

Charity Number: 1160063

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Airedale Methodist Circuit

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Airedale Methodist Circuit

Charity Information

Reference and Administrative Information

Circuit Number: 27/31
Charity Registration Number: 1160063

The Circuit comprised the following churches at 31 August 2022:

Aire Valley (including Bingley, Ilkley Road and Long Lee Chapels); Cononley (LEP); Craven (including Cowling, Cross Hills, Eastburn, Silsden and Steeton Chapels); Cullingworth; Eldwick (LEP); Marsh; and Worth Valley (including Lees, Oakworth and Oxenhope Chapels, and Exley Head and Keighley congregations).

Circuit Staff:

Ordained:

Superintendent Minister: Rev Clare Stainsby (appointed September 2021)

Ministers: Rev Terry Keen (appointed September 2021)
Rev Helen (Nel) Shallow (appointed September 2021)

Lay:

Church Workers: Mrs Glenda Coogan
Mrs Deborah (Debs) Brazier (appointed September 2021,
resigned August 2022)
Mrs Sharon Longman (appointed September 2021,
resigned July 2022)
Miss Philippa Lupton (appointed October 2022)

Digital Outreach Worker: Mr Jeremy Longman (appointed September 2021,
resigned May 2022)

Circuit Administrator: Mrs Penelope Moon (resigned February 2022)

Circuit Administrator
and Communications Officer: Ms Esther Gregory-Witham (appointed April 2022)

Finance Administrator: Mr Edwin Tate

The Circuit also funded (but did not employ) Sarah Rose to undertake mission and outreach in Keighley Town Centre.

Trustees: Airedale Circuit is registered with the Charity Commission with Charity Registration Number 1160063. The Circuit Meeting members are the Trustees of the Charity (listed in Note 18).

Circuit Stewards: Miss Claire Corp
Mrs Pam Helyar
Mr Peter Howarth
Mr Graham Iliff

Circuit Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Eileen Jowitt

Circuit Treasurer: Mr Graham Iliff

Circuit Office: Silsden Methodist Church
c/o 80 Kirkgate
Silsden
Keighley
BD20 0PA

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Independent Examiner:

Jessica Lawrence FCA CTA
Azets Audit Services Limited
33 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2RY

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Structure, Governance and Management

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

The Governing Document: Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

Constituted: Act of Parliament

Selection of Trustees: Appointed by local churches and existing trustees
Ministers are ex officio trustees

Structure: Part of the Yorkshire West District of the Methodist Church
Accountable to the Methodist Conference

Objectives and Activities

'Our Mission is to live the Gospel life and to share this with all those we come into contact with.'

We seek to:

1. Deepen and develop a love and knowledge of God across our communities
2. Grow a church by making new disciples, a generation younger than the present over all age profiles of our current community, by daring to be different and moving away from our traditional way of doing things
3. Encourage and develop lay leadership in all its forms and empower people to share their gifts across the Circuit
4. Have an input within **the wider local community** (outreach), building on initiatives already in place and bringing a Christian perspective to social, economic and ecological issues both local and national.

The above will be achieved by the following means:

- 1
 - Continuing to develop the spiritual growth of the community of Christ in the Airedale Circuit, building on what is here already
 - Devising new initiatives to improve the spiritual well-being of all members new and old
- 2
 - A variety of forms of worship from reflective to Zoom and beyond
 - Being open to celebrating God in different settings, not just within a church building
 - Developing an inter-generational community so that we can exchange a variety of ideas and experiences so that we can enrich each other
- 3
 - Continuing to offer lay-led pastoral support
 - Working in ministry with lay preachers and worship leaders
 - Working with other Christians ecumenically across a range of initiatives
- 4
 - Developing an increasing awareness of social justice issues across the communities of the Airedale Circuit
 - Working with already established community groups to bring a faith perspective.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Objectives:

As stated in the Governing Document, the purposes of the Methodist Church are 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 subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

Structure and Decision Making

The Circuit Meeting is the principal decision-making body responsible for the affairs of the Circuit. It is also the focal point of the working fellowship of the churches in the Circuit, overseeing their pastoral, training and evangelistic work. It meets in autumn and spring and elsewhere as needed.

The trustees consider the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT), comprising the Circuit's Ministers, Lay Workers and Stewards, who also meet separately, to be the Circuit's key management personnel in charge of directing and operating it on a day to day basis. Circuit Stewards are volunteers but ministers' remuneration is set nationally by the Methodist Church and that of Lay Workers is based on Methodist guidance and comparison with other similar organizations. Pay is reviewed annually in line with inflation.

CLT meets between Circuit Meetings to:

- guide the life and work of the Circuit
- formulate recommendations for and carry out work on behalf of the Circuit meeting
- ensure that the Circuit effectively uses its financial resources through:
- agreeing proposals for the annual Circuit Budget and Circuit Assessment in advance of the Church Treasurers' meeting (an annual meeting of all Church Treasurers with the Circuit Treasurer) and the Circuit Meeting
- monitoring financial procedures.

