister. The total costs of these items to the Circuit are disclosed (net of rebates received for council tax and water rates) in the table above. No attempt is made to identify pre-payment or accrual issues with any of the above expenditure. Council taxes are billed monthly, usually over a 10-month period. Water rates are billed monthly. All properties are metered for supply and usage appears similar across the year. Insurances are paid annually in advance in September and the cost is wholly taken in that financial year.

Expenditure: subtotals carried forward	£323,440	£3,064	£28,861	£355,365	£301,608	£5,902	£28,313	£335,823
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YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Expenditure: subtotals brought forward	£323,440	£3,064	£28,861		£355,365	£335,823

Note 6l Fees and charges (SOFA line 21)

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20 (RESTATED)
Bank admin charges	£147				£147	£116
Professional fees	£2,098				£2,098	£1,214
Totals	£2,245				£2,245	£1,330

Bank charges are transaction related and charged monthly on the previous month's activity. September figures are therefore taken as accruals.

The Circuit appointed Warner Wilde Ltd as its Independent Examiner at a Circuit Meeting held in March 2021 and professional fees agreed for FY 2020-21 accounts examination are included here. Other professional fees include the use of a surveyor to revalue the Circuit's manses and investment property in July 2021.

[Investment management charges are treated as costs in the "Raising Funds" category. Professional fees relating to estate agency management of Circuit investment property are also included in "Raising Funds" - see Notes 6a, 1.3 and 2.2 ii.]

Note 6m Other outgoings (SOFA line 22)

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Training	£10				£10	£374
Removals, relocation	£4,599				£4,599	£600
Recruitment						£60
Other miscellaneous						£60
Totals	£4,609				£4,609	£1,034

A new Superintendent minister, Revd Linda Francis, was appointed to the Circuit in 2020-21, arriving in August 2021 ready to commence her new role from 1 September 2021 for FY 2021-22 onward. Relocation and removals costs relate to her move.

Note 6n Internal organisations' expenditure (SOFA line 23)

The Circuit has no internal organisations reporting their funds to the Circuit.

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20
Totals						

Note 6o Total charitable expenditure (SOFA line 24)

The sum total of the Circuit's income for FY 2020-21 (analysed in Notes 6a to 6o) is:

	2020-21			2019-20		
	Unrestricted	CMTF	Restricted	Endow	2020-21	2019-20 (RESTATED)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£330,294	£3,064	£28,861		£362,219	£338,187

Note 8 Funds received as agent

The Circuit acts as an agent for its churches in order to consolidate charitable giving to other charities and related parties. Churches send payments to the Circuit with specific directions concerning to which charities/related parties they should be paid. The Circuit also arranged collections for gifts being made to Circuit ministers, and received donations from individuals and Circuit churches. This giving is summarised below:-

See Note 2.2 i. There has been a change of accounting policy in 2020-21 to treat the Circuit as an agent when it receives grants that are directly passed on to external organisations, and where the Circuit plays no part in overseeing the grant's use. This applies to the grant for Vine Youth Ministry received by the Circuit from the Southampton Methodist District.

Description/name of party	Related party- Notes	Amount received		Amount paid out		Balance held at period end	
		This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Grant for Vine Youth Ministry / from Southampton Methodist District	VYM is an independent charity; its founding trustee is related to 1 person who was a Circuit trustee in 2020-21	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	-	-
Donations to Action for Children / from Circuit churches	Action for Children is a Methodist charity	80	77	80	77	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Relief and Development Fund / from Circuit churches	Methodist Relief and Development Fund is a Methodist charity	110	296	110	296	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Church Fund for Property / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church Fund for Property is a Methodist Connexional Fund	705	1,340	705	1,340	-	-
Donations to the Fund for the Support of Presbyters & Deacons / from Circuit churches	Fund for the Support of Presbyters & Deacons is a Methodist Connexional Fund	313	584	313	584	-	-
Donations to Junior Mission for All (Methodist Church World Mission Fund) / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church World Mission Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	421	-	421	-	-	-
Donations to the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust / from Circuit churches	Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust is a Methodist charity	420	580	420	580	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Ministers Housing Society / from Circuit churches	Methodist Ministers Housing Society is a Methodist charity	328	644	328	644	-	-
Donations to Methodist Homes Association / from Circuit churches	Methodist Homes Association is a Methodist charity	415	445	415	445	-	-
Donations to the Mission in Britain Fund / from Circuit churches	Mission in Britain Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	820	626	820	626	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Church World Mission Fund (Methodist Women in Britain Easter Offering) / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church World Mission Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	50	1,768	50	1,768	-	-
Donations to the Methodist Church World Mission Fund / from Circuit churches	Methodist Church World Mission Fund is a Methodist Connexional Fund	828	1,791	828	1,791	-	-
Donations for leaving gift for Revd Paul Arnold (funds raised by Circuit churches)	Yes, a Circuit trustee 2020-21	1,000	-	1,000	-	-	-
Donations for ordination gift for Dcn Rebekah-Joy Spinks (funds raised by Circuit churches)	Yes, a Circuit trustee 2020-21	379	-	379	-	-	-
Total		11,869	14,151	11,869	14,151	-	-

The Circuit's primary activity is "Circuit Ministry" - that is, the provision of a team of ministers and lay employees to deliver ministerial and families support to all of the 18 churches in the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale area. The costs incurred to support the provision of Circuit Ministry are categorised in the SOFA under Methodist Church standard headings (accounting policy: Note 2.3 ii), including:

- Stipends, salaries and associated costs
- Property maintenance
- Connexional assessment & model trust levy
- District assessment & levy
- Office expenses
- Telephone, travel
- Insurance, utilities.

All of these costs are directly related to the size of the ministry team (ministers and lay employees).

In the table overleaf is estimated the proportion of the above Circuit Ministry support costs which relate to the governance of this charity. Included in the calculation of estimated governance costs are the following:

- an estimate of the time spent by ministers and non-administrative lay staff on governance issues at Circuit and church meetings, and staff meetings. This is an estimate because time spent on governance is not recorded by our ministers and lay staff. To arrive at this estimate, the following broad assumptions have been made:
 - Each minister attends an average of 2 council meetings per small church plus 4 per large church per annum, plus 4 Circuit Meetings, and 10 CLT meetings. 1 hour of each meeting is spent discussing governance-related topics
 - Lay staff attend Circuit Meetings (4 per annum), plus church councils at their attached churches, and attend a supervisory meeting with a minister 4 times a year
 - During FY 2020-21, 5 ministers and 2 lay employees have spent 0.5 hours on governance-related topics at supervision meetings (every 2 months)
 - During FY 2020-21, the Circuit had 5 FTE ministers, and 2 lay employees (total 1.5 FTE equivalent) other than the Office Manager (see below), where an FTE equates to 40 hours per week
 - approx. total hours spent on governance per annum: 158h (ministers), 60h (lay).
- Based on these time estimates, the proportions of total minister time and total lay employee time have been applied to all the Circuit Ministry activity costs identified above, to calculate an approximate overall governance cost estimate.
- 100% of the Circuit office function (Circuit Office Manager and all associated office costs). The Circuit Office provides administrative and HR support to the Superintendent Minister and other Circuit trustees and, accordingly, 100% of this cost is regarded as governance costs (ref: SORP FRS102 2019 Appendix 1, page 186).
- Independent examiner fees. [Note: other fees and charges incurred in FY 2020-21 are not included below.]

These estimates indicate that the Circuit's governance costs are in the order of £28,000 p.a., i.e. approximately 8% of the charity's total expenditure.

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

The other activities of the Circuit are:

- raising funds (Note 6a)
- the award and administration of grants to Circuit churches and external bodies as appropriate and as directed by the Circuit Meeting (Note 6b)

Apart from its paid ministry team, the Circuit operates many of its functions using trustee volunteers, and there are no support costs incurred by the Circuit associated with the above two activities.

This year

	Circuit Ministry activity - governance costs 2020-21								£
	Stipends, salaries etc	Property maintenance	Connexion assessment	District assessment	Office expenses	Telephone, travel	Insurance, utilities	Fees and charges	Grand total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Governance	22,553	269	762	145	2,600	69	262	1,320	27,980
Total	22,553	269	762	145	2,600	69	262	1,320	27,980

Last year

	Circuit Ministry activity - governance costs 2019-20								£
	Stipends, salaries etc	Property maintenance	Connexion assessment	District assessment	Office expenses	Telephone, travel	Insurance, utilities	Fees and charges	Grand total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Governance	21,817	46	625	136	3,201	175	256	1,214	27,470
Total	21,817	46	625	136	3,201	175	256	1,214	27,470

Note 10	Details of certain items of expenditure
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10.1 Fees for examination of the accounts

Details are provided here of the amount paid for statutory external scrutiny of accounts and other services provided by the Circuit's independent examiner:

	This year £	Last year £
Independent examiner's fees	1,320	1,214
Assurance services other than audit or independent examination	-	-
Tax advisory fees	-	-
Other fees (for example: financial advice, consultancy, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner	-	-

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Note 11

Paid employees

11.1 Staff Costs

	This year £	Last year £
Salaries and wages	165,053	159,112
Employer National Insurance costs	15,692	14,775
Pension costs (defined benefit scheme)	31,453	30,491
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	3,001	2,909
Other employee benefits	-	-
Total staff costs	215,199	207,287

This year:

Details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

Ministers are not contractually "employed", as such - see Note 6c. All Methodist ministers' stipends are paid directly by the Methodist Connexion stipends team (finance department, Methodist House, London), who then charge the Circuit for all payments made. The Circuit's URC minister's remuneration package is handled centrally by the URC "Ministry & Mission" office in London, and the Circuit pays the URC Church monthly for these costs. The manses are provided for all ministers by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains the property, and pays the Council Tax and water charges. Manse costs paid by the Circuit are not disclosed here as employee benefits as HMRC does not regard this as a benefit-in-kind in the hands of the minister.

Last year:

Details of expenditure on staff working for the charity whose contracts are with and are paid by a related party

As above

Details of the number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) fell within each band of £10,000 from £60,000 upwards:

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

Band	Number of employees	
	This year	Last year
£60,000 to £69,999	-	-
£70,000 to £79,999	-	-
£80,000 to £89,999	-	-
£90,000 to £99,999	-	-
£100,000 to £109,999	-	-

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

The total amount paid to key management personnel (includes trustees and senior management) for their services to the charity.

Amounts shown exclude employer pension costs. For specific amounts paid to individual trustees, see Note 28.

This year	Last year
£	£
165,053	159,112

11.2 Average head count in the year

The parts of the charity in which the employees work

	This year Number	Last year Number
Fundraising	-	-
Charitable Activities	7	7
Governance	1	1
Other	-	-
Total	8	8

11.3 Ex-gratia payments to employees and others (excluding trustees)

The nature of the payment

This year	N/A
Last year	N/A

The legal authority or reason for making the payment

This year	N/A
Last year	N/A

The amount of the payment (or value of any waiver of a right to an asset)

This year £	Last year £
-	-

11.4 Redundancy payments

Total amount of payment

This year £	Last year £
1,171	-

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

The nature of the payment (cash, asset etc.)

cash	-
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The extent of redundancy funding at the balance sheet date

This year £	Last year £
-	-

Accounting policy for any redundancy or termination payments:

Refer to Note 2.3ix

Note 12	Defined contribution pension scheme or defined benefit scheme accounted for as a defined contribution scheme
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12.1 Defined contribution pension scheme

Amount of contributions recognised in the SOFA as an expense

This year	Last year
£	£
3,001	2,909

The basis for allocating the liability and expense of defined contribution pension scheme between activities and between restricted and unrestricted funds:

The Circuit offers a defined contribution pension plan to lay employees, administered by The Pensions Trust (TPT). All of the Circuit's lay employees are in this scheme. The Circuit makes a contribution of 6% of lay employees' salary, in line with Methodist Connexional directives. The expense of all these defined contributions is allocated wholly to the Circuit Ministry activity in the SOFA, paid for from general (unrestricted) funds. The liabilities of the scheme are managed by TPT.

12.2 This section applies where the charity participates in a defined benefit pension plan but is unable to ascertain its share of the underlying assets and liabilities.

Confirmation that although the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution plan, it is a defined benefit plan.

N/A

Such information as is available about the plan's surplus or deficit and the implications, if any, for the reporting charity for this year and last year, if different

N/A

12.3 Please complete this section where the charity participates in a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan that is accounted for as a defined contribution plan.

Describe the extent to which the charity can be liable to the plan for other entities' obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan. If this is different for last year, provide details

N/A

Provide an explanation of how any liability arising from an agreement with a multi-employer plan to fund a deficit has been determined. If this is different for last year, provide details

N/A

Note 13 Grant making*Please refer also to Note 6b***This year:****13.1 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)**

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs	Total
			£	£
Vine Youth Ministry	3,000	-	-	3,000
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total	3,000	-	-	3,000

13.2 Grants made to institutions

Name of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Vine Youth Ministry	Outreach in schools	3,000
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		3,000
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		3,000

Last year:**13.3 Analysis of grants paid (included in cost of charitable activities)**

Analysis	Grants to institutions	Grants to individuals	Support costs £	Total £
Vine Youth Ministry	3,000	-	-	3,000
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total	3,000	-	-	3,000

13.4 Grants made to institutions

Names of institution	Purpose	Total amount of grants paid £
Vine Youth Ministry	Outreach in schools	3,000
		-
		-
		-
Total grants to institutions in reporting period		3,000
Other unanalysed grants		-
TOTAL GRANTS PAID		3,000

Note 14 Tangible fixed assets

14.1 Cost or valuation

	Freehold land & buildings - manse properties	Other land & buildings	Plant, machinery and motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
At the beginning of the year	1,588,000		-	102,129	1,690,129
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	-	-	(100,000)	(100,000)
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers *	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	1,588,000	-	-	2,129	1,590,129

14.2 Depreciation and impairments

**Basis				SL	
** Rate				3 years	
At beginning of the year	-	-	-	710	710
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	-	-	710	710
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers*	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	-	-	-	1,419	1,419

14.3 Net book value

Net book value at the beginning of the year	1,588,000	-	-	101,419	1,689,419
Net book value at the end of the year	1,588,000	-	-	710	1,588,710

14.4 Impairment

This year: a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

[For information only]: In July 2021 the Circuit arranged for professional reassessment of its manses' open market values. This exercise confirmed that the property values are higher than the values shown in the accounts, i.e. that there has been no impairment loss. Accordingly, the Circuit's manses continue to be carried in the accounts at the Deemed Cost values from previous years.

