

## **Nantwich with Broad Lane Methodist Church**

**Charity number: 1170226**

*Mission Statement: 'To Show Christ to Others'*

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2021**

#### **1 STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT**

Nantwich with Broad Lane Methodist Church is part of the 'Methodist Church of Great Britain' whose status as a charity has historically been derived from the Deed of Union 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976. We are connected to Cheshire South Methodist Circuit which itself is part of the Chester & Stoke-on-Trent Methodist District.

We operate in the administrative unitary authority area of Cheshire East.

Our constitutional practices can be found in

[www.methodist.org/ministers-and-office-holders/cpd](http://www.methodist.org/ministers-and-office-holders/cpd)

As a Methodist Society we are accountable to Circuit, District and Connexion and are required to comply with regulations laid down in the Constitution, Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church, which is updated annually. As a Society we make decisions at Church Council meetings of which we are required to hold at least two per year and more as and when required by the local situations. Voting members of Church Council must be members of The Methodist Church of Great Britain and trustees of Nantwich with Broad Lane Methodist Church. The Church Council is supported by a number of sub-committees responsible for such things as finance, property, stewards, pastoral care.

We comprise 2 congregations and church buildings in Hospital Street and Broad Lane Nantwich. Due to falling numbers at Broad Lane and difficulty maintaining an independent Church Council, Broad Lane was incorporated as a class of Nantwich early in 2021.

**Risk management** - the major risks to which the charity is exposed have been identified and mitigating actions are being developed. Appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and financial error.

#### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act having due regard to public benefit as per guidance published by the Charity Commission.

## **2 OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES**

### *Hospital Street*

We are a local Methodist Church, situated at the centre of the small rural market town of Nantwich in Cheshire. We are primarily a worshipping and praying fellowship of Christians. Our worship is advertised and all are welcome to attend. There is a weekly act of worship on Sunday mornings with some services also incorporating Holy Communion. We aim to offer alternative styles of worship such as a Café Style Service on a Sunday evening and a week day communion service. There are special additional services at Easter and Christmas and occasional all age worship. We seek to provide opportunity for prayer, Bible study and fellowship through various activities at church and within people's homes. All groups are advertised with an open invitation to attend.

We aim to offer special activities for young people at a Sunday Club which takes place in a designated room equipped with video and projector and soft furnishings. Unfortunately, the number of young people attending has fallen and Sunday Club ceased to be viable from May 2021.

Our current building was originally the church school rooms but in 2009 was re-opened as a multi-purpose building following a substantial refurbishment. The premises are maintained to a very high standard and comply with national legislation and Methodist Church requirements for safe and accessible premises. The premises are well used, not only for church related activities, but by community organisations. The premises are open most days of the week.

We are a dementia friendly Church.

We have introduced many features to reduce our energy use and consider ourselves an eco- friendly church, including solar panels on the roof.

We have a defibrillator located outside our main door.

### *Broad Lane*

Broad Lane is a traditional older church built in 1863 and is situated on the edge of Nantwich.

We are primarily a worshipping and praying fellowship of Christians. Our worship is advertised and all are welcome to attend. There is a weekly act of worship on Sunday afternoon with some services also incorporating Holy Communion and a popular monthly Sankey/Gospel service.

There is a weekly coffee club

The building is also used by the Methodist District as a District Office and for Training seminars.



### **3 ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE**

The year 2020/21 continued to be dominated by the Coronavirus Covid 19 Pandemic. This has affected all aspects of church life.

#### **3.1 Sunday Worship**

In line with Government guidance, all activities on church premises were suspended in March 2020. From August 2020, as restrictions were eased, preparations began to be made for Sunday worship to recommence. A full Covid 19 Risk Assessment was undertaken and protocols put in place to mitigate against the spread of Covid 19. We re-opened for worship on 4<sup>th</sup> October with a telephone booking system and a limit of 30 people attending. Mask wearing was compulsory, temperature checks on entry, hand sanitising required and 2 metre social distancing in place. Records kept for Track and Trace.

In December, 2020 as covid cases increased and a new variant emerged, Sunday worship was again suspended. This meant that there was no service on Christmas Day. Services started again at Easter and have continued since.

Services at Broad Lane started again in June 2021.

As communal worship could not take place, a newsletter and short act of worship to be used at home was introduced. This continued even when churches re-opened as many people were still cautious about attending in person. This was printed and distributed on a weekly basis to approximately 500 people, across the mission area, not just Nantwich. A final newsletter and home service sheet was distributed in June as churches re-opened and more people were able to attend. A home worship sheet has continued to be made available via e-mail or delivery for those unable to attend in person.

A similar but separate newsletter has been distributed to the young people who are current or former members of Sunday Club.

#### **3.2 Activities**

Unfortunately, none of the regular activities on church premises were able to operate within the period of this annual report.

