HILLSIDE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1175950

Details

Other names	BRINSCALL METHODIST CHURCH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2017-11-27
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Hillside Methodist Church School Lane Brinscall Chorley Lancashire PR6 8JP
Phone	01254831667
Email	hillside@hillside-methodist.org.uk
Website	www.hillside-methodist.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE PURPOSES OF THE METHODIST CHURCH ARE AND SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN SINCE THE DATE OF UNION THE ADVANCEMENT OF Û (A) THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DOCTRINAL STANDARDS AND THE 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

Activities: O PROMOTE :-CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DOCTRINAL STANDARDS AND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH,ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE FOR THE TIME BEING OF ANY CONNEXIONAL, DISTRICT,CIRCUIT,LOCAL OR OTHER ORGANISATION OF THE METHODIST CHURCH OR ANY SOCIETY, INSTITUTION OR CHARITY BEING A SOCIETY, INSTITUTION OR CHARITY SUBSIDIARY OR ANCILLARY TO THE METHODIST CHURCH

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1175950

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Lancashire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£86,318	£72,895	-	-
2024-08-31	£111,102	£77,990	-	-
2023-08-31	£98,610	£82,815	-	-
2022-08-31	£84,169	£67,357	-	-
2021-08-31	£90,916	£71,195	-	-
2020-08-31	£86,054	£80,558	-	-

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1175950

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANGELA MELLING		1995-10-01
DAVID WALLIS		2013-02-01
DUNCAN FROST		1982-03-19
JANET HORTON BSC-HON		1984-03-15
Katherine Eleanor Klunder		2019-10-08
Louise Mary Taylor		2025-06-10
MR CHRIS HOWARD		2016-11-20
MR GEOFF HORTON		1983-06-23
MR TIM MELLING		1995-10-01
NORMA KLUNDER		1995-10-01
Paul James Barron		2020-10-07
Rev Karen Amanda Hilsden		2020-09-01
Ryan Francis Scott		2023-09-12
Sarah Anne Elizabeth Krige		2022-07-12
Thomas Keighley		2025-10-22

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1175950

HILLSIDE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1175950

Accounts

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Trustees Annual Report & Accounts 2024-25

Registered Charity No. 1175950

Introduction	Page 3
Basis of Preparation & Legal Framework	Page 3
Structure, Governance and Management	Page 4
Purpose	Page 4
Review of 2024-25	Page 5 to Page 6
Financial Review etc.	Page 7 to Page 8
Risk Management & Safeguarding	Page 9
Financial Statements	Page 10 to Page 19
Declarations & Scrutiny	Page 20 to Page 21

Introduction

Hillside is a Church at the Heart of Community, both geographically, socially and spiritually. We have been based for over 120 years in the village of Brinscall, near Chorley.

In normal time, worship on a Sunday is enjoyed by a vibrant congregation, with a variety of music and worship styles and the warmest of welcomes. A contemporary people in a traditional setting with the mission "To Know Christ and Make Him Known".

Basis of Preparation and Legal Framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102

Charity Name: Hillside Methodist Church.

Charity Registration: 1175950

Principle Address: Parke Road, Brinscall, Chorley, Lancs. PR6 8PU.

Structure: Hillside is a member of the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit, which is a member of the North West England District.

Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, Royal Bank of Scotland, CAF Bank, Santander, Chapel Aid.

Independent Examiner: Mr J Fishwick. ACMA

Trustees: The following members of the Church Council served as Trustees during the period of this report:

Name	Office/Elected By		Name	Office/Elected By
Rev Karen Hilsden	Chair		Chris Howard	Annual Church Meeting
			Dave Wallis	
			Duncan Frost	
Angela Melling	Church Treasurer		Geoff Horton	
			Janet Horton	
Ryan Francis	Circuit Steward		Norma Klunder	
Tim Melling	Head Steward		Paul Barron	
			Sarah Krige	
			Louise Taylor (appointed 10 Jun 25)	
Katherine Klunder	Steward		Tom Keighley (Appointed 22 Oct 25)	
Beryl Frankish (Resigned 22 Oct 25)	Steward		Maureen Amos (Resigned 02 Oct 24))	
			Mark Mackley (Resigned 22 Oct 25)	
			Anne Waring (Resigned 24 Feb 25)	
			Linda Yates (Resigned 25 Feb 25)	
			Joanne Colling (Resigned 11 May 26)	

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Documents: Our governing documents are the Deed of Union 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees: The Charity Trustees are the members of the Church Council, appointed in line with Section 61 of The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church ("CPD").

Church Council: Section 60 of CPD outlines the role of the Church Council as follows. "The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its proper responsibility."

Church Stewards: Section 63 of CPD outlines the role of the church stewards as follows. "The church stewards are corporately responsible with the presbyter .....for exercising pastoral responsibility in relation to the Local Church for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. They are particularly charged to hold together in unity the variety of concerns that are contained within the one ministry of the Church. To this end it is their responsibility to uphold and act upon the decisions and policies of the Church Council." In 2018-19 the Church Council approved the creation of a Leadership Team to work with and support the Stewards in carrying out these responsibilities. This team continues to meet on a regular basis and reports to Church Council.

Safeguarding: Hillside Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches. In addition, it commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Purpose

Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976 defines the purpose as follows:
"The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be Purposes 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;
(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 being a 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."

The following are the main activities undertaken in relation to the Purposes outlined above:

- Organise and hold regular public acts of worship
- Provide teaching through sermons, courses and small groups
- Offer pastoral support to the sick and bereaved
- Pursue children's/youth education in the context of the Christian faith
- Engage with associated local Church Schools
- Raise awareness through the arranging/staging of local events
- Promote fellowship/friendship by facilitating shared-interest groups
- Provide facilities for local community use/activity

Review of the Year

Worship

As Christians worship is the focal point for our common life together as Hillside Methodist Church, meeting weekly at 10am on a Sunday morning for worship with monthly Holy Communion services. Each Sunday morning there is provision for children and young people, faithfully provided by a very small group of volunteers, for whom we are deeply grateful. We have a small number of very faithful families who attend on a regular basis. Whilst we meet for worship regularly on a Sunday morning we record the reduction in numbers. Some of this is due to the loss of members through death, some due to the changes of patterns in worshipping post covid and some due to the pressures on family life. We also continue to see the impact of families having to make a choice with regard to church attendance as an admission criterion for St. Michael's C of E high school.

At Hillside we are privileged to be able to offer the pastoral services through the journey of life, these being weddings, baptisms and funerals. Our main Sunday morning acts of worship are the context in which Baptisms are offered. Each of these acts of worship are an opportunity for us to place family milestones withing the context of God's big story.

Remembrance Sunday Worship takes place at Brinscall War Memorial and begins morning worship and also since the closure of Withnell Fold Chapel, we now continue the worshipping presence in Withnell Fold at the War Memorial at 12:00 noon in partnership with Withnell Fold school. These are important opportunities to continue the Christian presence within the community where there are no longer chapels.

In December we held Brinscall to Bethlehem, this has now become a combination of being both outside and inside. This gave opportunity for those who find it hard to stand or walk for a length of time to engage with this telling of the Christmas story. Brinscall to Bethlehem was a joint venture with St John's School, with children being invited to come as angels and shepherds and with the music being provided by the Chorley Silver Band.

During December we also hosted a traditional Carol Service and our annual Christingle. We had a very good attendance at both, with musical items led by a joint choir from Hillside and St John's School Choir. Throughout our Christmas services we supported the work of St Catherine's Hospice and Chorley Help the Homeless.

As we journeyed through Holy Week we held a Maundy Thursday meal, sharing together in Holy Communion and Worship within the context of the meal was to recognise Jesus' last supper. This was very moving and those who attended were appreciative of the different format for Maundy Thursday. This year numbers were increased due to being shared with our brothers and sisters from Euxton Methodist Church. On Good Friday we once again held an ecumenical walk of witness, in the afternoon we went to Euxton and shared with our church family there as we joined together in an hour at the cross, it was poignant and seen as very significant for those who were present.

Our worship links with St John's School are strong through our minister, with worship being frequently led in school and in September 2024 it was a joy to host Education Sunday as part of café worship, where we were able to pray with and for the newly appointed headteacher during Sunday Worship. Worship was also hosted for the whole school community at Christmas and also for the year 6 leavers at Hillside with over 250 people celebrating the message of Christmas and also blessing the year 6's as they marked a significant moment in their journey.

Hillside in the Community

During the year we have continued our work in the Community. The Friday HUB, which started in November 2022, continues to provide a warm, welcoming space for people from the local community.

Attendance is good with between 30 and 40 people each week and we have a team of volunteers who help on a rota basis. Activities include dominoes. Jigsaws, board games, knitting and crafts which most people join in with. We have witnessed some new friendships with some people meeting up during the week to enjoy outings and support each other. We thank Withnell Parish Council and Chorley Council for the financial support they have provided in addition to donations from people attending, this money is used for the food and resources for the HUB.

In November 2024 we held our Christmas market, this was well attended by the local community and raised funds for the Church.

Our Church Hall is an important facility for the local community and lettings have included Karate, Art group, Narcotics Anonymous and Pilates as regular lettings. In April 2025 we welcomed a monthly Sound Bath reflection group and in addition we have had several ad hoc lettings all contributing to the income of the church.

As a Church, we continue to the ask a key question, how does the hospitality we offer through all the community events embody our faith reflecting what we believe about God. When we host an event, we remember to ask, how can we through what we offer today, reflect Jesus to those who come through the doors?

Our involvement with St John's school is important, a key part of the community. Our minister and 3 additional foundation governors form part of the governing body. As part of our work therefore we are frequently represented within the school community. On the 1st September 2024 Mrs. Joanna Owen began as the new headteacher at St. John's school. We are delighted that Mrs Owen has a keen desire to develop the links between Church and School to make them mutually beneficial and she has regularly been a visitor to Hillside. Mrs. Owen has been an asset to the school and has a faith that inspires both the school and the links with local community.

Communication and Resources

Regular meetings such as Leadership Team, Property and Finance, Church Council, one House group, and bible studies offered through the circuit continue to happen to support our discipleship and ministries both individually and corporately.

Our weekly online Newsletter continues to be sent to over 130 people by Mailchimp, sharing news, information and links to local events thus keeping in contact with the congregation. Paper copies are produced for those not online. Our online presence continues with limited use through our Facebook page giving information and of the Church's activities.

Through all that we do, we are grateful to the faithful members of Hillside Methodist Church who give of their gifts and graces to seek to enable us to be a Church at the Heart of the Community.

Financial Review

General Fund (Unrestricted)

For the 12 months ending 31st August 2025, the General Fund shows a surplus and net positive movement in funds for the year of £11,228. Income in the year is £71,978 which is £2,517 (3.3%) lower than the previous year. Of this surplus the Trustees decided to transfer £11,000 to the Designated Fund for the Church Hall Redevelopment.

Income Stream	2024-25	2023-24	Variance
Offerings	44,656	45,535	(879)
Donations	473	288	185
Gift Aid	10,891	11,789	(898)
Interest	6,157	5,404	753
Other Income	2,716	3,195	(479)
Lettings	7,080	8,280	(1,200)
Total	**71,974**	**74,491**	**(2,517)**

Expenditure was £61,021 which is £9,050 (12.9%) lower than the previous year as detailed below.

Expenditure	2024-25	2023-24	Variance
Circuit Assessment	42,288	52,060	9,772
Grants & donations	0	0	0
Property Maintenance	5,963	5,456	(507)
Insurance & utilities	8,405	8,233	(172)
Other Expenditure	4,091	4,322	231
Total	**60,746**	**70,071**	**9,325**

Designated Funds (Unrestricted)

These funds increased by £5,838. Further details can be found in Notes 4b & d. in the Notes to the Accounts section of this report

Restricted and Endowment Funds

These funds increased by £7,375. Further details can be found in notes 4c & d. in the Notes to the Accounts section of this report.

Reserves

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum of Free Reserves equivalent to six months' average operating expenditure. As at 31 August 2025 the Free Reserves (i.e. total Unrestricted General Fund less the value of the Church Property) stood at £70,098. The annual operating expense forecast for 2025-26 is £61,458, therefore we currently hold 13.6 months cover for these costs.

Plans for 2025/26

Like many other charities Hillside continues to face mounting financial pressures and continues to rely on a relatively small group of members who give faithfully. Through a combination of prayer and hard work financial balance is achieved each year, but not without challenges. The inflationary pressures that everyone one is feeling at home, together with the challenges within our own operating budget continue to be a challenge.

The Hillside Hub which started in November 2022 continues to thrive, providing friendship and much more to over 30 people each week.

This year we will be focusing on redevelopment of the Church Hall to update and improve facilities for both the Church and local community.

As plan ahead, we need to look ahead to our future viability, with a realistic and honest look at the demographics of our congregation. We are aware of many challenges to churches across the denomination and as we plan, how can we serve the present age at such a time as this in this context. We celebrate what we can do, acknowledging this may look drastically different from previous generations. As we look to the future we need to think about what might be able to help us grow both spiritually and numerically and this included setting up a growth group at the end of June 2025.

Public Benefit

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

Trustee Training

A range of guidance is produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Church. Trustees are required to access this and confirm that they have read and understood it. Support is provided if required.

Related Parties

The Church is part of the Chorley & Leyland Circuit, which is part of the North West England District, and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Financial Statements

For the Year Ending 31 August 2025

Risk Management

The major risks are identified and monitored by the Church Council via the relevant committee or responsible person within the church. Professional advice from either within the Connexion or if necessary, from external advisors is taken as required. There is a regular review process undertaken.

The Trustees have identified the major risks to the Charity as being Safeguarding and Financial.

Two Safeguarding Officers ("SO") are in place (one for Children/Young People and one for Vulnerable Adults) who are responsible, along with the Trustees, for ensuring that the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy is implemented. Regular reports and updates are provided to both Church Council and the Stewards.

Income and Expenditure is monitored monthly by the Treasurer and is compared with the approved annual budget to produce an annual forecast. This information is discussed by the Finance Team prior to a Finance Report being produced. The purpose is to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves. Updates are provided to the Leadership Team at monthly meetings and to the Trustees at each Church Council meeting.

A formalised Risk Management Policy was adopted by the Trustees in February 2019

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of humans in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Approved by the Trustees on 4th February 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev K Hilsden (Chair of Trustees) Karen. A. Hilsden

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

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
Income and Endowments						
Offerings		44,656	221	2,910	47,788	48,515
Donations		473	1,480	2,845	4,798	13,420
Gift Aid		10,891	535	735	12,161	13,540
Interest and investment income		6,157	0	2,840	8,997	8,978
Income from Investment Properties		0	0	0	0	0
Internal organisations		0	0	0	0	0
Other charitable income	6a	2,716	2,778	0	5,494	18,369
Total from Charitable Activities		**64,894**	**5,014**	**9,330**	**79,238**	**102,822**
Income from Lettings		7,080	0	0	7,080	8,280
Total Income and Endowments		**71,974**	**5,014**	**9,330**	**86,318**	**111,102**
Expenditure						
Circuit assessment or share		42,288	0	0	42,288	52,060
Grants and donations	6b	0	180	0	180	5,905
Property maintenance		5,963	4,798	0	10,761	9,046
Insurance, utilities etc		8,405	518	0	8,923	7,101
Provisions		0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation		75	0	0	75	75
Office expenses		1,050	0	0	1,050	1,119
Other expenditure	6d	2,966	4,681	1,972	9,619	8,409
Internal organisations		0	0	0	0	0
Total Charitable Expenditure		**60,746**	**10,177**	**1,972**	**72,895**	**83,715**
Gain/(loss) on monetary investments		0	0	0	0	0
Gain/(loss) on investment properties		0	0	0	0	0
Net Income/(Expenditure)		**11,228**	**(5,162)**	**7,357**	**13,423**	**27,387**
Transfers between funds		(11,000)	11,000	0	0	5,725
Other gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		**228**	**5,838**	**7,357**	**13,423**	**33,112**
Total funds brought forward		1,833,438	101,297	78,164	2,012,899	1,979,786
Total Funds Carried Forward		**1,833,666**	**107,134**	**85,521**	**2,026,322**	**2,012,899**

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Totals 2025	Totals 2024
Fixed Assets						
Church building & other property	7	1,763,568	0	0	1,763,568	1,763,643
Investments		0	0	609	609	609
Total Fixed Assets		**1,763,568**	**0**	**609**	**1,764,177**	**1,764,252**
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments	8	6,305	197	223	6,725	17,991
Loans by the Churches		0	0	0	0	0
Investments with TMCP		0	0	0	0	0
Central Finance Board Deposits	9	63,721	85,755	68,486	217,963	194,286
Cash at Bank and in hand	9	2,123	21,181	16,203	39,508	38,075
Total Current Assets		**72,150**	**107,134**	**84,912**	**264,195**	**250,352**
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	10	2,051	0	0	2,051	1,706
Grants Payable within 2025-26		0	0	0	0	0
Total Current Liabilities		**2,051**	**0**	**0**	**2,051**	**1,706**
Net Current Assets/Liabilities		**70,098**	**107,134**	**84,912**	**262,144**	**248,646**
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		**1,833,666**	**107,134**	**85,521**	**2,026,321**	**2,012,898**
Long term liabilities (> 1 year)						
Grants Payable after 2025-26		0	0	0	0	0
Loans to the Church		0	0	0	0	0
Net Assets		**1,833,666**	**107,134**	**85,521**	**2,026,321**	**2,012,898**
Funds of the Church						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		**1,833,666**			1,833,666	1,833,438
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			**107,134**		107,134	101,296
Total Unrestricted Funds		**1,833,666**	**107,134**	**0**	**1,940,800**	**1,934,735**
Restricted & Endowment Funds				**85,521**	85,521	78,164
Total Funds	11	**1,833,666**	**107,134**	**85,521**	**2,026,321**	**2,012,898**

Basis of Accounting and Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Framework

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 (FRS102), effective from 1 January 2015. (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

b) Public Benefit Entity

Hillside 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(s) below.

c) Basis

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

d) 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, rounded to the nearest pound.

e) Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available on 31 August 2025, the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

f) Consolidation

The income and expenditure relating to Hillside Youth Club, Hillside Craft Group and the Hillside Flower Fund are consolidated into these financial statements as these groups fall within the overall governance of the Trustees.

g) Income Recognition

Income is brought into account 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.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other Income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Church acts as agent when collections/appeals are held for other charities. In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are not the income of the Church. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102), module 19.12.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees Annual Report. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

h) Expenditure

Expenditure 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.

i) VAT

As the Church is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

j) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and individually cost at least £1,000.

The Church land & buildings is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing gross carrying value as at 1 September 2015, being the property's insurance reinstatement value at that time. No depreciation is provided because the Trustees consider the current residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its historical cost and, in the absence of any material impairment, any deprecation provision for the building component of the property would be immaterial.

k) Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash (Basic Financial Instruments)

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Church or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

l) Funds

The trustees have adopted a policy for all unrestricted reserves which is to maintain a minimum of six months cover for Operating Expenses together with specific designated funds for Long Term Property Reserves. Further details can be found in Note 8.

2) Glossary of Terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church – manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 300.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30.

Church Council: The Trustees of the Church.

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches.

Connexional Funds: The Designated and/or Restricted Funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of it charitable and mission objectives.

District: a group of contiguous circuits usually between 15 and 30.

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard.

Lay Employees: Personnel employed by the Church on generally accepted commercial employment terms.

Leadership Team: Provide leadership and support to the church members and is responsible to Church Council for the furtherance of the Charities aims and objectives.

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities.

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice.

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 25 (cont.)

3) Property

The Church Land & Buildings relate to our Hillside Methodist Church, Hall and Link Building located in Brinscall.

	Church (non - investment) land and buildings	Other fixed assets including motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total 31 Aug 25
Cost/Valuation - balance b/f	1,762,158	0	2,010	0	1,764,168
Additions			0		0
Revaluations (+/-)					0
Disposals (-)					0
Cost/Valuation - Balance c/f	**1,762,158**	**0**	**2,010**	**0**	**1,764,168**
Depreciation - balance b/f	0	0	525	0	450
Depreciation - charge for year (-)			75		75
Deprecation - Revaluations (+/-)					0
Depreciation - Disposals (-)					0
Depreciation - balance c/f	0	0	600	0	525
Net Book Value - Brought forward	**1,762,158**	**0**	**1,485**	**0**	**1,763,643**
Net Book Value - Carried forward	**1,762,158**	**0**	**1,410**	**0**	**1,763,568**

4) Funds

a) Unrestricted – General

	31-Aug-25	31-Aug-24
Balance	1,833,666	1,829,438

The purpose of the fund is for the use at the discretion of the Trustees in the furtherance of the general charitable objectives of the church. Approximately 96% (£1,763,568) of the fund is held as freehold property, namely the church and church hall land and building, leaving £70,098 available for current charitable purposes.

b) Unrestricted – Designated

	31-Aug-25	31-Aug-24
Balance	107,134	95,705

These funds are to service specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. Movements in these funds are set out in Note 8 below, and details of the specific funds are as follows:

Choir – a small fund to provide resources for the Hillside Choir.

Community Fund – funds to support the work and ministry of Hillside in our local community.

Friday Hub – funds to ensure that the Hillside Friday Hub can continue to be provided without charge.

Garden – funds for the redevelopment of the outside spaces at Hillside.

Hillside Designated Fund – funds for the redevelopment of the Hillside Church Hall

Long Term Property Repairs & Major Property Expenses– this contains provision for large/one off property repairs and maintenance costs including painting, re-wiring, new windows, boiler replacement and organ repairs. Relevant items of expenditure when incurred are charged to this fund, and an equivalent transfer from the general fund (if sufficient funds are available) is made.