The CLT has the authority to approve urgent works to manses and churches on behalf of the Circuit Meeting. All property schemes requiring the Circuit's approval are examined by the CLT, often via the Property Group that is appointed by and reports back to it. CLT then make its recommendations to the Circuit meeting. For small property schemes (up to £5,000) the CLT can approve grants of up to 15% of the cost of the scheme (subject to funds being available) and the Circuit Grants Policy details the procedure for larger property schemes and Mission and Ministry grants.

The Circuit Stewards are responsible, together with the ordained and lay staff, for the spiritual and material well-being of the Circuit, and for upholding and acting upon the decisions of the Circuit Meeting. Their particular responsibilities include being:

- treasurers of the Circuit funds, with particular input from the Circuit Treasurer and the Finance Officer.
- responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the manses, with particular input from the Circuit Property Group.
- The Circuit Stewards are responsible for bringing to the invitation committee and/or the Circuit Meeting proposals for invitations to Ministers to serve, or to continue serving in the Circuit, and for conveying such invitations to the Ministers concerned. In the case of initial invitations the Circuit Stewards are responsible for conducting, on behalf of the Circuit, negotiations with ministers initiated by the Chair.

The Circuit staff meet together regularly and work as a team sharing responsibilities across the Circuit. The Ministers and Church Workers have pastoral charge of different churches.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic and operational risks facing the Circuit and have established the necessary systems to manage or mitigate these risks.

In particular:

- suitable insurance cover is in place.
- the Circuit's finances are kept under review and financial policies have been approved.
- the Circuit has adopted the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy and other related policies, and has rolled these out to the churches; it has appointed a Circuit Safeguarding Co-ordinator; appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are made and there are regular audits of Safeguarding practices across the Circuit and all its churches.
- Circuit Leadership Team continues to monitor risks, seeking professional advice where necessary.

Public Benefit

We confirm that the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Airedale Methodist Circuit carries out a range of activities in pursuance of its mission. The Circuit will use resources for mission-based projects. These may be paid by the charity in the form of grants to external parties. The Trustees consider that the activities, summarised below, provide benefit to those who are members of the Circuit through the local Methodist churches and to the wider community.

Achievements and Performance

Change in Church Structure

At the start of the year a major change in church governance structures took effect for participating churches, arising from the Circuit's Visioning programme which had sought to find a more sustainable model for being church and circuit for the sake of our mission and local communities. Bingley, Ilkley Road and Long Lee Chapels joined the new Aire Valley Church. Cowling, Cross Hills, Eastburn, Silsden and Steeton Chapels joined the new Craven Church. Exley Head, Lees, Oakworth and Oxenhope joined the new Worth Valley Church. The new churches were staffed by a combination of ordained and lay staff. Cullingworth and Marsh remained separate churches as did the 3 LEPs at Cononley, Eldwick and Keighley, though during the year the Keighley LEP was dissolved and their members became part of Worth Valley Church.

Faith and Outreach

Following the many challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic, churches were able to return to a more normal pattern of worship services in person, supplemented by online and written options to reach out to those unable to attend. Fresh Aire, an online platform introduced by the Digital Outreach Worker, offered prayers and reflections in a different format. Chapels continued to worship individually but increasingly shared services were also held, including monthly ones for the new churches, and whole Circuit services.

Pastoral care was offered in person and by telephone by ministers, lay workers and church care and support networks. There was a particular need for pastoral support for those still suffering from the impact of the pandemic among other difficulties. Prayer, fellowship and Bible study groups helped to build discipleship and give further support with online options where practical. Circuit staff conducted baptisms, weddings and funerals as required to support church and local community members at times of particular need and Messy Church and youth activities served children, young people and families. Oakworth's Pantomime gave wonderful opportunities for young people to develop friendships and performance skills in the context of a faith community.

The new staff worked with Circuit and church volunteers to explore fresh ideas for mission. An exciting new outreach opportunity began with a vision to open a shop. The Circuit leased a unit in Keighley's Royal Arcade that it named Preloved, in reference both to the second-hand children's clothing it would sell and God's prevenient grace, loving us before we knew Him. This forms a model for the project which offers an informal chaplaincy ministry in addition to low cost items to reach out to families who often have no contact with traditional churches in or beyond the Circuit.

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Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

The project has grown and developed its own community where informal conversations about faith can flourish thanks to the warm and gentle welcome provided by volunteers and staff. The pay-as-you-can Welcome Café in Keighley and the Bingley Foodbank continue to give valuable support to those struggling with hunger and social isolation. Churches continued to raise funds to support mission and outreach in Britain and overseas.

People and property

Ministers, Lay Employees and Volunteers

The Circuit welcomed Reverends Clare Stainsby (Superintendent), Nel Shallow and Terry Keen as Circuit ministers, Debs Brazier and Sharon Longman as Church Workers, and Jeremy Longman as Digital Outreach Worker. During the year Penny Moon retired from her role as Circuit Administrator, and the Circuit welcomed Esther Gregory-Witham as the new Administrator and Communications Officer. Towards the end of the year the Circuit said farewell to Jeremy, Sharon and Debs and thanked them for all they had done. Sarah Rose, Keighley Parish's Mission Apprentice to whom the Circuit had contributed funding, also left during the year.

