MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1178813

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	2018-06-18
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	30 Farndale View Market Harborough LE16 9FA
Phone	01858462889
Website	www.harboroughmethodistcircuit.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 -(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 SUBSIDUARY 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: Provide a safe place for public worship and youth work.Make available the charity buildings for use in the local community.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Leicestershire
- Northamptonshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£177,487	£166,933	-	-
2024-08-31	£121,277	£117,552	-	-
2023-08-31	£115,988	£116,682	-	-
2022-08-31	£124,196	£97,747	-	-
2021-08-31	£101,184	£95,616	-	-

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Andrew Thomas Murphy	Chair	2017-09-01
ALAN GEORGE COX		2017-09-01
Anita Mary Beer		2020-09-01
CATHERINE MARGARET CLARKE		2017-09-01
CHRISTINE MARY HODGSON		2017-09-01
Caroline Louise Osborne		2022-09-01
David Richard Haddow		2024-09-01
Emily Murphy		2024-09-01
Emma Ferreri		2020-09-01
Gillian Margaret Billington		2020-09-01
HANNAH RUSSELL		2017-09-01
HELEN DAVINA GREEN		2018-09-01
Jacqueline Dawn Melhuish		2025-09-01
MARGARET JOYCE COX		2017-09-01
Maggie Hadkiss		2018-09-01
Mary Ruth Elizabeth Thomas-Twinn		2019-09-01
NEIL HADKISS		2018-09-01
Paul Brian Colliss		2019-09-01
Peter James Hales		2022-09-01
Peter Michael Molcher		2025-09-01
RACHEL HOUNSFIELD		2017-09-01
RICHARD HUNTINGTON		2017-09-01
SHIRLEY ANN MAY HALES		2017-09-01
SUSAN NIXON		2017-09-01
SUSAN ROUTLEY		2017-09-01
Susan Margaret Bennett		2025-09-01
Susan Vicki Colliss		2023-09-01

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MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1178813

Accounts

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

31 AUGUST 2025

Charity Number 1178813

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name: Market Harborough Methodist Church

Charity Registration Number: 1178813

THE TRUSTEES (Church Council)

The Trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

	Rev'd Nathan Falla (Superintendent Minister) Revd Andrew T Murphy (Chair) Neil Hadkiss (Secretary) Richard Huntington (Treasurer)
Church Stewards	Catherine Clarke Paul Colliss Emma Ferreri Helen Green Maggie Hadkiss Rachel Hounsfield Emily Murphy
Other members of the Church Council	Anita Beer Gill Billington Susie Colliss Alan Cox Margaret Cox David Haddow Peter Hales Shirley Hales Christine Hodgson Sue Nixon Caroline Osborne John Pearce Susan Routley Hannah Russell Ruth Thomas-Twinn

THE TRUSTEES (Church Council) (continued)

In attendance from the East Mercia Methodist Circuit:	
	Marilyn Calvert
Independent Examiner	Sarah Atwell-King

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Market Harborough Methodist Church is part of the East Mercia Methodist Circuit, which in turn is a component of the Northampton District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

With effect from 1st September 2022, the Market Harborough Methodist Circuit merged with the Kettering and Corby and the Rugby and Daventry Methodist Circuits to form the East Mercia Methodist Circuit, a component of the Northampton District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain. The Superintendent Minister oversees the whole Circuit, with a Circuit Leadership Team of lay and ordained people.

The Superintendent Minister delegates responsibility for the church to the Minister in pastoral charge, who is supported by internal groups and committees as follows:

Church Council
The Superintendent Minister, the Minister appointed to the Church, Church Stewards, Treasurer, Church Council Secretary, up to 21 representative Church Members (elected annually by the General Church Meeting). All appointments are made annually, although there is an expectation that members will serve for a number of years.

All the Committees listed below report to the Church Council, which meets at least twice annually.

Church Stewards
8 stewards are elected by the General Church Meeting, for a maximum of six years. Responsible, with the Minister, for leadership over a whole range of the church's life and for acting on decisions and policies of the Church Council.

Church Leadership Team
Regular meetings of Church Stewards and all other Church officers to ensure a forward-vision in the life of the Church and bring bringing proposals to the Church Council.

Pastoral Committee
Minister and Pastoral Visitors. Concerned with the pastoral care of Church members and attendees, maintenance of membership roll and promotion of fellowship through church groups.

Safeguarding Officer
The Church Council appoints a Safeguarding Officer who is appropriately trained and qualified, and this officer is supported by the Circuit Safeguarding Officers, and those at a District level.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Church & Community Chaplain

The Circuit has appointed a lay chaplain to assist the minister in the pastoral work of the church and in community outreach. She works 18 hours per week, of which approximately 6 hours are spent in our church and community in Market Harborough.

Children and Youth Work Activities

Leaders of the various groups of children's activities are accountable to the Church Council, and to the Church and Circuit Safeguarding Officers, and their activities are reviewed regularly.

Prayer Ministry Team

This team of volunteers is active on a Sunday morning to provide prayer support when requested.

Worship and Music Team

Worship services are led by our Minister and other Preachers appointed by the Circuit. Musicians are co-ordinated by our music co-ordinator, and the wider church is occasionally consulted by the Minister in reviewing our provision of worship services.

Governance

Our statutes of governance and procedures such as the appointment of Trustees and other officers follows '*The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church'* (**CPD**), which is revised annually by the Methodist Conference and published annually by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

The primary governing body of Market Harborough Methodist Church, in accordance with CPD, is the Church Council. Members of the Council are the Managing Trustees, and the Council is chaired by the Minister. Church Council representatives and Church Stewards are elected at the General Church Meeting which is held annually. All church members can attend this meeting and are entitled to vote and raise any issues for discussion. The Trustees actively seek nominations for new Trustees who can represent all aspects of the church community and its activities.

At the first Church Council meeting of each year, new members receive documentation explaining their role as Trustees, which includes information provided by the Charity Commission. The Trustees receive no remuneration or other financial benefits from their work. All decisions taken at the Church Council meetings are minuted, and a summary is made available to church members and others by newsletters and in the weekly church service notices. A full copy of the Council minutes is displayed on a church noticeboard.

Management

The Trustees have maintained financial management arrangements requiring dual signatures on all cheques and other payment methods, and prior approval for all except minor items of expenditure.

The Trustees have maintained a Safeguarding policy with appropriate DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks for all aspects of the work of the Church with children and vulnerable adults.

The Trustees have maintained a system of formal risk assessment and a risk register. This includes mitigation strategies and is reviewed annually by the Trustees and by relevant sub-committees.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Day to Day management of the premises of the Church and the caretaking staff is delegated to the Church Leadership Team, some members of which are members of the Church Council.

Market Harborough Methodist Church seeks to achieve its purpose of advancing the Christian Faith by holding public worship on Sundays and on occasional weekdays, and by encouraging its members to live up to the priorities of the Methodist calling: evangelism, worship, service, learning and caring. The Methodist Church is called to be a growing, inclusive, evangelistic and justice-seeking church.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Every effort is made to ensure that the services are excellent in quality and accessible and inviting to all. As part of the 'Inclusive Church' network and as an 'Eco-Church' (silver award), the church endeavours to be both inclusive to all and ecologically sound.

The church buildings are open during the week both as a resource for local community groups to utilise and to provide a space for prayer, reflection and rest. Facilities are offered for baptisms, weddings and funerals, together with accompanying pastoral care.

The Church is an active member of 'Churches Together in Harborough' which promotes ecumenical dialogue, services and inter-denominational activities within Market Harborough and the surrounding area.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship

The pattern of Sunday worship has been sustained with weekly services at 10.15am every Sunday, and occasional other services for special days and festivals. The church has a willingness to innovate as well as maintaining a tradition of excellence, and continues to welcome visitors and new members. Our congregation is regularly around 80 people.

The 'live streaming' system to the church's YouTube internet site continues to allow housebound and other members to experience worship in their own homes alongside the congregation in the Church or at a later date. Our Sunday services regularly gain 50-100 views online.

Property & Finance

A steady programme of maintenance has continued through the year to ensure that the buildings provide a safe and welcoming space and to reduce their carbon footprint. £30,438 (2024 £27,802) of funds has been donated during the year to support a number of local and overseas projects which help people in need.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Growth in Membership / Loss of Members

Market Harborough Methodist Church encourages people to express their Christian commitment in terms of baptism, confirmation and church membership, and to continue to grow, learn and serve, in fellowship, worship and service in the community. In the year 2024-25, we received seven new members and conducted two baptisms of adults. Sadly, three members died during this period, while a further two funerals were conducted by our minister on behalf of the church. There were no weddings conducted during the year. The current membership is just over 100.

Community Service

The premises remain available to a wide range of community groups and activities, including youth and community organisations, various charities, musical groups, and mutual interest groups such as the U3A. Church members engage as volunteers with a number of these organisations and others outside of church premises. In particular, members support the Jubilee Food Bank, the Bower House counselling service, and are involved in collecting for Christian Aid.

We have continued our regular café for Ukrainian people, established in 2022 as a safe meeting place and a source of information for Ukrainian families living within the area. It has been well supported.

