



Stamford Methodist Church, Lincolnshire



## Annual report and Accounts Year ended 31 August 2023

**Stamford Methodist Church**

Registered Charity Number: 1182848

## Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2023

### Contents

	Page
Trustees' Annual Report	1 to 7
Independent Examiner's Report	8
Comments on Methodist Standard Form of Accounts	9 to 10
<b>Appended:</b> Methodist Standard Form of Accounts	11 to 13

## **Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2023**

### **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 Hollins	(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)
Vivienne Higgins	(Church Steward)
Charlotte Davis	(Secretary to Church Council, Steward & Property Secretary))
Frances Coles	(Treasurer)
Eddie Adams	(Assistant Treasurer)
Moiria Collins	(Circuit Steward)
Vivienne Higgins	(Church Steward & Pastoral Secretary)
Helen Little	(Mission interest)
Jan Hetherington	(The Well)
Audrey Hensman	(Second Helpings)
Sarah Atwell-King	(Local Preacher)
Pauline Jones	(Mission Projects)
Roger Ing	(Mission Projects)
Conan Lewis	(Past Steward);
Charlotte Davis	(Church Safeguarding Officer & CC Secretary)
Julia Husbands	
Chris Adams	
Margaret Hewardine	
Janet Howitt	
Beryl Teasdale	
Clive Marshall	
Godfrey Jones	
Maz Roberts	resigned February 2023

## **Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2023**

### **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.

## 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 2023**

### **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 2023**

### **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**

Numbers of attendees has remained lower than pre-COVID, but the Pastoral Visitors have remained in contact with all members, and online services have continued to feature weekly. Several members have passed away and others remain too frail or ill to return to church. We have seen new people worshipping with us and look forward to seeing all that they bring to our fellowship as they worship with us.

Hiring of the building has improved over the year as old hirers returned to normal practice and new hirers have joined.

In September 2022 our new minister and Superintendent Minister joined us. The Rev Andrew Hollins began his appointment to the circuit with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022. We look forward to all that Rev Hollins will share with us and all that will be achieved during his time with us.

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. After several months the certificate finally arrived in February 2023.

Lastly, at the end of August 2023 we said a fond farewell to Rev William Booker, our part-time minister. Rev Booker has retired, but will remain in the circuit as a Supernumerary Minister and we look forward to sharing in worship with him.

### **Financial review**

The accounts for the year ending 31st August 2023 have been audited and were presented for approval by the Church Council and signing by Rev Andrew Hollins on 22 November 2023.

The accounts for the year show a surplus position of £11,619, representing income of £116,293 offset by expenditure of £104,674. (In 2021/22 the Church made a loss of £13,908). The Church had been forecasting a deficit but generous one-off donations from members of the Church resulted in a surplus position.

## **Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2023**

### **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

Income has reduced from last year, due to grants having been received for Church repairs in 21/22. Offerings and donations (including Gift aid) have reduced by £750 to £64,845. Lettings income and bank interest have both increased.

Expenditure has reduced from last year, due mostly to repairs and maintenance which were £11,131 in 2022/23 compared to £51,975 in 2021/22. The largest item of expenditure at £50,000 is the Church assessment supporting the Circuit expenses including ministerial stipends and lay workers.

The key items to mention for the budget 2023/24 are:

- an increased Circuit assessment of £57,000
- an estimate for increased Utility charges from 1st January 2024, when the current fixed rate arrangement ends
- the creation of a reserve for Boiler maintenance/repairs of £5,000
- a legacy of £9,655 has been received and is included in the deficit budget.

Members of the congregation were informed about the financial situation soon after the Church Council meeting. Informing them also about a Gift/Open day planned for Saturday 13th April 2024.



