



Stamford Methodist Church, Lincolnshire



Annual report and Accounts Year ended 31 August 2022

Stamford Methodist Church

Registered Charity Number: 1182848

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

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Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

Trustees' Annual Report

Reference and administration details

Charity name: **Stamford Methodist Church**

Also known as: Barn Hill Methodist Church

Registered charity number: **1182848**

Address: Stamford Methodist
11 Barn Hill
Stamford
Lincs
PE9 2AE

Managing Trustees

The names of those who served as Managing Trustees in the year are as follows:

Rev Andrew Fyall	(Chair)
Rev William Booker	(assistant chair, minister within the circuit)
Corinna Selby	(Senior Church Steward)
Anne Wiltshire	(Church Steward)
Anne Earle	(Church Steward)
Beth Hodgson	(Church Steward)
Stephen Husbands	(Church Steward)
Sally Ijioma	(Church Steward)
John Cameron	(Secretary to Church Council, Steward & Property Secretary))
Eddie Adams	(Treasurer)
Roger Ing	(Assistant Treasurer)
Moirra Collins	(Circuit Steward)
Vivienne Higgins	(Church Steward & Pastoral Secretary)
Helen Little	(Mission interest)
Jan Hetherington	(The Well)
Audrey Hensman	(YOW & Second Helpings)
Sarah Atwell-King	(Local Preacher)
Pauline Jones	(Mission Projects)
Evelyn Pickard	(Past Steward);
Charlotte Davis	(Church Safeguarding Officer)
Ian Husbands	resigned June 2022
Julia Husbands	
Chris Adams	
Margaret Hewardine	
Janet Howitt	
Bill Newbery	
David Clarke	
Beryl Teasdale	
Clive Marshall	
Godfrey Jones	
Maz Roberts	joined April 2022

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

As part of the wider Methodist Church in Great Britain, the Charity's governing document is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Within the wider Methodist Connexion, Stamford Methodist Church is part of the Stamford Circuit which in turn is itself part of the Northampton District of the Methodist Church.

Membership of the governing body

The governing body of the Charity is the Church Council, the members of which are the Managing Trustees. Certain officers are automatically Managing Trustees by virtue of their office. These are the minister, the secretary, the church stewards, the treasurer and the pastoral secretary. The other Managing Trustees are church representatives appointed to the Church Council at a general meeting of members of the church, normally held at least annually.

Three committees report to the Church Council:

- The Finance Committee oversees the churches finances, reporting to the Church Council at all meetings.
- The Property Committee is responsible for day-to-day upkeep of the church building and overseeing the hire activities of the Church.
- The Pastoral Committee is responsible for the pastoral care of the fellowship of the church

Other groups reflecting the life and work of the church meet to discuss their work and write a report shared at Church Council meetings:

- The Stewards
- The Safeguarding Officer
- The Mission Projects Group
- Second Helpings – ‘feeding bellies not bins’ initiative
- The Well – the church coffee shop & Fairtrade Shop
- The Growth & Outreach Group

As an employee of the Church, the Children's and Families Work Enabler also submits a report.

Bodies entitled to appoint Trustees

The Stamford Circuit Meeting is entitled to appoint four Trustees to the Stamford Methodist Church Council, which comprise:

- the Minister of Stamford Methodist Church;
- the Superintendent Minister of the Circuit;
- one other Minister from the Circuit; and
- a Circuit Steward.

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Objectives and activities

Purposes

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

It does this through:



Worship

The Church exists to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love



Learning and Caring

The Church exists to help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care



Service

The Church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice



Evangelism

The Church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ

Stamford Methodist Church seeks to apply this within the local environment of Stamford, Lincolnshire. As well as acting as a place of worship, Stamford Methodist Church also aims to use the building with which it is blessed, to offer space for hire to the local community.

Activities undertaken

The Charity undertakes a wide range of activities every year in line with its Christian purpose. These typically include but are not limited to:

- Acting as a place of worship and providing a holy space for focus within the local community.
- Offering pastoral care: to its members, to those visiting the Church and to the wider community.
- Providing and maintaining the church building for both worship and community use.
- Conducting religious ceremonies, including regular Sunday and occasional services as well as weddings and funerals on request.
- Raising awareness of Christianity in our community.