Young Peoples – these funds are used to support the resourcing of children's and young people's work within the church.

c) Restricted and Endowment

	31-Aug-25	31-Aug-24
Restricted Funds	84,912	77,555
Endowment Funds	609	609
Total	**85,521**	**78,164**

These funds exist to support the causes and organisations listed below.

Adult Education – this is a donation given to the church specifically to support Adult Education. Relevant expenditure (largely Bible Study resources) is charged to this fund as and when it is incurred, net of any contributions received.

Building Fund – this fund is to support the development of new facilities on the church site in Brinscall and receives both regular and one-off donations, specifically for this purpose.

Other Church Organisations and Groups – these include the Craft Group, Flower Fund and a small remaining balance in the former Hillside Youth Club fund.

d) Statement of Funds for the Year ended 31st August 2025

	Balance b/f	Income	Expenditure	Curr Yr Surplus/ Deficit	Fund Transfers	Balance c/f
General Funds						
General Church (Fixed Assets)	1,763,643	0	(75)	(75)	0	1,763,568
General Church (Other)	69,795	64,819	(45,162)	19,657	(19,355)	70,098
Property	0	7,155	(15,510)	(8,355)	8,355	(0)
Total	**£1,833,438**	**£71,974**	**£(60,746)**	**£11,228**	**£(11,000)**	**£1,833,666**
Designated Funds						
Choir	77	0	0	0	0	77
Community Fund	4,144	732	(1,273)	(540)	0	3,604
Friday HUB	4,575	4,124	(3,077)	1,048	0	5,623
Garden	11,143	139	(1,189)	(1,050)	0	10,093
Hillside Designated Fund	41,707	0	(4,273)	(4,273)	11,000	48,434
Long Term Property Reserves	3,156	0	0	0	0	3,156
Major Property Exps	34,791	0	0	0	0	34,791
Young People	1,703	19	(366)	(347)	0	1,356
Total	**£101,296**	**£5,014**	**£(10,177)**	**£(5,162)**	**£11,000**	**£107,134**
Restricted & Endowment Funds						
Anonymous Gift	609	0	0	0	0	609
Adult Education Donation	1,165	0	(17)	(17)	0	1,148
Building Fund	75,688	7,485	0	7,485	0	83,173
Craft Group	173	0	0	0	0	173
Flower Fund	408	1,845	(1,955)	(111)	0	297
Youth Club	120	0	0	0	0	120
Total	**78,164**	**9,330**	**(1,972)**	**7,357**	**0**	**85,521**
Total Funds	**£2,012,898**	**£86,318**	**£(72,895)**	**£13,423**	**£0**	**£2,026,321**

e) Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	General	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Balance at 31 Aug 25	Balance at 31 Aug 24
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,763,568	0	0	1,763,568	1,763,643
Investments	0	0	609	609	609
Current Assets	72,150	107,134	84,912	164,195	250,352
Current Liabilities	(2,051)	0	0	(2,051)	(1,706)
Total	**1,833,666**	**107,134**	**85,521**	**2,026,321**	**2,012,898**

5) Related Parties

No donations were made by the Trustees during the year that had conditions attached. Related parties include the Methodist Connexion, CFB, TMCP and the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit. The table below shows details of related party transactions during the year.

Name		Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) /to the Church at 31 Aug 25
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Assessment	0	(42,288)	0
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Rent	170	0	0
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Contribution to DONA	275	0	0
Total		**445**	**(42,288)**	**0**

6) Agency Collections and Payments

During the year the Church organised several collections and appeals for other charitable organisations. These are tabulated below, and do not appear anywhere else within these accounts. Any appeals/collections that were in respect of related parties are marked *

Name	Details	Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 25
Chorley Help the Homeless	Christmas Appeal	422	422	0
St Catherine's Hospice	Christmas Appeal	961	961	0
Water Aid	Lent Appeal	442	442	0
Serving in Mission	Overseas	150	150	0
Total		**1,975**	**1,975**	**0**

7) Trustee Payments

There were no payments to Trustees in the year in relation to their role as Trustee.

8) Volunteer Contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Church this is done across a whole range of areas, and we are grateful to everyone who does volunteer their time, help and commitment. No attempt has been made to value the non-monetary contributions in monetary terms.

9) Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

None

10) Lease Commitments

The Church has contracts or obligations for the following

Photocopier -the annual cost is not considered material

11) Independent Examiner

The Independent Examiner does not charge a fee for his services and provided no additional services during the year.

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 Council.

Signature of treasurer ..... Date 4.02.2026

Name and address of treasurer Mrs A.E. Melling, ACMA, 16 Millwood Close, Withnell Fold, Chorley, PR6 8AR

Presentation to the Church Council

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were presented to the Church Council at its meeting on 4th February 2026

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ..... Karen. A. Hilsden

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev K Hilsden..... Date 4/02/2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Church, named above

The Church' trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the trustees concerning 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. My 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 (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) 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 2011
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011

have not been met, or

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

(3) 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.....

Name of independent examiner: Jim Fishwick

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACMA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address: 8 COUNTESS WAY
EUXTON
CHORLEY
PR7 6PT

Date: 01/04/2026

HILLSIDE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1175950

Accounts

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Trustees Annual Report & Accounts 2023-24

Registered Charity No. 1175950

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Introduction	Page 3
Basis of Preparation & Legal Framework	Page 3
Structure, Governance and Management	Page 4
Purpose	Page 4
Review of 2023-24	Page 5 to Page 6
Financial Review etc.	Page 7 to Page 8
Risk Management & Safeguarding	Page 9
Financial Statements	Page 10 to Page 19
Declarations & Scrutiny	Page 20 to Page 21

Introduction

Hillside is a Church at the Heart of Community, both geographically, socially and spiritually. We have been based for over 120 years in the village of Brinscall, near Chorley.

In normal time, worship on a Sunday is enjoyed by a vibrant congregation, with a variety of music and worship styles and the warmest of welcomes. A contemporary people in a traditional setting with the mission "To Know Christ and Make Him Known".

Basis of Preparation and Legal Framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102

Charity Name: Hillside Methodist Church.

Charity Registration: 1175950

Principle Address: Parke Road, Brinscall, Chorley, Lancs. PR6 8PU.

Structure: Hillside is a member of the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit, which is a member of the Lancashire Methodist District.

Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, Royal Bank of Scotland, CAF Bank, Santander, Chapel Aid.

Independent Examiner: Mr J Fishwick. ACMA

Trustees: The following members of the Church Council served as Trustees during the period of this report:

Name	Office/Elected By		Name	Office/Elected By
Rev Karen Hilsden	Chair		Dave Wallis	Annual Church Meeting
			Geoff Horton	
			Norma Klunder	
Angela Melling	Church Treasurer		Anne Waring (Resigned 24 02 25)	
			Linda Yates (Resigned 25 02 25)	
Ryan Francis (Appointed 12 Sep 23)	Circuit Steward		Duncan Frost	
Tim Melling	Head Steward		Janet Horton	
Steven Amos (Resigned 11 Sep 23)	Steward		Chris Howard	
Beryl Frankish	Steward		Mark Mackley	
Katherine Klunder	Steward		Sarah Krige	
Harry Chaplin (Resigned 06 Mar 24)	Steward		Maureen Amos (Resigned 02 Oct 24))	
			Paul Barron	
			Joanne Colling	

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Documents: Our governing documents are the Deed of Union 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees: The Charity Trustees are the members of the Church Council, appointed in line with Section 61 of The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church ("CPD").

Church Council: Section 60 of CPD outlines the role of the Church Council as follows. "The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its proper responsibility."

Church Stewards: Section 63 of CPD outlines the role of the church stewards as follows. "The church stewards are corporately responsible with the presbyter .....for exercising pastoral responsibility in relation to the Local Church for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. They are particularly charged to hold together in unity the variety of concerns that are contained within the one ministry of the Church. To this end it is their responsibility to uphold and act upon the decisions and policies of the Church Council." In 2018-19 the Church Council approved the creation of a Leadership Team to work with and support the Stewards in carrying out these responsibilities. This team continues to meet on a regular basis and reports to Church Council.

Safeguarding: Hillside Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches. In addition, it commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Purpose

Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976 defines the purpose as follows:
"The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be Purposes 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;
(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 being a 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."

The following are the main activities undertaken in relation to the Purposes outlined above:

- Organise and hold regular public acts of worship
- Provide teaching through sermons, courses and small groups
- Offer pastoral support to the sick and bereaved
- Pursue children's/youth education in the context of the Christian faith
- Engage with associated local Church Schools
- Raise awareness through the arranging/staging of local events
- Promote fellowship/friendship by facilitating shared-interest groups
- Provide facilities for local community use/activity

Review of the Year

Worship

As Christians worship is the focal point for our common life together as Hillside Methodist Church, meeting weekly at 10am on a Sunday morning for worship with monthly Holy Communion services. Each Sunday morning there is provision for children and young people, faithfully provided by a very small group of volunteers, for whom we are deeply grateful. We have a small number of very faithful families who attend on a regular basis.

At Hillside we are privileged to be able to offer the pastoral services through the journey of life, these being weddings, baptisms and funerals. Our main Sunday morning acts of worship are the context in which Baptisms are offered. Each of these acts of worship are an opportunity for us to place family milestones withing the context of God's big story.

Remembrance Sunday Worship takes place both at Brinscall War Memorial and begins morning worship and also since the closure of Withnell Fold Chapel, we now continue the worshipping presence in Withnell Fold at the War Memorial at 12:00 noon in partnership with Withnell Fold school. These are important opportunities to continue the Christian presence within the community where there are no longer chapels.

In December we held Brinscall to Bethlehem it was planned to be an outdoor telling of the Nativity, but due to the high winds it was moved into Hillside. This gave opportunity for those who find it hard to stand or walk to engage with this telling of the Christmas story and we reflected on how we make this telling an inclusive event for everybody. Brinscall to Bethlehem was a joint venture with the baby Jesus and Mary being played by a family from St John's, with children being invited to come as angels and shepherds and with the music again being provided by the Salvation Army band.

Once again we hosted our annual Christingle, after the previous year being so well attended on the Saturday evening it was once again held on a Saturday evening. We had a very good attendance, with musical items led by a joint choir from Hillside and St John's School Choir. Throughout our Christmas services we supported the work of St Catherine's Hospice and Chorley Help the Homeless.

In March we celebrated our 125th Church anniversary. Giving thanks for all that is past and praying for what is to come.

As we journeyed through Holy Week we held a Maundy Thursday meal, sharing together in Holy Communion and Worship within the context of the meal was to recognise Jesus' last supper. This was very moving and those who attended were appreciative of the different format for Maundy Thursday. This year numbers were increased due to being shared with our brothers and sisters from Euxton Methodist Church. On Good Friday we once again held an ecumenical walk of witness, in the afternoon we went to Euxton and shared with our church family there as we joined together in an hour at the cross it was poignant and seen as very significant for those who were present.

Our worship links with St John's School are strong through our minister, with worship being frequently led in school, worship was also hosted for the whole school community at both Christmas and Easter at Hillside with over 250 people celebrating the message of Christmas and Easter at these key seasons.

Hillside in the Community

During the year we have continued our work in the Community. The Friday HUB, which started in November 2022, continues to provide a warm, welcoming space for people from the local community.

Attendance is good with between 30 and 40 people each week and we have a team of volunteers who help on a rota basis. Activities include dominoes. Jigsaws, board games, knitting and crafts which most people join in with. We have witnessed some new friendships with some people meeting up during the week to enjoy outings and support each other. We thank Withnell Parish Council and Chorley Council for the financial support they have provided in addition to donations from people attending, this money is used for the food and resources for the HUB.

In November 2023 we held our Christmas market, this was well attended by the local community and raised funds for the Church.

Our Church Hall is an important facility for the local community and lettings have included Karate, Art group, Narcotics Anonymous and Little Folk Lancashire as regular lettings. In September we welcomed

a weekly Pilates group and in addition we have had several ad hoc lettings all contributing to the income of the church.

As a Church, we continue to the ask a key question, how does the hospitality we offer through all the community events embody our faith reflecting what we believe about God. When we host an event, we remember to ask, how can we through what we offer today reflect Jesus to those who come through the doors?

Our involvement with St John's school is important, a key part of the community. Our minister and 3 additional foundation governors form part of the governing body. As part of our work therefore we are frequently represented within the school community. During this year St John's had both their Ofsted and SIAMS (Statutory Inspection Anglican and Methodist Schools). Within the SIAMS report it was noted "The school proudly and responsibly uphold their joint Anglican and Methodist foundations. Exceptional relationships with local churches infuse school life enhancing spirituality. Sensitive pastoral support from clergy is appreciated by the whole community who welcome the light this brings in dark times. Mutually beneficial opportunities to plan worship together result in confident pupil leaders of worship at both school and church."

During the year a new headteacher was appointed to begin on the 1st September 2024 and is keen to further develop links with Hillside Methodist Church especially for the relationships to be mutually beneficial.

Communication and Resources

Regular meetings such as Leadership Team, Property, Pastoral Visitors, Finance Group, Children's work, Church Council and House group, and bible studies continue to happen to support our discipleship and ministries both individually and corporately. On occasions, when appropriate, zoom technology has been used.

Our weekly online Newsletter continues to be sent to over 130 people by Mailchimp, sharing news, information and links to local events thus keeping in contact with the congregation. Paper copies are produced for those not online. Our online presence continues with our Facebook page giving information and of the Church's activities.

Through all that we do, we are grateful to the faithful members of Hillside Methodist Church who give of their gifts and graces to seek to enable us to be a Church at the Heart of the Community.

Financial Review

General Fund (Unrestricted)

As at 31st August 2024, the General Fund shows a surplus and net positive movement in funds for the year of £4,421. Income in the year is £74,491 which is £2,002 - 2.6% lower than the previous year. Fundraising income of £2,047 is included in "Other Income", with a reduction in donations and lettings being partially offset by an increase in interest received.

Income Stream	2023-24	2022-23	Variance
Offerings	45,535	45,839	(304)
Donations	288	1,522	(1,234)
Gift Aid	11,789	11,485	304
Interest	5,404	3,305	2,099
Other Income	3,195	3,562	(367)
Lettings	8,280	10,780	(2,500)
Total	**74,491**	**76,493**	**(2,002)**

Expenditure was £70,071 which is £776 - 1.1% lower previous year as detailed below. The reduction in utility costs reflects lower usage due to reduced lettings.

Expenditure	2023-24	2022-23	Variance
Circuit Assessment	52,060	50,934	(1,126)
Grants & donations	0	25	25
Property Maintenance	5,456	3,117	(2,339)
Insurance & utilities	8,233	11,557	3,324
Other Expenditure	4,322	5,214	892
Total	**70,071**	**70,847**	**776**

Designated Funds (Unrestricted)

These funds increased by £30,990, largely due a generous legacy (which didn't have a specified use) from one of our former members, Circuit Assessment rebates, a transfer from the Youth Club fund (which ceased to meet in 2020) and a transfer of £4,000 from general unrestricted fund in the year, all of which the Trustees have decided to designate for the future re-development of the Church Hall.

Restricted and Endowment Funds

These funds increased by £1,701, primarily relates to the on-going donations to the Church Building Fund, largely offset by the transfer from the Youth Club fund referenced above.

Reserves

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to six months' average operating expenditure, in addition to specific amounts designated for major repairs. As at 31 August 2024 the General Fund after deducting the value of the Church Property stood at £64,795. The annual operating expense forecast for 2024-25 is £59,549, therefore we currently hold 13.25 months cover for these costs. Of the above surplus of £4,421, £4,000 was transferred to the Church Hall Re-Development Fund.

For full details of funds held and the movement of these in the year please see Note 4 in the Financial Statements section of this report.

Plans for 2024/25

Like many other charities Hillside continues to face mounting financial pressures and continues to rely on a relatively small group of members who give faithfully. Through a combination of prayer and hard work financial balance is achieved each year, but not without challenges. The inflationary pressures that everyone one is feeling at home, together with the challenges within our own operating budget continue to be a challenge.

Work is now planned to look at new ways of connecting with and providing worship and study opportunities for families who face the ever-increasing challenges and the busyness of family life.

The Hillside Hub which started in November 2022 continues to thrive, providing friendship and much more to over 30 people each week.

As part of our 125th Anniversary Celebrations in March 2024 we launched a project of building for the future, looking at becoming an Eco Church, work on this project will continue in 2024/25.

Café Worship which has been successful in the past and is now to be considered as part of a regular pattern of our worship. As a result, we hold café church in the church hall on the second Sunday of each month and these are generally well attended.

This year we will be focusing on redevelopment of the Church Hall to update and improve facilities for both the Church and local community.

Public Benefit

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

Trustee Training

A range of guidance is produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Church. Trustees are required to access this and confirm that they have read and understood it. Support is provided if required.

Related Parties

The Church is part of the Chorley & Leyland Circuit, which is part of the Lancashire District, and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Risk Management

The major risks are identified and monitored by the Church Council via the relevant committee or responsible person within the church. Professional advice from either within the Connexion or if necessary, from external advisors is taken as required. There is a regular review process undertaken.

The Trustees have identified the major risks to the Charity as being Safeguarding and Financial.

Two Safeguarding Officers ("SO") are in place (one for Children/Young People and one for Vulnerable Adults) who are responsible, along with the Trustees, for ensuring that the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy is implemented. Regular reports and updates are provided to both Church Council and the Stewards.

Income and Expenditure is monitored monthly by the Treasurer and is compared with the approved annual budget to produce an annual forecast. This information is discussed by the Finance Team prior to a Finance Report being produced. The purpose is to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves. Updates are provided to the Leadership Team at monthly meetings and to the Trustees at each Church Council meeting.

A formalised Risk Management Policy was adopted by the Trustees in February 2019

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of humans in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Approved by the Trustees on 5th March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev K Hilsden (Chair of Trustees) Karen. A. Hilsden

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Financial Statements

For the Year Ending 31 August 2024

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
Income and Endowments						
Offerings		45,535	0	2,980	**48,515**	49,169
Donations		288	13,132	0	**13,420**	3,021
Gift Aid		11,789	870	881	**13,540**	12,543
Interest and investment income		5,404	0	3,574	**8,978**	5,047
Income from Investment Properties		0	0	0	**0**	0
Internal organisations		0	0	0	**0**	0
Other charitable income	6a	3,195	15,143	32	**18,369**	18,050
Total from Charitable Activities		**66,211**	**29,144**	**7,467**	**102,822**	**87,831**
Income from Lettings		8,280	0	0	**8,280**	10,780
Total Income and Endowments		**74,491**	**29,144**	**7,467**	**111,102**	**98,610**
Expenditure						
Circuit assessment or share		52,060	0	0	**52,060**	50,934
Grants and donations	6b	0	180	0	**180**	205
Property maintenance		5,456	3,590	0	**9,046**	9,420
Insurance, utilities etc		8,233	(1,132)	0	**7,101**	11,983
Provisions		0	0	0	**0**	1,196
Depreciation		75	0	0	**75**	75
Office expenses		1,119	0	0	**1,119**	786
Other expenditure	6d	3,127	5,242	40	**8,409**	8,216
Internal organisations		0	0	0	**0**	0
Total Charitable Expenditure		**70,071**	**7,880**	**40**	**77,990**	**82,815**
Gain/(loss) on monetary investments		0	0	0	**0**	0
Gain/(loss) on investment properties		0	0	0	**0**	0
Net Income/(Expenditure)		**4,421**	**21,265**	**7,427**	**33,112**	**15,795**
Transfers between funds		(4,000)	9,725	(5,725)	**0**	0
Other gains/(losses)		0	0	0	**0**	0
Net Movement in Funds		**421**	**30,990**	**(7,889)**	**33,112**	**15,795**
Total funds brought forward		1,829,018	64,716	86,053	**1,979,786**	1,963,991
Total Funds Carried Forward		**1,829,438**	**95,705**	**87,755**	**2,012,899**	**1,979,786**

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Totals 2024	Totals 2023
Fixed Assets						
Church building & other property	7	1,763,643	0	0	1,763,643	1,763,718
Investments		0	0	609	609	609
Total Fixed Assets		**1,763,643**	**0**	**609**	**1,764,252**	**1,764,327**
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments	8	17,379	363	249	17,991	6,198
Loans by the Churches		0	0	0	0	0
Investments with TMCP		0	0	0	0	0
Central Finance Board Deposits	9	83,092	35,713	75,481	194,286	169,114
Cash at Bank and in hand	9	(32,694)	58,668	12,101	38,075	42,634
Total Current Assets		**67,777**	**94,745**	**87,830**	**250,352**	**217,947**
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	10	1,982	(960)	685	1,706	2,488
Grants Payable within 2021-22		0	0	0	0	0
Total Current Liabilities		**1,982**	**(960)**	**685**	**1,706**	**2,488**
Net Current Assets/Liabilities		**65,795**	**95,705**	**87,146**	**248,646**	**215,459**
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		**1,829,438**	**95,705**	**87,755**	**2,012,898**	**1,979,786**
Long term liabilities (> 1 year)						
Grants Payable after 2021-22		0	0	0	0	0
Loans to the Church		0	0	0	0	0
Net Assets		**1,829,438**	**95,705**	**87,755**	**2,012,898**	**1,979,786**
Funds of the Church						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		**1,829,438**			1,833,438	1,829,018
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			**95,705**		101,296	64,715
Total Unrestricted Funds		**1,829,438**	**95,705**	**0**	**1,934,735**	**1,893,733**
Restricted & Endowment Funds				**87,755**	78,164	86,053
Total Funds	11	**1,829,438**	**95,705**	**87,755**	**2,012,899**	**1,979,786**

Basis of Accounting and Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Framework

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 (FRS102), effective from 1 January 2015. (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

b) Public Benefit Entity

Hillside 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(s) below.

c) Basis

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

d) 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, rounded to the nearest pound.

e) Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available on 31 August 2024, the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

f) Consolidation

The income and expenditure relating to Hillside Youth Club, Hillside Craft Group and the Hillside Flower Fund are consolidated into these financial statements as these groups fall within the overall governance of the Trustees.

g) Income Recognition

Income is brought into account 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.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other Income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Church acts as agent when collections/appeals are held for other charities. In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are not the income of the Church. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102), module 19.12.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees Annual Report. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

h) Expenditure

Expenditure 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.

i) VAT

As the Church is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

j) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The Church land & buildings is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing gross carrying value as at 1 September 2015, being the property's insurance reinstatement value at that time. No depreciation is provided because the Trustees consider the current residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its historical cost and, in the absence of any material impairment, any deprecation provision for the building component of the property would be immaterial.

k) Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash (Basic Financial Instruments)

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Church or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

l) Funds

The trustees have adopted a policy for all unrestricted reserves which is to maintain a minimum of six months cover for Operating Expenses together with specific designated funds for Long Term Property Reserves. Further details can be found in Note 8.

