

Liverpool Road Methodist Church; Southport

Aim and Purposes

The Church Council, chaired by the minister, the Reverend Patrick Evans, is responsible in the whole mission of the Church, worship, learning and caring, evangelism and service. It is also responsible for developing ecumenical relations, managing the property of the Church and its finances. All of the activities of the Church are conducted within the structure, governance of the Methodist Church and management.

Some activities were limited in the year due to Covid 19, whilst others were adapted, for example moving online.

A Church Review for Liverpool Road Methodist Church was completed by the Leadership Team and approved by the Church Council. A copy of the report can be seen at <https://birkdalemethodist.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Liverpool-Road-Methodist-Church-Church-Review-copy.pdf>

The report affirms many of our current activities and recommended ways of engaging with the local community still further, remembering that in our mission...

We exist to proclaim the Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the people of Birkdale, and beyond can come to know God and grow in his Love.

We have already begun to implement some of the recommendations of the report, and by the summer the report can be updated to reflect the progress that will have been made.

Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of Church Council members and reviewing those members appointed to specific tasks is set out in the Methodist Standing Orders. The Church Council met 4 times (on Zoom) during the year with an average attendance of 24 persons. Church Council also initiates and supports sub committees that focus on specific aspects of our church life

Worship

The Church Council is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church. The average weekly attendance not recorded this year due to "Covid" constraints.

The Church Council maintains an overview of worship and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that use our premises. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the minister and the Church Council considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith through: Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.

Learning & Caring

At present there are 110 Methodist members. Each member is allocated a Pastoral Visitor who offer spiritual support and care. Many members are part of fellowship groups such as the Wesley Guild and Bible Study Group.

No weddings or baptisms were held in the year. As a church we supported 13 funeral services. We want our church to be open to our community. During the week the hall is used by several groups both from church and community persons

Evangelism

The Church Review considered ways of engaging with the local community more. It is intended that we develop and are able to offer opportunities to such people to explore matters of faith.

Service

Helping those in need is a demonstration of our faith. Preparations were made to partner with the charity, Compassion Acts, to open a Food Pantry, offering members of the local community who are struggling financially to access discounted food. The Church also entered into an agreement with Birkdale Community Hub and Library to offer its premises as a community led library. Facets is a group for mainly retired people to spend time in each others company whilst pursuing various interests such as music, keep fit, sport, current affairs, crafts etc. The group did not meet as regular as normal due to Covid, although will recommence shortly.

Ecumenical Relationships

The Church has been part of a number of churches in the town to host a weekly ecumenical prayer meeting, offering our premises for one month of the year. Furthermore we have maintained ecumenical relations with local Anglican Churches through a monthly prayer meeting, as well as maintaining contacts with people in other churches. Currently there are no appointed Vicars in the three Anglican churches, and it has proved difficult to formalise any greater formal relationships at this time.

Routine maintenance

To facilitate our mission it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church and the Church hall premises, This has been carried out by volunteers and appropriate contractors .

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is

Financial Review

- Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £73155
- Restricted donations of £2462 were also received and are detailed in the Financial Statements.

- The planned giving through envelopes and banker's orders decreased
The total income, including tax recovered reduced by 5% due to a reduction in general donations
- £70,456 was spent to provide the Christian ministry from Liverpool Road Church, including the contribution to the local Circuit Assessment
- There was a substantial increase in lettings which were £21,098 compared with £6,157 for the previous year. This can be attributed to the Covid lockdown.
- **The net result for the year** was a gain in receipts over payments of £5161
- **The balances carried forward** on 31st August 2021 £66,573 unrestricted funds and £3134 n Restricted funds
- **Reserves policy**
It is the Church Council policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to at least six months unrestricted payments, equivalent to £35,000, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time.
It is our policy to invest our balances funds with the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church.

COMPLETED 17/06/2023

Rev Patrick Evans

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

LIVERPOOL ROAD

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2022

Circuit

Circuit no.

18/17

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1193119

**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 Patrick Evans

Church Stewards:

Mrs Pamela Christopher

Mrs Antone Lindsay

Mr Craig Horan

Mrs Doreen Iddon

Treasurer:

Mr John Attwater

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year	
		£	£	£	£	
a1	RECEIPTS	Note				
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered		42,283	1,662	43,945	46,102
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income		163		163	55
a4	Lettings		21,098		21,098	6,157
	Food Pantry			800	800	
a5	Other receipts		9,611		9,611	2,363
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS		73,155	2,462	75,617 (a7)	54,677

SECTION B						
b1	PAYMENTS					
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share		47,496		47,496	45,895
b3	Donations			1,396	1,396	1,391
b4	Repairs and Maintenance		9,991		9,991	4,442
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)		10,053		10,053	7,800
b6	Food Pantry			66	66	
b7	Other payments		1,454		1,454	1,696
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS		68,994	1,462	70,456 (b9)	61,224

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	4,161	1,000	5,161	(6,547)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year		60,912	2,134	63,046 (c6)	68,203
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	65,073	3,134	68,207	61,656
c4	Transfers and adjustments		1,500		1,500 (c7)	1,390
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	66,573	3,134	69,707 (c8)	63,046 (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		356		383
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations		356		383
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	Boys Brigade		85	(85)		3,953	3,868
e2	Facets	17,105	16,966	139	(500)	1,335	974
e3	Wesley Guild	1,058	1,624	(566)		1,069	503
e4	Rambling Club	6,412	5,468	944	(1,000)	1,963	1,907
e5	Cameo NO ACTIVITY					245	245
e6	Girls Brigade	1,880	69	1,811		916	2,727
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	26,455	24,212	2,243	(1,500)	9,481 (e11)	10,224 (e12)
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	75,617 (a7)	70,456 (b9)	5,161	1,500 (c7)	63,046 (c6)	69,707 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	102,072	94,668	7,404		72,527 (x)	79,931 (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	
f2	Bank Current Account	£23,951
f3	Bank Deposit Account	
f4	Central Finance Board	£40,847
f5	Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	
f6	Other funds Memorial Fund CFB	£4,909
f7	SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	63,046 (c6)
f8	Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	10,224 (e12)
f9	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	72,527 (x)
		79,931 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2021	At 31 August 2022
g1	Investments (include Endowments)	114
g2	Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,713,806
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)

Name of Church LIVERPOOL ROAD

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 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 *JS Althwater* Date 02.06.2023

Name and address of treasurer 13 HOLCOMBE COURT

..... ARGYLE ROAD SOUTHPORT Post Code PR99LG

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

Signature of the Chair of the meeting *Patrick Evans*

Name of the Chair of the meeting PATRICK EVANS Date 7th June 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

Liverpool Road Methodist Church

Charity Number 1193119

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Liverpool Road Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2022 set out on page 2 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.

Name of Church

LIVERPOOL ROAD

No

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 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 *I Wright*

Name of independent examiner Ian Wright

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 15 Stretton Drive, Southport
Merseyside Post Code PR9 7DR

Date *25th May 2023*

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LIVERPOOL ROAD

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Signature of independent examiner *I Wright*

Name of independent examiner Ian Wright

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 15 Stretton Drive, Southport
Merseyside Post Code PR9 7DR

Date *25th May 2023*