

The Methodist Church

Southwick Methodist Church
Registered Charity 1129035
in the
West Sussex Coast and Downs Circuit 36/01

Annual Report and Financial Statement
for the year ending 31st August 2025

1. Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Church Council meets three times a year under the leadership of the presbyter in Pastoral Charge. The General Church Meeting takes place annually as a forum for all members and friends.

Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual influence in the community and a visible expression of God's inclusive love. We aim to achieve this by developing the worship, learning, social and outreach activities that currently exist, and by seeking new ways to extend to others the fellowship of the Church family.

Our mission statement is Worship God, Love People, Grow Disciples.

2. Achievements and performance

The Church funds and grants made to other bodies are all detailed in the Church accounts. The policy of the Managing Trustees on grant making is to ensure that all applicants can demonstrate public benefit and show imagination and creativity as well as a perceived need for that for which the grant is being applied.

In the course of the year, Southwick Methodist Church has provided regular acts of public worship on Sundays and other significant days of the Christian year. Southwick Methodist Church has joined with the members of other churches in Southwick to organise the Remembrance Day service and weekly Prayer meetings and an open air service on Good Friday. It has joined with other churches in the West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Circuit to celebrate other events. In the course of the year, the Church held a gift day fund-raising event and coffee morning to which members of the wider Southwick community were invited.

The Church provides opportunities for Christian education and companionship through its regular Bible Study Groups, Coffee Shop and Wednesday Fellowship. The Church provides opportunities for children and young people to meet through its Boys' and Girls' Brigade Companies and Junior Church. Young families also meet for monthly Messy Church and twice a week for a carers and toddlers group.

During the year, we held specific appeals where funds were collected for:
Action for Children, Leprosy Mission, Link to Hope, MHA, Leap into Hope, Christian Aid.

During the year the church has engaged in regular maintenance and improvements of the premises.

The church has now developed a focused musical outreach to encourage the local community to join activities in the church, these range from social musical events to Christian worship.

2.1 Plans for future years

Encourage and organise initiatives for mission in the community.

Develop café style worship.

Support Churches Together in Southwick.

Organise a series of events to celebrate 60 years of worship in our current church.

3. Financial Review

Please see the accompanying accounts.

The Managing Trustees have every reason to believe that the Church is a going concern.

Trustees do not foresee any factors that will significantly affect the financial performance or position in the next year or two.

The church holds no freehold property.

The church's principal sources of funds are from the free-will gifts of the members of the congregation, from fund-raising events and the hire of the church halls. At the end of the year the church was blessed to receive a large bequest which has allowed us to progress some much needed improvements to the premises which will be ongoing over the next couple of years.

3.1 Investment policy and performance

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long-term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements on the FTSE100 index. The deposit mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere. The Managing Trustees' investment policy is aligned with that of the CFB and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations, both negatively and positively, that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church.

Short term deposits are lodged directly with the Central Finance Board (CFB) and attract good rates of interest.

3.2 Reserves Level and policy

It is SMC's policy to aim to hold at least six months general expenditure plus a buffer amount to cover unexpected fluctuations in income. On this basis funds reserved for the financial year 2025-26 will be £35,000.

Please see the accompanying Reserves level and policy agreed by the Church Council.

4. Trustees' Responsibilities

For each financial year ending on 31st August the Managing Trustees are required to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the Church's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these financial statements the Managing Trustees must:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- Follow applicable accounting standards.
- Prepare accounts using The Methodist Church Standard Form of Accounts.

The Managing Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the law. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

4.1 Risk

The Church is largely risk averse.

5. Structure, governance and management

The Church is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church.

5.1 Structure

Southwick Methodist Church is part of the West Sussex (Coast and Downs) Circuit. As such it is represented on the Circuit Meeting which meets four times a year. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist Churches.

- 1) Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.
- 2) The Connexional Office implements decisions made by the Conference and is responsible for the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as ministers) in individual Circuits within the District.
- 3) Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate officers of the District for implementation.
- 4) The District passes down to Circuit level for implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards, and authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.
- 5) The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, the Church Stewards, and other officers, and this regulatory control is then exercised by the Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

The leadership team of the church met once a month to consider how the church can be present in the community. This has led to many programmes and activities that have helped the pastor and support members of the community. For example, running a course to help people explore the Christian faith and organising social events such as music concerts.