2) Glossary of Terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church – manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain, and provides investment advice to those entities.
Church: a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 300.
Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30.
Church Council: The Trustees of the Church.
Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches.
Connexional Funds: The Designated and/or Restricted Funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of it charitable and mission objectives.
District: a group of contiguous circuits usually between 15 and 30.
FRS: Financial Reporting Standard.
Lay Employees: Personnel employed by the Church on generally accepted commercial employment terms.
Leadership Team: Provide leadership and support to the church members, and is responsible to Church Council for the furtherance of the Charities aims and objectives.
SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities.
SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice.
TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 24 (cont.)

3) Property

The Church Land & Buildings relate to our Hillside Methodist Church, Hall and Link Building located in Brinscall.

	Church (non - investment) land and buildings	Other fixed assets including motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total 31 Aug 23
Cost/Valuation - balance b/f	1,762,158	0	2,010	0	1,764,168
Additions			0		0
Revaluations (+/-)					0
Disposals (-)					0
Cost/Valuation - Balance c/f	**1,762,158**	**0**	**2,010**	**0**	**1,764,168**
Depreciation - balance b/f	0	0	375	0	300
Depreciation - charge for year (-)			75		75
Deprecation - Revaluations (+/-)					0
Depreciation - Disposals (-)					0
Depreciation - balance c/f	0	0	450	0	375
Net Book Value - Brought forward	**1,762,158**	-	**1,635**	-	**1,763,792**
Net Book Value - Carried forward	**1,762,158**	-	**1,560**	-	**1,763,718**

4) **Funds –**

Unrestricted – General

	31-Aug-24	31-Aug-23
Balance	1,833,438	1,829,018

The purpose of the fund is for the use at the discretion of the Trustees in the furtherance of the general charitable objectives of the church. Approximately 97% (£1,763,718) of the fund is held as freehold property, namely the church and church hall land and building, leaving £65,300 available for current charitable purposes.

Unrestricted – Designated

	31-Aug-24	31-Aug-23
Balance	95,705	64,715

These funds are to service specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. Movements in these funds are set out in Note 8 below, and details of the specific funds are as follows:

Long Term Property Repairs – this contains provision for large/one off property repairs and maintenance costs including painting, re-wiring, new windows, boiler replacement and organ repairs. Relevant items of expenditure when incurred are charged to this fund, and an equivalent transfer from the general fund (if sufficient funds are available) is made.

Children & Young Peoples Ministries – these funds are used to support the resourcing of children's and young people's work within the church.

Other – this includes a donation received in memory of a loved one, where the donor specified that the money should not be used for general church purposes, together with funds for work in the community and the Friday HUB.

Restricted and Endowment

	31-Aug-24	31-Aug-23
Restricted Funds	87,755	85,444
Endowment Funds	609	609
Total	**78,164**	**86,053**

These funds exist to support the causes and organisations listed below.

Building Project – this fund is to support the development of new facilities on the church site in Brinscall and receives both regular and one-off donations.

Other Church Organisations and Groups – Hillside Flower Fund is governed by the Church Council.

Adult Education – this is a donation given to the church specifically to support Adult Education. Relevant expenditure (largely Bible Study resources) is charged to this fund as and when it is incurred, net of any contributions received.

Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	General	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Balance at 31 Aug 24	Balance at 31 Aug 23
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,763,643	0	0	1,763,643	1,763,718
Investments	0	0	609	609	609
Current Assets	71,777	94,745	78,239	250,352	217,947
Current Liabilities	(1,982)	960	(685)	(1,706)	(4,019)
Total	**1,833,438**	**95,705**	**78,164**	**2,012,898**	**1,963,991**

5) Related Parties

No donations were made by the Trustees during the year that had conditions attached. Related parties include the Methodist Connexion, CFB, TMCP and the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit. The table below shows details of related party transactions during the year.

Name		Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 24
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Assessment		(52,060)	0
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Assessment Rebate	13,058		0
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Rent	350	0	0
Total		**13,408**	**(52,060)**	**0**

6) Agency Collections and Payments

During the year the Church organised several collections and appeals for other charitable organisations. These are tabulated below, and do not appear anywhere else within these accounts. Those appeals/collections that were in respect of related parties are marked *

Name	Details	Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 24
Help the Homeless	Christmas Appeal	480	(480)	0
Derian House	Christmas Appeal	492	(492)	0
Salvation Army	Brinscall to Bethlehem	386	(386)	0
Sierra Leone	Mattress Appeal	59	(59)	0
Total		**1,417**	**1,417**	**0**

7) Trustee Payments

There were no payments to Trustees in the year in relation to their role as Trustee.

8) Volunteer Contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Church this is done across a whole range of areas, and we are grateful to everyone who does volunteer their time, help and commitment. No attempt has been made to value the non-monetary contributions in monetary terms.

9) Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

None

10) Lease Commitments

The Church has contracts or obligations for the following

Broadband
Photocopier

The annual cost of these is not considered material

11) Independent Examiner

The Independent Examiner does not charge a fee for his services and provided no additional services during the year.

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of treasurer ..... Date 3 March 2025

Name and address of treasurer Mrs A.E. Melling, ACMA, 16 Millwood Close, Withnell Fold, Chorley, PR6 8AR

Presentation to the Church Council

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were presented to the Church Council at its meeting on 5th March 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ..... Karen. A. Hilsden

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev K Hilsden..... Date 5-03-2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Church, named above

The Church' trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2024 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the trustees concerning 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. My 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 (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) 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 2011
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011

have not been met, or

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

(3) 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..... J Fishwick .....

Name of independent examiner: Jim Fishwick

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACMA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address: 8 COUNTESS WAY,
EUXTON
CHORLEY
PR7 6PT

Date: 9/06/2025

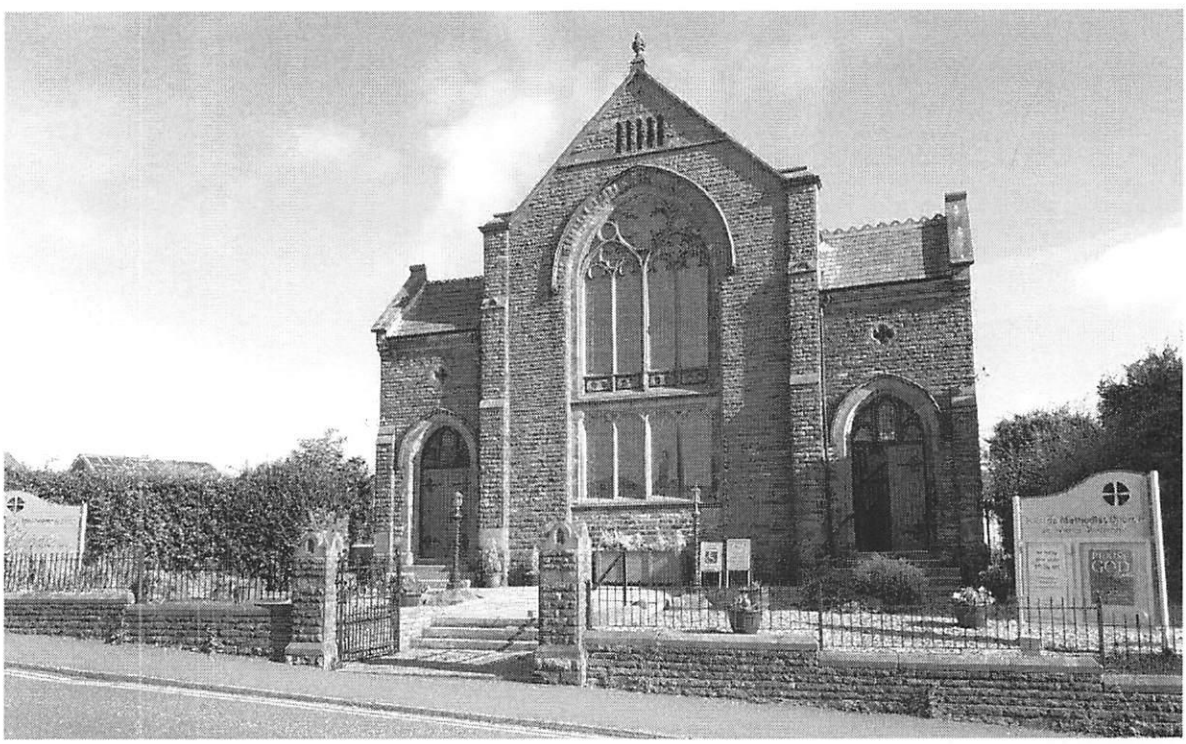
HILLSIDE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1175950

Accounts

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Trustees Annual Report & Accounts 2022-23



Registered Charity No. 1175950

Introduction	Page 3
Basis of Preparation & Legal Framework	Page 3
Structure, Governance and Management	Page 4
Purpose	Page 4
Review of 2022-23	Page 5 to Page 6
Financial Review etc.	Page 7 to Page 8
Risk Management & Safeguarding	Page 9
Financial Statements	Page 10 to Page 22
Declarations & Scrutiny	Page 23 to Page 24

Introduction

Hillside is a Church at the Heart of Community, both geographically, socially and spiritually. We have been based for over 120 years in the village of Brinscall, near Chorley.

In normal time, worship on a Sunday is enjoyed by a vibrant congregation, with a variety of music and worship styles and the warmest of welcomes. A contemporary people in a traditional setting with the mission "To Know Christ and Make Him Known".

Basis of Preparation and Legal Framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard(FRS) 102

Charity Name: Hillside Methodist Church.

Charity Registration: 1175950

Principle Address: Parke Road, Brinscall, Chorley, Lancs. PR6 8PU.

Structure: Hillside is a member of the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit, which is a member of the Lancashire Methodist District.

Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, Royal Bank of Scotland, CAF Bank, Santander, Chapel Aid.

Independent Examiner: Mr J Fishwick. ACMA

Trustees: The following members of the Church Council served as Trustees during the period of this report:

Name	Office/Elected By		Name	Office/Elected By
Rev Karen Hilsden	Chair		Dave Wallis	Annual Church Meeting
			Geoff Horton	
			Norma Klunder	
Angela Melling	Church Treasurer		Anne Waring	
			Linda Yates	
Annette Cupit (Resigned 31 Aug 23)	Circuit Steward		Ken Guy (Deceased 10 Oct 2022)	Church Council
Ryan Francis (Appointed 12 Sep 23)	Circuit Steward		Duncan Frost	
Tim Melling	Head Steward		Janet Horton	
Steven Amos (Resigned 11 Sep 23)	Steward		Chris Howard	
Beryl Frankish	Steward		Mark Mackley	
Katherine Klunder	Steward		Sarah Krige	
Harry Chaplin (Resigned 06 Mar 24)	Steward		Maureen Amos	
			Vicki Gow (Resigned 12 Mar 23)	
			Paul Barron	
			Joanne Colling	

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Documents: Our governing documents are the Deed of Union 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees: The Charity Trustees are the members of the Church Council, appointed in line with Section 61 of The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church ("CPD").

Church Council: Section 60 of CPD outlines the role of the Church Council as follows. "The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its proper responsibility."

Church Stewards: Section 63 of CPD outlines the role of the church stewards as follows. "The church stewards are corporately responsible with the presbyter ..... for exercising pastoral responsibility in relation to the Local Church for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. They are particularly charged to hold together in unity the variety of concerns that are contained within the one ministry of the Church. To this end it is their responsibility to uphold and act upon the decisions and policies of the Church Council." In 2018-19 the Church Council approved the creation of a Leadership Team to work with and support the Stewards in carrying out these responsibilities. This team continues to meet on a regular basis and reports to Church Council.

Safeguarding: Hillside Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches. In addition, it commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Purpose

Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976 defines the purpose as follows:
"The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be Purposes 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;
(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 being a 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."

The following are the main activities undertaken in relation to the Purposes outlined above:

- Organise and hold regular public acts of worship
- Provide teaching through sermons, courses and small groups
- Offer pastoral support to the sick and bereaved
- Pursue children's/youth education in the context of the Christian faith
- Engage with associated local Church Schools
- Raise awareness through the arranging/staging of local events
- Promote fellowship/friendship by facilitating shared-interest groups
- Provide facilities for local community use/activity

Review of the Year

Worship

As Christians worship is the focal point for our common life together as Hillside Methodist Church, meeting weekly at 10am on a Sunday morning for worship with monthly Holy Communion services. Each Sunday morning there is provision for children and young people, faithfully provided by a very small group of volunteers, for whom we are deeply grateful. We have a small number of very faithful families who attend on a regular basis as well as having contact with a number of other families within our children's and youth ministries. From our faithful families it is encouraging to see children who are gaining skills at St John's C of E Methodist Primary School as shining flames who are also willing to lead worship within church.

At Hillside we are privileged to be able to offer the pastoral services through the journey of life, these being weddings, baptisms and funerals. Our main Sunday morning acts of worship are the context in which Baptisms are offered. Each of these acts of worship are an opportunity for us to place family milestones withing the context of God's big story.

In September, following the announcement of Queen Elizabeth II's death Hillside opened the following day in the morning for prayer and reflection and in the evening for a vigil. The morning was a drop in format, with fewer people attending but attracted some people from the community. The evening had a larger congregation with a mixture of church members and people from within the community.

For Harvest 2022 we shared in a Harvest supper together, with an opportunity to share in food and a games evening together as part of our Harvest celebrations.

In October 2022 the Wallis Family who were preparing to go out to Nigeria with SIM (Serving in Mission) came to share in worship, helping us as a congregation to think about our place within the global church. In response to the worship people were given the opportunity to support the Wallis family both financially and via prayer..

Remembrance Sunday Worship takes place both at Brinscall War Memorial and begins morning worship and also since the closure of Withnell Fold Chapel, we now continue the worshipping presence in Withnell Fold at the War Memorial at 12:00 noon in partnership with Withnell Fold school. These are important opportunities to continue the Christian presence within the community where there are no longer chapels.

In December we held Brinscall to Bethlehem (an outdoor telling of the Nativity), despite treacherous conditions there was a good turn out and certainly as we sang "See amid the winters snow" we were seeing again the story of the incarnation retold again in the middle of the depths of the snow in Brinscall. Brinscall to Bethlehem was a joint venture with the baby Jesus and Mary being played by a family from St John's, with children being invited to come as angels and shepherds and with the music again being provided by the Salvation Army band.

For the first time since the pandemic, we were able to host our annual Christingle, and taking into account the possibility that England may have reached the world cup final we moved this service to the Saturday evening. We had a very good attendance, with musical items led by a joint choir from Hillside and St John's School Choir. Throughout our Christmas services we supported the work of St Catherine's, Chorley Help the Homeless and the Salvation Army.

As we journeyed through Holy Week we held a Maundy Thursday meal, sharing together in Holy Communion and Worship within the context of the meal was to recognise Jesus' last supper. This was very moving and those who attended were appreciative of the different format for Maundy Thursday. On Good Friday we once again held an ecumenical walk of witness, in the afternoon an hour at the cross was once again observed and whilst not large numbers it was poignant and seen as very significant for those who were present. On Easter Day the choir were instrumental in leading a Celebration Sung Holy Communion.

In May, we with many across the nation celebrated the Kings Coronation. On the Sunday morning, we celebrated in an all age act of worship, led by one of our young people and our minister.

In June, we hosted a Hub Celebration Sunday, this was an opportunity to hear stories of how God has impacted people's lives through the work of the Friday Hub (see more information below).

Our worship links with St John's School are strong through our minister, with worship being frequently led in school, worship was also hosted for the whole school community at both Christmas and Easter at Hillside with over 250 people celebrating the message of Christmas and Easter at these key seasons.

Hillside in the Community

During the year we have continued our work in the Community. In November 2022, we introduced our Friday HUB, this is a warm space and was a response to the dramatic rise in fuel prices and the cost-of-living crisis. We opened our doors on the first Friday in November 2022 and this became a space that thrived. Although this was a warm space in response to the increase in fuel prices, we very quickly realised that one of the biggest issues was isolation and loneliness, rather than the issue of the increase in fuel prices.

People have made friends here and now meet up with those friends elsewhere as well as at the hub. At the Friday Hub people share together in food, there is a small food bank which can be accessed if needed, there are jigsaws, games and a number knit together, including knitting to achieve a common goal. For example, blankets for Ukraine. We held a Christmas party with games, we have tried armchair aerobics and enjoy the company of each other. Each week there are 30-40 people who attend and we have a team of volunteers who help facilitate this. During July and August, we had a break, feedback has been how much it was missed and these comments have been taken on board. We cannot underestimate the work of the hub and the impact it has made both on those who come and those who volunteer.

Whilst the Warm Space, Friday Hub had a break, on Thursday mornings we did host Welcome Spaces, where we opened for space to provide the opportunity for support to families during the school summer holidays. These were not as well attended, although some parents came for lunches and some for contact during the summer holidays.

Monthly Coffee mornings continued on the 3rd Saturday of the month, with our Christmas Market being an extension of the November coffee morning. Our Christmas Market was an opportunity to provide hospitality and welcome the community in, with fundraising being an additional bonus to us. In March we also had a coffee morning that included craft activities for Easter.

As part of the celebrations for the King's Coronation we hosted a lunch along with an afternoon of games and activities, the afternoon concluded with 'Singing the Reign in'. As part of this all attendees received the gift of a coronation gospel produced for the occasion.

Our involvement with St John's school is important, a key part of the community. Our minister and 3 additional foundation governors form part of the governing body. As part of our work therefore we are frequently represented within the school community.

Abbey Village and Brinscall Pre-school, Karate, Art group and Nartcotics Anonymous have all been regular lettings contributing to the income of the church.

As a Church, a key question we visited again and again through the year was, how does the hospitality we offer through all of the community events embody our faith reflecting what we believe about God. When we host an event, we remember to ask, how can we through what we offer today reflect Jesus to those who come through the doors.

Communication and Resources

Regular meetings such as Leadership Team, Property, Pastoral Visitors, Finance Group, Children's work, Church Council and Monday Morning Prayer session, House group, and bible studies continue to happen to support our discipleship and ministries both individually and corporately. On occasions, when appropriate, zoom technology has been used.

Our weekly online Newsletter continues to be sent to over 130 people by Mailchimp, sharing news, information and links to local events thus keeping in contact with the congregation. Paper copies are produced for those not online. Our online presence continues with our Facebook page giving information and live feeds of the Church's activities.

Through all that we do, we are grateful to the faithful members of Hillside Methodist Church who give of their gifts and graces to seek to enable us to be a Church at the Heart of the Community.

Financial Review

General Fund (Unrestricted)

As at 31st August 2023, the General Fund shows a surplus and net positive movement in funds for the year of £5,646. Income in the year is £76,493 which is £4,904 - 6.9% higher than the previous year. Fundraising income of £3,382 is included in "Other Income".

Income Stream	2022-23	2021-22	Variance
Offerings	45,839	46,168	(329)
Donations	1,522	1,969	(447)
Gift Aid	11,485	11,504	(19)
Interest	3,305	292	3,013
Other Income	3,562	3,417	145
Lettings	10,780	8,239	2,541
Total	**76,493**	**71,589**	**4,904**

Expenditure was £70,847 which is £5,332 - 8.1% higher previous year as detailed below.

Expenditure	2022-23	2021-22	Variance
Circuit Assessment	50,934	49,224	(1,710)
Grants & donations	25	0	(25)
Property Maintenance	3,117	3,493	376
Insurance & utilities	11,557	9,257	(2,300)
Other Expenditure	5,214	3,541	(1,673)
Total	**70,847**	**65,515**	**(5,332)**

Designated Funds (Unrestricted)

These funds increased by £9,043. Of the increase £4,093 relates to donations and grants to the Community Fund which was established in 2020 to provide funding for work in the Community. The other £5,000 is a transfer from General Fund to Major Property Repair Fund.

Restricted and Endowment Funds

These funds increased by £5,891, primarily relates to the donations and associated gift aid made to the building fund during the year.

Reserves

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to six months' average operating expenditure, in addition to specific amounts designated for major repairs. As at 31 August 2023 the General Fund after deducting the value of the Church Property stood at £64,579. The annual operating expense forecast for 2023-24 is £67,633, therefore we currently hold 11 months cover for these costs. Of the above surplus of £5,054, £5,000 was transferred to Major Property Repair Fund as outlined above.

For full details of funds held and the movement of these in the year please see Note 8 in the Financial Statements section of this report.

