

SUTTON ON HULL METHODIST CHURCH
ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING
SUNDAY 12TH MAY 2024

PRESENT:

Rev Debbie Lucas, Mr Phil Langdale, Deacon Sue Langdale, Mr Jim Maslen ,
Mr Andrew Bettley, Mrs Margaret Parker, Mrs Fiona Houghton, Mr Bill Dixon,
Mrs Penny Dixon, Mrs Elaine Calver, Mr Steve Calver, Mrs Pat Dyson, Mrs Margaret Bettley,
Mrs Ann Borrill, Mrs Eileen Edwards, Mr Matthew Bunting, Mr Dennis Robson,
Mrs Linda Whitton, Mr Garry Middleton, Mrs Barbara Whelan, Mr Mike Winfield,
Mrs Wendy Winfield

The meeting started at 12.40 pm

OPENING PRAYER

Rev Debbie opened the meeting with prayer, with special prayers for the family of Mr Geoff Langley (Hedon Methodist Church) as we had just heard of his sudden death.

APOLOGIES:

Mrs Angie Meadley, Mr Phil Plumb, Mrs Elaine Plumb, Mrs Julie Lloyd, Mr Ray Lloyd,
Mr Colin Harker, Mrs Ruth Harker, Rev Randall Barlow, Mrs Pauline Barlow

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the last Annual Church Meeting held on Sunday 14th May 2023 were referred to, having been distributed 24/06/23. Mrs Penny Dixon proposed that they were accepted as a true record. Mrs Elaine Calver seconded this.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF ACM 14/05/23

- A new computer had been purchased and is now in use in the Church each Sunday.
- We now have operational WiFi, as a result of work done by Steve Calver for Warm Welcome, and it is mobile.

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

The meeting remembered with thanks the life of Laurie Berry. His family was also remembered in our time of prayer. A service to celebrate Laurie's life will be held at 12 noon on Tuesday 4th June.

CHURCH STEWARDS

Mrs Fiona Houghton, Mr Andrew Bettley, Mrs Margaret Parker, Mrs Linda Whitton, Mr Bill Dixon and Mrs Wendy Winfield are all able and willing to serve as Church Stewards for a further year. In addition Mrs Angie Meadley and Mr Robin Siddle are happy to continue fulfilling their roles as Church Life Stewards.

Mr Phil Langdale proposed that the Meeting accept the above Church Members as Stewards and Church Life Stewards, for the year up to May 2025, and Mrs Penny Dixon seconded this. This proposal was carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Currently Church Member Representatives to the Church Council are:

Deacon Sue Langdale, Mrs Elaine Calver, Mr Jim Maslen, Mrs Ann Borrill, Mrs Margaret Bettley, Mrs Pat Dyson, Mr Phil Plumb.

Mrs Penny Dixon proposed that these members continue as Church Representatives and Mr Bill Dixon seconded this.

Mr Steve Calver was asked if he would be willing to serve as a Church Representative to the Church Council. Steve indicated that he would be willing to take on this role.

Mrs Penny Dixon proposed that Steve be accepted as a Church Representative and Mr Bill Dixon seconded this.

WRITTEN REPORTS FOR 2023 - 2024

The Reports were distributed as paper copies. Rev Debbie Lucas asked if the Meeting was happy to receive the reports and she thanked all who had written and submitted a report.

Additions to the reports: Mr Steve Calver said that the Potterill Lane Courtyard area had developed really well, offering a relaxing outside area for both Warm Welcome visitors, the Church Family and also other users of the premises.

ITEMS RAISED CONCERNING THE LIFE AND WITNESS OF THE CHURCH

- **Property Steward** - Rev Debbie informed the Meeting that Mr Robin Siddle was stepping down from the role of Property Steward. The Church family are very grateful for the work Robin has carried out in this role over several years. The Business Committee is currently covering the jobs of Property Stewards, working as a team.

- **Conversation on same-sex marriage services and services of blessing for same-sex couples who are already married**

Rev Debbie informed the Meeting of the following:

The Methodist Conference of 2021 made provisional legislations for the possibility of same-sex church marriages/blessings. Conference stated that there would be no obligation/requirement to change its existing solemnization/authorisations or for a church to change its registration.

In this ACM Sutton Methodist Church has an opportunity to discuss the subject before the matter is taken to the Church Council. Therefore, Debbie stressed, in the context of the ACM it is a general conversation.

The current legislation for Sutton Methodist Church covers the marriage/blessing of heterosexual couples. Within the Church there are/will be contradictory thoughts and opinions. Individual churches/congregations need to consider their options. A change does not have to happen as a result of this conversation. The subject can be reconsidered at agreed time intervals, such as every five years.

