



# Poppleton Methodist Church

'God's people weaving new patterns  
of faithful service for everyone'



## Trustees of Poppleton Methodist Church present their Annual Report for year ended 31st August 2022

Charity Commission: Registered Number **1179142**

Official address: The Green, Upper Poppleton, York YO26 6DP

The governing documents of the Methodist Church are the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

### Section 4 Methodist Church Act 1976 states

*The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be Purposes deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of --*

- (a) the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church.*
- (b) any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church.*
- (c) any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution being a society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.*
- (d) any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.*

## The Mission Statement of Poppleton Methodist Church - based on "Our Calling" from the Methodist Church

### Pillar 1: Worship

#### Vision

Our worship will be appealing and relevant to all age groups and people will really want to join in.

#### Mission

1. To enhance the worship experience by exploring various styles of worship.
2. To be more modern and forward-looking and make services more relevant and related to daily living.
3. To endeavour to have greater visibility of worship: if it **looks** interesting people will be more inclined to think it **is** interesting and **come in**. Strap line - "**Open** the Church, **see** in, **Come** in".

### Pillar 2: Learning and Caring

#### Vision

Our Church experience is enriched through a variety of learning and caring opportunities that will allow us to grow in faith and share God's love.

#### Mission

1. To build on the range of groups that meet on a regular basis.
2. To develop pastoral care, adopting a "Loving neighbour" approach, based on "**Visit** and **Ask** and **Watch**".
3. To aspire to be a Powerhouse of Learning, Caring, Mission, Prayer and Deepening Faith.
4. To ensure our activities are truly inclusive.

### Pillar 3: Service

#### Vision

Through our service to the community, we will make God's love real to those around us.

#### Mission

1. To address unsatisfied needs in the community using our gifts to develop our engagement with those around us.
2. To use the redeveloped premises to offer additional options to the community enabling us to engage and build relationships with more people.
3. To use the improved facilities to further develop our catering ministry.

### Pillar 4: Evangelism

#### Vision

Our engagement with the community, and a varied programme of outreach, will encourage more people to explore the Christian Faith.

#### Mission

1. To ensure we use the new facilities and our landmark location to make people feel comfortable coming on to the premises.
2. To encourage a whole Church welcome and enthusiasm for families and children.
3. To be more confident in sharing our faith.
4. To show the community our faith by our actions.
5. To communicate more effectively with the local community.

All this to be undergirded by a commitment to prayer and every-member ministry.

## The Administration of Poppleton Methodist Church

The Church is held on the 1976 Model Trust by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, and the Church Council act as Managing Trustees.

### Managing Trustees at 31st August 2022

Chairman	Rev Elizabeth Cushion from 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022 (Previously Rev Ian Hill to 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2022)	
Secretary	Chris Boothman	
Treasurer	John Morrison	
Pastoral Secretary	Marilyn Ingle	Representatives elected by the Church Meeting:
Church Stewards	Chris Boothman	
	Moirra Dacker	
	Wendy Heap	
	Moirra Howard	
	John Middleton	
	Frances Priestnall	
	Chris Scholtz	
	Christine Stephenson	
Plus, Members elected by the Church Council		
	Jenny Cookson	Mission Committee
	Sue Cushing	Coffee on the Green
	Sheila Latto	Fund Raising
	Sheila Middleton	Circuit Council Representative
	Peter Scholtz	RUACH
Ecumenical Rep	Lynda Salmon (not a Trustee)	

During the year, Margaret Catchpole retired as a managing trustee and steward - we are very grateful for the service, time & energy Margaret put into her roles. Although a trustee, Adrian Radford hasn't been active in that capacity during the year.

The Church Council appoints annually all Church Officers as determined from time to time by the Council whether on the nomination of a committee or otherwise; all such appointments being for the year commencing 1<sup>st</sup> May, apart from the Church Treasurer, whose appointment commences on 1<sup>st</sup> September. The Council will also appoint the committees of the Church, again, as from 1<sup>st</sup> May each year. Elected Church Council members are appointed by the Annual Church meeting at which all Church members are eligible to vote.