Plans for 2023/24

Like many other charities Hillside continues to face mounting financial pressures, and continues to rely on a relatively small group of members who give faithfully. Through a combination of prayer and hard work financial balance is achieved each year, but not without challenges. The inflationary pressures that everyone one is feeling at home, together with the challenges within our own operating budget continue to be a challenge.

Work is now planned to look at new ways of connecting with and providing worship and study opportunities for families who face the ever-increasing challenges and the busyness of family life.

The Hillside Hub which started in November 2022 continues to thrive, providing friendship and much more to over 30 people each week.

As part of our 125th Anniversary Celebrations in March 2024 we will launch a project of building for the future. This will be looking at becoming an EcoChurch.

Café Worship which has been successful in the past, is to be considered as part of a regular pattern of our worship going forward.

Public Benefit

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

Trustee Training

A range of guidance is produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Church. Trustees are required to access this and confirm that they have read and understood it. Support is provided if required.

Related Parties

The Church is part of the Chorley & Leyland Circuit, which is part of the Lancashire District, and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Risk Management

The major risks are identified and monitored by the Church Council via the relevant committee or responsible person within the church. Professional advice from either within the Connexion or if necessary, from external advisors is taken as required. There is a regular review process undertaken.

The Trustees have identified the major risks to the Charity as being Safeguarding and Financial.

Two Safeguarding Officers ("SO") are in place (one for Children/Young People and one for Vulnerable Adults) who are responsible, along with the Trustees, for ensuring that the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy is implemented. Regular reports and updates are provided to both Church Council and the Stewards.

Income and Expenditure is monitored monthly by the Treasurer and is compared with the approved annual budget to produce an annual forecast. This information is discussed by the Finance Team prior to a Finance Report being produced. The purpose is to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves. Updates are provided to the Leadership Team at monthly meetings and to the Trustees at each Church Council meeting.

A formalised Risk Management Policy was adopted by the Trustees in February 2019

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of humans in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Approved by the Trustees on 16th May 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev K Hilsden (Chair of Trustees) _____

Financial Statements

For the Year Ending 31 August 2023

Hillside Methodist Church

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
Income and Endowments						
Offerings		45,839	0	3,330	49,169	46,168
Donations		1,522	874	625	3,021	10,102
Gift Aid		11,485	223	835	12,543	13,578
Interest and investment income		3,305	0	1,743	5,047	443
Income from Investment Properties		0	0	0	0	0
Internal organisations		0	0	0	0	0
Other charitable income	3a	3,562	14,325	163	18,050	5,639
Total from Charitable Activities		**65,713**	**15,422**	**6,696**	**87,831**	**75,930**
Income from Lettings		10,780	0	0	10,780	8,239
Total Income and Endowments		**76,493**	**15,422**	**6,696**	**98,610**	**84,169**
Expenditure						
Circuit assessment or share		50,934	0	0	50,934	49,224
Grants and donations	3b	25	180	0	205	180
Property maintenance		3,117	6,303	0	9,420	3,493
Insurance, utilities etc		11,557	426	0	11,983	9,257
Provisions		1,196	0	0	1,196	0
Depreciation		75	0	0	75	75
Office expenses		786	0	0	786	281
Other expenditure	3d	3,157	4,255	805	8,216	4,847
Internal organisations		0	0	0	0	0
Total Charitable Expenditure		**70,847**	**11,164**	**805**	**82,815**	**67,357**
Gain/(loss) on monetary investments		0	0	0	0	0
Gain/(loss) on investment properties		0	0	0	0	0
Net Income/(Expenditure)		**5,646**	**4,258**	**5,891**	**15,795**	**16,812**
Transfers between funds		(5,000)	5,000	0	0	0
Other gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		**646**	**9,258**	**5,891**	**15,795**	**16,812**
Total funds brought forward		1,828,372	55,458	80,162	1,963,991	1,947,179
Total Funds Carried Forward		**1,829,018**	**64,716**	**86,053**	**1,979,786**	**1,963,991**

Hillside Methodist Church

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Totals 2022	Totals 2021
Fixed Assets						
Church building & other property	4	1,763,718	0	0	1,763,718	1,763,793
Investments		0	0	609	609	609
Total Fixed Assets		**1,763,718**	**0**	**609**	**1,764,327**	**1,764,402**
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments	5	5,663	280	255	6,198	19,219
Loans by the Churches		0	0	0	0	0
Investments with TMCP		0	0	0	0	0
Central Finance Board Deposits	6	61,417	35,713	71,984	169,114	115,955
Cash at Bank and in hand	6	127	28,722	13,786	42,634	68,434
Total Current Assets		**67,207**	**64,715**	**86,025**	**217,947**	**203,608**
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	7	1,908	0	581	2,488	4,019
Grants Payable within 2022-23		0	0	0	0	0
Total Current Liabilities		**1,908**	**0**	**581**	**2,488**	**4,019**
Net Current Assets/Liabilities		**65,300**	**64,715**	**85,444**	**215,459**	**199,589**
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		**1,829,018**	**64,715**	**86,053**	**1,979,786**	**1,963,991**
Long term liabilities (> 1 year)						
Grants Payable after 2022-23		0	0	0	0	0
Loans to the Church		0	0	0	0	0
Net Assets		**1,829,018**	**64,715**	**86,053**	**1,979,786**	**1,963,991**
Funds of the Church						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		**1,829,018**			1,829,018	1,828,372
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			**64,715**		64,715	55,457
Total Unrestricted Funds		**1,829,018**	**64,715**	**0**	**1,893,733**	**1,883,829**
Restricted & Endowment Funds				**86,053**	86,053	80,162
Total Funds	8	**1,829,018**	**64,715**	**86,053**	**1,979,786**	**1,963,991**

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023

Basis of Accounting and Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Framework

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 (FRS102), effective from 1 January 2015. (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

b) Public Benefit Entity

Hillside 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(s) below.

c) Basis

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

d) 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, rounded to the nearest pound.

e) Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available on 31 August 2023, the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

f) Consolidation

The income and expenditure relating to Hillside Youth Club, Hillside Craft Group and the Hillside Flower Fund are consolidated into these financial statements as these groups fall within the overall governance of the Trustees.

g) Income Recognition

Income is brought into account 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.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other Income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Church acts as agent when collections/appeals are held for other charities. In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are not the income of the Church. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102), module 19.12.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees Annual Report. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

h) Expenditure

Expenditure 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.

i) VAT

As the Church is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

j) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The Church land & buildings is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing gross carrying value as at 1 September 2015, being the property's insurance reinstatement value at that time. No depreciation is provided because the Trustees consider the current residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its historical cost and, in the absence of any material impairment, any deprecation provision for the building component of the property would be immaterial.

k) Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash (Basic Financial Instruments)

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Church or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

l) Funds

The trustees have adopted a policy for all unrestricted reserves which is to maintain a minimum of six months cover for Operating Expenses together with specific designated funds for Long Term Property Reserves. Further details can be found in Note 8.

2) Glossary of Terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church – manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain, and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 300.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30.

Church Council: The Trustees of the Church.

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches.

Connexional Funds: The Designated and/or Restricted Funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of it charitable and mission objectives.

District: a group of contiguous circuits usually between 15 and 30.

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard.

Lay Employees: Personnel employed by the Church on generally accepted commercial employment terms.

Leadership Team: Provide leadership and support to the church members, and is responsible to Church Council for the furtherance of the Charities aims and objectives.

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities.

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice.

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds

3) Income & Expenditure Analysis

a) Other Charitable Income

During the year there were various fundraising activities, these included sales from the Church stall, coffee and chat session, Christmas coffee and chat and wreath making.

Contributions towards bible study resources - Bible study groups meet in members' homes and also over Zoom. Study resources are funded from a specific donation, but participants do contribute to the cost of these resources on a voluntary basis.

Other relates to grants received from Withnell Parish Council, The Duchy of Lancaster, Chorley Council and Asda. These grants are for the Friday HUB, the Welcome Space, and Community events.

The Community Fund is a designated fund.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
Fundraising	3,382	0	3,562	3,034
Contributions towards cost of food & drinks	544	0	544	319
Contributions towards bible study resources	0	163	163	196
Fundraising for Sponsored Child	10	0	10	11
Grants Received	8,426	0	0	0
Garden Fund	5,337	0	0	0
Other	188	0	13,771	2,079
Total Other Charitable Income	**17,887**	**163**	**18,050**	**5,639**

b) Grants and Donations Made

The grant made relates to £15 a month paid to Action Aid to sponsor a child.

	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
Methodist Connexional Funds	0	0
Sponsored Child (Action Aid)	180	180
Other	25	0
Total Grants & Donations	**205**	**180**

c) Insurance and Utilities

2022-23 – Electricity costs are higher due to the new tariff which is much higher than the previous tariff. Work is underway to reduce electricity usage by changing the lighting.

	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
Insurance	3,057	2,824
Electricity	5,862	3,607
Gas	2,592	2,368
Water	472	458
Total Insurance & Utilities	**11,983**	**9,257**

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2022 (cont.)

d) Other Expenditure

Resources to support worship, study & teaching includes to the cost of providing the bible study resources, referred to in Note 3a above. Other expenditure in general funds include cleaning items, subscriptions, bank charges, bibles for St John's School and benevolence fund costs.
Other expenditure in designated funds relates to the HUB, Welcome Space, Community events and coffee and biscuits. These items are funded from donations and grants.

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
Resources to support Worship, Study & Teaching	1,334	0	215	1,549	1,793
Fundraising Expenditure	97	0	0	97	100
Organ & Piano Repairs & Maintenance	744	0	0	744	402
Community Fund Expenditure	0	4,255	0	4,255	444
First Aid Course & Defib costs	272	0	0	272	0
Other	710	0	590	1,300	2,109
Total Other Expenditure	**3,157**	**4,255**	**805**	**8,216**	**4,848**

4) Property

The Church Land & Buildings relate to our Hillside Methodist Church, Hall and Link Building located in Brinscall.

	Church (non - investment) land and buildings	Other fixed assets including motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total 31 Aug 23
Cost/Valuation - balance b/f	1,762,158	0	2,010	0	1,764,168
Additions			0		0
Revaluations (+/-)					0
Disposals (-)					0
Cost/Valuation - Balance c/f	**1,762,158**	**0**	**2,010**	**0**	**1,764,168**
Depreciation - balance b/f	0	0	375	0	300
Depreciation - charge for year (-)			75		75
Deprecation - Revaluations (+/-)					0
Depreciation - Disposals (-)					0
Depreciation - balance c/f	0	0	450	0	375

Net Book Value - Brought forward	**1,762,158**	-	**1,635**	-	**1,763,792**
Net Book Value - Carried forward	**1,762,158**	-	**1,560**	-	**1,763,718**

5) Debtors and Prepayments

All items shown as Debtors as at 31 August 2022 were received during the following year. All items paid in advance as at 31 August 2022 have been expensed in 2022-23 and it is expected that payments in advance as at 31 August 2023 will be expensed in 2023-24.

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 23	Total at 31 Aug 22
Debtors					
Gift Aid	3,889	65	255	4,209	5,232
Rental Income	1,196	0	0	1,196	0
Other Debtors			0	0	57
Less Provision for bad debts	(1,196)			(1,196)	
Prepayments					
Circuit Assessment	0	0	0	0	12,306
Insurance	1,774	0	0	1,774	1,624
Other Prepayments	215	0	0	214	0
Total Debtors & Prepayments	**5,878**	**65**	**255**	**6,198**	**19,219**

6) Central Finance Board and Bank Balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board, Methodist Chapel Aid, the Royal Bank of Scotland and CAF bank are all available on demand without loss of interest. Separate bank accounts are held for some but not all of the Restricted Funds, therefore the split of the remaining balances is arbitrary, but wherever possible negative balances are not maintained.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 23	Total at 31 Aug 22
Central Finance Board	**97,130**	**71,984**	**169,114**	**115,955**
Methodist Chapel Aid	1,783	0	1,783	1,768
Royal Bank of Scotland / CAF Bank	27,066	13,536	40,602	66,451
Cash in Hand	0	250	250	214
Other Banks	**28,849**	**13,786**	**42,634**	**68,433**
Total CFB & Bank Balances	**125,979**	**85,770**	**211,719**	**184,388**

7) Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

During 2017-18 our insurers paid out for a water damage claim, but the work to rectify this has not yet been done. With agreement from our insurers this income continues to be deferred. All other balances as at 31st August 2022 were paid or released in the following year. It is expected that all other sums accrued or deferred as at 31st August 2023 will be paid during the year to 31 August 2024.

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 22 Aug 23	Total at 31 Aug 22
Deferred Income					
Insurance Claim Proceeds	1,610	0	0	1,610	1,610
Other	205	0	580	785	875
Creditors & Accruals	0	0	0	0	0
Property Repairs & Improvements	0	0	0	0	0
Utilities	93	0	0	93	1,513
Others	0	0	0	0	21
Total Creditors, Accruals & Income in Advance	**1,908**	**0**	**580**	**2,488**	**4,019**

8) Funds

Unrestricted – General

	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-22
Balance	1,829,018	1,828,372

The purpose of the fund is for the use at the discretion of the Trustees in the furtherance of the general charitable objectives of the church. Approximately 97% (£1,763,718) of the fund is held as freehold property, namely the church and church hall land and building, leaving £65,300 available for current charitable purposes.

Unrestricted – Designated

	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-22
Balance	64,715	55,457

These funds are to service specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. Movements in these funds are set out in Note 8 below, and details of the specific funds are as follows:

Long Term Property Repairs – this contains provision for large/one off property repairs and maintenance costs including painting, re-wiring, new windows, boiler replacement and organ repairs. Relevant items of expenditure when incurred are charged to this fund, and an equivalent transfer from the general fund (if sufficient funds are available) is made.

Children & Young Peoples Ministries – these funds are used to support the resourcing of several children's and young people's groups within the church. Donations for tea and coffee after worship, together with other fundraising events are used to maintain the fund. If necessary, transfers from the General Fund are made to ensure that sufficient funds are available to support this work.

Other – this includes a donation received in memory of a loved one, where the donor specified that the money should not be used for general church purposes, together with historical fund balances which are now being utilised to support relevant projects.

Restricted and Endowment

	31-Aug-23	31-Aug-22
Restricted Funds	85,444	79,553
Endowment Funds	609	609
Total	**86,053**	**80,162**

These funds exist to support the causes and organisations listed below.

Building Project – this fund is to support the development of new facilities on the church site in Brinscall and receives both regular and one-off donations.

Other Church Organisations and Groups – the following organisations/funds are governed by the Church Council: - Hillside Youth Club, Hillside Craft Group and the Hillside Flower Fund.

Adult Education – this is a donation given to the church specifically to support Adult Education. Relevant expenditure (largely Bible Study resources) is charged to this fund as and when it is incurred, net of any contributions received.

Anonymous Gift

Summary of Fund Movements

Fund	Balance at 1 Sep 22	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains / Losses	Balance at 31 Aug 23
General	**1,828,372**	**76,493**	**(70,847)**	**(5,000)**	**0**	**1,829,018**
Property Reserves	37,984	0	(6303)	5,000	0	36,681
Children & Young Peoples Ministries	2,551	0	(471)	0	0	2,080
Other	14,922	15,433	(4,401)	0	0	25,954
Total Designated Funds	**55,457**	**15,433**	**(11,175)**	**5,000**	**0**	**64,716**
Total Unrestricted	**1,883,829**	**76,738**	**(67,193)**	**0**		**1,893,373**
Building Project	63,389	5,564	0	0	0	63,389
Other Church Organisations & Groups	14,939	989	(590)	0	0	14,939
Bequests	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Education	1,225	163	(215)	0	0	1,225
Endowment - Anonymous Gift	609	0	0	0	0	609
Total Restricted & Endowment	**80,162**	**6,696**	**(805)**	**0**	**0**	**80,162**
Total of all Funds	**1,963,991**	**83,434**	**67,998**	**0**	**0**	**1,963,991**

Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	General	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Balance at 31 Aug 23	Balance at 31 Aug 22
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,763,718	0	0	1,763,718	1,763,793
Investments	0	0	609	609	609
Current Assets	67,207	64,715	86,025	217,947	203,608
Current Liabilities	(1,908)	0	(581)	(2,488)	(4,019)
Total	**1,829,018**	**64,715**	**86,053**	**1,979,786**	**1,963,991**

9) Related Parties

No donations were made by the Trustees during the year that had conditions attached. Related parties include the Methodist Connexion, CFB, TMCP and the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit. The table below shows details of related party transactions during the year.

Name		Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 23
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Assessment		(50,934)	0
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Assessment Rebate	5,337		0
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Rent	295	0	0
Total		**5,587**	**(50,934)**	**0**

10) Agency Collections and Payments

During the year the Church organised several collections and appeals for other charitable organisations. These are tabulated below, and do not appear anywhere else within these accounts. Those appeals/collections that were in respect of related parties are marked *

Name	Details	Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 23
Help the Homeless	Christmas Appeal	352	(352)	0
Salvation Army	Brinscall to Bethlehem	166	(166)	0
DEC	Pakistan Appeal	363	(363)	0
St Catherine's	Christmas Appeal	621	(621)	0
British Red Cross	Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal	502	(502)	0
Total		**2,004**	**(2,004)**	**0**

11) Trustee Payments

There were no payments to Trustees in the year in relation to their role as Trustee.

12) Volunteer Contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Church this is done across a whole range of areas, and we are grateful to everyone who does volunteer their time, help and commitment. No attempt has been made to value the non-monetary contributions in monetary terms.

13) Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

None

14) Lease Commitments

The Church has contracts or obligations for the following

Broadband
Photocopier

The annual cost of these is not considered material

15) Independent Examiner

The Independent Examiner does not charge a fee for his services and provided no additional services during the year.

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of treasurer ..A E Melling..... Date..15 May 2024

Name and address of treasurer Mrs A.E. Melling, ACMA, 16 Millwood Close, Withnell Fold, Chorley, PR6 8AR

Presentation to the Church Council

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were presented to the Church Council at its meeting on 15th May 2024

Signature of the Chair of the meeting ..Karen. A. Hilsden.....

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev K Hilsden..... Date ..15/05/24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Church, named above

The Church' trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed:

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the trustees concerning 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. My 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 (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) 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 2011
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011

have not been met, or

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

(3) 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.....J Fishwick.....

Name of independent examiner: Jim Fishwick

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACMA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address: 8 COUNTESS WAY, EUXTON
CHORLEY
LANCASHIRE PR7 6PT

Date:
5th June 2024

HILLSIDE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1175950

Accounts

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Trustees Annual Report & Accounts 2021-22

Registered Charity No. 1175950

Introduction	Page 3
Basis of Preparation & Legal Framework	Page 3
Structure, Governance and Management	Page 4
Purpose	Page 4
Review of 2021-22	Page 5 to Page 6
Financial Review etc.	Page 7 to Page 8
Risk Management & Safeguarding	Page 9
Financial Statements	Page 10 to Page 22
Declarations & Scrutiny	Page 23 to Page 24

Introduction

Hillside is a Church at the Heart of Community, both geographically, socially and spiritually. We have been based for over 120 years in the village of Brinscall, near Chorley.

In normal time, worship on a Sunday is enjoyed by a vibrant congregation, with a variety of music and worship styles and the warmest of welcomes. A contemporary people in a traditional setting with the mission "To Know Christ and Make Him Known".

Basis of Preparation and Legal Framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard(FRS) 102

Charity Name: Hillside Methodist Church.

Charity Registration: 1175950

Principle Address: Parke Road, Brinscall, Chorley, Lancs. PR6 8PU.

Structure: Hillside is a member of the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit, which is a member of the Lancashire Methodist District.

Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, Royal Bank of Scotland, CAF Bank, Santander, Chapel Aid.

Independent Examiner: Mr J Fishwick. ACMA

Trustees: The following members of the Church Council served as Trustees during the period of this report**:**

Name	Office/Elected By		Name	Office/Elected By
Rev Karen Hilsden	Chair		Dave Wallis	Annual Church Meeting
			Geoff Horton	
			Norma Klunder (Appointed 22 Jun 22)	
Angela Melling	Church Treasurer		Michaela Barker (Resigned 22 Jun 22)	
Linda Yates	Pastoral Committee Secretary		Anne Waring	
			Ken Guy (Deceased 10 Oct 22)	Church Council
			Duncan Frost	
Annette Cupit	Circuit Steward		Janet Horton	
Tim Melling	Head Steward		Chris Howard	
Steven Amos	Steward		Mark Mackley	
Beryl Frankish	Steward		Sarah Krige (Appointed 12 Jul 22)	
Joyce Nicolson	Steward (Resigned 31 May 2022)		Maureen Amos	
Katherine Klunder	Steward		Vicki Gow	
Harry Chaplin	Steward (Appointed 22 Jun 2022)		Paul Barron	
			Joanne Colling	

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Documents: Our governing documents are the Deed of Union 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees: The Charity Trustees are the members of the Church Council, appointed in line with Section 61 of The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church ("CPD").

Church Council: Section 60 of CPD outlines the role of the Church Council as follows. "The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its proper responsibility."

Church Stewards: Section 63 of CPD outlines the role of the church stewards as follows. "The church stewards are corporately responsible with the presbyter ..... for exercising pastoral responsibility in relation to the Local Church for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. They are particularly charged to hold together in unity the variety of concerns that are contained within the one ministry of the Church. To this end it is their responsibility to uphold and act upon the decisions and policies of the Church Council." In 2018-19 the Church Council approved the creation of a Leadership Team to work with and support the Stewards in carrying out these responsibilities. This team continues to meet on a regular basis and reports to Church Council.