Work with Children & Young People

- 'Fishes' is our regular Sunday School which meets 2 or 3 times per month, with currently around 7 children regularly attending.
- 'Pizza Club' is a fortnightly gathering for young people in school years 4-9, who meet for 2 hours with a group of leaders to socialise, eat together, play games and grow in Christian discipleship. Over the year we had 21 sessions, and the young people once again presented our Christmas Nativity Service. In total, 37 young people attended (with around half of them attending 10 sessions or more).
- 'Stay, Play and Weigh' is a fortnightly group for parents with babies, run by volunteers from the Church. This has continued to grow in popularity, and is always very busy, with 30-40 families regularly attending.
- The Minister also regularly leads assemblies or classroom sessions in two Market Harborough primary schools, and Welland Park Academy (secondary school), as well as two other village schools in the area. In 2024-25, the minister was involved in 32 live assemblies, two visits from GCSE classes to the church, one school carol service, and 5 classroom talks.

Ecumenical Links

The Church has participated actively in Churches Together in Harborough (CTH) and supported the ecumenical events organised. Our premises also hosted a 'Holiday at Home' event for older citizens during the summer holidays, organised by CTH.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church achieved a small surplus for the year ended 31 August 2025 as expenditure on routine maintenance of the buildings returned to more normal levels. Offerings from members were 9% higher than the previous year and Gift Aid increased accordingly. During the year, it became necessary to replace the front part of the Church roof, at a cost of £48,000 due to deterioration of the underlying felt. Church members donated over half the cost; the balance being covered by a grant from the East Mercia Circuit.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in the unrestricted General Fund at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure. The Trustees consider that at this level, the reserves will provide sufficient working capital to cover the normal fluctuations in income and expenditure and to meet emergency calls on cash, for example for unexpected repairs. At the end of the year, General Funds equated to 45.9% of annual General Fund expenditure. (2024 = 40.7%).

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Market Harborough	Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

East Mercia Methodist	Circuit	Circuit no.	23/14

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number **1178813**

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

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Andrew T Murphy

Church Stewards:

Mrs Maggie Hadkiss Joint Senior Steward

Mrs Helen Green Joint Senior Steward

Miss Catherine Clarke Mr Paul Colliss

Mrs Emma Ferrerei Mrs Rachel Hounsfield

Mrs Emily Murphy

Treasurer:

Mr Richard Huntington

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Market Harborough Church

	SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year		Totals last year
			£	£	£		£
a1	**RECEIPTS**	Note					
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		77,998	58,272	**136,270**		78,225
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		2,781	2,834	**5,615**		5,442
a4	Lettings		25,402		**25,402**		26,047
a5	Other receipts		544	9,656	**10,200**		11,563
a6	**TOTAL RECEIPTS**		**106,725**	**70,762**	**177,487**	(a7)	**121,277**
	SECTION B						
b1	**PAYMENTS**						
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		50,334		**50,334**		45,390
b3	Donations			17,782	**17,782**		23,409
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		30,438	48,173	**78,611**		27,802
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		12,248		**12,248**		10,766
b6	Capital Projects		1,870		**1,870**		3,090
b7	Other payments		6,088		**6,088**		7,095
b8	**TOTAL PAYMENTS**		**100,978**	**65,955**	**166,933**	(b9)	**117,552**
	SECTION C						
c1	**NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR**	(a6-b8)	5,747	4,807	**10,554**		3,725
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		46,564	71,910	**118,474**	(c6)	112,883
c3	**Sub total**	(c1+c2)	52,311	76,717	**129,028**		**116,608**
c4	Transfers and adjustments		1,331		**1,331**	(c7)	1,866
c5	**TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR**	(c3+c4)	**53,642**	**76,717**	**130,359**	(c8)	**118,474** (c6)

	SECTION D		
d	**FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)**	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		
d4	**BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID** (d1+d2-d3)		

Market Harborough **Church**

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E **Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	**Benevolence Fund**	1,137	1,375	(238)		1,182	944
e2	**Bowls Club**					202	202
e3	**Together Lunches**	2,893	2,309	584	(700)	534	418
e4	**Tuesday Coffee Mornings**	2,102	2,105	(3)	(631)	1,213	579
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	6,132	5,789	343	(1,331)	3,131 (e11)	2,143 (e12)
e9	**Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)**	**177,487** (a7)	**166,933** (b9)	**10,554**	**1,331** (c7)	**118,474** (c6)	**130,359** (c8)
e10	**TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH**	**183,619**	**172,722**	**10,897**		**121,605** (x)	**132,502** (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	**TOTAL RECEIPTS**	**TOTAL PAYMENTS**				

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2025

		OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand		
f2	Bank Current Account	2,015	1,044
f3	Bank Deposit Account		
f4	Central Finance Board	52,497	63,283
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	63,962	66,032
f6	Other funds		
f7	**SUB TOTAL - Church accounts**	**118,474** (c6)	**130,359** (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	**3,131** (e11)	**2,143** (e12)
f9	**TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH**	**121,605** (x)	**132,502** (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

		At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	34,836	35,122
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	3,400,374	3,488,795
g3	Other Assets		
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5	Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5

Name of Church: Market Harborough Methodist Church No: 1178813

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of Treasurer ..... Date 5/11/25

Name and address of Treasurer: Richard Huntington, 16 Horsefair Close, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 9QP

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were/~~will be~~* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 8/11/25

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

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Andrew Murphy Date 08/11/25

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Market Harborough Methodist Church

Charity Number: 1178813

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Market Harborough Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 1 to 3 As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church: Market Harborough Methodist Church No: 1178813

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

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

Signature of Independent Examiner .....

Name of Independent Examiner: Mrs Sarah Atwell-King

Relevant professional qualification of Independent Examiner cimo

Name of firm (where appropriate) nb

Address: 8 Ancaster Way, North Luffenham, LE15 8LH

Date 2/11/25

* delete or circle as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY of **Market Harborough Church Council**

1.	**General** Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2025	**£53,642 (2024 = £46,563)**
2.	**Restricted** Funds held "	**£41,595 (2024 = £37,075)**
3.	**Endowment** Funds held "	**£35,122 (2024 = £34,836)**

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds**

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in the General Fund (unrestricted) at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure.

The Trustees consider that at this level, the reserves will provide sufficient working capital to cover the normal fluctuations in income and expenditure and to meet emergency calls on cash, for example for unexpected repairs. At the end of the year, General Funds equated to 45.9% of annual General Fund Expenditure. (2024 = 40.7%)

5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

The principal Restricted Funds held are for the support of children's and youth work in the Church. At the end of the year they amounted to £ 26,269. (2024 = £27,314).

The index-linked portion of the Ivy Peach Bequest which is available for major repairs amounted to £11,449 (2024 = £9,760).

In addition, £3,877 (2024 = £nil) remains in the Roof Fund available for Church Refurbishment work.

6. **Terms relating to Endowment Funds held**

The principal Endowment Fund is the Ivy Peach Bequest, which is invested with TMCP, Manchester. This permanent endowment amounts to £28,240. The interest on this bequest can be used for the maintenance of the Church buildings and the organ. The Church Council has designated that the capital in this trust should be index-linked each year to provide a fund for major repairs. Any surplus funds over and above the index-linked amount are freely available for general Church maintenance. At the end of the year, the index-linked amount was £11,449 and is shown as a restricted fund above. The freely available amount at the year-end was £nil (2024 = £nil), and is included in General Funds above.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by **Market Harborough Church Council**

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name **Richard Huntington**	Full Name **Rev Andrew T Murphy**
Signature	Signature

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1178813

Accounts

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 AUGUST 2024

Charity Number 1178813

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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Registered Charity Name: Market Harborough Methodist Church

Charity Registration Number: 1178813

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	Revd Andrew Farrington (Superintendent Minister) (To 31 August 2024)
	Rev'd Nathan Falla (Superintendent Minister) (From 1 September 2024)
	Revd Andrew T Murphy (Chair)
	Neil Hadkiss (Secretary)
	Richard Huntington (Treasurer)
Church Stewards	Catherine Clarke
	Paul Colliss
	Emma Ferreri
	Helen Green
	David Haddow (to 31 August 2024)
	Maggie Hadkiss
	Rachel Hounsfield
	Emily Murphy (from 1 September 2024)
	Kate Upcraft (to 22 September 2024)
Other members of the Church Council	Anita Beer
	Gill Billington
	Susie Colliss
	Alan Cox
	Margaret Cox
	Brenda Davies (to 31 August 2024)
	David Haddow (from 1 September 2024)
	Peter Hales
	Shirley Hales
	Christine Hodgson
	Audrey Huntington (to 31 August 2024)
	Sue Nixon
	Caroline Osborne
	John Pearce
	Susan Routley
	Hannah Russell
	Ruth Thomas-Twinn

THE TRUSTEES (Church Council) (continued)

In attendance from the East Mercia Methodist Circuit:
Marilyn Calvert

In attendance as an observer, the Circuit Growth and Nurture support worker:
Melissa Wheeler (to 31 August 2024)

Independent Examiner — Sarah Atwell-King

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

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The primary governing body of Market Harborough Methodist Church, in accordance with CPD, is the Church Council. Members of the Council are the Managing Trustees, and the Council is chaired by the Minister. Church Council representatives and Church Stewards are elected at the General Church Meeting which is held annually. All church members can attend this meeting and are entitled to vote and raise any issues for discussion. The Trustees actively seek nominations for new Trustees who can represent all aspects of the church community and its activities.

