

Submission of Accounts to Charity Commission
Rivercourt Methodist Church
Year Ended 31 August 2021

Section One: Trustee's Report

Section Two: Charity Commission - Independent Examiner's
Report on the Accounts

Section Three: Methodist Church – Standard Form of
Accounts

Section Four: Simplified Form of Accounts

Rivercourt Methodist Church (RMC)
Trustees' Report to the Charity Commission
September 2020 to August 2021

Church Address:	King Street, Hammersmith, London W6 9TF
Circuit	Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham 35/04
District	London
Charity Number	1133940
Minister in Charge:	Revd. Iesinga Vunipola
Trustees at 31 Aug 2021	Revd. Iesinga Vunipola – Chair Mr. Stephen Lawrence – Treasurer Mr. Kwaku Tieku – Organist Ms. Juliana Goode Ms. Joan Bennett Mr. A. A. M. Grigg Ms. Vanessa Brackett
Bookkeeper	Mr. Solomon Sackey
Auditor	Antippa & Company Ltd. (Angelo G. Antippa)

Trustees	<p>One trustee resigned during the financial year.</p> <p>The minister is always Chair of the Trustees and is appointed to one or more Churches in our Circuit (charity 1133940). They are chosen by the Conference and paid by the Circuit. Their level of pay is determined by the Conference of the British Methodist Church (Charity number 1132208). Our current minister is Revd. Iesinga ("Singa") Vunipola.</p> <p>The only other trustee paid by Rivercourt is Kwaku Tieku. He plays the organ at services and is a trained music therapist. He is an excellent organist and communicator which makes him one of the great assets to RMC.</p>
Congregation	We started the financial year with RMC closed for religious

	<p>services. It eventually re-opened on 24th June. Thus, we have only been open for a couple months of this financial year. Because we have an elderly congregation, some RMC members have not yet returned.</p> <p>We also normally have some tourists in attendance as we are located on a major street in West London. A lack of tourists has dried up that source of worshippers.</p> <p>An average of 25 people attended Rivercourt services before the pandemic in 2020. There were approximately 50 members.</p> <p>Revd Vunipola is Tongan and head of the Tongan Fellowship Community. She attracts a large number of Tongans to RMC. Although our congregation has been 10 to 15 since re-opening, it could swell to two or three times that number depending on who is preaching.</p> <p>RMC is a member of the Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham Circuit, which consists of five Methodist churches: Askew Road, Chelsea, Fulham Broadway, Rivercourt and Shepherd's Bush Road. From the start of the financial year all the churches in the Circuit had started running Zoom Services. In general, Askew Road ran their own service. The other churches, including RMC had combined Zoom services, led by presbyters and local preachers in the Circuit with occasional guest ministers who were free. The Circuit also started Zoom Circuit services one Sunday a month.</p> <p>Caring for members who are sheltering and not computer literate has been a challenge.</p> <p>Some older members did not want to do Zoom and the Tongans started running their own services which are mainly delivered in their native language, Tongan</p> <p>Once lockdown ends completely, we will be able to have a more precise idea of likely numbers going forward.</p>
Ministerial Oversight	<p>Revd. Singa completed her second year with us in August 2021. We share her ministry with Shepherd's Bush Road Church.</p> <p>Singa was happy to come to West London as it is a good location for her calling to minister to the Tongan Fellowship in addition to her Circuit responsibilities. She began her role in the Circuit in August of 2019. Her appointment should last five years. She will have reached retirement age prior to the end of her appointment. She could then retire. If she chooses to stay on and the Circuit</p>

	<p>votes for her to continue, she could opt-in for another five years or less as she will be eligible to retire.</p> <p>The superintendent of our Circuit went off on sick leave in December. He is currently still on sick leave at the end of this financial year. Revd Singa is the senior presbyter in the Circuit. This means she has had to take on some superintendent responsibilities in addition to her church responsibilities. Hopefully this situation will resolve itself in the next financial year.</p>
Building	<p>RMC is an impressive church (insured value £10,842,160 as of 24 June 2021) from both the inside and outside. It opened in 1875. It was converted in the late 1990s to provide flexibility in a modern worship space. This is both a blessing and a curse.</p> <p>The blessing is that as a high street church, there are many people passing by the building expressing a genuine interest into what is going on inside and stopping to pray. Its location close to both bus and tube services make it an easy place to have meetings, classes or other get together.</p> <p>The curse of a large church is its upkeep, which is a major cost of time and money for the Trustees. In recent years we have had exceptional costs for the spire and the roof. Our last cost for the roof was the 5% retention fee which came due in June 2021.</p> <p>A dark day for RMC was the 12th of July. As we moved close to the end of the financial year and the end of the tenant's lease, both 31st August, a torrential rain flooded the local sewer system which caused sewage to back up through basement toilets into the nursery which operates in the basement.</p> <p>Luckily, we were insured as by the end of August builders believe their work will not be complete until December 2021, which means that the nursery will have to use RMC for classrooms. So far Methodist Insurance have been very supportive.</p>
Financial Accounts	<p>2020-21 saw a drop in receipts. The rent from the nursery school increased, as nurseries stayed open throughout the financial year despite the pandemic. The nursery rent was paid at the increased amount negotiated from the previous year. Income from the Church Hall declined dramatically as the pandemic caused the bottom to drop out of the letting market across the board from dance groups and classes to rehearsal space for opera companies.</p> <p>Other income was down where furlough gains of the administrator and custodian costs were more than offset loss by the one-off</p>

