

OLDHAM METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales · Charity number 1194708

Details

Other names THE METHODIST CHURCH IN OLDHAM

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2021-06-07

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 2 Bannach Drive
Chadderton
Oldham
OL9 0QN

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Activities

Objects: THE PURPOSES OF THE METHODIST CHURCH ARE AND SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN SINCE THE DATE OF UNION THE ADVANCEMENT OF -(A) THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DOCTRINAL STANDARDS AND THE DISCIPLINE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH;(B) ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE FOR THE TIME BEING OF ANY CONNEXIONAL, DISTRICT, CIRCUIT, LOCAL OR OTHER ORGANISATION OF THE METHODIST CHURCH;(C) ANY CHARITABLE PURPOSE FOR THE TIME BEING OF ANY SOCIETY OR INSTITUTION SUBSIDIARY OR ANCILLARY TO THE METHODIST CHURCH;(D) ANY PURPOSE FOR THE TIME BEING OF ANY CHARITY BEING A CHARITY SUBSIDIARY OR ANCILLARY TO THE METHODIST CHURCH.

Activities: Religious functions in the manner of the Methodist Church. Worship, service, mission and pastoral care

Classification

- **How:** Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Oldham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£310,962	£400,361	-	-
2024-08-31	£670,615	£398,999	£2,422,514	6
2023-08-31	£612,553	£675,828	£2,630,000	6
2022-08-31	£529,360	£403,277	£3,152,517	5

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Allan Gibson		2025-09-01
Barbara Howard		2021-07-05
Carol Shepherdson		2026-03-11
Carol Stopford		2021-07-05
DOROTHY ROBERTS		2021-07-05
DOROTHY THORPE		2021-07-05
David Allonby		2024-09-01
David Ian Crossley		2021-07-05
GORDON JAMES ROSCOE		2021-07-05
GRAHAM RADCLIFFE		2021-07-05
Glennis Kirkwood		2021-07-05
Helen Williams		2024-11-06
JANET ABBOTT		2021-06-01
James William Upton		2021-07-05
Janet Mitchell		2021-07-05
John Paul Wilkinson		2023-09-01
June Mills		2021-07-05
Kathryn Heathcote		2021-07-05
Leslie Perry		2021-07-05
MARGARET TAYLOR		2021-07-05
MOIRA ELIZABETH BERGIN		2021-07-05
Michael Wilson		2021-07-05
Nigel John Bacon		2021-07-05
Norman James Unsworth		2021-07-05
Pamela Ruth Walker		2023-09-01
ROBERT MATTHEW ASHTON		2021-07-05
Rev Kennedy Gondongwe		2022-09-01

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Kenneth George McNally		2021-07-05
Rev Robert Davies		2021-07-05
Ruth Michelle Radcliffe		2021-07-05
Stephen Keith Foster		2021-07-05
Stephen Paul Titmuss		2021-07-05
Susan Jane Nuttall		2021-07-05

OLDHAM METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1194708

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1194708

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 August 2025
for
Oldham Methodist Circuit

Oldham Methodist Circuit

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For the Year Ended 31st August 2025

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Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Report for end of year 31st August 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities 'Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2015 ' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Registered Charity number 1194708

Principal address

2 Bannach Drive
Chadderton
Oldham
OL9 0QN

Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Charity Trustees. A full list of trustees is included Appendix A of the trustees report.

Solicitor

North Ainley Halliwell
34/36 Clegg Street
Oldham
OL1 1PS

Independent Examiner

Leanne Nield ACA BSc
Arc Accountancy Solutions Limited
51 Laverton Road
Lytham St. Annes
Lancashire
FY8 1EN

Advisers

The charity's investment managers are TMCP, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Oldham Methodist Circuit is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

Type of Governing Document: Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

How the Charity is Constituted: Act of Parliament

The Charity's Trustees are the members of the Oldham Methodist Circuit meeting. Membership is made up of ministers appointed to the circuit, circuit office holders, representatives appointed by the local churches with a representative for the Local Preachers' and Worship Leaders' Meeting. Full membership is shown in Appendix A to this report.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are the Custodian Trustees of Circuit properties.

ORGANISATION OF OLDHAM METHODIST CIRCUIT

The Oldham Circuit currently provides ministerial oversight and pastoral care for twelve churches in the Oldham area.

Circuit Meetings (trustees' meetings) are held three times per year. The Circuit Leadership Team (the circuit's ministers and circuit stewards) meets six times per year and has limited powers to transact business on behalf of the trustees

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

between trustees' meetings, The Circuit Superintendent, if present, chairs meetings of these groups. In the absence of the Superintendent, one of the other ministers takes on the role of Chair.

Sub-committees responsible to the trustees, including both representatives of the trustees and others with appropriate skills and experience, have been established for a number of routine purposes and for day-to-day management of the Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre.

During the accounting period the Circuit was part of the recently merged (*as from 1st September 2024*) North West England District (NWED). Oldham Circuit is a member of the Greater Manchester Plus Mission area within NWED and is accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) by order of the annual conference.

Additional Governance Issues

Induction/Training of Trustees

As is evident from Appendix A, the appointment of a substantial number of trustees is the responsibility of the local churches. On appointment, all trustees are made aware of the duties and responsibilities of trustees through relevant guidance notes issued by the Methodist Connexion and the Charity Commission.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the risks faced by the Charity, both financial and otherwise; professional advice is taken, when required. Procedures and guidelines for mitigating risks issued by the Methodist Church are consulted. The Methodist Church's robust safeguarding policy and safeguarding procedures are adopted by the Circuit in the Circuit's Safeguarding Policy which are both reviewed annually. Safeguarding is an agenda topic at every Circuit Meeting.

Related Parties

The churches forming the Circuit are either excepted charities or registered charities and, as they are responsible for their own financial affairs, their accounts are reported separately by the individual churches.

CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES AND MAIN ACTIVITIES

Summary of the Objects of the Charity set out in its Governing Document

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.

Summary of the Main Activities undertaken for Public Benefit in Relation to these Objects

We confirm that the trustees have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The Circuit aims to live out the Calling of the Methodist Church, summarised as:

- to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- to help people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care;
- to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice;
- to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

The trustees are committed to reaching as many people as possible in the Circuit's geographical area. The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure that regular public acts of worship take place at each of the twelve churches. Worship is open to all people (church members and non-members alike) without charge.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

The churches forming the Circuit provide Christian teaching, pastoral care (including visiting the sick and bereaved) and, as part of their outreach, provide activities for a broad section of the whole community (from toddlers to senior citizens). The Circuit supports and encourages the churches in this work and funds the provision of ministers (*presbyters and a deacon*), also supplying and maintaining their accommodation (manses) and covering their legitimate expenses.

The Circuit has a Partnership Agreement with the national debt counselling charity 'Christians Against Poverty' to provide a free debt counselling service to the residents of Oldham.

A number of ministry and mission activities throughout the local area are provided with financial support.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Circuit Staff

During the accounting period the Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe is the Circuit Superintendent and Chairperson of the Circuit Trustees. Revd Dr Gondongwe is responsible for The Methodist Church in Royton which includes Trinity, Fir Lane and Gravelhole with support from supernumerary minister Revd R Davies, South Chadderton, Bardsley, Hollins and Limeside churches. Revd Suva Catford is responsible for East Oldham and Zion churches, with continued oversight of Hey with Zion school along with the Oldham Town Centre Mission. Revd Ken McNally is responsible for the three Saddleworth churches of Uppermill, Greenfield and Delph and for Shore Edge Church and St Andrew's churches in Shaw. Deacon Angleena Keizer (appointed 1 September 2023) is leading the pioneer mission project for High Crompton.

Further New Appointments/Changes in Responsibility

As of 01/09/2024 The Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe took the post of Circuit Superintendent Minister following the departure (*new stationing*) of the previous superintendent minister Revd Dr Adrian Burdon. A superintendent welcome service was held on 02/09/24 attended by the Chair of District. Revd Kennedy Gondongwe had joined the circuit as a presbyter through the Ministers from Other Churches and Conferencing (MOCC) stationing process in September 2022. With Revd Kennedy being appointed internally to the superintendent role and Revd Dr Adrian Burdon leaving, the circuit effectively reduced the number of presbyter staff from four full time presbyters to three. The three presbyters being Revd Gondongwe; Revd Kenneth McNally and Revd Suva Catford.

With a reduced number of presbyters there was a reorganisation of the circuit 'mission areas' and pastoral responsibilities.

The pastoral charge of churches was organised as follows:-

Revd K Gondongwe – Bardsley; Hollins; Limeside; South Chadderton and The Methodist Church in Royton which includes Fir Lane, Gravelhole and Trinity churches.

Revd K McNally – Delph; Greenfield, Shore Edge; St Andrew's and Uppermill.

Revd S Catford – East Oldham and Zion and including Hey with Zion Primary School and continuing with her Town Centre mission work (50%).

The Revd Robert Davies continued in his role as supernumerary minister during 2024/25, with an increased paid role, from 20% to 40% of the full standard stipend, for a workload of four sessions per week (16 hours) to be applied throughout the week as circumstances dictated. Revd Davies's main focus of work involved supporting the superintendent with his pastoral charge of his churches, mainly with the newly formed Methodist Church in Royton (*being a combination of Fir Lane, Gravelhole & Trinity Churches*). Revd Davies retired at the end of August 2025.

Deacon Angleena Keizer, appointed September 2023, continued with her work as leader of the pioneer mission project at High Crompton.

In September 2024 Revd Suva Catford requested the curtailment of her presbyter role following the completion of four years (to August 2025) rather than five (to August 2026). The required procedures for early curtailment were followed and it was agreed and confirmed that Revd Suva would leave the circuit as of 31/08/2025.

In view of this, following much debate and discussion regarding the needs and mission directions, circuit entered the Stationing Process to seek a full time presbyter from 01/09/2025. In May 2025 the stationing of Revd Dr Jongikaya Zihle was confirmed for September 2025.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Worship, Prayer and Discipleship

Worship continued in a variety of patterns across the Circuit. Circuit Prayer Lunches are held each month hosted at various churches across the circuit on a rotating basis.

Funding of Ministry and Mission Projects

Churches and individuals continue to support the Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre Project-

Circuit Properties (Manses)

The Circuit currently owns six manses – 2 Bannach Drive; 2 Braeside; 15 Nudger Green; 1 Spinners Way; 2 The Avenue and 9 The Avenue.

During the finance year the residential properties have been revalued to market value giving an overall gain of £598,000.

With the reduction of ministers the manse at 2 The Avenue became vacant as of August 2024. This manse is in a good location and is a property meeting all the requirements for a minister. Although requiring substantial updating, including some bathroom renovations, it was decided to keep the manse, particularly in view of the possibility of the stationing of a new presbyter for September 2025. During 2024/2025 work was carried out on the manse to bring it to a good standard and ready for occupancy in August 2025.

The vacant manse at Braeside continued to be rented out however, following various tenancy difficulties, the manse became vacant in Spring 2025. This property has required a great deal of work following a leak/flood for which an insurance claim has been approved and problems relating to flooring on the ground floor of the property. Circuit Meeting agreed the property was no longer required for future accommodation. Necessary repair work has been completed and the property is to be put on the open market for sale.

All manses have been inspected regularly to identify essential maintenance issues and to help plan for renewals of major items. Maintenance/repair work at Nudger Green has included a new door and a new window.

The manse at Spinners Way became vacant as of August 2025 due to the departure of Revd Catford. Overall this manse is of a good standard requiring minor maintenance/repairs/updating. Circuit are considering the rental of the property to bring in income whilst decisions are taken as to the future accommodation needs of the circuit.

General Administration

The circuit continue to adhere to the Circuit Safeguarding Policy for Children and Vulnerable Adults, dated September 2024, which continues to reflect current Connexional policy.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Debt Centre

Since Autumn 2012 a free debt counselling service has been provided for local residents. This is a partnership between the Circuit and Christians Against Poverty. The project is managed by a management committee appointed by and responsible to the trustees. The service has proved highly successful in helping clients to deal with debt and related problems. The service continues to serve many clients in a climate of increasing demand for support. The project is home-based and does not need an office.

Kelkina Ackrill, appointed in 2022 as CAP Centre Manager left in September 2024. A new manager, Lisa Woolfenden, was appointed in March 2025.

The paid Manager is assisted and supported by around 20 'befrienders' and other volunteers from the churches in Oldham and the community.

The Debt Centre also operates in partnership with Keyring & Oldham Food Bank and other local agencies helping people in crisis. This project includes running the CAP Life Skills course

The project is funded by a combination of regular and occasional donations from churches and church members and a grant of £8000 per year from Circuit funds which in 2024/2025 has been covered by a contribution from the Model Trust Fund.

Volunteer Contributions

A valuable resource for the Circuit continues to be the many volunteers who assist in various ways with the ministries of the Circuit and CAP Debt Centre.

The Future

Oldham Circuit became part of the newly formed North West England District in September 2024.

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Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

In September 2024 churches in Royton – Fir Lane; Gravelhole and Trinity, formerly joined to create The Methodist Church in Royton (TMCiR). A new church council for TMCiR became into being with its inaugural meeting held on 7th October 2024. Fir Lane and Trinity continue to operate as worships centres with regular Sunday morning worship held at each venue. A joint Sunday worship is held each month. Gravelhole chose to join at Trinity for Sunday worship as from September 2024 and formerly ceased worship as of April 2025 as agreed at District Synod. In light of this and the consideration of the needs for the future, church council confirmed that Gravelhole Church would go up for sale on the open market following completion of necessary procedures and formal approval from district.

The number of circuit churches will reduce from 14 to 12 plus a worship centre (Fir Lane).

Over the past few years the circuit has recognised that membership is declining with the majority of members being 65+.

In June 2024 a Circuit Mission Questionnaire was completed by all circuit churches to help form an overall view of our current situation, to identify needs and to seek opinions on how we might move forward in mission for the future. The completion of this document shared activities ongoing in each church, the involvement of community groups, opinions about church and circuit connections and views about future mission needs and work. The feedback from these questionnaires provided useful information and an insight into members thoughts and circuit vision and were valuable in supporting decisions taken about staffing requirements and the agreement to enter stationing for September 2025. Circuit continue to look at mission and are looking to plan and organise a series of ‘workshops’ to explore future possibilities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Review of 2024 - 25 Accounts

General Fund (Unrestricted)

Income and expenditure were broadly in accord with the budget. The main source of income continues to be the assessment contributions from local churches, which brought in £222,000. Churches have experienced financial difficulties, with the continued impact from Covid 19, high energy costs and inflation as well as declining membership affecting some income.

The Circuit agreed to subsidise the budget with £60,000 from the Model Trust Fund with an additional £2,000.00 in recognition of the amalgamation of Royton Churches for what would have been the assessment contribution as a worship centre for Gravelhole Church, totalling a subsidy of £62,000. The total contributions from the Model Trust to support the 2024/2025 Circuit budget comprised of £62,000 assessment subsidy, £4,000 for quinquennial inspections, £35,213 deacon stipend, and £8,000 contribution to CAP totalling £109,213.

The major outgoings are the costs of employing the ministerial team, the Circuit’s financial contribution to the North West England District of £57,821 and the costs associated with providing the manses. Manse maintenance and repair costs for 2024/2025 were £22,261. The employment costs were broadly as expected. The Circuit employs a circuit administrator who is the Circuit Safeguarding Officer and person responsible for GDPR. The Circuit also buys in to finance support from the Transforming Churches and Community with the annual service cost for 2024/2025 being £6,700. A grant of £3,000 was donated towards the cost of attending 3 Generate, an annual event for young people across the UK involved with Methodism.