Last year: a description of the events and circumstances that led to the recognition or reversal of an impairment loss.

N/A

14.5 Revaluation

The Circuit's accounting policy is "cost less impairment" for the Circuit's manse properties - (not revaluation) - see Note 2.4 i.

The Circuit has this year revised its accounting policy regarding the valuation of Circuit equipment at manses. Refer to Notes 1.3 and 2.4 i. Fixtures and fittings provided by the Circuit at the Circuit's manses are now identified, capitalised and depreciated under the new policy if they individually cost at least £1,000. Other equipment owned by the Circuit is already treated in this way. (This replaces the Circuit's previous policy, which had been to declare an estimate of £20,000 for fixtures and fittings at each property, valued on a "new for old" replacement basis.)

The impact of this policy change is to reduce the value of the Circuit's tangible fixed assets from £100,000 (£20,000 x five manses) to £NIL. This reduction is shown in the 2020-21 SOFA (line 30) as a £100,000 loss in the Circuit's fixed asset values. Although not strictly a "revaluation", this adjustment has been shown in Note 14.1 (above) in the "revaluation" line - and in SOFA line 30.

14.6 Other disclosures

(i) **The amount of borrowing costs, if any, capitalised in the construction of tangible fixed assets and the capitalisation rate used.**

(ii) **The amount of contractual commitments for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets.**

(iii) **Details of the existence and carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment to which the charity has restricted title or that are pledged as security for liabilities.**

This year	Last year
£	£
-	-
-	-
-	-

* The "transfers" row is for movements between fixed asset categories.

** Method of depreciation: SL = straight line; RB = reducing balance. Rate of depreciation: for straight line, the anticipated life of the asset (in years); for reducing balance, the percentage annual deduction.

Note 17 Investment assets

17.1 Fixed asset investments (please provide for each class of investment)

	Cash & cash equivalents	Listed investments	Investment properties	Social investments	Monetary investments (CMTF @ TMCP)	Total
Carrying (fair) value at beginning of period		-	340,000	-	6,973	346,973
Add: additions to investments during period*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: disposals at carrying value	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add: Reversal of impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add/(deduct): transfer in/(out) in the period	-	-	-	-	-	-
Add/(deduct): net gain/(loss) on revaluation	-	-	(15,000)	-	1,144	(13,856)
Carrying (fair) value at end of year	-	-	325,000	-	8,117	333,117

*additions resulting from acquisitions through business combinations, if any.

Please note that Fair Value in this context is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm's length transaction. For traded securities, the fair value is the value of the security quoted on the London Stock Exchange Daily Official List or equivalent. For other assets where there is no market price on a traded market, it is the trustees' or valuers' best estimate of fair value.

17.2 Breakdown of investments shown above agreeing with the balance sheet, differentiating between those held at fair value and those held at cost less impairment.

This year:

	Analysis of investments	
	Fair value at year end	Cost less impairment
	£	£
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	325,000	-
Social investments	-	-
Monetary investments (CMTF @ TMCP)	8,117	-
Total	333,117	-
Grand total (Fair value at year end+Cost less impairment)		333,117

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Last year:

	Analysis of investments	
	Fair value at year end	Cost less impairment
	£	£
Cash or cash equivalents	-	-
Listed investments	-	-
Investment properties	340,000	-
Social investments	-	-
Monetary investments (CMTF @ TMCP)	6,973	-
Total	346,973	-
Grand total (Fair value at year end+Cost less impairment)		346,973

17.3 The Circuit holds investment properties, so the following information is provided:

(i) An explanation of the methods and significant assumptions in determining the fair value of investment property held by the charity:

The Circuit's investment property at 24 Harbin Close, Yeovil, was revalued by a professional firm of surveyors in July 2021, in line with the Circuit's policy of revaluing its investment properties periodically. The surveyors determined that the property (land + buildings) had gained in value by £5,000 to £325,000 from the previous valuation of £320,000, with the land component being 25% of this.

In arriving at their opinions of value the surveyors adopted the comparative method of valuation. A desk top valuation appraisal was undertaken. Inspection of the property had been undertaken by the same firm of surveyors (for the purposes of quinquennial inspection) over the last 5 years, and, appraisal included analysis of information recorded therefrom along with due consideration of comparable sales evidence which was available at the date of the valuation. Valuation was carried out in accordance with the Practice Statements in the RICS Global Valuation Standards (effective from 1st July 2017).

Notes 1.3 and 2.4 i describe a significant change in the Circuit's accounting policy which has been adopted this year - relating to the carrying value of fixtures and fittings (tangible fixed assets) at the Circuit's investment property and manses. Under the previous policy, an estimate of £20,000 had been included in the Balance Sheet as part of the Circuit investment property's valuation. Under the revised policy an adjustment of -£20,000 has been applied, on the basis that the Circuit has no tangible fixed assets with individual purchase value of more than £1,000 at its investment property.

The net impact of these two factors on the investment property's valuation in 2020-21 compared with the 2019-20 figure was -£15,000.

(ii) Name of independent valuer, if applicable, and relevant qualifications

ADRIAN MALE FRICS, Christophers Chartered Surveyors

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(iii) Details of any restrictions on the ability to realise investment property or on the remittance of income or disposal proceeds

The Circuit's investment property is currently let to private tenants, and any sale of the property would need to be subject to vacant possession by the Circuit under the notice terms of the lease. Furthermore, Circuit manses are Model Trust properties under Methodist Church rules and the Circuit would be required to obtain consent from the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) prior to undertaking any property disposal. Disposal proceeds are subject to a levy chargeable by TMCP at 20% on the first £100,000 and 40% on any excess over £100,000. Any leasing of Circuit property is subject to TMCP approval, to ensure model tenancy agreement terms are in place. There are no constraints on the Circuit's use of rent income from investment property while leased.

(iv) An explanation of any contractual obligations for the purchase, construction or development of investment property or for repairs, maintenance or enhancements

The Circuit has contractual obligations for repairs and maintenance to its investment property under the terms of the lease (it is currently let to private tenants at market rates).

17.4 Current asset investments - breakdown

Current assets are itemised on the Balance Sheet (see Section B), which has been prepared to align with Methodist Church standard reporting and with SORP FRS102 2019. See also Note 24.

17.5 Guarantees

Details and amount of any guarantee made to or on behalf of a third party

Name of the entity or entities benefiting from those guarantees

An explanation of how the guarantee furthers the charity's aims

This year	Last year
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A

17.6 Concessionary loans

Amount of concessionary loans made (*Multiple loans made may be disclosed in aggregate provided that such aggregation does not obscure significant information*).

Description	This year £	Last year £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

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Amount of concessionary loans received (*Multiple loans received may be disclosed in aggregate provided that such aggregation does not obscure significant information*).

Description	This year £	Last year £
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
Total	-	-

Terms and conditions eg interest rate, security provided

Value of any concessionary loans which have been committed but not taken up at the reporting date

Amounts payable within 1 year

Amounts payable after more than 1 year

Amounts receivable within 1 year

Amounts receivable after more than 1 year

This year	Last year

17.7 Additional information

Information about the significance of investments to the charity's financial position or performance eg. terms and conditions of loans or the use of hedging to manage financial risk.

For all investments measured at fair value, the basis for determining the value, including any assumptions applied when using a valuation technique.

Where a charity has provided financial assets as a form of security, the carrying amount of the financial asset pledged as security and the terms and conditions relating to its pledge.

The Circuit has no loans. The Circuit is not dependent on income from monetary investments, which accounted for only 0.4% of its income in 2020-21 (1.3% last year). The Circuit's income from its investment property accounted for 4.8% of income in 2020-21 (5% last year).

See 17.3(i) above.

N/A

Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

19.1 Analysis of debtors

	This year £	Last year £
Trade debtors	846	-
Prepayments and accrued income	11,994	11,978
Other debtors	2,768	2,631
Total	15,608	14,609

Please complete 19.2 where a material debtor is recoverable more than a year after the reporting date.

19.2 Analysis of debtors recoverable in more than 1 year (included in debtors above)

	This year £	Last year £
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	-	-
Total	-	-

Note 20**Creditors and accruals****20.1 Analysis of creditors**

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	2,688	7,100	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	1,488	1,299	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	22,303	25,646	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Total	26,479	34,045	-	-

20.2 Deferred income

This note applies if the charity has deferred income

The reasons why income is deferred

This year	Last year
N/A	

Movement in deferred income account

Balance at the start of the reporting period
 Amounts added in current period
 Amounts released to income from previous periods
 Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

Note 21 Provisions for liabilities and charges

Please complete this note if you have included in charity expenditure any provisions. A provision is made when the charity has a liability of uncertain timing or amount.

21.1 Movements in recognised provisions and funding commitment during the period

Balance at the start of the reporting period
Amounts added in current period
Amounts charged against the provision in the current period
Unused amounts reversed during the period
Balance at the end of the reporting period

This year £	Last year £
7,100	14,200
2,688	-
(7,100)	(7,100)
-	-
2,688	7,100

21.2 Please provide:

- a brief description of any obligations on the balance sheet and the expected amount and timing of resulting payments;

- an indication of the uncertainties about the amount or timing of those outflows; and

- the amount of any expected reimbursement, stating the amount of any asset that has been recognised for that expected reimbursement.

This year	Last year
Refer to Note 6b. (a) Grant to Vine Youth Ministry (ref: Note 6b): £3,000 FY 2020-21 being the final year. (b) Commitment to spend £4,100 of the Circuit's funds towards the cost of the Family Worker at Shaftesbury and Motcombe; FY 2020-21 being the final year. (c) The Family Worker at Shaftesbury and Motcombe was furloughed from the end of January 2021 to early April 2021. An amount of District grant received in FY 2020-21 to support the Family Worker, equal to Government furlough payments received of £2688, has been deferred to FY 2021-22, and so a new provision for this cost has been included in this year's expenditure. See Note 3g.	Refer to Note 6b. (a) Grant to Vine Youth Ministry: £3,000 (2019-20) + £3,000 (FY 2020-21). (b) Commitment to spend £4,100 of the Circuit's funds in both FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 towards the cost of the Family Worker at Shaftesbury & Motcombe.
It is fully expected the grant amount deferred to FY 2021-22 will be spent early in FY 2021-22.	
None	None

21.3 For any funding commitment that is not recognised as a liability or provision, provide details of commitment made, the time frame of that commitment, any performance-related conditions and details of how the commitment will be funded (with contracts for capital expenditure separately identified).

This year	Last year
The Circuit has contracts or obligations for the following: Office accommodation, which is an informal arrangement with a church within the Circuit and a contribution of £1,000 was made for rent during the year (2019-20: £1,100) and to cover heating and lighting costs, plus an amount of £450 to cover telephone and broadband costs. The Sherborne manse, and the investment property in Yeovil, each attract a grounds maintenance charge via estate management companies. In addition there are short term obligations as follows: - telephones at the Circuit office and the Circuit manses along with various maintenance contracts (building alarms/security systems). - photocopier rental at the Circuit Office. The total annual cost of these is not considered material.	

21.4 Where unrestricted funds have been designated to a fund commitment, please disclose the nature of any amounts designated and the likely timing of that expenditure.

See Note 3h. An amount of £334 is being held as "designated funds", for children's work in Wincanton unless and until it becomes apparent that there will be no replacement children's group activity there. The timing and possibility of needing to use these monies is currently uncertain, the context being that the Circuit's work with children in Wincanton ceased recently.	
---	--

Note 24 Cash at bank and in hand

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church are short term deposits available on demand without loss of interest. The Circuit's account with Lloyds Bank plc is its current account.

TMCP works through the agency of CFB. Monies are held by TMCP on the Circuit's behalf are short term cash investments in the Circuit's Model Trust Fund, the "Trim Bequest", and "Cluett Bequest". These are all Model Trust funds. Funds can be withdrawn on demand subject to Circuit Meeting approval, and subject to approval by TMCP to ensure that funds withdrawn are used for Model Trust purposes in accordance with Methodist Church rules. Such purposes might include, for example, repair/maintenance and caretaking of trust property, support of personnel serving in the Circuit, payments to Methodist organisations/charities, etc.. It is the responsibility of the Circuit Meeting to ensure that any funds withdrawn take account of trustees' other obligations including assessments, building maintenance, reserves policy, and mission policy.

The Circuit is holding £334 of designated monies (see Notes 3h and 21.4).

Monies held in the Bequest for Women's Work are similarly available as above but are restricted and can only be used by the Circuit's Methodist Women in Britain group in line with their aims and objectives.