The Circuit continues to be richly blessed by its many volunteers – Circuit Stewards, church officers, local preachers and many others – who alongside the staff have faithfully committed to transforming lives with the good news of Jesus. The Circuit is encouraged by the support of regular visiting preachers and to have several people training to become local preachers. During the year the Circuit gave thanks for the lives of Supernumerary Ministers Ken Beardsley and Elizabeth Clark, who had contributed so much to the Circuit and the wider Methodist Church and who are deeply missed.

Property management

The Circuit Property Group with assistance from others continued to manage the Circuit's properties, including its manses and rented properties, and to give targeted support to churches with theirs. This included arranging Quinquennial Inspections and advising on the graveyard associated with Oxenhope Chapel and on the Chapel at St Andrew's Cowling.

One focus this year was on selling redundant properties to provide financial support for the Circuit's activities. The sale of the cottage at Laycock, and the long lease of the adjoining closed burial ground completed just before the end of the year, converting these property assets into cash reserves. Much work was also done to prepare for the disposal of Haworth Chapel and burial grounds. Although this completed after the year-end the sale price less Connexional levy was included as income within the year in accordance with our accounting policies. Denholme's burial ground was also marketed with a view to disposal via long lease.

During the year the Circuit took on the Managing Trusteeship for the properties and finances of two churches. One was Exley Head, which had been closed for some time owing to a serious structural problem. The Circuit undertook investigations during the year including surveys and removal of ceilings and asbestos to help inform decisions about its future. The second was Keighley Methodist Hall (formerly Keighley Shared Church Hall) following the dissolution of the LEP with Keighley Parish. These properties were not accorded a value in the accounts as they were not for sale, again in line with our accounting policies.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities shows net income after recognised gains for the year of £299,258 (2021 -£50,049) and the total reserves at 31 August 2022 stand at £2,112,986 (2021 - £1,813,728). But these raw figures include the transfer in of Haworth Chapel – which by itself had a value of £417,564 – and of the finances from Haworth, Exley Head and Keighley, whose income and expenditure was recorded on the Statement of Financial Activities from 1st September 2021. If these and other transactions that fall beyond the regular operation of the Circuit were excluded, the Circuit would be seen to be running a substantial deficit (on one calculation in the region of £74,000, compared with around £67,000 in 2021) that is being funded from sale proceeds.

The principal revenue funding sources were the Assessments from the Circuit's churches, followed by rental income and some District grant funding. The principal items of expenditure were the employment and (where applicable) accommodation costs of the ministers and lay workers, alongside Connexional and District Assessments, and operating costs. Oakworth repaid a further £5,000 of its loan from the Circuit, reducing the outstanding balance at the year-end down to just £10,000.

The Trustees consider the Circuit's financial position to be satisfactory. Income from the Assessments was lower again than the previous year as many churches struggled with falling numbers and increasing costs. However, the sales of Laycock and Haworth will provide a significant boost to cash reserves and enable new opportunities for mission, and the Circuit still has a couple of manse that it is currently renting out. It nevertheless remains important to continue carefully monitoring the financial position.

The Trustees have established a policy whereby the Circuit's free reserves (unrestricted funds not committed or invested in fixed assets) should be six months of the running costs of the circuit. For the year ended 31 August 2022, 6 months' running costs were £186,279 and the free reserves were £673,170 (2021 - £213,318), of which £417,564 were Haworth sale proceeds that were not yet available for spending as they were still held in the property at the year-end. The reserves policy will be reviewed annually.

Fundraising

We strive to achieve the highest fundraising standards and we value our supportive funders. We stay up to date with developments in Charity regulation, data protection and the Fundraising Preference Service (FPS) to make sure we are legally compliant and adhering to all guidelines. We follow the Institute of Fundraising's Code of Practice.

After the Year End

The Circuit was delighted to welcome Pippa Lupton as a new Church Worker and to be successfully matched with a full-time probationer presbyter to join the Circuit in September 2023 after Rev Terry Keen's appointment has ended.

The Circuit's Preloved project continued to grow, with new opportunities for prayer and discussion, and was given an exciting boost by being selected as one of the Methodist Church's New Places for New People projects, which will bring significant grant funding. This will enable new staff to be appointed to nurture and develop the Preloved community in Keighley, offering a different style of Christian witness and activities that will complement but be very different from our other churches. The project requires a church property to be associated with.

Having prayerfully considered the Exley Head property, together with seeking professional advice, it was discerned that this would not be practical to use owing to its excessive size and complicated repair and maintenance requirements. Decisions were agreed to seek permission to cease worship with a view to selling the site. An alternative, smaller former church property in a convenient location in Keighley came on the market and the Circuit Meeting approved the plan to purchase it, subject to suitable terms being agreed. The Circuit is currently seeking to progress this.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

After the Year End (continued)

A focus on outreach included a number of churches offering Warm Spaces and a place of welcome to anyone who needed them, mindful not only of the financial pressures many face with the cost of living crisis, but also the difficulties of loneliness and isolation.