	<p>grant for roof repairs.</p> <p>We had a massive drop in payments as a result of the previous year's cost of roof maintenance. Insurance was way up as RMC was re-rated by Methodist Insurance. This only occurs once every few years so the costs should not rise for the next few years unless we have expensive claims. Later in the report it shows that in fact we did have a massive claim just near the end of the financial year</p> <p>We also had a rise in other payments which were tied to the reopening. This included a deep clean for the entire Church as well as signage, special bins, costs for tracking cleaning, hand sanitizers and masks. We should be able to claim these costs back next year from a London District fund</p> <p>RMC should also receive rents from three properties in adjoining Rivercourt House. We receive rental payment from a flat that the RMC collects. The other two properties are managed by the London Committee in exchange for rent collected on a fourth property in Rivercourt House. This rent goes directly to the London Committee.</p> <p>The agents who operate on behalf of the London Committee, setting and collecting rent have not been doing so and the London Committee are not tracking the work these agents do. This could cause a challenge in the next financial year for RMC.</p> <p>Our receipts were down our costs dropped dramatically which resulted in a small profit for the year of £1029.</p> <p>Although reserves are below what they should be and the damage to the nursery of the sewage backup remains uncertain, the future should be rosy as tenants return to the building along with the congregation who has become tired of Zoom services. Zoom will certainly be used for Bible Studies, Funerals and Weddings. However, people are ready to begin worshipping together as a congregation.</p>
Reserves	<p>Reserves are the amount of money held by RMC in case of unforeseen circumstances. RMC aims to keep six months of easily accessible cash available. In 2019-20 our bank account (Central Board of Finance) took a massive hit. In this year the amount held by the Central Bank went up a slight amount.</p> <p>In the past year the RMC held the line against the problems of the previous year. If the nursery repairs are completed and the properties adjacent to RMC start having their rents collected</p>

	<p>regularly, next year could consist of RMC getting its reserves back where they belong and allow for needed changes such as painting and upgrading technology.</p> <p>The Church is 125 years old and maintenance costs are very high whether or not the building is in use. We will have to reduce costs and rely on savings while lettings build back up again post Covid. Much of our work in the community is the result of having a space that is extremely usable. With a small congregation the building has to break even. Our savings reserves will tend to fluctuate between just over and just under 50% of the outgoings.</p>
Other	<p>Rivercourt received no special grants from Government or private interests. We took advantage of the Government Job Retention Scheme and put our two employees, church administrator and custodian, on furlough while still paying 20% of their salary. Income was also derived from public giving, lettings and users of RMC itself. No professional fundraisers were used. All monies raised and spent were done so in England.</p> <p>Apart from the pandemic and the sewage backup, no other serious incident(s) occurred during the year, either reported or unreported.</p>

Steve Lawrence – Church Treasurer
Revd. Singa Vunipola - Minister



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

RIVERCOURT METHODIST CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

31 AUGUST 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1174328

Set out on pages

1-2 attached

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2021.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity'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 Trust'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.

Independent
examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

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 gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

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

Signed:

A.S. ANTIPPA

Date:

12 February 2022

Name:

ANTIPPA & CO LTD, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

FCA, CTA

(if any):

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Address:

17 CUPTHALL GARDENS
TWICKENHAM
TW1 4HH

Section B

Disclosure

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

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

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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

To

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Collections and Donations	10,054	-	-	10,054	13,655
Lettings income	68,509	-	-	68,509	71,514
Bank interest	42	-	-	42	491
HMRC grant Job Retention Scheme	14,870	-	-	14,870	6,371
Grant for roof repairs	-	-	-	-	20,000
Other receipts	280	-	-	280	310
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	93,755	-	-	93,755	112,341
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	93,755	-	-	93,755	112,341
A3 Payments					
Church circuit	24,000	-	-	24,000	24,000
Property maintenance	12,841	-	-	12,841	87,351
Utilities	13,554	-	-	13,554	9,543
Staff costs	28,973	-	-	28,973	26,991
Donations	200	-	-	200	100
Other payments	13,130	-	-	13,130	10,510
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	92,698	-	-	92,698	158,495
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Asset purchases	28	-	-	28	2,365
Sub total	28	-	-	28	2,365
Total payments	92,726	-	-	92,726	160,860
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,029	-	-	1,029	- 48,519
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	46,037	-	-	46,037	94,556
Cash funds this year end	47,066	-	-	47,066	46,037

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank accounts	47,051	-	-
	Petty cash	15	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	47,066	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