Some ecumenical outreach activities were able to continue in a different form:

- Mentoring of pupils at Brine Leas High School took place by telephone / zoom.
- Acton and Worleston primary schools were given copies of the "Easter Hope" video.
- Street Pastors provided some early evening patrols at Brookfield Park.
- Some weekday evening bible studies held via zoom.
- Christmas Day "goody bags" distributed to people who would otherwise have attended a Christmas Day lunch.

### **3.3 Use of premises by external organisations**

Suspended throughout the period with the exception of use of premises for local elections in May 2021.

### **4 TARGETS FOR 2021/22**

The priority for the next period is to review and re-instate those activities which support our aims and objectives after the pandemic. Preparatory work has been planned to ensure the building is ready. A deep clean of the kitchen is scheduled to enable catering events to take place.

Activities scheduled to start are:

- Monthly Thursday Lunches
- Noah's Ark group aimed at very young children and their parents and carers. The aim is to introduce children to the teachings of Jesus through story, song and craft alongside time for free play. To start October 2021
- Friendship Group to support socially isolated people. To start September 2021
- Saturday morning train rides to start September. Free rides are offered on the miniature railway running alongside the church providing opportunity to engage with people.
- Use of premises agreed for Bereavement Counselling.
- Use of premises agreed for an after school club. This will be run by "Wishing Well" for pupils in year 6 – 10 on Tuesdays and Thursdays 4-6pm

### **5 FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### **5.1 Financial Report**

The forced closure of the church building and other government guidance relating to Covid19 restrictions has inevitably affected both regular income and expenditure throughout the financial year in which this review applies.

Total receipts in the year amounted to £52,179 and total payments amounted to £59,913. The main sources of income were regular giving (£29,565), car park fees (£7,150), grants (£3,943) and legacies & in-memoriam (£2,620). The main outgoings are the contribution to circuit assessment (£43,000), utility costs (£3,213), insurance (£2,636), building maintenance (£2,099). Wages and associated costs were also incurred during the year (£2570) and the role was not replaced when the job holder left. Wherever legally possible, Gift Aid is claimed on giving and this provided valuable income for the charity. Fund raising for Methodist Church funds (called Connexional Funds) and other charities are seen as important charitable purposes by



the Church. Unfortunately, there were few opportunities to fundraise during the year. The bank account balances of all funds amounted to £32,768 at the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 and in addition Trust funds were valued at £8,060.

5.2 Accounts (incorporated into pdf )

5.3 Report on Assets & Liabilities (incorporated into pdf)

5.4 Independent examiners report (incorporated into pdf)

## **6. RESERVES POLICY**

The reserves policy for 2022/2023 is to ideally hold £35,000 in readily available funds in the General Fund (unrestricted). This is sufficient to meet typical general expenditure for a normal period of six months, based on pre-Covid evidence.

Our restricted funds are generally derived from collections and events advertised as for other charities. This type of income is normally paid out in the same financial year.

## **7 LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

### **7.1 Appointments in the 2020/21 financial year**

Minister and Chair of Trustees: Reverend Robin Fox from August 2020.

Treasurer: David Priaux

Trustees: Marcus Appleby (From May 21) Sheila Crosbie, Stephanie Evans, Sheila Evans, Margaret Kirkman, Eric Kirkman, Eileen Robertson, Elizabeth Grundy, Anne Robinson, William Mason, (To Nov 20) Rosalind Mason, John Walkington, Edward George, Patricia Maidment, David Maidment, Janet Evans, (To Oct 2020) Jaqueline Holland, Denise Lawson, Geoffrey Mace, Joyce Platt, Joan Shaddick, Doreen Thomas, May Page.

In addition to the Trustees, many volunteers provide support to the running of the charity in various roles.

More details about our church can be found on our web site

[www.nantwichmethodist.co.uk](http://www.nantwichmethodist.co.uk) Nantwich Methodist Church.

## **7.2 Principal address for Correspondence**

Nantwich Methodist Church  
c/o The Church Office  
Hospital Street  
Nantwich  
CW5 5RP