At the first Church Council meeting of each year, new members receive documentation explaining their role as Trustees, which includes information provided by the Charity Commission. The Trustees receive no remuneration or other financial benefits from their work. All decisions taken at the Church Council meetings are minuted, and a summary is made available to church members and others by newsletters and in the weekly church service notices. A full copy of the Council minutes is displayed on a church noticeboard.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Management

The Trustees have maintained financial management arrangements requiring dual signatures on all cheques and other payment methods, and prior approval for all except minor items of expenditure.

The Trustees have maintained a Safeguarding policy with appropriate DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks for all aspects of the work of the Church with children and vulnerable adults.

The Trustees have maintained a system of formal risk assessment and a risk register. This includes mitigation strategies and is reviewed annually by the Trustees and by relevant sub-committees.

Day to Day management of the premises of the Church and the caretaking staff is delegated to the Minister, with support from members of the Church Leadership Team, some members of which are members of the Church Council.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Market Harborough Methodist Church seeks to achieve its purpose of advancing the Christian Faith by holding public worship on Sundays and on occasional weekdays, and by encouraging its members to live up to the priorities of the Methodist calling: evangelism, worship, service, learning and caring. The Methodist Church is called to be a growing, inclusive, evangelistic and justice-seeking church.

Every effort is made to ensure that the services are excellent in quality and accessible and inviting to all. As part of the 'Inclusive Church' network and as an 'Eco-Church' (silver award), the church endeavours to be both inclusive to all and ecologically sound.

The church buildings are open during the week both as a resource for local community groups to utilise and to provide a space for prayer, reflection and rest. Facilities are offered for baptisms, weddings and funerals, together with accompanying pastoral care.

The Church is an active member of 'Churches Together in Harborough' which promotes ecumenical dialogue, services and inter-denominational activities within Market Harborough and the surrounding area.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship

The pattern of Sunday worship has been sustained with weekly services at 10.15am every Sunday, and occasional other services for special days and festivals. The church has a willingness to innovate as well as maintaining a tradition of excellence, and continues to welcome visitors and new members. Our congregation is regularly around 80 people.

The 'live streaming' system to the church's YouTube internet site continues to allow housebound and other members to experience worship in their own homes alongside the congregation in the Church or at a later date. Our Sunday services regularly gain 50-100 views online.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Property & Finance

A steady programme of maintenance has continued through the year to ensure that the buildings provide a safe and welcoming space and to reduce their carbon footprint. £23,409 (2023 £16,049) of funds has been donated during the year to support a number of local and overseas projects which help people in need.

Growth in Membership / Loss of Members

Market Harborough Methodist Church encourages people to express their Christian commitment in terms of baptism, confirmation and church membership, and to continue to grow, learn and serve, in fellowship, worship and service in the community. In the year 2023-24, we received five new members and conducted one baptism. Sadly, three members died during this period, while a further two funerals were conducted by our minister on behalf of the church. There were no weddings conducted during the year. The current membership is just over 100.

Community Service

The premises remain available to a wide range of community groups and activities, including youth and community organisations, various charities, musical groups, and mutual interest groups such as the U3A. Church members engage as volunteers with a number of these organisations and others outside of church premises. In particular, members support the Jubilee Food Bank, the Bower House counselling service, and are involved in collecting for Christian Aid.

We have continued our regular café for Ukrainian people, established in 2022 as a safe meeting place and a source of information for Ukrainian families living within the area. It has been well supported.

Work with Children & Young People

- 'Fishes' is our regular Sunday School which meets 2 or 3 times per month, with currently around 7 children regularly attending.
- 'Pizza Club' is a fortnightly gathering for young people in school years 4-9, who meet for 2 hours with a group of leaders to socialise, eat together, play games and grow in Christian discipleship. Over the year we had 21 sessions, and one youth residential weekend at a national Methodist event, and the young people presented our Christmas Nativity Service. In total, 39 young people attended (with 26 of them attending 10 sessions or more). We also started an after-school 'Homework Club' for young people aged 11 and above. This was attended regularly by 4 young people.
- 'Stay, Play and Weigh' is a fortnightly group for parents with babies, run by volunteers from the Church. This has continued to grow in popularity, and is always very busy, with 30-40 families regularly attending.
- The Minister also regularly leads assemblies or classroom sessions in two Market Harborough primary schools, and Welland Park Academy (secondary school), as well as two other village schools in the area. In 2023-24, the minister was involved in 32 live assemblies, two visits from GCSE classes to the church, one school carol service, and 5 classroom talks.
- Our Methodist Circuit employed a Growth and Nurture Support Worker (up until 31st August 2024), to work in Market Harborough Methodist Church and others, whose job included pastoral work, children's work, outreach and nurture, organising a network of small groups for Christian fellowship and education including helping to prepare study material.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Ecumenical Links

The Church has participated actively in Churches Together in Harborough (CTH) and supported the ecumenical events organised. Our premises also hosted a 'Holiday at Home' event for older citizens during the summer holidays, organised by CTH.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church achieved a small surplus for the year ended 31 August 2024 as expenditure on maintenance of the buildings returned to more normal levels. Offerings from members were maintained at their previous levels although Gift Aid reduced in the year. All other costs were minimised wherever possible. Energy costs have reduced from the highs of 2023 and the benefits are being felt throughout the Church.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in the unrestricted General Fund at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure. The Trustees consider that at this level, the reserves will provide sufficient working capital to cover the normal fluctuations in income and expenditure and to meet emergency calls on cash, for example for unexpected repairs. At the end of the year, General Funds equated to 40.7% of annual General Fund expenditure. (2023 = 37.6%).

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Market Harborough	Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

East Mercia	Circuit	Circuit no.	23/14

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number	**1178813**
If not a registered charity **His Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number**	

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Andrew T Murphy

Church Stewards:

Mrs Maggie Hadkiss	Joint Senior Steward
Mrs Helen Green	Joint Senior Steward
Miss Catherine Clarke	Mrs Emma Ferreri
Mr Paul Colliss	Mrs Kate Upcraft to 22 September 2024
Mrs Rachel Hounsfield	Mr David Haddow to 31 August 2024
	Mrs Emily Murphy from 1 September 2024

Treasurer:

Mr Richard Huntington

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Market Harborough **Church**

	SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year		Totals last year
			£	£	£		£
a1	**RECEIPTS**	**Note**					
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		65,707	12,518	**78,225**		79,515
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		2,738	2,704	**5,442**		3,245
a4	Lettings		26,047		**26,047**		23,987
a5	Other receipts		673	10,890	**11,563**		9,241
a6	**TOTAL RECEIPTS**		**95,165**	**26,112**	**121,277**	**(a7)**	**115,988**

	SECTION B						
b1	**PAYMENTS**						
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		45,390		**45,390**		46,920
b3	Donations			23,409	**23,409**		16,049
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		27,802		**27,802**		25,939
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		10,766		**10,766**		12,634
b6	Capital Projects		3,090		**3,090**		10,850
b7	Other payments		4,766	2,329	**7,095**		8,377
b8	**TOTAL PAYMENTS**		**91,814**	**25,738**	**117,552**	**(b9)**	**120,769**

	SECTION C						
c1	**NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR**	**(a6-b8)**	3,351	374	**3,725**		(4,781)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		41,347	71,536	**112,883**	**(c6)**	113,577
c3	**Sub total**	**(c1+c2)**	44,698	71,910	**116,608**		**108,796**
c4	Transfers and adjustments		1,866		**1,866**	**(c7)**	4,087
c5	**TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR**	**(c3+c4)**	**46,564**	**71,910**	**118,474**	**(c8)**	**112,883** **(c6)**

	SECTION D				
d	**FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures**		£		£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year				
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				
d4	**BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID**	(d1+d2-d3)			

Market Harborough **Church**

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E **Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	**Benevolence Fund**	2,240	2,046	194		988	1,182
e2	**Bowls Club**					201	201
e3	**Ladies Contact Group**		444	(444)	(350)	794	
e4	**Together Lunches**	2,982	2,002	980	(900)	454	534
e5	**Tuesday Coffee Mornings**	1,912	1,511	401	(616)	1,428	1,213
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	7,134	6,003	1,131	(1,866)	3,865 (e11)	3,130 (e12)
e9	**Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)**	**121,277** (a7)	**117,552** (b9)	**3,725**	**1,866** (c7)	**112,883** (c6)	**118,474** (c8)
e10	**TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH**	**128,411**	**123,555**	**4,856**		**116,748** (x)	**121,604** (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	**TOTAL RECEIPTS**	**TOTAL PAYMENTS**				

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2024	OPENING BALANCES		CLOSING BALANCES	
f1	Cash in hand				
f2	Bank Current Account	5,995		2,015	
f3	Bank Deposit Account				
f4	Central Finance Board	45,194		52,497	
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	61,694		63,962	
f6	Other funds				
f7	**SUB TOTAL - Church accounts**	**112,883**	(c6)	**118,474**	(c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	**3,865**	(e11)	**3,130**	(e12)
f9	**TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH**	**116,748**	(x)	**121,604**	(y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

		At 1 September 2023	At 31 August 2024
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	34,522	34,836
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,975,594	3,400,374
g3	Other Assets		
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5	Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5

Name of Church: Market Harborough Methodist Church **No: 1178813**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment 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 trustees.