The following are questions or comments from those present in the Meeting:

1. Have there been any enquiries about Sutton Methodist Church being able to offer a same-sex marriage or blessing? Rev Debbie said she hasn't been asked.
2. Rev Debbie was asked how she felt about the subject. Rev Debbie said that she follows the guidelines of the Methodist Church (The Connexion), along with her own personal thoughts, but she would, if and when, make a decision on this. Sutton Methodist Church needs to make its own decision. Debbie said that she covers churches that have differing viewpoints.
3. Rev Debbie was asked what would happen if she was asked to conduct a same-sex marriage/blessing but she didn't want to do so. Rev Debbie said that there is an option to ask a colleague to do it, if that is appropriate.
4. A member of the Meeting pointed out that we are being asked to consider the standpoint of Sutton Methodist Church collectively, not the views or wishes of our minister.

5. Another member of the Meeting said that we can only give our own personal viewpoint and that the process is the same as for heterosexual couples, that is supporting a couple who want to make a commitment to each other in God's name.
6. In response to the above, the comment was made that there might be a situation where a minister might consider that a heterosexual couple's relationship should not result in marriage.
7. One member of the Meeting questioned why some couples wish to be married in church even though they are not 'church people'. This was countered with the comment that even with a 'hotel' wedding a couple decide to publicly make a commitment to each other.
8. Rev Debbie said that ultimately the decision of the Church Council could be any one of - apply to change our registration, wait for now, decline the suggestion of offering marriages/blessings for same-sex couples.
9. One member declared that the Church belongs to everyone; we open our doors nearly every day of the week, so that we can **welcome** people.
10. Another member said that the Church is here to serve the Community.
11. A further comment was to consider our feelings if the request for a same-sex marriage/blessing came from a member of our own family.
12. We strive to be an accepting, caring group of people who realise there are other views and opinions.
13. One of the stewards said that the current wave of EDI and UB (Unconscious Bias) training would suggest that whatever the gender of the partners in a couple, the love is the same if they wish to commit to each other.
14. Rev Debbie said that she was hearing that the general consensus is to take the subject to the Church Council. We will need an Extraordinary Church Council Meeting, hopefully sometime during the summer, rather than waiting until the October Church Council which would create time constrictions on the discussion.
15. A member of the Meeting said that if anyone has really strong feelings on the matter, please would they say, privately if necessary, as we don't want anyone to 'walk away' from the Church as a result of this conversation.
16. It was pointed out that if Sutton Methodist Church says "No" then there might be another church in the Circuit that would be able to offer a marriage ceremony/blessing to a same-sex couple.
17. At the beginning of the conversation Rev Debbie had indicated that there were differences between the request/response for a marriage /blessing. Rev Debbie was asked to clarify the difference. She replied by saying that we could agree on the provision of a same-sex blessing without needing to apply to change the registration. As long as the Church Council has agreed to the provision of same-sex blessings these can go ahead.
18. One member said that initially three years ago she had thought "No" to the idea of a same-sex blessing but now she thinks "Yes". So collectively, if we currently decide "No" then in three or five year's time we might have changed to "Yes".

A straw poll was taken on the question 'Does this Meeting feel that it wants to take this conversation/process forward to the Church Council?' This was clearly carried, with just one abstention. **Action:** The Extraordinary Church Council will be held before the scheduled October Church council Meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS OTHER BUSINESS

- Deacon Sue said that she had recently thought about the possibility of holding a **service of blessing for Warm Welcome**. The purpose would be to bless what has already taken place, along with what will happen in the future, and to bless those that are involved as guests/visitors/volunteers. Perhaps this could be scheduled for round about the second anniversary of the opening of Warm Welcome. Sue had been reading online about a service of blessing that had taken place in St. Paul's Cathedral.
- Phi Langdale said that **Warm Welcome** had purchased some lovely **garden furniture** and this was available for other groups to use.
- We have some literature that is advertising **MHA Sunday as Sunday 9th June**.
- After a long period beyond Easter, with the notice board displaying our Easter services, the **Church Hall notice board** will soon have a weatherproof poster of regular weekly events.
- Dennis Robson spoke of the need for a notice (board) outside **Bransholme Methodist Church** to state '**No Parking – this car park is for Church use only**'. Steve Calver said that he would look into the possibility of getting a banner notice for Bransholme Methodist Church.
- Deacon Sue Langdale wondered if our Church should look into the possibility of buying a '**Let's End Poverty in the UK and Global**' banner. The official banners are very expensive but perhaps we could buy a cheaper one. Margaret Parker thought that fund raising might be more meaningful than putting up a banner. The subject needs further consideration.
- Steve Calver pointed out that **National Volunteer Week** begins on Monday 3rd June. Perhaps there might be a way of acknowledging this within our Church Family.
- Rev Debbie Lucas said that this year **Bible Month** focuses on the book of **Genesis**. Perhaps a study on Genesis could be held in the form of 'in person' bible study sessions, rather than Zoom sessions.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next Annual Church Meeting would take place this time next year on **Sunday 11th May 2025** following the 10.45am service.