2020-21							2019-20
General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Trim Bequest	Cluett Bequest	Women's Bequest (restricted)	Total	
Funds held with TMCP	47,415		159,105	53,093	4,209	263,821	316,415
Central Finance Board deposits	90,942					90,942	59,627
Cash at bank (Lloyds Bank plc)	93,591	334				93,926	148,652
Totals	184,533	334	159,105	53,093	4,209	448,688	524,694

Note 25 Fair value of assets and liabilities

25.1 Below are provided details of the charity's exposure to credit risk (the risk of incurring a loss due to a debtor not paying what is owed) , liquidity risk (the risk of not being able to meet short term financial demands) and market risk (the risk that the value of an investment will fall due to changes in the market) arising from financial instruments to which the charity is exposed at the end of the reporting period and explain how the charity manages those risks.

Credit risk:

- The Circuit's primary sources of income are: assessments from churches, grants (e.g. from Southampton Methodist District) and rental income from its investment property. The risk of default on these payments is considered to be low.

Liquidity risk:

- The Circuit maintains a reserves policy of keeping six months' budgeted expenditure in hand, to be able to meet unforeseen short term financial demands alongside its ongoing financial obligations. Further Circuit resources are planned to be used in accordance with the Circuit's 5-year plan - these amounts are included and detailed in the reserves policy. Under the current plan, the Circuit's currently available reserves are entirely committed. To avoid spending beyond its available funds, the sale of Circuit assets (e.g. the Circuit's investment property, or any chapels becoming redundant in the interim) will be required in the next few years, to replenish the Circuit's reserves. This will enable the Circuit to continue to hold a minimum of six months' expenditure in its general funds at any time whilst funding, on an annual basis, the ongoing commitments made in its financial plan. On this basis, the Circuit's exposure to liquidity risk is low.

Market risk:

- The Circuit's financial investments are managed on its behalf by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. These include £8,117 invested in the CFB's Managed Mixed Fund (£7,458) and Managed Fixed Interest Fund (£660). The Managed Mixed Fund provides a diversified blend of investment funds, with a bias towards equities. It is preferred by many Methodist investors who are looking for a balance of long term capital appreciation and income, through a diversified portfolio. Other Circuit funds are held on deposit with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church. The proportion of Circuit reserves held by TMCP in the two CFB financial investment funds is approximately 1.7% of the Circuit's current assets (0.3% of its total funds), and this is regarded as a low level of exposure to market risk.

- The asset values of the Circuit's manses are determined on a Fair Value basis. The Circuit's manses and investment property represent, unsurprisingly, the majority of the Circuit's assets, and in the event of a collapse in the housing market the Circuit would undoubtedly be significantly affected.

25.2 Details of the amount of change in the fair value of basic financial instruments (debtors, creditors, investments (see section 11, FRS 102 SORP)) measured at fair value through the SoFA that is attributable to changes in credit risk.

This year	Last year
N/A	N/A

Note 27 Charity funds**27.1 Details of material funds held and movements during the CURRENT reporting period**

Details are provided here of the movements of material individual funds in the reporting period. The 'Total funds' figure below reconciles to 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

* Key: PE - permanent endowment funds; EE - expendible endowment funds; R - restricted income funds, including special trusts, of the charity; and U - unrestricted funds

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or U *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
General Fund	U		2,430,454	264,745	(330,295)	49,666	(115,000)	2,299,570
Circuit Model Trust Fund	U	General - see Note 24	106,995	457	(3,064)	(50,000)	1,144	55,532
Designated funds	U	Wincanton childrens' activities				334		334
Diaconal grants	R	Diaconal support - see Note 3b		14,000	(14,000)			
Family Worker grants	R	Support of Family Worker at Shaftesbury & Motcombe - see Note 3b		14,852	(14,852)			
Bequest for Women's Work	R	Methodist Women in Britain - see Note 24	4,203	14	(8)			4,209
Total Funds			2,541,652	294,068	(362,219)		(113,856)	2,359,645

27.2 Details of material funds held and movements during the PREVIOUS reporting period

Details are provided here of the movements of material individual funds in the previous reporting period. The 'Total funds' figure below reconciles to last year's 'Total funds' in the balance sheet.

Fund names	Type PE, EE R or U *	Purpose and Restrictions	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Fund balances carried forward £
General Fund	U		2,426,380	258,019	(303,972)	50,028		2,430,455
Circuit Model Trust Fund	U	General - see Note 24	161,586	1,418	(5,902)	(50,000)	(107)	106,995
Designated funds	U							
Diaconal grants	R	Diaconal support - see Note 3b		14,000	(14,000)			
Family Worker grants	R	Support of Family Worker at Shaftesbury & Motcombe - see Note 3b		14,304	(14,304)			
Bequest for Women's Work	R	Methodist Women in Britain - see Note 24	4,203	36	(8)	(28)		4,203
Total Funds			2,592,169	287,777	(338,186)		(107)	2,541,653

27.3 Transfers between funds**This year**

There were no transfers between unrestricted and restricted funds, between endowment and restricted funds, or between endowment and unrestricted funds.

Last year

The sum of £28 shown in Note 27.2 above is the interest (after administration charges) on the (restricted) Bequest for Women's Work fund being paid into the Circuit's current account (unrestricted).

There were no other transfers between unrestricted and restricted funds, between endowment and restricted funds, or between endowment and unrestricted funds.

Note 28 Transactions with trustees and related parties

Details of the charity's transactions with related parties (other than the trustee expenses explained in guidance notes) are provided in this note.

28.1 Trustee remuneration and benefits**This year**

The following trustees received remuneration or other benefits from the Circuit in their capacity as paid Methodist and URC ministers, and lay employees, with the Circuit:

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the other ministers, the Circuit Stewards including the Circuit Treasurer, plus the Office Manager and Circuit Property Secretary, together form the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) and are considered Key Management Personnel. The ministers of the Circuit undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Superintendent chairs meetings of the CLT and Circuit Meetings. All voting members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. Our Office Manager is a member of CLT and a lay employee but is not a trustee. Paid trustees are all the ministers, and one of our lay employees (the Family Worker who also takes responsibility for safeguarding). All other trustees are volunteers. All lay staff are employed at the decision of the Circuit Meeting.

The cost of all stipends, employer's NIC, employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the ministers of the Circuit are met by the Circuit. The Methodist Connexion finance team in London pays all Methodist ministers' salaries after deductions (employee NI, tax and pension payments). Connexion charges the Circuit for these costs plus employer NI and employer pension payments, and pays all tax and NI due to HMRC. The URC Mission and Ministry team similarly makes a monthly charge to the Circuit for the employment costs of the Circuit's URC minister. For all of the Circuit's Methodist and URC ministers, the Circuit does not pay any minister directly - the payment is made by the central church organisation and the costs are charged to the Circuit. Similarly, the Circuit pays no remuneration/ benefits to lay staff directly - payments are made by the Methodist Church and costs charged to the Circuit.

Apart from the five ministers and the two lay workers mentioned no other key management personnel or member of the Circuit Meeting was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the Circuit, although certain expense costs were reimbursed - see 28.2 below.

The amounts of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to these trustees by the charity are shown below:

Name of trustee	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value				
		Remuneration	Pension contribution	Redundancy (including loss of office)/ex gratia	Other	TOTAL
		£	£	£	£	£
Revd Paul Arnold (Superintendent Minister)	Methodist standing orders	28,245	6,866			35,111
Revd Denise Binks (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	25,693	6,866			32,559
Revd Kate Konrad (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	25,693	6,866		515	33,074
Dcn Rebekah-Joy Spinks (Deacon)	Methodist standing orders	25,693	6,866			32,559
Revd Duncan Goldie (URC Minister)	URC M&M orders	26,772	3,989		1,362	32,123
Mrs Helen Coombes (Office Manager)*	Lay employment contract	16,551	993			17,544
Mrs Lynn Heaton (Families Worker)	Lay employment contract	16,406	984			17,390
		165,053				200,359

*key management personnel (CLT member) but not a trustee

Details of why remuneration or other employment benefits were paid.

See notes above. With regard to Revd Goldie, the Circuit payments shown are for 92% of his remuneration and benefits; the remaining 8% being paid by Mere URC church. "Other" payment of £1362 to Revd Goldie is URC car allowance cost met by the Circuit in 2020-21. In addition to remuneration and pension payments, Revd Konrad received a payment from the Circuit of £515 (gross: taxed via Methodist finance London) to compensate her for privately-contracted telephone/broadband expenses.

Where an ex gratia payment has been made to a trustee, provide an explanation of the nature of the payment.

N/A

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST CIRCUIT

Last year

The following trustees received remuneration or other benefits from the Circuit in their capacity as paid Methodist and URC ministers, and lay employees, with the Circuit:

As Note 28.1 above.

The amounts of, and legal authority for, any remuneration or other benefits paid to these trustees by the charity are shown below:

Name of trustee	Legal authority (eg order, governing document)	Amounts paid or benefit value				
		Remuneration	Pension contribution	Redundancy (including loss of office)/ex gratia	Other	TOTAL
		£	£	£	£	£
Revd Paul Arnold (Superintendent Minister)	Methodist standing orders	27,337	6,685			34,022
Revd Denise Binks (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	24,852	6,685			31,537
Revd Kate Konrad (Minister)	Methodist standing orders	24,852	6,685			31,537
Dcn Rebekah-Joy Spinks (Deacon)	Methodist standing orders	24,852	6,685			31,537
Revd Duncan Goldie (URC Minister)	URC M&M orders	25,171	3,751		1,500	30,422
Mrs Helen Coombes (Office Manager)*	Lay employment contract	16,096	966			17,062
Mrs Lynn Heaton (Families Worker)	Lay employment contract	15,952	957			16,909
		159,112				193,027

*key management personnel (CLT member) but not a trustee

Details of why remuneration or other employment benefits were paid.

See notes above. With regard to Revd Goldie, the Circuit payments shown are for 92% of his remuneration and pension; the remaining 8% being paid by Mere URC church. "Other" payment of £1500 to Revd Goldie is URC car allowance cost met by the Circuit in 2019-20.

Where an ex gratia payment has been made to a trustee, provide an explanation of the nature of the payment.

N/A

28.2 Trustees' expenses

The Circuit has a published Expenses Policy (see Note 2.2 viii) under which all trustees may claim for appropriate expenses in the course of their duties on behalf of the Circuit.

Some (not all) of the Circuit's supernumeraries and local preachers and just two other volunteer trustees have claimed and received travel expense payments in relation to their travel on Circuit business. The travel costs of these volunteers, and of ministers and lay workers are shown in detail in Note 6j and summed below.

Under Methodist standing orders, supernumerary ministers can claim preaching fees as expenses, at a fixed rate per service set by the Methodist Conference (see Note 6c). Other reimbursed volunteer expenses (telephone and office costs, and certain removal expenses) are detailed in the expenditure identified in Notes 6i, 6j and 6m and are summed below.

Type of expenses reimbursed	This year	Last year
	£	£
Travel	2,619	10,208
Subsistence	-	-
Accommodation	-	-
Office expenses (stationery, postage, materials, books)	6,425	4,055
Telephone	120	120
Reimbursed removals and relocation costs	699	600
Supernumerary preaching fees	1,150	525
	-	-
TOTAL	11,012	15,508

The number of trustees reimbursed for expenses or who had expenses paid by the charity was:

18

16

28.3 Transaction(s) with related parties

Details are given here of transactions undertaken by (or on behalf of) the charity in which a related party has a material interest.

This year

The son of one of the Circuit's 2020-21 trustees is equipped with printers and folding, binding and stapling tools which he uses to print quantities of the Circuit magazine (published quarterly in A5 format) and Circuit preaching plan. These are distributed by the Circuit Office Manager to around 250 people in the Circuit. Via his parent this printing arrangement is with a "related party" under the definitions in SORP FRS102 2019 (9.15). Printing is expensed on an "at cost" materials and equipment use only basis: the typical charge for printing 250 copies of the Circuit magazine (6 page edition, part in colour) and a similar number of the Circuit preaching plan is in the region of £260.

Vine Youth Ministries (VYM), a local charity supported by the Circuit and by Southampton Methodist District, is run by a 2020-21 Circuit trustee's son. Refer to Notes 6b and 8. VYM is a registered charity providing outreach to schools and young people in the Somerset and Dorset area.

The Circuit's related parties include the Methodist Connexion, the Southampton Methodist District, the churches within the Circuit, and other Methodist Districts in Great Britain, CFB and TMCP. All of these entities have their own trustees or directors. All of the Circuit trustees are members of one or another Church within the Circuit and may also be trustees in their churches.

Charges made by, and income received from, CFB and TMCP are included in Notes 3d and 6l. The Circuit is principally funded by donations received from Circuit churches, and from the District. Income received from these parties is detailed in Notes 3b and 3c.

A small number of Circuit trustees made donations (without conditions) direct to the Circuit during 2020-21 - the aggregate figure for these received donations was £1,668 including Gift Aid tax recovered (2019-20: £842).

Monies passed on to external organisations by the Circuit acting as agent are all to Methodist related parties (see Note 8). These amounts are not otherwise included in these accounts.

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction(s)	Amount	Balance at period end	Provision for bad debts at period end	Amounts written off during reporting period
			£	£	£	£
Daniel England	via family	Circuit printing costs	1044	-	-	-
Vine Youth Ministries	via family	Circuit grant for schools work	3000	-	-	-

In relation to the transactions above, please provide the terms and conditions, including any security and the nature of any payment (consideration) to be provided in settlement.

Terms for magazine printing expenses: payment on receipt of goods.

For any related party, please provide details of any guarantees given or received.

None.

Last year

Name of the trustee or related party	Relationship to charity	Description of the transaction(s)	Amount	Balance at period end	Provision for bad debts at period end	Amounts written off during reporting period
			£	£	£	£
Mr Daniel England	via family	Circuit printing costs	1387	-	-	-
Vine Youth Ministries	via family	Circuit grant for schools work	3000	-	-	-

In relation to the transactions above, please provide the terms and conditions, including any security and the nature of any payment (consideration) to be provided in settlement.