Safeguarding: Hillside Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches. In addition, it commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Purpose

Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976 defines the purpose as follows:
"The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be Purposes 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;
(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 being a 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."

The following are the main activities undertaken in relation to the Purposes outlined above:

- Organise and hold regular public acts of worship
- Provide teaching through sermons, courses and small groups
- Offer pastoral support to the sick and bereaved
- Pursue children's/youth education in the context of the Christian faith
- Engage with associated local Church Schools
- Raise awareness through the arranging/staging of local events
- Promote fellowship/friendship by facilitating shared-interest groups
- Provide facilities for local community use/activity

Review of the Year

During the year 2021-22, as the people of God at Hillside, we continued to discover what our identity meant as we emerged from the pandemic.

Through the pandemic we have discovered and been venturing into some new initiatives and the leadership team have been keen to harness these as we moved forward.

Worship

Worship is the heartbeat of all that we do at Hillside, with worship for all ages being offered.

Services on Sunday continue each week at 10.00am with refreshments served after the service, giving everyone a chance to meet and catch up with one another. We are delighted that the children's and youth ministry was relaunched in September 2021, with a different format. This is being ably led by a small but faithful group of leaders and facilitators. During the year the young people have explored several different themes including Bear Grylls Book, Soul Fuel for Young Explorers and this was incorporated into several all-age services. We have a faithful number of children and youth who attend with their families; however, we do continue to face the disappointment of faithful families who are unsuccessful in securing their first choice of high school within St. Michael's. Consequently, there are ongoing conversations about the impact of this upon numbers of children and families worshipping at Hillside.

Some of our members continue to be involved in preparing and publishing the Circuit online service watched by over a 100 people each week.

Our Christmas services were slightly adapted due to a spike in Covid infections around that time and it was decided not to hold the very popular Christingle service, in the normal way. This was held at the end of January, with the families of the church community attending. Easter services were as normal and for the first time in three years we held a Communion Service at sunrise at the "Three Trees" (a local viewpoint) followed by a cooked breakfast back at the church. This year as well as the walk of witness on Good Friday, we also observed an hour at the cross from 2-3pm and this was important to those who attended.

We once again built a large Advent wreath; this was placed outside the front of the church with the Reverend Karen Hilsden giving an online reflection each week on Facebook as each candle was lit. This enabled those who may never enter the church building to engagement with the themes of advent.

Brinscall to Bethlehem, (an outdoor portrayal of the Christmas story) a joint effort with Hillside, St John's School, and the Salvation Army, coordinated by Geoff Horton and Reverend Karen Hilsden took place. Despite a few last-minute hiccups, it was a great success attended by many from the community braving the poor weather. A bucket collection was held for the work of the Salvation Army.

As well as the joint work for Brinscall to Bethlehem, we were once again glad to welcome the St John's School family for Christmas and Easter Celebrations, as well as individual year groups coming to explore baptism and the church building as part of their curriculum. There is a strengthening of relationships between St. John's and Hillside for which everybody is grateful to God.

As part of this years themed preaching, we have been thinking about our frontlines and how from our worship on a Sunday we are sent into lots of different places to serve and be in partnership with our God who is missional. Sometimes this is locally, through our work as Hillside in the community, for others it is as GP's, as Teachers, working in the local authority, working in I.T, for others working in finance or in the criminal justice system. This all flows from our worship.

Hillside in the Community

One of our personal growth's during the pandemic has been our community involvement and this is something we did not want to lose sight of, but to build upon.

As we hoped we were emerging from the pandemic we wanted to host an event at Hillside to bring people together and welcome them to Hillside. An event of hospitality and building community after such a long time in isolation. Our Hillside in the Community Group planned a Sunday afternoon of fun: named A Hive of Activity at Hillside. Our committed knitters knitted bees which were given out as part of the afternoon, along with jars of honey, there were also games, crafts, refreshments and a "Bee creative" competition. At the end of the afternoon, we came together to celebrate building our lives together as a community in a lively act of worship.

The Hillside knitters continued to knit, as soon as they had finished knitting bees, the knitters started knitting for Christmas and made over 400 Christmas stockings, these were filled with a sweet, bagged with a label and then distributed around Brinscall, Withnell and Withnell Fold. There were many positive comments from the community, verbally and on Facebook saying how much these were appreciated. A Christmas stocking and a Christmas card were distributed to all those on our Community Contacts list.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee was celebrated on Friday 3rd June: with crafts, games, a selfie booth, and a selection of music playing outside from the decades of the Queen's reign. The day ended with Singing in the Reign, a sing-along in the church with a PowerPoint containing the words to the songs from the decades. This was thoroughly enjoyed by those that attended.

Souvenir books: The church ordered 100 copies of the book "Cheeky Panda", a book based on the Queen's faithfulness for children. We also purchased 150 copies of "*Our Faithful Queen, 70 years of Faith and Service*" by Catherine Butcher. These were distributed at the event.

We are very grateful to Withnell Parish Council and Arnold Clarke Community Fund for their financial support towards our work in the community.

Our monthly Coffee mornings have been reintroduced, rebranded as Coffee & Chat, where we serve bacon butties, cakes, and drinks. We held an extended Christmas Coffee & Chat in December as an opportunity to invite in more members of the community. This was very well attended, with a lovely, relaxed atmosphere where people could do some shopping and have lunch or refreshments. We also managed to raise over £1,175 for Church funds.

As well as Brinscall Preschool and Karate group returning as regular lettings contributing to the income of the church, we welcomed the art group who have moved from Withnell Fold Methodist Chapel.

One of the questions we visited again and again through the year was, how does the hospitality we offer through all of the community events embody our faith reflecting what we believe about God.

Communication and Resources

Regular meetings such as Leadership Team, Property, Pastoral Visitors, Finance Group, Children's work, Church Council and Monday Morning Prayer session were introduced back at church and House group bible studies were recommenced in-person. On occasions, when appropriate, zoom technology has been used.

Our weekly online Newsletter continues to be sent to 134 people by Mailchimp, sharing news, information and links to local events thus keeping in contact with the congregation. Paper copies are produced for those not online. Our online presence continues with our Facebook page giving information and live feeds of the Church's activities.

Through all that we do, we are grateful to the faithful members of Hillside Methodist Church who give of their gifts and graces to seek to enable Hillside Methodist Church to be a Church at the Heart of the Community.

Financial Review

General Fund (Unrestricted)

As at 31st August 2022, the General Fund shows a surplus and net positive movement in funds for the year of £6,074. Income in the year is £71,589 which is £7,447 (9.5%) lower than the previous year. Fundraising income of £2,769 is included in "Other Income". In previous years this has been included in the building fund figures, which is a restricted fund.

Income Stream	2021-22	2020-21	Variance
Offerings	46,168	52,491	(6,323)
Donations	1,969	1,129	840
Gift Aid	11,504	12,957	(1,453)
Interest	292	79	213
Other Income	3,417	5,578	(2,161)
Lettings	8,239	6,802	1,437
Total	**71,589**	**79,036**	**1,437**

Expenditure was £65,515 which is £3,406 (4.9%) below previous years as detailed below.

Expenditure	2021-22	2020-21	Variance
Circuit Assessment	49,224	55,680	6,456
Grants & donations	0	110	110
Property Maintenance	3,493	3,545	52
Insurance & utilities	9,257	7,252	(2,005)
Other Expenditure	3,541	2,334	(1,207)
Total	**65,515**	**68,921**	**3,406**

Designated Funds (Unrestricted)

These funds increased by £3,472. The balance relates to donations and grants to the Community Fund which was established in 2020 to provide funding for work in the Community.

Restricted and Endowment Funds

These funds increased by £7,267, primarily related to the donations and associated gift aid made to the building fund during the year.

Reserves

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to six months' average operating expenditure, in addition to specific amounts designated for major repairs. As at 31 August 2022 the General Fund after deducting the value of the Church Property stood at £64,579. The annual operating expense forecast for 2022-23 is £67,633, therefore we currently hold 11 months cover for these costs.

For full details of funds held and the movement of these in the year please see Note 8 in the Financial Statements section of this report.

Plans for 2022/23

Like many other charities Hillside faces mounting financial pressures, and continues to rely on a relatively small group of members who give faithfully. Through a combination of prayer and hard work financial balance is achieved each year, but not without challenges, and 2022/23 will be one of the most challenging for many years. The inflationary pressures that everyone one is feeling at home, together with the challenges within our own operating budget will make this year especially hard.

Work is now planned to look at new ways of connecting with and providing worship and study opportunities for families who face the ever-increasing challenges and busyness of family life.

In December 2023 Hillside responded to the challenge laid down by both Central and Local Government to provide a welcoming warm space. The Hillside Hub opens every Friday and is a thriving centre of activity providing friendship and much more to nearly 30 people each week.

Public Benefit

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

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Church Council members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Church is part of the Chorley & Leyland Circuit, which is part of the Lancashire District, and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Risk Management

The major risks are identified and monitored by the Church Council via the relevant committee or responsible person within the church. Professional advice from either within the Connexion or if necessary, from external advisors is taken as required. There is a regular review process undertaken.

The Trustees have identified the major risks to the Charity as being Safeguarding and Financial.

Two Safeguarding Officers ("SO") are in place (one for Children/Young People and one for Vulnerable Adults) who are responsible, along with the Trustees, for ensuring that the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy is implemented. Regular reports and updates are provided to both Church Council and the Stewards.

Income and Expenditure is monitored monthly by the Treasurer and is compared with the approved annual budget to produce an annual forecast. This information is discussed by the Finance Team prior to a Finance Report being produced. The purpose is to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves. Updates are provided to the Leadership Team at monthly meetings and to the Trustees at each Church Council meeting.

A formalised Risk Management Policy was adopted by the Trustees in February 2019

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of humans in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Approved by the Trustees on 13th March 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev K Hilsden (Chair of Trustees) Karen A. Hilsden

Financial Statements

For the Year Ending 31 August 2022

Hillside Methodist Church

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2022 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
Income and Endowments						
Offerings		46,168	0	0	46,168	52,571
Donations		1,969	2,459	5,675	10,102	9,272
Gift Aid		11,504	665	1,409	13,578	13,424
Interest and investment income		292	0	151	443	141
Income from Investment Properties		0	0	0	0	0
Internal organisations		0	0	0	0	0
Other charitable income	3a	3,417	2,026	196	5,639	8,706
Total from Charitable Activities		**63,350**	**5,150**	**7,431**	**75,930**	**84,114**
Income from Lettings		8,239	0	0	8,239	56,802
Total Income and Endowments		**71,589**	**5,150**	**7,431**	**84,169**	**90,916**
Expenditure						
Circuit assessment or share		49,224	0	0	49,224	55,680
Grants and donations	3b	0	180	0	180	644
Property maintenance		3,493	0	0	3,493	3,545
Insurance, utilities etc		9,257	0	0	9,257	7,252
Provisions		0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation		75	0	0	75	75
Office expenses		281	0	0	281	345
Other expenditure	3d	3,186	1,498	164	4,847	3,654
Internal organisations		0	0	0	0	0
Total Charitable Expenditure		**65,515**	**1,678**	**164**	**67,357**	**71,195**
Gain/(loss) on monetary investments		0	0	0	0	0
Gain/(loss) on investment properties		0	0	0	0	0
Net Income/(Expenditure)		**6,074**	**3,472**	**7,267**	**16,812**	**19,722**
Transfers between funds		0	0	0	0	0
Other gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		**6,074**	**3,472**	**7,267**	**16,812**	**19,722**
Total funds brought forward		1,822,298	51,986	72,895	1,947,179	1,927,457
Total Funds Carried Forward		**1,828,372**	**55,458**	**80,162**	**1,963,991**	**1,947,179**

Hillside Methodist Church

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Totals 2022	Totals 2021
Fixed Assets						
Church building & other property	4	1,763,793	0	0	1,763,793	1,763,868
Investments		0	0	609	609	608
Total Fixed Assets		**1,763,793**	**0**	**609**	**1,764,402**	**1,764,476**
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments	5	18,003	648	568	19,219	19,896
Loans by the Churches		0	0	0	0	0
Investments with TMCP		0	0	0	0	0
Central Finance Board Deposits	6	48,648	18,289	49,017	115,955	85,517
Cash at Bank and in hand	6	1,355	36,541	30,538	68,434	79,264
Total Current Assets		**68,006**	**55,478**	**80,124**	**203,608**	**184,679**
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	7	3,427	21	571	4,019	1,976
Grants Payable within 2021-22		0	0	0	0	0
Total Current Liabilities		**3,427**	**21**	**571**	**4,019**	**1,976**
Net Current Assets/Liabilities		**64,579**	**55,457**	**79,553**	**199,589**	**182,703**
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		**1,828,372**	**55,457**	**80,162**	**1,963,991**	**1,947,179**
Long term liabilities (> 1 year)						
Grants Payable after 2021-22		0	0	0	0	0
Loans to the Church		0	0	0	0	0
Net Assets		**1,828,372**	**55,457**	**80,162**	**1,963,991**	**1,947,179**
Funds of the Church						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		1,828,372			1,828,372	1,822.298
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			55,457		55,457	51,986
Total Unrestricted Funds		**1,828,372**	**55,457**	**0**	**1,883,829**	**1,874,284**
Restricted & Endowment Funds				**80,162**	80,162	72,895
Total Funds	8	**1,828,372**	**55,457**	**80,162**	**1,963,991**	**1,947,179**

1) Basis of Accounting and Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Framework

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 (FRS102), effective from 1 January 2015. (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

b) Public Benefit Entity

Hillside 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(s) below.

c) Basis

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

d) 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, rounded to the nearest pound.

e) Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2021, the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

f) Consolidation

The income and expenditure relating to Hillside Youth Club, Hillside Fellowship, Hillside Craft Group and the Hillside Flower Fund are consolidated into these financial statements as these groups fall within the overall governance of the Trustees.

g) Income Recognition

Income is brought into account 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.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other Income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Church acts as agent when collections/appeals are held for other charities. In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are not the income of the Church. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102), module 19.12.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees Annual Report. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

h) Expenditure

Expenditure 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.

i) VAT

As the Church is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

j) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The Church land & buildings is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing gross carrying value as at 1 September 2015, being the property's insurance reinstatement value at that time. No depreciation is provided because the Trustees consider the current residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its historical cost and, in the absence of any material impairment, any deprecation provision for the building component of the property would be immaterial.

k) Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash (Basic Financial Instruments)

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Church or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

l) Funds

The trustees have adopted a policy for all unrestricted reserves which is to maintain a minimum of six months cover for Operating Expenses together with specific designated funds for Long Term Property Reserves. Further details can be found in Note 8.

2) Glossary of Terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church – manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain, and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 300.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30.

Church Council: The Trustees of the Church.

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches.

Connexional Funds: The Designated and/or Restricted Funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of it charitable and mission objectives.

District: a group of contiguous circuits usually between 15 and 30.

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard.

Lay Employees: Personnel employed by the Church on generally accepted commercial employment terms.

Leadership Team: Provide leadership and support to the church members, and is responsible to Church Council for the furtherance of the Charities aims and objectives.

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities.

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice.

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds

3) Income & Expenditure Analysis

a) Other Charitable Income

During the year there were a number of fundraising activities, these included sales from the Church stall, Cake sales, coffee and chat session, Christmas coffee and chat and wreath making.

Contributions towards bible study resources - Bible study groups meet in members' homes and also over Zoom. Study resources are funded from a specific donation, but participants do contribute to the cost of these resources on a voluntary basis.

Other relates to grants received for the Community fund from Withnell Parish Council, and Arnold Clarke Motors and a grant from Circuit to cover the costs of the digital collection plate machine. The Community Fund is a designated fund.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
Fundraising	3,034	0	3,034	5,578
Contributions towards cost of food & drinks	319	0	319	0
Contributions towards bible study resources	0	196	196	66
Fundraising for Sponsored Child	11	0	11	0
Other	2,079	0	2,079	3,062
Total Other Charitable Income	**5,443**	**196**	**5,639**	**8,706**

b) Grants and Donations Made

The grant made relates to £15 a month paid to Action Aid to sponsor a child.

	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
Methodist Connexional Funds	0	00
Sponsored Child (Action Aid)	180	180
Other	0	100
Total Grants & Donations	**180**	**290**

c) Insurance and Utilities

2020-21 utility costs, (except for insurance), were slightly lower than last year. Although the Church was closed for most of the year, Playgroup and Karate continued to use the hall.

	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
Insurance	2,824	2,651
Electricity	3,607	1,712
Gas	2,368	2,681
Water	458	208
Total Insurance & Utilities	**9,257**	**7,252**

d) Other Expenditure

Resources to support worship, study & teaching includes to the cost of providing the bible study resources, referred to in Note 3a above. Other expenditure in general funds include cleaning items, subscriptions, bank charges, bibles for St John's School and benevolence fund costs.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2021-22	Total 2020-21
Resources to support Worship, Study & Teaching	1,629	164	1,793	706
Fundraising Expenditure	100		100	22
Publicity & Advertising	0		0	188
Organ & Piano Repairs & Maintenance	402		402	377
Community Fund Expenditure	444		444	1,166
First Aid Course & Defib costs	0		0	
Other	2,109		2,109	1,195
Total Other Expenditure	**4,684**	**164**	**4,848**	**3,654**

4) Property

The Church Land & Buildings relate to our Hillside Methodist Church, Hall and Link Building located in Brinscall.

	Church (non - investment) land and buildings	Other fixed assets including motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total 31 Aug 21
Cost/Valuation - balance b/f	1,762,158	0	2,010	0	1,764,168
Additions			0		0
Revaluations (+/-)					0
Disposals (-)					0
Cost/Valuation - Balance c/f	**1,762,158**	**0**	**2,010**	**0**	**1,764,168**
Depreciation - balance b/f	0	0	300	0	300
Depreciation - charge for year (-)			75		75
Deprecation - Revaluations (+/-)					0
Depreciation - Disposals (-)					0
Depreciation - balance c/f	0	0	375	0	375
Net Book Value - Brought forward	**1,762,158**	**-**	**1,710**	**-**	**1,763,868**
Net Book Value - Carried forward	**1,762,158**	**-**	**1,635**	**-**	**1,763,793**

5) Debtors and Prepayments

All items shown as Debtors as at 31 August 2021 were received during the following year. All items paid in advance as at 31 August 2021 have been expensed in 2021-22 and it is expected that payments in advance as at 31 August 2022 will be expensed in 2022-23.

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 22	Total at 31 Aug 21
Debtors					
Gift Aid	4,039	625	568	5,232	5,169
Rental Income	0	0	0	0	90
Other Debtors	34	23	0	57	790
Prepayments					
Circuit Assessment	12,306	0	0	12,306	12,306
Insurance	1,624	0	0	1,624	1,513
Other Prepayments	0	0	0	0	28
Total Debtors & Prepayments	**18,003**	**648**	**568**	**19,219**	**19,896**

6) Central Finance Board and Bank Balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board, Methodist Chapel Aid, the Royal Bank of Scotland and CAF bank are all available on demand without loss of interest. Separate bank accounts are held for some but not all of the Restricted Funds, therefore the split of the remaining balances is arbitrary, but wherever possible negative balances are not maintained.

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 22	Total at 31 Aug 21
Central Finance Board	**41,649**	**25,089**	**49,217**	**115,955**	**85,517**
Methodist Chapel Aid	1,768	0	0	1,768	1,763
Royal Bank of Scotland / CAF Bank	6,587	29,740	30,124	66,451	77,287
Cash in Hand	0	0	214	214	215
Other Banks	**8,355**	**29,740**	**30,338**	**68,433**	**79,265**
Total CFB & Bank Balances	**50,003**	**54,830**	**79,555**	**184,388**	**164,782**

7) Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

During 2017-18 our insurers paid out for a water damage claim, but the work to rectify this has not yet been done. With agreement from our insurers this income continues to be deferred. All other balances as at 31st August 2021 were paid or released in the following year. It is expected that all other sums accrued or deferred as at 31st August 2022 will be paid during the year to 31 August 2023.

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 22	Total at 31 Aug 21
Deferred Income					
Insurance Claim Proceeds	1,610	0	0	1,610	1,610
Other	304	0	571	875	238
Creditors & Accruals	0	0	0	0	0
Property Repairs & Improvements	0	0	0	0	0
Utilities	1,513	0	0	1,513	59
Others	0	21	0	21	69
Total Creditors, Accruals & Income in Advance	**3,427**	**21**	**571**	**4,019**	**1,976**

8) Funds

Unrestricted – General

	31-Aug-22	31-Aug-21
Balance	1,828,372	1,822,298

The purpose of the fund is for the use at the discretion of the Trustees in the furtherance of the general charitable objectives of the church. Approximately 97% (£1,763,793) of the fund is held as freehold property, namely the church and church hall land and building, leaving £64,579 available for current charitable purposes.

Unrestricted – Designated

	31-Aug-22	31-Aug-21
Balance	55,457	51,986

These funds are to service specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. Movements in these funds are set out in Note 8 below, and details of the specific funds are as follows:

Long Term Property Repairs – this contains provision for large/one off property repairs and maintenance costs including painting, re-wiring, new windows, boiler replacement and organ repairs. Relevant items of expenditure when incurred are charged to this fund, and an equivalent transfer from the general fund (if sufficient funds are available) is made.

Children & Young Peoples Ministries – these funds are used to support the resourcing of several children's and young people's groups within the church. Donations for tea and coffee after worship, together with other fundraising events are used to maintain the fund. If necessary, transfers from the General Fund are made to ensure that sufficient funds are available to support this work.