## **Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2023**

### **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

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

**Rev Andrew Hollins**

Chair of Trustees

Date: **13 Feb 2024**

## **Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2023**

### **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 2023.

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 William Swann

Address: 39 Chatsworth Road  
Stamford  
Lincolnshire

Date: **25 October 2023**

## **Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2023**

### **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 2023, 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 its 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 2023**

### **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.

CHURCH  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS  
ACCOUNTS

THE METHODIST CHURCH  
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2023

Northampton - Stamford	Circuit	Circuit no.	23/22
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1182848

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 A Hollins
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Church Stewards:

Corinna Selby	Anne Wiltshire
Beth Hodgson	Ann Earle
Stephen Hubbards	Viv Higgins
Sally Ijoma	

Treasurer:

Frances Coles

# Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2023

## Accounting policies - Methodist Standard Form of Accounts

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

**STAMFORD**

Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	64,845		64,845	65,635
a3	Bank and CFB Interest and Investment Income	2,044		2,044	200
a4	Lettings	20,573		20,573	13,751
a5	Other receipts	28,831		28,831	40,315
a6	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>116,293</b>		<b>116,293 (a7)</b>	<b>119,801</b>

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	50,000		50,000	50,000
b3	Donations	2,400		2,400	2,700
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	11,131		11,131	51,875
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	12,962		12,962	10,197
b6					
b7	Other payments	28,181		28,181	15,897
b8	<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>104,574</b>		<b>104,574 (b9)</b>	<b>133,769</b>

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	<b>NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(a6-b8)</b>	<b>11,619</b>	<b>11,619</b>	<b>(13,968)</b>
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	89,590		89,590 (c5)	100,488
c3	<b>Sub total</b>	<b>(c1+c2)</b>	<b>101,199</b>	<b>101,199</b>	<b>86,520</b>
c4	Transfers and adjustments			(c7)	
c5	<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>(c3+c4)</b>	<b>101,199</b>	<b>101,199 (c8)</b>	<b>86,520 (c6)</b>

SECTION D		£	£
<b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS</b>			
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	271	
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		
d4	<b>BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID</b>	<b>271</b>	
	<b>(d1+d2-d3)</b>		

# Stamford Methodist Church Year ended 31 August 2023

## Accounting policies - Methodist Standard Form of Accounts

STAMFORD Church						
<b>SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL</b>						
<b>SECTION E</b> Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page.						
Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purposes. This section must be completed to derive 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
Wednesday Fellowship	580	814	(48)		24	8
Mission Projects	10,540	18,168	(377)		1,040	3,028
Second Helpings	38,647	8,583	30,145		31,553	81,728
Flower Fund	238	215	24		78	183
Tenants Tots	887	847	80		74	24
Men's Brigade & JOB's	478	370	108		738	838
The Well	12,715	8,804	5,112	(5,000)	3,402	4,804
Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	80,780	50,118	30,662	(5,000)	37,888 (a)(1)	68,327 (a)(2)
Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 3 - totals column)	116,263 (a)(7)	164,674 (a)(8)	11,419	(17)	89,580 (a)(3)	101,199 (a)(4)
<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH</b>	<b>196,878</b>	<b>194,792</b>	<b>46,287</b>	<b>(5,000)</b>	<b>127,238 (a)</b>	<b>170,826 (a)</b>
TOTAL RECEIPTS		TOTAL PAYMENTS				
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward						
<b>SECTION F</b>						
<b>STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>						
<b>CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2023</b>		<b>OPENING BALANCES</b>		<b>CLOSING BALANCES</b>		
Cash in hand						
Bank Current Account		10,030		18,154		
Bank Deposit Account						
Central Finance Board		48,271		50,881		
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		31,279		32,194		
Other funds						
<b>SUB TOTAL - Church accounts</b>		<b>89,580 (a)(5)</b>		<b>101,199 (a)(6)</b>		
Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (a)(12)		<b>37,888 (a)(11)</b>		<b>68,327 (a)(13)</b>		
<b>TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH</b>		<b>127,238 (a)</b>		<b>170,826 (a)</b>		
<b>SECTION G</b>						
<b>OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES</b>		<b>At 1 September 2022</b>		<b>At 31 August 2023</b>		
Investments (Include Endowments)						
Land & Buildings (see notes re insurance re/val)						
Other Assets						
Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end						
Other Liabilities						
<p>4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board</p> <p>5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes</p> <p>6 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TSBP trusts accounts this is included in line 6)</p>						