Terms for magazine printing expenses: payment on receipt of goods.

For any related party, please provide details of any guarantees given or received.

None.

Accounts



**YEOVIL and BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST
CIRCUIT (26-05)
Charity Registration Number 1158290**

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
for the year ended
31 AUGUST 2020

Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Circuit of the Methodist Church (26/05)
Charity Registration Number: 1158290
24 Barnaby Mead, Gillingham, Dorset, SP8 4AL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST, 2020

1. SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT.

During the last year the Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Circuit has been able to work with a full quota of full-time ministerial staff, and along with our Supernumerary colleagues and the large number of committed volunteers in every church, we have sought to carry out the work of leading worship, pastoral care, outreach and mission. In September 2019 we welcomed Rev Kate Konrad to take pastoral responsibility for churches in the Yeovil end of the Circuit and are appreciative to Rev Margaret Oxenham (Supernumerary) for her committed work in this part of the Circuit prior to Kate's arrival.

Our Pioneer Minister, Deacon Rebekah-Joy Spinks successfully completed her second year of Probation in the Circuit and has continued to develop Youth Work and intergenerational mission in the southern and eastern section of the Circuit. The District Probationers' Committee recommended that Rebekah-Joy be Ordained and Received into Full Connexion at the Methodist Conference in the Summer of 2020. Due to the 'Covid19' crisis, the business of Conference was not able to be completed in the usual way, meaning that Rebekah-Joy was Received into Full Connexion (virtually) and will now be Ordained at a service in Wesley's Chapel, London on 18th April, 2021.

Rev Gordon Elford, for reasons of age and health, has had to step down from active ministry, but the Circuit continues to hold a deep sense of gratitude for the generous and tireless work undertaken by the four other (active) Supernumerary ministers and nineteen fully accredited (active) Local Preachers – without their regular and consistent ministry Sunday-by-Sunday, the worshipping life of the Circuit could not be sustained.

During the year the Circuit has continued to employ three part-time lay staff (x2 workers with children and families; x1 administrator). Along with the Children & Families Worker who was appointed to work at Bell Street Church (Meth & URC) and Motcombe Methodist Church, it has been encouraging to see the imaginative and inspiring work being done amongst families linked to our Circuit churches. These activities include, Holiday Playschemes, Parent & Toddler Groups, 'Messy Church', Youth Clubs, craft & music, and other activities and events that have helped in the mission of church congregations.

In addition, it is impossible to quantify the voluntary time and effort has been given by our team of Circuit Stewards and numerous members of individual churches across the Circuit. Our large team of Stewards, Pastoral Visitors, Junior Church helpers, caterers, secretaries, property officers, etc, do outstanding work to ensure the smooth running of our churches and adhere to the best practices required of our denomination.

Worship has taken place in seventeen churches (with services also being led in the worshipping community at Ashmore where the Methodist Society meets in the Village Hall). During the year, the Manse at 24 Harbin Close, Yeovil has been let to tenants.

Along with every other group, business, organisation and charity in the country, the work of the Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Circuit in the second half of the year has been overshadowed by the consequences of the 'Covid19' pandemic. The need for a 'lockdown' of all public buildings considered 'non-essential', resulted in the closure of all our church buildings and cessation of all activities that took place within them. There have been financial consequences as churches have had to cope with a shortfall of income through weekly cash offerings and loss of rental income from community groups who hire Halls and other rooms in our churches. As well as the financial impact, the 'lockdown' measures have meant we have been unable to continue the normal ministry and mission in so many ways amongst church members and those in the wider community who have no direct link with a specific congregation. Our ministers have been unable to lead worship, visit people in their homes, minister to the sick and dying in hospitals and take part in social activities and other community events linked to the life of our congregations. This has been deeply distressing for many in our church communities, especially the elderly, isolated and those considered at 'high risk' of infection. All Staff members have sought to adjust to the challenges and, by using the conferencing platform 'Zoom' there have been three 'online' services each Sunday. Additionally, worship material has been produced and distributed via email and post to those who cannot use online technology. 'Visiting' has been done via phone calls and email and our Children & Families workers have worked creatively to produce activity packs and other resources to keep in touch with children and parents. As this report is written, we are beginning to re-open our church buildings again for worship after the completion of extensive work by Property Secretaries (and others) who have undertaken the exacting requirements of the Risk Assessment process; ensured the safety of all buildings; and, implemented systems which will allow people to visit our churches with a high degree of confidence (whilst accepting that whilst the Covid virus is present in the general population, there is no absolute guarantee of safety in any public place). Some of our churches remain closed for the time being and will continue to do so for some time given the health concerns for some of the key officers who are responsible for the opening and running of the buildings. The Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) has been in touch with all churches assuring them of our continued support and (whilst it is not possible to guarantee any sort of 'bail out') all Treasurers are aware of the offer of financial assistance from Circuit funds if a congregation has immediate and pressing cash-flow problems.

In line with the purposes of this charity we have worked to advance the Christian faith and fulfil our charitable status through:

- Regular acts of worship in all Churches (and development of online services using the 'Zoom' platform during the 'C19' pandemic) including funerals, weddings and baptisms.
- Small house/fellowship/prayer groups (and the establishment of new online 'Zoom' groups).
- We have multiple Circuit wide groups supporting those under 11, and 11-16yrs; additionally, there is one group providing social and spiritual support to those over 50; five active Women's Fellowship Groups; three senior citizens luncheon clubs; and, three regular Prayer Breakfasts.

- Community involvement is maintained through a variety of groups including: St Mark's community garden; working with Vine Youth Ministry in local schools; 'Rendezvous' youth project in Sherborne; The Lord's Larder (Yeovil) and Food-Banks in Sherborne; Gillingham and Shaftesbury providing food for those in need; Bereavement Drop-In group; Senior citizens lunch clubs; regular coffee mornings; several parent/carer & toddler groups as well as children and young people's groups.
- During the year Gillingham established a 'Clothing Exchange' project to supply good quality clothing for parents with babies/toddlers and young children.
- The Circuit Meeting reviewed its Safeguarding Policy for children, young people and vulnerable adults.
- The Circuit, and all Circuit Churches, have continued to respond to the requirements of the GDPR legislation and all data files are being reviewed, privacy notices are being approved and displayed.
- The 'Circuit Policy' document has been the basis of our work and the CLT continues to review priorities and plan for changes that are likely to be required beyond 2023 when our current five-year financial plan comes to an end.
- In this Financial Year, the Circuit gave a grant of **£3,000** to support the work of the Vine Youth Ministry charity which provides Christian outreach to schoolchildren and young people in our area. A grant of **£4,100** was also made to our Bell Street & Motcombe churches as support for the Family Worker (Ms Natalie Kay).
- Education and training with all ages, including four Local Preachers in training (x3 'On Trial' & x1 'On Note'); one Circuit First Aid course; and, two Circuit 'Safer Spaces' Safeguarding training courses (x1 Foundation and x1 Advanced Modules) delivered during the year.
- Pastoral care of the housebound, the dying, those in hospital and others in need (and via phone call and email during the pandemic lockdown).
- Encouragement for members to be involved in all aspects of the life, work and witness in the Circuit Churches and in mission and service to the community (including local hospitals; Guy's Marsh Prison; Street Pastors and Local Food-banks).

The Circuit Meeting is made up of all Trustees who are ex-officio because of the office held or elected by individual churches on an annual basis to represent them on this body. It has met only twice during the year – two meetings having been cancelled due to the Covid lockdown restrictions. Essential business has been conducted by the CLT using devolved powers entrusted to it by the Circuit Meeting. Leadership of the Circuit is given by the Staff Team together with the Treasurer and five Circuit Stewards, and the Circuit Property Secretary - these form the Circuit Leadership Team ('CLT'). This Team meets regularly to oversee the work of the Circuit and to formulate policy. In concluding this report, I would like to offer my thanks to all staff and volunteers who have given much time and energy in ensuring that the life of the Circuit and its Churches continue to make progress in many areas of work, but wish to add specific thanks to Dr Kevin Fisher, our retiring Treasurer. Kevin's work has been exemplary – his financial gifts combined with his enthusiasm for the work and ministry of the Circuit has been invaluable. We wish him well as he moves on and gratefully welcome Mr Lewis Buckwell who take on the role of Circuit Treasurer.

2. Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Circuit Meeting Trustees (under the Chair of the Superintendent Minister) ,who meet quarterly, have given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' general guidance on public benefit and, in particular, to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing our objectives and conforms to the Charities Act 2011.

Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the geographic area covered by the Circuit and a visible expression of God's inclusive Love.

Our Mission Statement is:-

"To know God's Love
To Show God's Love
To share God's Love"

We aim to achieve this by encouraging, through the members and adherents of churches in our Circuit, the worship, social, and outreach activities that currently exist, and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the Church family.

We aim to build a Circuit formed for Mission and full of generous people who are prepared to work, and develop, to build the Kingdom in this place. We share a common passion to use our gifts, graces and resources to the best of our abilities to be mission-shaped followers of Jesus Christ.

3. Circuit Policy

Support all 18 Societies of our Circuit in a positive and proactive way by providing leadership and pastoral care and ensuring the continuance of their regular pattern of Worship and fellowship.

Declare that our central priority is Making Disciples of Jesus and that we will facilitate initiatives of evangelism.

Hold and work to a realistic appraisal of the future potential of our Societies and, in particular, encourage our three Yeovil Societies to explore the future shape of Methodism in the town.

Commit ourselves to continuing the establishment figure of 4 Ministers (Presbyters &/or Deacons) by using the financial resources released by the sale of redundant buildings until at least 2020. (This policy will be reviewed as soon as Circuit Meetings can resume post Covid).

To develop ministry amongst children, young people and families in the southern and eastern end of the circuit through an additional full-time member of staff - a Deacon to undertake Pioneer ministry based in Sturminster Newton.

Make the best use of the experience and abilities of the supernumerary ministers residing in our Circuit, who are very willing to offer their services.

Based on existing strengths, build up a team of lay employees covering a variety of roles including Administration, Children, Youth and Family Work.

Respond to requests for grants from Circuit funds, giving priority to those projects that are orientated to mission rather than just maintenance ministry.

Explore possibilities of using external expertise to enable those of our local Societies facing difficulties in recruiting specific post holders (eg. Treasurers) to comply with the myriad regulations and requirements.

Ensure that we are compliant with Safeguarding processes and other regulatory demands (including Connexional) by offering training and follow up.

Work to create a renewed sense of belonging to the wider family of Methodism – Circuit, District, Connexion and the World Church.

Give encouragement to the opportunities of ecumenical work – particularly in our shared Churches at Shaftesbury and Sherborne.

Challenge our people to discover the Call of God in their lives and what this might mean in the development of a diversity of ministries.

Through prayer and study, discover the meaning of Christian Discipleship in the Twenty-first Century and how effectively to engage in appropriate opportunities of mission and service.

4. Financial review

During the year the Circuit received total income of £291k (FY18/19: £283k) and dispersed £343k (FY18/19: £373k).

Net Current assets of £512k (excluding property & land) were carried forward across the Year-End (FY18/19: £564k).

There were no significant events in accounting terms during the year, although, of course, the restrictions on church worship and activity due to Covid-19 severely hampered our work & led to a significant reduction in Ministerial expenses, manse maintenance costs and Grant applications.

There have been no "Related Party" transactions in the Charity's Accounts during this Financial Year.

The Trustees of the Circuit have every reason to believe that the Circuit is a going concern, principally because our churches continue to meet their assessments and the Circuit has adequate Reserves to cover any shortfall in anticipated income. There are no subsidiary undertakings. Trustees do not currently foresee any factors that will significantly affect the financial performance or position in the medium-term plan (up to FY22/23) unless the ongoing effects of Covid-19 cause some of our bigger fellowships to fail. In that case Assessment income will be impacted and this would require the Circuit to raise other Funds - either through sale of the surplus manse or redundant church premises (or cut expenditure by a reduction in staffing levels).

Following an extensive review of our financial Reserves in 2017 the Circuit re-committed itself to our 5 Year Plan for the ongoing deployment of four ministers (presbyters and/or deacons) until at least 2025 at which time this policy will be reviewed. In addition we have committed to a 5 year project, starting in September 2018, to employ a further Deacon in an outreach role focussed initially on the southern region of the Circuit based at Sturminster Newton and working with the Hazelbury Bryan, Ibberton and Kings Stag Fellowships. This will bring our Reserves to under 6 months of expenditure by August 2023. A decision regarding selling one of our property assets (investment properties) to generate cash to fulfil

our commitments to Ministry in 2024 & 2025 will then need to be made unless other income sources have been identified.

The Circuit continues to hold six freehold properties. Five of these are manses used to house the serving Ministers of the Circuit in Yeovil, Sherborne, Gillingham, Shaftesbury & Sturminster Newton. One, in Yeovil, was classed as an Investment property in this Financial Year.

The Circuit has the following principal sources of income:

- Assessments on churches within the Circuit
- Lettings revenues from the Investment property
- Interest on investments
- Donations from Trustees and individuals.
- Grants for our Mission from other bodies, particularly the Southampton District of the Methodist Connexion.

These sums are used to administer the Circuit; pay Ministerial stipends and Lay employee salaries and associated expenses; pay expenses of Local Preachers and Supernumerary staff who lead worship in our churches each week; and to provide grants to churches and organisations in the Circuit so that they may embark on or continue with projects that fulfil the mission of the Circuit by bringing more people to Christ or by providing facilities that might enable this to happen.

4.1 Investment Policy and Performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as custodian trustee for all real estate held by Circuits and for all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned by the Circuit. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere. The Circuit's Trustees' investment policy is aligned with that of the Methodist Central Finance Board (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the Central Finance Board (CFB) and attract rates of interest comparable with the commercial markets available.