5.2 Purpose of the 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 the discipline of the Methodist Church, and
- b) Any charitable purposes for the time being of any connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and,
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society, or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of Southwick Methodist Church is to advance the Christian faith by providing opportunities for worship, Christian nurture and fellowship within the wider Southwick Community.

5.3 Governance

The Church operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Connexional Office at Methodist Church House, 25 Tavistock Place, London. WC1H 9SF to provide guidance on changes that could affect the Church.

The members of the Church Council are appointed under the terms of S.O. 610(1). The Superintendent Minister is ex officio chair of the Church Council but may delegate this task to other presbyters in the Circuit. The Church Council normally meets three times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the work of other groups within the life of the Church.

5.4 Responsibilities of the Church Council

The responsibilities of the Church Council and other committees are set out in Standing Orders 603 – 604 of the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

6. Reference and Administrative Details

6.1 Name of the Church

Southwick Methodist Church

6.2 Charity Registration number

1172433

6.3 Superintendent Minister

The Revd Rosemarie Clarke

6.4 Presbyter in Pastoral Charge

The Rev. Ian Couchman

6.5 Names of Managing Trustees

Revd. Ian Couchman, Rev. Rosemarie Clarke. Ms Hilary Colbourn, Mrs Dawn Carn, Mrs. Janet Collett, Mrs. Wendy Cooke, Mrs Pam Couchman, Mr Robert Disney, Mrs Mandy Ford, Mrs Anne Harris, Mr James Lelean, Mrs Joanna Markvoot-Weijters, Mrs Heather McKay, Mrs. Phyllis Nicholls, Miss Bridget Quint, Mrs. Julie Scarratt, Mrs Kim Upton, Mr Philip Webb, Mrs Yvonne Yates.

6.6 Independent Examiner

Mr John Young (7 The Crescent, Southwick, West Sussex, BN42 4LB)

The Methodist Church



Southwick Methodist Church
Registered Charity 1129035
in the
West Sussex Coast and Downs
Circuit 22/04

ACCOUNTS (ACCRUALS BASIS)

For the year ended 31st August 2025

Minister

Rev'd Ian Couchman

Church Leadership Team

Miss Bridget Quint
Mrs Julie Scarrett
Mrs Pam Couchman
Mr Philip Webb

Church Treasurer

Mr Philip Webb

Name of Church

Southwick Methodist Church

Church No

360812

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2025

	Notes to the accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024-25 £	Total 2023-24 £
Income							
1 Offerings	1	29,924				29,924	32,131
2 Donations	4	8,389		3,543		11,931	17,379
3 Gift aid		7,600				7,600	7,398
4 Interest and investment income	2	3,144				3,144	3,322
5 Income from investment properties	3	25,065				25,065	25,138
6 Internal organisations	5		43,743			43,743	354
7 Other charitable income	4	11,764	205,902			217,666	14,319
8 Total income		85,885	249,645	3,543	-	339,072	100,041
Expenditure							
9 Circuit assessment or share	6	30,764				30,764	46,447
10 Grants and donations	13	438	3,116	2,406		5,960	3,054
11 Property maintenance	8	10,804	50,240			61,044	28,119
12 Insurance, utilities etc	9	16,160				16,160	18,695
13 Depreciation						-	0
14 Office expenses	10	2,311				2,311	2,878
15 Other expenditure	10	8,168	593			8,760	7,911
16 Internal organisations	11		23,720			23,720	312
17 Total charitable expenditure		68,644	77,669	2,406	-	148,719	107,416
18 Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0	
19 Gains/(losses) on investment properties						0	
20 Net income/(expenditure)		17,241	171,976	1,137	-	190,353	-7,375
21 Transfers between funds		100	-	100		0	0
22 Other gains/(losses)						0	0
23 Net movement in funds	12	17,341	171,976	1,037	-	190,353	-7,375
24 Total funds brought forward		39,004	51,116	2,333		92,453	99,829
25 Total funds carried forward		56,345	223,092	3,370	-	282,806	92,454