Excluding tangible fixed assets, General Funds at 31st August 2025 amounted to £356,606, including £108,00 designated for deacon stipend costs over the next three years.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)

Income and expenditure were broadly in accord with budget. The Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) is an unrestricted fund which holds the proceeds of sales from Model Trust property (local churches, manses etc); these are paid to the custodian trustees (the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes) for investment. The managing trustees of the CMTF are the Circuit trustees who use the fund to support the Circuit’s ministry/mission, including some property-related projects, and also to provide grants/loans to local Methodist churches for the same purposes. Grants/donations/loans are also made to other causes which are in accord with the Circuit’s own mission purposes. A compulsory annual levy (based on the year-end balance of the fund) is payable from the CMTF to the District Advance Fund – on 01/09/24 £34,851 was deducted.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

A transfer from CMTF for £109,213 to the Circuit CFB Deposit Fund was completed in March 2025 to cover agreed 2024/2025 budget subsidies - £62,000 assessment subsidy, £4,000 for quinquennial inspections, £35,213 deacon stipend, and £8,000 contribution to CAP (*as outlined under General Fund*).

A further transfer from CMTF for £110,000, to the Circuit bank account Unity, was completed in August 2025 to cover agreed budget costs for 2025/2026 -£55,000 assessment subsidy, £4,000 for quinquennial inspections, £43,000 for deacon stipend and £8,000 to CAP.

The CMTF balance at the end of August 2025 was £349,311. This includes the net proceeds of the sale of the salt Cellar Resource Centre (£304,020) in the year ended 31st August 2024, which are currently designated by the trustees for town centre mission. It is anticipated that funds in the CMTF account will increase significantly during 2025/2026, following the sale of one of the Circuit manses.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds comprise a number of Circuit funds invested with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purpose, CAP Debt Centre, plus other smaller funds. At 31st August 2025, restricted funds totalled £32,723, made up of £28,777 internal organisations (CAP), £3,806 TMCP investments-and £140 for the Caleb Tiddlers Tots group.

A total of £26,526 had been granted across 2022-2023 ; 2023-2024 and 2024 -2025 for Pioneer Mission work, which has been fully utilised in each year against the salary costs of Deacon Angleena Keizer for the community work being done in the High Crompton area.

Circuit received a final payment of the Connexional Grant for the High Crompton Mission Project of £7,200.

Endowment Funds

There are two Endowment Funds. The James Cocker Gift, which was brought into the Circuit from the former Union Street Church and the Organ Fund transferred from the former Honeywell Lane Church . The James Cocker fund increased from £31,062 at the start of the year to £33,007 at the end. The trustees are still exploring the potential release of this capital. The Organ Fund stands at £1,458 (*formerly Honeywell Lane endowment fund*)

Tangible Fixed Assets

During the year ended 31st August 2025, the valuations of the six Circuit manses were revised, based upon more recent local market research by the Circuit Property Steward. This resulted in a gain of £598,000 in the valuation of tangible assets (from £1,560,000 to £2,158,000).

Total unrestricted General Funds of £2,514,606 at 31st August 2025 therefore include a contribution of £2,158,000 from tangible assets.

Reserves Policies

General Fund (Unrestricted)

In order to meet its ongoing financial obligations, including payment of minister employment costs monthly in advance, and to provide both for the possibilities of future assessment income failing to keep pace with Circuit expenditure and for unanticipated or emergency expenditure, the Circuit must maintain sufficient 'free' general unrestricted reserves.

'Free' reserves are defined as unrestricted reserves less the investment in tangible assets/property and designated funds. In line with guidance provided by the Methodist Church, the trustees aim to maintain 'free' reserves at a level of between three and six months' typical expenditure i.e. between £100,000 and £200,000.

After the deduction of the value of tangible assets/property (£2,158,000), and funds designated for deacon employment costs over the next three years (£108,000) from General Funds held at 31st August 2025 (£2,514,606), 'free' reserves amount to £248,606, slightly above the target range

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Circuit Model Trust Fund- CMTF (Unrestricted)

The Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) balance at 31st August was £349,311, with £304,020 currently designated for town centre mission, leaving 'free' reserves of £45,291. As mentioned earlier, it is anticipated that funds in the CMTF account will increase significantly during 2025/2026, following the sale of one of the Circuit manses.

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds amounted to £32,723 at 31st August 2025. These funds are restricted for use by the Christians Against Poverty (CAP) project (£28,777); TMCP investments (£3,806); and the toddler group (£140).

OTHER OPTIONAL INFORMATION

No further information.

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above at the trustees' meeting held on

Wednesday 11th March 2026

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.



Signatures

The Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe

Janet Abbott

Position

Superintendent Minister

Senior Circuit Steward

Date

11/03/2026

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Appendix A Circuit Trustees

Oldham Circuit Meeting Members as at 31st August 2025

1. The Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe	Superintendent Minister Chair of the Meeting
2. The Revd Suva Catford	Circuit Minister
3. The Revd Angleena Keizer	Circuit Minister
4. The Revd Kenneth McNally	Circuit Minister
5. The Revd Robert Davies	Supernumerary Minister
6. The Revd Eddie Gordon	Supernumerary Minister
7. The Revd Lindsay Neal	Supernumerary Minister
8. Janet Abbott	Senior Circuit Steward
9. Dave Allonby	Greenfield Steward
10. Bob Ashton	Hollins Steward
11. Nigel Bacon	The MCiR Treasurer
12. Moira Bergin	Zion Steward
13. Ian Crossley	The MCiR Steward
14. Stephen Foster	Zion Treasurer
15. Allan Gibson	Circuit Archives and Property Records Officer
16. Barbara Howard	Delph Steward
17. Kathryn Heathcote	Circuit Steward (Pastoral)
18. Glennis Kirkwood	Circuit Steward (Property) Hollins Treasurer
19. June Mills	East Oldham Steward
20. Malcom Milwain	Hey with Zion School (Chair of Govs)
21. Janet Mitchell	St Andrew's Shaw Treasurer
22. Susan Nuttall	The MCiR Treasurer
23. Lesley Perry	St Andrews Shaw Steward
24. Graham Radcliffe	Circuit Steward (Mission)
25. Ruth Radcliffe	South Chadderton Steward
26. Dorothy Roberts	Uppermill Steward
27. Gordon Roscoe	East Oldham Treasurer Chair of CAP Management Committee
28. David Schofield	South Chadderton Rep
29. Carol Stopford	The MCiR Steward
34. Margaret Taylor	Delph Finance Committee Rep
35. Dorothy Thorpe	Bardsley Treasurer
36. Paul Titmuss	Greenfield Rep
37. Norman Unsworth	Local Preachers' Secretary
38. Jim Upton	Uppermill Treasurer
39. Pam Walker	Shore Edge Steward
40. John Wilkinson	Representing South Chadderton as Treasurer at the meeting
41. Helen Williams	Shore Edge Shaw Treasurer
42. Michael Wilson	Limeside Treasurer

Joanna Ortiz - Secretary to the meeting/Circuit Admin/Safeguarding

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

	Note	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1		6,440				6,440	-
2		4,147	23,901	155	1,537	29,740	29,983
3		8,327				8,327	12,528
4		222,000				222,000	246,216
5	2		-			-	304,020
6	14			7,200		7,200	10,287
7	14			11,441		11,441	12,960
8	3	24,108				24,108	48,282
9				276	1,430	1,706	6,339
10 Total income		265,022	23,901	19,072	2,967	310,962	670,615
Expenditure							
Expenditure on charitable activities:							
11	4	3,000				3,000	3,460
12	5	177,275		7,200		184,475	223,439
13		52,391				52,391	35,733
14		57,821	34,851			92,672	71,221
15	2		-			-	-
16						-	-
17		19,562	1,889	12	107	21,570	30,345
18	14			17,351		17,351	19,152
19	8	28,902				28,902	15,649
20 Total charitable expenditure		338,951	36,740	24,563	107	400,361	398,999
21 Net income before investment losses/gains		(73,929)	(12,839)	(5,491)	2,860	(89,399)	271,616
22			21	(34)	3	(10)	898
23	9	598,000				598,000	(13,301)
24 Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		524,071	(12,818)	(5,525)	2,863	508,591	259,213
25		211,218	(219,213)	7,995		-	-
26	10	-				-	(466,699)
27						-	-
28 Net movement in funds		735,289	(232,031)	2,470	2,863	508,591	(207,486)
29		1,779,317	581,342	30,253	31,602	2,422,514	2,630,000
30 Total funds carried forward		2,514,606	349,311	32,723	34,465	2,931,105	2,422,514

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Balance Sheet
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Note	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	11	1,858,000			1,858,000	1,387,000
Other Properties (resource centre)	11				-	-
Investment Properties	11	300,000			300,000	173,000
Investments	14			34,465	34,465	31,602
Total fixed assets		2,158,000	0	0	2,192,465	1,591,602

Current Assets

Debtors	12	15,354			15,354	17,528
Loans by the Circuit						
Investments with TMCP		63	349,311	3,806	353,180	584,828
Central Finance Board Deposits		77,001			77,001	113,306
Cash at Bank and in hand		267,347		28,917	296,264	119,029
Total current assets		359,765	349,311	32,723	-	834,691

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	13	3,159			3,159	3,779
Grants payable within 2022-23						
Total current liabilities		3,159			3,159	3,779
Net current assets/liabilities		356,606	349,311	32,723	-	830,912

Total assets less current liabilities		2,514,606	349,311	32,723	34,465	2,931,105	2,422,514
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23							
Loans to the Circuit							
Net assets		2,514,606	349,311	32,723	34,465	2,931,105	2,422,514

Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)		2,514,606				2,514,606	1,779,317
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			349,311			349,311	581,342
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)							
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,863,917	2,360,659
Restricted Funds				32,723		32,723	30,253
Endowment Funds					34,465	34,465	31,602
Total Funds	14	2,514,606	349,311	32,723	34,465	2,931,105	2,422,514

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Statement of cash flows	2025 £	2024 £
Cash from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(119,301)	(62,471)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends and interest from investments	29,740	29,983
Net proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	-	304,020
Cash balance transferred from Honeywell Church	1,706	6,339
Net cash provided by investing activities	31,446	340,342
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	87,855	277,871
Cash and cash equivalents at the date of merger (1 st September 2021)	848,765	570,894
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	760,910	848,765
	2025	2024
Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities	£	£
Net income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	508,591	(207,486)
Adjustments for:		
Dividends and interests from investments	(29,740)	(29,983)
(Gains)/losses on property revaluations and disposals	(598,000)	13,301
Capital receipts and bank/investment account closure transfers	(1,709)	(310,359)
Reclassification of property funds	-	466,699
Increase in debtors	2,174	15,158
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(620)	(9,801)
Total cash generated from operating activities	(119,301)	(62,471)
	2025	2024
Analysis of cash and cash equivalent	£	£
Cash at bank	387,645	119,029
Central Finance Board Deposits	77,001	113,306
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits	296,264	616,430
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	760,910	848,765

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1 Basis of accounting policies

i Accounting standard

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletin 1 issued in 2016.

ii Public benefit entity

The Oldham Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical costs or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are also Endowment funds as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

iv Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

v Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research, and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

vi Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2024, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

vii Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

viii Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Circuit acts as agent in two matters:

- the collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds"
- the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion. In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or Churches as appropriate. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP (FRS102), module 19.12n.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

ix Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

x Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

xi VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xii Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

The trustees have made judgements and estimates in respect of: the fair value of tangible assets, and investment properties shown at fair value. The trustees have determined that any differences arising between actual amounts realised upon sale and fair value estimates will have no impact on the Circuit's ability to continue as a going concern.

xiii Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £500.

The freehold and/or long leasehold residential property is shown in the accounts at fair value determined by the trustees based on market value research. The land component is not recognised in these figures. No depreciation is provided on the residential properties because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The residential properties have been reviewed for impairment.

xiv (a) Investment Properties

Investment property, which is property held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, is measured using the fair value model and stated at its fair value at the reporting end date. The surplus or deficit on revaluation is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. When the intention is to hold the property for capital appreciation or its rental income, the property is classified as investment property and carried at fair value.

xiv (b) Investments

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as basic financial instruments under FRS102 and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments are shown in the SOFA.

xv Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid.

xvi Creditors and Accruals

Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, or the amount advanced to the Circuit. Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter assessment received in August.

xvii Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

2. Net Capital Receipts

Capital receipts relates to the sale of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre. All sales of Methodist property are subject to a levy by the Connexion calculated on a sliding scale based on the gross sale price. The figure is shown net of this CPF Levy. Also, any historic grants made by the Connexion to the closed church are reclaimed from the proceeds of sale before the CPF Levy is applied.

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross sale (Salt Cellar Resource Centre)		-		-	466,699
CPF Levy on property sales		-		-	(162,680)
Total proceeds		-		-	304,020

3. Other Charitable Income

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£	£	£	£
Contribution towards manse costs	3,000			3,000	3,000
Pension reserve refund of previous contribution made				-	35,000
Salary recharges	21,019			21,019	9,417
Other	89			89	865
Total	24,108	-	-	24,108	48,282

* Salary Recharges relates to the East Oldham Children & Youth Worker and a CAP worker. Both are recharged back to either East Oldham Church or the CAP debt centre.

4. Grants and donations paid

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
	£	£	£	£	£
Caleb Tiddlers Tots				-	360
Donation for 3 Generate tickets	3,000			3,000	3,000
Other				-	100
Total	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,460

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

5. Staff Costs

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

	Ministers (trustees)	Lay staff	Total 2024-25	Total 2023-24
£	£	£	£	£
Stipends, salaries and benefits in kind	132,870	12,963	145,833	168,038
Social security costs	13,628	809	14,437	15,030
Pension costs	23,265	202	23,467	39,537
Apprenticeship levy	672	67	739	834
Total staff costs	170,435	14,040	184,475	223,439
Expenses (Travel, accommodation and other expenses incurred in the normal course of employment)	7,907	16	7,923	10,925
Average number of staff employed during the year were:	5	1	6	7

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Wages and salary costs includes £nil in respect of redundancy payments in 2025 (2024: £nil).

6. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting	0	0
Number of trustees who were paid expenses relating to trustee duties	0	0
Total amount paid	0	0
There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2025 (2024: £nil) other than that paid to ministers and lay staff in the normal course of their duties and disclosed above.		

7. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	1,600	1,725
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	0	0
Total	1,600	1,725

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

8. Other outgoings

	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Bad debt written off			-	5,840
Stationing	7,998		7,998	-
Salary recharges	20,904		20,904	7,243
Salt Cellar Resource Centre outgoings			-	2,566
Total	28,902	-	28,902	15,649

The bad debt written off in the prior year related to a 2011-12 assessment due from Honeywell Lane Church.

9. Property Disposals/Revaluations

The net gains or losses are detailed below. During the year and in accordance with note 1.xiii (Tangible fixed assets) the residential properties have been assessed for fair value and been determined by the trustees as needing to be revalued to market value.

