

Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church (HHMC)

Registered Charity Number 1164741

Trustees Annual Report for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022

Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church (HHMC) exists to worship God, as we grow in faith, fellowship and love for one another, to seek to serve God and the community, and through our lives and witness, help people to come to a deeper knowledge of Jesus Christ.

HHMC is a member of the West Hertfordshire and Borders Methodist Circuit and therefore part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain. The Trustees are Managing Trustees of the church building at 270 Northridge Way, Hemel Hempstead HP1 2AU which was completed and opened in 2015. All Trustees are members of HHMC and are either elected by the Annual General Meeting or appointed to a specific role by the Church Council. The Trustees are listed elsewhere on the Charity Commission website.

General Church meetings to carry out the functions of the normal Annual General Meeting were held on 1st November 2021 (the first AGM after lockdown) and 22nd May 2022.

Accounts for the year 2021-22 are attached. There was a surplus at the end of the year, due mainly to the receipt of a large legacy, although the income has also increased compared to 2020-21. Sources of the increased income included resumption of regular lettings and donations from the Community Lunches.

HHMC had 80 members at the end of the year (31st August 2022), plus a considerably larger 'pastoral list' of people associated with the church but not formally members. The number of members has fallen compared to the previous year due mainly to the death of older members, but HHMC has welcomed new members during the year.

A service of worship is held in the church building every Sunday morning and is attended by a congregation of up to about 50 people. This Sunday morning service is live streamed online on Facebook and a recording is uploaded to YouTube after the service each week.

Messy Church is held in the afternoon once a month and is aimed particularly at families with children. This is now the main focus of the church's work with children. There is no Junior Church taking place during the morning service at present.

Some special services are held in the afternoons and most of these are not livestreamed online. They include a Songs of Praise service approximately once a quarter, the Christmas Carol Service, and the annual Memorial Service for those who have lost loved ones.

Weekly mailings by email or post of the church notice sheet to everyone on the mailing list have continued after the end of lockdown and a newsletter is sent with the mailing every 6 weeks. A written worship resource is also sent every week to those who have requested it.

The church building and the minister became registered for same sex marriages from June 2022, following general approval from the Methodist Conference (the governing body of the Methodist Church), and local approval from our Church Council.

A new venture which began in May 2022 was the Community Lunch which provides a good home cooked meal and company in a warm building. There is no fixed cost, attendees are told they can pay what they can or nothing at all. The Community Lunch was started in response to concern about the effect of the rising cost of living on people in the community. It is now found to be meeting other, different needs. It has grown steadily and the donations from attendees have provided additional income for the church.

Another 'warm space' venture, the Community Coffee was started in November 2022, just after the end of this financial year and will be described next year.

Many of the church's regular weekday activities have now resumed meeting face to face, some of them in altered form. These include:

- Dinner Church which meets on Sunday evenings once a month and undertakes a range of activities all of them including food. This group is developing into a fellowship group and attracts younger adults.
- Oyster Club – a Christian social club for adults held on Thursday mornings, providing talks, services of worship and other activities.
- Wednesday Fellowship and Reflection meeting twice a month in a member's home
- A Wednesday house group meeting once a month
- A Wednesday Bible Study group meeting jointly on Zoom with another local Methodist Church
- Thursday Fellowship meeting weekly at the church

Saturday coffee morning gatherings continued on Zoom. Face to Face coffee mornings in the church hall restarted in September 2022.

HHMC also sponsors a Guide Company, Brownie Pack and Rainbows, who have resumed their meetings in the building during school term time.

Some of the previous regular groups have not resumed after lockdown due to reduced numbers. These include the Thursday afternoon Bible Study the Knit and Natter group and the Friday Friendship fellowship group.

When not required for HHMC activities, the building was made available for local community groups and others to use in return for a fee designed to cover a due proportion of related costs. This resumed from September 2021 onwards.

The following activities in the community have also resumed

- Open the Book - A team from HHMC provided a Christian assembly at a local primary school approximately once per month in term time using the Open the Book materials supplied by the Bible Society.
- One member from HHMC still serves as a Street Pastor and is supported by prayer partners from HHMC
- Liberty Tea Rooms and Community Hub - members from HHMC volunteer for this charity. The tea rooms provide a meeting place and base for the community hub which provides free services for anyone in the local community needing help in a time of need.

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Hemel Hempstead Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2022

West Herts & Borders	Circuit	Circuit no	34/14
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1164741

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

XR93992

(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)

Minister:

Andrew Brazier

Church Stewards:

Sue Whyte	Sheila Daly
Margaret Thorn	Shalini Parke
Jill Walker	Graham Burton

Treasurer:

Jackie de Bourcier

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	53,557		53,557	53,763
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	233		233	79
a4	Lettings	1,929		1,929	245
a5	Other receipts	24,679		24,679	4,239
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	80,399		80,399 (a7)	58,326

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	43,668		43,668	43,044
b3	Donations	3,447		3,447	6,457
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	3,445		3,445	3,052
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	8,478		8,478	8,979
b6					
b7	Other payments	9,068		9,068	8,826
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	68,107		68,107 (b9)	70,358

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	12,292	12,292	(12,032)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		86,607	86,607 (c6)	98,639
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	98,899	98,899	86,607
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	98,899	98,899 (c8)	86,607 (c6)

SECTION D					
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS					
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures)		£		£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		85		5
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		3,175		705
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		2,978		625
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(d1+d2-d3)	282		85

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1 The Oyster Club	2,387	2,105	282		463	745
e2 Friday Fellowship		187	(187)		305	118
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	2,387	2,292	95		768 (e11)	863 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	80,399 (a7)	68,107 (b9)	12,292	(c7)	86,607 (c6)	98,899 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	82,786	70,399	12,387		87,375 (x)	99,762 (y)
TOTAL RECEIPTS		TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2022**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	18	
f2 Bank Current Account	25,475	35,558
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	60,729	62,955
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	386	386
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	86,607 (c6)	98,899 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	768 (e11)	863 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	87,375 (x)	99,762 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,810,603	3,209,684
g3 Other Assets	93,479	106,752
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church Hemel Hempstead Methodist..... No...34/14.....

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

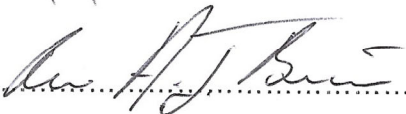
Signature of treasurer  Date...30/4/23.....

Name and address of treasurer Jackie de Bourcier.....

88 Dunlin Road Hemel Hempstead..... Post Code...HP2 6LX.....

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on ..6/2/23..

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting Andrew John Brazier..... Date ..30/4/2023..

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church

Charity Number1164741.....

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages 1 to 3. As the Church'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 Church'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.

Name of ChurchHemel Hempstead Methodist..... No...34/14.....

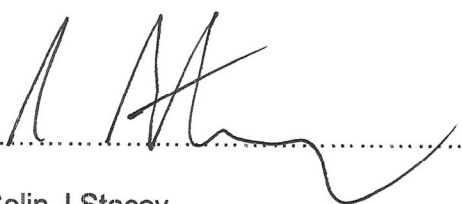
Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination 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 obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner.....

Name of independent examinerColin J Stacey.....

Relevant professional qualification of independent examinerBFP FCA.....

Name of firm (where appropriate) ...Staceys Chartered Accountants Limited

AddressRivers Lodge, West Common, Harpenden,.....

..... Post Code ...AL5 2JD

Date ...9 March 2023