Name of Church

Southwick Methodist Church

Church No

360812

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Designated Funds (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2025 £	Totals 2024 £
Fixed Assets						
Church building and other property	5,174,109				5,174,109	4,999,063
Investment properties	0				0	
Investments					0	
Total fixed assets	5,174,109	0	0	0	5,174,109	4,999,063
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments	9,392				9,392	0
Loans by the Churches					0	0
Investments with TMCP		211,843			211,843	43,864
Central Finance Board Deposits	4,524				4,524	16,393
Cash at Bank and in hand	42,429	15,352	3,370		61,152	32,196
Total current assets	56,345	227,195	3,370	0	286,910	92,453
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	4,104				4,104	
Grants payable within 2025-26					0	
Total current liabilities	4,104	0	0	0	4,104	0
Net current assets/liabilities	52,241	227,195	3,370	0	282,806	92,453
Total assets less current liabilities	5,226,350	227,195	3,370	0	5,456,915	5,091,516
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)						
Grants payable after 2025-26					0	
Loans to the Church					0	
					0	
Net assets	5,226,350	227,195	3,370	0	5,456,915	5,091,516
Funds of the Church						
General Fund (Unrestricted)	5,226,350				5,226,350	39,004
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		227,195			227,195	51,116
Total Unrestricted Funds					5,453,545	90,120
Restricted Funds			3,370		3,370	2,333
Endowment Funds				0	0	
Total Funds	5,226,350	227,195	3,370	0	5,456,915	92,453

Southwick Methodist Church

Analysis of income and expenditure

Selected period: 01 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

	General	Designated	Restricted	This year	Last year
Receipts					
Note 1 - Offerings and tax recoverable					
1001 - Weekly offering - cash and cheques	£5,750 -	-		£5,750	£5,494
1002 - Weekly offering - envelopes	£2,480 -	-		£2,480	£3,602
1003 - Offering - Direct Bank Payments	£19,601 -	-		£19,601	£21,348
1006 - Offering - Online	£2,093 -	-		£2,093	£1,687
1010 - Tax reclaimed	£7,600 -	-		£7,600	£7,398
Offerings and tax recoverable Totals	£37,524 -	-		£37,524	£39,529
Note 2 - Bank & CFB interest and investment income					
1102 - Interest - CFB	£625 -	-		£625	£1,073
1103 - Interest - TMCP	£2,519 -	-		£2,519	£2,249
Bank & CFB interest and investment income Totals	£3,144 -	-		£3,144	£3,322
Note 3 - Lettings					
1202 - Lettings - Hall	£25,065 -	-		£25,065	£25,138
Lettings Totals	£25,065 -	-		£25,065	£25,138
Note 4 - Other receipts					
1301 - Fees - Weddings & Funerals -	-	-	-	-	£275
1302 - Donations - Use of Halls	£9,662 -	-		£9,662	£8,332
1303 - Photocopy & telephone Payments	£605 -	-		£605	£683
1304 - Donations - In Memoriam	£475	£196,562 -		£197,037	£10,150
1305 - Donations - General	£2,179 -	-		£2,179	£1,949
1306 - Donations - Church Mission -	-		£2,756	£2,756	£2,454
1307 - Donations - Newsletter	£790 -	-		£790	£761
1308 - Fund Raising - Receipts	£42 -	-		£42 -	
1310 - Other Collections - Receipts -	-	-	-	-	£451
1311 - Payments from Circuit -		£8,900 -		£8,900	£2,648
1312 - Donations - Catering	£2,195 -	-		£2,195	£1,801
1313 - Donations - Flowers	£590 -	-		£590	£393
1315 - Refunds	£980 -	-		£980	£112
1316 - Donations - Other Mission -		£440	£786	£1,226	£1,609
1317 - Donations - Gift Day	£2,635 -	-		£2,635	£80
Other receipts Totals	£20,153	£205,902	£3,543	£229,597	£31,697
Note 5 - Internal organisations (income)					
1901 - Internal organisations (inc) -		£43,743 -		£43,743	£354
Internal organisations (income) Totals	-	£43,743 -		£43,743	£354
Receipts Grand totals	£85,885	£249,645	£3,543	£339,073	£100,041