Details	2023-24 Fair Value £	Sale £	2024-25 Fair Value £	Gain/(loss) £
2 The Avenue, Shaw – unrealised	200,000		370,000	170,000
15 Nudger Green – unrealised	357,000		520,000	163,000
1 Spinners Way – unrealised	300,000		340,000	40,000
2 Bannach Drive – unrealised	228,000		300,000	72,000
9 The Avenue, Shaw – unrealised	302,000		328,000	26,000
Brae Side – unrealised	173,000		300,000	127,000
Total	1,560,000	-	2,158,000	598,000

10. Reclassification of Funds

Circuit property is always carried in the General Fund but upon sale the net proceeds are processed through the Circuit Model Trust Fund. This requires an adjustment and any such sales during the year are reflected below at the gross sale price. There was a net reclassification in the prior year from the sale of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre.

	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024-25 £	Total 2023-24 £
Sale of Salt Cellar Resource Centre	-	-	-	-	(466,699)
Total	-	-	-	-	(466,699)

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

11. Fixed Assets (including investment properties)

	Manses held as investment properties	Other buildings	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
Manses				
£	£	£		£

Cost or valuation

Balance brought forward	1,387,000	173,000	0	0	1,560,000
Additions					-
Revaluations (+/-)	471,000	127,000			598,000
Disposals (-)					0
Transfers * (+/-)					0
Balance carried forward	1,858,000	300,000	0	0	2,158,000

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation charge for year (-)					0
Revaluations (+/-)					0
Disposals (-)					0
Transfers* (+/-)					0
Balance carried forward	0	0	0	0	

Brought forward	1,387,000	173,000	0	0	1,560,000
Carried forward	1,858,000	300,000	0	0	2,158,000

The fair value of the manses includes the land on which they are built. The fair value of the manses has been determined by the trustees by comparing the properties to market values of similar properties in the area through online research.

12. Analysis of debtors

Due within one year	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Trade debtors	51	2,170
Prepayments	14,553	14,858
Accrued grant income	750	500
Total	15,354	17,528

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

13. Analysis of creditors

Amounts failing due within one year	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
Trade Creditors	879	1,993
Other Creditors	2,280	1,786
Total	3,159	3,779

14. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted and Designated Funds

Unrestricted Fund Name	Brought forward funds	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers & Reclassification	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
General - property	1,560,000	-	-	-	598,000	2,158,000	Property of the Circuit
General - designated	-	-	-	108,000	-	108,000	Deacon salary costs for the High Crompton Mission Project
General - free	219,317	265,022	(338,951)	103,218	-	248,606	Free reserves for the general purposes of the Circuit
Total General Fund	1,779,317	265,022	(338,951)	211,218		2,514,606	
Model Trust Fund - other	581,342	23,901	(36,740)	(523,233)	21	45,291	Support for the mission of the Circuit
Circuit Trust Fund - designated	-	-	-	304,020	-	304,020	Proceeds from the Salt Cellar reserved for Town Centre Mission
Total Model Trust Fund	581,342	23,901	(36,740)	(219,213)	21	349,311	
Totals	2,360,659	288,923	(375,691)	(7,995)	598,021	2,863,917	

Restricted Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Brought forward funds	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
TMCP Investments	3,426	431	(12)	(5)	(34)	3,806	Various small bequests/gifts for specific purposes.
Internal Organisations	26,687	11,441	(17,351)	8,000		28,777	Christians Against Poverty
Pioneer Mission	-	7,200	(7,200)			-	Circuit project for pioneer mission work
Caleb Tiddlers Tots	140	-	-			140	Grant gifted for the purpose of the toddler group
Totals	30,253	19,072	(24,563)	7,995	(34)	32,723	

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

14. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements (continued)

Endowment Funds

Endowment Fund Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital	Annual income	What the income was used for
James Cocker gift	TMCP (T1473)	33,007	0	
Organ Fund	TMCP (T3585)	1,458	0	
Totals		34,465	0	

Prior year comparatives for detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted Fund Name	Brought forward funds	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers & Reclassification	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
General	2,210,915	281,278	(334,089)	(365,486)	(13,301)	1,779,317	The general purposes of the Circuit
Model Trust Fund	343,402	364,308	(17,984)	(109,213)	829	581,342	Support for the mission of the Circuit
Totals	2,554,317	645,586	(352,073)	(474,699)	(12,472)	2,360,659	

Restricted Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Brought forward funds	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
TMCP Investments	3,213	158	(14)		69	3,426	Various small bequests/gifts for specific purposes.
Internal Organisations	24,879	12,960	(19,152)	8,000		26,687	Christians Against Poverty
Salt Cellar Resource Centre	7,989	-	(7,989)			-	For closure costs of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre
Pioneer Mission	9,539	9,787	(19,326)			-	Circuit project for pioneer mission work
Caleb Tiddlers Tots	-	500	(360)			140	Grant gifted for the purpose of the toddler group
Totals	45,620	23,405	(46,841)	8,000	69	30,253	

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Endowment Funds

Endowment Fund Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital	Annual income	What the income was used for
James Cocker gift	TMCP (T1473)	31,602	0	
Totals		31,602	0	

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024-25
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,158,000			34,465	2,192,465
Current assets	359,765	349,311	32,723		741,799
Current liabilities	(3,159)				(3,159)
Total	2,514,606	349,311	32,723	34,465	2,931,105

16. Related party transactions

During the year the Circuit received assessment income totalling £222,000 from the various churches within the Circuit (2024: £246,216).

The Circuit incurred assessment costs of £57,821 payable to the District (2024: £54,216).

The Circuit incurred an annual levy to the District Advance Fund of £34,851 payable to the District (2024: £17,005).

Report of the Independent Examiners
To the Trustees of
Oldham Methodist Circuit

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Oldham Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31st August 2025 which are set out on pages 8 – 20.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity'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 charity'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.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Leanne Nield ACA
Arc Accountancy Solutions Limited
51 Laverton Road
Lytham St. Annes
Lancashire
FY8 1EN

Date:13/3/26.....

OLDHAM METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1194708

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1194708

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 August 2024
for
Oldham Methodist Circuit

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 31st August 2024

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Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities 'Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2015 ' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Registered Charity number 1194708

Principal address

2 Bannach Drive
Chadderton
Oldham
OL9 0QN

Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Charity Trustees. A full list of trustees is included Appendix A of the trustees report.

Solicitor

North Ainley Halliwell
34/36 Clegg Street
Oldham
OL1 1PS

Independent Examiner

Leanne Nield ACA BSc
Arc Accountancy Solutions Limited
51 Laverton Road
Lytham St. Annes
Lancashire
FY8 1EN

Advisers

The charity's investment managers are TMCP, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Oldham Methodist Circuit is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

Type of Governing Document: Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

How the Charity is Constituted: Act of Parliament

The Charity's Trustees are the members of the Oldham Methodist Circuit meeting. Membership is made up of ministers appointed to the circuit, circuit office holders, representatives appointed by the local churches with a representative for the Local Preachers' and Worship Leaders Meeting. Full membership is shown in Appendix A to this report.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are the Custodian Trustees of Circuit properties.

ORGANISATION OF OLDHAM METHODIST CIRCUIT

The Oldham Circuit provides ministerial oversight and pastoral care for the fourteen churches in the Oldham area.

Circuit Meetings (trustees' meetings) are held three times per year. The Circuit Leadership Team (the circuit's ministers and circuit stewards) meets at least six times per year and has limited powers to transact business on behalf of the trustees between trustees' meetings, The Circuit Superintendent, if present, chairs meetings of these groups. In the absence of the Superintendent, one of the other ministers takes on the role of Chair.

Oldham Methodist Circuit **Report of the Trustees**

A Sub-committees responsible to the trustees, including both representatives of the trustees and others with appropriate skills and experience, have been established for a number of routine purposes and for day-to-day management of the Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre.

During the accounting period the Circuit was part of the Manchester and Stockport District of the Methodist Church, as from 01/09/24 we have merged to become the North West England District (NWED). Oldham Circuit is a member of the Greater Manchester Plus Mission area within NWED and is accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) by order of the annual conference.

Additional Governance Issues

Induction/Training of Trustees

As is evident from Appendix A, the appointment of a substantial number of trustees is the responsibility of the local churches. On appointment, all trustees are made aware of the duties and responsibilities of trustees through relevant guidance notes issued by the Methodist Connexion and the Charity Commission.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the risks faced by the Charity, both financial and otherwise; professional advice is taken, when required. Procedures and guidelines for mitigating risks issued by the Methodist Church are consulted. The Methodist Church's robust safeguarding policy and safeguarding procedures are adopted by the Circuit in the Circuit's Safeguarding Policy which are both reviewed annually. Safeguarding is an agenda topic at every Circuit Meeting.

Related Parties

Salt Cellar Ltd was a related party of the Oldham Methodist Circuit. The two directors of the Company were appointed by the Circuit trustees and the trustees established an Executive Board, including representatives of the trustees and others, to manage the Company. The principal activities of the Company were management and maintenance of the Salt Cellar premises, the operation of a café/restaurant and managing long-term and ad-hoc lettings. The annual taxable profits of Salt Cellar Limited were paid to the Circuit as the parent charity under the gift aid scheme. The Salt Cellar ceased operating in July 2022. The Salt Cellar building was put up for sale by the circuit as of January 2023. The Salt Cellar building has been sold, final completion on 05/04/2024, with the money from the sale being incorporated into Circuit Funds with a restriction of use for Town Centre Mission.

The churches forming the Circuit are either excepted charities or registered charities and, as they are responsible for their own financial affairs, their accounts are reported separately by the individual churches.

CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES AND MAIN ACTIVITIES

Summary of the Objects of the Charity set out in its Governing Document

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.

Summary of the Main Activities undertaken for Public Benefit in Relation to these Objects

We confirm that the trustees have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The Circuit aims to live out the Calling of the Methodist Church, summarised as:

- to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;

Oldham Methodist Circuit Report of the Trustees

- to help people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care;
- to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice;
- to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

The trustees are committed to reaching as many people as possible in the Circuit's geographical area. The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure that regular public acts of worship take place at each of the fourteen churches. Worship is open to all people (church members and non-members alike) without charge.

The churches forming the Circuit provide Christian teaching, pastoral care (including visiting the sick and bereaved) and, as part of their outreach, provide activities for a broad section of the whole community (from toddlers to senior citizens). The Circuit supports and encourages the churches in this work and funds the provision of ministers, also supplying and maintaining their accommodation (manses) and covering their legitimate expenses.

The Circuit has a Partnership Agreement with the national debt counselling charity 'Christians Against Poverty' to provide a free debt counselling service to the residents of Oldham.

A number of ministry and mission activities throughout the local area are provided with financial support.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Circuit Staff

During the accounting period the Revd Dr Adrian Burdon is the Circuit Superintendent and Chairperson of the Circuit Trustees. Revd Dr Burdon is responsible for Trinity, Fir Lane and Gravelhole with support from supernumerary minister Revd R Davies. Revd Kennedy Gondongwe, appointed in September 2022, was responsible for South Chadderton, Bardsley, Hollins and Limeside churches. Revd Suva Catford is responsible for East Oldham and Zion churches, with continued oversight of Hey with Zion school along with the Oldham Town Centre Mission. Revd Ken McNally continues to be responsible for the three Saddleworth churches of Uppermill, Greenfield and Delph and for Shore Edge Church and St Andrew's churches in Shaw. Deacon Angleena Keizer is leading the pioneer mission project for High Crompton.

Further New Appointments/Changes in Responsibility

Deacon Angleena Keizer was appointed as leader of the pioneer mission project at High Crompton as from 1st September 2023.

The appointments of Revd Eddie Gordon and Revd Lindsay Neal, supernumerary ministers, within the circuit as paid circuit staff, ended in August 2023.

A Circuit Restructure was proposed in April 2023, following a Circuit Meeting held in March 2023 which approved exploring the use of Standing Order 605A in order to gather the fourteen churches of the Oldham Circuit into four geographical groupings. The restructure, responding to the challenges the circuit faces, created the four geographical areas to be known as 'mission areas' with the reassignment of pastoral charge for the fourteen churches being shared between the four presbyters with support from the new deacon and a supernumerary minister. The restructure was agreed in summer 2023 and came into effect from September 2023.

Worship, Prayer and Discipleship

Worship continued in a variety of patterns across the Circuit.

Funding of Ministry and Mission Projects

Churches and individuals continue to support the Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre Project-

Circuit Properties (Manses)

The Circuit currently owns six manses which are inspected regularly to identify essential maintenance issues and to help plan for renewals of major items. Both routine and emergency repair works have been carried out during the year. The vacant manse at Brae Side continues to be rented out on a six-month rolling tenancy, until its future use as a manse, is determined. The Denbydale manse became unoccupied during April 22 (as the Pioneer Missioners left the circuit) and was put on the market and sold as of 30th June 2023. The manse at 9 The Avenue, Shaw, in close proximity to the High Crompton estate, was purchased on 3rd July 2023 to be the manse for Deacon Angleena Keizer.

Oldham Methodist Circuit Report of the Trustees

General Administration

The circuit continue to adhere to the Circuit Safeguarding Policy for Children and Vulnerable Adults, dated September 2023, which continues to reflect current Connexional policy.

The Salt Cellar

Following closure of the Salt Cellar project the building was put up for sale. The final sale of the building was completed on 05/04/2024.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Debt Centre

Since Autumn 2012 a free debt counselling service has been provided for local residents. This is a partnership between the Circuit and Christians Against Poverty. The project is managed by a management committee appointed by and responsible to the trustees. The service has proved highly successful in helping clients to deal with debt and related problems. The service continues to serve many clients in a climate of increasing demand for support. The project is home-based and does not need an office.

Kelkina Ackrill, appointed in 2022, is the CAP Centre Manager.

The paid Manager is assisted and supported by around 20 'befrienders' and other volunteers from the churches in Oldham and the community.

The Debt Centre also operates in partnership with Keyring & Oldham Food Bank running the Ancora Project helping people in crisis. This project includes running the CAP Lifeskills course

The demand for the service is ever increasing as more people are experiencing financial hardship as a result of Covid 19 and the cost of living. For some time, CAP has been wanting (us) to try and increase its capacity, however, current funding does not allow for this.

The project is funded by a combination of regular and occasional donations from churches and church members and a grant of £8000 per year from the Circuit Model Trust Fund.

Volunteer Contributions

A valuable resource for the Circuit continues to be the many volunteers who assist in various ways with the ministries of the Circuit and CAP Debt Centre.

The Future

Revd Dr Adrian Burdon, superintendent minister, having completed his extended term of office (6 years) within our circuit went into the stationing process in the spring/summer 2023 and left Oldham in August 2024 to take up a new ministerial appointment. Having considered the circuit financial situation along with the wealth of experience, skills and knowledge held by our circuit ministerial team the circuit decided not to seek a new superintendent minister from outside the circuit but to appoint from within. Following a series of consultation meetings with ministers and the circuit leadership team, and full approval of the circuit meeting, Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe was appointed as the superintendent minister as from 1st September 2024.

Following a review of the situation regarding Gravelhole Methodist Church, including membership decline and the difficulties with regard the building and disabled access, and many months of reflection and consultation with the Methodist churches in Royton, it was agreed that Fir Lane, Gravelhole and Trinity Methodist churches will merge to form a united trust with one church council and two worship centres. The new trust will be known as The Methodist Church in Royton (TMTiR) This will come into being as from 1st September 2024. Gravelhole Church is to seek permission to cease worship with its members joining to worship at Trinity.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Review of 2023-24 Accounts

General Fund (Unrestricted)

Income and expenditure were broadly in accord with the budget. The main source of income continues to be the assessment contributions from local churches, which brought in £246,216. Churches were experiencing financial difficulties, some of this due to the continuing impact of covid19 and in particular to the high increase of energy costs.