There are no bench marks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB. It is the Circuit's policy to manage the cash and investment resources of the Circuit so that a rate of return on investment – both by way of dividend and capital appreciation – is obtained at least as good as market rate considering the Circuit's low appetite for risk. The total return achieved on the invested funds of the Circuit was under 1% for the year.

4.2 Reserves level and policy

The Circuit has a Reserves Policy covering all its unrestricted funds which is reviewed and approved annually by Trustees, usually at the December Circuit Meeting, and then submitted onwards to the Southampton District for acceptance.

The Circuit has begun the practice of holding meetings annually in January to develop a rolling 5 Year Plan for its Mission, including finances. Representatives from all Churches come together to discuss Circuit budgets and revenue requirements for future years.

The Circuit has only been in existence for 6 years and the individual payments received from Churches is largely on a historical basis. Currently the total does not fully cover net Expenditure. The budgeted deficit in FY2019/20 was £106k to be made up from Circuit Reserves. In the 5 Year Plan up to FY2022/23 this deficit is budgeted to stay around £100k pa as we use up our surplus reserves on ministerial staffing levels (4 Ministers plus another used for outreach).

We have begun to investigate whether there is a different, more formulaic, mechanism for splitting the total Assessment required between the 18 fellowships but, as yet, this hasn't been properly developed.

The Circuit aims to hold Reserves as follows:-

- a) £200,000 as typically representing 6 months budgeted Expenditure.
- b) £332,000 to cover budgeted shortfall of income over expenditure in the next 4 years as we have expanded our Ministerial staffing levels for extra outreach against our aims and mission.

Although grants are usually made within the same Financial Period as they are approved by Trustees out of the Circuit's funds, it is recognised that some grants will be paid by annual instalments and that there will be applications repeated in future years. The Trustees seek to ensure that there is sufficient in the Circuit's Unrestricted funds to meet these anticipated requests and the Trustees now recognise future grants as liabilities on the Balance Sheet.

The Cash Reserves held on 31st August 2020 were as follows:

Unrestricted Funds	£
Lloyds C/A	148,652
Methodist CFB	59,627
Trim Legacy (TMCP)	159,105
DD Gifford Cluett (TMCP)	53,086
Circuit Model Trust Fund (TMCP)	106,995
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED	527,465
Restricted Funds - Women's Work Fund	4,203
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	531,668

All funds are separately invested either with CFB or TMCP. No money is directly invested in property, securities or other forms of investment.

4.3 Collaborative arrangements with connected charities Advance Fund.

The Circuit holds no funds as custodian trustee. It does, however, from time to time, receive from churches contributions to certain Methodist (Related Party) and external Charitable

bodies. These sums are collected by the Circuit as Agent for these bodies and are passed on directly to them within the same financial Year (or accrued as Creditors). Funds received by the Circuit as Agent are not recognised as an asset in the financial statements because the funds are not within its control. No fee is earned in respect of this Agency arrangement and the Circuit incurs no cost through this arrangement.

5. Trustees' responsibilities

The Charity was created in September 2014 by the merger of 2 Methodist Circuits. These were the Sherborne and Yeovil Circuit and the North Dorset Circuit.

For each financial year ending on 31 August the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees must:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently using the accruals method
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- follow applicable accounting standards
- prepare accounts to comply with the Charities SORP

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Circuit and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Circuit's website and on the Charity Commission's website.

6. Structure, governance and management

The Circuit is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union (1932) and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 19 August 2014.

6.1 Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of churches; Circuits pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the churches in the Circuit; most decisions are made at or ratified by the quarterly Circuit Meeting. The Circuit is a member of the Southampton District of the Methodist Church.

A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at the half yearly synods. The Southampton District reports into the Methodist Conference.

The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within each District.
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.

4. The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory authority is then exercised by Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

6.2 Purpose of the Circuit

The Circuit is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any individual Church, of the Connexional character of the Methodist Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of the union the advancement of:

- a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church, and
- b. any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and
- c. any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and
- d. any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this Circuit is to advance the mission of the Church within the geographical area defined by the churches within Yeovil and Blackmore Vale

- by providing opportunities for Churches to work together and support each other
- by offering to churches resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The Circuit serves the local churches it's District and the Methodist Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church, and in programmes of training.

6.3 Governance

The Circuit operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Southampton District and Methodist Connexional Offices to provide guidance on changes that could affect the Circuit.

The Trustees of the Circuit have chosen to divest powers of decision required urgently between Circuit Meetings to the Circuit Stewards. They, in turn, form part of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT). This consists of the Ministers of the Circuit together with the 6 Circuit Stewards (including the Circuit Treasurer) and the Circuit Property Secretary. The Team meets formally at least every two months and communicates routinely through electronic media. The Team is used by the Circuit as a means of formulating, discussing and refining Policy prior to proposal and debate at Circuit Meeting.

7. Reference and Administrative Details

7.1 Name of the charity

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit

7.2 Charity registration number

1158290 Registered in England and Wales

7.3 Principal Office

Circuit Office
c/o Vicarage Street Methodist Church
Middle street
Yeovil
BA20 1JZ
01935 432173 (Answerphone available)
www.yandbvcircuit@gmail.com

7.4 Superintendent Minister

Rev Paul Arnold

7.5 Circuit Manager

Mrs Helen Coombes

7.6 Circuit Treasurer

Dr Kevin Fisher

7.7 Names of trustees

All voting Members of the Circuit Meeting are Trustees. The list, as at December 2019, is given in Appendix A, attached.

7.8 Bankers

Lloyds plc
Business Banking
BX1 1LT

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
9 Bonhill Street
London
EC2A 4PE

7.9 Investment managers and custodian trustees

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
Central Buildings
Oldham Street
Manchester
M1 1JQ

7.10 Independent Examiner appointed 9th December 2015

Mrs Karen Jones
Lanham & Francis Chartered Accountants
Church House
Church Street
Yeovil
BA20 1HB

Approvals

The Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements (SOFA, Balance Sheet and supporting Notes) will be submitted for approval by Trustees at the Circuit Meeting to be held on 23rd February 2021.

Paul Arnold (signed)



Rev Paul Arnold
Chair of Circuit Meeting
Date: 23/02/2021

Kevin Fisher (signed)



Dr Kevin Fisher
Circuit Treasurer
Date: 23 Feb 2021

APPENDIX A Trustees

CONSTITUTION OF CIRCUIT MEETING SEPTEMBER 2019

Church Steward and the Treasurer from each church plus a number of representatives based on church membership – 1 for churches with membership 30-59, 2 for 60-119 and 3 for 120+ would become members of the Circuit Meeting.

Revd Paul Arnold	Superintendent Minister
Revd Denise Binks	Minister
Revd Duncan Goldie	Minister
Revd Kate Konrad	Minister
Deacon Rebekah-Joy Spinks	Deacon
Mrs Helen Coombes	Circuit Manager/Circuit Meeting Secretary**
Mrs Anne Cook	Circuit Youth Worker **
Mrs Lynn Heaton	Children and Families Worker & Circuit Safeguarding Officer.
Revd Richard Clarke	Supernumerary Minister ***
Revd Gordon Elford	Supernumerary Minister
Revd Ruth Farrant	Supernumerary Minister **
Revd Christina Le Moignan	Supernumerary Minister
Revd Joyce Norman	Supernumerary Minister ***
Revd Margaret Oxenham	Supernumerary Minister
Mrs Margaret Whitford	Senior Circuit Steward
Mrs Norma Bartlett	Circuit Steward
Mr Lewis Buckwell	Circuit Steward
Dr Kevin Fisher	Circuit Steward & Treasurer
Miss Sarah James	Circuit Steward
Mr Stephen Watson	Circuit Steward
<u>OTHER APPOINTMENTS</u>	
Mr Philip Butler	Circuit Property Steward
Mrs Kate Rawlins	Local Preachers Secretary and LWPT
Mr Colin Farrant	Local Preachers' Tutor
Mrs Christine Lydford	MWiB President*
Mr Adam Miller	Circuit Archivist*
BELL STREET, SHAFTESBURY with ASHMORE (88)	
Mr Martin Forsyth	Contact Steward **
Mrs Ruth Jones	Treasurer
Mrs Lis Gosney	Representative 1
vacant	Representative 2
Mrs Edie Langley	Representative Ashmore

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26-05)
Year ended 31 August 2020

CHEAP STREET (101)
Mrs Christine Rogers
Mr John Stinchcombe
Mr Geoff Gardner
vacant

Secretary
Treasurer
Representative 1
Representative 2

GILLINGHAM (55)
Mrs Elizabeth Rickards
Mrs Hilary Webb
Mr Mike Rawlings
Mr Robert Rickards

Contact Steward
Treasurer
Representative 1
Representative 2

HAZELBURY BRYAN (13)
Mrs Carole Miller
Mr Terrence Miller

Steward
Treasurer

IBBERTON (7)
Mrs Mary Leamon
Mr Adam Miller

Steward
Treasurer

KINGS STAG (5)
Mrs Esther May
Mrs Norma Le Poidevin

Steward
Treasurer

Longburton (6)
Mrs Jan English
Dr Kevin Fisher

Steward
Treasurer*

MARNHULL (19)
Mrs Gillian Walsham
Mr Hayden Williams
[Mrs Sally Williams](#)

Steward
Treasurer
[Reserve Representative](#)

MOTCOMBE (18)
Mr David Wooldridge
Mrs Sarah Upshall
[Mrs Win Jackson](#)

Treasurer
Steward
[Reserve Representative](#)

PRESTON ROAD, YEOVIL (68)
Mr Brian Cowling
Mr Peter Cleall
Mr Bob Killick
Dr Colin Farrant

Church Secretary
Treasurer
Representative 1
Representative 2*

ST MARK'S, YEOVIL (51)
Mr Trevor Kirk
Mrs Margaret Evans
Mr Richard England
[Mr Richard Sinden](#)

Steward
Treasurer
Representative
[Reserve Representative](#)

Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit (26-05)
Year ended 31 August 2020

STURMINSTER NEWTON with BROAD OAK (14)

Mrs Christine Lydford	Steward
Mrs Beth Fox	Treasurer
Mr Alan Harrison	Representative
Mr Adam Miller	Representative Broad Oak*
Mrs Adrienne Richardson	Reserve Representative

TISBURY (15)

Mr. Ken Elcock	Steward
Mrs Joy Aylen	Treasurer

VICARAGE STREET (60)

Mrs Thelma Stevens	Steward
Mr Cliff Howell	Treasurer
vacant	Representative 1
vacant	Representative 2

WINCANTON (16)

Mrs Lynda Walters	Joint Steward
Dr Bob Jones	Joint Steward
Mr Tony Cole	Treasurer

YETMINSTER (6)

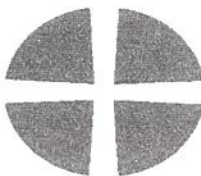
Mrs Barbara Driver	Church Secretary
Dr Kevin Fisher	Treasurer*

**** Not a voting member of the Circuit Meeting**

*** Already a member in another capacity**

Have decided not to participate, but are entitled to become Members again in future if they so choose.

Blue highlights indicate that the church has Representative(s) or a Reserve Representative but have under 30 members. This is usually because the Steward and/or Treasurer do not attend the meeting.



Circuit
Accruals Accounts
2019-20

THE METHODIST CHURCH
TEMPLATE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
(ACCRUALS BASIS)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE

Circuit

Registered Charity - Registration number

1158290

Southampton District

Circuit No

26-5

Ministers

Rev Paul Arnold (Circuit Superintendent)
Rev Denise Binks
Rev Duncan Goldie (URC Pastorate)
Rev Kate Konrad
Deacon Rebekah-Joy Spinks

Circuit Stewards

Mrs Norma Bartlett
Mr Lewis Buckwell
Dr Kevin Fisher
Miss Sarah James
Mr Stephen Watson
Mrs Margaret Whitford (Senior Steward)

Circuit Treasurer

Dr Kevin Fisher

STATEMENT of FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2020

	Notes to the accounts	GENERAL FUNDS Bank C/A Methodist CFB & TMCP Funds (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2019-20	Prior Year Comparison 2018-19
		£	£	£	£	
Income						
1 Donations Grants and legacies	4	35,232			35,232	34,478
2 Income from monetary investments	5	2,467	1,418	36	3,921	4,821
3 Income from investment properties	6	11,596			11,596	8,176
4 Assessments on Churches	7	240,224			240,224	235,704
5 Capital Receipts					0	0
7 Other charitable income					0	60
8 Total charitable income		289,519	1,418	36	290,973	283,239
Expenditure						
9 Stipends, Salaries, NIC & Pension costs	8	-234,473			-234,473	-206,016
10 Ministers travel, telephone; materials & removals	9	-13,216			-13,216	-17,266
11 Manse Costs (Council Tax, Water & Insurances)	10	-16,864			-16,864	-18,081
12 Manse maintenance costs	11	-3,013			-3,013	-14,089
13 Administration expenses (excluding 10 above)	12	-5,408			-5,408	-3,996
14 Family Worker Costs (excluding 10 above)	13	-2,120			-2,120	-4,220
16 Depreciation	14				0	-510
17 Provisions	16A	7,100			7,100	0
18 Fees & Charges	15	-1,755	-323	-8	-2,086	-2,145
19 Grants and Loans	16	-9,000			-9,000	-40,000
20 District, Connexional & URC Assessment Levies	17	-51,684			-51,684	-45,732
21 Levy on CMTF to District Advance Fund	18		-5,579		-5,579	-9,048
22 Other outgoings	19	-6,460			-6,460	-12,032
23 Total charitable expenditure		-336,893	-5,902	-8	-342,803	-373,135
24 Net income/(expenditure)		-47,374	-4,484	28	-51,830	-89,896
25 Transfers between funds	20	50,028	-50,000	-28	0	0
26 Other gains/(losses)					0	0
27 Gains/(Losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	21				0	0
28 Gains/(Losses) on investment assets	22		-107		-107	115
29 Net movement in funds		2,654	-54,591	0	-51,937	-89,781
30 Total funds brought forward		2,426,380	161,586	4,203	2,592,169	2,681,950
31 Total funds carried forward		2,429,034	106,995	4,203	2,540,232	2,592,169
Monies Received & Passed on to External Organisations						
Balance brought Forward from last Year		5			5	5
32 Offerings/Gifts - received	23	6,382			6,382	6,471
33 Offerings/Gifts - Passed on	23	-6,382			-6,382	-6,471
Balance Carried Forward		5			5	5