Payments					
Note 6 - Circuit assessment or share					
2001 - Circuit Assessment	£30,764 -	-		£30,764	£46,447
Circuit assessment or share Totals	£30,764 -	-		£30,764	£46,447
Note 7 - Donations					
2102 - National Charities	£3	£2,876	£2,406	£5,284	£1,944
2103 - Local Charities	-	£241 -		£241	£690
2105 - Other Collections - Payments	£435 -	-		£435	£420
Donations Totals	£438	£3,116	£2,406	£5,960	£3,054
Note 8 - Repairs and maintenance					
2201 - Cleaning - Services	£4,174 -	-		£4,174	£5,027
2203 - Cleaning - Materials	£1,629 -	-		£1,629	£1,550
2218 - Property - Improvements	-	£34,082 -		£34,082	£9,990
2219 - Property - Signage	£900 -	-		£900 -	
2220 - Property - repairs, maintenance etc	£3,571	£14,059 -		£17,630	£10,514
2223 - Organ - Repairs	-	-	-		£120
2224 - Pianos - Repairs	£328	£2,100 -		£2,428	£70
2629 - Technology - Hardware	£201 -	-		£201	£849
Repairs and maintenance Totals	£10,804	£50,240 -		£61,044	£28,119
Note 9 - Utilities, insurances etc					
2301 - Insurance - Church	£3,619 -	-		£3,619	£3,502
2310 - Gas	£6,567 -	-		£6,567	£7,254
2312 - Electricity	£3,857 -	-		£3,857	£6,755
2320 - Water	£1,330 -	-		£1,330	£1,095
2321 - Council tax	£787 -	-		£787	£89
Utilities, insurances etc Totals	£16,160 -	-		£16,160	£18,695
Note 10 - Other payments					
2002 - LayWorker Salary	£2,014 -	-		£2,014	£1,845
2104 - Ministers Discretionary Fund	£100 -	-		£100	£320
2601 - Equipment - eg Vacuum Cleaner	£125 -	-		£125 -	
2603 - Stationery	£162 -	-		£162	£483
2604 - Office Consummables - paper, cartridges	£74 -	-		£74 -	
2605 - Postage	£5 -	-		£5	£20
2606 - Telephone & Broadband	£767 -	-		£767	£699
2620 - Printer Expenses	£1,302 -	-		£1,302	£1,677
2621 - Professional Service	-	£593 -		£593	£1,630
2624 - Copyright Licence	£396 -	-		£396 -	
2625 - Magazines Costs	£1,875 -	-		£1,875	£1,611
2626 - Technology - Licences & Software	£1,261 -	-		£1,261	£983
2627 - Books & Cards	£229 -	-		£229	£57
2628 - Catering	£468 -	-		£468	£663
2640 - Flowers	£759 -	-		£759	£333
2642 - Hymnbooks	£130 -	-		£130 -	
2643 - Worship Books	£136 -	-		£136 -	
2644 - Church Supplies	£308 -	-		£308	£30
2645 - Outreach Expenses	£368 -	-		£368	£373
2700 - Hall Hire Deposit Refund	-	-	-		£65
Other payments Totals	£10,478	£593 -		£11,071	£10,789
Note 11 - Internal organisations (expenditure)					
2901 - Internal organisations (exp)	-	£23,720 -		£23,720	£312
Internal organisations (expenditure) Totals	-	£23,720 -		£23,720	£312
Payments Grand totals	£68,644	£77,669	£2,406	£148,719	£107,416

Note 4 & 13. Donations to Others

For Mission Funding our policy is to have focused opportunities for members of the congregation and wider community to give to named charities. These are raised through freewill giving and special events. Charities supported are both Methodist and others.

Each year we have a specific Christian charity which is proposed from the membership. In 24-25 we supported the Leap into Hope charity and through donations and social activities raised £2406 which was matched from a specific fund which was designated for supporting missions in the church. This is a principle which has been approved by the trustees and review each year.