### Minister's Report

Rev Ian Hill, the Minister in Poppleton for a number of years, retired on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022. During his ministry he has led us through many areas including the Covid epidemic, whilst all the time, maintaining the cohesiveness of our Church in Poppleton. He has also overseen successful delivery of Phase 1 of the RUACH project. RUACH, refurbishment of other buildings together with the skills of the Church Council has already, and will continue to broaden the Church's mission and outreach capability. As a community we are indebted, not only to the members of the RUACH Committee for all the work that has gone, and continues to go, into making this vision a reality, but also to all of you for your generous giving.

As well as the usual traditional services at Easter, Pentecost, Harvest and Christmas we held a special memorial service for families of all those lost during the Covid pandemic and unable to have a proper funeral service plus a farewell service for Ian Hill on his retirement as our Minister. We were also pleased to host a wedding, a golden wedding renewal of marriage vows and a baptism service during the course of the year.

September 2022 saw the arrival of Bill Topping, appointed as our new part time community outreach worker. Bill was welcomed into the Church family and quickly became involved in all aspects of Church life, integrating well into the community and strengthening existing links with Ebor Court Care Home, Coffee on the Green customers and Poppleton under 5s group. He has liaised with members of the Mission Committee and like-minded Anglican friends to explore ways to attract younger people into the Church and has worked as a volunteer leader at the Village Youth Club who now meet on our premises. Bill organised and led a 'Vision Day' - an opportunity for all to meet and discuss ideas, hopes and aspirations for use of the new hall and how to increase outreach to the village at large. Bill has used his excellent networking skills to get to know all our members and users and has become well known and respected by both young and old in the local community.

In April, Church Council debated and voted on whether to allow same sex marriages to be conducted in our church. After much prayerful deliberation it was agreed to allow the church to be registered for same sex marriages and to allow blessing of previously married same sex couples to take place.

As can be seen from the above and the reports below from areas of our Church life during the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022, there is a vibrancy to what we are doing in connection with our mission and outreach.

#### **a) STEWARDS REPORT**

The team of 9 was reduced to 8 during the year and as Covid restriction eased stewards were able to resume contacting and liaising with preachers and preparing the church for weekly worship. Acting as a link between the Minister and the congregation they also helped with funerals and any special services that took place.

#### **b) MISSION COMMITTEE**

Outreach activities included: Christmas shoeboxes sent to Link to Hope; Christmas plant distribution to housebound and recently bereaved in the village in conjunction with the Anglican Church; Christmas toiletries parcels sent to Askham Grange prison; & a New Year tea party for the elderly. As ever we continue to explore ways to encourage young families onto our premises and are pleased to be working with our new outreach worker Bill Topping in pursuit of this. The Art and Craft Group successfully reopened after the pandemic has proved very popular with members from across the village community.

#### **c) FUND RAISING**

We have been able to start fund raising again now the Covid restrictions have been eased. Events held during the year include Mothering Sunday afternoon tea, Spring Fair, Children's Sports Day, Strawberry Tea, Musical Concerts, and the annual Village Show. Fundraising is now fully ongoing for our RUACH project.

#### **d) RUACH PROJECT**

The construction of the new hall (Phase 1 of RUACH) was complete at the end of 2021. There was a period of dealing with snags, but the church occupied the new building as soon as possible. The facilities comprise the hall with recessed stage, a galley tearoom, disabled and two other toilets, a meeting room (named The Inman Room), a store and plant room. The heating is powered by an Air Source Heat Pump and is underfloor. There are solar panels on the new hall roof. Bifold doors lead out to a large flagged patio area with lawned garden and all weather areas for the children. There are three garden sheds for storage. The hall is equipped with an electric projection screen with fixed projector, a sound system, stage lights, electric piano and Wi-Fi.

The Under 5's Playgroup relocated into the new hall from their base in the old hall using the patio as their outside area until church volunteers levelled the garden and laid turfs to create a lawn. The village pantomime took place in the new hall in February and events which would previously have taken place in the old hall switched to the new one. This has freed up the old hall for other activities so now when we need a funeral tea it can be served in the old hall without disturbing the Under 5's activities. In addition, a drop-in youth group has started meeting in the old hall and a Dementia Forward group has started to meet in the new hall.