The Circuit is exploring with the churches what it means to be church across a number of chapels, how best to work together to be the most faithful and effective witness to God's love and grace, and how to encourage worshipping communities that will be sustainable for the future.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity Trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Circuit Meeting to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the net income or net expenditure of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Circuit Meeting has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently
- observed the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP
- made judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- stated whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Circuit Meeting is responsible for keeping records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations.

It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved on 2nd March 2023 and signed on behalf of the Circuit by:



Reverend Clare Stainsby
Superintendent Minister and Chair of Trustees

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Airedale Methodist Circuit

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Airedale Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my independent examination work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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.

This report, including my statement, has been prepared for and only for the Charity's trustees as a body. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's trustees as a body for my examination work, for this report, or for the statements I have made.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Jessica Lawrence

Jessica Lawrence FCA CTA

13/06/2023

Azets Audit Services Limited
33 Park Place
Leeds
LS1 2RY

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

		Unrestricted Funds Circuit					Total funds 2022	Total funds 2021
	Note	General Fund	Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds		
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:								
Donations								
Assessment or Share		190,792	-	8,947	-	-	199,739	225,206
Sale of chapel		417,564	-	-	-	-	417,564	-
Charitable activities								
Grants		-	-	-	8,000	-	8,000	5,000
Bingley Foodbank		-	-	-	11,648	-	11,648	17,026
Other income		4,534	-	1,142	-	-	5,676	2,632
Transfer from circuit church		7,268	-	53,390	-	-	60,658	-
Other trading activities								
Lettings		23,140	-	2,485	-	-	25,625	23,740
Investment income		843	184	80	1,147	-	2,254	1,810
Total income		644,141	184	66,044	20,795	-	731,164	275,450
Expenditure on:								
Charitable activities:								
Stipends and salaries	2	151,581	-	4,751	8,000	-	164,332	182,153
District Assessments		56,332	-	-	-	-	56,332	59,420
Administration and travel		16,524	117	-	-	-	16,641	9,320
Insurance and utilities		19,446	-	10,321	-	-	29,767	14,571
Circuit property expenditure		40,729	-	37,316	-	-	78,045	41,398
Other expenditure		7,626	-	7,177	-	-	14,803	18,073
Grants payable	10	3,000	-	1,656	-	-	4,656	813
Contributions to District Advance Fund		-	894	-	-	-	894	1,683
Bingley Foodbank		-	-	-	3,620	-	3,620	1,496
Independent examination		3,468	-	-	-	-	3,468	3,004
Total expenditure		298,706	1,011	61,221	11,620	-	372,558	331,931
Net income /(expenditure) before other recognised gains	4	345,435	(827)	4,823	9,175	-	358,606	(56,481)
Realised and unrealised gains on investments		-	-	(1,253)	-	(1,963)	(3,216)	6,432
Losses on disposal of fixed assets		(56,132)	-	-	-	-	(56,132)	-
Transfers between funds	11	(40,947)	23,094	19,000	(1,147)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		248,356	22,267	22,570	8,028	(1,963)	299,258	(50,049)
Funds brought forward	11	1,565,498	40,892	149,030	15,566	42,742	1,813,728	1,863,777
Funds carried forward	11	1,813,854	63,159	171,600	23,594	40,779	2,112,986	1,813,728

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

A detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 August 2021 is shown at note 19.

There were no recognised gains and losses for 2022 and 2021 other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

	Note	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total funds 2022	Total funds 2021
		£	£	£			£	£
Fixed assets:								
Tangible assets	5	1,203,843	-	-	-	-	1,203,843	1,393,072
Investments	6	-	-	9,721	-	40,779	50,500	42,742
		1,203,843	-	9,721	-	40,779	1,254,343	1,435,814
Current assets:								
Debtors	7	444,866	-	-	-	-	444,866	32,181
Bank: Central Finance Board and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits		196,856	63,159	161,879	-	-	421,894	344,911
Bank		35,275	-	-	23,594	-	58,869	46,321
Total Current Assets		676,997	63,159	161,879	23,594	-	925,629	423,413
Creditors: Due within one year	8	(66,986)	-	-	-	-	(66,986)	(45,499)
Net current assets		610,011	63,159	161,879	23,594	-	858,643	377,914
Total net assets		1,813,854	63,159	171,600	23,594	40,779	2,112,986	1,813,728
Funds of the circuit:								
General Fund		1,813,854	-	-	-	-	1,813,854	1,565,498
Circuit Model Trust Fund		-	63,159	-	-	-	63,159	40,892
Designated Funds		-	-	171,600	-	-	171,600	149,030
Total Unrestricted Funds		1,813,854	63,159	171,600	-	-	2,048,613	1,755,420
Restricted Funds		-	-	-	23,594	-	23,594	15,566
Endowment Funds		-	-	-	-	40,779	40,779	42,742
Total circuit funds	11	1,813,854	63,159	171,600	23,594	40,779	2,112,986	1,813,728

The notes on pages 12 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees ^{22/05/2023} and signed on its behalf:



Reverend Clare Stainsby
Superintendent Minister and Chair of Trustees



Graham Iliff
Trustee

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Charity information

Airedale Methodist Circuit is a Charity registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales under registered Charity number 1160063. The Charity's principal office address is Silsden Methodist Church, c/o/80 Kirkgate, Silsden, Keighley, BD20 0PA.

