



**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)

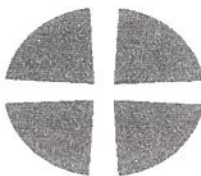
Mrs Barbara Driver	Church Secretary
Dr Kevin Fisher	Treasurer*

**** 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.



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

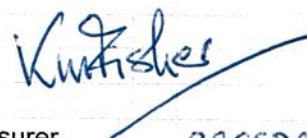
	Notes to the accounts	GENERAL FUNDS Bank C/A Methodist CFB & TMCP Funds (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2018-19	Prior Year Comparison 2017-18
		£	£	£	£	
Income						
1 Donations Grants and legacies	4	34,478			34,478	778
2 Income from monetary investments	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
CHURCH STREET, YEOVIL, SOMERSET BA20 1AB

Date

29.3.21