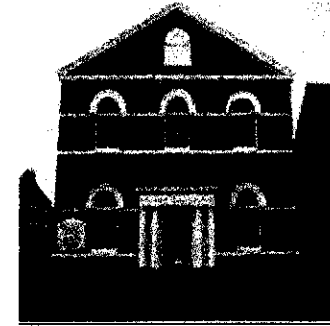
MEETING SUMMARY

Rev Debbie Lucas thanked everyone for their patience and contributions during this Meeting. She said that each thought and comment offered was very valuable and all would be included and taken into account as we move forward in our decision-making.

CLOSING PRAYERS

The meeting closed at around 2.00pm with the saying of the Grace.

WW 18/06/24



SUTTON METHODIST CHURCH

ANNUAL CHURCH REPORTS – May 2024

From St John's Gospel

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: love each other as I have loved you.

John 15: 1 - 12

Stewards' Report

The Stewards' team has remained unchanged since our last AGM and we continue to meet face to face every 6 to 8 weeks to discuss the many events and issues, practical and pastoral, which are an integral part of our church life.

Pastoral care and outreach to the local community remains a high priority and we have been delighted with the continued success of the Warm Welcome project, which has also seen some of the "regulars" keen to take part in and support church events such as the harvest supper, Christmas Fair and Church pantomime. These 3 events in particular would not be able to take place without the superb organisation of Robin and Helen Siddle and we owe a huge debt of gratitude to them both for their hard work and commitment, which ensured that, once again, all of these events were a great success and brought so much enjoyment to those directly involved and also to the wider community.

We are also pleased to report that our hedge ministry continues to attract a great deal of interest from the local community and the Christmas Angels and Easter butterflies were well received (in fact the Angels were "snapped up" in record time within about 30 minutes of them being displayed!). Once again we would like to record our thanks to all the friends of the church who knitted these colourful Angels and butterflies which gave pleasure to so many.

We have enjoyed many special services over the course of the last 12 months, including harvest festival, the gift service and our Church Anniversary service (all of which were attended by the uniformed organisations) and also a music-led service in December when our singing group performed "Stargazers" by Roger Jones and the Messy Church Christmas nativity service, which took place after their craft afternoon. It is lovely to have the children and their families involved in worship in this way, just as it was great to see many young people (from the uniformed groups and Messy Church) take part in the pantomime.

We are continuing to enjoy the sharing of Faith Lunches on a regular basis – often following on from special services such as those mentioned above – and we are thankful to have these opportunities to share fellowship in this way.

Fiona Houghton

Children's Work

Messy Church

We are still holding the Messy Church once a month but not running the craft club (this seems more manageable with peoples other commitments). We are joined by our regular families and have welcomed a number of new families too.

Christmas 2023

We held a Christmas Craft Afternoon on Sunday 17th December 2023. This was very well attended with 31 children and adults, totaling 60 people. Once again new families joined us. We made various crafts of the glittery variety and also the Christmas Nativity themed crafts, and decorated biscuits too. We always have a Nativity service in the Church for the children, but this year it was special as we were joined by members of the Church and public as part of their Sunday Worship. The Nativity Service at 4pm was prepared and led by Robin and Helen Siddle. The scene was set and the parts played by all the children at Messy Church. We got to sing songs too. This service was special as the helpers don't always get to see the children's service due to getting the Hall ready for tea. Thank you to Robin and Helen for creating the Nativity, to Wendy for playing the music and of course everyone that joined us. Afterwards we all shared our usual meal together in the Hall and then all the children were given a selection box for Christmas.

Easter Craft Afternoon 2024

We held our Easter Craft Afternoon on Sunday 24th March 2024. We had 31 children and 23 adults totaling 64 people. Once again we were joined by new families. We made lots of fluffy Easter crafts and then decorated buns and a biscuit. It was finally time for our popular Easter Egg Hunt. Due to the weather looking a little iffy, the plastic eggs were hidden in the Church again this year. Wendy took charge of the children and I would say this was the longest the children had taken to collect the eggs, giving us enough time to set up the Hall for the new crafts. Once the children had been presented with their eggs we carried on with our religious Easter crafts.

The children went back to the Church for an Easter Service led by Keith Thomas. The service was enjoyed by everyone, and I would like to thank Keith for his continued support of Messy Church when he is available.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped to make all the craft sessions and children's services possible. I know we all enjoy it as much as the children and their families.

I would especially like to thank our team of regular Messy Church helpers - Wendy Winfield, Mabel Burrows, Fiona Houghton, Phil Plumb, Ann Borrill, Eileen Edwards, Elaine Calver, Margaret Parker, Vanessa Turner, Lesley Brown, Ken Parker for helping to set up the Hall and tidy away tables and chairs, Mike Winfield when required for kitchen duties and Julie Lloyd for providing some crafts for some of the sessions.

Angie Meadley

Sutton Methodist Rainbows

During 2023 Sutton Methodist Rainbows saw the unit become more involved in the Church than it had been in recent years. For the King's Coronation we created colourful posters for the Church to hang up for their celebrations. The girls helped out by dusting the Church during one of the unit meetings, and some had attended special services during the year.