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) ('Charities SORP (FRS102)') and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Airedale Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Going concern

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

Funds

The funds held constitute:

General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds represent grants, donations and legacies received which are allocated by the donor for a particular project or activity.

Endowment funds represent gifts, the capital normally being unavailable for spending, and the income from which is either restricted or unrestricted. Details of each material fund are disclosed in note 10 to these financial statements.

Income

Income represents all income which becomes available to the Charity but excludes gains on investments. Grants and donations are recognisable when the Charity becomes entitled to receive the funds, when it is probable that the funds will be received and that they can be measured with sufficient accuracy. Investment income is recognised on an accruals basis and comprises of interest receivable during the accounting period. Sale proceeds from the sale of assets not previously capitalised are shown net of the property levy where there is no replacement scheme for those assets.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which it is incurred and includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the deliverance of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be directly allocated to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs include those costs incurred in supporting the work of the Charity.

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership remains with the lessor, are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they fall due over the period of the lease.

Tangible fixed assets

A tangible fixed asset is capitalised if its expected useful life exceeds one year, and costs £1,000 or more. Freehold land and buildings transferred into the circuit on the merger of the 3 circuits are shown at insurance valuation as at March 2010 and are not revalued annually. Contents are included in the valuation of each property. Properties purchased since that date are included at historical cost.

Freehold land is not depreciated.

Freehold buildings held by the Charity are such that their estimated residual value would mean that any depreciation charge would be immaterial. The trustees undertake periodic impairment reviews to ensure that the carrying value of the properties held by the Circuit does not exceed their realisable value.

Freehold land and buildings which are not currently owned by the Circuit may be let on short term tenancy arrangements. These properties remain in fixed assets unless it is felt likely that the property will not be used for charitable purpose in the future.

Transfer of church buildings into the circuit

Where a church building that is no longer under the stewardship of the church but where responsibility for stewardship has been transferred to the circuit following the closure of the church, the following accounting policy is adopted. The property will be included as a current asset net of any levy and included in incoming resources where an acceptable offer has been made for the building during the accounting period and the sale has crystallised after the year end.

Investments

Investments relate to cash held on deposit in interest bearing deposit accounts.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Deposit Funds, such as TIF (Trustee Interest Fund) held via Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes and the Central Finance Board are shown separately from Cash and Bank in the Balance Sheet.

Debtors and prepayments

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discounts due.

Creditors, loans, provisions and grants payable

Creditors, loans and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfers of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement value after allowing for any discounts which may be due.

Grants to local churches for property schemes and other purposes are accounted for as liabilities when they receive formal approval by the Circuit Meeting. Grants awarded to other charitable bodies are accounted for as liabilities in the period in which the award is made.

Financial liabilities are only derecognised when, the Charity's obligations are discharged, cancelled or they expire.

Amounts recognised as provisions are best estimates of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

Pensions and staff costs

The Charity makes payments to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme '(MMPS)' which is a defined benefit scheme operated by The Methodist Church. The Circuit accounts for contributions paid for by the ministers and the circuit as a defined contribution as no liability for past service sits with the circuit.

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for the lay staff. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Charity in independently administered funds. All circuit contributions to the scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period to which they relate.

Taxation

Airedale Methodist Circuit is a registered charity and as such is potentially entitled to tax exemption under Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 in respect of income and gains arising.

Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value except bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Concessionary Loans

As permitted by paragraph 34.90 of FRS102, Concessionary Loans are initially recognised at the amount received or paid, with the carrying amount adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest and adjusted if necessary for any impairment.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

1. Accounting Policies (continued)

Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

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

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

Other than the non-depreciation of Freehold property, as disclosed in note 1, the Trustees consider that there are no estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities.

2. Minister and Lay Staff Information

The average number of clergy and lay staff were:

	2022	2021
Clergy	3	3
Lay staff	6	5
	9	8

Ministers' and lay staff costs during the year were as follows:

	Clergy 2022 £	Lay staff 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Clergy 2021 £	Lay staff 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Wages and salaries	67,397	61,814	129,211	80,081	66,410	146,491
Social security costs	6,844	8,702	15,546	7,956	4,647	12,603
Pension costs	16,560	3,015	19,575	19,986	3,073	23,059
	90,801	73,531	164,332	108,023	74,130	182,153

No employee earned £60,000 or more during the year (2021: no employee).