Other donations have been collected and made based on individual focused Sunday services such as Action For Children and Methodist Homes for the Aged.

Note 5 & 11 Internal Organisations

Internal Organisations report to Church Council which has ultimate responsibility for them, but they conduct their own financial affairs including an examination of their accounts.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Opening balances	Closing balances
Wednesday Fellowship	3,789.17	4,342.31	(553.14)	1,722.83	1,169.69
3rd Southwick GB	8,199.16	9,844.01	(1,644.85)	9,815.45	8,171
Cameo (Closed in the year)	681.00	743.58	(62.58)	62.58	
1st Southwick Boys Brigade	1,671.00	1,986.01	(315.01)	8,680.53	8,365.52
Manna Lunch Club	2,355.05	2,358.39	(3.34)	1721.28	1,717.94
Teddy Bears	3,267.95	3,441.91	(173.96)	373.87	199.91
Messy Church	814.74	775.97	38.77	289.34	328.11
Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	20,778.07	23,492.18	(2,714)	22,665.88	19,951.77

(Note - in the SOFA report it shows internal organization income as £43,743 – this reflects the addition of the internal organisations previous years balance which was reported externally from the churches accounting software to being reported within the churches accounting package. And funds held in 'Other Funds' which can be seen above in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities in 'Other Funds' as having no opening balance. This occurred as the movement occurred after last year's Financial Year was closed and so no amendment could be made)

Note 6 - Prepayments and Accruals

Prepayments and Accruals

Debtors & Pre-Payments

	General	Restricted	This Year	Last Year
Assessment for Sept to Nov' 2025	£	9,271.71	£ 9,271.71	N/a
Water Rates Pre-Payment	£	120.03	£ 120.03	
	£	9,391.74	£ 9,391.74	

Creditors & Accruals

	General	Restricted	This Year	Last Year
Fire Extinguisher Service	£	1,228.56	£ 1,228.56	N/a
Leap into Hope Missiom pending payment		£ 2,875.58	£ 2,875.58	
	£	1,228.56	£ 4,104.14	

#Accruals Method was not required last year

Note 12 Movement in Funds

Unrestricted Funds are for the use of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Church. Restricted Funds are those to which contributions have been made for a specific purpose.

All transfers between funds are approved by Church Council (the Trustees) and made in response to changes in internal requirements or to reflect changes in Circuit Policy.

Southwick Methodist Church Fund movement summary Selected period: 01 September 2024 to 31 August 2025

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Fund balances Carried forward
General Fund	£39,003.90	£85,884.94	£68,644.14	£100.00	£56,344.70
Mission 2024 - Leap Into Hope -		£2,706.86 -		£168.72	£2,875.58
Property Fund	£50,519.00	£107,180.99	£49,604.34 -		£108,095.65
Charity Bequest -		£98,280.98 -		-	£98,280.98
Other Mission	£181.50	£786.48	£2,405.91	£1,932.31	£494.38
Messy Church	£209.16	£299.14	£228.05 -		£280.25
Pantry/Warm Spaces	£272.53	£440.00	£240.60 -		£471.93
Open The Book	£115.32 -	-	-		£115.32
Internal Organisation Accounts -		£43,443.95	£23,492.18 -		£19,951.77
Ladies That Breakfast (Closed)	£268.72 -	-		-£268.72 -	
Mission - Mission (Closed)	£1,883.11	£49.20 -		-£1,932.31 -	
ZReval - Revaluation reserves -	-		£4,104.14 -		-£4,104.14
Totals	£92,453.24	£339,072.54	£148,719.36 -		£282,806.42

