

Trustees' Annual Report & Accounts for the period to 31st August 2022

Romsey Methodist Church
The Hundred,
Romsey,
SO51 8BZ

Chair – Rev Gareth Hill

Membership = 123

The Methodist Church

We take our place as part of the wider Methodist Church, a Christian denomination. 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.

Romsey Methodist Church is part of the Winchester, Eastleigh and Romsey Methodist Circuit, within the Southampton District.

Governance

The Church is governed by the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

The trustees are members of the Church Council. Members, representatives and Church Stewards are elected at the General Church Meeting. The Church Council meets half-yearly, to review the mission of the church and to discharge its duties as trustees. The Church Council maintains the highest possible standards in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. It continues to monitor safeguarding risks, as well as other risks relating to finance and operations and to manage them in as effective a way as possible.

The General Church Meeting meets annually and is an open forum for members of the church to debate issues and also to elect and have representation on the governing body (Church Council).

The Minister (Chair of Trustee Body), Church Stewards (Trustees) and the Treasurer (Trustee) form the Leadership Team and meet monthly. The meetings consider operational arrangements and matters arising from the Worship, Finance, Property and Pastoral Groups, together with proposals to the Church Council (Trustee Body).

Constitution of Romsey Methodist Church Council

Ministers	The Revd Susan Keegan Von Allmen* (Superintendent)			
	The Revd Gareth Hill*			
	The Revd Ruth Fry*			
Church Stewards	Mrs Linda Pennells	(2021)	Mr Peter Manning*#	(2018)
	Mrs Heather Wilman	(2021)	Mrs Cathryn Simons*	(2018)
	Mr Jason Elkin*	(2018)		
	Dr Peter Jackson*	(2019)		
Church Treasurer	Mr Don Simons*#	(2012)		
Secretary of the Council	Elizabeth Robertson*#	(2021)		
Pastoral Committee Secretary	Mrs Anne Clark*	(1999)		

Circuit Steward
Circuit Lay Employees

Mrs Julia McKinley
Mrs Marilyn Pack (Circuit Administrator) *

Mrs Irene Bourne (Pastoral Assistant) *

Representatives for particular areas of Church life

(maximum in this section under SO is 15)

Action For Children	Mrs Victoria Barker*	(2014)
Churches Together in Romsey	_____	()
Communion Steward	Mr John Pennells	(2021)
Director of Music	Mr Joe Nurse	(2021)
Eco Representative	Mr John Read	(2019)
Local Preacher	Mr Jason Elkin*	(2016)
Pastoral Committee	Mrs Elizabeth Robertson*#	(2018)
Property	Mrs Cathryn Simons*	(2017)
Small Fellowship/Study Groups	Mr Alan Hill*	(2018)
Women's Work in the Church	Mrs Di Sutton	(2013)
Children's and Youth Work (3)	Mrs Meghan Elkin*	(2010)
	Mrs Katie Havelock*	(2016)
	Mrs Sandra Plumb*#	(2016)
Safeguarding	Mrs Marilyn Pack	

General Church Meeting Representatives

(maximum 15)

Mr Brian Adey	(2016)
Mr Bob Bourne*	(2017)
Dr John Evans*	(2019)
Mrs Helen Dunn*	(2019)
Diane Kingston	(2016)
Mrs Jane Rogers*	(2018)
Mr David Thomson*	(2018)
Mrs Corinne Thomson*	(2019)
Mrs Christine Jackson	(2019)
Mrs Cath Davidson	(2020)
Mr Martin Plumb	(2021)
Mrs Hilary Evans	(2021)
Mrs Heather Nurse	(2021)

Governance as per Constitutional Practice and Discipline (CPD)

CPD volumes 1 & 2 [<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/governance/cpd/>]

Volume 1 contains the fixed texts, including Acts of Parliament and other legislation, and historic documents.

Volume 2 contains the Deed of Union, Model Trusts, and the standing orders.

Number of Trustees = 37

Minimum number of Trustees required = 7

* denotes Church Council members with a current DBS disclosure obtained for church or circuit purposes.

denotes Bank Authorised Signatory

Purpose

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the date of union the advancement of –

- the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church;
- any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church;
- any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church;
- any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church.