Other – this includes a donation received in memory of a loved one, where the donor specified that the money should not be used for general church purposes, together with historical fund balances which are now being utilised to support relevant projects.

Restricted and Endowment

	31-Aug-22	31-Aug-21
Restricted Funds	79,553	72,287
Endowment Funds	609	608
Total	**80,162**	**72,895**

These funds exist to support the causes and organisations listed below.

Building Project – this fund is to support the development of new facilities on the church site in Brinscall and receives both regular and one-off donations.

Other Church Organisations and Groups – the following organisations/funds are governed by the Church Council: - Hillside Youth Club, Hillside Craft Group and the Hillside Flower Fund.

Adult Education – this is a donation given to the church specifically to support Adult Education. Relevant expenditure (largely Bible Study resources) is charged to this fund as and when it is incurred, net of any contributions received.

Anonymous Gift – the terms of this gift provide for the interest to be used for general church purposes. The capital is unavailable for use.

Summary of Fund Movements

Fund	Balance at 1 Sep 21	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains / Losses	Balance at 31 Aug 22
General	**1,822,298**	**71,589**	**(65,515)**	**0**	**0**	**1,828,372**
Property Reserves	37,984	0	0	0	0	37,984
Children & Young Peoples Ministries	2,731	37	(217)	0	0	2,551
Other	11,271	5,112	(1,461)	0	0	14,922
Total Designated Funds	**51,986**	**5,149**	**(1,678)**	**0**	**0**	**55,457**
Total Unrestricted	**1,874,284**	**76,738**	**(67,193)**	**0**		**1,883,829**
Building Project	56,154	7,235	0	0	0	63,389
Other Church Organisations & Groups	14,939	0	0	0	0	14,939
Bequests	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult Education	1,194	196	(165)	0	0	1,225
Endowment - Anonymous Gift	608	1	0	0	0	609
Total Restricted & Endowment	**72,895**	**7,431**	**(165)**	**0**	**0**	**80,162**
Total of all Funds	**1,947,179**			**0**	**0**	**1,963,991**

Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	General	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Balance at 31 Aug 22	Balance at 31 Aug 21
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,763,793	0	0	1,763,793	1,763,868
Investments	0	0	609	609	608
Current Assets	68,006	55,478	80,124	203,608	184,679
Current Liabilities	(3,427)	(21)	(571)	(4,019)	(1,976)
Total	**1,828,372**	**55,457**	**80,162**	**1,963,991**	**1,947,179**

9) Related Parties

No donations were made by the Trustees during the year that had conditions attached. Related parties include the Methodist Connexion, CFB, TMCP and the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit. The table below shows details of related party transactions during the year

Name		Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 22
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Assessment		(49,224)	**0**
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Connexional Funds		0	**0**
Total		**0**	**(49,224)**	**0**

10) Agency Collections and Payments

During the year the Church organised several collections and appeals for other charitable organisations. These are tabulated below, and do not appear anywhere else within these accounts. Those appeals/collections that were in respect of related parties are marked *

Name	Details	Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 22
All We Can*	General Donation	29	(29)	0
Salvation Army	Brinscall to Bethlehem	330	(330)	0
DEC	Ukraine Appeal	62	(62)	0
British Red Cross	Ukraine Appeal	1,934	(1,934)	0
Chorley Help the Homeless	Christmas Refreshments	65	(65)	0
Night Safe	Christmas Appeal	436	(436)	0
Christian Aid	Sisters Stronger Together Appeal	303	(303)	0
Total		**3,159**	**(3,159)**	**0**

11) Trustee Payments

There were no payments to Trustees in the year in relation to their role as Trustee.

12) Volunteer Contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Church this is done across a whole range of areas, and we are grateful to everyone who does volunteer their time, help and commitment. No attempt has been made to value the non-monetary contributions in monetary terms.

13) Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

None

14) Lease Commitments

The Church has contracts or obligations for the following

Telephone and Broadband
Photocopier

The annual cost of these is not considered material

15) Independent Examiner

The Independent Examiner does not charge a fee for his services and provided no additional services during the year.

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-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 Council.

Signature of treasurer ..... Date.....

Name and address of treasurer Mrs A.E. Melling, ACMA, 16 Millwood Close, Withnell Fold, Chorley, PR6 8AR

Presentation to the Church Council

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were presented to the Church Council at its meeting on 2nd February 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting .....

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev K Hilsden..... Date 13/03/2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Church, named above

The Church' trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the trustees concerning 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. My 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 (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) 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 2011
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011

have not been met, or

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

(3) 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.....

Name of independent examiner: Jim Fishwick

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACMA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address: 8 COUNTESS WAY,
EUXTON
CHORLEY
LANCASHIRE PR7 6PT

Date: 13 MARCH 2023

HILLSIDE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1175950

Accounts

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Trustees Annual Report & Accounts 2020-21

Registered Charity No. 1175950

Introduction	Page 3
Basis of Preparation & Legal Framework	Page 3
Structure, Governance and Management	Page 4
Purpose	Page 4
Review of 2019-20	Page 5 to Page 6
Financial Review etc.	Page 7 to Page 8
Risk Management & Safeguarding	Page 9
Financial Statements	Page 10 to Page 22
Declarations & Scrutiny	Page 23 to Page 24

Introduction

Hillside is a Church at the Heart of Community, both geographically, socially and spiritually. We have been based for over 120 years in the village of Brinscall, near Chorley.

In normal time, worship on a Sunday is enjoyed by a vibrant congregation, with a variety of music and worship styles and the warmest of welcomes. A contemporary people in a traditional setting with the mission "To Know Christ and Make Him Known".

During the week there are a variety of groups and regularly held events for all ages, offering a variety of different opportunities for faith development, outreach and fellowship.

The year ended 2020-21 has for everyone, been a challenging year and Hillside has risen to that challenge to provide new ways to worship and "be Church" within the Community.

Basis of Preparation and Legal Framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard(FRS) 102

Charity Name: Hillside Methodist Church.

Charity Registration: 1175950

Principle Address: Parke Road, Brinscall, Chorley, Lancs. PR6 8PU.

Structure: Hillside is a member of the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit, which is a member of the Lancashire Methodist District.

Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, Royal Bank of Scotland, CAF Bank, Santander, Chapel Aid.

Independent Examiner: Mr J Fishwick. ACMA

Trustees: The following members of the Church Council served as Trustees during the period of this report**:**

Name	Office/Elected By		Name	Office/Elected By
Rev Karen Hilsden (from 1 Sept 2020)	Chair		Dave Wallis	Annual Church Meeting
Jacquie Hartley (Resigned Jun 21)	Church Council Secretary		Geoff Horton	
Angela Melling	Church Treasurer		Michaela Barker (Jul 21)	
Linda Yates	Pastoral Committee Secretary		Anne Waring	
Annette Cupit	Circuit Steward		Ken Guy	Church Council
Tim Melling	Head Steward		Duncan Frost	
Steven Amos	Steward		Janet Horton	
Beryl Frankish	Steward		Chris Howard	
Joyce Nicolson	Steward		Mark Mackley	
Katherine Klunder	Steward		Norma Klunder	
			Maureen Amos	
			Vicki Gow	
			Paul Barron (Oct 20)	
			Joanne Colling (Jul 21)	

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Documents: Our governing documents are the Deed of Union 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees: The Charity Trustees are the members of the Church Council, appointed in line with Section 61 of The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church ("CPD").

Church Council: Section 60 of CPD outlines the role of the Church Council as follows. "The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its proper responsibility."

Church Stewards: Section 63 of CPD outlines the role of the church stewards as follows. "The church stewards are corporately responsible with the presbyter ..... for exercising pastoral responsibility in relation to the Local Church for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. They are particularly charged to hold together in unity the variety of concerns that are contained within the one ministry of the Church. To this end it is their responsibility to uphold and act upon the decisions and policies of the Church Council." In 2018-19 the Church Council approved the creation of a Leadership Team to work with and support the Stewards in carrying out these responsibilities. This team meets on a regular basis and reports to Church Council.

Safeguarding: Hillside Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches. In addition, it commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Purpose

Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976 defines the purpose as follows:

"The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be Purposes 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;
(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 being a 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."

The following are the main activities undertaken in relation to the Purposes outlined above:

- Organise and hold regular public acts of worship
- Provide teaching through sermons, courses and small groups
- Offer pastoral support to the sick and bereaved
- Pursue children's/youth education in the context of the Christian faith
- Engage with associated local Church Schools
- Raise awareness through the arranging/staging of local events
- Promote fellowship/friendship by facilitating shared-interest groups
- Provide facilities for local community use/activity

Review of the Year

This year has continued to be a most unusual one in the life of this church and many others, due to the continued effects of the Covid 19 Pandemic. The church building was closed for a large part of this church year, but the membership has remained well and truly active throughout the year serving our local community.

At the beginning of the year, the Leadership Team, being led by Methodist Church Covid guidelines throughout the pandemic, agreed that there would be no regular acts of worship on Sunday mornings in the church. The facilities of the church remained closed and the regular groups from the church - Family Church, youth group, bible studies and prayer meetings, craft group and Network were unable to meet.

The Leadership Team, very ably led by our new minister the Revd. Karen Hilsden, meets monthly, monitoring and initiating responses to the needs of the Church, congregation and community. The response to which included: -

1. Providing regular acts of online worship using links to the Circuit led weekly services as Bible studies and reflections. These services are prepared on a weekly basis by two members of the fellowship and go live on a Sunday morning. For those without internet access, copies of these services were provided on a DVD and delivered to those unable to get out. Several outdoor Communion services were organised in the carpark.
2. A "Hillside in the Community Group" was set up with members of the congregation meeting online regularly to plan activities for the whole community.
3. A list of vulnerable or isolating people within the community was put together so that we could support and keep in contact with people throughout the pandemic.
4. The Finance Team continues to support the Treasurer looking at how we can continue to raise funds to meet the church's financial commitments.
5. A weekly online Newsletter was introduced which is sent to 120 people sharing news and keeping in contact with the congregation. It contains information and links to local events and to the church's Online Market.
6. An online presence was created with our own Facebook page giving information and live feeds of the church's activities.
7. A weekly online coffee and chat session was set up for people to drop in and have a chat.

All the regular meetings, Leadership Team, Property, Pastoral Visitor, Finance Group, Children's work, Church Council continued to use Zoom technology, to meet as well as the Monday Morning Prayer session and House group bible studies

Recognising the difficulties people were facing in the community, the Hillside in the Community Group started to look at ways we could engage with the community in a more positive way. Over the following months and with the assistance of grants from Chorley Borough Council, Withnell Parish Council, Local Councillors, Arnold Clarke and donations from individuals, we set about creating opportunities to bless the community in a practical way. In the run up to Christmas we knitted and distributed nearly 600 Angels with a Christmas message. A large tractor tyre was decorated as an Advent wreath and placed outside the front of the church with Karen giving an online reflection each week on Facebook as each candle was lit. 50 Christmas bags were put together and distributed to the people on our list of contacts. A window Christmas Carol trail was organised depicting scenes from popular carols so that people could walk round the village to see them and get out into the fresh air. This was advertised

through our Facebook page and Newsletter. On Christmas eve there were four outdoor communion services in the church carpark, attended by over 80 people.

From the beginning of January, we entered another phase of total lockdown, a period that for some can be a dark time even without lockdown. In January, to try and alleviate this, pots of daffodils were bought and delivered and during Valentines we delivered wooden hearts sharing God's LOVE. These hearts were also left on the railings in Brinscall, Withnell and Withnell Fold for the public to collect. In March we distributed cards around the first anniversary of the first lockdown, reminding people they were still cared about. During Lent a cross was erected outside the church and reflections from the book, The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse; by Charlie Mackesy were tied to the railings. Over Easter an Easter trail was organised with clues put out around the local Lodge with knitted Easter Chicks filled with Crème eggs given as prizes and included in the Easter bags distributed.

In May we recommenced services in the church holding three services each Sunday 10.00am., 11.15am and 7.00pm asking people to prebook to attend. These were held within the current Methodist guidelines for churches during the pandemic. As Covid restrictions have eased so have our arrangements for services, with a 10.00am and a 7.00pm service and no need to book to attend. We have recommenced congregational singing much to the delight of the congregation.

Throughout the year we had a number of fundraising activities to raise much needed funds. These included a hymnathon, sales of cakes, plants, preserves, wreathes, cards, books, an afternoon tea delivery, collection of jewellery and donations for walks. A big thank you to everyone who participated and supported.

As lockdown restrictions eased, we planned an event called "A Hive of Activity at Hillside". Our knitters knitted over 300 bees for the event. Initially planned for August, the event went ahead in September 2021.

As Covid restrictions have eased even more, we are looking to continue with the positives that came out of this difficult time for the Church and community. We want to be truly to be seen as Hillside Methodist Church "Church at the heart of Community".

Financial Review

General Fund (Unrestricted)

At 31st August 2021, the General Fund shows a surplus and net positive movement in funds for the year of £10,115. Income in the year is £79,036 which is £14,010 (21.54%) above previous year. Fundraising income of £5,578 is included in "Other Income". In previous years this has been included in the building fund figures, which is a restricted fund.

Income Stream	2020-21	2019-20	Variance
Offerings	52,491	45,649	6,842
Donations	1,129	2,371	(1,242)
Gift Aid	12,957	10,545	2,412
Interest	79	316	(237)
Other Income	5,578	251	5,327
Lettings	6,802	5,894	908
Total	**79,036**	**65,026**	**14,010**

Expenditure was £68,921 which is £3,742 (5.1%) below previous years as detailed below.

Expenditure	2020-21	2019-20	Variance
Circuit Assessment	55,680	55,680	0
Grants & donations	110	4	(106)
Property Maintenance	3,545	4,259	714
Insurance & utilities	7,252	8,222	970
Other Expenditure	2,334	4,498	2,164
Total	**68,921**	**72,663**	**3,742**

Designated Funds (Unrestricted)

These funds increased by £5,991, primarily because of a £3,394 transfer from Bequests drawn down from TMCP (Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes), designated for use in the both the Church and local community. The balance relates to donations to the Community Fund which was established in 2020 to provide funding for work in the Community.

Restricted and Endowment Funds

These funds increased by £3,616, primarily related to the donations and associated gift aid made to the building fund during the year.

Reserves

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to six months' average operating expenditure, in addition to specific amounts designated for major repairs. As at 31 August 2021 the General Fund after deducting the value of the Church Property stood at £58,205. The annual operating expense forecast for 2021-22 is £63,483, therefore we currently hold 11 months cover for these costs.

For full details of funds held and the movement of these in the year please see Note 8 in the Financial Statements section of this report.

Plans for 2021/22

The Church year started during the easing of Covid-19 restrictions; however we are still in a period of great uncertainty with many people not yet returning to Church services.

Forecast deficit of £14,435. The finance group have met regularly to consider the financial position and the congregation are kept informed by regular finance updates. We have had several fundraising activities which will continue throughout the coming year to help to meet the shortfall.

We continue to ask the members and the congregation to prayerfully consider their giving and, wherever possible, to increase it or to make one off donations. We use the "Give a Little" platform for various appeals and fundraising and this also captures details for gift aid. We also use the "DONA" platform for general Church giving, encouraging people to "Give What you Can, When You Can", this also captures details for gift aid claims.

We now have contactless giving available in the Church building and we encourage the congregation to use this as an alternative to cash.

Throughout we pray for the future of Hillside, and we praise God for all that we have and for our loyal and faithful Church family.

Public Benefit

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

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Church Council members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Church is part of the Chorley & Leyland Circuit, which is part of the Lancashire District, and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Risk Management

The major risks are identified and monitored by the Church Council via the relevant committee or responsible person within the church. Professional advice from either within the Connexion or if necessary, from external advisors is taken as required. There is a regular review process undertaken.

The Trustees have identified the major risks to the Charity as being Safeguarding and Financial.

Two Safeguarding Officers ("SO") are in place (one for Children/Young People and one for Vulnerable Adults) who are responsible, along with the Trustees, for ensuring that the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy is implemented. Regular reports and updates are provided to both Church Council and the Stewards.

Income and Expenditure is monitored monthly by the Treasurer and is compared with the approved annual budget to produce an annual forecast. This information is discussed by the Finance Team prior to a Finance Report being produced. The purpose is to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves. Updates are provided to the Leadership Team at monthly meetings and to the Trustees at each Church Council meeting.

A formalised Risk Management Policy was adopted by the Trustees in February 2019

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of humans in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Approved by the Trustees on 2nd February 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev K Hilsden (Chair of Trustees)

Financial Statements

For the Year Ending 31 August 2021

Hillside Methodist Church

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2021 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
Income and Endowments						
Offerings		52,491	0	80	52,571	45,649
Donations		1,129	1,024	7,119	9,272	13,585
Gift Aid		12,957	76	391	13,424	13,376
Interest and investment income		79	0	62	141	553
Income from Investment Properties		0	0	0	0	0
Internal organisations		0	0	0	0	3,587
Other charitable income	3a	5,578	3,062	66	8,706	3,410
Total from Charitable Activities		**72,234**	**4,162**	**7,718**	**84,114**	**80,160**
Income from Lettings		6,802	0	0	6,802	5,894
Total Income and Endowments		**79,036**	**4,162**	**7,718**	**90,916**	**86,054**
Expenditure						
Circuit assessment or share		55,680	0	0	55,680	55,680
Grants and donations	3b	110	180	354	644	184
Property maintenance		3,545	0	0	3,545	4,473
Insurance, utilities etc		7,252	0	0	7,252	8,222
Provisions		0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation		75	0	0	75	75
Office expenses		345	0	0	345	521
Other expenditure	3d	1,915	1,385	354	3,654	5,107
Internal organisations		0	0	0	0	6,296
Total Charitable Expenditure		**68,921**	**1,565**	**708**	**71,195**	**80,558**
Gain/(loss) on monetary investments		0	0	0	0	0
Gain/(loss) on investment properties		0	0	0	0	0
Net Income/(Expenditure)		**10,115**	**2,597**	**7,010**	**19,722**	**5,496**
Transfers between funds		0	3,394	(3,394)	0	0
Other gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		**10,115**	**5,991**	**3,616**	**19,722**	**5,496**
Total funds brought forward		1,812,183	45,995	69,279	1,927,457	1,921,961
Total Funds Carried Forward		**1,822,298**	**51,986**	**72,895**	**1,947,179**	**1,927,457**

Hillside Methodist Church

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Totals 2021	Totals 2020
Fixed Assets						
Church building & other property	4	1,763,868	0	0	1,763,868	1,763,943
Investments		0	0	608	608	4,006
Total Fixed Assets		**1,763,868**	**0**	**608**	**1,764,476**	**1,767,949**
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments	5	19,361	7	528	19,896	19,976
Loans by the Churches		0	0	0	0	0
Investments with TMCP		0	0	0	0	0
Central Finance Board Deposits	6	18,362	18,289	48,866	85,517	69,310
Cash at Bank and in hand	6	22,506	33,689	23,069	79,265	72,358
Total Current Assets		**60,229**	**51,986**	**72,464**	**184,679**	**161,644**
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	7	1,799	0	177	1,976	2,136
Grants Payable within 2021-22		0	0	0	0	0
Total Current Liabilities		**1,799**	**0**	**177**	**1,976**	**2,136**
Net Current Assets/Liabilities		**58,430**	**51,986**	**72,287**	**182,703**	**159,508**
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		**1,822,298**	**51,986**	**72,895**	**1,947,179**	**1,927,457**
Long term liabilities (> 1 year)						
Grants Payable after 2021-22		0	0	0	0	0
Loans to the Church		0	0	0	0	0
Net Assets		**1,822,298**	**51,986**	**72,895**	**1,947,179**	**1,927,457**
Funds of the Church						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		**1,822,298**			1,822,298	1,812,183
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			**51,986**		51,986	45,995
Total Unrestricted Funds		**1,822,298**	**51,986**	**0**	**1,874,284**	**1,858,178**
Restricted & Endowment Funds				**72,895**	72,895	69,279
Total Funds	8	**1,822,298**	**51,986**	**72,895**	**1,947,179**	**1,927,457**

1) Basis of Accounting and Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Framework

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 (FRS102), effective from 1 January 2015. (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

b) Public Benefit Entity

Hillside 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(s) below.

c) Basis

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

d) 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, rounded to the nearest pound.

e) Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2021, the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

f) Consolidation

The income and expenditure relating to Hillside Youth Club, Hillside Fellowship, Hillside Craft Group and the Hillside Flower Fund are consolidated into these financial statements as these groups fall within the overall governance of the Trustees.

g) Income Recognition

Income is brought into account 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.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other Income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Church acts as agent when collections/appeals are held for other charities. In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are not the income of the Church. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102), module 19.12.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees Annual Report. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

h) Expenditure

Expenditure 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.

i) VAT

As the Church is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

j) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The Church land & buildings is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing gross carrying value as at 1 September 2015, being the property's insurance reinstatement value at that time. No depreciation is provided because the Trustees consider the current residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its historical cost and, in the absence of any material impairment, any deprecation provision for the building component of the property would be immaterial.

k) Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash (Basic Financial Instruments)

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Church or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

l) Funds

The trustees have adopted a policy for all unrestricted reserves which is to maintain a minimum of six months cover for Operating Expenses together with specific designated funds for Long Term Property Reserves. Further details can be found in Note 8.

2) Glossary of Terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church – manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain, and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 300.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30.

Church Council: The Trustees of the Church.

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches.

Connexional Funds: The Designated and/or Restricted Funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of it charitable and mission objectives.

District: a group of contiguous circuits usually between 15 and 30.

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard.

Lay Employees: Personnel employed by the Church on generally accepted commercial employment terms.