Signature of Treasurer ..... Date....8/10/24.....

Name and address of Treasurer: Richard Huntington, 16 Horsefair Close, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 9QP

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2024 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on ..10/10/24

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

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Rev Andrew T Murphy Date 10/10/2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Market Harborough Methodist Church

Charity Number: 1178813

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Market Harborough Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2024 set out on pages 1 to 3. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church: Market Harborough Methodist Church No: 1178813

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

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

Signature of Independent Examiner .....

Name of Independent Examiner Mrs Sarah Atwell-King

Relevant professional qualification of Independent Examiner n/a.

Name of firm (where appropriate) n/a.

Address: 8 Ancaster Way, North Luffenham, LE15 8LH

Date 6/10/24

* delete or circle as appropriate

Form Reviewed Aug-24

RESERVES POLICY of **Market Harborough Church Council**

1.	**General** Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2024	**£46,563 (2023 = £41,347)**
2.	**Restricted** Funds held "	**£37,075 (2023 = £37,014)**
3.	**Endowment** Funds held "	**£34,836 (2023 = £34,522)**

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds**

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in the General Fund (unrestricted) at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure.

The Trustees consider that at this level, the reserves will provide sufficient working capital to cover the normal fluctuations in income and expenditure and to meet emergency calls on cash, for example for unexpected repairs. At the end of the year, General Funds equated to 40.7% of annual General Fund Expenditure. (2023 = 37.6%)

5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

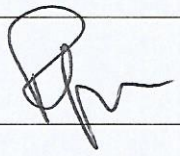
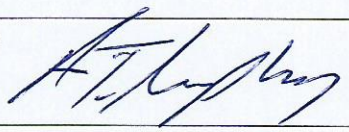
The principal Restricted Funds held are for the support of children's and youth work in the Church. At the end of the year they amounted to £ 22,949. (2023 = £24,842).

The index-linked portion of the Ivy Peach Bequest which is available for major repairs amounted to £9,760 (2023 = £7,910).

6. **Terms relating to Endowment Funds held**

The principal Endowment Fund is the Ivy Peach Bequest, which is invested with TMCP, Manchester. This permanent endowment amounts to £28,240. The interest on this bequest can be used for the maintenance of the Church buildings and the organ. The Church Council has designated that the capital in this trust should be index-linked each year to provide a fund for major repairs. Any surplus funds over and above the index-linked amount are freely available for general Church maintenance. At the end of the year, the index-linked amount was £9,760 and is shown as a restricted fund above. The freely available amount at the year-end was £nil (2023 = £nil), and is included in General Funds above.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by **Market Harborough Church Council**

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name **Richard Huntington**	Full Name **Rev Andrew T Murphy**
Signature 	Signature 

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1178813

Accounts

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 AUGUST 2023

Charity Number 1178813

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name: Market Harborough Methodist Church

Charity Registration Number: 1178813

THE TRUSTEES (Church Council)

The Trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

	Revd Andrew Farrington (Superintendent Minister) Revd Andrew T Murphy (Chair) Neil Hadkiss (Secretary) Richard Huntington (Treasurer)
Church Stewards	Catherine Clarke Paul Colliss Emma Ferreri Helen Green David Haddow Maggie Hadkiss Rachel Hounsfield Kate Upcraft
Other members of the Church Council	Anita Beer Gill Billington Susie Colliss Alan Cox Margaret Cox Brenda Davies Peter Hales Shirley Hales Christine Hodgson Audrey Huntington Sue Nixon Caroline Osborne John Pearce Susan Routley Hannah Russell Ruth Thomas-Twinn

THE TRUSTEES (Church Council) (continued)

In attendance from the East Mercia Methodist Circuit:
Marilyn Calvert

In attendance as an observer, the Circuit Growth and Nurture worker:
Melissa Wheeler

Independent Examiner — Sarah Atwell-King

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Market Harborough Methodist Church is part of the East Mercia Methodist Circuit, which in turn is a component of the Northampton District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

With effect from 1st September 2022, the Market Harborough Methodist Circuit merged with the Kettering and Corby and the Rugby and Daventry Methodist Circuits to form the East Mercia Methodist Circuit, a component of the Northampton District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain. The Superintendent Minister oversees the whole Circuit, with a Circuit Leadership Team of lay and ordained people.

The Superintendent Minister delegates responsibility for the church to the Minister in pastoral charge, who is supported by internal groups and committees as follows:

Church Council
The Superintendent Minister, the Minister appointed to the Church, Church Stewards, Treasurer, Church Council Secretary, up to 21 representative Church Members (elected annually by the General Church Meeting). In attendance is a Circuit Growth and Nurture worker. All appointments are made annually, although there is an expectation that members will serve for a number of years.

All the Committees listed below report to the Church Council, which meets at least twice annually.

Church Stewards
8 stewards are elected by the General Church Meeting, for a maximum of six years. Responsible, with the Minister, for leadership over a whole range of the church's life and for acting on decisions and policies of the Church Council.

Church Leadership Team
Regular meetings of Church Stewards and all other Church officers to ensure a forward-vision in the life of the Church and bring bringing proposals to the Church Council.

Pastoral Committee
Minister and Pastoral Visitors. Concerned with the pastoral care of Church members and attenders, maintenance of membership roll and promotion of fellowship through church groups.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Safeguarding Officer
The Church Council appoints a Safeguarding Officer who is appropriately trained and qualified, and this officer is supported by the Circuit Safeguarding Officers, and those at a District level.

Children and Youth Work Activities
Leaders of the various groups of children's activities are accountable to the Church Council and are also supported by a Circuit committee appointed to oversee youth work more widely.

Prayer Ministry Team
This team of volunteers is active on a Sunday morning to provide prayer support when requested.

Worship and Music Team
Worship services are led by our Minister and other Preachers appointed by the Circuit. Musicians are co-ordinated by our music co-ordinator, and the wider church is occasionally consulted by the Minister in reviewing our provision of worship services.

Governance
Our statutes of governance and procedures such as the appointment of Trustees and other officers follows '*The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church'* (**CPD**), which is revised annually by the Methodist Conference and published annually by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

The primary governing body of Market Harborough Methodist Church, in accordance with CPD, is the Church Council. Members of the Council are the Managing Trustees, and the Council is chaired by the Minister. Church Council representatives and Church Stewards are elected at the General Church Meeting which is held annually. All church members can attend this meeting and are entitled to vote and raise any issues for discussion. The Trustees actively seek nominations for new Trustees who can represent all aspects of the church community and its activities.

At the first Church Council meeting of each year, new members receive documentation explaining their role as Trustees, which includes information provided by the Charity Commission. The Trustees receive no remuneration or other financial benefits from their work. All decisions taken at the Church Council meetings are minuted, and a summary is made available to church members and others by newsletters and in the weekly church service notices. A full copy of the Council minutes is displayed on a church noticeboard.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Management

The Trustees have maintained financial management arrangements requiring dual signatures on all cheques, and prior approval for all except minor items of expenditure.

The Trustees have maintained a Safeguarding policy with appropriate DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks for all aspects of the work of the Church with children and vulnerable adults.

The Trustees have maintained a system of formal risk assessment and a risk register. This includes mitigation strategies and is reviewed annually by the Trustees and by relevant sub-committees.

Day to Day management of the premises of the Church and the caretaking staff is delegated to the Minister, with support from members of the Church Leadership Team, some members of which are members of the Church Council.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Market Harborough Methodist Church seeks to achieve its purpose of advancing the Christian Faith by holding public worship on Sundays and on occasional weekdays, and by encouraging its members to live up to the priorities of the Methodist calling, namely evangelism, worship, service, learning and caring.

Every effort is made to ensure that the services are excellent in quality and accessible and inviting to all. The church buildings are open during the week both as a resource for local community groups to utilise and to provide a space for prayer, reflection and rest. Facilities are offered for baptisms, weddings and funerals, together with accompanying pastoral care.

The Church is an active member of ‘Churches Together in Harborough’ which promotes ecumenical dialogue, services and inter-denominational activities within Market Harborough and the surrounding area.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship

Whilst the buildings have been open for public worship, the pattern of Sunday services has been sustained, with a willingness to innovate as well as maintaining a tradition of excellence. The church continues to welcome visitors and new members.

The ‘live streaming’ system to the Church YouTube internet site continues to allow housebound and other members to experience worship in their own homes alongside the congregation in the Church or at a later date.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Property & Finance

A steady programme of maintenance has continued through the year to ensure that the buildings provide a safe and welcoming space and to reduce their carbon footprint. £16,050 (2022 £13,033) of funds has been donated during the year to support a number of local and overseas projects which help people in need.