A village Open Day for the new hall was held on 20th March to show off and publicise the premises and was very well attended. A thanksgiving service was held on 27th July for the successful completion of Phase 1.

Following a review of Phases 2 and 3 the church approved a change of approach. This was in recognition of the importance of the church café to the life of the village especially to the elderly who use it to get out of their houses and meet their friends. If we undertake the changes to the chapel as phase 2 we can use that space to run a viable café service during phase 3 when the old hall will be closed for about a year. Work has commenced to specify the phase 2 changes needed to the chapel in readiness for getting the work priced so that fundraising can start.

#### **e) PROPERTY STEWARD**

During the past year, to the best of my knowledge, the property stewardship aspects of our property have been routinely maintained to a level that meets all related statutory and discretionary requirements and it is believed that the premises have continued to be fit-for-purpose. There are parts of the building where the condition of the paint and plaster are extremely poor but rectifying some of these issues has been deliberately delayed due to the RUACH development.

The quinquennial inspection has been conducted and reported on. The Annual Report has been completed and submitted.

Significant alterations to the Church's land use and its premises were made by a team of Church members charged with preparing for and the subsequent partial demolition and re-development part of RUACH phase 1 – only minimal disruption to routine use of the premises was seen. The new parts of the premises are being well used and the new garden is ready for use.

A new team of Church members has been appointed to conduct the Property Stewardship maintenance of the Property. Any property issues will now be dealt with by an appropriate member of this new team.

#### **f) COFFEE ON THE GREEN**

Coffee on the Green has had a positive year and is now open every Monday & Tuesday, serving an extensive menu including hot bacon sandwiches, soup, lunches, and full afternoon teas. Customer numbers continue to grow, and we are pleased to see many new faces as well as our regular friends coming to enjoy our hospitality.

In conjunction with the Fund-raising committee we held a Yorkshire Day full afternoon tea and opened on two full weekends for the Poppleton Village Scarecrow and Pumpkin trail. We also provided refreshments at the village show, another community event in the village.

We are encouraged by several group bookings for Afternoon Tea and the regular Book Group who meet in our cafe. Dementia Forward started to provide a session on a Tuesday in the new hall and we are able to supply some of the group lunches and are keen to develop this further.

We are, as usual, continuing with our Saturday Charity Coffee Mornings. In the past 12 months we have supported, UNICEF, the local hospice, Oxfam, York Against Cancer, Yorkits, Motor Neurone Society, Parkinsons UK, Poppleton under 5's and All We Can.

We have partnered with the Coop store in the village to accept fruit and vegetables that have just passed their "best before date" and would have gone to landfill. We then check the quality and use some of them in our café for soups and cakes. Items we do not use go on to the food bank run by Lidgett Methodist Church.

Our volunteers are from the wider village community as well as our church family and all generously and willingly donate their skills and time. We continue to work hard together as a team, creating a friendly welcome to everyone who comes to enjoy good quality food and drink at very reasonable prices.

#### **g) ECO CHURCH**

In December we registered as an Eco Church showing our support for sustainability and our care for God's world. Initiatives introduced have been a seed swap and a successful monthly refill stall offering eco-friendly cleaning and washing products.

#### **h) TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP**

During the Pandemic we kept in touch with all our members and resumed meeting face to face again in Sept 2021. Our numbers were low at first, but we are now getting between 17 and 20 members. We have had some very good speakers and finished 2022 in July with a Strawberry Tea.

#### **i) CAMEO**

This group, open for anyone to Come And Meet Each Other in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, arranges monthly speakers covering a wide variety of topics. After Covid restrictions were lifted meetings could resume in January and topics included The History of Nursery Rhymes, The National Trust, Andrew Lloyd Webber musicals, meeting the Queen and a cake decorating demonstration.

#### **j) EBOR COURT SERVICES**

Services at this local retirement and nursing home resumed in June and are led bi-monthly by a team from our church.

#### **k) ALL WE CAN**

Support and fund raising for this charity has continued throughout the year with coffee morning, concert, and BBQ events.

Our new Minister, Rev Elizabeth Cushion started on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 and is already well integrated into the community in Poppleton.