Oldham Methodist Circuit Report of the Trustees

The major outgoings are the costs of employing the ministerial team, the Circuit's financial contribution to the Manchester and Stockport Methodist District and the costs associated with providing the manses. The stipend costs were broadly as expected, as were the administrator's salary costs. Property maintenance costs were £35,733. A grant of £3,000 was donated to 3 Generate.

Circuit received a payment of the Connexional Grant for the High Crompton Mission Project of £9,787, the last of this grant will be paid in 24/25.

The 23/24 circuit budget made provision for agreed contributions from the Model Trust Fund (MTF) comprising of a church assessment subsidy of £70,000, deacon stipend £35,213, supernumerary stipend £3,808, (*sub-total £109,021*), CAP £8,000 and quinquennial inspections £4,000, overall total £121,021. During the financial period a transfer from the MTF was made for £109,213 covering the assessment subsidy and contributions to stipend costs. Further MTF contributions were seen not to be required due to an unbudgeted income of £6,339, being the balance of funds of Honeywell Lane Methodist Church on closure and unspent £5,000 budgeted contingency allocation.

A transfer of £8,000 was made to CAP from the general fund.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)

Income and expenditure were broadly in accord with budget. The Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) is an unrestricted fund which holds the proceeds of sales from Model Trust property (local churches, manses etc); these are paid to the custodian trustees (the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes) for investment. The managing trustees of the CMTF are the Circuit trustees who use the fund to support the Circuit's ministry/mission, including some property-related projects, and also to provide grants/loans to local Methodist churches for the same purposes. Grants/donations/loans are also made to other causes which are in accord with the Circuit's own mission purposes. A compulsory annual levy (based on the year-end balance of the fund) is payable from the CMTF to the District Advance Fund.

The Salt Cellar Resource Centre sold in April 2024 at a gross sale price of £466,699. A levy of £162,680 from the sale was paid to the Connexional Priority Fund, resulting in net capital receipts of £304,020. The levy is potentially refundable if a replacement property is purchased for town centre mission.

We received unbudgeted income of £35,000, being the repayment of a prior contribution to Methodist Pension Reserve Fund which was no longer needed by the recipient.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds comprise a number of Circuit funds invested with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purpose, CAP Debt Centre, plus other smaller funds. At 31st August 2024, restricted funds totalled £30,253, made up of £26,687 internal organisations (CAP), £3,426 TMCP investments and £140 for the Caleb Tiddlers Tots group. A total of £19,326 had been granted across 2022-23 and 2023-24 for Pioneer Mission work, which has been fully utilised in the year against the salary costs of Deacon Angleen Keizer for the community work being done by her in the High Crompton area.

Endowment Funds

There is one Endowment Fund, The James Cocker Gift. The fund increased from £30,063 at the start of the year to £31,062 at the end. The trustees are still exploring the potential release of the capital.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible Fixed assets comprise the Circuit's manses. The fair value of the manses used in this report are based on local market research by the Circuit Property Steward.

These assets are included in the unrestricted funds total.

Reserves Policies

General Fund (Unrestricted)

In order to meet its ongoing financial obligations, including payment of minister employment costs monthly in advance, and to provide both for the possibilities of future assessment income failing to keep pace with Circuit expenditure and for unanticipated or emergency expenditure, the Circuit must maintain sufficient 'free' general unrestricted reserves.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees

'Free' reserves are defined as unrestricted reserves less the investment in tangible assets/property and designated funds. In line with guidance provided by the Methodist Church, the trustees aim to maintain 'free' reserves at a level of between three and six months' typical expenditure i.e. between £100,000 and £200,000.

On the above basis, 'free' reserves at 31st August 2024 totalled £219,317. This means that the 'free' reserves as they stand at 31/08/2024 are currently within the target range.

Circuit Model Trust Fund- CMTF (Unrestricted)

The balance on the Circuit Model Trust Fund is £581,342 at 31st August 2024. The accounts show a £829 gain (*increase*) in the value of investment during the financial year.

It is anticipated that these funds will be utilised for future expenditure such as the missionary work in High Crompton and Shaw, payment towards church quinquennial inspections and necessary work to the Circuit manses and ongoing support for CAP. A replacement for the Salt Cellar project in Oldham town centre is to be considered. with funds coming from the sale of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre building.

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds amounted to £30,253 at 31st August 2024. These funds are restricted for use by the Christians Against Poverty (CAP) project (£26,687); TMCP investments (£3,426); and the toddler group (£140).

OTHER OPTIONAL INFORMATION

No further information.

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above at the trustees' meeting held on

.....

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signatures



The Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe

Janet Abbott

Position

Superintendent Minister

Senior Circuit Steward

Date

3/03/2025

27/02/2025

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees

Appendix A – Member of the Circuit Meeting – circuit trustees

1. The Revd Dr Adrian Burdon	Superintendent Minister Chair of the Meeting (resigned 31/8/24)
2. The Revd Suva Catford	Circuit Minister
3. The Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe	Circuit Minister (appointed Superintendent Minister and Chair of the Meeting 1/9/24)
4. The Revd Kenneth McNally	Circuit Minister
5. Deacon Angleena J Keizer	Circuit Minister
6. The Revd Robert Davies	Supernumerary Minister
7. The Revd Edward Gordon	Supernumerary Minister
8. The Revd Neville Whitehead	Supernumerary Minister
9. Janet Abbott	Senior Circuit Steward
10. Dave Allonby	Greenfield Steward
11. Bob Ashton	Hollins Steward
12. Nigel Bacon	Trinity Treasurer
13. Moira Bergin	Zion Steward
14. Ian Crossley	Trinity Royton Steward
15. Annie Goldthorpe	Bardsley Steward up to 31/08/24
16. Stephen Foster	Zion Treasurer
17. Barbara Howard	Delph Steward
18. Kathryn Heathcote	Circuit Steward (Pastoral)
19. Denis Heyes	Limeside Steward
20. Julie Hughes	Shore Edge Shaw Treasurer up to 31/08/24
21. Helen Williams	Shore Edge Treasurer from 01/09/24
22. Glennis Kirkwood	Circuit Steward (Property) Hollins Treasurer
23. Judith McArdle	Gravelhole Royton Steward
24. June Mills	East Oldham Steward
25. Malcom Milwain	Hey with Zion School (Chair of Govs)
26. Janet Mitchell	St Andrew's Shaw Treasurer
27. Susan Nuttall	Gravelhole Treasurer
28. Lesley Perry	St Andrews Shaw Steward
29. Graham Radcliffe	Circuit Steward (Mission)
30. Ruth Radcliffe	South Chadderton Steward
31. Val Ridley	Shore Edge Steward
32. Dorothy Roberts	Uppermill Steward
33. Gordon Roscoe	East Oldham Treasurer Chair of CAP Management Cttee
34. David Schofield	Circuit Steward (Finance) up to 31/08/24 now South Chadderton Rep
35. Carol Stopford	Fir Lane Steward
36. Margaret Taylor	Delph Finance Committee Rep
37. Dorothy Thorpe	Bardsley Treasurer
38. Paul Titmuss	Greenfield Rep
39. Norman Unsworth	Local Preachers' Secretary
40. Jim Upton	Uppermill Treasurer
41. Michael Wilson	Limeside Treasurer
42. John Wilkinson	South Chadderton Rep
43. Andrina Baxter	South Chadderton Treasurer from 01/09/24
44. Edwin Winterbottom	Fir Lane Treasurer
Circuit Meeting Officers	
Joanna Ortiz (Circuit Administration Officer - non-voting)	Secretary to the Meeting Circuit Safeguarding Officer Circuit GDPR Officer

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Note	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1		-				-	67
2		2,913	25,288	158	1,624	29,983	14,058
3		12,528				12,528	10,363
4		246,216				246,216	248,105
5	2		304,020			304,020	303,890
6	14			10,287		10,287	9,539
7	14			12,960		12,960	12,927
8	3	13,282	35,000			48,282	13,604
9		6,339				6,339	-
10 Total income		281,278	364,308	23,405	1,624	670,615	612,553
Expenditure							
Expenditure on charitable activities:							
10	4	3,100		360		3,460	12,000
11	5	204,113		19,326		223,439	182,011
12		35,733				35,733	42,691
13		54,216	17,005			71,221	77,080
14	2		-			-	302,188
15						-	-
16		23,844	979	5,437	85	30,345	23,889
17	14			19,152		19,152	18,430
18	8	13,083		2,566		15,649	17,539
19 Total charitable expenditure		334,089	17,984	46,841	85	398,999	675,828
20 Net income before investment losses/gains		(52,811)	346,324	(23,436)	1,539	271,616	(63,275)
21			829	69		898	(585)
22	9	(13,301)				(13,301)	(456,955)
23 Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		(66,112)	347,153	(23,367)	1,539	259,213	(520,815)
22		101,213	(109,213)	8,000		-	-
23	10	(466,699)				(466,699)	(1,702)
24						-	-
25 Net movement in funds		(431,598)	237,940	(15,367)	1,539	(207,486)	(522,517)
26		2,210,915	343,402	45,620	30,063	2,630,000	3,152,517
29 Total funds carried forward		1,779,317	581,342	30,253	31,602	2,422,514	2,630,000

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Balance Sheet
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Note	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	11	1,387,000			1,387,000	1,387,000
Other Properties (resource centre)	11				-	480,000
Investment Properties	11	173,000			173,000	173,000
Investments	14			31,602	31,602	30,063
Total fixed assets		1,560,000	0	0	1,591,602	2,070,063

Current Assets

Debtors	12	17,528			17,528	32,686
Loans by the Circuit						
Investments with TMCP		60	581,342	3,426	584,828	346,672
Central Finance Board Deposits		113,306			113,306	48,585
Cash at Bank and in hand		92,202		26,827	119,029	145,574
Total current assets		223,096	581,342	30,253	834,691	573,517

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	13	3,779			3,779	13,580
Grants payable within 2022-23						
Total current liabilities		3,779			3,779	13,580
Net current assets/liabilities		219,317	581,342	30,253	830,912	559,937

Total assets less current liabilities		1,779,317	581,342	30,253	31,602	2,422,514	2,630,000
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23						-	
Loans to the Circuit						-	
Net assets		1,779,317	581,342	30,253	31,602	2,422,514	2,630,000

Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)		1,779,317				1,779,317	2,210,915
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			581,342			581,342	343,402
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)							
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,360,659	2,554,317
Restricted Funds				30,253		30,253	45,620
Endowment Funds					31,602	31,602	30,063
Total Funds	14	1,779,317	581,342	30,253	31,602	2,422,514	2,630,000

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Statement of cash flows	2024 £	2023 £
Cash from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(62,471)	(89,837)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends and interest from investments	29,983	14,058
Net proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	304,020	1,702
Cash balance transferred from Honeywell Church	6,339	-
Net cash provided by investing activities	340,342	15,760
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	277,871	(74,077)
Cash and cash equivalents at the date of merger (1 st September 2021)	570,894	644,971
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	848,765	570,894
	2024	2023
Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities	£	£
Net income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(207,486)	(72,814)
Adjustments for:		
Dividends and interests from investments	(29,983)	(14,058)
(Gains)/losses on monetary investments	-	(585)
(Gains)/losses on property revaluations and disposals	13,301	-
Capital receipts and bank account closure transfers	(310,359)	(303,890)
Capital purchases	-	302,188
Reclassification of property funds	466,699	
Increase in debtors	15,158	(1,715)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(9,801)	1,037
Total cash generated from operating activities	(62,471)	(89,837)
	2024	2023
Analysis of cash and cash equivalent	£	£
Cash at bank	119,029	145,574
Central Finance Board Deposits	113,306	48,585
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits	616,430	376,735
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	848,765	570,894

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1 Basis of accounting policies

i Accounting standard

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletin 1 issued in 2016.

ii Public benefit entity

The Oldham Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical costs or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are also Endowment funds as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

iv Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

v Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research, and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

vi Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2024, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

vii Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

viii Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Circuit acts as agent in two matters:

- the collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds"
- the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion. In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or Churches as appropriate. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP (FRS102), module 19.12n.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

ix Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

x Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

xi VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xii Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

The trustees have made judgements and estimates in respect of: the fair value of tangible assets, and investment properties shown at fair value. The trustees have determined that any differences arising between actual amounts realised upon sale and fair value estimates will have no impact on the Circuit's ability to continue as a going concern.

xiii Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £500.

The freehold and/or long leasehold residential property is shown in the accounts at fair value determined by the trustees based on market value research. The land component is not recognised in these figures. No depreciation is provided on the residential properties because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The residential properties have been reviewed for impairment.

xiv (a) Investment Properties

Investment property, which is property held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, is measured using the fair value model and stated at its fair value at the reporting end date. The surplus or deficit on revaluation is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. When the intention is to hold the property for capital appreciation or its rental income, the property is classified as investment property and carried at fair value.

xiv (b) Investments

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as basic financial instruments under FRS102 and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments are shown in the SOFA.

xv Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid.

xvi Creditors and Accruals

Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, or the amount advanced to the Circuit. Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter assessment received in August.

xvii Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

2. Net Capital Receipts

Capital receipts relates to the sale of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre. All sales of Methodist property are subject to a levy by the Connexion calculated on a sliding scale based on the gross sale price. The figure is shown net of this CPF Levy. Also, any historic grants made by the Connexion to the closed church are reclaimed from the proceeds of sale before the CPF Levy is applied.

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross sale (Salt Cellar Resource Centre)		466,699		466,699	-
CPF Levy on property sales		(162,680)		(162,680)	-
Gross sale (26 Denbydale Way)		-		-	303,890
Gross purchase (9 The Avenue, Shaw)		-		-	(302,188)
Total proceeds		304,020		304,020	1,702

3. Other Charitable Income

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£	£
Contribution towards manse costs	3,000			3,000	3,000
Pension reserve refund of previous contribution made		35,000		35,000	-
Recharges received for Lay worker salaries*	9,417			9,417	9,523
Other	865			865	1,081
Total	13,282	35,000	-	48,282	13,604

* Recharges for Lay worker relates to the East Oldham Children & Youth Worker where the church refund the Circuit of the payroll process..

4. Grants and donations paid

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£	£
Zion Church grant				-	10,000
Caleb Tiddlers Tots			360	360	-
Donation for 3 Generate tickets	3,000			3,000	2,000
Other	100			100	-
Total	3,100		360	3,460	12,000

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

5. Staff Costs

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

	Ministers (trustees)	Lay staff	2023/24	2022/23
£	£	£	£	£
Stipends, salaries and benefits in kind	155,076	12,962	168,038	141,601
Social security costs	14,496	534	15,030	10,939
Pension costs	39,059	478	39,537	28,936
Apprenticeship levy	783	51	834	717
Total staff costs	209,414	14,025	223,439	182,011
Expenses (Travel, accommodation and other expenses incurred in the normal course of employment)	10,925	0	10,925	8,125
Average number of staff employed during the year were:	6	1	7	8

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Wages and salary costs includes £nil in respect of redundancy payments in 2023 (2023: £nil).

6. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting	0	0
Number of trustees who were paid expenses relating to trustee duties	0	0
Total amount paid	0	0
There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2024 (2023: £nil) other than that paid to ministers and lay staff in the normal course of their duties and disclosed above.		

7. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	1,725	1,825
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	0	0
Total	1,725	1,825

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

8. Other outgoings

	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Bad debt written off	5,840		5,840	-
Stationing			-	1,832
Salary recharges	7,243		7,243	9,523
Salt Cellar Resource Centre outgoings		2,566	2,566	6,034
Other outgoings			-	150
Total	13,083	2,566	15,649	17,539

The bad debt written off in the year related to a 2011-12 assessment due from Honeywell Lane Church. Since the church has closed down this is no longer receivable. A balance of £6,339 was transferred from the closed Honeywell bank account into the Circuit bank account during the year, shown as gross income received.

9. Property Disposals/Revaluations

The net gains or losses are detailed below. During the year and in accordance with note 1.xiii (Tangible fixed assets) the residential properties have been assessed for fair value and been determined by the trustees as being materially in line with the 2022-23 fair value valuations provided.

Details	2022-23 Fair Value	Sale	2023-24 Fair Value	Gain/(loss)
	£	£	£	£
Salt Cellar Resource Centre – realised	480,000	466,699	-	(13,301)
2 The Avenue, Shaw – unrealised	200,000		200,000	-
15 Nudger Green – unrealised	357,000		357,000	-
1 Spinners Way – unrealised	300,000		300,000	-
2 Bannach Drive – unrealised	228,000		228,000	-
9 The Avenue, Shaw – unrealised	302,000		302,000	-
Brae Side – unrealised	173,000		173,000	-
Total	2,040,000	466,699	1,560,000	(13,301)

10. Reclassification of Funds

Circuit property is always carried in the General Fund but upon sale the net proceeds are processed through the Circuit Model Trust Fund. This requires an adjustment and any such sales during the year are reflected below at the gross sale price. There was a net reclassification in the year from the sale of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre.

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2023-24	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£	£
Sale of Salt Cellar Resource Centre	(466,699)	-	-	(466,699)	-
Sale of 26 Denbydale Way		-	-		(303,890)
Purchase of 9 The Avenue, Shaw					302,188
Total	(466,699)	-	-	(466,699)	(1,702)

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

11. Fixed Assets (including investment properties)

	Manses held as investment properties	Other buildings	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
Manses				
£	£	£		£

Cost or valuation

Balance brought forward	1,387,000	173,000	480,000	0	2,040,000
Additions					-
Revaluations (+/-)					-
Disposals (-)			(480,000)		(480,000)
Transfers * (+/-)					0
Balance carried forward	1,387,000	173,000	0	0	1,560,000

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation charge for year (-)					0
Revaluations (+/-)					0
Disposals (-)					0
Transfers* (+/-)					0
Balance carried forward	0	0	0	0	0

Brought forward	1,387,000	173,000	480,000	0	2,040,000
Carried forward	1,387,000	173,000	0	0	1,560,000

The fair value of the manses includes the land on which they are built. The fair value of the manses has been determined by the trustees by comparing the properties to market values of similar properties in the area through online research.

12. Analysis of debtors

<u>Due within one year</u>	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Trade debtors	2,170	5,840
Prepayments	14,858	17,307
Accrued grant income	500	9,539
Total	17,528	32,686

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

13. Analysis of creditors

Amounts failing due within one year	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Trade Creditors	1,993	4,742
Other Creditors	1,786	1,917
Prepaid Assessments	-	6,921
Total	3,779	13,580

14. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted Fund Name	Brought forward funds	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers & Reclassification	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
General	2,210,915	281,278	(334,089)	(365,486)	(13,301)	1,779,317	The general purposes of the Circuit
Model Trust Fund	343,402	364,308	(17,984)	(109,213)	829	581,342	Support for the mission of the Circuit
Totals	2,554,317	645,586	(352,073)	(474,699)	(12,472)	2,360,659	

Restricted Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Brought forward funds	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
TMCP Investments	3,213	158	(14)		69	3,426	Various small bequests/gifts for specific purposes.
Internal Organisations	24,879	12,960	(19,152)	8,000		26,687	Christians Against Poverty
Salt Cellar Resource Centre	7,989	-	(7,989)			-	For closure costs of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre
Pioneer Mission	9,539	9,787	(19,326)			-	Circuit project for pioneer mission work
Caleb Tiddlers Tots	-	500	(360)			140	Grant gifted for the purpose of the toddler group
Totals	45,620	23,405	(46,841)	8,000	69	30,253	

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

14. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements (continued)

Endowment Funds

Endowment Fund Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital	Annual income	What the income was used for
James Cocker gift	TMCP (T1473)	31,602	0	
Totals		31,602	0	

Prior year comparatives for detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted Fund Name	Brought forward funds	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers & Reclassification	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
General	2,728,228	272,803	(326,350)	(6,811)	(456,955)	2,210,915	The general purposes of the Circuit
Model Trust Fund	352,197	315,428	(320,857)	(2,891)	(475)	343,402	Support for the mission of the Circuit
Totals	3,080,425	588,231	(647,207)	(9,702)	(457,430)	2,554,317	

Restricted Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Brought forward funds	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
TMCP Investments	3,250	82	(9)		(110)	3,213	Various small bequests/gifts for specific purposes.
Internal Organisations	22,382	12,927	(18,430)	8,000		24,879	Christians Against Poverty
Salt Cellar Resource Centre	17,251	836	(10,098)			7,989	For closure costs of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre
Pioneer Mission	-	9,539	-			9,539	Circuit project for pioneer mission work
Totals	42,883	23,384	(28,537)	8,000	(110)	45,620	

Endowment Funds

Endowment Fund Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital	Annual income	What the income was used for
James Cocker gift	TMCP (T1473)	30,063	0	
Totals		30,063	0	

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023-24
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,560,000			31,602	1,591,602
Current assets	223,096	581,342	30,253		834,691
Current liabilities	(3,779)				(3,779)
Total	1,779,317	581,342	30,253	31,602	2,422,514

16. Related party transactions

During the year the Circuit received assessment income totalling £246,216 from the various churches within the Circuit (2023: £248,105).

The Circuit incurred assessment costs of £54,216 payable to the District (2023: £59,415).

The Circuit incurred an annual levy to the District Advance Fund of £17,005 payable to the District (2023: £17,665).

Report of the Independent Examiners
To the Trustees of
Oldham Methodist Circuit

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Oldham Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31st August 2024 which are set out on pages 8 – 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity'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 charity'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.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Leanne Nield ACA
Arc Accountancy Solutions Limited
51 Laverton Road
Lytham St. Annes
Lancashire
FY8 1EN

Date: 5/3/25

OLDHAM METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1194708

Accounts

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 August 2023
for
Oldham Methodist Circuit

Oldham Methodist Circuit

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For the Year Ended 31st August 2023**

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Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities 'Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2015 ' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Registered Charity number 1194708

Principal address

2 The Avenue
Shaw
Oldham
OL2 7HE

Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Charity Trustees. A full list of trustees is included Appendix A of the trustees report.

Solicitor

North Ainley Halliwell
34/36 Clegg Street
Oldham
OL1 1PS

Independent Examiner

Leanne Nield ACA BSc
Arc Accountancy Solutions Limited
51 Laverton Road
Lytham St. Annes
Lancashire
FY8 1EN

Advisers

The charity's investment managers are TMCP, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Oldham Methodist Circuit is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

Type of Governing Document: Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

How the Charity is Constituted: Act of Parliament

The Charity's Trustees are the members of the Oldham Methodist Circuit meeting. Membership is made up of ministers appointed to the circuit, circuit office holders, representatives appointed by the local churches and representatives appointed by the Local Preachers' Meeting. Full membership is shown in Appendix A to this report.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are the Custodian Trustees of Circuit properties.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

ORGANISATION OF OLDHAM METHODIST CIRCUIT

The Oldham Circuit provides ministerial oversight and pastoral care for the fourteen churches in the Oldham area.

Circuit Meetings (trustees' meetings) are held three times per year. The Circuit Leadership Team (the circuit's ministers and circuit stewards) meets at least six times per year and has limited powers to transact business on behalf of the trustees between trustees' meetings, The Circuit Superintendent, if present, chairs meetings of these groups. In the absence of the Superintendent, one of the other ministers takes on the role of Chair.

Sub-committees responsible to the trustees, including both representatives of the trustees and others with appropriate skills and experience, have been established for a number of routine purposes and for day-to-day management of the Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre and for the former Salt Cellar building and restaurant, which has ceased to operate as of July 2022, with the building currently on sale.

The Circuit is part of the Manchester and Stockport District of the Methodist Church and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) by order of the annual conference.

Additional Governance Issues

Induction/Training of Trustees

As is evident from Appendix A, the appointment of a substantial number of trustees is the responsibility of the local churches. On appointment, all trustees are made aware of the duties and responsibilities of trustees through relevant guidance notes issued by the Methodist Connexion and the Charity Commission.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the risks faced by the Charity, both financial and otherwise; professional advice is taken, when required. Procedures and guidelines for mitigating risks issued by the Methodist Church are consulted. The Methodist Church's robust safeguarding policy and safeguarding procedures are adopted by the Circuit in the Circuit's Safeguarding Policy which are both reviewed annually. Safeguarding is an agenda topic at every Circuit Meeting.

Related Parties

Salt Cellar Ltd was a related party of the Oldham Methodist Circuit. The two directors of the Company were appointed by the Circuit trustees and the trustees established an Executive Board, including representatives of the trustees and others, to manage the Company. The principal activities of the Company were management and maintenance of the Salt Cellar premises, the operation of a café/restaurant and managing long-term and ad-hoc lettings. The annual taxable profits of Salt Cellar Limited were paid to the Circuit as the parent charity under the gift aid scheme. The Salt Cellar ceased operating in July 2022. The Salt Cellar building has been put up for sale by the circuit as of January 2023. The churches forming the Circuit are either excepted charities or registered charities and, as they are responsible for their own financial affairs, their accounts are reported separately by the individual churches.

CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES AND MAIN ACTIVITIES

Summary of the Objects of the Charity set out in its Governing Document

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;

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

- 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.

Summary of the Main Activities undertaken for Public Benefit in Relation to these Objects

We confirm that the trustees have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The Circuit aims to live out the Calling of the Methodist Church, summarised as:

- to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- to help people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care;
- to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice;
- to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

The trustees are committed to reaching as many people as possible in the Circuit's geographical area. The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure that regular public acts of worship take place at each of the fourteen churches. Worship is open to all people (church members and non-members alike) without charge.

The churches forming the Circuit provide Christian teaching, pastoral care (including visiting the sick and bereaved) and, as part of their outreach, provide activities for a broad section of the whole community (from toddlers to senior citizens). The Circuit supports and encourages the churches in this work and funds the provision of ministers, also supplying and maintaining their accommodation (manses) and covering their legitimate expenses.

The Circuit had oversight of the work of the former 'Salt Cellar', which offered a café, and ministry to the public from its base at Church Lane in the centre of Oldham. This provision closed in January 2022 and the building was put up for sale. The property has sold subject to the prospective new owners obtaining planning permission.

The Circuit has a Partnership Agreement with the national debt counselling charity 'Christians Against Poverty' to provide a free debt counselling service to the residents of Oldham.

A number of ministry and mission activities throughout the local area are provided with financial support.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Circuit Staff

The Revd Dr Adrian Burdon is the Circuit Superintendent and Chairperson of the Circuit Trustees. Revd Dr Burdon is responsible for Trinity, with support from supernumerary minister Revd R Davies, and for East Oldham Church. Revd Lindsay Neal, superintendent minister, supports the responsibility for St Andrew's and Revd Eddie Gordon, superintendent minister, supports responsibility for the churches at Bardsley and Limeside. Revd Kennedy Gondongwe, appointed in September 2022, is responsible for Gravelhole, Fir Lane and South Chadderton Methodist churches. Revd Suva Catford is responsible for Hollins and Zion churches, with continued oversight of Hey with Zion school along with the role of Oldham Town Centre Mission. Revd Ken McNally continues to be responsible for the three Saddleworth churches of Uppermill, Greenfield and Delph and for Shore Edge Church, Shaw. The Pioneer Missioner post, vacated by Paul and Maura Cook at Easter 2022, remained vacant whilst the circuit reviewed the situation considering future needs and areas of mission. The High Crompton project has been slightly amended to meet the needs of the current circuit and the post advertised.

Further New Appointments/Changes in Responsibility

Deacon Angleena Keizer is to take up the post for the pioneer mission project at High Crompton as from 1st September 2023.

The appointments of Revd Eddie Gordon and Revd Lindsay Neal, superintendent ministers, within the circuit as paid circuit staff, ended in August 2023.

A Circuit Restructure was proposed in April 2023, following a Circuit Meeting held in March 2023 which approved exploring the use of Standing Order 605A in order to gather the fourteen churches of the Oldham Circuit into four

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

geographical groupings. The restructure, responding to the challenges the circuit faces, created the four geographical areas to be known as 'mission areas' with the reassignment of pastoral charge for the fourteen churches being shared

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

between the four presbyters with support from the new deacon and a supernumerary ministers. The restructure was agreed in summer 2023 with effect from September 2023.

Worship, Prayer and Discipleship

Worship continued in a variety of patterns across the Circuit.

Funding of Ministry and Mission Projects

Churches and individuals continue to support the Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre Project and members supported and participated in the Oldham project to provide winter overnight accommodation for homeless people.

Circuit Properties (Manses)

The Circuit currently owns six manses which are inspected regularly to identify essential maintenance issues and to help plan for renewals of major items. Both routine and emergency repair works have been carried out during the year. The vacant manse at Brae Side continues to be rented out on a six-month rolling tenancy, until its future use as a manse, is determined. The Denbydale manse became unoccupied during April 22 (as the Pioneer Missioners left the circuit) and was put on the market and sold as of 30th June 2023. A new manse at 9 The Avenue, Shaw, in close proximity to the High Crompton estate, was purchased on 3rd July 2023 to be the manse for Deacon Angleena Keizer as she takes up office in September 2023.

General Administration

The circuit continue to adhere to the Circuit Safeguarding Policy for Children and Vulnerable Adults, dated September 2020, which continues to reflect current Connexional policy.

The Salt Cellar

Following closure of the Salt Cellar project the building was put up for sale. As of 31/08/2023, the building has sold subject to planning permission being granted for the new owners to convert into flats. Circuit awaits the approval for the planning permission from Oldham Council before a confirmed sale can be made.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Debt Centre

Since Autumn 2012 a free debt counselling service has been provided for local residents. This is a partnership between the Circuit and Christians Against Poverty. The project is managed by a management committee appointed by and responsible to the trustees. The service has proved highly successful in helping clients to deal with debt and related problems. Over 100 clients have been helped since its start. The project is home-based and does not need an office.

Kelkina Ackrill, appointed in 2022, continues working as Centre Manager.

The paid Manager is assisted and supported by around 20 'befrienders' and other volunteers from the churches in Oldham and the community.

The Debt Centre also operates in partnership with Keyring & Oldham Food Bank running the Ancora Project helping people in crisis. This project includes running the CAP Lifeskills course

The demand for the service is ever increasing as more people are experiencing financial hardship as a result of Covid 19 and the cost of living. For some time, CAP has been wanting (us) to try and increase its capacity, however, current funding does not allow for this.