Growth in Membership / Loss of Members

Market Harborough Methodist Church encourages people to express their Christian commitment in terms of baptism, confirmation and church membership, and to continue to grow, learn and serve, in fellowship, worship and service in the community. In the year 2023-24, we received five new members and conducted no baptisms. Sadly, six of our members died during this period, while an additional five funerals were conducted by our minister either on our church premises or at another venue. There was one wedding conducted during the year.

Community Service

The premises remain available to a wide range of community groups and activities. Church members engage as volunteers with a number of these organisations. In particular, members support the Jubilee Food Bank, the Bower House counselling service, and are involved in collecting for Christian Aid.

During the year a café was established as a safe meeting place and a source of information for Ukrainian families living within the area. It has been well supported.

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- 'Stay, Play and Weigh' is a fortnightly group for parents with babies run by volunteers from the Church. This has continued to grow in popularity, and is always very busy.
- The Minister also regularly leads assemblies or classroom sessions in two Market Harborough primary schools, and Welland Park Academy (high school), as well as two other village schools in the area. In 2022-23, the minister was involved in 37 live assemblies, one school carol service on church premises, and 6 classroom talks.
- Our Methodist Circuit employ Growth and Nurture Worker, to work in Market Harborough Methodist Church and other churches, whose job includes pastoral work, children's work, outreach, Christian nurture of adults and children, organising a network of small groups for Christian fellowship and education including helping to prepare study material.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Ecumenical Links
The Church has participated actively in Churches Together in Harborough and supported the events organised by CTH.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church suffered a small deficit for the year ended 31 August 2023 due to significant expenditure on maintenance of the buildings. Offerings from members returned to their previous levels due to many members maintaining their contributions by standing order. All other costs were minimised wherever possible to reduce the impact of the lower income although the effects of escalating energy costs are being felt throughout the Church.

Reserves Policy
The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in the unrestricted General Fund at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure. The Trustees consider that at this level, the reserves will provide sufficient working capital to cover the normal fluctuations in income and expenditure and to meet emergency calls on cash, for example for unexpected repairs. At the end of the year, General Funds equated to 37.6% of annual General Fund expenditure. (2022 = 42.2%).

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Market Harborough	Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

East Mercia	Circuit	Circuit no.	23/14

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number	**1178813**
If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number**	

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Andrew T Murphy

Church Stewards:

Mrs Maggie Hadkiss	Joint Senior Steward
Mrs Helen Green	Joint Senior Steward
Miss Catherine Clarke	Mrs Emma Ferreri
Mr Paul Colliss	Mr David Haddow
Mrs Rachel Hounsfield	Mrs Susan Nixon to 31 August 2023
	Mr Peter Hales to 31 August 2023
Mrs Kate Upcraft	From 1 September 2023

Treasurer:

Mr Richard Huntington

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Market Harborough Church

	SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year		Totals last year
			£	£	£		£
a1	**RECEIPTS**	Note					
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		68,424	11,091	**79,515**		89,730
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		1,624	1,621	**3,245**		257
a4	Lettings		23,987		**23,987**		18,992
a5	Other receipts		4,283	4,958	**9,241**		15,217
a6	**TOTAL RECEIPTS**		**98,318**	**17,670**	**115,988**	(a7)	**124,196**
	SECTION B						
b1	**PAYMENTS**						
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		46,920		**46,920**		45,395
b3	Donations			16,049	**16,049**		13,033
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		25,939		**25,939**		24,250
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		12,634		**12,634**		9,370
b6	Capital Projects		10,850		**10,850**		
b7	Other payments		6,165	2,212	**8,377**		5,699
b8	**TOTAL PAYMENTS**		**102,508**	**18,261**	**120,769**	(b9)	**97,747**
	SECTION C						
c1	**NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR**	(a6-b8)	(4,190)	(591)	**(4,781)**		26,449
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		41,447	72,130	**113,577**	(c6)	85,600
c3	**Sub total**	(c1+c2)	37,257	71,539	**108,796**		**112,049**
c4	Transfers and adjustments		4,087		**4,087**	(c7)	1,528
c5	**TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR**	(c3+c4)	**41,344**	**71,539**	**112,883**	(c8)	**113,577** (c6)

	SECTION D		
d	**FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)**	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		
d4	**BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID** (d1+d2-d3)		

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E **Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts		Payments		Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments		Opening balances		Closing balances	
e1	**Benevolence Fund**	3,022		2,745		277			711		988	
e2	**Bowls Club**	106		12		94	(550)		657		201	
e3	**Ladies Contact Group**	719		54		665			129		794	
e4	**Outreach Fund**						(1,648)		1,648			
e5	**Together Lunches**	3,353		2,489		864	(900)		490		454	
e6	**Tuesday Coffee Mornings**	1,959		690		1,269	(989)		1,148		1,428	
e7												
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	9,159		5,990		3,169	(4,087)		4,783	(e11)	3,865	(e12)
e9	**Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)**	**115,988**	(a7)	**120,769**	(b9)	**(4,781)**	**4,087**	(c7)	**113,577**	(c6)	**112,883**	(c8)
e10	**TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH**	**125,147**		**126,759**		**(1,612)**			**118,360**	(x)	**116,748**	(y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	**TOTAL RECEIPTS**		**TOTAL PAYMENTS**								

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023	OPENING BALANCES		CLOSING BALANCES	
f1	Cash in hand				
f2	Bank Current Account	3,432		5,995	
f3	Bank Deposit Account				
f4	Central Finance Board	49,710		45,194	
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	60,435		61,694	
f6	Other funds				
f7	**SUB TOTAL - Church accounts**	**113,577**	(c6)	**112,883**	(c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	**4,783**	(e11)	**3,865**	(e12)
f9	**TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH**	**118,360**	(x)	**116,748**	(y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

		At 1 September 2022	At 31 August 2023
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	34,348	34,522
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,877,257	2,975,594
g3	Other Assets		
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5	Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5

Name of Church: Market Harborough Methodist Church **Charity No: 1178813**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment 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 trustees.

Signature of Treasurer ..... Date 5/11/23

Name and address of Treasurer Richard Huntington, 16 Horsefair Close, Market Harborough,

Leicestershire, LE16 9QP

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 were/~~will be~~* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 12th October 2023

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

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Andrew T Murphy Date 8/12/2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Market Harborough Methodist Church

Charity Number 1178813

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Market Harborough Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2023 set out on pages 1 to 3. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church **Market Harborough Methodist Church** **Charity No: 1178813**

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

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

Signature of Independent Examiner .....

Name of Independent Examiner Mrs Sarah Atwell - King

Relevant professional qualification of Independent Examiner .....

Name of firm (where appropriate) .....

Address 8 Ancaster Way, North Luffenham, LE15 8LH

Date 5/11/23.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Form Review May-23

RESERVES POLICY of **Market Harborough Church Council**

1.	**General** Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2023	**£41,345 (2022 = £41,447)**
2.	**Restricted** Funds held "	**£37,016 (2022 = £37,782)**
3.	**Endowment** Funds held "	**£34,522 (2022 = £34,348)**

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds**

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in the General Fund (unrestricted) at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure.

The Trustees consider that at this level, the reserves will provide sufficient working capital to cover the normal fluctuations in income and expenditure and to meet emergency calls on cash, for example for unexpected repairs. At the end of the year, General Funds equated to 37.6% of annual General Fund Expenditure. (2022 = 42.2%)

5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

The principal Restricted Funds held are for the support of children's and youth work in the Church. At the end of the year they amounted to £ 24,844. (2022 = £26,694).

The index-linked portion of the Ivy Peach Bequest which is available for major repairs amounted to £7,910 (2022 = £6,882).

6. **Terms relating to Endowment Funds held**

The principal Endowment Fund is the Ivy Peach Bequest, which is invested with TMCP, Manchester. This permanent endowment amounts to £28,240. The interest on this bequest can be used for the maintenance of the Church buildings and the organ. The Church Council has designated that the capital in this trust should be index-linked each year to provide a fund for major repairs. Any surplus funds over and above the index-linked amount are freely available for general Church maintenance. At the end of the year, the index-linked amount was £7,910 and is shown as a restricted fund above. The freely available amount at the year-end was £nil (2022 = £nil), and is included in General Funds above.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by **Market Harborough Church Council**

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name **Richard Huntington**	Full Name **Rev Andrew T Murphy**
Signature	Signature

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1178813

Accounts

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 AUGUST 2022

Charity Number 1178813

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2022.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name: Market Harborough Methodist Church

Charity Registration Number: 1178813

THE TRUSTEES (Church Council)

The Trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

	Rev Andrew T Murphy (Chair) David Nixon (Secretary) Richard Huntington (Treasurer)
Church Stewards	Catherine Clarke Paul Colliss Maggie Hadkiss Helen Green Emma Hadkiss to 16 July 2022 Emma Ferreri from 16 July 2022 Peter Hales Susan Nixon Ian Varey to 30 September 2021 Rachel Hounsfield from 14 October 2021
Other members of the Church Council	Anita Beer Gill Billington Alan Cox Margaret Cox Brenda Davies Neil Hadkiss Shirley Hales Christine Hodgson Audrey Huntington Caroline Osborne from 24 February 2022 John Pearce Susan Routley Hannah Russell Gordon Shorley to 24 February 2022 Margaret Shorley to 24 February 2022 Ruth Thomas-Twinn Rev David Tomlin Roland Whatton

THE TRUSTEES (Church Council) (continued)

In attendance from the Market Harborough Methodist Circuit:
Peter Arnold

In attendance as an observer, the Circuit Growth and Nurture worker:
Melissa Wheeler

Independent Examiner Sarah Atwell-King

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Market Harborough Methodist Church is part of the Market Harborough Methodist Circuit, which in turn is a component of the Northampton District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

With effect from 1st September 2022, the Market Harborough Methodist Circuit will merge with the Kettering and Corby and the Rugby and Daventry Methodist Circuits to form the East Mercia Methodist Circuit, a component of the Northampton District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

The Minister, who will relinquish the position of Superintendent, is supported by internal groups and committees as follows:

Church Council
The Minister appointed to the Circuit, Church Stewards, Treasurer, Church Council Secretary, up to 21 representative Church Members (elected annually by the General Church Meeting). In attendance is a Circuit Growth and Nurture worker. All appointments are made annually, although there is an expectation that members will serve for a number of years.