The Rainbows unit saw a few leader changes that the girls dealt with very well. Our leader, Nicole, took time off for maternity from September after welcoming the new intake, with other unit helpers/leaders from the area taking on running the unit for a few months on a rota. Our leader in training, Estelle, left for university but we gained a young leader to help the unit each week. Nicole returned in January 2024. The leaders from the temporary rota continue to help on a rota (Sarah, Kirsty, and Laura), and Estelle returns to help when she can.

Our unit consistently sits at around 15 girls, with a long waiting list of those wanting to join us. A few of our Rainbows gained bronze and silver awards for their badge participation and programme activities. This is something to be celebrated so they were awarded these at a summer celebration trip along with the Brownies and Guides. Many of the girls work towards interest badges at home and show off their efforts to the rest of the group.

Some of our older girls joined the Brownies and Guides at their first ever Guiding sleepover in 2023 to The Deep. Since then, many have moved up to the Brownie unit to enjoy more sleepovers and adventures. The girls have more visibility of Brownies now from the combined trips and seeing others move up, hopefully making the transition easier for them when it's their turn.

Looking forward to the rest of 2024, we hope to bond more as a unit (after welcoming new girls in January and April) through programme/badge work, especially the Paris Olympics challenge that we are about to start soon.

Nicole Ford

Sutton Methodist Brownies

Sutton Methodist Brownies have enjoyed a busy and fun packed year. Our numbers have grown, and we now have 22 Brownies. Our leadership team has changed slightly as we have welcome Lorna, who has taken on the role of Brown Owl. Tricia has continued with the planning of the meetings, and is now known by the Brownies as 'Wise Owl'. We have been lucky enough to have a young volunteer, who has supported the unit weekly. We are due to gain another qualified leader, for the summer term, which will be a huge support with our bigger unit.

Throughout the last year we have continued to follow the new guiding programme that the girls have begun to embrace. Many of our Brownies complete the interest badges, outside of meetings time, which has helped them to gain their bronze and silver awards. We were very pleased to be able to award one of our Brownies her gold award before she moved onto the guide unit. This took a great deal of commitment and hard work, both at Brownies and in her own time. We look forward to giving out more gold awards in the future.

After a long time away from sleepovers at Paxwold, we enjoyed a weekend away in December with 16 of our Brownies. The theme of the weekend was Christmas, and we were fortunate enough to wake up one morning to snow (just enough for the girls to build their own snowman). Prior to this, in the summer term we took 5 of our oldest brownies to an overnight camping trip at Guide Acres. The girls loved this opportunity and for many it was their first time sleeping over in a tent. We were lucky enough to have fantastic weather, and spent the evening singing camp songs, and toasting marshmallows over the campfire.

Our aim in 2023 was to try and connect the Brownie unit back to the church, which we felt was successful and we plan to continue this into 2024 and beyond.

Lorna and Tricia Burden

Thursday Afternoon Fellowship

Once again we have enjoyed our weekly meetings on a Thursday afternoon and have welcomed three new members during the past year. We have interesting talks and demonstrations on various topics, and organise games, quizzes and discussions on alternate weeks. We keep in touch regularly with past members or anyone who is unwell, and hope to continue and welcome others into our Fellowship.

Pat Dyson

Thursday Prayer Group – 7.30pm

The Thursday Prayer Group has continued to meet for almost four years now and has become an integral part of our Church Family life. Approximately ten people from Hedon and Sutton regularly attend this short time of 'Prayer' each week. The meeting is brief, no more than half an hour, but for those who attend it forms an important part of their prayer life. We continue to meet on Zoom, giving those with busy lives an opportunity to join us. It is possible to link into the Zoom Prayer Group via telephone, as Ann does each week. Recently we have welcomed someone new who now meets with us.

We are led by four people, two from Sutton and two from Hedon, each taking one week per month, all using their talents in different ways. Often there is music, creative ways of using hymns, short reflections, as well as prayers of intercession when we bring before God those on our hearts from within and without Church life. Prayers are voiced in an inclusive and informal way, giving those who take part a great sense of being involved in something bigger, something important and meaningful. In this way we grow closer to God, to each other and grow in faith. Please join us if it is right for you.

If there is someone or something you would like us to pray about on your behalf, or you feel you would like to join us, please contact our link person, Angie Meadley, for details.

Bill Dixon and Sue Langdale

Meet 'n' Eat

It is lovely that we have been able to start Meet 'n' Eat again after the Covid pandemic. I delayed the starting of the event so that we would be very clear from Covid. It was ironic that I could not attend the first event because both Wendy and I had Covid!

Fiona looked after the first event for me and I thank her for that. The Lambwath Staff were very happy to see us back and welcomed us warmly. On the first evening we had over 30 diners and at the second one there were 38 diners. From the comments I received back, everyone seems to have enjoyed their time together.