### **Financial Report**

#### **1. General Unrestricted Church Receipts and Payments**

##### Receipts

Total income is up by around £24,000 on the previous year, as we returned to normal after the pandemic, and started using the new hall. Standing orders have increased since we stopped the envelope scheme. The Gift Aid received is slightly up when the small cash Gift Aid is included.

Rental income from the Under 5s has increased, and the overall letting income is up by nearly £12,000. Coffee on the Green receipts are up by £10,000 to nearly £19,000, but this is partly offset by increased expenses of £5,300.

##### Payments

Total expenses were up considerably, to nearly £83,000 (2021: £61,000). However, this includes the resumption in our regular donations of £2,350 to Methodist charities, which we postponed in July 2021. Also, we gave £5,000 to Connexion to help with their Pension fund deficit. The insurance premium has increased by around 50% and our cleaning contract increased in April due to increased hours needed and the addition of VAT.

After many discussions with the energy provider, at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022 there was no up to date information on our electricity costs incurred or contract post installation of new electric meters on 10<sup>th</sup> May & 8<sup>th</sup> July. Electricity totalling £1,597 included in 2021-22 is only up to the date the new meters were installed, and therefore an underestimate of the total annual cost. Electricity payments, made so far in 2022-23, include an extra 2-4 months' retrospective cost.



## Unrestricted Fund Balances at Year End

The final figures for the year show a surplus of income over expenditure of £5,810 for church activities, not including RUACH, which in the present situation is very positive. During the year a transfer of £236,114 was made from General Unrestricted Funds to the Restricted RUACH Fund to support completion of Phase 1 of the programme. At the start of the RUACH project, Church Council agreed that our reserves held at TMCP (Methodist Connexion) could be used for the building project. This was money received mainly as legacies from two sources and accumulated interest. The total on 31 August 2021 was £221,312. Since September 2021, we have drawn down all these funds so on December 31, 2021, there was a zero balance at TMCP.

The balance on the General Unrestricted Fund at the year-end is recorded as £87,520. and our unrestricted reserves are much less than those in prior years.

## **2. RUACH (Restricted) Fund**

The RUACH Building Project Restricted Fund holds dedicated monies for the project and is in addition to monies held in the Unrestricted Fund which might be allocated to support this specific project. During the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022 it was agreed to transfer £236,414 from the general unrestricted fund to the restricted RUACH Fund.

Since the Fund commenced 5 years ago, a wide variety of fundraising activities have been held, individual generous donations made, gift aid recovered and grants from third parties received. The follow summarises the current position on 31 August 2022 and includes the total amount paid to 31 August 2022, being in respect of Phase 1 of this programme.

Now that Phase 1 of the project is complete barring a small retention, the balance of £18,517 is carried forward towards a final retention payment on Phase 1 and for Phase 2.

RUACH RESTRICTED FUNDS MAKEUP	
	Totals to 31:8:22
Donations Fund Raising & Gift Aid	169,373
Grants Received	249,550
Interest	2,159
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>421,082</b>
Transferred from General Unrestricted Funds	236,414
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>-638,979</b>
<b>Net Movement</b>	<b>18,517</b>
Fund Balance B/Fwd	0
<b>FUND BALANCE C/FWD</b>	<b>18,517</b>

## **3. RUACH Project Update – April 2023**

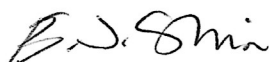
Phase 1 of our RUACH building project, to build a new church hall, has been completed. We are now fully operational, and the facility is greatly appreciated by church members as well as other users from Poppleton and nearby. All outstanding fees have been paid including, in 2022/23, the final retention fee of £12,762. It was decided that we needed to install acoustic panels inside the new hall, and these have greatly improved the sound quality for general users as well as during events. It was agreed by Church Council that the cost of the panels would be paid from General church funds and half was included in the accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022, with the balance paid in 2022/23.

It was also agreed to change the order of the next Phases. Phase 2 will now involve the chapel refurbishment (levelling the floor and removal of pews and better insulation and heating). Phase 3 will then be the revamping of the old hall. It was felt this would allow continuity of premises use during the work, as well as being preferred by the church going members.