All the Committees listed below report to the Church Council, which meets at least twice annually.

Church Stewards
8 stewards are elected by the General Church Meeting, for a maximum of six years. Responsible, with the Minister, for leadership over a whole range of the church's life and for acting on decisions and policies of the Church Council. Nine stewards have served over the current year.

Property Committee
5 Property Stewards manage the property on a day to day basis and develop property proposals for presentation to the Church Council, covering maintenance and building enhancements.

Pastoral Committee
Minister and Pastoral Visitors. Concerned with the pastoral care of Church members and attenders, maintenance of membership roll and promotion of fellowship through church groups.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Safeguarding Officer
The Church Council appoints a Safeguarding Officer who is appropriately trained and qualified, and this officer is supported by the Circuit Safeguarding Officers, and those at a District level.

Children and Youth Work Activities
Leaders of the various groups of children's activities are accountable to the Church Council and are also supported by a Circuit committee appointed to oversee youth work more widely.

Stewardship Committee
Meets twice-annually to discuss a nominated charity for the year, and to co-ordinate our financial appeal to members, encouraging them to review their giving.

Prayer Ministry Team
This team of volunteers is active on a Sunday morning to provide prayer support when requested.

Worship and Music Team
Worship services are led by our Minister and other Preachers appointed by the Circuit. Musicians are co-ordinated by our music co-ordinator, and the wider church are occasionally consulted by the Minister in reviewing our provision of worship services.

Governance
Our statutes of governance and procedures such as the appointment of Trustees and other officers follows '*The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church'* (**CPD**), which is revised annually by the Methodist Conference and published annually by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

The primary governing body of Market Harborough Methodist Church, in accordance with CPD, is the Church Council. Members of the Council are the Managing Trustees, and the Council is chaired by the Minister. Church Council representatives and Church Stewards are elected at the General Church Meeting which is held annually. All church members can attend this meeting and are entitled to vote and raise any issues for discussion. The Trustees actively seek nominations for new Trustees who can represent all aspects of the church community and its activities.

At the first Church Council meeting of each year, new members receive documentation explaining their role as Trustees, which includes information provided by the Charity Commission. The Trustees receive no remuneration or other financial benefits from their work. All decisions taken at the Church Council meetings are minuted, and a summary is made available to church members and others by newsletters and in the weekly church service notices. A full copy of the Council minutes is displayed on a church noticeboard.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Management

The Trustees have maintained financial management arrangements requiring dual signatures on all cheques, and prior approval for all except minor items of expenditure.

The Trustees have maintained a Safeguarding policy with appropriate DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks for all aspects of the work of the Church with children and vulnerable adults.

The Trustees have maintained a system of formal risk assessment and a risk register. This includes mitigation strategies and is reviewed annually by the Trustees and by relevant sub-committees.

Day to Day management of the premises of the Church and the caretaking staff is delegated to the Property Committee, some members of which are members of the Church Council.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Market Harborough Methodist Church seeks to achieve its purpose of advancing the Christian Faith by holding public worship on Sundays and on occasional weekdays, and by encouraging its members to live up to the priorities of the Methodist calling, namely evangelism, worship, service, learning and caring.

Every effort is made to ensure that the services are excellent in quality and accessible and inviting to all. The church buildings are open during the week both as a resource for local community groups to utilise and to provide a space for prayer, reflection and rest. Facilities are offered for baptisms, weddings and funerals, together with accompanying pastoral care.

The Church is an active member of ‘Churches Together in Harborough’ which promotes ecumenical dialogue, services and inter-denominational activities within Market Harborough and the surrounding area.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

WORSHIP IN 2022

Throughout the year, the Church was open for public worship having taken the necessary precautions to make the buildings covid-safe.

In addition to services held in the Church when the prevailing covid risk was low, contact with members has been maintained at other times by ‘Zoom’ meetings, weekly pastoral letters/emails, and regular telephone calls by pastoral visitors to those people on their pastoral lists.

Property & Finance

A steady programme of maintenance has continued through the year to ensure that the buildings provide a safe and welcoming space and to reduce their carbon footprint. £13,033 of funds has been donated during the year to support a number of local and overseas projects which help people in need.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Worship

Whilst the buildings have been open for public worship, the pattern of Sunday services has been sustained, with a willingness to innovate as well as maintaining a tradition of excellence. The church continues to welcome visitors and new members.

The 'live streaming' system introduced the previous year continues to allow housebound and other members to experience worship in their own homes alongside the congregation in the Church.

Growth in Membership / Loss of Members

Market Harborough Methodist Church encourages people to express their Christian commitment in terms of baptism, confirmation and church membership. In the year 2021-22, we received eleven new members and conducted no baptisms. One of our members moved away and, sadly, ten members died. In total, thirteen funerals were conducted either on our church premises or by the Minister at another venue (for members and non-members). There was one wedding conducted during the year.

Community Service

The premises remain available to a wide range of community groups and activities. Church members engage as volunteers with a number of these organisations. In particular, members act as Street Pastors, support the Jubilee Food Bank, the Bower House counselling service, and are involved in house-to-house collecting for Christian Aid.

During the year a café was established as a safe meeting place and a source of information for Ukrainian families living within the area. It has been well supported.

Work with Children & Young People

- 'Fishes' is our fortnightly Sunday School, with currently around 6 children regularly attending.
- 'Pizza Club' is a fortnightly gathering for young people in school years 4-7, who meet for 2 hours with a group of leaders to socialise, eat together, play games and grow in Christian discipleship. Over the year we had 21 sessions, and one youth residential weekend at a national Methodist event. In total, 22 young people attended for at least 3 sessions, with 13 young people attending 10 sessions or more. A decision was taken to extend the age range to include school years 8 & 9 in future.
- 'Stay, Play and Weigh' is a fortnightly group for parents with babies, now relaunched and run by volunteers.
- The Minister also regularly leads assemblies or classroom sessions in two Market Harborough primary schools, and Welland Park Academy (high school), as well as four other village schools in the area. In 2021-22, 19 live assemblies, 4 video assemblies and 22 classroom talks were conducted.
- Our Methodist Circuit have appointed a new Growth and Nurture Worker, whose job includes pastoral work, children's work, outreach, Christian nurture of adults and children, organising a network of small groups for Bible study, fellowship and Christian education including helping to prepare study material.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Ecumenical Links

The Church has participated actively in Churches Together in Harborough and supported the events organised by CTH.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church achieved a surplus for the year ended 31 August 2022 as the buildings were able to reopen and income from received from lettings returned to more normal levels. Offerings from members returned to their previous levels due to many members maintaining their contributions by standing order. Costs were minimised wherever possible to reduce the impact of the lower income although the effects of escalating energy costs are being felt throughout the Church.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in the unrestricted General Fund at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure. The Trustees consider that at this level, the reserves will provide sufficient working capital to cover the normal fluctuations in income and expenditure and to meet emergency calls on cash, for example for unexpected repairs. At the end of the year, General Funds equated to 42.2% of annual General Fund expenditure. (2021 = 39.3%).

During the year a number of legacies were received, principally to support Children & Young Peoples work within the Church. At the end of the year, these funds amounted to £36,694. (2021 = £5,280).