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

- Both providing the opportunity for external community action groups to hire the building and running some such groups directly - examples including Second Helpings, Twinkle Tots, Girls' Brigade & JCBs, Messy Church, various fellowship groups & The Well.
- Providing a hire venue for use by the community.
- Being part of the Stamford Churches Together group with other local churches.
- Maintaining links with the various user groups of its premises.
- Serving as a base for Stamford Street Pastors.

Public benefit statement

The Managing Trustees oversee the activities of the Charity with due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

The benefits of the Christian activities of the Stamford Methodist Church are considered to be:

- Improved spiritual and mental wellbeing.
- Pastoral care and support within the local community for families and those without families.
- Friendship and fellowship amongst the congregation and others who visit regularly.
- Fosters community involvement at all levels.
- Care for the environment based on a responsibility for stewardship of God's creation.
- Challenging trade injustice through the support of such causes as Fair Trade.
- Bereavement support.
- Availability for local ceremonies at key stages in life (weddings, funerals, baptisms).
- Availability of a safe space.
- Support through direct giving, fundraising and support for other local, national and international charities.

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

The benefits of the community hire activities of the Church are considered to be:

- Strengthening the local community through the availability of learning, leisure and social activities.
- Availability of local cultural activities through concerts and other events hosted.
- Availability of local therapeutic, wellbeing and health beneficial activities.
- Support of other charities through availability of space for hire or hosting of fundraising events.
- Encouragement of interaction between different community groups meeting within the same building.

Achievements and performance

COVID-19 continued to feature over the year with adaptations made to worship as spikes in infected numbers presented themselves. Numbers of attendees remained lower than pre-COVID, but the Pastoral Visitors remained in contact with all members, and online services continued to feature weekly.

The year also saw resumption of hire activity of the Church building and we were delighted to begin to welcome hirers old and new through our doors oncemore. Responding to our community needs we offered a room for the use of our growing Ukraine community as they were displaced from their war-torn country. This provided a safe place for them to meet and for those who had opened their homes to them.

In April 2022 our minister Rev Andy Fyall took a 12-week sabbatical, and Rev William Booker took on the pastoral care for Stamford Methodist Church.

In June 2022 the Church Council agreed that the church would offer to hold same sex marriages on it's premises and Corinna Selby (Senior Church Steward) was tasked with applying for the licence.

Lastly, at the end of the year we said a fond farewell to Rev Andy Fyall, our minister for the past thirteen years, his wife, Rev Helen Fyall, and their children Hannah and Matthew. We wished them all the best for the future and offered our sincere thanks for their guidance and support during their years with us.

Financial review

The 2021/2022 Accounts took longer than is usual to be audited and presented to Church Council due to hand over to a new treasurer and working together to present the accounts. They have been audited and show a deficit of just under £14,000. Treasurer for this reporting period was Eddie Adams, however, handover was beginning to take place to a new treasurer. The handover from the retiring Treasurer to the new one, Froom Coles, was not complete due to banking bureaucracy.

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

As reported to the last Church Council meeting, collections continue to be low. The new financial year is not going so well for the Church. The downturn in the economy is certainly affecting us, as it is our congregation. Collections are lower and as a consequence we are anticipating a reduction of £9,000 on last year's collection figure.

Lettings too will produce less income for us. You may know that we have lost one or two valuable lettings since COVID-19 and we know that other organisations are reviewing their position with us.

Reducing our cost base is very difficult as the majority of our expenditure is fixed. Fortunately, this includes our heating, light and power costs, which were fixed in 2021 (at a very good rate) and will be reviewed again in December 2023.

In overall terms, we are predicting a **deficit of £15,700** for the next financial year (2022/2023). Fortunately, we have enough in reserves to cover this, but this will be the third annual deficit in a row and clearly, we cannot continue like this. In short, we are living beyond our means and measures must be put in place to correct this very serious situation.

The Circuit has settled the printing costs that were outstanding. The Circuit finances have been discussed with all Circuit treasurers and the Circuit deficit is unsustainable and Churches are being asked for help with this. It is highly likely that the Church will be asked to increase their assessment from 2023/24. The proposed assessment for 2023/2024, subject to any change to process, needs to be agreed at the next Church Council meeting and provided to the circuit before the commencement of the 2023/24 financial year.

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

The Trustees' Annual Report was signed by the Chair of Trustees on behalf of the Church Council. The accompanying Methodist Standard Form of Accounts were presented to and approved by the Church Council in February 2023

Rev Andrew Hollins

Chair of Trustees *(from September 2022)*

Date: **12 June 2023**

(due to the lateness of this report)

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the Managing Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Stamford Methodist Church (the "Charity") for the year ended 31 August 2022.