Mission & Vision

From February 2016 we have worked with a core vision: "Our long-term vision is for Romsey Methodist Church to be a place of radical hospitality where we **Welcome** everyone; open ourselves up afresh to the **Wonder** of God's grace, allow ourselves to be captivated in **Worship** and are willing to share the Good News of Christ **Wider**".

Welcome, wonder, worship and wider (the 4Ws) have been the cornerstones of our developing work. From 2016-2018 we followed a discipleship programme, Holy Habits, and during that time we were presented with a Gold Eco Church award from Christian environmental charity A Rocha. This links with our aim to support the Methodist Church of Great Britain to achieve Net Zero Carbon by 2030.

Objectives & Activities

During the period 2021/2022 significant effort was placed on revaluating and re-establishing groups and meetings post Covid pandemic. The Church Council agreed to the objective of engaging further with the local community. A major decision was to maintain the live streaming of services for those wishing to worship at home and as a means of providing outreach to those not within our immediate community.

Whilst most groups re-opened during this period it was decided that the Wesley Guild and Kids Club would no longer meet and that alternative provisions would be made in due course.

When it was possible to provide catering inside the Trustees agreed to set up the Beacon Café as a means of supporting the local community. In addition, 'Breakfast with God' and the 'Ideas Exchange' were successfully launched as regular events held in retail premises in the centre of Romsey.

In alignment with the 'Eco' credentials of the church a major 'Slow Fashion' event was held to highlight the impact of the fashion industry on the environment. In excess of 200 people attended and well over 1,000 items of clothing were donated for purchase. A repair café was well received.

At the General Church meeting in July a proposal to grow the Church in 30 – 50 age group, to deepen relationships with families, and bring people to faith was agreed, for submission to Church Council in October. This included a desire to employ a part-time Families Pastor for up to three years. A Growing for Mission Fund was established to help fund this work into which, donations would be received.

Charities supported: The Church makes annual donations to Methodist Connexional Funds in support of the wider Methodist Church as well as various local charities and eco charities, like A Rocha, reflecting our Gold Eco Church Award.

In addition, the church agrees to specifically support 3 charities through various events, like the Beacon Café. This year, Church Council agreed to continue the support to the international charity 'All We Can', the national charity 'Centre Point' and to switch support from the local charity 'Solent Mind' to the 'Minstead Trust'.

Public Benefit: The church mission statement is achieved through a wide variety of worship services, fellowship meetings, group activities, learning opportunities, and the presence of the church and its members in the local community. More details can be found on the church website www.romseymethodist.church

Finance & Reserves:

For the financial year to 31st August 2022 the Church Funds grew by £35,133: £3,081 increase in the General Fund and £32,051 in Designated Funds.

Receipts

- Our main source of income is the regular and committed giving by members and friends – the Offering. This was slightly higher than 2020/21. Gift Aid was slightly higher due to an increase in declarations being received enabling money to be claimed for prior years. [Gift Aid is claimed from HMRC via the Methodist Church Central Bureau]
- Lettings have returned to be slightly higher than pre-pandemic levels. Regular users being:-
 - Achoiring Voices
 - Fitzell Roberts School of Dance
 - Romsey Choral Society
 - U3A
- Other receipts were higher than previous year, mainly because of the increase in attendance at the Beacon Café – which now opens on Wednesday as well as Friday, plus the Slow Fashion event, held in March, was a significant success generating over £1,700.
- Designated funds grew as a result of £33,000 being donated by members and friends of the Church for the Growing for Mission Project.

Payments

- The largest item of expenditure is the assessment paid to the Winchester, Eastleigh and Romsey Methodist Circuit. A significant amount of the circuit assessment is used to pay the stipends and related costs to Ministers, and the upkeep of their manses. Circuit Assessment increase was in line with budget and reflected the reallocation of the Assessment across Circuit Churches.
- Donations made by the Church increased – mainly because of the donation of £1,150 made to Traid UK as a result of the Slow Fashion event held in March.
- Repairs and Maintenance costs were lower, in line with the agreed budget. [additional expenditure in the prior year due to property repairs highlighted by the Quinquennial]
- Utilities – higher as a result of higher levels of activity post pandemic. The church continued to benefit from fixed price energy contracts through the year.
- Other Payments – higher [in line with agreed budget] mainly due to increased cleaning costs as a result of increased activity across the Church post Covid restrictions.

