



Hillside **Methodist** Church

Trustees Annual Report & Accounts 2022-23



Registered Charity No. 1175950



Hillside **Methodist** Church

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Hillside Methodist Church

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	



Hillside Methodist Church

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



Hillside Methodist Church

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 within 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 Methodist Church

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.



Hillside Methodist Church

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.



Hillside Methodist Church

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.



Hillside Methodist Church

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

Hillside Methodist Church

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

		Unrestricted		Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	Note No.	General Fund	Designated Funds			
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

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Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023 - £s

	Note No.	Unrestricted		Restricted & Endowment Funds	Totals 2022	Totals 2021
		General Fund	Designated Funds			
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



Hillside Methodist Church

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.



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Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023 (cont.)

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 depreciation 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.



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Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023 (cont.)

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 its 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



Hillside Methodist Church

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 23 (cont.)

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



Hillside Methodist Church

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
Depreciation - 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



Hillside Methodist Church

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023 (cont.)

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



Hillside Methodist Church

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2023 (cont.)

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.



Hillside Methodist Church

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

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

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



Hillside Methodist Church

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



Hillside Methodist Church

Notes to the Accounts for the Year Ending 31 August 2022 (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

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 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.



Hillside Methodist Church

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, EUXTOW
CHORLEY
LANCASHIRE PR7 6PT

Date: 5 June 2024