I will continue to arrange these get-togethers for the first Tuesday of every month. The next one is the 4th June. We meet between 5.15 to 5.30pm to

order the food and get a drink, and then to go through to our allotted tables that are set out in long rows.

I hope everyone is aware of these events. I have set up a WhatsApp group to remind people and would welcome new people to the group. However those not on WhatsApp will be approached in other ways. I need to know how many people are going so that the Lambwath know how many tables they need to put together, hence the need for people to let me know if they are going or not. If you have not been before do consider joining us, it is a really good time to enjoy food and good company.

Mike Winfield

Church Flowers

Once again my thanks go to all those who contribute generously to the flower fund.

It gives me pleasure to arrange the flowers, and I know that they are appreciated by those who see them in the Church on Sundays, and by those who receive them afterwards. My thanks go to Ann for distributing them each week.

Due to changing circumstances, we have some gaps in the flower rota. If anyone would like to add their name to the list please speak to Ann Borrill or ring me on 788721. Thank you.

Jenny Woods

Action for Children

Since the last General Church Meeting £565.29 has been donated through the home collection boxes or by annual donation, which is once again very generous in view of the current financial situation. As with all charities, the present economic climate has presented many challenges so every penny is greatly appreciated.

Another way of supporting them is by joining their campaigns which their literature states "call on the Government to take urgent action to stop children hurting and give them the bright future they deserve" and I can provide contact details if anyone is interested in looking into this further. Very sincere thanks to all who support this wonderful charity.

Margaret Parker

Christian Aid

Last year an Afternoon Tea event was held at The Hornbeams in Sutton. This took place on Thursday 18th May and it was a beautiful sunny day, such a wonderful day to hold a garden party. We were all served afternoon tea or coffee with a cream scone in the beautiful gardens, raffles and book sales too. The afternoon was very well attended and together everyone **raised over £600.00** for Christian Aid. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this possible.

This year we will be having a similar event but it will be in the Church Hall (date to be confirmed) as we are unable to host the event at the Hornbeams. We are grateful to the family for letting us use their beautiful home and garden for a number of years, Thank you.

I decided to walk at least 10,000 steps a day for Christian Aid from the Sunday 14th May for a month. It ended up as average daily steps of 18,943 and I did 587,257 steps or 271.37 miles in the month. I gave weekly updates of my walk and events at Church and wore a Christian Aid T-shirt for the duration so no one could escape me. I even had a Christian Aid back screen on Zoom meetings to make people aware.

On the Thursday of the Afternoon Tea I decided to walk from the Humber Bridge and cross to Barton and then back to the car park, then through Hessle, along Hessle Road and then Anlaby Road. I had a pattie buttie whilst sitting at the fountain in Queens Gardens. Next I walked along Holderness Road and through East Park, along Gillshill Road, finally arriving at the Hornbeams for the biggest cream scone and well deserved coffee as promised after walking 18.81 miles. I was interviewed on Radio Humberside and also by Juliet Lunam from Christian Aid who produced a News Release (5 mins of fame). Sylvia Usher gave my details so we could promote Christian Aid week and the events to a bigger audience.

I would like to take this opportunity to say **THANK YOU** to everyone who supported my walking and Christian Aid. Together we raised a **brilliant total of £1405.00 plus gift aid of £325.00.**

Angie Meadley

JMA – Junior Mission for All

We have 10 collectors; during the year to 31 August 2023 we raised £540.00.

I would welcome any new collectors, children and adults, to support the important work of mission.

Andrew Bettley

Music in the Church

In July and September of 2023 many of our Singers were involved in the two performances of the Roger Jones musical, 'Apostle'. This was a Circuit Musical. Practices had taken place at Withernsea on Tuesdays for folks in the Withernsea area of the Circuit and on Fridays for the East Hull section of the Circuit. Everyone involved, not just singers, worked hard to make this happen and the Choir and audiences at both performances enjoyed a rich time of fellowship and blessing.

In October 2023 our Singers began practising for Christmas. We worked on the musical, 'Stargazers'. We performed two of the songs at the Martin House Carol Service at Holderness Road Methodist Church, and then performed the full musical during the morning service on the second Sunday in Advent, December 10th. A much bigger than average congregation, as well as the Singers, filled the downstairs of the Church that morning, suggesting that we had chosen the right time-slot to perform for Christmas.

On the first Saturday in March of 2024, Sutton Methodist Church was pleased to be able to present the Sutton Community with another great Pantomime, featuring a range of talents and musical contributions. Thank you again to Robin and Helen for organising and producing 'Robin Hood'. It was good to see new-to-the-panto performers taking part, and the return of 'old timers'!

Currently our Singers are working on the Roger Jones musical, 'Two Sisters and a Funeral', the 2024 Circuit Musical. The title may sound a little strange, but knowing that the musical is the story of Lazarus, Mary and Martha then it perhaps makes more sense. The first performance is on Saturday 15th June 3pm at Withernsea Methodist Church, and the second is on Saturday 13th July 3pm at Holderness Road Methodist Church. Please put at least one of these dates in your diary.