As the Managing Trustees of the Charity, 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: **David Swann**

Name of Independent Examiner: David Swann

Address: 39 Chatsworth Road
Stamford
Lincolnshire

Date: **12 Jan 2023**

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

Accounting policies - Methodist Standard Form of Accounts

Basis of accounts

On the following pages 11 to 13 are given the Methodist Standard Form of Accounts of Stamford Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2022, prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Methodist Church in Great Britain.

The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis since income is below the threshold that allows this approach.

Accounting policies

In order to better aid the understanding of readers, the following accounting policies are stated which explain aspects of the standard form of accounts:

Core activities

The result for the year from core activities of the Charity, being the operation of the Church and it's rooms, are given in sections A to C.

Charitable collections

Collections made for specific charities are accounted for separately in section D and are not therefore part of the funds of the Charity.

Internal organisations

Any internal organisations within the overall Charity that have separate funds are shown in section E.

Funds

In common with most charities, the funds held by Stamford Methodist Church fall into three categories:

General unrestricted funds

General funds are unrestricted and can be used for any purpose in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Managing Trustees.

Designated unrestricted funds

Designated funds are also unrestricted but have been allocated to a particular purpose by the Managing Trustees.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds can only be used for particular purposes within the charitable objectives. Such restrictions may arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. All funds relating to internal organisations are deemed to be restricted funds

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

Accounting policies - Methodist Standard Form of Accounts

Church site and building

In common with all Methodist Churches, the property is owned by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes ("TMCP"). Usage of the building by Stamford Methodist Church is for those purposes as permitted under the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church.

Accompanying notes

Additional accompany notes are given voluntarily where it is felt these will add beneficial information to the reader of the accounts.

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

Accounting policies - Methodist Standard Form of Accounts

CHURCH RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS			
THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: flex; justify-content: space-between;">STAMFORDChurch</div>			
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2022			
NORTHAMPTON	STAMFORD	Circuit no.	23/22
Registered Charity - Charity Registration number			11829618
If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Gift Aid number			
<small>(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 exempted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)</small>			
Minister:			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">Rev A Hollins</div>			
Church Stewards:			
Corinna Selby		Anne Wiltshire	
Beth Hodgson		Ann Earl	
Stephen Husbands		Viv Higgins	
Sally Ijoma			
Treasurer:			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">Frances Coles</div>			

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Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

STAMFORD

Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	65,595		65,595	67,565
a3	Bank and CFB interest and investment income	147		147	96
a4	Lettings	13,751		13,751	2,575
a5	Other receipts	40,315		40,315	52,058
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	119,808		119,808 (a7)	122,294

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	50,000		50,000	45,001
b3	Donations	2,700		2,700	7,400
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	51,975		51,975	58,520
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	10,197		10,197	9,658
b6					
b7	Other payments	18,897		18,897	10,474
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	133,769		133,769 (b9)	131,053

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(13,961)	(13,961)	(8,759)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		103,488	103,488 (c6)	112,247
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	89,527	89,527	103,488
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	89,527	89,527 (c8)	103,488 (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)				

Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2022

STAMFORD

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 Wednesday Fellowship	335	628	(293)		347	54
e2 Mission Projects	13,915	13,644	271		1,377	1,648
e3 Second Helpings	19,900	9,019	11,760		19,991	31,583
e4 Flower Fund	229	168	71		8	79
e5 Twinkle Tots	389	357	32		42	74
e6 Girls Brigade & JC's	1,030	1,059	(29)		759	729
e7 The Well	8,991	8,650	341		3,161	3,492
e8 Subtotal of Internal Organisations funds	44,889	32,524	12,365		25,494 (e11)	37,659 (e12)
Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	119,908 (e7)	123,769 (e8)	(3,861)	(e9)	103,488 (e6)	89,527 (e5)
TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	164,497	144,293	(1,796)		128,982 (e)	127,186 (f)
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	40,636	10,000
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	30,635	48,218
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	31,217	31,279
f6 Other funds	1,000	
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	103,488 (e6)	89,527 (e5)
Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	37,659 (e12)	37,659 (e12)
f8 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	128,982 (e)	127,186 (f)

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		

H Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

I 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 8)