Reserve Policy

General Fund : At our financial year end [31st Aug 2022] our General Fund balance was £ 45,543

We aim to maintain in reserve sufficient money within our general funds to cover approximately three-month's (non-provisioned) expenditure [i.e. £16,500] to enable the church to continue its mission should revenues fall away unexpectedly. We hold approximately £10,000 to cover normal working capital requirements as well as reflecting that a key element of income is Tax recovered (Gift Aid), which is received in August. In addition, we provision for the following items of expenditure during the year to 31st August 2023 in support of the work and mission of the Church:-

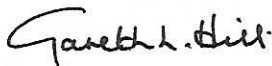
Ads & Publicity	£300
Agreed donations to Connexional funds & others	£6,000
Ideas budget	£1,000
Repairs & Maintenance	£6,000
Youth & Children Grant	£250

Designated Funds : At our financial year end [31st Aug 2022] our **Designated Funds** total was £44,449

Designated Funds being funds donated for specific projects or allocated by Church Council to cover a specific purpose in support of our mission. At the 31st August 2022 these are specified as below:

Funds held for Payment to Charities	£318
Growth Fund	£33,015
Make Lunch	£64
Property	£5,775
Renewal	£3,379
Tiddlywinks	£265
WLTD0	£558
Thursday Afternoon Fellowship	£477
Youth & Children Work	£598

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



Rev'd G Hill

8.3.23

Date

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

ROMSEY

Church

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2022

Winchester, Eastleigh & Romsey	Circuit	Circuit no	26/02
--------------------------------	---------	------------	-------

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1193935

If not a registered charity **Her Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number**

N/A

(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 Gareth Hill

Church Stewards:

Cathryn Simons

Heather Adey

Jason Elkin

Linda Pennells

Peter Jackson

Peter Manning

Treasurer:

Don Simons

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	67,131		67,131	67,034
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	191		191	61
a4	Lettings	7,172		7,172	1,487
a5	Other receipts	12,197	35,463	47,660	12,221
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	86,691	35,463	122,154 (a7)	80,803

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	53,496		53,496	48,157
b3	Donations	10,663	287	10,950	9,701
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	4,045	458	4,503	9,628
b5	Utilities (water charges, heating & lighting, Broadband)	3,171		3,171	2,497
b6	Insurance	1,760		1,760	1,641
b7	Other payments	10,474	2,667	13,141	9,282
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	83,609	3,412	87,021 (b9)	80,906

SECTION C						
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	3,082	32,051	35,133	(103.13)

c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	41,629	13,230	54,859 (c6)	54,962
----	--	--------	--------	-------------	--------

c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	44,711	45,281	89,992	54,859
----	------------------	---------	--------	--------	--------	--------

c4	Transfers and adjustments	832	(832)		(c7)	
----	---------------------------	-----	-------	--	------	--

c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	45,543	44,449	89,992 (c8)	54,859 (c6)
----	-----------------------------------	---------	--------	--------	-------------	-------------

SECTION D		£	£
d	FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS		
	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year	0	0
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	6,137	638
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	6,137	638
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)	0	0

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						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	122,154 (a7)	87,021 (b9)	35,133	54,859 (c6)	89,992 (c8)
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	122,154	87,021	35,133	54,859 (x)	89,992 (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	10	
f2 Bank Current Account	13,242	28,744
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	41,607	61,248
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes		
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	54,859 (c6)	89,992 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	54,859 (x)	89,992 (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)	1,826,284	1,871,544
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: **Romsey Methodist Church**

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

Date

10th Oct 22

Name and address of treasurer:

Don Simons
Woodley Dene, Braishfield Road,
ROMSEY
SO51 7NZ

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 19.10.22.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Gareth L. Hill

Name of the Chair of the meeting

GARETH HILL

Date

19.10.22

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the ROMSEY METHODIST CHURCH

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Romsey Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2022 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.

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church:- ROMSEY METHODIST 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 G.A. Wymore

Name of independent examiner GRAHAM ANDREW WYMORE

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner RETIRED CHURCH TREASURER

Address 2 HAYES CLOSE, KINGS SOMERSET

..... STOCKBRIDGE Post Code SO20 6QF

Date 10TH OCTOBER 2022

* delete or circle as appropriate