The Charity considers its key management personnel to be the Circuit Staff as set out on page 1. The remuneration of the Circuit Ministers (clergy) are set out above with further details set out in Note 13. The remuneration of lay employees who are also members of the Circuit Assembly is shown in Note 13. No other members of the Circuit Leadership Team receive remuneration from the Circuit.

3. Trustees' Remuneration and Trustees' Expenses

There were no expenses paid to trustees during the year other than those referred to in Note 13. All ministers' expenses were incurred in carrying out their roles as ministers. Information on remuneration paid to trustees is included in Note 13.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

4. Net Expenditure for the Year

This is stated after charging:	2022 £	2021 £
Independent Examiners fee	990	830
Accountancy services provided by the Independent Examiner	2,370	1,760

5. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Freehold land and buildings (Manses and internal contents) £	Total £
Cost:		
At 1 September 2021	1,393,072	1,393,072
Addition of chapel	417,564	417,564
Disposal of chapel and cottage	(606,793)	(606,793)
At 31 August 2022	1,203,843	1,203,843
Depreciation:		
At 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022	-	-
Net book value at 31 August 2021	1,393,072	1,393,072
Net book value at 31 August 2022	1,203,843	1,203,843

Freehold land is not depreciated and Freehold property is depreciated to expected residual value.

6. Investments

	£
Market value at 31 August 2021	42,742
Investment addition	9,721
Realised and unrealised loss in the year	(1,963)
Market Value at 31 August 2022	50,500

Investments include unitised funds held in the COIF Charities Investment Fund – Income Units administered by CCLA.

The historical cost of investments held at market value is £35,295 (2021 - £25,574).

7. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Due within one year:		
Debtors	8,596	8,565
Prepayments and accrued income	432,187	12,533
	440,783	21,098
Due in more than one year:		
Loan to Oakworth Church	4,083	11,083
	4,083	11,083
Total debtors	444,866	32,181

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

8. Creditors

	2022 £	2021 £
Income received in advance	37,789	36,226
Accruals	28,197	9,067
Other creditors	1,000	206
	66,986	45,499

Income in advance represents assessments paid by circuit churches for the year ended 31 August 2022.

9. Income received in advance

	2022 £	2021 £
Balance at 1 September	36,226	44,450
Released in the year to the statement	(36,226)	(44,450)
Deferred in the year	37,789	36,226
	37,789	36,226

10. Grants Payable

During the year the Charity awarded grants to the following:

	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Grants made to institutions:		
Marsh MC	-	315
Cullingworth MC	-	315
Silsden MC	-	83
Beamsley Project	-	100
Oxenhope MC	801	-
Long Lee MC	855	-
Craven MC	1,000	-
Worth Valley MC	1,000	-
Aire Valley MC	1,000	-
	4,656	813

Reconciliation of grants payable

	2022 £	2021 £
Commitment at 1 September	206	430
Grants committed in the year (as above)	4,656	813
Grants paid in the year	(3,862)	(1,037)
Commitment at 31 August (Note 8)	1,000	206

To comply with Charities SORP (FRS 102) non-performance grants are reported in the SoFA on approval of application. In some cases payment may be spread over a period of time which gives rise to future commitments. These are reported as creditors and shown in note 8.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

11. Movement in Funds

For the year ended 31 August 2022	Balance 1 September 2021 £	Income & Realised/ Unrealised Gains £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 August 2022 £
Endowment funds:					
Hebden Wright Charity	42,742	(1,963)	-	-	40,779
Restricted funds:					
District Grants	-	8,000	(8,000)	-	-
Bingley Foodbank	15,566	11,648	(3,620)	-	23,594
Hebden Wright Charity	-	1,147	-	(1,147)	-
Total Restricted funds	15,566	20,795	(11,620)	(1,147)	23,594
Unrestricted funds:					
General Funds	1,565,498	644,141	(354,838)	(40,947)	1,813,854
Circuit Model Trust Fund	40,892	184	(1,011)	23,094	63,159
Total	1,606,390	644,325	(355,850)	(17,853)	1,877,013
Designated funds:					
Manses Funds	41,422	-	(13,100)	-	28,322
CAF Grants Funds	7,995	-	(1,656)	-	6,339
Victoria Park Funds	86,618	-	(1,170)	-	85,448
Benevolence Fund	5,620	-	-	-	5,620
Dunnington Bequest Fund	7,375	-	(7,375)	-	-
Keighley Church Fund	-	32,235	(7,215)	(1,000)	24,020
Exley Head Fund	-	32,556	(30,705)	20,000	21,851
Total designated funds	149,030	64,791	(61,221)	19,000	171,600
Total unrestricted funds	1,755,420	709,116	(417,071)	1,147	2,048,613
Total funds	1,813,728	727,948	(428,690)	-	2,112,986

Circuit Model Fund Transfers: to cover grant payments, property transactions and budget support during the year.