Kuntzler
29 SEP 20

STATEMENT of FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2019

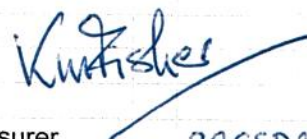
	Notes to the accounts	GENERAL FUNDS Bank C/A Methodist CFB & TMCP Funds (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2018-19	Prior Year Comparison 2017-18
		£	£	£	£	
Income						
1 Donations Grants and legacies	4	34,478			34,478	778
2 Income from monetary investments	5	2,762	2,024	35	4,821	3,775
3 Income from investment properties	6	8,176			8,176	16,303
4 Assessments on Churches	7	235,704			235,704	229,569
5 Capital Receipts					0	0
7 Other charitable income		60			60	0
8 Total charitable income		281,180	2,024	35	283,239	250,425
Expenditure						
9 Stipends, Salaries, NIC & Pension costs	8	206,016			206,016	122,608
10 Ministers travel, telephone; materials & removals	9	17,266			17,266	15,440
11 Manse Costs (Council Tax, Water & Insurances)	10	18,081			18,081	13,539
12 Manse maintenance costs	11	14,089			14,089	14,266
13 Administration expenses (excluding 10 above)	12	3,996			3,996	3,780
14 Family Worker Costs (excluding 10 above)	13	4,220			4,220	2,870
16 Depreciation	14	510			510	1,020
17 Provisions		0			0	0
18 Fees & Charges	15	1,675	462	8	2,145	2,224
19 Grants and Loans	16	40,000			40,000	10,000
20 District, Connexional & URC Assessment Levies	17	45,732			45,732	44,667
21 Levy on CMTF to District Advance Fund	18		9,048		9,048	13,198
22 Other outgoings	19	12,032			12,032	12,091
23 Total charitable expenditure		363,617	9,510	8	373,135	255,703
24 Net income/(expenditure)		-82,437	-7,486	27	-89,896	-5,278
25 Transfers between funds	20	62,027	62,000	-27	0	0
26 Other gains/(losses)					0	0
27 Gains/(Losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	21				0	0
28 Gains/(Losses) on investment assets	22		115		115	245
29 Net movement in funds		-20,410	-69,371	0	-89,781	-5,033
30 Total funds brought forward		2,446,790	230,957	4,203	2,681,950	2,686,983
31 Total funds carried forward		2,426,380	161,586	4,203	2,592,169	2,681,950
Monies Received & Passed on to External Organisations						
Balance brought Forward from last Year		5			5	5
32 Offerings/Gifts - received	23	6,471			6,471	8,149
33 Offerings/Gifts - Passed on	23	6,471			6,471	8,149
Balance Carried Forward		5			5	5

K. J. Jones
29 SEP 20

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

Notes to the Accounts		General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Totals 2020	Totals 2019	
		£	£	£	£	£	
Fixed Assets							
11 Land & Buildings	BS1	1,688,000			1,688,000	1,688,000	
12 Equipment	BS2	0			0	0	
13 Investment properties	BS1	340,000			340,000	340,000	
14 Investments	BS3		6,973		6,973	7,080	
Total fixed assets		2,028,000	6,973	0	2,034,973	2,035,080	
Current Assets							
16 Debtors & Prepayments	BS4	14,609			14,609	18,313	
17 Cash at Bank & in hand	BS5	148,652			148,652	80,696	
18 Investments with TMCP	BS6	212,191	100,022	4,203	316,416	370,900	
19 Central Finance Board Deposits	BS5	59,627			59,627	124,452	
Total current assets		435,079	100,022	4,203	539,304	594,361	
Current liabilities							
21 Creditors (due in under 1 year)	BS7	26,945			26,945	23,072	
22 Grants payable within 2020-21	BS8	7,100			7,100	7,100	
Total current liabilities		34,045	0	0	34,045	30,172	
Net current assets/liabilities		401,034	100,022	4,203	505,259	564,189	
Total assets less current liabilities		2,429,034	106,995	4,203	2,540,232	2,599,269	
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
26 Grants payable after 2020-21	BS8	0			0	7,100	
27 Loans to the Circuit					0	0	
					0		
Net assets		2,429,034	106,995	4,203	2,540,232	2,592,169	
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)		2,429,034			2,429,034	2,426,380	
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			106,995		106,995	161,586	
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)					0		
Total Unrestricted Funds					2,536,029	2,587,966	
Restricted Funds				4,203	4,203	4,203	
Endowment Funds					0	0	
Total Funds		2,429,034	106,995	4,203	2,540,232	2,592,169	

Signed



Circuit Treasurer

24 SEP 20

DECLARATIONS

Treasurer

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

Signature of Treasurer

h m Fisher

Date

24 SEP 2020

Name

Dr Kevin Michael Fisher

Address

Aird House, Bristol Road. Sherborne DT9 4HP

Bn

Presentation to the Circuit Meeting for approval.

I confirm that the Accounts have been presented to the Circuit Meeting on and were approved.

23/02/21

Signature of the Acting
Chair of the Meeting

P. R. Arnold

Name of the Acting Chair
of the Meeting

REV. PAUL R. ARNOLD

Date

23/02/21

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

YEOVIL & BLACKMORE VALE METHODIST

Circuit

This Report is on the Circuit Accounts for the year ended 31st August

2020

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.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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:

(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.

Name

MRS K. A. JONES

Signature

K. A. Jones p.p. MRS K A JONES

Relevant Professional qualification or body

ICAEW

Address

LANHAM AND FRANCIS, CHURCH HOUSE
CHURCH STREET, YEOUL, SOMERSET BA20 1HB

Date

29.3.21

Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Circuit of the Southampton District of the Methodist Church No 26-05

1. Accounting framework and accounting policies

i Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (the Charities SORP (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1) – in replacement for the SORP's 2005 version specified in its related 2008 Regulations and in accordance with the “true and fair override” provision contained therein.

ii Public benefit entity

The Yeovil & Blackmore Vale Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes below.

iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

iv Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

v FRS102 SORP2015

This is the fifth year that the FRS102 SORP 2015 has applied to the Circuit's accounts. These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the FRS102 SORP 2015.

vi Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2020, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

vii Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the 16 Church Councils in the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Church Councils and their Governing Bodies except in extreme circumstances, none of which were applicable in this accounting period. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

viii Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, when the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources and when the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

No attempt has been made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers.

The Circuit acts as Agent for donations from Circuit Churches and individuals to various Connexional and National Charities. These are shown on the SOFA as “Offerings/Gifts received for, and passed to, External Organisations” and are listed in Note 23 following.

ix Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

x Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full when the award is made once the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or constructive obligation to make the payment and that such payment is probable. When such a grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a Provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate Fund (split between monies due in the following FY and monies due in the longer term), the Provision being released in future years as instalments are paid within the terms originally agreed by trustees at the Circuit Meeting.

xi VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xii Tangible Fixed Assets

Equipment assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. Typically a 3-Year depreciation policy is then utilised (see Note BS2).

All properties are shown in the Balance Sheet at their current market values, stipulated as the Deemed Cost (see Note BS1). Land values have been separated and an estimate made for fixtures and fittings. All properties have been reviewed for impairment.

xiii Investments

The investments of the Circuit are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains/losses arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA and in Notes 22 and BS3 below.

xiv Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the Circuit. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at the realisable values.

xv Expenses

The Circuit has a policy, agreed at Circuit Meeting by trustees in 2014, that all trustees may claim for appropriate expenses in the course of their duties on behalf of the Circuit. Claims for books, materials, stationery and postage must be submitted with receipts. Certain Lay employees are given a monthly allowance to cover costs of telephone and internet expenses. All claims are submitted on standard forms for scrutiny by the Circuit Treasurer. As with all expenditure any payment is counter-authorized by another, named, Trustee before payment.

Motor vehicle travel cost rates are set by Connexion in agreement with HMRC. Currently they are 45p/mile for cars and 24p/mile for motorcycles. If passengers are taken on journeys for Circuit business then a further 5p/mile per passenger may be claimed.

Expenses are typically paid monthly in arrears. September payments are therefore counted as accruals against the previous financial period.

2. Glossary of terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain and provides investment advice to those entities

Church: a group of members from at least 5 to more than 100

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches within the same geographical region typically between 10 and 30. In our case 16.

CLT: Circuit Leadership Team. A group of Circuit trustees responsible, at the will of the Circuit Meeting, for the day-to-day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Currently the CLT comprises the Ministers stationed in the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards, the Circuit Administrator and the Circuit Property Secretary.

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)

Connexion: The Methodist Church in GB which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches in Great Britain

District: a group of contiguous Circuits, usually between 15 and 30

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard

FRSSE: Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities.

FY: Financial Year

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds

3. Prior year: Restatement of comparative figures

In preparing the accounts the trustees have considered where, in applying the accounting policies required by the Charities SORP(FRS102), any comparative figures have needed restatement.

This year no restatements are required for prior year categories in the SOFA.

No substantive adjustments were necessary for bringing the Balance Sheet shown in the 2018-19 Accounts forward into this year's comparison.

3A. Statements required by SORP

There have been no "Related Party" transactions in the Charity's Accounts during this Financial Year.

The Charity was created in September 2014 by the merger of 2 Methodist Circuits. these were the Sherborne and Yeovil Circuit and the North Dorset Circuit.

4. Donations, Grants & Legacies (SOFA Line 1)

This category of Income includes donations made by a trustee directly to the Circuit together with its associated Gift Aid reclaimed from HMRC. **This amounted to £928.**

Grant Income was received as shown in the table below:-

Organisation from which Grant was received	Purpose of Grant	VALUE £
Southampton District	Vine Youth Ministry	6,000
Southampton District	Support towards Diaconal Project	10,000
Hazelbury Bryan Methodist Church	Support towards Diaconal Project	2,000
Sturminster Newton Methodist Church	Support towards Diaconal Project	1,000
Kings Stag Methodist Church	Support towards Diaconal Project	1,000
Southampton District	Family Worker @ Shaftesbury/Motcombe	4,100
Recharge of Family Worker Costs to Shaftesbury	Family Worker @ Shaftesbury/Motcombe	7,653
Recharge of Family Worker Costs to Motcombe	Family Worker @ Shaftesbury/Motcombe	2,551
TOTAL		34,304

The Vine Youth Ministry grant from Southampton District was paid on to VYM together with the Circuit's own grant (see Note 16).

The grants from District and individual churches to support the Diaconal project were all paid into the Circuit Current account to offset costs.

The Recharges listed above represent the surplus cost over the Financial Year for the Family Worker based in the East of the Circuit (salary, NI, Pension and Expenses claimed from Circuit Funds) minus the grant funding from District and Circuit funds. This surplus cost was split 75% to Shaftesbury & 25% to Motcombe, as shown below:-

£		
Total Cost of Family Worker - full Year	18,404	
less Southampton District Grant	-4,100	
less Circuit Grant	-4,100	
Surplus Cost for Recharging to Churches	10,204	Split 75% Shaftesbury & 25% Motcombe

5. Income from Monetary Investments (SOFA Line 2)

The majority of Circuit funds are held in basic interest accounts, without exposure to financial money markets, thereby respecting our current low-risk approach to Reserves. A small amount of Reserves in the CMTF are held in Funds approved by TMCP/CFB resulting in Dividend income as shown below plus Gains/Losses on assets shown separately on line 28 of the SOFA.

	Unrestricted Funds	CMTF	Restricted Funds	TOTAL
CFB	646			646
TMCP Interest	1,821	1,286	36	3,143
TMCP Dividends		132		132
TOTAL	2,467	1,418	36	3,921

6. Income from Investment Properties (SOFA Line 3)

The Circuit has 6 residential buildings in it's portfolio, all of which have been used to house Ministers in the past (Manses).

During FY19/20 the Circuit trustees budgeted for 5 Ministers to be in residence in manses (at Yeovil, Gillingham, Shaftesbury, Sherborne and Sturminster Newton).

This left us 1 property which we have been commercially leasing at market rates and using for investment income. This "spare" manse is in Yeovil at Harbin Close. It has been Let to the same tenant from 28th June 2019 and throughout this Financial Year.

Rental income and expenses are summarised in the Table below:-

	GROSS Receipts £	Mgmt Fees £	Lease Set-Up Costs £	Expenses paid through Agent £	Expenses paid Directly £	Insurance £	
24, Harbin Close. Yeovil	14,400	-1,728	-108	0	-352	-714	11,498
Poplar Drive. Yeovil				98			98
TOTAL	14,400	-1,728	-108	98	-352	-714	11,596

The property is being let through Estate Agents under an Assured Shorthold Tenancy. The Circuit pays management fees (12% of income) to the Agents and covers maintenance costs through the Agent. Most running costs are paid directly by the tenant.

The Circuit pays Buildings insurance on properties directly. The costs relating to Harbin Close has been broken out and included in the expenses column in the Table above.