## **7.3 Independent examiner**

Mr Roger Pask  
36 Wesley Avenue  
Alsager  
Cheshire  
ST7 2 NG

## **7.4 Bankers**

Santander UK Ltd,  
2 Triton Square,  
Regent's Place,  
London  
NW1 3AN

Financial statements for the year ending 31 August 2021

**General (Unrestricted) Fund Receipts and Payments Account**

**A RECEIPTS**

1 Voluntary receipts			previous year	
<i>Regular Giving</i>				
Cash	£3,952.75		£1,858.64	
Envelopes	£4,322.30		£3,148.27	
Standing Orders	£19,544.96		£17,525.96	
Income Tax recovered	£4,970.65	£32,790.66	£7,394.05	£29,926.92
<i>Other voluntary receipts</i>				
Donations	£584.56		£502.50	
Internal organisation's donations		£584.56	£917.45	£1,419.95
<b>2 Receipts from activities for generating funds</b>				
For church funds	£120.00		£5,358.38	
For outreach (designated)			£793.29	
Miscellaneous receipts		£120.00		£6,151.67
<b>2a Legacies &amp; in-memorium donations</b>	£2,620.00	£2,620.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
<b>3 Receipts from Investments</b>	£23.64	£23.64	£41.88	£41.88
<b>4 Receipts from trading activities</b>				
room lettings	£1,103.90		£8,035.35	
car park fees	£7,149.50	£8,253.40	£6,590.00	£14,625.35
<b>5 other income</b>				
assessment from MA church			£4,000.00	
Funeral fees	£160.00		£1,690.00	
Grants	£3,942.67		£1,362.40	
Other receipts	£1,735.59	£5,838.26	£1,307.37	£8,359.77
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>£50,230.52</b>	<b>£50,230.52</b>		<b>£62,525.54</b>

**B PAYMENTS**

<b>1 Principle payments for church activities</b>				
Circuit Assessment	£42,999.96		£40,499.96	
Donations	£468.31		£200.00	
wages and associated costs	£2,569.70		£4,940.50	
Premises repairs/maintenance/fire	£2,604.54		£5,804.47	
Other cleaning costs	£50.00		£807.71	
Utilities	£3,713.58		£7,614.25	
insurance	£3,086.97		£2,728.18	
Telephone and broadband	£658.14		£871.33	
Office costs	£1,287.89		£1,362.98	
fundraising costs/catering			£1,387.08	
Other costs	£525.40		£726.38	
<b>2 Other indirect expenditure</b>				
assessments forwarded for MA church			£4,000.00	
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£57,964.49</b>			<b>£70,942.84</b>

	opening balance	receipts	payments	closing balance
Connexional funds [JMA]	£0.00	£1,214.13	£1,214.13	£0.00
Connexional funds [Easter Offering /World Mission]	£0.00	£133.00	£133.00	£0.00
Partner Charities [All We Can]	£0.00	£60.00	£60.00	£0.00
Other charities [Christian Aid]	£0.00	£421.59	£421.59	£0.00
Other Charities	£0.00	£120.00	£120.00	£0.00
<b>Total of restricted funds</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£1,948.72</b>	<b>£1,948.72</b>	<b>£0.00</b>

	opening balance	receipts	payments	closing balance
<b>Account analysis</b>				
Unrestricted Funds	£40,502.09	£50,230.52	£57,964.49	£32,768.12
Restricted Funds	£0.00	£1,948.72	£1,948.72	£0.00
<b>total</b>	<b>£40,502.09</b>	<b>£52,179.24</b>	<b>£59,913.21</b>	<b>£32,768.12</b>

## Statement of assets and liabilities at 31st August 2021

**Monetary assets**

cash in hand ( office cash )		£4.62	
current bank accounts	Santander account	£11,896.09	
	RBS account	£3,663.98	
CFB accounts	account 1	£15,062.57	
	account 2	£2,140.86	
<b>Total</b>		<b>£32,768.12</b>	<b>£32,768.12</b>
less included unrepresented cheques		£0.00	
income received and not yet banked		£0.00	
less monies received for charities and not yet distributed		£0.00	

**trusts held by TMCP**

Value at 31st August 2021	£8,059.81
[movement in investments since previous year]	£11.00
<b>Total funds including TMCP fund at end of year</b>	<b>£40,827.93</b>

Assets, buildings and land ( insurance value)	£3,276,753.00
Contents ( insurance value)	£188,276.00

## Internal organisations with separate funds

	starting balance	receipts	payments	osing balance
Women's Fellowship	£211.00	£0.00	£0.00	£211.00
Wesley Guild	£67.00	£0.00	£0.00	£67.00
Drop 'n' Shop	£73.00	£0.00	£0.00	£73.00
Men's Supper Club	£356.81	£0.00	£0.00	£356.81
Friendship Group	£102.34	£0.00	£0.00	£102.34
Church Flowers	£66.00	£50.00	£97.00	£19.00
Pastoral Flowers	£15.34	£5.00	£15.10	£5.24
<b>total</b>	<b>£891.49</b>	<b>£55.00</b>	<b>£112.10</b>	<b>£834.39</b>

Approved by the trustees on 14th March 2022

 signed   
 DJ Prialux ( treasurer)

Date 27/6/2022

 signed   
 Revd. Robin Fox, (Chair of Church Council)

Date 27-6-22



## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Nantwich Methodist Church

This Report relates to the Church Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed

It is the examiners responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act).
- to state whether particular matters have come to his/her attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- \_ to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
- \_ to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act and regulations

have not been met or:

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have ~~not~~ obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP") or held in other Trusts, Bank balances and Funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church ("CFB")

Name ROGER PASK

Signature 

Relevant Professional qualification or body COMPANY DIRECTOR (RETIRED)

Address 36 WESLEY AVENUE, ALSAGER, CHESHIRE ST7 2NG

Date 12<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022