

HIGH PEAK PARTNERSHIP

(Formerly High Peak Methodist Circuit)

Charity Registration No. 1159245

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Introduction

The Trustees present their Annual Report for the year ended 31 August 2023. 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 has been developed which builds on these statements.

Review of the Year.

2022/23 was a difficult year, as the new Partnership continued to establish new ways of working together. This was not helped by the aftermath of the COVID pandemic, which required creative initiatives to enable the Partnership to continue to meet the missional objectives.

Financially a deficit on activities of £48582 was incurred, which reduced the Partnership's reserves to £173451, which leaves the Partnership well placed to face the on-going pandemic problems and to consider initiatives to further missional activities.

Fund balances

As at August 31st, 2023, the net current assets of the Partnership were £173,451.

Plans for 2023/24

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 2022 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities

Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting 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	Diane Farrow	Glyn Rowlands
Rev Keith Sandow	Ken Gibson	Susan Shirley
John Anfield	Jean Greenhalgh	Ian Saunders
Peter Allen	Rev David Harrison	Richard Silson
Margaret Askey	Peter Helps	Ron Sinclair
Clare Beswick	Donna Hodgson	Samuel Smith
Karen Birchenough	Arthur Huntstone	Kerensa Stocker
Sheila Booth	Moiria Huntstone	Ian Stubbs
Philip Botham	Peter Johnson	Hazel Thompson
Margery Chatterton	Wendy Jones	Audery Thornhill
Claire Crook	Terence Lomas	Albert Warrington
Philip Deacon	Anne Mayo	Jennifer Wheeldon
Michael Doughty	Wendy Mellor	Charles Winterbottom
Briony Evans	Julie Murdy	

Mrs Joyce Clayton retired during the year, after many faithful years of service. She has not yet been replaced.

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 - Michael Doughty, Diane Farrow, Peter Johnson,
Richard Silson, Hazel Thompson and Clare Beswick.

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 Leadership 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 recent 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 reserves at the end of the financial year stood at £173,451. However, this figure will reduce significantly in 2023/24 as the Partnership will incur significant and exceptional items of expenditure. This will result in the reserves being less than 12 months expenditure

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Signature

Dated

Full Name

Samuel Smith

Position

Partnership Treasurer



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
HIGH PEAK PARTNERSHIP

No (if any)
1159245

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01.09.22

To

Period end date
31.08.23

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Assessments/Shares	159,639	-	-	159,639	145,642
Bank, CFB and TMCP Interest	4,626	-	-	4,626	1,034
Other Receipts	2,990	-	-	2,990	1,000
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total(Gross income for AR)	167,255	-	-	167,255	147,676
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Sale of former Church	9,069	-	-	9,069	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	9,069	-	-	9,069	-
Total receipts	176,324	-	-	176,324	147,676
A3 Payments					
Stipends, salaries, NIC,pension and travel costs	93,204	-	-	93,204	90,913
Manse costs	12,530	-	-	12,530	8,190
Administration etc	14,858	-	-	14,858	34,090
District Assessment	30,480	-	-	30,480	28,336
Grants and Donations	59,538	-	-	59,538	43,148
Other payments	14,296	-	-	14,296	142,156
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	224,906	-	-	224,906	346,833
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	224,906	-	-	224,906	346,833
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 48,582	-	-	- 48,582	- 199,157
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	222,033	-	-	222,033	421,193
Cash funds this year end	173,451	-	-	173,451	222,036

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Current Account	38,095	-	-
	Central Finance Board	36,437	-	-
	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	98,919	-	-
	Total cash funds	173,451	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Manses at Buxton and Whaley Bridge	Unrestricted	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Rev'd T K Sandow	11/23/2023	
		S D Smith (Treasurer)	11/23/2023	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name

High Peak Partnership

On accounts for the year ended

31st August 2023

Charity no (if any)

1159245

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2023DD / MM / YYYY.

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

August 2023

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

- 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

AudreyThornhill

Date:

April 2024

Name:

Audrey Thornhill

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

FCII

IER

Address:

4 Goyt Road, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, Derbyshire SK23 7DF

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.