The project is funded by a combination of regular and occasional donations from churches and church members and a grant of £8000 per year from the Circuit

Volunteer Contributions

A valuable resource for the Circuit continues to be the many volunteers who assist in various ways with the ministries of the Circuit and CAP Debt Centre.

The Future

Revd Dr Adrain Burdon, superintendent minister, having completed his extended term of office (6 years) within our circuit went into the stationing process in the spring/summer 2023 and is to leave Oldham in August 2024 to take up a

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

new ministerial appointment. Having considered the circuit financial situation along with the wealth of experience, skills and

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

knowledge held by our circuit ministerial team the circuit decided not to seek a new superintendent minister from outside the circuit but to appoint from within. Following a series of consultation meetings with ministers and the circuit leadership team, and full approval of the circuit meeting, Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe is to be the superintendent minister as from 1st September 2024.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Review of 2022-23 Accounts

General Fund (Unrestricted)

The main source of income continues to be the assessment contributions from local churches, which brought in £248,105. Churches were experiencing financial difficulties, some of this due to the continuing impact of covid19 and in particular to the high increase of energy costs. It was therefore agreed that there would be a £50,000 contribution to the circuit budget from Model Trust funds.

The major outgoings are the costs of employing the ministerial team, the Circuit's financial contribution to the Manchester and Stockport Methodist District and the costs associated with providing the manses. The stipend costs were broadly as expected, as were the administrator's salary costs. Property maintenance costs were £42,691. A grant of £10,000 was paid to Zion Church and £2000 was donated to 3 Generate.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)

The Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) is an unrestricted fund which holds the proceeds of sales from Model Trust property (local churches, manses etc); these are paid to the custodian trustees (the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes) for investment. The managing trustees of the CMTF are the Circuit trustees who use the fund to support the Circuit's ministry/mission, including some property-related projects, and also to provide grants/loans to local Methodist churches for the same purposes. Grants/donations/loans are also made to other causes which are in accord with the Circuit's own mission purposes. A compulsory annual levy (based on the year-end balance of the fund) is payable from the CMTF to the District Advance Fund.

The Salt Cellar closed in July 2022 and the property was put on the market for a value of around £500,000. A sale of the Salt Cellar property has not yet been completed.

The manse at 26, Denbydale, Royton sold giving an income of £303,890 and the purchase of the manse at 9 The Avenue, Shaw cost £302,188 leaving proceeds of £1,702.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds comprise a number of Circuit funds invested with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purpose and CAP Debt Centre. At 31st August 2023, restricted funds totalled £45,620, made up of £24,879 internal organisations (CAP), £3,213 TMCP investments and £7,989 for the closure of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre and £9,539 grant for the circuit pioneer mission project.

Endowment Funds

Endowment Funds at the start of the year were £29,209 at the end £30,063. The trustees are still intending to explore the potential release of capital from the James Cocker Gift.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible Fixed assets comprise the Circuit's manses and the Salt Cellar building. Last year the manse valuations were based on the insurance valuations but on reflection it was decided that these were likely to be too high due to these valuations including rebuild/demolition costs. The fair value of the manses used in this report are based on local market research by the Circuit Property Steward which has brought the property valuations down considerably but are more realistic.

As a result of these revaluations, the accounts show a reduction on revaluations of £456,955.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

These assets are included in the unrestricted funds total

Reserves Policies

General Fund (Unrestricted)

In order to meet its ongoing financial obligations, including payment of minister employment costs monthly in advance, and to provide both for the possibilities of future assessment income failing to keep pace with Circuit expenditure and for unanticipated or emergency expenditure, the Circuit must maintain sufficient 'free' general unrestricted reserves. 'Free' reserves are defined as unrestricted reserves less the investment in tangible assets/property and designated funds. In line with guidance provided by the Methodist Church, the trustees aim to maintain 'free' reserves at a level of between three and six months' typical expenditure i.e. between £90,000 and £180,000.

On the above basis, 'free' reserves at 31st August 2023 totalled £170,915. This means that the 'free' reserves as they stand at 31/08/2023 are currently within the target range.

If the Circuit is to continue to provide financial support to the individual churches within the Circuit it will therefore need to look at monies held in the Circuit Model Trust Unrestricted Fund. As of 31/08/23 this is £343,402.

Circuit Model Trust Fund - CMTF (Unrestricted)

The balance on the Circuit Model Trust Fund is £343,402 at 31st August 2023. The accounts show a £475 loss (*decrease*) in the value of investment during the financial year.

It is anticipated that these funds will be utilised for future expenditure such as the missionary work in High Crompton and Shaw, payment towards church quinquennial inspections and necessary work to the Circuit manses and ongoing support for CAP. A replacement for the Salt Cellar project in Oldham town centre is to be considered with additional funds coming from the sale of the Salt Cellar building.

In the 23/24 budget Circuit agreed to use Model Trust Funds to support the church assessment by £70,000, cover costs for the pioneer work at High Crompton of £35,213 and to continue to contribute to CAP with a £8,000 donation.

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds amounted to £45,620 at 31st August 2023. Most of these funds are restricted for use by the Christians Against Poverty (CAP) project (£24,879); the pioneer project (£9,539) and with £7,989 for the closure of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre.

OTHER OPTIONAL INFORMATION

No further information

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above at the trustees' meeting held on

.....

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signatures

The Revd Dr Adrian Burdon

Janet Abbott

Position

Superintendent Minister

Senior Circuit Steward

Date

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Appendix A – Member of the Circuit Meeting – circuit trustees

1. The Revd Dr Adrian Burdon	Superintendent Minister Chair of the Meeting
2. The Revd Suva Catford	Circuit Minister
3. The Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe	Circuit Minister
4. The Revd Kenneth McNally	Circuit Minister
5. The Revd Robert Davies	Supernumerary Minister
6. The Revd Edward Gordon	Supernumerary Minister
7. The Revd Neville Whitehead	Supernumerary Minister
8. Janet Abbott	Senior Circuit Steward
9. Dave Allonby	Greenfield Steward
10. Bob Ashton	Hollins Steward
11. Nigel Bacon	Trinity Treasurer
12. Moira Bergin	Zion Steward
13. Ian Crossley	Trinity Royton Steward
14. Annie Goldthorpe	Bardsley Steward
15. Stephen Foster	Zion Treasurer
16. Barbara Howard	Delph Steward
17. Kathryn Heathcote	Circuit Steward (Pastoral)
18. Denis Heyes	Limeside Steward
19. Julie Hughes	Shore Edge Shaw Treasurer
20. Glennis Kirkwood	Circuit Steward (Property) Hollins Treasurer
21. Judith McArdle	Gravelhole Royton Steward
22. June Mills	East Oldham Steward
23. Malcom Milwain	Hey with Zion School (Chair of Govs)
24. Janet Mitchell	St Andrew's Shaw Treasurer
25. Susan Nuttall	Gravelhole Treasurer
26. Joanna Ortiz (Secretary) (non-voting)	Secretary to the Meeting Circuit Safeguarding Officer Circuit GDPR Officer
27. Lesley Perry	St Andrews Shaw Steward
28. Graham Radcliffe	Circuit Steward (Mission)
29. Ruth Radcliffe	South Chadderton Steward
30. Val Ridley	Shore Edge Steward
31. Dorothy Roberts	Uppermill Steward
32. Gordon Roscoe	East Oldham Treasurer Chair of CAP Management Cttee
33. David Schofield	Circuit Steward (Finance)
34. Carol Stopford	Fir Lane Steward
35. Margaret Taylor	Delph Finance Committee Rep
36. Dorothy Thorpe	Bardsley Treasurer
37. Paul Titmuss	Greenfield Rep
38. Norman Unsworth	Local Preachers' Secretary
39. Jim Upton	Uppermill Treasurer
40. Michael Wilson	Limeside Treasurer
41. Edwin Winterbottom	Fir Lane Treasurer

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

	Note	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
1		67				67	831
2		1,500	11,538	82	938	14,058	2,394
3		9,527		836		10,363	14,153
4		248,105				248,105	205,770
5	2		303,890			303,890	251,999
6				9,539		9,539	500
7	12			12,927		12,927	10,503
8	3	13,604				13,604	43,208
9 Total income		272,803	315,428	23,384	938	612,553	529,358
Expenditure							
Expenditure on charitable activities:							
10	4	12,000				12,000	41,290
11	5	182,011				182,011	166,942
12		42,691				42,691	40,937
13		59,415	17,665			77,080	71,518
14	2		302,188			302,188	-
15						-	-
16		18,728	1,004	4,073	84	23,889	24,473
17				18,430		18,430	56,449
18	8	11,505		6,034		17,539	1,668
19 Total charitable expenditure		326,350	320,857	28,537	84	675,828	403,277
20 Net income before investment losses/gains		(53,547)	(5,429)	(5,153)	854	(63,275)	126,081
21			(475)	(110)		(585)	(1,016)
22		(456,955)				(456,955)	442,378
23 Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		(510,502)	(5,904)	(5,263)	854	(520,815)	567,443
22		(5,109)	(2,891)	8,000		-	-
23		(1,702)				(1,702)	-
24						-	-
25 Net movement in funds		(517,313)	(8,795)	2,737)	854	(522,517)	567,443
26		2,728,228	352,197	42,883	29,209	3,152,517	2,585,074
29 Total funds carried forward		2,210,915	343,402	45,620	30,063	2,630,000	3,152,517

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Balance Sheet
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Note	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2023	Totals 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	9	1,387,000				1,387,000	1,762,321
Other Properties (resource centre)	9	480,000				480,000	500,000
Investment Properties	8	173,000				173,000	236,336
Investments	13				30,063	30,063	29,209
Total fixed assets		2,040,000	0	0	30,063	2,070,063	2,527,866

Current Assets

Debtors	10	23,147		9,539		32,686	21,432
Loans by the Circuit							-
Investments with TMCP		57	343,402	3,213		346,672	355,502
Central Finance Board Deposits		48,585				48,585	78,214
Cash at Bank and in hand		112,706		32,868		145,574	182,046
Total current assets		184,495	343,402	45,620	-	573,517	637,194

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	11	13,580				13,580	12,543
Grants payable within 2022-23							-
Total current liabilities		13,580				13,580	12,543
Net current assets/liabilities		170,915	343,402	45,620	-	559,937	624,651

Total assets less current liabilities		2,210,915	343,402	45,620	30,063	2,630,000	3,152,517
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)							
Grants payable after 2022-23							-
Loans to the Circuit							-
Net assets		2,210,915	343,402	45,620	30,063	2,630,000	3,152,517

Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)		2,210,915				2,210,915	2,728,228
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			343,402			343,402	352,197
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)							
Total Unrestricted Funds						2,554,317	3,080,425
Restricted Funds				45,620		45,620	42,883
Endowment Funds					30,063	30,063	29,209
Total Funds	12	2,210,915	343,402	45,620	30,063	2,630,000	3,152,517

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Balance Sheet
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

2023

2022

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Balance Sheet
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Statement of cash flows	£	£
Cash from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(89,837)	(151,135)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends and interest from investments	14,058	2,394
Net proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	1,702	251,999
Net cash provided by investing activities	15,760	254,393
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(74,077)	103,258
Cash and cash equivalents at the date of merger (1 st September 2021)	644,971	541,713
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	570,894	644,971
	2023	2022
Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities	£	£
Net income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(72,814)	567,443
Adjustments for:		
Dividends and interests from investments	(14,058)	(2,394)
Losses on monetary investments	(585)	-
Capital receipts	(303,890)	(251,999)
Capital purchases	302,188	-
Increase in debtors	(1,715)	(213)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,037	(21,594)
Total cash generated from operating activities	(89,837)	(151,135)
	2023	2022
Analysis of cash and cash equivalent	£	£
Cash at bank	145,574	182,046
Central Finance Board Deposits	48,585	78,214
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits	376,735	384,711
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	570,894	644,971

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

1 Basis of accounting policies

i Accounting standard

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletin 1 issued in 2016.

ii Public benefit entity

The Oldham Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical costs or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are also Endowment funds as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

iv Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

v Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research, and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

vi Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2023, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

vii Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

viii Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Circuit acts as agent in two matters:

- the collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds"
- the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion. In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or Churches as appropriate. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP (FRS102), module 19.12n.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

ix Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

x Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

xi VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xii Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

The trustees have made judgements and estimates in respect of: the fair value of tangible assets, and investment properties shown at fair value. The trustees have determined that any differences arising between actual amounts realised upon sale and fair value estimates will have no impact on the Circuit's ability to continue as a going concern.

xiii Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £500.

The freehold and/or long leasehold residential property is shown in the accounts at fair value determined by the trustees based on market value research. The land component is not recognised in these figures. No depreciation is provided on the residential properties because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The residential properties have been reviewed for impairment.

xiv (a) Investment Properties

Investment property, which is property held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, is measured using the fair value model and stated at its fair value at the reporting end date. The surplus or deficit on revaluation is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. When the intention is to hold the property for capital appreciation or its rental income, the property is classified as investment property and carried at fair value.

xiv (b) Investments

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as basic financial instruments under FRS102 and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments are shown in the SOFA.

xv Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid.

xvi Creditors and Accruals

Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, or the amount advanced to the Circuit. Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter assessment received in August.

xvii Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

2. Net Capital Receipts

Capital receipts relates to the sale of the closed Honeywell Lane Methodist church and St. Pauls Methodist Church. All sales of Methodist property are subject to a levy by the Connexion calculated on a sliding scale based on the gross sale price. The figure is shown net of this CPF Levy. Also, any historic grants made by the Connexion to the closed church are reclaimed from the proceeds of sale before the CPF Levy is applied.

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross sale (26 Denbydale Way)		303,890		303,890	371,833
CPF Levy on property sales		-		-	(124,733)
Gross purchase (9 The Avenue, Shaw)		(302,188)		(302,188)	144,899
Repayable grants on property		-		-	(140,000)
Total proceeds		1,702		1,702	251,999

3. Other Charitable Income

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Pauls funds transferred					16,583
Contribution towards manse costs	3,000			3,000	3,975
Salt Cellar Resource Centre funds transferred					21,886
Pioneer missionary project					639
Salary recharges (for church members not employed by the circuit)	9,523			9,523	-
Other	1,081			1,081	125
Total	13,604			13,604	43,208

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

4. Grants and donations paid

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2022-23	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£	£
Zion Church grant	10,000			10,000	-
Pension Reserve payment					35,000
Grant to Salt Cellar Ltd					4,300
Donation for 3 Generate tickets	2,000			2,000	1,990
Total	12,000			12,000	41,290

5. Staff Costs

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

	Ministers (trustees)	Lay staff	2021/22	2021/22
	£	£	£	£
Stipends, salaries and benefits in kind	128,242	13,177	141,601	135,533
Social security costs	10,731	208	10,939	8,829
Pension costs	28,371	565	28,936	21,949
Apprenticeship levy	651	66	717	631
Total staff costs				
	167,995	14,016	182,011	166,942
Expenses (Travel, accommodation and other expenses incurred in the normal course of employment)	8,125	0	8,125	7,166
Average number of staff employed during the year were:	7	1	8	9.3

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Wages and salary costs includes £nil in respect of redundancy payments in 2023 (2022: £nil).

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

6. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting	0	0
Number of trustees who were paid expenses relating to trustee duties	0	0
Total amount paid	0	0
There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2023 (2022: £nil) other than that paid to ministers and lay staff in the normal course of their duties and disclosed above.		

7. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	1,825	2,450
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	0	0
Total	1,825	2,450

8. Other outgoings

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Pioneer missionary project expenditure	-	1,118
Stationing	1,832	-
Salary recharges (for church members not employed by the circuit)	9,523	-
Salt Cellar Resource building outgoings	6,034	-
Other outgoings	150	550
Total	17,539	1,668

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

9. Fixed Assets (including investment properties)

	Manses held as investment properties	Other buildings	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
Manses				
£	£	£		£

Cost or valuation

Balance brought forward	1,762,321	236,336	500,000	0	2,498,657
Additions	302,188				302,188
Revaluations (+/-)	(373,619)	(63,336)	(20,000)		(456,955)
Disposals (-)	(303,890)				(303,890)
Transfers * (+/-)					0
Balance carried forward	1,387,000	173,000	480,000	0	2,040,000

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation charge for year (-)					0
Revaluations (+/-)					0
Disposals (-)					0
Transfers* (+/-)					0
Balance carried forward	0	0	0	0	

Brought forward	1,762,321	236,336	500,000	0	2,498,657
Carried forward	1,387,000	173,000	480,000	0	2,040,000

The fair value of the manses includes the land on which they are built, and their internal contents. The fair value of the manses has been determined by the trustees by comparing the properties to market values of similar properties in the area through online research.

The fair value of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre building is based on the sale value. As of 31/08/2023, the building has sold subject to planning permission being granted. Given the contingent nature of the sale, with the risks and rewards of ownership of the property still being retained by the Circuit at the reporting date, the Salt Cellar Resource Centre has remained being accounted for as a tangible fixed asset as at 31st August 2023.

10. Analysis of debtors

Due within one year	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Trade debtors	5,840	5,840
Prepayments	17,307	15,592
Accrued grant income	9,539	-
Total	32,686	21,432

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

11. Analysis of creditors

Amounts falling due within one year	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Trade Creditors	4,742	205
Other Creditors	1,917	2,457
Prepaid Assessments	6,921	9,881
Total	13,580	12,543

12. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted Fund Name	Brought forward funds	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers & Reclassification	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
General	2,728,228	272,803	(326,350)	(6,811)	(456,955)	2,210,915	The general purposes of the Circuit
Model Trust Fund	352,197	315,428	(320,857)	(2,891)	(475)	343,402	Support for the mission of the Circuit
Totals	3,080,425	588,231	(647,207)	(9,702)	(457,430)	2,554,317	

Restricted Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Brought forward funds	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
TMCP Investments	3,250	82	(9)		(110)	3,213	Various small bequests/gifts for specific purposes.
Internal Organisations	22,382	12,927	(18,430)	8,000		24,879	Christians Against Poverty
Salt Cellar Resource Centre	17,251	836	(10,098)			7,989	For the closure of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre
Pioneer Mission	-	9,539	-			9,539	Circuit project for pioneer mission work
Totals	42,883	23,384	(28,537)	8,000	(110)	45,620	

Endowment Funds

Endowment Fund Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital	Annual income	What the income was used for
James Cocker gift	TMCP (T1473)	30,063	0	
Totals		30,063	0	

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022-23
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,040,000			30,063	2,070,063
Current assets	184,495	343,402	45,620		573,517
Current liabilities	(13,580)				(13,580)
Total	2,210,915	343,402	45,620	30,063	2,630,000

14. Related party transactions

During the year the Circuit received assessment income totalling £248,106 from the various churches within the Circuit (2022: £205,770).

The Circuit also incurred assessment costs of £77,080 payable to the District (2022: £71,518).

Report of the Independent Examiners
To the Trustees of
Oldham Methodist Circuit

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Oldham Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31st August 2023 which are set out on pages 8 – 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity'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 charity'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.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Leanne Nield ACA
Arc Accountancy Solutions Limited
51 Laverton Road
Lytham St. Annes
Lancashire
FY8 1EN

Date:

OLDHAM METHODIST CIRCUIT

England & Wales - Charity number 1194708

Accounts

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 August 2022
for
Oldham Methodist Circuit

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 31st August 2022**

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Notes to the Financial Statements	11 - 18
Independent Examiner's Report	19

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities 'Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2015 ' in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Registered Charity number 1194708

Principal address

2 The Avenue
Shaw
Oldham
OL2 7HE

Trustees

The members of the Circuit Meeting are the Charity Trustees. A full list of trustees is included Appendix A of the trustees report.

Solicitor

North Ainley Halliwell
34/36 Clegg Street
Oldham
OL1 1PS

Independent Examiner

Leanne Nield ACA BSc
Arc Accountancy Solutions Limited
51 Laverton Road
Lytham St. Annes
Lancashire
FY8 1EN

Advisers

The charity's investment managers are TMCP, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Oldham Methodist Circuit is part of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

Type of Governing Document: Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976)

How the Charity is Constituted: Act of Parliament

The Charity's Trustees are the members of the Oldham Methodist Circuit meeting. Membership is made up of ministers appointed to the circuit, circuit office holders, representatives appointed by the local churches and representatives appointed by the Local Preachers' Meeting. Full membership is shown in Appendix A to this report.

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are the Custodian Trustees of Circuit properties.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

ORGANISATION OF OLDHAM METHODIST CIRCUIT

The Oldham and Saddleworth Circuit and the Shaw and Royton Circuits came together in September 2021 to create the new Oldham Circuit - the Oldham and Saddleworth and Shaw and Royton Circuits therefore ceased to exist as separate entities at the end of 2020-21.

The Oldham Circuit provides ministerial oversight and pastoral care for the fourteen churches in the Oldham area.

Circuit Meetings (trustees' meetings) are held three times per year. The Circuit Leadership Team (the circuit's ministers and circuit stewards) meets at least six times per year and has limited powers to transact business on behalf of the trustees between trustees' meetings, The Circuit Superintendent, if present, chairs meetings of these groups. In the absence of the Superintendent, one of the other ministers takes on the role of Chair.

Sub-committees responsible to the trustees, including both representatives of the trustees and others with appropriate skills and experience, have been established for a number of routine purposes and for day-to-day management of the Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre and for the former Salt Cellar building and restaurant, the Salt Cellar Youth Project which have now ceased as of July 2022.

The Circuit is part of the Manchester and Stockport District of the Methodist Church and is accountable to the Methodist Conference. Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church (CPD) by order of the annual conference.

Additional Governance Issues

Induction/Training of Trustees

As is evident from Appendix A, the appointment of a substantial number of trustees is the responsibility of the local churches. On appointment, all trustees are made aware of the duties and responsibilities of trustees through relevant guidance notes issued by the Methodist Connexion and the Charity Commission.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the risks faced by the Charity, both financial and otherwise; professional advice is taken, when required. Procedures and guidelines for mitigating risks issued by the Methodist Church are consulted. The Methodist Church's robust safeguarding policy and safeguarding procedures are adopted by the Circuit in the Circuit's Safeguarding Policy and in the Salt Cellar Youth Project's Safeguarding Policy, which are both reviewed annually. Safeguarding is an agenda topic at every Circuit Meeting.

Related Parties

Salt Cellar Ltd was a related party initially of the Oldham and Saddleworth Methodist Circuit and later the Oldham Methodist Circuit. The two directors of the Company were appointed by the Circuit trustees and the trustees established an Executive Board, including representatives of the trustees and others, to manage the Company. The principal activities of the Company were management and maintenance of the Salt Cellar premises, the operation of a café/restaurant and managing long-term and ad-hoc lettings. The annual taxable profits of Salt Cellar Limited were paid to the Circuit as the parent charity under the gift aid scheme.

The churches forming the Circuit are either excepted charities or registered charities and, as they are responsible for their own financial affairs, their accounts are reported separately by the individual churches.

CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES AND MAIN ACTIVITIES

Summary of the Objects of the Charity set out in its Governing Document

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;

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

- 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.

Summary of the Main Activities undertaken for Public Benefit in Relation to these Objects

We confirm that the trustees have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The Circuit aims to live out the Calling of the Methodist Church, summarised as:

- to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love;
- to help people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care;
- to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice;
- to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

The trustees are committed to reaching as many people as possible in the Circuit's geographical area. The Circuit produces a quarterly preaching plan to ensure that regular public acts of worship take place at each of the fourteen churches. Worship is open to all people (church members and non-members alike) without charge.

The churches forming the Circuit provide Christian teaching, pastoral care (including visiting the sick and bereaved) and, as part of their outreach, provide activities for a broad section of the whole community (from toddlers to senior citizens). The Circuit supports and encourages the churches in this work and funds the provision of ministers, also supplying and maintaining their accommodation (manses) and covering their legitimate expenses.

The Circuit had oversight of the work of the former 'Salt Cellar', which offered a café, and ministry to the public from its base at Church Lane in the centre of Oldham.

Through its 'Salt Cellar Youth Project', the Circuit engaged in work of various forms with young people in Oldham and the surrounding area.

The Circuit has a Partnership Agreement with the national debt counselling charity 'Christians Against Poverty' to provide a free debt counselling service to the residents of Oldham.

A number of ministry and mission activities throughout the local area are provided with financial support.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Circuit Staff

The Revd Dr Adrian Burdon is the Circuit Superintendent and Chairperson of the Circuit Trustees. Revd Dr Burdon is responsible for Fir Lane, Gravelhole, Shore Edge Trinity, South Chadderton and East Oldham Methodist churches, with support from supernumerary ministers Revd R Davies, Revd I Coverdale and Revd L Neal. Revd Eddie Gordon is responsible for Bardsley and Limeside Methodist churches, Revd Suva Catford was appointed in September 2021 as minister for Hollins and Zion churches, with continued oversight of Hey with Zion school along with the role of Oldham Town Centre Mission. Revd Ken McNally continued to work with the Saddleworth churches. Pioneer Missioners Paul and Maura Cook continued in their work in the Royton area of the circuit until Easter 2022, when 18 months into a five-year project they resigned. The Pioneer Missioner post remained vacant whilst the circuit reviewed the situation considering future needs and areas of mission.

Revd Natalie Hackett left the circuit in August 2021.

Further New Appointments

None

Worship, Prayer and Discipleship

Worship continued in a variety of patterns across the Circuit. Honeywell Lane Church sadly closed in December 2021.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Funding of Ministry and Mission Projects

Churches and individuals continue to support the Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre Project and members supported and participated in the Oldham project to provide winter overnight accommodation for homeless people.

Circuit Properties (Manses)

The Circuit currently owns six manses which are inspected regularly to identify essential maintenance issues and to help plan for renewals of major items. Both routine and emergency repair works have been carried out during the year. The vacant manse at Brae Side was rented out on a six-month rolling tenancy, until its future use as a manse, is determined. The Denbydale manse also became unoccupied during April 22 and discussions on the future of the empty dwelling were ongoing at the year end.

General Administration

The circuit continue to adhere to the Circuit Safeguarding Policy for Children and Vulnerable Adults, dated September 2020, which continues to reflect current Connexional policy.

The Salt Cellar

The Salt Cellar continued to run its café for visitors to the town centre, let space to local businesses and continued to be used as a meeting venue by various charitable groups.

Prayer continued to be central to the work of the Salt Cellar and each day began with a prayer time. A lunchtime 'Half Hour with Jesus' worship session, was regularly held on Fridays and continued up to the closure in July 2022. The 'Half Hour Jesus' session moved to Costa Coffee after the Salt Cellar closure and has continued to grow with more people attending on a weekly basis.

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Debt Centre

Since Autumn 2012 a free debt counselling service has been provided for local residents. This is a partnership between the Circuit and Christians Against Poverty. The project is managed by a management committee appointed by and responsible to the trustees. The service has proved highly successful in helping clients to deal with debt and related problems. Over 100 clients have been helped since its start. The project is home-based and does not need an office.

Mrs Eike Harvey who led the project from the start stepped down at the end of June 2022. Kelkina Ackrill, who was working alongside Eike as Debt Coach, took over as Centre Manager.

The paid Manager is assisted and supported by around 20 'befrienders' and other volunteers from the churches in Oldham and Saddleworth.

The Debt Centre also operates in partnership with Keyring & Oldham Food Bank running the Ancora Project helping people in crisis. This project includes running the CAP Lifeskills course

The demand for the service is ever increasing as more people are experiencing financial hardship as a result of Covid 19 and the cost of living. For some time, CAP has been wanting (us) to try and increase its capacity.

We were able to employ Kelkina as additional part-time Debt Coach from July 2021 to June 2022. However we have not replaced Kelkina following her promotion to Centre Manager as current funding does not allow for this.

The project is funded by a combination of regular and occasional donations from churches and church members and a grant of £8000 per year from the Circuit

Volunteer Contributions

A valuable resource for the Circuit continues to be the many volunteers who assist in various ways with the ministries of the Circuit and CAP Debt Centre and at the Salt Cellar prior to its closure.

The Future

The Circuit was successful in an application to appoint a presbyter from Minister from Other Churches and Conferences (MOCC) as from September 2022. Revd Kennedy Gondongwe, from Zimbabwe, has taken up office covering South Chadderton, Fir Lane and Gravelhole churches. The circuit has reviewed the mission opportunities within the circuit. A deacon is to be appointed to support mission work in the High Crompton and Shaw area of Oldham as from September 2023 and support mission across the circuit.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Review of 2021-22 Accounts

General Fund (Unrestricted)

The main source of income continues to be the assessment contributions from local churches, which brought in £205,770. Churches were experiencing financial difficulties, some of this due to the impact of covid19. Churches in Shaw and Royton Circuit had received, in the previous year, the equivalent of a one quarter reduction in the assessment. It was therefore agreed that the churches in the Saddleworth & Oldham Circuit should receive the same benefit. In addition, the budget included for £19,000 income from rent of vacant manses but only £14,153 was received. Consequently, income overall was a little over £40,000 less than predicted.

The major outgoings are the costs of employing the ministerial team, the Circuit's financial contribution to the Manchester and Stockport Methodist District and the costs associated with providing the manses. The stipend costs were broadly as expected, as were the administrator's salary costs. Property maintenance costs were almost £10,000 more than the original projected budget.

Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)

The Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF) is an unrestricted fund which holds the proceeds of sales from Model Trust property (local churches, manses etc); these are paid to the custodian trustees (the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes) for investment. The managing trustees of the CMTF are the Circuit trustees who use the fund to support the Circuit's ministry/mission, including some property-related projects, and also to provide grants/loans to local Methodist churches for the same purposes. Grants/donations/loans are also made to other causes which are in accord with the Circuit's own mission purposes. A compulsory annual levy (based on the year-end balance of the fund) is payable from the CMTF to the District Advance Fund.

Property sale of Honeywell Lane Church achieved a gross sale of £371,833, offset by The Connexional Levy of £124,733. St Paul's, Shaw, gross sale was £144,899 with a repayable grant on the property of £140,000. No property was purchased in 2021/22. The Salt Cellar closed in July 2022 and the property was put on the market for a value of around £500,000. A sale of the Salt Cellar property has not yet been completed.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds comprise a number of Circuit funds invested with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purpose and CAP Debt Centre. The Salt Cellar closed in July 2022. The Salt Cellar Resource Centre Funds of £21,886 were transferred to the circuit. At 31st August 2022, restricted funds totalled £42,883, made up of £22, 382 internal organisations (CAP), £3,250 TMCP investments and £17,251 for the closure of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre.