On behalf of the Church Family I would like to thank Matthew for his continued contribution to the music for Sunday Worship. He is always willing to play, sometimes unexpectedly covering at the last minute. I would also like to thank Jim for his weekly work in preparing worship items for us to read from the screens. This year Jim had extra work to do in purchasing and setting up the new computer, loading the software, and making it compatible with our screens, and many other processes that I don't fully understand! Thanks, Jim!

Wendy Winfield

Warm Welcome

Overview The guests and the team had no difficulty in making the transition from the three to two days opening. We have encountered several enhancements and development opportunities since the last AGM. A sample of these include the addition of the banner identifying and advertising Warm Welcome. Another is the pieces of artwork displayed around the Potterill Room and corridor that were painted by Lionel, one of the guests. We have two additions to the team, one is Pauline, a long standing guest who became our first guest Volunteer plus Stacey, a more recent guest, who also joined us as a Volunteer. Sadly, Judith L died unexpectedly in November 2023. Her son Chris visited us and expressed how much his mum had enjoyed her time with her friends at Warm Welcome. Chris very kindly donated a sum of money to Warm Welcome. We continue to receive donations and support, financial and consumables from our generous guests and the public. Our attendance for October 2023 – March 2024, we welcomed a total of 874 guests.

We held our first anniversary celebration in November 2023 followed by our Christmas celebration. Both were well attended and enjoyed by all guests. We also held another volunteers' team meal. Elements of the team have undertaken EDI, first aid and safeguarding training. Some defibrillator awareness training is scheduled for June 2024. Our collaborative and partnership work has involved working with Hull City Council who offers a Help and Advice session on Mondays operating in Warm Welcome. We have also had visits from representatives from several organisations, including Community Health Care Partnership (C.H.C.P.) and the NHS meeting and chatting with guests. The Hands Partnership is a local multi organisational initiative involving HCC, Yorkshire Ambulance and others, with the aim to offer, where applicable, free defibrillators. We were fortunate to receive a free defibrillator that was installed in March 2024. We continue to support the RNLI using people's donations from the 5p jars. At present we have donated £65. The local policing team have made two donations of home

security devices available free to guests and volunteers. They are aiming to attend approximately once a month where possible. They are also planning a public awareness and information event to be held in Sutton in May 2024.

The Warm Welcome garden project is intended to transform the hard-standing courtyard on the Potterill Lane entrance into a comfortable and pleasant area, enticing people to sit and join us over a relaxing cuppa in warmer weather. The project is developing well thanks to lots of work undertaken behind the scenes by the volunteers. The equipment and materials have been purchased using funds received from grants and donations made to Warm Welcome. One significant grant was from C.H.C.P., resulting in us receiving £1000.

Another ongoing development is the internet project, which is moving slower than anticipated. Steve C is in regular contact with the organisations involved expressing our keenness in having the free mobile Wi-Fi capability. The overall duration of the free Wi-Fi is expected to be three years as it is subject to support from The Good Things Foundation and it's other partners funding streams. The Good Things Foundation is a charity that helps deliver digital accessibility aiming to combat national digital isolation and exclusion. Phil and Steve have completed some associated awareness training and will be undertaking further as necessary

Warm Welcome Financial Report

Regular Running

| | |
|-----------|------|
| Donations | 1665 |
|-----------|------|

Expenditure

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Banner | 39 |
| Notice Boards/toaster etc | 163 |
| Stationery | 8 |
| Refreshments | 327 |
| | 537 |

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Surplus this year | 1128 |
|-------------------|------|

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Balance b/fw | 444 |
|--------------|-----|

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Regular funds in hand | 1672 |
|-----------------------|------|

Garden Project

| | | |
|----------------------------|------|--------------------|
| Funds Raised | 1777 | |
| Expenditure | | |
| Tables chairs etc | 1087 | |
| Bench/Planters | 214 | |
| Paint | 57 | |
| | | <u>1358</u> |
| Garden Funds available *** | 419 | |
| | | |
| Total WW Funds | | <u>1991</u> |

*** Still to purchase
Plants
Soil
Fertiliser
? More planters etc.

Steve Calver

Property

General maintenance is carried out regularly throughout the year and, wherever possible, repairs are carried out in house to save money. Light bulbs/tube replacement, tap washers, fence repairs, tree pruning, locks and door handles, washing down the paintwork on the front of the church, removal of large amounts of unwanted furnishings, rubbish and non-saleable items from the Christmas Fair taken to the tip or disposed of in the correct manner, etc.

One of the major jobs carried out this year was the removal and replacement of the fence and gate at the side of the chapel adjoining the neighbouring house. This was carried out by our own maintenance crew and the only cost incurred was the price of the materials. The curtains in the Groves Room were replaced with roller blinds. Unfortunately we had to call in a professional company to carry out this task.

