

THE METHODIST CHURCH

STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
(SHORT FORM)

ChristChurch L.E.P.

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 December 2023

Grantham and Vale belvoir

Circuit

Circuit no

22/15

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1187168

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.Dr.Peter Stevenson

Church Stewards:

Mr Alan Greenslade June Ruddock

Mrs Isabel Wyatt

Mr Trevor Ridsdale Mrs Jean Breckenridge

Mrs Sue Sulston Mr John Heald

Brian Bowes Marion Bevan

Mrs Leslie Mees

Treasurer:

Mr Chris Morgan

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2023

SECTION A

	RECEIPTS	Note
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	
a3	Bank and CFB interest & investment income	
a4	Lettings	
a5	Other receipts	
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	

This year's amount
to the nearest £

£
38,927
583
19,469
52,990
111,969

Last year's amount
to the nearest £

£
36,089
100
16,982
13,703
66,874

SECTION B

b1	PAYMENTS	
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	
b3	Donations	
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	
b6	Other payments	
b7	TOTAL PAYMENTS	

24,323
26,661
33,861
19,814
104,659

26,938
22,038
17,212
15,371
81,559

SECTION C

c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6 - b7)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	
c3	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c1 + c2)
c4	State here the total of any other assets of the Church	
c5	State here the total of any liabilities of the Church	
c6	State here the insured value of the Church premises and contents	

7,310

(14,685)

125,481 (c7)

140,166

132,791

125,481 (c7)

SECTION D ANALYSIS OF FUNDS

d1	Balances held at TMCP at 31 December	
d2	Balances held at CFB at 31 August	
d3	Bank and cash balances at 31 August	
d4	TOTAL (= Box c3)	

£ 14,782.00
63,120
54,889
132,791

£ 14,747.00
59,062
51,637
125,446

SECTION E

FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)

e1	Balance brought forward from last year				
e2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations				220
e3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations				220
e4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	(e1+e2-e3)			

667
370
297

Name of Church Christ Church

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2023 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer E.A. Morgan Date 20/2/24

Name and address of treasurer E.A. MORGAN

10, Manchester Way, GRANTHAM Post Code NG31 8RR

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 ^{December} ~~August~~ 2023 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on 21-3-24

Signature of the Chair of the meeting [Signature]

Name of the Chair of the meeting P STEVENSON Date 21/3/24 119491

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Christ Church

Charity Number 1187168 #####

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 ^{December} ~~August~~ 2023 set out on pages ... to As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church . Christ Church

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

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

Signature of independent examiner



119491

Name of independent examiner Mrs Susan Radford

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner CIMA

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address Cordwainers Car Colston Notts

#####

..... Post Code .. NG138JG

Date 15/02/2024

* delete or circle as appropriate

Form reviewed

May-23



CHRISTCHURCH
FINKIN STREET
GRANTHAM
NG31 6QZ
A Welcoming Local Ecumenical Partnership

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023.

Introduction:

The accounts are being prepared and will be submitted to the Independent Examiner, and show a true reflection of payments and income over the financial year which runs from 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023.

Aims and organisation:

ChristChurch is a Local Ecumenical Partnership between the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church. It is part of the Grantham and Vale of Belvoir Circuit in the Nottingham and Derby District of the Methodist Church of Great Britain, and the United Reformed Church East Midlands Synod.

The Church Mission statement was developed in line with those of the two sponsoring denominations using the five marks of mission. We seek to make our worship stimulating, challenging and relevant to the needs of our congregation. We share in fellowship through study, fundraising activities and social groups.

Review of the year:

The members of the Ecumenical Church Council, (E.C.C.) are the Managing Trustees of ChristChurch.

2023 has been a challenging year with the Church still being affected by the Covid 19 pandemic although things have improved on this aspect, but Covid is still around and as a Church we do need to be mindful of that especially with some of our more vulnerable congregation. Our lettings have almost returned to normal. On the positive side we have also gained some new lettings. The Managing Trustees (E.C.C.) were kept fully updated on the Covid situation locally. and ECC having fully assessed all the risks and mitigations put in place. The Risk Assessment was regularly reviewed and updated. Probably the factor that has affected us most, especially the financial side, is the Cost-of-Living Crisis. As a Church we have suffered just as much as individuals have and we have seen our gas and electricity bills soar to 3 times more than it had been previously.