Designated funds:

Manses fund - To cover costs of general repairs and maintenance of the manses.

CAF grants fund - To cover small property repairs for local churches.

Victoria Park fund - Monies put aside by the circuit to cover expenditure for any special projects.

Benevolence fund - To cover donations in cases of particular hardship at the discretion of the Ministers.

Keighley Church Fund - To cover costs for the day to day running of Keighley church.

Exley Head Fund - To cover costs for the day to day running of Exley Head church.

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

11. Movement in Funds (Continued)

The Graveyard Fund, Reserve account, Pastoral Worker Fund, and Children's, Youth and Families Worker Fund were closed in accordance with the minutes from the Circuit Meeting on 23 March 2021 which resolved to wind up these Designated Funds by 31st August 2021 and transfer any remaining balance into General Funds.

For the year ended 31 August 2021	Balance 1 September 2020	Income & Expenditure Realised/ & Realised/ Unrealised Gains Unrealised (Losses)	Transfers	Balance 31 August 2021
	£	£	£	£
Endowment funds:				
Hebden Wright Charity	36,310	6,432	-	42,742
Restricted funds:				
District Grants	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Bingley Foodbank	-	17,062	(1,496)	15,566
Hebden Wright Charity	-	1,111	- (1,111)	-
Total Restricted funds	-	23,173	(6,496) (1,111)	15,566
Unrestricted funds:				
General Funds	1,534,710	251,587	(268,878) 48,079	1,565,498
Circuit Model Trust Fund	72,465	260	(1,828) (30,005)	40,892
Total	1,607,175	251,847	(270,706) 18,074	1,606,390
Designated funds:				
Manses Funds	65,374	-	(23,952) -	41,422
Graveyards Funds	7,312	-	(1,760) (5,522)	-
CAF Grants Funds	8,708	-	(713) -	7,995
Victoria Park Funds	86,618	-	- -	86,618
Reserve Account	3,902	-	(3,680) (222)	-
Benevolence Fund	5,620	-	- -	5,620
Dunnington Bequest Fund	13,083	430	(6,138) -	7,375
Pastoral Worker Fund	2,361	-	(2,361) -	-
Children's, Youth and Families Worker Fund	27,314	-	(16,125) (11,189)	-
Total designated funds	220,292	430	(54,729) (16,963)	149,030
Total unrestricted funds	1,827,467	252,277	(325,435) 1,111	1,755,420
Total funds	1,863,777	281,882	(331,931) -	1,813,728

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

12. Analysis of Net Assets by Fund

For the year ended 31 August 2022	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	1,203,843	-	-	-	1,203,843
Investments	-	9,721	-	40,779	50,500
Net current assets	671,023	162,879	24,741	-	858,643
	1,874,866	172,600	24,741	40,779	2,112,986

For the year ended 31 August 2021	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	1,393,072	-	-	-	1,393,072
Investments	-	-	-	42,742	42,742
Net current assets	213,318	149,030	15,566	-	377,914
	1,606,390	149,030	15,566	42,742	1,813,728

13. Related Party Transactions

Ministers

Stipends and allowances for presbyters and deacons (collectively ministers) are set annually by the Methodist Conference, and the Circuit is responsible for meeting those costs for all ministers stationed by the Conference in the Circuit. The following ministers received the below stipends within the year:

Name	Position	2022 Salary £	2021 Salary £
Rev C Stainsby	Minister	26,096	-
Rev H Shallow	Minister	26,087	-
Rev T Keen	Minister	12,870	-

All the above were provided with living accommodation as required by the church's Standing Orders.

In addition to the basic stipend, a Connexionally agreed Superintendent Ministers allowance of £2,582 was paid to Rev C Stainsby.

Lay employees

The following members of the Circuit Meeting are/were also employees of the Circuit and are/were in receipt of salaries for the work they undertake in the capacities indicated. They do not receive payment for acting as trustees:

Name	Position	2022 Salary £	2021 Salary £
Glenda Coogan	Church Worker	15,024	22,224
Jo Dolman	Youth, Children and Families worker	-	13,799
Susanne Platt	Church Worker	-	9,763
Peter Bedford	Supernumerary Minister	-	1,118
Sharon Longman	Church Worker	11,306	-
Jeremy Longman	Digital Outreach Worker	8,356	-
Deborah Brazier	Church Worker	11,470	-

Other ministers

No trustees were paid preaching fees in the year (2021 –none).

Other payments

No travelling or course fees were paid to trustees (2021 –none).

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

14. Pension Scheme

The Charity makes payments to the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS) which is a defined benefit scheme. The Circuit accounts for contributions paid for by the ministers and the circuit. Those contributions are paid over to The Methodist Church. The circuit contributes 26.9% (2021 – 26.9%) of ministers' stipends to the Methodist Church.

The cost of the pension scheme to the circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £17,297 (2021: £19,986). At 31 August 2022 £1,503 (2021: £1,441) was prepaid in respect of the scheme.