All safety inspections are up to date for this period and have included electricity, gas and fire extinguishers.

A slight leak was detected in the flat roof on the hall side of our premises. This resulted in the replacement of all light fittings in the toilet block. The source of the leak has been found and hopefully dealt with but we are still monitoring this situation to ensure that our repairs have been successful and we will give the matter further attention when the roof dries out.

The light fittings in the Primary Room have all been replaced by Graham Sowden.

A big thank you is expressed to Ken Parker, Ray Lloyd, Graham Sowden and anyone else who has helped out with repairs and maintenance during the year.

Robin Siddle

Health and Safety

Health and safety questions form a large percentage of the Methodist Church 'Property Checklist for Annual Inspections by the Property Stewards'. At Sutton Methodist Church the recently re-formed Business Committee considered all the questions on this checklist and it provided us with a good 'audit tool'.

One section of the checklist encouraged us to consider Fire Precautions and, as a result of a simple enquiry to Humberside Fire and Rescue regarding signage, we ended up having a Fire Safety audit/inspection and were told certain work had to be done to keep the Potterill Lane premises open. As you are probably aware, the work by contractors has now been completed, but there are further tasks for the Business Committee to attend to, as we need to follow up with 'training' for premise users, checks on their Group Risk Assessments and insurance, and possible re-configuration of their Contracts as users of the premises.

A 'Fire Safety' Risk Assessment for our Potterill Lane premises has been compiled by our Circuit Administrator, Vivienne Wilkes, along with some members of the Business Committee. Our other premises Risk Assessments are due for review too, but we can carry this out ourselves. Risk Assessments are a legal requirement in the 21st Century and our Church has a legal duty to follow these requirements for our own safety and the safety of all users of our premises.

Wendy Winfield

Fund Raising

Although the Harvest Supper is not strictly a fund raising event, around 70 people enjoyed a wonderful evening of a three-course meal followed by tea/coffee and entertainment by the Wedding Belles. We managed to make £170 which was donated to the Daisy Appeal.

Our regular Christmas Fair in December raised £600 for Church funds. At this event additional funds were raised due to the fact that Warm Welcome, the Scouting groups and the Guides all had their own stalls, raising money for their own activities. Unfortunately the Sutton Village Fair did not take place this year as this also usually adds to our fund raising efforts over the Christmas period.

Robin Hood the Pantomime took place in March and we raised £1,500 for church funds plus another £200 for SACTS.

This results in a total of £2,100.00 for fund raising for this financial year.

We would greatly appreciate other people within the church undertaking further fund raising events as our energy and enthusiasm is beginning to wane.

At the moment we do not have any plans for fund raising apart from the Christmas Fair and the Pantomime. We are always open to suggestions and volunteers who would undertake organising and running fund raising ventures.

Robin Siddle

Sutton Methodist Church Room Lettings

We currently have 6 fee-paying external groups using the premises on a weekly basis.

Ginger Fitness

Yoga

Brooklands Photographic Society

REA Tots – Mums & Tots Group

Spring Cottage Superstars – Majorettes

Slimming World – 2 groups

*THS 21.10
2022*

These groups mean that we have around 400 local people accessing the premises each week.

Additionally, we have 5 fee-paying groups who meet on an ad-hoc basis.

Diabetes Prevention

Moorview Care

Reform

Messy Bambinos

UDOIT Dance Foundation

If we add in the numbers for the Uniformed Organisations, Warm Welcome, Women's Fellowship, Sunday worship and the monthly Messy Church, we average around 600 people per week accessing the Church premises.

In 2023, these fee-paying groups contributed £13,360.00 to the Church accounts plus £1,600.00 from 21 children's parties, 2 jewellery valuations, 1 dance practice, 1 fitness exam & a St John's Ambulance annual presentation event.

To enable these valuable room bookings to take place involves hard work from various church members.

The process generally begins via the church website which is ably administered by Matthew Bunting and monitored by Angie Meadley. Enquires then arrive via email to Elaine Calver who negotiates room availability & hire charges to complete a booking. Regular users are then invoiced monthly to facilitate payment and parties etc are paid for in cash.

Only a few of the groups which use the church are key holders which means that all other users need to be welcomed to the premises and the premises made secure after the event. This part of the process requires a well-managed diary. Margaret Parker now bears the brunt of this time-consuming task with others standing-in on occasions. Ann Borrill shared the task with Margaret for many years, only stepping down due to lack of transport.

The Church Hall premises and the Church premises are kept clean and tidy by Julie Lloyd (ably assisted by Ray sometimes) meaning that our premises are always presentable and inviting for paying users, which is important to ensure repeat bookings.

Thanks go to everyone concerned for the hard work and dedication that enables the Church to contribute to the local community by maintaining a visible presence within that community.

Elaine Calver

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

SUTTON METHODIST

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2024

SOUTH HOLDERNESS

Circuit

Circuit no.

