

HIGH PEAK PARTNERSHIP

(Formerly High Peak Methodist Circuit)

Charity Registration No. 1159245

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 August 2021

Introduction

The Trustees present their Annual Report for the year ended 31 August 2021. The Partnership was established on September 1st 2019 when the former three Methodist Circuits – High Peak Methodist Circuit, Buxton Methodist Circuit and Whaley Bridge Uniting Partnership – were combined to form the High Peak Partnership. It was resolved that this new Partnership should take over the established High Peak Methodist circuit Charity registration (no.1159245).

Aims and Organisation.

The mission of the High Peak Partnership is to bless the communities they serve. This is done through creative and meaningful worship, study, pastoral care and creative arts. A Partnership Mission Plan is being developed which will build on these statements.

Review of the Year.

2020/2021 was a difficult year, as the new Partnership established new ways of working together. This was not helped by the COVID pandemic, which required creative initiatives to enable the Partnership to continue to meet the missional objectives.

Financially a small deficit on activities was incurred but this was dramatically offset by the proceeds of the sale of one of the former Circuit Manses, leaving the Partnership funds well placed to face the on-going pandemic problems and to consider initiatives to further missional activities.

Fund balances

As at August 31st, 2021, the net current assets of the Partnership were £421,190.

Plans for 2021/22

It is possible that there may be further closures of one or more of the smaller churches which are finding it increasingly difficult to continue meeting. The Trustees will wish to continue developing a strong Partnership identity throughout the High Peak area and are committed to strengthening ways of working.

Basis of preparation of the Accounts

The Charity's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2021 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Report Standard (FRS) 102.

The Charity's full name is The High Peak Partnership

The Charity Registered number is 1159245 (the former High Peak Methodist Circuit number)

The main communication address (Partnership office)

The High Peak Partnership
Buxton Methodist church
Chapel Street
Buxton SK17 6HX
Tel: 07912 144022

The members of the High Peak partnership meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of office holders, Ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches. The organisation structure comprises a full Partnership meeting, together with a Leadership Team, a Property Team and a Finance Team, which meet as required and report to the Partnership meeting.

The Trustees are as follows :-

Rev Andrew Parker	Jackie Goddard	Susan Shirley
Rev Keith Sandow	Jean Greenhalgh	Richard Silson
John Anfield	Rev David Harrison	Ron Sinclair
Peter Allen	Peter Helps	Samuel Smith
Margaret Askey	Donna Hodgson	Kerensa Stocker
Karen Birchenough	Arthur Huntstone	Ian Stubbs
Sheila Booth	Moira Huntstone	Hazel Thompson
Philip Botham	Peter Johnson	Audery Thornhill
Margery Chatterton	Wendy Jones	Albert Warrington
Claire Crook	Terence Lomas	Jennifer Wheeldon
Philip Deacon	Anne Mayo	Charles Winterbottom
Michael Doughty	Wendy Mellor	
Briony Evans	Julie Murdy	Joyce Clayton
Diane Farrow	Glyn Rowlands	
Ken Gibson	Ian Saunders	

Partnership Ministers and Officers

Partnership Ministers –	Rev Keith Sandow and Rev Andrew Parker
Partnership Treasurer -	Samuel Smith
Partnership Administrators -	Claire Losel and Catherine Sims
Partnership Stewards -	Joyce Clatyon, Michael Doughty, Diane Farrow, Peter Johnson, Richard Silson and Hazel Thompson

Aims and Organisation

The Charity's objective is to act as a resource provider within the High Peak area around Buxton, Chapel-en-le-Frith and Whaley Bridge for the Methodist Church. 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 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 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.

The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and non-members alike.

The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups

The resourcing of pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved

Taking religious assemblies in local schools

Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services

Provision of Chaplaincy services to appropriate local institutions.

Public Benefit

It is confirmed that the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document for the Partnership is the Deed of Union (1932) and the Methodist Church Act (1976).

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD) of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference.

Day to day management of the Partnership is undertaken by the Partnership Leader Team along with the Local Preachers' Meeting, the Partnership Finance and Property Committees, and the Partnership Policy Committee.

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by the Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Partnership, specifically the leaflet "The Role of the Trustee in the Methodist Church" is given to all new Partnership members as their introduction to the role of Trustees, as well as attendance on a locally developed training course delivered in-house.

Related Parties

The Partnership is part of the Manchester and Stockport District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist Churches are linked to the Partnership :-

Buxton	Harpur Hill
Chapel-en-le-Frith	Hayfield – St. John’s
Disley	Hollinsclough
Dove Holes	Low Leighton
Earl Sterndale	Monyash
Fernilee	Whaley Bridge Uniting Church*
Flagg	

*Whaley Bridge Uniting Church is a local Ecumenical Partnership including the Baptists, United Reformed and Methodist churches.

Risk management

The major risks have been identified and recorded by the Partnership Finance and Property committees, with professional advice taken as required. There is a regular review process undertaken and recorded. Income and Expenditure is monitored monthly and is being compared with the approved annual budget on a regular basis, to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

Safeguarding

‘Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God’s own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God’s re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.’

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable.
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of Criminal Records Disclosures and registration with the relevant Vetting and Barring schemes
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made, which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed co-operating with the Police and Local Authorities in any investigation.

- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care. We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support including supervision and referral to the proper authorities to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The HPP commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, Government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the Partnership and Churches.

HPP commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and in promoting the safeguarding of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Reserves Policy

In normal circumstance, the Reserves Policy for the Partnership would be to hold a minimum of 6 months average expenditure. This should be sufficient to meet any unforeseen items of major expenditure on manses and / or to be able to continue in the short term, funding planned activities in the event of any inability to raise the full assessment from Churches.

However, given the Covid 19 pandemic, we are experiencing abnormal circumstances, and the Trustees have agreed to hold at least 12 months average expenditure until circumstances return to normal. This will be regularly reviewed. The sale proceeds received from the disposal of Kettleshulme Methodist Church (2020) and the former Manse in Chapel-en-le-Frith (2021) significantly boosted the Partnership's reserves, which at the end of the financial year stood at £421190. However, this figure will reduce significantly in 2021/22 as the Partnership will incur significant and exceptional items of expenditure.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Signature

Dated

Full Name

Samuel Smith

Position

Partnership Treasurer

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

HIGH PEAK PARTNERSHIP	Circuit
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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2021**

MANCHESTER AND STOCKPORT	District	Circuit no	19 04
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1159245

If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number**

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Ministers:

Rev Andrew Parker
Rev Keith Sandow

Circuit Stewards:

Joyce Clayton
Michael Doughty
Diane Farrow
Peter Johnson
Richard Silson
Hazel Thompson

Treasurer:

Samuel Smith

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment 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 S D Smith



Name and address of treasurer Samuel Smith, 18, Hockerley Avenue, Whaley Bridge
High Peak, Derbyshire

Post Code..... SK23 7RT

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 November 18 2021

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev. T K Sadow Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the HIGH PEAK CIRCUIT

Charity Number . 1159245

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the High Peak Partnership Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages ... to As the Circuit's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

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

Signature of independent examiner *Audrey Thornhill*

Name of independent examiner AUDREY THORNHILL

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCII

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 4 GOYT ROAD, WHALEY BRIDGE, HIGH PEAK,

..... DERBYSHIRE

POST CODE

SK23 7DF

Date ..16.. November 2021..

* delete or circle as appropriate