During the year the Charity made arrangements for a defined contribution pension for its lay employees. The cost of the pension scheme to the circuit for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £3,043 (2021: £3,073). There were no amounts outstanding at the year end (2021: £nil).

15. Commitments

There were no capital commitments at 31 August 2022 (2021: no capital commitments).

At 31 August 2022 the Charity had no commitments under non-cancellable operating leases.

16. Contingent Liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities as at 31 August 2022 (2021: no contingent liabilities).

17. Hebden Wright Charity

The Hebden Wright Charity, an unincorporated Charity, is an endowment where the income is to be used for the music, repair and maintenance of the fabric of Wesley Place Methodist Chapel. On closure of the Chapel the trusteeship of the Charity was changed from the Church Council of Wesley Place Methodist Chapel to the trustees of Airedale Circuit and Wesley Chapel itself became under the control of the Circuit. During 2016-17 the Charity Commission approved a change in the application of income to allow it to be used to support music, worship and repairs at any of the Circuit's churches. As the Hebden Wright Charity is administered by Airedale Circuit and its funds are held for the specific purpose which is within the general purposes of the Circuit, the Charity has been included as part of the Circuit for reporting purposes in accordance with section 25 of the FRS 102 Charities SORP. The capital of £40,779 has been shown as an endowment at 31 August 2022 (2021: £42,742) and the generated income of £1,147 has been shown as restricted (2021: £1,111).

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

18. Trustees

The following trustees have held office since 1 September 2021:

Andrew Houldsworth
Ann Murgatroyd
Ann Walls (resigned August 2022)
Anne Pearson
Brenda Quail
Carleen Richardson
Christine Hambley (appointed September 2022)
Christine Wood
Claire Corp
Clare Dewhirst
David Ayrtton
David Clegg
David Howarth
Deborah Brazier (appointed September 2021, resigned August 2022)
Denise Butcher
Eileen Jowitt
Eileen Sergeant
Emma Sutcliffe
Fiona Green
Glenda Coogan
Graham Iliff
Graham Sheard
Rev Helen Shallow (appointed September 2021)
James Huntington (appointed September 2022)
Janet Clark
Jean Ainsworth
Jeremy Longman (appointed September 2021, resigned May 2022)
Joanne Stokes
Joan Whitfield (resigned August 2022)
Joyce Hartley (resigned August 2022)
Judith Hargreaves
Kath Neal

Kathleen Crabtree
Lena Robinson
Linda Keen (appointed September 2022)
Lindsey Butler (appointed September 2022)
Lindsey Schofield (appointed September 2021, resigned August 2022)
Louise Rouse (appointed March 2022)
Maureen Studholme (appointed September 2022)
Maurice Baren
Mary Peet (appointed September 2021)
Olwyne Pullen
Pam Helyar
Peter Howarth
Phil Corp
Philippa Lupton (appointed October 2022)
Rev Clare Stainsby (appointed September 2021)
Rev Kenneth Beardsley (deceased April 2022)
Rev Terence Keen (appointed September 2021)
Rev Terence Porter (resigned May 2022)
Richard Arnold (resigned May 2022)
Sharon Longman (appointed September 2021, resigned July 2022)
Susan Cutter
Susan Rishworth (resigned August 2022)
Tim Sharp (appointed September 2021)
Tony Denning (September 2021)

Airedale Methodist Circuit

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

19. Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

	Unrestricted Funds					Total funds 2021
	General Fund	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:						
Donations						
Assessment or Share	225,206	-	-	-	-	225,206
Charitable activities						
Grants	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Bingley Foodbank	-	-	-	17,062	-	17,062
Other income	2,202	-	430	-	-	2,632
Other trading activities						
Lettings	23,740	-	-	-	-	23,740
Investment income	439	260	-	1,111	-	1,810
Total income	251,587	260	430	23,173	-	275,450
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
Stipends and salaries	152,529	-	24,624	5,000	-	182,153
District Assessment	59,420	-	-	-	-	59,420
Administration and travel	9,175	145	-	-	-	9,320
Insurance and utilities	14,571	-	-	-	-	14,571
Circuit property expenditure	12,006	-	29,392	-	-	41,398
Other expenditure	18,073	-	-	-	-	18,073
Grants payable	100	-	713	-	-	813
Contributions to District Advance Fund	-	1,683	-	-	-	1,683
Bingley Foodbank	-	-	-	1,496	-	1,496
Independent examination	3,004	-	-	-	-	3,004
Total expenditure	268,878	1,828	54,729	6,496	-	331,931
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains	(17,291)	(1,568)	(54,299)	16,677	-	(56,481)
Realised and unrealised gains on investments	-	-	-	-	6,432	6,432
Transfers between funds	48,079	(30,005)	(16,963)	(1,111)	-	-
Net movement in funds	30,788	(31,573)	(71,262)	15,566	6,432	(50,049)
Funds brought forward	1,534,710	72,465	220,292	-	36,310	1,863,777
Funds carried forward	1,565,498	40,892	149,030	15,566	42,742	1,813,728