Income:

The church's regular income is primarily drawn from the giving of Church members, Sunday collections, regular coffee mornings and letting income from users hiring rooms. For 2023 this income has been slightly reduced than the expectation, due to the cautiousness of some of our groups returning to hire the rooms and the relevant reduction of attendance once the premises were opened. However, the Congregation have continued to supply their offerings by direct bank payments, for which the Trustees are very grateful. Without this support and financial help, it would not be possible to maintain the premises to a satisfactory standard and develop them to serve the Church's mission more effectively.

Expenditure:

The major regular expenditure is the assessment paid to the Grantham and Vale of Belvoir Circuit, and the Ministry and Mission payment made to the U.R.C. East Midlands Synod, the contribution made by ChristChurch to the costs met centrally by the Circuit and the Synod, including the stipends and Manse costs for Ministers. Additional costs this year have related to ongoing maintenance issues that arise from the running and maintenance of a Grade II listed building over 175 years old in a conservation area. Repairs this year were just under £34k (the previous year they were just over £20k) but we have had the Shepherd Hall roof replaced, and new flooring in the Shepherd Hall and also had the ceiling repair in the Sanctuary fully completed, so all in all I believe this is an acceptable figure

Fund Balances:

As stated in the first paragraph, the accounts are being prepared for the Independent Examiner. As of 31st December 2023, we had the following balances in our accounts:

H.S.B.C. (working account)	£29,847	(2022 £30,212)
H.S.B.C. (Kenwick Drive account)	£6,688	(2022 £6,354)
H.S.B.C. (Friends account)	£1331	(2022 £1,418.)
Central Finance Board Account.	£63,120	(2022 £59,062)
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (T.M.C.P.) Account	£14,782	(2022 £14,782)
TOTAL	£115,768	£111,828

As can be seen from those figures we have £3,940 more in our accounts as of 31/12/23 as, the same time, the previous year. In my view this is quite an achievement considering our expected total expenditure for the year, but I do want to comment too much on this until the Standard Form of Accounts are received back from the Independent Examiner.

Plans:

During 2024 there are a number of plans that will require to be finalised

- a) The next Phase of the Community Project, has been fully discussed and consulted up on, to redevelop the rear of Church, to make this into a more accessible and working area, for members of Church and other Church users. The architects work needed, went out to tender and cbp Architects of Nottingham were the successful architects. We have been in regular contact with them and they are preparing plans for the work. The initial cost for this (architects) work as agreed with cbp is £60k which has been approved by E.C.C. However cbp are hopeful that this amount will be reduced, because of the recent changes that have been proposed.
- b) The building itself is a Grade II listed building, in an important Conservation area and due to its age will always require maintenance, and because of its status, this does mean that any work and advice can be expensive.
- c) The Quinquennial report was completed during 2022 and there are still a number of issues here that do need to be investigated and resolved – This work has already commenced, and will hopefully be completed within the proposed Project.

Basis of preparation and legal framework:

ChristChurch accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023 have been prepared in accordance with the guidance from the Methodist Church and will be presented at the Church meeting in April 2023, for approval, once they have been returned from the Independent Examiner.

Full Name of Church – ChristChurch L.E.P. – The Church is registered as a charity. Due to the annual income. This was approved by the Charity Commission and ChristChurch L.E.P. is now a Registered Charity (Charity No. 1187168).

The members of the ChristChurch Ecumenical Council are the Managing Trustees, membership being made up of office holders, representatives appointed by the Church at the Annual General Meeting with a Circuit Representative.

The treasurer, Mr Chris Morgan, has acted as the principal officer overseeing the day-to-day financial management and accounting for the Church during the year.