Leadership Team: Provide leadership and support to the church members, and is responsible to Church Council for the furtherance of the Charities aims and objectives.

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities.

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice.

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 21 (cont.)

3) Income & Expenditure Analysis

a) Other Charitable Income

In spite of lockdown, the fundraising team worked hard with various fundraising initiatives throughout the year. In 2020/21, the money raised was credited to the general church fund, rather than the building. Fundraising activities included hymnathon, sales of cakes, cards, plants, preserves, jewellery, Christmas wreaths, books, collection of loose change and sponsored walks.

Contributions towards bible study resources - Bible study groups meet both within members' homes and also at Hillside. Study resources are funded from a specific donation, but participants do contribute to the cost of these resources on a voluntary basis.

Other relates to various grants received for the Community fund from Withnell Parish Council, Chorley Council, Local Councillor grants and Arnold Clarke Motors. The Community Fund is a designated fund.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
Fundraising	5,578			2,256
Contributions towards cost of food & drinks	0	0	0	255
Contributions towards bible study resources	0	66		215
Fundraising for Sponsored Child	0	0	0	275
Other	3,062	0	0	409
Total Other Charitable Income	**8,640**	**66**	**8,706**	**3,410**

b) Grants and Donations Made

Annual contributions are usually made to Connexional Funds held by the Methodist Church for mission in the UK and overseas, property and for the support of Presbyters and Deacons. In 2020-21 this donation was not made due to the Church financial situation.

	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
Methodist Connexional Funds	0	00
Sponsored Child (Action Aid)	180	180
Other	110	0
Total Grants & Donations	**290**	**180**

c) Insurance and Utilities

2020-21 utility costs, (except for insurance), were slightly lower than last year. Although the Church was closed for most of the year, Playgroup and Karate continued to use the hall.

	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
Insurance	2,651	2,633
Electricity	1,712	2,157
Gas	2,681	3,105
Water	208	326
Total Insurance & Utilities	**7,252**	**8,222**

d) Other Expenditure

Resources to support worship, study & teaching includes to the cost of providing the bible study resources, referred to in Note 3a above. Other expenditure in general funds include cleaning items & PPE, subscriptions, bank charges and benevolence fund costs.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2020-21	Total 2019-20
Resources to support Worship, Study & Teaching	706		706	1,975
Fundraising Expenditure	22		22	522
Cost of Food & Drinks				260
Publicity & Advertising	188		188	240
Organ & Piano Repairs & Maintenance	377		377	377
Community Fund Expenditure	1,166		1,166	0
First Aid Course & Defib costs				626
Other	841	354	1,195	1,107
Total Other Expenditure	**3,300**	**354**	**3,654**	**5,107**

4) Property

The Church Land & Buildings relate to our Hillside Methodist Church, Hall and Link Building located in Brinscall.

	Church (non - investment) land and buildings	Other fixed assets including motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total 31 Aug 21
Cost/Valuation - balance b/f	1,762,158	0	2,010	0	1,764,168
Additions			0		0
Revaluations (+/-)					0
Disposals (-)					0
Cost/Valuation - Balance c/f	**1,762,158**	**0**	**2,010**	**0**	**1,764,168**
Depreciation - balance b/f	0	0	225	0	225
Depreciation - charge for year (-)			75		75
Deprecation - Revaluations (+/-)					0
Depreciation - Disposals (-)					0
Depreciation - balance c/f	0	0	300	0	300
Net Book Value - Brought forward	**1,762,158**	**-**	**1,785**	**-**	**1,763,943**
Net Book Value - Carried forward	**1,762,158**	**-**	**1,710**	**-**	**1,763,868**

5) Debtors and Prepayments

All items shown as Debtors as at 31 August 2020 were received during the following year. All items paid in advance as at 31 August 2020 have been expensed in 2020-21 and it is expected that payments in advance as at 31 August 2021 will be expensed in 2021-22.

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 21	Total at 31 Aug 20
Debtors					
Gift Aid	4,634	7	528	5,169	4,560
Rental Income	90			90	0
Other Debtors	790			790	0
Prepayments					
Circuit Assessment	12,306			12,306	13,923
Insurance	1,513			1,513	1,496
Other Prepayments	28		0	28	0
Total Debtors & Prepayments	**19,369**		**607**	**19,896**	**19,976**

6) Central Finance Board and Bank Balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board, Methodist Chapel Aid, the Royal Bank of Scotland and CAF bank are all available on demand without loss of interest. Separate bank accounts are held for some but not all of the Restricted Funds, therefore the split of the remaining balances is arbitrary, but wherever possible negative balances are not maintained.

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 21	Total at 31 Aug 20
Central Finance Board	**18,362**	**18,289**	**48,866**	**85,517**	**69,310**
Methodist Chapel Aid	1,763			1,763	1,754
Royal Bank of Scotland	10,033	28,470	21,591	60,094	55,117
CAF Bank	10,711	5,219	1,263	17,193	14,935
Santander					354
Cash in Hand			215	215	199
Other Banks	**22,507**	**33,689**	**23,069**	**79,265**	**72,358**
Total CFB & Bank Balances	**40,869**	**51,978**	**71,935**	**164,782**	**141,668**

7) Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

During 2017-18 our insurers paid out for a water damage claim, but the work to rectify this has not yet been done. With agreement from our insurers this income continues to be deferred. All other balances as at 31st August 2020 were paid or released in the following year. It is expected that all other sums accrued or deferred as at 31st August 2021 will be paid during the year to 31 August 2022.

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 21	Total at 31 Aug 20
Deferred Income					
Insurance Claim Proceeds	1,610			1,610	1,610
Other	61		177	177	
Creditors & Accruals					
Property Repairs & Improvements					310
Utilities	59				172
Others	69	0	0	0	0
Total Creditors, Accruals & Income in Advance	**1,799**	**0**	**177**	**1,976**	**2,092**

8) Funds

Unrestricted – General

	31-Aug-21	31-Aug-20
Balance	1,822,298	1,812,183

The purpose of the fund is for the use at the discretion of the Trustees in the furtherance of the general charitable objectives of the church. Approximately 97% (£1,764,093) of the fund is held as freehold property, namely the church and church hall land and building, leaving £51,986 available for current charitable purposes.

Unrestricted – Designated

	31-Aug-21	31-Aug-20
Balance	51,986	45,995

These funds are to service specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. Movements in these funds are set out in Note 8 below, and details of the specific funds are as follows:

Long Term Property Repairs – this contains provision for large/one off property repairs and maintenance costs including painting, re-wiring, new windows, boiler replacement and organ repairs. Relevant items of expenditure when incurred are charged to this fund, and an equivalent transfer from the general fund (if sufficient funds are available) is made.

Children & Young Peoples Ministries – these funds are used to support the resourcing of several children's and young people's groups within the church. Donations for tea and coffee after worship, together with other fundraising events are used to maintain the fund. If necessary, transfers from the General Fund are made to ensure that sufficient funds are available to support this work.

Other – this includes a donation received in memory of a loved one, where the donor specified that the money should not be used for general church purposes, together with historical fund balances which are now being utilised to support relevant projects.

Restricted and Endowment

	31-Aug-21	31-Aug-20
Restricted Funds	72,287	68,669
Endowment Funds	608	609
Total	**72,895**	**69,278**

These funds exist to support the causes and organisations listed below.

Building Project – this fund is to support the development of new facilities on the church site in Brinscall and receives both regular and one-off donations.

Other Church Organisations and Groups – the following organisations/funds are governed by the Church Council: - Hillside Youth Club, Hillside Craft Group and the Hillside Flower Fund. Hillside Fellowship closed in 2020 and the balance of £354.43 was donated to Hillside.

Bequests – these were redeemed in October 2020 for use in the Chuch and local community.

Adult Education – this is a donation given to the church specifically to support Adult Education. Relevant expenditure (largely Bible Study resources) is charged to this fund as and when it is incurred, net of any contributions received.

Anonymous Gift – the terms of this gift provide for the interest to be used for general church purposes. The capital is unavailable for use.

Summary of Fund Movements

Fund	Balance at 1 Sep 20	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains / Losses	Balance at 31 Aug 21
General	**1,812,183**	**79,036**	**(68,921)**	**0**	**0**	**1,822,298**
Property Reserves	37,984	0	0	0	0	37,984
Children & Young Peoples Ministries	2,731	180	(180)	0	0	2,731
Other	5,280	3,982	(1,385)	3,394	0	11,271
Total Designated Funds	**45,995**	**4,162**	**(1,565)**	**3,394**	**0**	**51,986**
Total Unrestricted	**1,858,178**	**83,198**	**(70,486)**	**3,394**	**0**	**1,874,284**
Building Project	48,882	7,272		0	0	56,154
Other Church Organisations & Groups	15,262	380	(705)	0	0	14,939
Bequests	3,396		(2)	3,394	0	0
Adult Education	1,128	66		0	0	1,194
Endowment - Anonymous Gift	609		(1)	0	0	608
Total Restricted & Endowment	**69,279**	**7,718**	**(708)**	**0**	**0**	**72,895**
Total of all Funds	**1,927,457**	**90,916**	**(71,194)**	**0**	**0**	**1,947,179**

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2021 (cont.).

Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	General	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Balance at 31 Aug 21	Balance at 31 Aug 20
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,763,868	0	0	1,763,868	1,763,943
Investments	0	0	608	608	4,006
Current Assets	60,229	51,986	72,464	184,679	161,644
Current Liabilities	(1,799)	0	(177)	(1,976)	(2,136)
Total	**1,822,298**	**51,986**	**72,895**	**1,947,179**	**1,927,457**

9) Related Parties

No donations were made by the Trustees during the year that had conditions attached. Related parties include the Methodist Connexion, CFB, TMCP and the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit. The table below shows details of related party transactions during the year

Name		Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 21
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Assessment		(55,680)	**0**
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Connexional Funds		0	**0**
Total		**0**	**(55,680)**	**0**

10) Agency Collections and Payments

During the year the Church organised several collections and appeals for other charitable organisations. These are tabulated below, and do not appear anywhere else within these accounts. Those appeals/collections that were in respect of related parties are marked *

Name	Details	Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 21
All We Can*	General Donation	15	(15)	0
Chorley Help the Homeless	Christmas Appeal	385	(385)	0
Night Safe	Christmas Appeal	385	(385)	0
Total		**784**	**(784)**	**0**

11) Trustee Payments

There were no payments to Trustees in the year in relation to their role as Trustee.

12) Volunteer Contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Church this is done across a whole range of areas, and we are grateful to everyone who does volunteer their time, help and commitment. No attempt has been made to value the non-monetary contributions in monetary terms.

13) Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

None

14) Lease Commitments

The Church has contracts or obligations for the following

Telephone and Broadband
Photocopier

The annual cost of these is not considered material

15) Independent Examiner

The Independent Examiner does not charge a fee for his services and provided no additional services during the year.

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-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 Council.

Signature of treasurer A.E.Melling Date 2 Feb 2022

Name and address of treasurer Mrs A.E. Melling, ACMA, 16 Millwood Close, Withnell Fold, Chorley, PR6 8AR

Presentation to the Church Council

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were presented to the Church Council at its meeting on 2nd February 2022

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Karen. A. Hilsden

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev K Hilsden..... Date 2 Feb 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Church, named above

The Church' trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the trustees concerning 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. My 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 (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) 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 2011
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011

have not been met, or

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

(3) 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.....J Fishwick.....

Name of independent examiner: Jim Fishwick

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: ACMA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address: 8 COUNTESS WAY, EUXTON, CHORLEY LANCASHIRE PR7 6AT

Date: 15/03/2022

HILLSIDE METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1175950

Accounts

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Trustees Annual Report & Accounts 2019-20

Registered Charity No. 1175950

Introduction	Page 3
Basis of Preparation & Legal Framework	Page 3
Structure, Governance and Management	Page 4
Purpose	Page 4
Review of 2019-20	Page 5 to Page 6
Financial Review etc.	Page 7 to Page 8
Risk Management & Safeguarding	Page 9
Financial Statements	Page 10 to Page 22
Declarations & Scrutiny	Page 23 to Page 24

Introduction

Hillside is a Church at the Heart of Community, both geographically, socially and spiritually. We have been based for over 100 years in the village of Brinscall, near Chorley.

In normal time, worship on a Sunday is enjoyed by a vibrant congregation, with a variety of music and worship styles and the warmest of welcomes. A contemporary people in a traditional setting with the mission "To Know Christ and Make Him Known".

During the week there are a variety of groups and regularly held events for all ages, offering a variety of different opportunities for faith development, outreach and fellowship.

The year ended 2019-20 has for everyone, been a challenging year and Hillside has risen to that challenge to provide new ways to worship and "be Church" within the Community.

Basis of Preparation and Legal Framework

The Charity's annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard(FRS) 102

Charity Name: Hillside Methodist Church.

Charity Registration: 1175950

Principle Address: Parke Road, Brinscall, Chorley, Lancs. PR6 8PU.

Structure: Hillside is a member of the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit, which is a member of the Lancashire Methodist District.

Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, Royal Bank of Scotland, Santander, Chapel Aid

Independent Examiner: Mr D Hollinghurst. FCMA

Trustees: The following members of the Church Council served as Trustees during the period of this report:

Name	Office/Elected By		Name	Office/Elected By
Rev Graham Cutler (to 31 Aug 20)	Chair		Dave Wallis	Annual Church Meeting
Rev Karen Hilsden (from 1 Sept 2020)	Chair		Geoff Horton	
Jacquie Hartley	Church Council Secretary		Linda Yates	
Angela Melling	Church Treasurer		Steven Amos	
Anne Waring	Pastoral Committee Secretary		Ken Guy	
Annette Cupit	Circuit Steward			
Tim Melling	Head Steward		Duncan Frost	Church Council
Michael Brennan (to Nov 19)	Steward		Janet Horton	
Beryl Frankish	Steward		Chris Howard	
Joyce Nicolson	Steward		Mark Mackley	
Katharine Klunder (from Oct 19)	Steward		Norma Klunder	
			Maureen Amos	
			Vicki Gow	
			Paul Barron (from Oct 20)	

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Documents: Our governing documents are the Deed of Union 1932 and the Methodist Church Act 1976

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees: The Charity Trustees are the members of the Church Council, appointed in line with Section 61 of The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church ("CPD").

Church Council: Section 60 of CPD outlines the role of the Church Council as follows. "The Church Council has authority and oversight over the whole area of the ministry of the church, including the management of its property. Aims and methods, the determination and pursuit of policy and the deployment of available resources are its proper responsibility."

Church Stewards: Section 63 of CPD outlines the role of the church stewards as follows. "The church stewards are corporately responsible with the presbyter ..... for exercising pastoral responsibility in relation to the Local Church for giving leadership and help over the whole range of the church's life and activity. They are particularly charged to hold together in unity the variety of concerns that are contained within the one ministry of the Church. To this end it is their responsibility to uphold and act upon the decisions and policies of the Church Council." In 2018-19 the Church Council approved the creation of a Leadership Team to work with and support the Stewards in carrying out these responsibilities. This team meets on a regular basis and reports to Church Council.

Safeguarding: Hillside Methodist Church commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches. In addition, it commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Purpose

Section 4 of the Methodist Church Act 1976 defines the purpose as follows:

"The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be Purposes 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;
(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 being a 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."

The following are the main activities undertaken in relation to the Purposes outlined above:

- Organise and hold regular public acts of worship
- Provide teaching through sermons, courses and small groups
- Offer pastoral support to the sick and bereaved
- Pursue children's/youth education in the context of the Christian faith
- Engage with associated local Church Schools
- Raise awareness through the arranging/staging of local events
- Promote fellowship/friendship by facilitating shared-interest groups
- Provide facilities for local community use/activity

Review of the Year

This year has been a most unusual year in the life of this church and many others due to the Covid 19 Pandemic. Although the church building has been closed for a large part of this church year the "Church" has remained well and truly active, finding ways to serve our local community as well as continuing to meet for worship and other church activities with meetings all on-line.

The year started in September as 'normal' with regular acts of worship on Sunday mornings and the occasional Café Church in the evenings. The facilities of the church were used on a weekly basis by groups from the church including GTFG, Creche, youth group, bible studies and prayer meetings, craft group, Network and Youth Club. Our Youth Group met monthly on Friday evenings for "fun, food and fellowship" exploring themes such as "what it is like being a young Christian at high School?" We held monthly coffee mornings and in September we were pleased to host one of the circuit wide 'Empowering All' events. There was also regular use by community groups including Brinscall Playgroup, Slimming World, Karate, Pilates and 3 Trees Craft group. These all contributed to the busy and active life of the church.

Late in 2018-19 Church Council approved the creation of a Leadership Team, bringing together representatives from all areas of church life, to better organise and monitor the ongoing work and life of the church, as well as providing support to our minister. In September, the members of the team went on an away day to Shekinah Christian Centre near Pendle, to discuss and plan how best this team could work together. This was very successful and has proven to be extremely helpful, providing the foundation for the work of the team in the following months. The team continues to meet on a regular basis, as well as informally, as and when required.

At the end of November, rather than organising our usual Christmas Market, we tried a new idea and ran a Christmas Coffee Morning which was an extended version of the normal monthly Coffee Morning. This was extremely successful, attended by members of the church and the local community and raised a significant amount for our building project fund.

As part of the Advent season Brinscall to Bethlehem took place involving pupils from St John Primary school in Brinscall with people from the church acting out the Christmas story in the grounds of the school and the church. This was followed by our usual Christingle, Christmas Eve Communion and Christmas Day services, ending the calendar year with God's blessing on the Church and local community.

In the New Year, rehearsals for the musical "Greater Than Gold" started in earnest with weekly practices, props being made, costumes organised, and publicity being prepared, there was a lot of excitement and anticipation ahead of the proposed opening in mid-March. Through the month of February and into early March, we started to hear of a new very virulent virus called Covid 19. By March 23rd, the country was in a total lockdown, and all services and activities at the church ceased.

Very quickly our circuit, Chorley & Leyland Methodists, organised on-line worship, with the support and help from two of the members at Hillside. These were, and continue to be, streamed through Facebook and YouTube as well as being copied to DVD for those who do not have the technology or equipment to go online.

As the implications behind lockdown became apparent, it was realised by the Leadership Team that the ongoing work of the church needed to continue so it was agreed to invest in a licence for some software to be able to run online meetings. Subsequently all the regular meetings, Leadership Team, Property, Pastoral Visitors, Finance Group, Children's work, Church Council all moved to using Zoom technology to be able to continue to meet.

The weekly Monday Morning Prayer session was also moved online along with House group bible studies, Circuit bible studies and the Men's Group bible studies.

During lockdown pastoral support continued through doorstep visits and telephone calls, everyone adapting to the "new way" of providing support. Efforts were made to keep in contact with regular church attendees, who were not members and therefore did not have a named pastoral visitor, to ensure they were not forgotten.

The Ministry to the children and young people was challenged during lockdown and a small team of volunteers continued to keep regular contact with our families through socially distanced doorstep visits alongside the provision of resources, crafts and sweets.

In April, as a response to the lockdown and the impact that this was seen to be having on people in our community, the Hillside Helpline was set up. Approximately 2,500 postcards were delivered to local houses and a group of volunteers, all DBS checked, were recruited to help those who were isolating with shopping and other support as needed.

From the first day of the lockdown one light in church has remained on. *'The light shined in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it'*. Prayers were also placed on the railings at the front of church, many written by the children at St Johns school. In May, the 'UK Blessing' was prayed out over the local community whilst at the same time being streamed live on Facebook.

As the lockdown progressed in its various stages, it was recognised that it was going to impact on the Church finances quite severely. Therefore, the Finance Group have assisted the Treasurer to monitor the finances and have kept the members and congregation informed of this via video's, letters, financial updates and appeals. Due to the situation with Covid 19 all Church lettings were paused in March 2020, with Playgroup returning on shorter hours for four weeks in June and July.
Some of the community group lettings are no longer using the premises, such as Slimming World and Pilates all of which has affected our income. Please see the financial report for more details.

In July after 12 years' service at Hillside and within the Chorley & Leyland Circuit we said farewell to Rev'd Graham Cutler, Judith, Naomi and Nathanael as Graham moved on to his new post, in the now very infamous Barnard Castle. We were able to send them off with our thanks, love and prayers for their ministry at Hillside, but of course this had to be online.

The Circuit had just 4 days to prepare the Manse for its new minster. With the help of a team of volunteers from Hillside and the Circuit this was largely completed on time to enable Rev'd Karen Hilsden to move into the Manse in August. On the 30th of August Karen was received officially into the Circuit via an online service, and we are looking forward to a long and fruitful time with Karen over the coming years.

Financial Review

General Fund (Unrestricted)

At the end of August 2020, the General Fund shows a deficit and net negative movement in funds for the year of £7,636 – there were no transfers between funds. Income in the year is £65,026 which is £2,893 (4.25%) below previous year. The closure of the Church and premises from March onwards due to COVID-19 had a significant impact on the finances of Hillside. However as a result of the generosity of many people and a last-minute plea, income, excluding lettings, is almost on a par with 2018-19. The lettings income is over £3,000 lower than last year due to lock down restrictions.

Income Stream	2019-20	2018-19	Variance
Offerings	45,649	46,570	(921)
Donations	2,371	445	1,926
Gift Aid	10,545	11,324	(779)
Interest	316	402	(86)
Other Income	251	167	84
Lettings	5,894	9,011	(3,117)
Total	**65,026**	**67,919**	**(2,893)**

Expenditure is £72,663 which is £1,290 (1.8%) above previous years as detailed below.
The grants figure is lower than last year as we did not make a donation to Connexional Funds.
Other expenditure includes a first aid course, defibrillator battery and Leadership team awayday.