## **4. Methodist Chapel Aid (MCA) Loan**

In March 2021, Church Council agreed to take out a loan option from MCA, as a contingency to cover any shortfall in the funding of, or unexpected costs with, Phase 1 of the RUACH project. Extra funds were not needed and no loan drawdown was required. The option has now expired.

The Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts on pages 1 to 8 were approved by the Trustees on ~~29~~ **June 2023** and signed on their behalf by:



Revd Elizabeth Cushion (Chairman of Trustees and of Church Council) and Dr John Morrison (Treasurer)

**POPPLETON METHODIST CHURCH**  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**1 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals: 2022	Totals: 2021
RECEIPTS	Note	£	£	£	£
Offerings and Tax recovered		48,440	3,310	<b>51,751</b>	51,881
Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		297	48	<b>345</b>	514
Lettings		18,489	0	<b>18,489</b>	6,812
Other receipts		21,101	105,729	<b>126,830</b>	167,331
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>88,327</b>	<b>109,087</b>	<b>197,414</b>	<b>226,538</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Circuit Assessment or Share		47,296	0	<b>47,296</b>	45,044
Donations		2,350	0	<b>2,350</b>	0
Repairs and Maintenance		9,419	0	<b>9,419</b>	8,997
Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		5,060	0	<b>5,060</b>	4,622
Other payments		18,392	372,515	<b>390,907</b>	211,016
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>82,517</b>	<b>372,515</b>	<b>455,032</b>	<b>269,680</b>
<b>NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>5,810</b>	<b>(263,428)</b>	<b>(257,617)</b>	<b>(43,142)</b>
Total funds brought forward from last year		318,124	45,531	<b>363,655</b>	406,797
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>323,934</b>	<b>(217,897)</b>	<b>106,037</b>	<b>363,655</b>
Transfers and adjustments		(236,414)	236,414	<b>0</b>	0
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>		<b>87,520</b>	<b>18,517</b>	<b>106,037</b>	<b>363,655</b>

**Charity & Mission Funds:**

A number of Church activities give rise to funds being donated for specific designated charities and missionary funds, which are paid over directly to those organisations. Such receipts and payments are not included elsewhere in these financial statements. The following summarises this activity.

	Totals: 2022 £	Totals: 2021 £
Balance brought forward from last year	0	0
Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	4,426	592
Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	4,426	592
<b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**POPPLETON METHODIST CHURCH**  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**2 STATEMENTS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

	<b>CLOSING BALANCES 31st Aug 2022 £</b>	<b>OPENING BALANCES 1st Sep 2021 £</b>
Cash in hand	40	0
Bank Current Account	13,504	39,064
Bank Deposit Account	31,198	18,166
Central Finance Board	58,004	81,830
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	0	221,312
Other funds	3,292	3,283
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>106,037</b>	<b>363,655</b>

<b>Represented by:</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>87,520</b>	318,124
	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>18,517</b>	45,531

The value of the land and buildings forming the Methodist Chapel and Church Hall are not included in these financial statements as they are included in the financial statements of York Methodist Circuit Charity No.1134381. They are however insured for the sum of £2,250,000 (2021: £1,479,764). Additional specialist insurance was taken out to cover the RUACH building works.

**3 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Totals: 2022 £</b>	<b>Totals: 2021 £</b>
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Voluntary income	48,440	24,039	72,479	83,879
Grants received	0	85,000	85,000	126,300
Activities for generating funds	18,489	0	18,489	6,812
Income from investments	297	48	345	514
Church activities	21,101		21,101	9,033
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>88,327</b>	<b>109,087</b>	<b>197,414</b>	<b>226,538</b>
<b>Total Resources Expended - Church Activities</b>	<b>-82,517</b>	<b>-372,515</b>	<b>-455,032</b>	<b>-269,680</b>
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>	<b>5,810</b>	<b>-263,428</b>	<b>-257,618</b>	<b>-43,142</b>
Balances b/fwd 1st September 2021	318,124	45,531	363,655	406,797
Transfer from General Fund to RUACH Fund	-236,414	236,414	0	
<b>Balances c/fwd 31st August 2022</b>	<b>87,520</b>	<b>18,517</b>	<b>106,037</b>	<b>363,655</b>

**4 INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**

There are a number of organisations that are linked to Poppleton Methodist Church and make reports to the Church Council. The accounts for these organisations are held separately from the Accounts of Poppleton Methodist Church and are not included in Accounting Tables 1, 2 or 3 above. Where money is paid over to Poppleton Methodist Church these amounts are included in Payments in Table 4 below and as Receipts in Table 1. Results of these organisations are however reported in the Annual Financial Return to the Methodist Circuit and are noted here for completeness only.