Funds held during 2024-25 Financial Year

General Fund	Unrestricted Funds for general in paying liabilities
Mission 2024 – Leap into Hope	Monies collected for the annual church project, the fund is closed the next financial year after all monies paid.
Property Fund	Monies held for the Maintenance and Upkeep of the Church premises. A specific legacy was left of which 50% was expressed given for the upkeep of Southwick Methodist.
Charity Bequest	Money received as the other 50% of the legacy requested to be given to support charities the Church supports. As the legacy was only received just before end of the financial year no payments have been made.
Other Mission	Monies received for other mission projects (AFC, MHA, Turning Tides etc)
Messy Church	Monies received for Messy Church which are collected via the Church Digital Collect Plate. These remain separate from the Messy Church IOA accounts managed by themselves
Pantry/Warm Spaces	Special Mission for the provision of a food bank and a warm space. Project closed at the end of the financial year and monies are being donated to two local charities with the same aims.
Open The Book	Monies held for the church group who visit schools.
Internal Organization Accounts	Monies held in IO Accounts. These are part of the churches total assets but not held in church accounts.
Ladies that Breakfast	An IO which closed during the year. The Organization asked that the remaining balance be used as a donation to the church for previous use (£100) and the Annual Church Project (£168.72)
Mission	A fund which was closed in order to split the Annual Mission (which starts and ends each financial year) and the Other Missions. All monies collected at that time were assigned to 'Other Missions'.

Note 14 – Assets and Liabilities

Statement of Assets and Liabilities As at: 31 August 2025

		Closing Balances	Openng Balances
Current Asset			
	5001: Barclays Current Account	£22,743	£15,696
	5002: Lloyds Current Account	£18,456	£16,500
	5003: Central Finance Board	£4,524	£16,393
	5005: Other Funds	£19,952	
	5006: Cash in Hand		
	5009: Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes	£211,843	£43,864
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	£9,392	
Total		£286,911	£92,453
Liability			
	Z04: Accounts Payable	£4,104	
Total		£4,104	
Net total assets		£282,806	£92,453

Basis of accounting and accounting policies

- i. Accounting standard**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)* applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective from 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)).
- ii. Public benefit entity**

Southwick Methodist Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note below.
- iii. Basis**

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Church's financial position and activities.
- iv. Content**

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used, these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling,
- v. FRS102 SORP 2015**

These accounts are compliant with FRS102 and with the FRS102 SORP 2015. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable charity law in England, this being the Charities Act 2011 and SI2008/629 (Charities Accounting and Reporting Regulations) and, pending the making of replacement Regulations specific to SORP 2015 in accordance with Reg.8(4)(d) of SI 2008/629, the charity trustees have departed from the requirement of Reg.8(5) by following SORP (FRS102) instead of SORP 2005 to the extent necessary to give a true and fair view in the circumstances.
- vi. Going concern**

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2024, the trustees believe that the church is a going concern.
- vii. Income recognition**

Income is brought into the accounts when there is entitlement and the amount is reliably measurable once it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will be forthcoming.
In accordance with the Charities SORP (102), the time of volunteers is not recognised.
- viii. Expenditure**

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, where the amount is reliably measurable, and it is considered more likely than not that there will be an outflow of economic benefit.
- ix. Grants**

Grants made by the Church from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of the agreement to make a grant without performance conditions, or as and when the Church accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant to be accrued is recurrent over more than one year, the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the balance sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.
- x. VAT**

Since the Church is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.
- xi. Tangible fixed assets**

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £5,000.

xii. Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Church which are unrestricted. Restricted funds are held for narrower purpose. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the notes to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.


xiii. Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 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

16/12/25

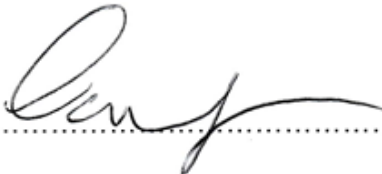
Name and address of treasurer:

Philip C Webb**422 Upper Shoreham Road, Shoreham By Sea, West Sussex Post Code BN43 5NE**

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 22nd February 2026

Signature of the Chair of the meeting:

Name of the Chair of the meeting: **Rev Owen Carney**

Date

22 Feb 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Southwick Methodist Church

Church No – 360812

Charity Number 1172433

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Southwick Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 2 to 9. 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.

Independent Examiner's Statement

[The Church's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Certified Accountants (Retired).

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
- 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
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts

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

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

Signature of independent examiner JD/oy

Name of independent examiner JOHN YOUNG

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCCA

Name of firm (where appropriate) -

Address 7 The Crescent

Southwick Sussex Post Code BN42 4LB

Date 8/2/26