Expenditure	2019-20	2018-19	Variance
Circuit Assessment	55,680	54,508	(1,172)
Grants & donations	4	2,260	2,256
Property Maintenance	4,259	3,936	(323)
Insurance & utilities	8,222	7,532	(690)
Depreciation	75	75	0
Office Expenses	521	444	(77)
Other Expenditure	3,901	2,618	(1,283)
Total	**72,663**	**71,373**	**(1,290)**

Designated Funds (Unrestricted)

These funds increased by £2,920, primarily as a result of a £3,000 legacy received, which has been in a designated fund to be used for mission and outreach.

Restricted and Endowment Funds

These funds increased by £10,212, this primarily related to the donations and associated gift aid made to the building fund during the year.

Reserves

The Reserves Policy for the Church is to hold a minimum sum equivalent to six months' average operating expenditure, in addition to specific amounts designated for major repairs. As at 31 August 2020 the General Fund after deducting the value of the Church Property stood at £48,240. The annual operating expense forecast (prepared based upon COVID and restrictions) for 2020-21 is £70,652, therefore we currently hold 8.2 months cover for these costs.

For full details of funds held and the movement of these in the year please see Note 8 in the Financial Statements section of this report.

Plans for 2020/21

The Church year started during the Covid-19 pandemic, causing challenging economic circumstance which meant we started the year with a forecast deficit of £14,435. The finance group have met regularly to consider the financial position and the congregation are kept informed by regular finance updates. We have had several fundraising activities which will continue throughout the coming year to help to plug the gap.

We continue to ask the members and the congregation to prayerfully consider their giving and, wherever possible, to increase it or to make one off donations. We use the "Give a Little" platform for various appeals and fundraising and this also captures details for gift aid. We also use the "DONA" platform for general Church giving, encouraging people to "Give What you Can, When You Can", this also captures details for gift aid claims.

When we are allowed back into the Church building for worship, we will have contactless giving which we will encourage the congregation to use as an alternative to cash.

Throughout we pray for the future of Hillside and we praise God for all that we have and for our loyal and faithful Church family.

Public Benefit

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

Trustee Training

A range of guidance produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is given to all new Church Council members as induction to their role as trustees.

Related Parties

The Church is part of the Chorley & Leyland Circuit, which is part of the Lancashire District, and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Risk Management

The major risks are identified and monitored by the Church Council via the relevant committee or responsible person within the church. Professional advice from either within the Connexion or if necessary from external advisors is taken as required. There is a regular review process undertaken.

The Trustees have identified the major risks to the Charity as being Safeguarding and Financial.

Two Safeguarding Officers ("SO") are in place (one for Children/Young People and one for Vulnerable Adults) who are responsible, along with the Trustees, for ensuring that the Methodist Church Safeguarding Policy is implemented. Regular reports and updates are provided to both Church Council and the Stewards.

Income and Expenditure is monitored monthly by the Treasurer and is compared with the approved annual budget to produce an annual forecast. This information is discussed by the Finance Team prior to a Finance Report being produced. The purpose is to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves. Updates are provided to the Leadership Team at monthly meetings and to the Trustees at each Church Council meeting.

A formalised Risk Management Policy was adopted by the Trustees in February 2019

Safeguarding

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of humans in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to ensuring the implementation of Connexional Safeguarding Policy; government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in the churches.

The Hillside Methodist Church Council commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults who may be vulnerable.

Approved by the Trustees on 17th February 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Rev K Hilsden (Chair of Trustees)

Karen. A. Hilsden

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Financial Statements

For the Year Ending 31 August 2020

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2020 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2019-20	Total 2018-19
Income and Endowments						
Offerings		45,649	0	0	45,649	46,570
Donations		2,371	3,000	8,214	13,585	36,121
Gift Aid		10,545	0	2,830	13,376	13,285
Interest and investment income		316	0	237	553	554
Income from Investment Properties		0	0	0	0	0
Internal organisations		0	0	3,587	3,587	5,495
Other charitable income	6a	251	530	2,629	3,410	3,963
Total from Charitable Activities		**59,133**	**3,530**	**17,497**	**80,160**	**105,988**
Income from Lettings		5,894	0	0	5,894	9,011
Total Income and Endowments		**65,027**	**3,530**	**17,497**	**86,054**	**114,999**
Expenditure						
Circuit assessment or share		55,680	0	0	55,680	54,508
Grants and donations	6b	4	180	0	184	2,440
Property maintenance		4,259	0	213	4,473	109,910
Insurance, utilities etc		8,222	0	0	8,222	7,532
Provisions		0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation		75	0	0	75	75
Office expenses		521	0	0	521	444
Other expenditure	6d	3,901	430	776	5,107	6,949
Internal organisations		0	0	6,296	6,296	5,148
Total Charitable Expenditure		**72,663**	**610**	**7,285**	**80,558**	**187,006**
Gain/(loss) on monetary investments		0	0	0	0	0
Gain/(loss) on investment properties		0	0	0	0	0
Net Income/(Expenditure)		**(7,636)**	**2,920**	**10,212**	**5,496**	**(72,007)**
Transfers between funds		0	0	0	0	0
Other gains/(losses)		0	0	0	0	0
Net Movement in Funds		**(7,636)**	**2,920**	**10,212**	**5,496**	**(72,007)**
Total funds brought forward		1,819,819	43,075	59,067	1,921,961	1,993,968
Total Funds Carried Forward		**1,812,183**	**45,995**	**69,279**	**1,927,457**	**1,921,961**

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted General Fund	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Totals 2020	Totals 2019
Fixed Assets						
Church building & other property	7	1,763,943	0	0	1,763,943	1,764,018
Investments		0	0	4,006	4,006	3,983
Total Fixed Assets		**1,763,943**	**0**	**4,006**	**1,767,949**	**1,768,001**
Current Assets						
Debtors and prepayments	8	19,369	0	607	19,976	22,350
Loans by the Churches		0	0	0	0	0
Investments with TMCP		0	0	0	0	0
Central Finance Board Deposits	9	2,172	18,289	48,849	69,310	65,203
Cash at Bank and in hand	9	28,792	27,706	15,861	72,358	73,722
Total Current Assets		**50,332**	**45,995**	**65,317**	**161,644**	**161,276**
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	10	2,092	0	44	2,136	7,316
Grants Payable within 2019-20		0	0	0	0	0
Total Current Liabilities		**2,092**	**0**	**44**	**2,136**	**7,316**
Net Current Assets/Liabilities		**48,240**	**45,995**	**65,273**	**159,508**	**153,960**
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		**1,812,183**	**45,995**	**69,279**	**1,927,457**	**1,921,961**
Long term liabilities (> 1 year)						
Grants Payable after 2019-20		0	0	0	0	0
Loans to the Church		0	0	0	0	0
Net Assets		**1,812,183**	**45,995**	**69,279**	**1,927,457**	**1,921,961**
Funds of the Church						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		**1,812,183**			1,812,183	1,819,819
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)			**45,995**		45,995	43,075
Total Unrestricted Funds		**1,812,183**	**45,995**	**0**	**1,858,178**	**1,862,894**
Restricted & Endowment Funds				**69,279**	69,279	59,067
Total Funds	11	**1,812,183**	**45,995**	**69,279**	**1,927,457**	**1,921,961**

Signed

Church Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2020

1) Basis of Accounting and Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Framework

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 (FRS102), effective from 1 January 2015. (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

b) Public Benefit Entity

Hillside 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(s) below.

c) Basis

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

d) 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, rounded to the nearest pound.

e) Going Concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2020, the trustees believe that the Church is a going concern.

f) Consolidation

The income and expenditure relating to Hillside Youth Club, Hillside Fellowship, Hillside Craft Group and the Hillside Flower Fund are consolidated into these financial statements as these groups fall within the overall governance of the Trustees.

g) Income Recognition

Income is brought into account 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.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other Income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Church acts as agent when collections/appeals are held for other charities. In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are not the income of the Church. Instead the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP(FRS102), module 19.12.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the time of volunteers is not recognised. Further information on this matter is provided in the Trustees Annual Report. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

h) Expenditure

Expenditure 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.

i) VAT

As the Church is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

j) Tangible Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000.

The Church land & buildings is shown in the accounts at deemed historical cost representing gross carrying value as at 1 September 2015, being the property's insurance reinstatement value at that time. No depreciation is provided because the Trustees consider the current residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its historical cost and, in the absence of any material impairment, any deprecation provision for the building component of the property would be immaterial.

k) Receivables and Payables; Bank and Cash (Basic Financial Instruments)

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Church or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit fund balances are shown at their realisable values.

l) Funds

The trustees have adopted a policy for all unrestricted reserves which is to maintain a minimum of six months cover for Operating Expenses together with specific designated funds for Long Term Property Reserves. Further details can be found in Note 8.

2) Glossary of Terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church – manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for Methodist entities in Great Britain, and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members from fewer than 10 to more than 300.

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, typically between 10 and 30.

Church Council: The Trustees of the Church.

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches.

Connexional Funds: The Designated and/or Restricted Funds held and administered by the Connexion in furtherance of it charitable and mission objectives.

District: a group of contiguous circuits usually between 15 and 30.

FRS: Financial Reporting Standard.

Lay Employees: Personnel employed by the Church on generally accepted commercial employment terms.

Leadership Team: Provide leadership and support to the church members, and is responsible to Church Council for the furtherance of the Charities aims and objectives.

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities.

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice.

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated Funds

3) Income & Expenditure Analysis

a) Other Charitable Income

Fundraising has continued throughout the year with monthly coffee morning and sales from the craft stall up to March 2020, these ended due to lockdown.

Contributions towards cost of food and drinks - tea & coffee are provided after worship on a Sunday and contributions for this are included in a designated fund supporting the Children's and Young Peoples Ministry within the Church.

Contributions towards bible study resources - Bible study groups meet both within members' homes and also at Hillside. Study resources are funded from a specific donation, but participants do contribute to the cost of these resources on a voluntary basis.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2019-20	Total 2018-19
Fundraising	163	2,094	2,256	2,308
Contributions towards cost of food & drinks	255		255	613
Contributions towards bible study resources		215	215	784
Fundraising for Sponsored Child	275		275	
Other	89	320	409	259
Total Other Charitable Income	**781**	**2,629**	**3,410**	**3,963**

b) Grants and Donations Made

Annual contributions are usually made to Connexional Funds held by the Methodist Church for mission in the UK and overseas, property and for the support of Presbyters and Deacons. In 2019-20 this donation was not made due to the Church financial situation.

	Total 2019-20	Total 2018-19
Methodist Connexional Funds	0	1,900
Sponsored Child (Action Aid)	180	180
Other	4	360
Total Grants & Donations	**184**	**2,440**

c) Insurance and Utilities

2019-20 electricity costs were higher than previous year dur to installation of electric heaters in the hall and greater use of the link building during autumn and winter. The Church was closed from March 2020 when the weather was warm so there was no impact on gas costs, however water costs were lower due to the Church closure.

	Total 2019-20	Total 2018-19
Insurance	2,633	2,556
Electricity	2,157	1,268
Gas	3,105	3,168
Water	326	541
Total Insurance & Utilities	**8,222**	**7,532**

d) Other Expenditure

Resources to support worship, study & teaching includes to the cost of providing the bible study resources, referred to in Note 3a above. Fundraising expenditure relates to resources for Greater Than Gold which sadly had to be postponed due to the National Lockdown in March 2020. The cost of food and drinks relate to the income described in Note 4 a) above.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2019-20	Total 2018-19
Resources to support Worship, Study & Teaching	1,890	85	1,975	3,801
Fundraising Expenditure		522	522	1,159
Cost of Food & Drinks	260		260	258
Publicity & Advertising	240		240	142
Organ & Piano Repairs & Maintenance	377		377	693
Professional Fees			0	296
First Aid Course & Defib costs	626		626	0
Other	938	169	1,107	600
Total Other Expenditure	**4,331**	**776**	**5,107**	**6,949**

4) Property

The Church Land & Buildings relate to our Hillside Methodist Church, Hall and Link Building located in Brinscall.

	Church (non - investment) land and buildings	Other fixed assets including motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Payments on account and assets under construction	Total 31 Aug 20
Cost/Valuation - balance b/f	1,762,158	0	2,010	0	1,764,168
Additions			0		0
Revaluations (+/-)					0
Disposals (-)					0
Cost/Valuation - Balance c/f	**1,762,158**	**0**	**2,010**	**0**	**1,764,168**
Depreciation - balance b/f	0	0	150	0	150
Depreciation - charge for year (-)			75		75
Deprecation - Revaluations (+/-)					0
Depreciation - Disposals (-)					0
Depreciation - balance c/f	0	0	225	0	225
Net Book Value - Brought forward	**1,762,158**	**-**	**1,860**	**-**	**1,764,018**
Net Book Value - Carried forward	**1,762,158**	**-**	**1,785**	**-**	**1,763,943**

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2020 (cont.)

5) Debtors and Prepayments

All items shown as Debtors as at 31 August 2019 were received during the following year. All items paid in advance as at 31 August 2019 have been expensed in 2019-20 and it is expected that payments in advance as at 31 August 2020 will be expensed in 2020-21

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 20	Total at 31 Aug 19
Debtors					
Gift Aid	3,953		607	4,560	7,185
Rental Income	0			0	190
Other Debtors	0		0	0	90
Prepayments					
Circuit Assessment	13,920			13,920	13,627
Insurance	1,496			1,496	1,417
Other Prepayments	0		0	0	1,346
Total Debtors & Prepayments	**19,369**		**607**	**19,976**	**22,350**

6) Central Finance Board and Bank Balances

Monetary balances held at the Central Finance Board, Methodist Chapel Aid, the Royal Bank of Scotland and CAF bank are all available on demand without loss of interest. Separate bank accounts are held for some but not all of the Restricted Funds, therefore the split of the remaining balances is arbitrary, but wherever possible negative balances are not maintained.

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 20	Total at 31 Aug 19
Central Finance Board	**2,172**	**18,289**	**48,849**	**69,310**	**65,203**
Methodist Chapel Aid	1,754			1,754	1,740
Royal Bank of Scotland	12,149	27,706	15,262	55,117	71,449
CAF Bank	14,848		87	14,935	
Santander			354	354	298
Cash in Hand			199	199	235
Other Banks	**28,750**	**27,706**	**15,902**	**72,358**	**73,722**
Total CFB & Bank Balances	**30,922**	**45,995**	**64,751**	**141,668**	**138,926**

7) Creditors, Accruals and Income in Advance

During 2017-18 our insurance company paid out for a water damage claim, but the work to rectify this has not yet been done, therefore this income continues to be deferred. All other balances as at 31st August 2019 were paid or released in the following year. It is expected that all other sums accrued or deferred as at 31st August 2020 will be paid during the year to 31 August 2021.

	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total at 31 Aug 20	Total at 31 Aug 19
Deferred Income					
Insurance Claim Proceeds	1,610			1,610	1,610
Other					96
Creditors & Accruals					
Property Repairs & Improvements	310		0	310	5,411
Utilities	172			172	152
Others	0	0	0	0	47
Total Creditors, Accruals & Income in Advance	**2,092**	**0**	**0**	**2,092**	**7,316**

8) Funds

Unrestricted – General

	31-Aug-20	31-Aug-19
Balance	1,812,183	1,819,819

The purpose of the fund is for the use at the discretion of the Trustees in the furtherance of the general charitable objectives of the church. Approximately 97% (£1,764,093) of the fund is held as freehold property, namely the church and church hall land and building, leaving £48,240 available for current charitable purposes.

Unrestricted – Designated

	31-Aug-20	31-Aug-19
Balance	45,995	43,075

These funds are to service specific purposes but are not restricted by any document or deed to that purpose alone. Movements in these funds are set out in Note 8 below, and details of the specific funds are as follows:

Long Term Property Repairs – this contains provision for large/one off property repairs and maintenance costs including painting, re-wiring, new windows, boiler replacement and organ repairs. Relevant items of expenditure when incurred are charged to this fund, and an equivalent transfer from the general fund (if sufficient funds are available) is made.

Children & Young Peoples Ministries – these funds are used to support the resourcing of several children's and young people's groups within the church. Donations for tea and coffee after worship, together with other fundraising events are used to maintain the fund. If necessary, transfers from the General Fund are made to ensure that sufficient funds are available to support this work.

Other – this includes a donation received in memory of a loved one, where the donor specified that the money should not be used for general church purposes, together with historical fund balances which are now being utilised to support relevant projects.

Restricted and Endowment

	31-Aug-20	31-Aug-19
Restricted Funds	68,669	58,457
Endowment Funds	609	609
Total	**69,279**	**59,067**

These funds exist to support the causes and organisations listed below;

Building Project – this fund is to support the development of new facilities on the church site in Brinscall, and receives both regular and one-off donations, in addition to the net proceeds from fundraising events.

Other Church Organisations and Groups – the following organisations/funds are governed by the Church Council:- Hillside Youth Club, Hillside Fellowship, Hillside Craft Group and the Hillside Flower Fund.

Bequests – in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Methodist Church these bequests are deposited with TMCP to ensure that any provisions contained with the respective wills are met. One of the bequests is specifically for Sunday School, the others can be used for general church purposes

Adult Education – this is a donation given to the church specifically to support Adult Education. Relevant expenditure (largely Bible Study resources) is charged to this fund as and when it is incurred, net of any contributions received.

Anonymous Gift – the terms of this gift provide for the interest to be used for general church purposes. The capital is unavailable for use.

Summary of Fund Movements

Fund	Balance at 1 Sep 19	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains / Losses	Balance at 31 Aug 20
General	**1,819,819**	**65,027**	**(72,663)**	**0**	**0**	**1,812,183**
Property Reserves	37,984	0	0	0	0	37,984
Children & Young Peoples Ministries	2,811	530	(610)	0	0	2,731
Other	2,280	3,000	0	0	0	5,280
Total Designated Funds	**43,075**	**3,530**	**(610)**	**0**	**0**	**45,995**
Total Unrestricted	**1,862,894**	**68,557**	**(73,273)**	**0**	**0**	**1,858,178**
Building Project	36,271	13,346	(735)	0	0	48,882
Other Church Organisations & Groups	17,814	3,907	(6,459)	0	0	15,262
Bequests	3,374	29	(7)	0	0	3,396
Adult Education	998	215	(85)	0	0	1,128
Endowment - Anonymous Gift	609	0	0	0	0	609
Total Restricted & Endowment	**59,067**	**17,497**	**(7,285)**	**0**	**0**	**69,279**
Total of all Funds	**1,921,961**	**86,054**	**(80,558)**	**0**	**0**	**1,927,457**

Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	General	Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Balance at 31 Aug 20	Balance at 31 Aug 19
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,763,943	0	0	1,763,943	1,764,018
Investments	0	0	4,006	4,006	3,983
Current Assets	50,332	45,995	65,317	161,644	161,276
Current Liabilities	(2,092)	0	(44)	(2,136)	(7,316)
Total	**1,812,183**	**45,995**	**69,279**	**1,927,457**	**1,921,961**

9) Related Parties

No donations were made by the Trustees during the year that had conditions attached. Related parties include the Methodist Connexion, CFB, TMCP and the Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit. The table below shows details of related party transactions during the year

Name		Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 20
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Assessment		(54,508)	**0**
Chorley & Leyland Methodist Circuit	Connexional Funds		0	**0**
Total		**0**	**(54,508)**	**0**

10) Agency Collections and Payments

During the year the Church organised several collections and appeals for other charitable organisations. These are tabulated below, and do not appear anywhere else within these accounts. Those appeals/collections that were in respect of related parties are marked *

Name	Details	Receipts	Payments	Balance due (from) to the Church at 31 Aug 20
All We Can*	Harvest Offering	405	(405)	0
All We Can*	Hurricane Appeal	250	(250)	0
Methodist Church Mission Fund*	Easter Offering	0	0	0
Barnardos Bay 6	Circuit Charity	42	(42)	0
Christian Aid	Christian Aid Week	0	0	0
Salvation Army	Christmas Appeal	457	(457)	
Chorley Help the Homeless	Christmas Appeal	457	(457)	0
NightSafe	Christmas Appeal	457	(457)	0
Total		**2,068**	**(2,068)**	**0**

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2020 (cont).

11) Trustee Payments

There were no payments to Trustees in the year in relation to their role as Trustee.

12) Volunteer Contributions

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in GB is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In the Church this is done across a whole range of areas, and we are grateful to everyone who does volunteer their time, help and commitment. No attempt has been made to value the non-monetary contributions in monetary terms.

13) Capital Commitments and Contingent Liabilities

None

14) Lease Commitments

The Church has contracts or obligations for the following

Telephone and Broadband
Photocopier

The annual cost of these is not considered material

15) Independent Examiner

The Independent Examiner does not charge a fee for his services and provided no additional services during the year.

Hillside **Methodist** Church

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church Council.

Signature of treasurer A.E.Melling Date 17.02.2021

Name and address of treasurer Mrs A.E. Melling, A.C.M.A, 16 Millwood Close, Withnell Fold, Chorley, PR6 8AR

Presentation to the Church Council

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were presented to the Church Council at its meeting on 17th February 2021

Signature of the Chair of the meeting Karen. A. Hilsden

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev K Hilsden..... Date 17.02.2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Church, named above

The Church' trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 present a true and fair view of the Church's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the trustees concerning 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. My 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 (other than as disclosed below*)

(1) 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 2011
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011

have not been met, or

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

(3) 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.....

Name of independent examiner: David Hollinghurst

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: FCMA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address: 61, Balcarres Road, Leyland, PR25 2EJ

Date: 22 February 2021