The Agent reimbursed the Circuit for Monies held on account from the tenancy at Poplar Drive which ended earlier in 2019.

Expenses paid directly from Circuit funds were for boiler servicing and for the Estate Management charges of Harbin Fields.

The figure reported in Line3 of the SOFA is the NET Income received, as detailed in the yellow box on the Table.

7. Income from Assessments on Churches (SOFA Line 4)

This is the primary source of regular Income for the Circuit at the heart of the Methodist Connexional structure.

There are 16 church councils in the Yeovil and Blackmore Vale Circuit and these separate Charitable bodies act together to support Ministry within the total area they cover. This includes the primary expense of Ministerial staff and part-time Lay Workers together with their associated costs. They also, through quarterly Circuit Meetings, determine whether funds should be allocated to work in specific churches and grants made to other Charitable bodies.

In order to do this each church is assessed for an annual contribution to meet net Circuit Expenditure (taking into account other sources of Income available to the Circuit). The Circuit has now been in existence for 6 years and the individual payments received from Churches is largely on a historical basis. Currently the total does not fully cover net Expenditure. The budgeted deficit in FY2019-20 was £105,600 to be made up from Circuit Reserves. In the current 5 Year Plan up to 2023 this deficit has been budgeted to continue and to be covered from Reserves.

We had begun to investigate whether there was a different, more formulaic, mechanism for splitting the total Assessment required between the 16 churches but we have decided to stay with the current arrangement with individual adjustments.

The levels agreed by the Circuit Meeting in March 2019 for FY2019-20 for individual churches are shown in the Table below. They represent a 2% increase on previous year levels.

	FY2019/20
Bell St. Shaftesbury (incl Ashmore)	40,974
Cheap St. Sherborne	38,964
Gillingham	37,434
Vicarage St. Yeovil	26,826
Preston Rd. Yeovil	24,090
St. Mark's. Yeovil (includes Loan Repayment)	13,422
Sturminster Newton + Broad Oak	12,738
Tisbury	9,666
Marnhull	8,736
Motcombe	8,598
Wincanton	7,938
Hazelbury Bryan	3,936
Yetminster	2,124
Ibberton	1,878
Longburton	1,620
Kings Stag	1,344
TOTAL	240,288

Assessments on Churches are monthly in advance and are treated as pre-payments on a Receivables basis.

Notes to the Accounts for year Ending 31st August 2020

St Marks church, Yeovil, had a loan of £7,500 from Circuit Funds at the end of the FY 2017-18 to assist in roof repairs. This is being paid back over 5 years at £1,500pa. This amount for FY2019-20 is included in the assessment table above.

Some of our smaller churches failed to make the 2% uplift in either, or both of, August 2019 & August 2020. **Monies received totalled £240,224** - a shortfall of £64 from the table on the previous page. The new Circuit Treasurer will address this in the next Financial Year.

8. Expenditure on Stipends, salaries, NIC & Pension Costs (SOFA Line 9)

This category is, by far, the biggest item of Expenditure in the Circuit's activities but is clearly at the heart of what we do in our community.

The Circuit paid Stipends to 4 Methodist Ministers and 1 URC Minister in this Financial Year. Costs were as follows:-

MINISTER'S PAYROLL	GROSS SALARY £
Methodist Connexion 4 FTE Ministers	139,125
URC Synod Salary Costs: Rev Duncan Goldie Full Year	35,423
TOTAL STIPENDS	174,548

Stipends are paid directly to Methodist Ministers through the Methodist Connexional payroll. The Circuit pays the Connexion a month in advance so August direct debits are treated as pre-payments.

Most ordained Methodist presbyters and deacons are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme which is currently in deficit. Large %age contributions vs stipend of 26.2% are part of a long-term plan to reduce these deficits. We have begun to incur costs relating to the Government's Apprenticeship Levy, linked to our Ministerial employee payroll costs. These are included in the Table above.

The Circuit was fortunate in obtaining the appointment of a URC Minister stationed at Sherborne in June 2018 following a vacancy lasting almost 2 years. Rev Goldie's remuneration package is handled centrally by the URC office through their "Maintenance of the Ministry" (M&M) office in London. Specific details of gross salary, pension contribution & NIC contribution are not made available to the Circuit. The URC Church instead makes a monthly direct debit for these costs.

The Circuit also employed 4 part-time Lay staff, one in Administration and three in Family/Children work. The salary costs of these are shown in the table below:-

LAY EMPLOYEES	GROSS SALARY £
TOTAL	59,925

The hours worked by these 4 employees is the equivalent of 2.56FTE (Full Time Equivalent). All staff were paid hourly rates above the Living Wage (outside London), according to Methodist Connexional directives.

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 in the financial year. There is no accrual for holiday pay.

The Circuit offers a Defined Contribution pension plan administered by The Pensions Trust (TPT). All of Lay employees are in this scheme.

The Circuit make a contribution of 6% of salary (in line with Methodist Connexional directives).

Our Staging Date with the Pensions Regulator was 1st August 2017.

A one-off charge is made annually by the Methodist Connexional payroll team to cover payroll costs (£480). In addition we have begun to incur costs relating to the Government's Apprenticeship Levy, linked to our Lay employee payroll costs. They have been split 1/3rd to Administration costs and 2/3rds to Family Worker Costs.

9. Expenditure on Minister's travel, telephone & materials Costs plus Relocation & Removal expenses. (SOFA Line 10)

See Note 1xv for details of policy on expenses claims.

Telephone and internet facilities were provided at 4 of the manses occupied by Ministers. The same provider, PlusNet, was used to obtain maximum rebate and benefits. All 4 contracts are taken on an "unlimited use" basis and the Circuit picks up all costs accordingly except for International calls or other items individually logged by the service provider for which ministers pay directly. In the other manse the Minister chose to adopt a different provider. An allowance of £25/month was paid to cover costs in line with the PlusNet contracts.

The Table below summarises total expense claims in 4 categories:-

MINISTERIAL EXPENSES	REIMBURSEMENTS £
Travel	7,622
postage; stationery; materials; books	2,739
Telephone & internet	2,255
Relocation & Removal	600
TOTAL	13,216

10. Expenditure on Manse Running : Council Tax, Water Rates, Insurances (SOFA Line 11)

As previously stated, the Circuit is Managing Trustee for 5 manses occupied by Ministers stationed in the Circuit. These are itemised in Note BS1 which follows later. The Circuit pays for council taxes, water rates and insurances on these properties. HMRC does not regard these expenses as benefits-in-kind in the hands of the Minister. The total costs of these items to the Circuit are disclosed (net of rebates received for council tax and water rates) in the Table below:-

	Costs £	Rebates £	Net Total Costs £
Council Taxes	12,718	-578	12,140
Water Rates	2,001	-69	1,932
Insurances	2,792	0	2,792
Net Total Costs	17,511	-647	16,864

No attempt is made to identify pre-payment or accrual issues with any of the above expenditure. Council taxes are billed by DD monthly, usually spread over a 10 month period. Water rates are billed half-yearly. All properties are metered for supply and usage appears similar in both periods. Insurances are paid annually in advance on 17th September and the cost is wholly taken in that financial year.

11. Expenditure on Manse Maintenance (SOFA Line 12)

For the first time in the last 3 years running expenditure was significantly down and underspent against budget. Spend is summarised by manse in the Table below:-

Granville Way Sherborne £	Ridge Way Shaftesbury £	Barnaby Mead Gillingham £	Manston Road Stur Newton £	Poplar Drive Yeovil £	TOTAL £
996	640	404	391	582	3,013

For all manses there were “annual” type costs relate to routine servicing of gas boilers and appliances, alarm systems and electrical checks.

The property at Granville Way attracts “Estate Management” fees.

None of this expenditure was considered as a benefit-in-kind to the resident Ministers under HMRC guidelines.

The Circuit appoints a manse steward for each manse to liaise with Ministers over maintenance and improvement issues and our Circuit Property Secretary, Mr Philip Butler, has been very involved in all work this year. Our thanks go to him for all of his hard work and detailed attention. Annual inspections are also carried out. The Circuit believes that all 5 properties are in good condition and that there is no requirement to identify Accruals for work at this time.

12. Expenditure on Administration (SOFA Line 13)

This category is used to cover expenses and expenditure relating to the Circuit offices in Yeovil and Gillingham in addition to expenses incurred by trustees in pursuance of general activities within the work of the Charity. Details are given in the table below:-

	Admin employee Expenses £	Other Trustees Expenses £	General Expenditure £	TOTAL £
Travel	33	260		293
postage; stationery; materials; books	256	259	154	669
Office Equipment			2,341	2,341
Training			47	47
Office Rental			1,100	1,100
Office Services			466	466
Photocopying			834	834
Photocopying Recharges			-342	-342
TOTAL	289	519	4,600	5,408

The first column shows expenses claimed by the Circuit Manager in this category during the financial year. £200 of this was issued as Petty Cash needed for minor purchases. A detailed list of these items was kept and has been made available to the External Examiner.

The second column gives a summary of expenses claimed by 3 members of the CLT (Trustees) in pursuit of Circuit duties.

See Note 1xv for details of policy on expenses claims.

Items listed in column 3 are not related to claims by individuals. The Circuit rents office space from Vicarage Street Church in Yeovil and contributes towards heating, lighting and telephone services. The office in Gillingham Church is used only occasionally and no charges are made.

Office equipment costs were high because a security camera system was fitted at the rear of the Vicarage Street building to provide extra security for our Circuit Manager when in the office. This was not capitalised as a fixed asset because it is permanently fixed to the premises at Vicarage Street.

Photocopying facilities were available at both offices. The full cost of these machines was picked up by the Circuit. Where outside users, including Circuit churches, used the facilities they were re-charged at appropriate rates to cover costs. These figures are shown separately in the table above. In March the ownership of the Gillingham office copier was transferred to Shaftesbury church and it was relocated accordingly. The machine had zero book value so was transferred without payment. Operating costs from that point became the responsibility of the Shaftesbury church.

13. Expenditure by Family Workers (SOFA Line 14)

This category is used to cover expenses and expenditure relating to the work of the 3 part-time Family Workers in the Circuit. Details are given in the table below:-

	TOTAL £
Travel	1,174
postage; stationery; materials; books	647
Telephone & internet	120
Training	119
Trips/Activities	0
Advertising	0
Computer Equipment	60
TOTAL	2,120

The Table summarises expenses claimed directly by our Family Workers in pursuance of their daily duties. See Note 1xv for details of policy on expenses claims.

Minor expenditure on materials for the weekly activities of our 3 Family Workers is claimed in their expenses.

14. Depreciation (SOFA Line 16)

The Circuit currently has no equipment listed as Fixed Assets and being depreciated in line with the policy laid out in Note 1xii.

15. Expenditure on Fees and Charges (SOFA Line 18)

	Unrestricted £	CMTF £	Restricted £	TOTAL £
Current Account Bank Charges	116			116
External Examiner fees	1,214			1,214
TMCP Admin Charges	425	323	8	756
TOTAL	1,755	323	8	2,086

Bank charges are transaction related and charged monthly on previous months activity. September figures are therefore taken as Accruals.

The Circuit appointed Lanham & Francis Ltd as it's External Examiner in October 2015 going forward on an annual basis.

During the year the Circuit paid £756 to TMCP, the custodians of the Circuit's investments (CMTF, DD Gifford Cluett fund, Trim Legacy fund and Women's Work fund.). This sum is levied at 0.2% on the value of the funds and is shown as allocated to the three groups of funds: £425, £323 and £8 at line18 in the SOFA.

16. Expenditure on Grants and Loans (SOFA Line 19)

A grant to Vine Youth Ministry (VYM) was approved by the Trustees at the Circuit Meeting held on 13th December 2018. A total payment of £10,000 was authorised to be made; £4,000 in FY2018/19 and £3,000 in each of FY2019/20 and FY 2020/21.

Southampton District also agreed grant funding for VYM. A sum of £6,000 was received in Circuit funds in September 2019 and passed on to VYM (see Note 4).

VYM is a Registered Charity (No. 1131007) providing outreach to schools and young people in the Somerset & Dorset area.

The Circuit's Trustees also committed to support the work and costs of the Family Worker based at Shaftesbury & Motcombe at the June 2018 Meeting. A total of £13,000 was committed spread over 3 years at £4800; £4100; £4100. This Grant money, together with an equivalent amount from the Southampton District, is effectively deducted from the recharge to the 2 churches involved (See Note 4).

Grant given To:-	Purpose	Value £
VYM (District Funds)	Outreach in schools	6,000
VYM (Circuit Funds)	Outreach in schools	3,000
	TOTAL	9,000

16A. Provisions (SOFA Line 17)

In accordance with Circuit Policy the Grants approved in 2018 for the work of VYM & the Shaftesbury/Motcombe family worker had already been provided for in the Balance sheet for this Financial Year (19/20).

Grant Provision	VALUE £
VYM	£3,000
Family Worker	4,100
TOTAL	7,100

17. Expenditure on Levies made by Methodist & URC Regional and National bodies. (SOFA Line 20)

	£
(A) Southampton District Assessment	8,367
(B) Methodist Church Fund Connexional Assessment	38,585
(C) URC M&M Payment	4,732
TOTAL	51,684

Lines A & B in the Table above are collected by the Southampton District by monthly Direct debit as a single payment from our CFB funds. An error in calculation was made by the District treasurer so payments were reduced in January 2020.

The District Assessment is the Circuit's contribution to the running costs of the Southampton District. The Methodist Church Fund Assessment is the Circuit's contribution to the running costs of the Connexion. The total payment is calculated using a formula based on prior-year Ministerial and Lay staffing levels of the 12 Circuits in the District. It is reviewed annually and adjusted in September of each period.