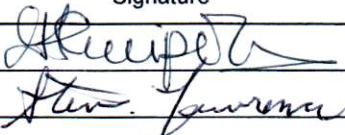
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	IESINGA VENIPOLA	16/06/22
	STEVE LAWRENCE	16/06/22

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
(SHORT FORM)

Rivercourt Methodist

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham	Circuit	35	Circuit no	04
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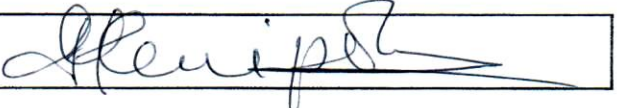
Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1174328






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

(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:

Revd IESINGA VUNIPOLA 

Church Stewards:

	Vanessa B. Brackett
	Joan Bennett
	ALBERT GRICE
	Julianne Crook
	Kwaku Tiekou

Treasurer:

Steve Lawrence 

Rivercourt Methodist

Church

Church - Short
Form

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

SECTION A		This year's amount to the nearest £	Last year's amount to the nearest £
	Note	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS		
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	10,054	13,655
a3	Bank and CFB interest & investment income	42	491
a4	Lettings	68,509	71,514
a5	Other receipts	15,150	26,681
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	93,755	112,341
SECTION B			
b1	PAYMENTS		
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	24,000	24,000
b3	Donations	200	100
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	12,841	87,351
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	13,554	9,543
b6	Other payments	42,131	39,866
b7	TOTAL PAYMENTS	92,726	160,860
SECTION C			
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6 - b7)	1,029	(48,519)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	46,037 (c7)	94,556
c3	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c1 + c2)	47,066	46,037 (c7)
c4	State here the total of any other assets of the Church		
c5	State here the total of any liabilities of the Church		
c6	State here the insured value of the Church premises and contents	10,984,820	11,843,545
SECTION D ANALYSIS OF FUNDS			
d1	Balances held at TMCP at 31 August		
d2	Balances held at CFB at 31 August	30,605	30,434
d3	Bank and cash balances at 31 August	16,461	15,603
d4	TOTAL (= Box c3)	47,066	46,037
SECTION E			
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)			
e1	Balance brought forward from last year		
e2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		
e3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		
e4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (e1+e2-e3)		

Name of Church: Rivercourt Methodist Church No

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 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 Steve Lawrence Date 02/06/22

Name and address of treasurer Steve Lawrence

36 Westcroft Square, London Post Code W6 0TA

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Iesingha Vunipola

Name of the Chair of the meeting IESINGHA VUNIPOLA Date 16/06/2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Charity Number 1174328

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Rivercourt Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on page 2. 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church: Rivercourt Methodist Church No

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 A.S. Antippa

Name of independent examiner: Angelo Antippa, Director

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: FCA, CTA

Name of firm (where appropriate): Antippa & Company Ltd, Chartered Accountants

Address: 17 Copthall Gardens, Twickenham, TW1 4HH

Date: 12 February 2022

Rivercourt Methodist Church

Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2021

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Receipts and payments summary
Year ended 31 August 2021

	<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<u>Voluntary income:</u>				
Collections, donations and Gift Aid		10,054		13,655
<u>Rental income:</u>				
Shops and flat	22,487		18,626	
Church basement	37,800		31,500	
Church hall lettings	8,222		21,388	
		<u>68,509</u>		<u>71,514</u>
<u>Other income:</u>				
Bank interest		42		491
HMRC grants - Job retention scheme		14,870		6,371
Contribution towards costs from tenants		280		310
Grant for roof repairs		0		20,000
		<u>93,755</u>		<u>112,341</u>
Payments				
Circuit assessment		24,000		24,000
Staff salaries and National Insurance		28,973		26,991
Organist		1,640		2,400
Property maintenance		12,841		87,351
Insurance		9,768		3,800
Light and heating		2,314		4,906
Water rates		1,472		837
Cleaning and refuse collection		3,972		1,372
Telephone and internet		590		933
Professional fees and engineering report		2,800		2,921
Accountancy		730		730
Postage and stationery		1,209		812
Travel		70		70
Gifts and donations		200		100
Other payments – Covid supplies, flowers, etc.		2,119		1,272
Purchase of equipment		28		2,365
		<u>-92,726</u>		<u>-160,860</u>
Surplus/-Deficit of receipts over payments		<u>£1,029</u>		<u>-£48,519</u>

Rivercourt Methodist Church
Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
<u>General Fund</u>		
Accumulated surplus at 1 September 2020	46,037	94,556
<u>Add:</u> Surplus for the year 2021	1,029	-48,519
Accumulated surplus at 31 August 2021	<u>£47,066</u>	<u>£46,037</u>
 <u>Represented by:</u>		
Bank and cash	£	£
- Central Board of Finance bank deposit account	30,605	30,434
- HSBC bank current account	16,446	15,499
- Petty cash	15	104
Total funds at 31 August 2021	<u>£47,066</u>	<u>£46,037</u>