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Market Harborough	Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2022

Market Harborough	Circuit	Circuit no.	23/20

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number	**1178813**
If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number**	

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Andrew T Murphy

Church Stewards:

Miss Catherine Clarke - Senior Steward	
Mr Paul Colliss	Mrs Maggie Hadkiss
Mrs Helen Green	Mrs Susan Nixon
Me Peter Hales	Mr Ian Varey to 30 September 2021
From 14 October 2021 Mrs Rachel Hounsfield	Miss Emma Hadkiss to 16 July 2022
	Mrs Emma Ferreri from 16 July 2022

Treasurer:

Mr Richard Huntington

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Market Harborough	Church

	SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year		Totals last year	
			£	£	£		£	
a1	RECEIPTS	Note						
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		67,703	22,027	**89,730**		76,718	
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		138	119	**257**		98	
a4	Lettings		18,992		**18,992**		2,091	
a5	Other receipts		1,516	13,701	**15,217**		22,277	
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		**88,349**	**35,847**	**124,196**	(a7)	**101,184**	
	SECTION B							
b1	PAYMENTS							
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		45,395		**45,395**		44,316	
b3	Donations			13,033	**13,033**		13,965	
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		24,250		**24,250**		28,958	
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		9,370		**9,370**		5,809	
b6								
b7	Other payments		4,379	1,320	**5,699**		2,568	
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		**83,394**	**14,353**	**97,747**	(b9)	**95,616**	
	SECTION C							
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	4,955	21,494	**26,449**		5,568	
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		35,244	50,356	**85,600**	(c6)	78,775	
c3	**Sub total**	(c1+c2)	40,199	71,850	**112,049**		**84,343**	
c4	Transfers and adjustments		1,248	280	**1,528**	(c7)	1,257	
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	**41,447**	**72,130**	**113,577**	(c8)	**85,600**	(c6)

	SECTION D		
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)		

Market Harborough	Church

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E **Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances		Closing balances	
e1	See separate sheet	5,182	2,283	2,899	(1,528)	3,412		4,783	
e2									
e3									
e4									
e5									
e6									
e7									
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	5,182	2,283	2,899	(1,528)	3,412	(e11)	4,783	(e12)
e9	**Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)**	**124,196** (a7)	**97,747** (b9)	**26,449**	**1,528** (c7)	**85,600** (c6)		**113,577**	(c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	**129,378**	**100,030**	**29,348**		**89,012** (x)		**118,360**	**(y)**
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS						

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2022	OPENING BALANCES		CLOSING BALANCES	
f1	Cash in hand				
f2	Bank Current Account	5,693		3,432	
f3	Bank Deposit Account				
f4	Central Finance Board	34,551		49,710	
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	45,356		60,435	
f6	Other funds				
f7	**SUB TOTAL - Church accounts**	**85,600**	(c6)	**113,577**	(c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	**3,412**	(e11)	**4,783**	(e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	**89,012**	(x)	**118,360**	(y)

SECTION G

	OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	34,337	34,348
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,701,486	2,877,257
g3	Other Assets		
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5	Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5

Name of Church: **Market Harborough Methodist Church** **Charity No: 1178813**

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment 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 trustees.

Signature of Treasurer ..... Date 13/10/22

Name and address of Treasurer: Mr Richard Huntington, 16 Horsefair Close

Market Harborough, LE16 9QP

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were/~~will be~~* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 13th October 2022.

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

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Andrew T Murphy Date: 13/10/22

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Market Harborough Methodist Church

Charity Number: 1178813

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Market Harborough Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on pages ... to .... As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Name of Church: **Market Harborough Methodist Church** **Charity No: 117881**

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

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

Signature of Independent Examiner .....

Name of Independent Examiner: Mrs Sarah Atwell - King

Relevant professional qualification of Independent Examiner CIMA.

Name of firm (where appropriate) n/a.

Address 8 Ancaster Way, North Luffenham, LE15 8LH

Date 21/1/23.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-22

RESERVES POLICY of **Market Harborough Church Council**

1.	**General** Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2022	£41,447
2.	**Restricted** Funds held "	£37,782
3.	**Endowment** Funds held "	£34,348

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds**

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in the General Fund (unrestricted) at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure.

The Trustees consider that at this level, the reserves will provide sufficient working capital to cover the normal fluctuations in income and expenditure and to meet emergency calls on cash, for example for unexpected repairs. At the end of the year, General Funds equated to 42.2% of annual General Fund Expenditure. (2021 = 39.3%)

5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

The principal Restricted Funds held are for the support of children's and youth work in the Church. At the end of the year they amounted to £ 26,694. (2021 = £5,280).

The index-linked portion of the Ivy Peach Bequest which is available for major repairs amounted to £6,882 (2021 = £6,818).

6. **Terms relating to Endowment Funds held**

The principal Endowment Fund is the Ivy Peach Bequest, which is invested with TMCP, Manchester. This permanent endowment amounts to £28,240. The interest on this bequest can be used for the maintenance of the Church buildings and the organ. The Church Council has designated that the capital in this trust should be index-linked each year to provide a fund for major repairs. Any surplus funds over and above the index-linked amount are freely available for general Church maintenance. At the end of the year, the index-linked amount was £6,882 and is shown as a restricted fund above. The freely available amount at the year-end was £nil (2021 = £nil), and is included in General Funds above.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by **Market Harborough Church Council**

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name **Richard Huntington**	Full Name **Rev Andrew T Murphy**
Signature	Signature

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1178813

Accounts

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 AUGUST 2021

Charity Number 1178813

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2021.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name:	Market Harborough Methodist Church
Charity Registration Number:	1178813

THE TRUSTEES (Church Council)

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

	Rev Andrew T Murphy (Chair) David Nixon (Secretary) Richard Huntington (Treasurer)
Church Stewards	Catherine Clarke Paul Colliss Margaret Cox Helen Green Emma Hadkiss Peter Hales Susan Nixon Ian Varey
Other members of the Church Council	Anita Beer Donald Clinton-Smith Alan Cox Brenda Davies Maggie Hadkiss Neil Hadkiss Shirley Hales Christine Hodgson Rachel Hounsfield Audrey Huntington John Pearce Susan Routley Hannah Russell Gordon Shorley Margaret Shorley Ruth Thomas-Twinn Rev David Tomlin Roland Whatton

In attendance as an observer from the Market Harborough Methodist Circuit:
Peter Arnold

Independent Examiner	Sarah Atwell-King

MARKET HARBOROUGH METHODIST CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Market Harborough Methodist Church is part of the Market Harborough Methodist Circuit, which in turn is a component of the Northampton District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain. The Minister, who is also the Circuit Superintendent, is supported by internal groups and committees as follows:

Church Council
The Minister appointed to the Circuit, Church Stewards, Treasurer, Church Council Secretary, up to 21 representative Church Members (elected annually by the General Church Meeting). In attendance is a Circuit Steward and the Circuit Youth and Families Development worker. All appointments are made annually, although there is an expectation that members will serve for a number of years.

All the Committees listed below report to the Church Council, which meets at least twice annually.

Church Stewards
8 stewards are elected by the General Church Meeting, for a maximum of six years. Responsible, with the Minister, for leadership over a whole range of the church's life and for acting on decisions and policies of the Church Council. Eight stewards have served over the current year.

Property Committee
5 Property Stewards manage the property on a day to day basis and develop property proposals for presentation to the Church Council, covering maintenance and building enhancements.

Pastoral Committee
Minister and Pastoral Visitors. Concerned with the pastoral care of Church members and attenders, maintenance of membership roll and promotion of fellowship through church groups.

Safeguarding Officer
The Church Council appoints a Safeguarding Officer who is appropriately trained and qualified, and this officer is supported by the Circuit Safeguarding Officers, and those at a District level.

Mission and Service Team
Chair, Minister and co-opted members. Developing, facilitating, promoting and implementing the church's evangelistic witness to the Christian faith, outreach, and social action.

Children and Youth Work Activities
Leaders of the various groups of children's activities are accountable to the Church Council and are also supported by a Circuit committee appointed to oversee youth work more widely.

Stewardship Committee
Meets twice-annually to discuss a nominated charity for the year, and to co-ordinate our financial appeal to members, encouraging them to review their giving.

Prayer Ministry Team
This team of volunteers is active on a Sunday morning to provide prayer support when requested.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Worship and Music Team

Worship services are led by our Minister and other Preachers appointed by the Circuit. Musicians are co-ordinated by our music co-ordinator, and the wider church are occasionally consulted by the Minister in reviewing our provision of worship services.

Governance

Our statutes of governance and procedures such as the appointment of Trustees and other officers follows '*The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church*' (**CPD**), which is revised annually by the Methodist Conference and published annually by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

The primary governing body of Market Harborough Methodist Church, in accordance with CPD, is the Church Council. Members of the Council are the Managing Trustees, and the Council is chaired by the Minister. Church Council representatives and Church Stewards are elected at the General Church Meeting which is held annually. All church members can attend this meeting and are entitled to votes and raise any issues for discussion. The Trustees actively seek nominations for new Trustees who can represent all aspects of the church community and its activities.

At the first Council meeting of each year, new members receive documentation explaining their role as Trustees, this includes information provided by the Charity Commission. The Trustees receive no remuneration or other financial benefits from their work. All decisions taken at the Church Council meetings are minuted, and a summary is made available to church members and others through the quarterly 'Ambassador' newsletters and in the weekly church service notices. A full copy of the Council minutes is displayed on a church noticeboard.

Management

The Trustees have maintained financial management arrangements requiring dual signatures on all cheques, and prior approval for all except minor items of expenditure.

The Trustees have maintained a Safeguarding policy with appropriate DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks for all aspects of the work of the Church with children and vulnerable adults.

The Trustees have maintained a system of formal risk assessment and a risk register. This includes mitigation strategies and is reviewed annually by the Trustees and by relevant sub-committees.