The URC M&M figure is the equivalent charge for the running costs of the URC Wessex Synod and the national URC organisation. It is calculated on a formula based on URC membership numbers in our 2 ecumenical partnerships at Sherborne & Shaftesbury. This is reviewed annually and adjusted in January of each period.

18. Expenditure on Levy on CMTF to District Advance Fund (SOFA Line 21)

The levy was deducted from the Circuit's CMTF as one payment on 1st September 2018 based on total funds in the CMTF on 31st August of the previous period. On 31st August 2018 this was £230,957.37.

The current measure of Levy is set at:-

2.50% for the first £100,000

5.00% for the next £150,000

7.50% for funds above £250,000

This calculation gave a Levy of **£5,579.29** taken from the Circuit's CMTF.

The District Advance Fund is used to support many initiatives in the 12 Circuits of the Southampton District including mission and outreach.

19. Other Expenditure (SOFA Line 22)

Items in this category are listed in the Table below.

	Costs £	Repayments £	TOTAL £
Supernumerary expenses	989	-237	752
Local Preachers expenses	1,351	-210	1,141
Quinquennial inspection costs	2,475		2,475
Circuit Magazine & Website	1,737		1,737
Retirement & Leaving Gifts	100		100
First Aid Course Fees	315	-60	255
TOTAL	6,967	-507	6,460

Supernumeraries are Ministers who have retired but many still conduct worship and for that are paid £25 per Service plus travelling expenses (for levels see note 1xv). All Supernumerary Ministers are encouraged to claim these expenses but not all do so.

Local Preachers are accredited by the Connexion to conduct worship services in our churches around the Circuit. The Circuit encourages them to claim travelling expenses (at rates given in Note 1xv) but not all do so. The Circuit also pays for training materials to be used in their work. These expenses are co-ordinated through the Local Preachers Meeting, held quarterly.

All premises in the Circuit, churches and manses, are required by Connexion to have an independent survey every 5 years. The cost of these surveys is born at Circuit level. Any actions identified in these surveys must be acted upon by the individual churches or, in the case of manses, by the Circuit.

The Circuit has a website which attracts maintenance costs. The Circuit also publishes a printed quarterly newsletter which is distributed throughout all churches in the Circuit as a means of fellowship, communication and outreach.

20. Transfers between Funds (SOFA Line 25)

A sum of £50,000 was transferred from the Circuit's Model Trust Fund into the Circuit's Current Account in August 2020 to cover the second year's costs of the Diaconal outreach work.

The sum of £28 shown in Line 25 of the SOFA is the interest on the Restricted Women's Work Fund being paid into the Circuit's Bank Account (unrestricted).

21. Gains/Losses on Revaluation of Fixed Assets (SOFA Line 27)

The Circuit intends that these Asset Valuations, given in Note BS1, will be fixed as the "Deemed Cost" at least for the next Financial Year with a review to take place in July 2021 (unless major market changes apply).

22. Gains/Losses on Investment Assets (SOFA Line 28)

This relates to relatively small investments held in Funds in the CMTF (See Note BS3).

23. Monies Received & Passed on to External (Related) Organisations (SOFA Lines 32 & 33)

The Circuit acts as an Agent for it's churches in order to consolidate charitable giving to other Charities & Related Parties. Churches send cheques made payable to the Circuit with specific directions concerning to which Charities/Related Parties they should be paid. This giving is summarised below:-

RELATED PARTY FUNDS	FY 2019/20 £	Previous Year £
Connexional Fund for Property	1,340	1,335
Connexional Methodist Minister's Housing Society	644	648
Connexional Fund for Support of Presbyters & Deacons	584	588
Methodist Mission in Britain Fund	626	590
Methodist World Mission Fund	1,791	1,690
Methodist "All We Can" Fund	296	703
Methodist Homes for the Aged	445	140
SUB TOTAL	5725	5,694
EXTERNAL CHARITIES		
Leaders of Worship & Preachers Trust	580	353
Action for Children	77	75
Vine Youth Ministry	0	0
Methodist Women in Britain ; Annual Project	0	349
SUB TOTAL	657	777
TOTAL	6,382	6,471

A total of £6,382 was paid out to the above charities in this Financial Year.

BS1 Circuit Manses and Investment Properties (Balance Sheet Lines 11 & 13)

The Circuit is Managing Trustee for 6 residential buildings.

In FY2019/20 five of these were occupied by Ministers stationed in the Circuit and are described as Manses.

The circuit is obliged by Connexion to provide these Manses which must meet specific requirements (eg. 4 Bedrooms minimum and a separate Study room). The Circuit is directly responsible for the payment of Council Taxes, Water Rates and Insurances on these properties. The Circuit also chooses to provide telephone and broadband facilities.

The Manse at Granville Way, Sherborne is part-owned. The Methodist Connexion through the Circuit has a 52% share and the URC Wessex Synod has a 48% share.

During FY2019/20 the other property was being used to provide Investment income for the Circuit. This is being Let through an Estate Agent under an Assured Shorthold Tenancy. The Circuit pays management fees (12% of income) to the agents and covers maintenance costs. All running costs are paid directly by the tenants.

Given the requirement in FRS102 to split out property values into Land and Buildings it was considered necessary in July 2016 to undertake a review of property asset values.

The Trustees decided, at the Circuit Leadership Team meeting held in November 2016, to adopt a "Fair Value" approach looking at the approximate Market Value of each property (in discussion with Estate Agents and Zoopla / Right Move websites). In each case the value of Land was estimated as 25% of the Market Value.

Furthermore the fixed asset value of fixtures, fittings and equipment at each Manse and Investment Property was revalued at £20,000 per building on the basis of replacing "new for old".

The Circuit intends that these Asset Valuations will be fixed as the "Deemed Cost" for the next Financial Year with a review to take place in July 2021 (unless major market changes apply).

The Asset Values used in this FRSSE Balance Sheet are shown in the Table below. Note that only 52% of the Market Value has been used for the Granville Way manse to reflect the part ownership by the URC. They do not share in the fixtures/fittings etc nor in the ongoing running costs of the building so the full value of £20,000 is reflected on this line as shown in the table overleaf:-

Notes to the Accounts for year Ending 31st August 2020

	2014/15 SOFA	Market Price Estimate July16		Buildings Value 75% £	Land Value 25% £	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £	2019-20 SOFA £
MANSES							
34, Poplar Drive. Yeovil BA21 3UL	247,000	320,000		240,000	80,000	20,000	340,000
24, Barnaby Mead Gillingham SP8 4AL	253,000	340,000		255,000	85,000	20,000	360,000
7, Ridge Way. Shaftesbury SP7 9HB	237,000	320,000		240,000	80,000	20,000	340,000
73, Granville Way. Sherborne DT9 4AT	143,000	400,000	x0.52	156,000	52,000	20,000	228,000
47, Manston Rd. Sturminster DT10 1AE	275,000	400,000		300,000	100,000	20,000	420,000
MANSES TOTAL	1,155,000	1,780,000		1,191,000	397,000	100,000	1,688,000
INVESTMENT PROPERTIES							
24, Harbin Close. Yeovil BA21 5FS	295,000	320,000		240,000	80,000	20,000	340,000
TOTAL	1,450,000	2,100,000		1,431,000	477,000	120,000	2,028,000

On the Balance Sheet the Fixed Asset Value of the 5 Manses (£1,688,000) is listed as Unrestricted. Strictly speaking, a better description is “Designated” since they are an integral aspect of the Circuit’s employment of each Minister. As such they cannot be readily translated into Cash.

BS2 Tangible Fixed Assets : Equipment (Balance Sheet Line 12)

In FY15/16 the Circuit trustees adopted a Policy (see Note 1xii) whereby Equipment assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. Typically a 3-Year depreciation policy is then utilised.

No attempt has been made to re-evaluate equipment purchased before FY15/16. All such equipment, for offices, manses and investment properties, was purchased outright in previous FYs without depreciation rules applying.

BS3 Tangible Fixed Assets : Investments (Balance Sheet Line 14)

The funds contained in the Circuit Model Trust Fund and other Investment Funds are held by TMCP. These are regarded as medium and long term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local Managing Trustees who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensure that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the Managing Trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

The majority of funds are held in simple Trustees Interest Funds (cash reserves) on which interest is credited to the accounts each month/quarter. This reflects our current low-risk approach to Reserves.

A small amount of funds in the CMTF are held in Managed Equity Funds. Interest and dividends are again paid monthly/quarterly on these funds but unit revaluation is made annually by TMCP and the movement of this is reflected in Line 28 of the SOFA (see Note 22).

Details are given in the Table below:-

FUND	Units Held	Mid Price/ Unit Sep19 pence	Mid Price/ Unit Aug20 pence	Value Sep19 £	Value Aug 20 £	Movement £
2C100 CFB Managed Mixed	1,331.00	481.90	473.40	6,414	6,301	-113
2C122 CFB Managed Fixed Interest	310.00	214.90	216.90	666	672	6
TOTAL				7,080	6,973	-107

BS4 Debtors and Prepayments (Balance Sheet Line 16)

All sums shown as Debtors at 31st August 2019 were received during the current FY (or in the case of Ministerial stipends were paid one month in advance). Accordingly, it is expected that payments in advance at 31 August 2020 will be expensed in FY 2020/21.

Debtors at 31st August 2020 were:-

DEBTORS	31Aug2020 £
Ministerial Stipends (paid in August for September)	11,809
Gift Aid Refund on Private Giving to Circuit	169
Q4 Recharge for Family Worker	2,631
TOTAL	14,609

Photocopying recharge invoices aren't issued until the end of August meaning collection doesn't take place until September.

HMRC take 2 months to process our Gift Aid claim. Payment is due in October 2020.

The Circuit picks up most bills for the family worker based at Shaftesbury and Motcombe (including salary etc). Once grant payments from District & Circuit have been deducted the surplus cost is recharged to the 2 churches. The debt in the table is for Q4 costs in FY2019/20.

BS5 Cash at Bank & In Hand (Balance Sheet Lines 17 & 19)

	31Aug2020 £	31Aug 2019 £
Lloyds Current Account	148,652	80,696
Cash in Hand	0	0
Central Finance Board deposits	59,627	124,492

Monetary Balances held in the Circuit's Current Account with Lloyds plc and with Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church are available on demand without loss of interest. All of these funds are shown as Unrestricted. Cash is not kept "In Hand" for Circuit purposes.

Monies may be transferred from the CFB deposits only into the Circuit Current Account at the direction of the Circuit Treasurer or the Superintendent Minister independently. Withdrawals from the Current Account must be countersigned by 2 of 3 designated trustees either by cheque or BACS transfer. A number of direct debit arrangements exist specifically for Manse service providers.

Balances and transactions in the Circuit's Current Account can be seen and checked online by the Circuit's 5 appointed signatories. Balances and transactions in the CFB account can be seen and checked by the Circuit Treasurer and Superintendent Minister.

BS6 TMCP (Balance Sheet Line 18)

The Table below summarises the CASH balances held in TMCP Funds at the Year End. All of these monies are held in Trustees Interest Funds (2C110) as a Cash value.

Fund	Ref Number	Designation	Value @ 31Aug20 £	Value @ 31Aug19 £
DD Gifford Cluett	18798	Unrestricted	53,086	53,086
Trim Legacy	19499	Unrestricted	159,105	159,105
CMTF Y&BV	21958	CMTF	100,022	154,506
Women's Work	8127	Restricted	4,203	4,203
TOTAL			316,416	370,900

As previously noted in BS3 a small amount of monies in the CMTF are held in Equity and Fixed interest Funds and are listed on Line 14 of the Balance Sheet (Note BS3).

BS7 Creditors & Accruals (Balance Sheet Line 21)

It is expected that all items accrued at 31st August 2020 will be paid during FY20/21. The Table below summarises Accruals made:-

31Aug2020 £	
Advances on Assessments**	20,366
Telephone Costs at Manses	110
Bank Charges	7
Connexional Giving from Churches	5,280
External Examiner Fees	1,182
TOTAL	26,945

Items marked (**) in the Table were received prior to 31st August 2020 to be accrued for FY20-21. Assessments are paid by churches one month in advance.

Expenses for Ministers, Administration staff and Trustees, Family Workers and Local Preachers are paid monthly in arrears. Everyone was encouraged to submit expenses in the last week of August to minimise Creditor activity given the change of Circuit Treasurer at Year End.

Bank charges are typically made one month in arrears.

An estimate has been made to cover the costs of Externally Examining these accounts by Lanham & Francis. This is based on past cost data but is an estimate only.

6 cheques to Connexional charities were still outstanding at the end of August, presumably due to Covid-19 restrictions at Methodist House in London.

BS8 Provisions for Liabilities and Charges (Balance Sheet Lines 22 & 26)

The Table below gives details of Grant Commitments made by the Circuit for future years:-

Grant Towards	FY2020-21
VYM	3,000
Youth Worker; Shaftesbury & Motcombe	4,100
TOTAL	7,100

The first entry covers the Circuit's commitment, taken by Trustees at the Circuit Meeting held on 13th December 2018, to donate funds to Vine Youth Ministry (See SOFA Note 16).

The second entry covers the Circuit's Commitment to support the work and costs of the Family Worker based at Shaftesbury & Motcombe made by Trustees at the June 2018 Meeting. A total of £13,000 was committed spread over 3 years at £4800; £4100; £4100. (see SOFA Note 4).

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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:

- (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.

Name

MRS K A JONES

Signature

K A JONES p.p. MRS K A JONES

Relevant Professional qualification or body

ICAEW

Address

LAWRENCE AND FRANCIS, CHURCH HOUSE
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Date

29.3.21