<b>INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Payments</b>	<b>Net Receipts/ (Payments)</b>	<b>Adjustments</b>	<b>Opening balances 1st Sep 2021</b>	<b>Closing balances 31st Aug 2022</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Drama Group (See Note Below)</b>	2,190	(297)	1,893		3,807	5,700
<b>Tuesday Fellowship</b>	497	(394)	103		479	582
<b>Cameo</b>	278	(500)	(222)		382	160
<b>Coffee and Tea on the Green</b>	0	(40)	(40)		40	0
<b>Internal Organisations funds</b>	<b>2,965</b>	<b>(1,231)</b>	<b>1,734</b>		<b>4,709</b>	<b>6,443</b>

*Drama Group Note: Due to changes in members of the Committee, access to the bank account and its information has been restricted. This is being actively resolved and will help to further substantiate the overall position of the Drama Group.*

**POPPLETON METHODIST CHURCH  
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022**

**5. NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022**

**5.1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparation**

The Accounts of Poppleton Methodist Church ('PMC') have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, The Methodist Church Act 1976 and principles in 'The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church', using the Receipts & Payments basis. Receipts and Payments include income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid. The Accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which PMC is responsible in law. They don't include accounts of Internal Organisations (Table 4) nor those of informal gatherings of Church members.

**Funds**

Unrestricted funds represent the General Funds which are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of PMC. These may include funds potentially designated for a particular purpose by PMC eg, the RUACH Project.

Restricted funds represent a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by PMC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The Trustees do not always invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis.

Restricted funds entirely comprise the RUACH Building Project. In addition, funds raised specifically for designated charities or missionary work (as per section 1) are segregated and paid over directly to the charity or mission. There are no endowment funds.

**Fixed assets**

The value of the land and buildings forming the Methodist Chapel and Church Hall are not included in these financial statements as they are included in the financial statements of York Methodist Circuit Charity No.1134381.

Fixtures and fittings as well as enhancements to the buildings forming the Methodist Church and Church Hall are fully expensed in the year the invoices are settled.

**Cash Assets**

In addition to Cash held in banks and with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, some cash has been held in interest bearing Deposit Accounts at Methodist Chapel Aid Limited.

In addition, certain legacies received by PMC are affected by Section 15(2) of the Methodist Church Act 1976. These monies are held in trust for the benefit of PMC, under the direction of the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. These trust monies are interest bearing and subject to administration charges. The balance at 31st August 2022 is £0.

**5.2. RESERVE POLICIES**

**For Unrestricted General Funds:**

In the year to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022, phase 1 of the RUACH Building project was completed. We have drawn down our total balance from the General Fund held at TMCP in support of the RUACH Building Project.

General Funds for non-RUACH expenses will aim to be kept at around 50% of our normal annual expenditure. General Funds are above this threshold, giving some leeway to cover some fixtures and fittings for our new hall and extra running costs during the first year of its operation.

**For Restricted Funds:**

The Restricted Fund represents our savings for the next Phase (2) of the RUACH Building Project, with no minimum reserve. Phase 1's final balance was paid in early September 2022, reducing the restricted funds figure above by £12,762. Fundraising continues and the Phase 2 fund should gradually increase over the year.

**POPPLETON METHODIST CHURCH  
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2022**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Poppleton Methodist Church ('PMC')**

I report on the Accounts contained within the Trustees' Annual Report of Poppleton Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2022, set out on pages 1 to 8.

**Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner**

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- i) examine the Accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act.
- ii) follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- iii) state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the Accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the Accounts and the Trustees' Annual Report and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

- 1) Which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act; or to prepare Accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act, have not been met; or
- 2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached.



**Andrew GL Wordie RD BSc FCA**  
Independent Examiner  
12 Easthorpe Drive  
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29<sup>th</sup> June 2023