29/32

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1179285

**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 D.Lucas

Church Stewards:

Mrs F.Houghton

Mrs M.Parker

Mrs L.Whitton

Mr A.Bettley

Mrs W.Winfield

Mr W.Dixon

Treasurer:

Mr P.J.Langdale

| SECTION A | | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Totals this year | Totals last year |
|-----------|---|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| a1 | RECEIPTS | Note | | | |
| a2 | Offerings and Tax recovered | 34,031 | | 34,031 | 32,796 |
| a3 | Bank and CFB interest and Investment income | 8,139 | | 8,139 | 1,986 |
| a4 | Lettings | 18,411 | | 18,411 | 18,112 |
| a5 | Other receipts | 14,508 | | 14,508 | 4,424 |
| a6 | TOTAL RECEIPTS | 75,089 | | 75,089 (a7) | 57,318 |

| SECTION B | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---------------|--|--------------------|---------------|
| b1 | PAYMENTS | | | | |
| b2 | Circuit Assessment or Share | 36,000 | | 36,000 | 32,400 |
| b3 | Donations | 2,490 | | 2,490 | 2,490 |
| b4 | Repairs and Maintenance | 20,874 | | 20,874 | 1,472 |
| b5 | Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting) | 15,554 | | 15,554 | 7,801 |
| b6 | Pension Fund | | | | |
| b7 | Other payments | 5,906 | | 5,906 | 4,455 |
| b8 | TOTAL PAYMENTS | 80,824 | | 80,824 (b9) | 48,618 |

| SECTION C | | | | | |
|-----------|--|----------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| c1 | NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR | (a6-b8) | (5,735) | (5,735) | 8,700 |
| c2 | Total funds brought forward from last year | | 77,310 | 77,310 (c6) | 68,610 |
| c3 | Sub total | (c1+c2) | 71,575 | 71,575 | 77,310 |
| c4 | Transfers and adjustments | | | (c7) | |
| c5 | TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR | (c3+c4) | 71,575 | 71,575 (c8) | 77,310 (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) | | £ | £ |
| d1 | Balance brought forward from last year | | | |
| d2 | Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations | | 1,541 | 794 |
| d3 | Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations | | 1,541 | 794 |
| 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 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 Pre School | 404 | 6,000 | (5,596) | | 14,157 | 8,561 |
| e2 Warm Welcome | 3,733 | 2,728 | 1,005 | | 444 | 1,449 |
| e3 | | | | | | |
| e4 | | | | | | |
| e5 | | | | | | |
| e6 | | | | | | |
| e7 | | | | | | |
| e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds | 4,137 | 6,728 | (4,591) | | 14,601 (e11) | 10,010 (e12) |
| e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column) | 75,089 (a7) | 80,824 (b9) | (5,735) | (c7) | 77,310 (c6) | 71,575 (c8) |
| e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH | 79,226 | 89,562 | (10,326) | | 91,911 (x) | 81,585 (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 | 14 | 132 |
| f2 Bank Current Account | 22,955 | 7,963 |
| f3 Bank Deposit Account | | |
| f4 Central Finance Board | 23,364 | 32,503 |
| f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes | 30,977 | 30,977 |
| f6 Other funds | | |
| f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts | 77,310 (c6) | 71,575 (c8) |
| f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12) | 14,601 (e11) | 10,010 (e12) |
| f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH | 91,911 (x) | 81,585 (y) |

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

| | At 1 September 2021 | At 31 August 2022 |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|
| g1 Investments (include Endowments) | | |
| g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value) | | |
| 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)

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 4/1/25

Name and address of treasurer Philip Langdale

20 Barra Close Hull HU8 9JB

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 6th March 2025

Signature of the Chair of the meeting D.M. Lucas

Name of the Chair of the meeting DEBORAH LUCAS Date 6th March 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Sutton Methodist Church

Charity Number . 1179285

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Sutton 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.

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.

[the [the

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

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address

Date

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-22

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 4/1/25

Name and address of treasurer Philip Langdale

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Signature of the Chair of the meeting D.M. Lucas

Name of the Chair of the meeting DEBORAH LUCAS Date 6th March 2025

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Sutton Methodist Church

Charity Number . 1179285

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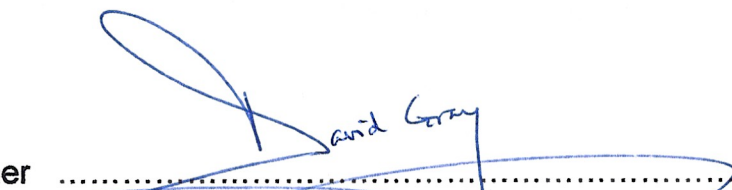
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- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
 - the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.
- [the [the

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

Signature of independent examiner .. 

Name of independent examiner .. DAVID GRAY

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner .. NLFCA

Name of firm (where appropriate) .. DAVID GRAY

Address .. GRAYS' STORES

THORNGUMBALD

HULL HU12 9LS Post Code

Date .. 3rd March 2025

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-22