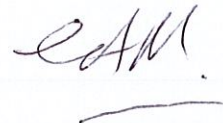
Independent Examiner: Mrs Susan RADFORD, Screveton Road, Car Colston, Nottingham NG13 7ND

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

Presented to ChristChurch L.E.P. E.C.C. meeting of January 2024 for the report to be discussed and the request that full approval given to the report.

Chris. Morgan, Treasurer, ChristChurch L.E.P. (January 2024)

Agreed. 11/1/24



ChristChurch Methodist/United Reformed Church L.E.P

Reserves Policy 2024

This policy relates to bank accounts held by

- Central Finance Board
- HSBC
- T.M.C.P.

- **What are Reserves?**

A reserve is an amount of money held by the church to carry out its ongoing commitments and set aside for specific purposes. These monies may be classified as: Unrestricted, which are the general funds of the church, Restricted, which means their use is restricted under the provisions of a trust deed, or Endowed, which in most cases only allows the interest to be used by the church.

- **Planned expenditure**

Usual running costs

Surplus funds to cover unforeseen expenditure

Property repairs and maintenance (including quinquennial inspection outcomes)

Planned developments in the property at ChristChurch, which includes the ChristChurch Community Project

It is **“best practice”** that any organisation should keep at least 6mths of expenditure in reserve.

For 2024, I would recommend that the reserve is set at **£38,000** the same as last year

Total expenditure for 2023 was just over £94k, (more than the previous year of approx. £76k). During 2023 we were able to maintain the reserves, despite the difficult times and we are more fortunate than a number of other Churches in the area. It is seen as best practice to hold approx. 6 months expenditure figure as a Reserve. However, our expenditure for 2023 was unusually high due to the fact of the costly replacement of the Shepherd Hall Roof, and the new flooring in the Shepherd Hall which obviously will not need doing again for some time. So, as I have said, I recommend that the reserve remains the same as last year

Income can be unpredictable e.g., lettings, giving. Thus, it is important to ensure there is a reserve to cover all essential costs e.g., assessment, utilities, and maintenance.

The Treasurer/Managing Trustees will monitor the church finances at regular intervals to ensure the reserve is kept, where possible, and action taken if the reserve is not maintained, I have not recommended an increase in the amount for this year, because last year's expenses were unusually high, as stated. However, to take into account cost of living increases, especially the energy costs and increased costs for any work that needs to be carried out due to the age of the building and the fact that it is a Grade II listed building in an important Conservation area within Grantham town centre, it is important to maintain this flexibility and the reserves.

2023 has obviously been a challenging year, the Covid 19 pandemic is still with us, the “Cost of

Living Crisis" and major repairs and maintenance that have been carried out. Our Income has increased, in 2023 with lettings income starting to get back to pre-Covid figures. Income from the coffee mornings, has reduced, as it was decided not to charge for coffee but to ask for donations. However, our Congregation have remained very supportive, and regular giving has carried on through giving via direct bank payments and the Stewardship account, and the Gift Aid payment received.

- **Money set aside for projects**

Money may be set aside from the reserves towards a long-term project. However, not to the risk to general church finances. This money will be listed as such to evidence why it is not being used currently.

ChristChurch is currently developing the ChristChurch Community Project, which is part of the overall development vision that our premises should be used to develop town centre ministry and serve the poor and marginalised in the town. It is hoped that during 2024, the next phase, which has been consulted on will be planned.

ChristChurch is looking at the possibility of redeveloping the rear of the Church to make this a more accessible and useable place for all our congregation and other users of the premises.

- **All reserves should be earning interest where possible.**

No interest is earned in the HSBC accounts. So where possible larger sums of money will be transferred to the CFB account where interest can be earned.

- **The Reserves policy will be reviewed each financial year.**

Trustees are under a general legal duty to apply charitable funds within a reasonable time of receiving them. If reserves are held without reasonable justification the trustees may be in breach of trust.

- **The treasurer will report to General Church Council, advising reserve status.**

Signature

CAM



Date January 2024

Accepted at Ecumenical Church Council

Date 11/1/24

Accepted at General Church Council

Date 21/1/24

Review due 31/12/2024