Day to Day management of the premises of the Church and the caretaking staff is delegated to the Property Committee, some members of which are members of the Church Council.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Market Harborough Methodist Church seeks to achieve its purpose of advancing the Christian Faith by holding public worship on Sundays and on occasional weekdays, and by encouraging its members to live up to the priorities of the Methodist calling, namely evangelism, worship, service, learning and caring.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

Every effort is made to ensure that the services are excellent in quality and accessible and inviting to all. The church buildings are open during the week both as a resource for local community groups to utilise and to provide a space for prayer, reflection and rest. Facilities are offered for baptisms, weddings and funerals, together with accompanying pastoral care.

The Church is an active member of 'Churches Together in Harborough' which promotes ecumenical dialogue, services and inter-denominational activities within Market Harborough and the surrounding area.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

WORSHIP IN 2021

At the start of the year, the Church was open for public worship having taken the necessary precautions to make the buildings covid-safe.

During the year services have been held in the Church when the prevailing covid risk was low and at other times by 'Zoom' meetings, weekly pastoral letters/emails, weekly video messages and regular telephone calls by pastoral visitors to those people on their pastoral lists.

By the end of the year services were being held each week, with basic covid related guidelines being maintained to ensure the safety of worshippers.

Property & Finance

A steady programme of maintenance has continued through the year to ensure that the buildings provide a safe and welcoming space and to reduce their carbon footprint. Almost £14,000 of funds has been donated to support a number of local and overseas projects which help people in need.

Worship

Whilst the buildings have been open for public worship, the pattern of Sunday services has been sustained, with a willingness to innovate as well as maintaining a tradition of excellence. The church continues to welcome visitors and new members.

At the end of the year, a 'live streaming' system was introduced to allow housebound and other members to experience worship in their own homes alongside the congregation in the Church.

Growth in Membership / Loss of Members

Market Harborough Methodist Church encourages people to express their Christian commitment in terms of baptism, confirmation and church membership. In the year 2020-21, we received four new members and conducted two baptisms. Four of our members moved away and, sadly, seven members died. In total, five funerals were conducted either on our church premises or by the Minister at another venue (for members and non-members). There were no weddings conducted during the year.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

Community Service

The premises remain available to a wide range of community groups and activities. Church members engage as volunteers with a number of these organisations. In particular, members act as Street Pastors, support the Jubilee Food Bank, the Bower House counselling service, the 'Cube' young people's space, and are involved in house-to-house collecting for Christian Aid.

Work with Children & Young People

All work with children was cut short this year during the 'lockdown'.

- 'Fishes' is our fortnightly Sunday School, with currently around 6 children regularly attending.
- 'Pizza Club' is a fortnightly gathering for young people in school years 4-7, who meet for 2 hours with a group of leaders to socialise, eat together, play games and grow in Christian discipleship. This venture, paused during the pandemic, is to be relaunched in September 2021.
- 'Stay, Play and Weigh' is a fortnightly group for parents with babies, now relaunched and run by volunteers.
- The Minister also regularly leads assemblies or classroom sessions in two Market Harborough primary schools, and Welland Park Academy (high school), as well as four other village schools in the area. This work has been largely conducted with recorded messages and assemblies via our YouTube Channel, with only the occasional visit to schools during the pandemic.
- Our Methodist Circuit have appointed a new Lay Worker, to start in September 2021, whose job will include some work with children and young people.

Ecumenical Links

The Church has participated actively in Churches Together in Harborough and supported the events organised by CTH.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Church achieved a surplus for the year ended 31 August 2021 as the buildings were able to reopen and some income from lettings was received. Offerings from members returned to their previous levels due to many members maintaining their contributions by standing order. Costs were minimised wherever possible to reduce the impact of the lower income whilst the Church's employee was furloughed for the whole period of the building closure.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in the unrestricted General Fund at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure. The Trustees consider that at this level, the reserves will provide sufficient working capital to cover the normal fluctuations in income and expenditure and to meet emergency calls on cash, for example for unexpected repairs. At the end of the year, General Funds equated to 39.3% of annual General Fund expenditure. (2020 =24.5%)

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Market Harborough	Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Market Harborough Circuit	Circuit no	23/20

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number	**1178813**
If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number**	

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Andrew T Murphy

Church Stewards:

Miss Catherine Clarke - Senior Steward

Mr Paul Colliss Mrs Margaret Cox

Mrs Helen Green Mrs Susan Nixon

Mr Peter Hales Mr Ian Varey

Miss Emma Hadkiss

Treasurer:

Mr Richard Huntington

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Market Harborough Church

	SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year		Totals last year
			£	£	£		£
a1	**RECEIPTS**	Note					
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		76,718		**76,718**		70,116
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		39	59	**98**		485
a4	Lettings		2,091		**2,091**		16,796
a5	Other receipts		22,277		**22,277**		15,692
a6	**TOTAL RECEIPTS**		**101,125**	**59**	101,184	(a7)	**103,089**
	SECTION B						
b1	**PAYMENTS**						
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		44,316		**44,316**		51,216
b3	Donations		13,965		**13,965**		8,831
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		24,958	4,000	**28,958**		27,456
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		5,809		**5,809**		8,716
b6							
b7	Other payments		2,568		**2,568**		7,277
b8	**TOTAL PAYMENTS**		**91,616**	**4,000**	95,616	(b9)	**103,496**
	SECTION C						
c1	**NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR**	(a6-b8)	9,509	(3,941)	**5,568**		(407)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		24,478	54,297	**78,775**	(c6)	77,223
c3	**Sub total**	(c1+c2)	33,987	50,356	**84,343**		**76,816**
c4	Transfers and adjustments		1,257		**1,257**	(c7)	1,959
c5	**TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR**	(c3+c4)	**35,244**	**50,356**	85,600	(c8)	78,775 (c6)

	SECTION D		
	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS		
d	**(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)**	£	£
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations		
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		
d4	**BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID** (d1+d2-d3)		

Market Harborough Church

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E **Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page**

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

	INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1	See separate sheet	697	2,447	(1,750)	(1,257)	6,419	3,412
e2							
e3							
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	697	2,447	(1,750)	(1,257)	6,419 (e11)	3,412 (e12)
e9	**Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)**	**101,184** (a7)	**95,616** (b9)	**5,568**	**1,257** (c7)	**78,775** (c6)	**85,600** (c8)
e10	**TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH**	**101,881**	**98,063**	**3,818**		**85,194** (x)	**89,012** (y)
	Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	**TOTAL RECEIPTS**	**TOTAL PAYMENTS**				

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

	CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1	Cash in hand		
f2	Bank Current Account	4,960	5,693
f3	Bank Deposit Account		
f4	Central Finance Board	24,518	34,551
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	49,297	45,356
f6	Other funds		
f7	**SUB TOTAL - Church accounts**	**78,775** (c6)	**85,600** (c8)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	**6,419** (e11)	**3,412** (e12)
f9	**TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH**	**85,194** (x)	**89,012** (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

		At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	34,329	34,337
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	2,701,486	2,701,486
g3	Other Assets		
g4	Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5	Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board
f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5

Name of Church: Market Harborough Methodist Church

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of Treasurer ..... Date 28/10/21

Name and address of Treasurer: Richard Huntington

16 Horsefair Close, Market Harborough, Leics Post Code: LE16 9QP

Presentation to the Church Trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 14 October 2021.

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

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev Andrew T Murphy Date 03/11/21

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Market Harborough Methodist Church

Charity Number 1178813

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Market Harborough Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 1 to 3 As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church: Market Harborough Methodist Church

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

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

Signature of independent examiner .....

Name of independent examiner Mrs Sarah Atwell-King

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner ACA

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 8 Ancaster Way

North Luffenham Post Code LE15 8LH

Date 24-10-21

* delete or circle as appropriate

RESERVES POLICY of **Market Harborough Church Council**

1.	**General** Funds held at Y/E 31/08/2021	£35,244
2.	**Restricted** Funds held "	£16,019
3.	**Endowment** Funds held "	£34,337

4. **Reserves policy for General Funds**

The Trustees aim to maintain free reserves in the General Fund (unrestricted) at a level which equates to approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure.

The Trustees consider that at this level, the reserves will provide sufficient working capital to cover the normal fluctuations in income and expenditure and to meet emergency calls on cash, for example for unexpected repairs. At the end of the year, General Funds equated to 39.3% of annual General Fund Expenditure. (2020 = 24.5%)

5. **Policy for Restricted Funds**

The principal Restricted Fund, of £6,818 (2020 = £6,770) is the index-linked portion of the Ivy Peach Bequest and is available for major repairs. A bequest of £5,000, to be used for the support of children's work in the Church is held as a restricted fund.

6. **Terms relating to Endowment Funds held**

The principal Endowment Fund is the Ivy Peach Bequest, which is invested with TMCP, Manchester. This permanent endowment amounts to £28,240. The interest on this bequest can be used for the maintenance of the Church buildings and the organ. The Church Council has designated that the capital in this trust should be index-linked each year to provide a fund for major repairs. Any surplus funds over and above the index-linked amount are freely available for general Church maintenance. At the end of the year, the index-linked amount was £6,818 and is shown as a restricted fund above. The freely available amount at the year-end was £nil (2020 = £nil), and is included in General Funds above.

This Reserves Policy has been approved by **Market Harborough Church Council**

Treasurer	Trustee
Full name **Richard Huntington**	Full Name **Rev Andrew T Murphy**
Signature	Signature