Endowment Funds

Endowment Funds at the start of the year were £29,155 at the end £29,209. The trustees are still intending to explore the potential release of capital from the James Cocker Gift.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible Fixed assets comprise the Circuit's manses and the Salt Cellar building. These properties are included in the accounts at the valuations used for insurance purposes at September 2021 - except for the Salt Cellar building which has been revalued at £500,000 (previous value £250,000), being the estimated sale value.

As a result of these revaluations, the accounts show a gain on revaluations of £442,378.

These assets are included in the unrestricted funds total.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Reserves Policies

General Fund (Unrestricted)

In order to meet its ongoing financial obligations, including payment of minister employment costs monthly in advance, and to provide both for the possibilities of future assessment income failing to keep pace with Circuit expenditure and for unanticipated or emergency expenditure, the Circuit must maintain sufficient 'free' general unrestricted reserves. 'Free' reserves are defined as unrestricted reserves less the investment in tangible assets/property and designated funds. In line with guidance provided by the Methodist Church, the trustees aim to maintain 'free' reserves at a level of between three and six months' typical expenditure i.e. between £70,000 and £140,000.

On the above basis, 'free' reserves at 31st August 2022 totalled £229,571. It is anticipated that the Circuit will continue to provide financial support to the individual churches within the Circuit, and that this will reduce the free reserves to a level within the target range.

Circuit Model Trust Fund - CMTF (Unrestricted)

The balance on the Circuit Model Trust Fund had increased to £352,197 by 31st August 2022, mainly as a result of the proceeds from the sale of closed churches.

It is anticipated that these funds will be utilised for future expenditure such as the missionary work in High Crompton and Shaw, a replacement for the Salt Cellar project in Oldham town centre, and necessary work to /replacement of the Circuit manses.

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds amounted to £42,883 at 31st August 2022. Most of these funds are restricted for use by the Christians Against Poverty (CAP) project with £17,251 for the closure of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre.

OTHER OPTIONAL INFORMATION

No further information

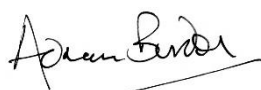
DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above at the trustees' meeting held on

.....

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signatures



The Revd Dr

Adrian Burdon

Janet Abbott

Position

Superintendent Minister

Senior Circuit Steward

Date

26 March 2023

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Appendix A – Member of the Circuit Meeting – circuit trustees

1. The Revd Dr Adrian Burdon	Superintendent Minister Chair of the Meeting
2. The Revd Suva Catford	Circuit Minister
3. The Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe	Circuit Minister
4. The Revd Kenneth McNally	Circuit Minister
5. The Revd Robert Davies	Supernumerary Minister
6. The Revd Edward Gordon	Supernumerary Minister
7. The Revd Neville Whitehead	Supernumerary Minister
8. Janet Abbott	Senior Circuit Steward
9. Dave Allonby	Greenfield Steward
10. Bob Ashton	Hollins Steward
11. Nigel Bacon	Trinity Treasurer
12. Moira Bergin	Zion Steward
13. Ian Crossley	Trinity Royton Steward
14. Annie Goldthorpe	Bardsley Steward
15. Stephen Foster	Zion Treasurer
16. Barbara Howard	Delph Steward
17. Kathryn Heathcote	Circuit Steward (Pastoral)
18. Denis Heyes	Limeside Steward
19. Julie Hughes	Shore Edge Shaw Treasurer
20. Steve Jones	South Chadderton Treasurer
21. Glennis Kirkwood	Circuit Steward (Property) Hollins Treasurer
22. Judith McArdle	Gravelhole Royton Steward
23. June Mills	East Oldham Steward
24. Malcom Milwain	Hey with Zion School (Chair of Govs)
25. Janet Mitchell	St Andrew's Shaw Treasurer
26. Susan Nuttall	Gravelhole Treasurer
27. Joanna Ortiz (Secretary) (non-voting)	Secretary to the Meeting Circuit Safeguarding Officer Circuit GDPR Officer
28. Lesley Perry	St Andrews Shaw Steward
29. Graham Radcliffe	Circuit Steward (Mission)
30. Ruth Radcliffe	South Chadderton Steward
31. Val Ridley	Shore Edge Steward
32. Dorothy Roberts	Uppermill Steward
33. Gordon Roscoe	East Oldham Treasurer Chair of CAP Management Cttee
34. Carol Stopford	Fir Lane Steward
35. Margaret Taylor	Delph Finance Committee Rep
36. Dorothy Thorpe	Bardsley Treasurer
37. Paul Titmuss	Greenfield Rep
38. Norman Unsworth	Local Preachers' Secretary
39. Jim Upton	Uppermill Treasurer
40. Michael Wilson	Limeside Treasurer
41. Edwin Winterbottom	Fir Lane Treasurer

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

	Note	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021-22
		£	£	£	£	£
Income						
1		4		827		831
2		334	1,900	23	137	2,394
3		14,153				14,153
4		205,770				205,770
5	3		251,999			251,999
6				500		500
7	13			10,503		10,503
8	4	20,558		22,650		43,208
9 Total income		240,819	253,899	34,503	137	529,358
Expenditure						
Expenditure on charitable activities:						
10	5	1,990	35,000	4,300		41,290
11	6	151,530		15,412		166,942
12		39,830		1,107		40,937
13		64,355	7,163			71,518
14						-
15						-
16		23,720	660	10	83	24,473
17				56,449		56,449
18	9	370		1,298		1,668
19 Total charitable expenditure		281,795	42,823	78,576	83	403,277
20 Net income before investment losses/gains		(40,976)	211,076	(44,073)	54	126,081
21			(750)	(266)		(1,016)
22		442,378				442,378
23 Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		401,402	210,326	(44,339)	54	567,443
22		79,795	(90,000)	10,205		-
23						-
24						-
25 Net movement in funds		481,197	120,326	(34,134)	54	567,443
26						
27	2	2,247,031	231,871	77,017	29,155	2,585,074
29 Total funds carried forward		2,728,228	352,197	42,883	29,209	3,152,517

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Balance Sheet
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Note	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Totals 2022
	£	£	£	£	£

Fixed Assets

Circuit Manses & Equipment	10	1,762,321				1,762,321
Other Properties (resource centre)	10	500,000				500,000
Investment Properties	10	236,336				236,336
Investments	14			29,209		29,209
Total fixed assets		2,498,657	0	0	29,209	2,527,866

Current Assets

Debtors	11	21,432				21,432
Loans by the Circuit						-
Investments with TMCP		55	352,197	3,250		355,502
Central Finance Board Deposits		78,214				78,214
Cash at Bank and in hand		142,413		39,633		182,046
Total current assets		242,114	352,197	42,883	-	637,194

Current liabilities

Creditors (due in under 1 year)	12	12,543				12,543
Grants payable within 2022-23						-
Total current liabilities		12,543	-	-	-	12,543
Net current assets/liabilities		229,571	352,197	42,883	-	624,651

Total assets less current liabilities		2,728,228	352,197	42,883	29,209	3,152,517
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Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)						
Grants payable after 2022-23						-
Loans to the Circuit						-
Net assets		2,728,228	352,197	42,883	29,209	3,152,517

Funds of the Circuit

General Fund (Unrestricted)		2,728,228				2,728,228
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			352,197			352,197
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)						
Total Unrestricted Funds						3,080,425
Restricted Funds				42,883		42,883
Endowment Funds					29,209	29,209
Total Funds	13	2,728,228	352,197	42,883	29,209	3,152,517

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Statement of cash flows	2022 £
Cash from operating activities	
Net cash used in operating activities	(151,135)
Cash flows from investing activities	
Dividends and interest from investments	2,394
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	251,999
Net cash provided by investing activities	254,393
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	103,258
Cash and cash equivalents at the date of merger (1 st September 2021)	541,713
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	644,971

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities	2022 £
Net income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	567,443
Adjustments for:	
Dividends and interests from investments	(2,394)
Capital receipts	(251,999)
Increase in debtors	(213)
Decrease in creditors	(21,594)
Total cash generated from operating activities	(151,135)

Analysis of cash and cash equivalent	2022 £
Cash at bank	182,046
Central Finance Board Deposits	78,214
Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes deposits	384,711
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	644,971

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

1 Basis of accounting policies

i Accounting standard

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 – the Charities SORP (FRS102) and taking note of the Update Bulletin 1 issued in 2016.

ii Public benefit entity

The Oldham Methodist Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical costs or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

iii Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted. The Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted. Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are also Endowment funds as listed. Details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts. Any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

iv Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used and trustees present accounts that show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

v Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research, and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £ Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

vi Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2022, the trustees believe that the Circuit is a going concern.

vii Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of the work of the Churches within the Circuit but has no legal or operational control of those Churches and their governing bodies except in extreme circumstances. For this reason, the financial statements of Churches within the Circuit are not consolidated into these financial statements.

viii Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Individual amounts categorised as *Other income* in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The Circuit acts as agent in two matters:

- the collection from Churches and payment over of their contributions to various funds controlled and administered by The Methodist Church - "Connexional Funds"
- the administration (application, collection and disbursement) of grants requested by Churches within the Circuit from, but not limited to, the District and Connexion. In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because they are the income of either the Connexion or Churches as appropriate. Instead, the transactions are disclosed in the Notes to the Accounts as required by SORP (FRS102), module 19.12n.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the time of volunteers is not recognised. If goods are donated, a value will be shown in the SOFA or Notes where the value is considered material.

ix Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

x Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

xi VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

xii Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £500. The freehold and/or long leasehold residential property is shown in the accounts at September 2021 deemed values, being the insurance reinstatement according to Methodist Insurance as at September 2021. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that it had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

From time to time the Circuit may be required to assume responsibility for Church premises following closure and cessation of worship. This results in the Circuit becoming Managing Trustees for the property. At that time the property is recognised as an asset at its anticipated net sale price as determined by professional valuation. Expenditure on such assets, if held for reinvestment of the proceeds, as the trustees determine, likely to enhance sale value is capitalised at the time expenditure is incurred.

xiii (a) Investment Properties

From time to time the Circuit may hold residential property (formerly manses) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. Where this is the case and it is anticipated that the property is unlikely to be used as a manse within a period of two years, the property is classified as Investment Property (whether let out or not) and any lets are at market rates unless there is a compelling reason not to do so in furtherance of the Circuit's charitable objectives

xiii (b) Investments

The Circuit's investments are in monetary assets classified as basic financial instruments under FRS102 and are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments are shown in the SOFA.

xiv Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit or prepaid.

xv Creditors and Accruals

Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, or the amount advanced to the Circuit. Creditors include both sundry expenses and specifically the 1st quarter assessment received in August.

xvi Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Circuit. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of ministers.

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

2. Merger details

As at 1st September 2021, the Oldham & Saddleworth Circuit (Registered Charity No. 1134364) and Shaw & Royton Circuit (Registered Charity No. 1138074) amalgamated together, establishing the new Oldham Methodist Circuit (Registered Charity No. 1194708). The two pre-existing circuits ceased to exist as separate entities at the end of 2020-21 (31st August 2021).

Shaw & Royton Circuit prepared their 2020-21 accounts using the receipts and payments method, and therefore these 2020-21 figures have been restated using the accruals basis. Oldham & Saddleworth Circuit already reported using the accruals basis.

Analysis of previous SoFA components for the previous reporting period (year ending 31 August 2021)

	Oldham & Saddleworth	Shaw & Royton (receipts & payments)	Adjustment for transition to accruals basis	Shaw & Royton (accruals)	Combined total
	£	£	£	£	£
Total income	206,620	100,388	-	100,388	307,008
Total expenditure	222,169	110,550	-	110,550	332,719
Net income/(expenditure)	(15,549)	(10,162)	-	(10,162)	(25,711)
Other gains/(losses)	1,891	-	-	-	1,891
Net movement in funds	(13,658)	(10,162)	-	(10,162)	(23,820)
Total funds brought forward	1,789,160	248,455	571,279	819,734	2,608,894
Total funds carried forward	1,775,502	238,293	-	809,572	2,585,074

Analysis of net assets at the date of merger (1 September 2021)

	Oldham & Saddleworth	Shaw & Royton (receipts & payments)	Adjustment for transition to accruals basis	Shaw & Royton (accruals)	Combined total
	£	£	£	£	£
Net assets	1,775,502	238,293	571,279	809,572	2,585,074
Represented by:					
Unrestricted funds	1,682,516	225,107	571,279	796,386	2,478,902
Restricted income funds	63,831	13,186	-	13,186	77,017
Endowment funds	29,155	-	-	-	29,155
Total funds	1,775,502	238,293	571,279	809,572	2,585,074

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

3. Capital Receipts

Capital receipts relates to the sale of the closed Honeywell Lane Methodist church and St. Pauls Methodist Church. All sales of Methodist property are subject to a levy by the Connexion calculated on a sliding scale based on the gross sale price. The figure is shown net of this CPF Levy. Also, any historic grants made by the Connexion to the closed church are reclaimed from the proceeds of sale before the CPF Levy is applied.

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£
Gross sale (Honeywell Lane)		371,833		371,833
CPF Levy on property sales		(124,733)		(124,733)
Gross sale (St. Pauls)		144,899		144,899
Repayable grants on property		(140,000)		(140,000)
Total		251,999		251,999

4. Other Charitable Income

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£
St. Pauls funds transferred	16,583			16,583
Contribution towards manse costs	3,975			3,975
Salt Cellar Resource Centre funds transferred			21,886	21,886
Pioneer missionary project			639	639
Other – Salt Cellar Resource Centre			125	125
Total	20,558		22,650	43,208

5. Grants and donations paid

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£
Pension Reserve payment		35,000		35,000
Grant to Salt Cellar Ltd			4,300	4,300
Donation for 3 Generate tickets	1,990			1,990
Total	1,990	35,000	4,300	41,290

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

6. Staff Costs

Staff Costs paid during the year were:

	Ministers (trustees)	Lay staff	2021/22
	£	£	£
Stipends, salaries and benefits in kind	111,940	23,593	135,533
Social security costs	8,052	777	8,829
Pension costs	20,840	1,109	21,949
Apprenticeship levy	560	71	631
Total staff costs	141,392	25,550	166,942
Expenses (Travel, accommodation and other expenses incurred in the normal course of employment)	7,166	0	7,166
Average number of staff employed during the year were:	7	2.3	9.3

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Wages and salary costs includes £nil in respect of redundancy payments in 2022.

7. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

	2021/22 £
Payments made to trustees for additional services provided to the Circuit by agreement with the Circuit Meeting	0
Number of trustees who were paid expenses relating to trustee duties	0
Total amount paid	0
There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2022 other than that paid to ministers and lay staff in the normal course of their duties and disclosed above.	

8. Fees for examination or audit of the accounts

	2021/22 £
Independent examiner's or auditors' fees for reporting on the accounts	2,450
Other fees (eg: advice, accountancy services) paid to the independent examiner or auditor	0
Total	2,450

9. Other outgoings

	2021/22 £
Pioneer missioner project expenditure	1,118
Other outgoings	550
Total	1,668

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

10. Fixed Assets (including investment properties)

	Manse held as investment properties	Other buildings	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
£	£	£		£

Cost or valuation

Balance brought forward	1,806,279		250,000	0	2,056,279
Additions					
Revaluations (+/-)	192,378	-	250,000		442,378
Disposals (-)					
Transfers * (+/-)	(236,336)	236,336			0
Balance carried forward	1,762,321	236,336	500,000	0	2,498,657

Accumulated depreciation

Balance brought forward	0	0	0	0	0
Depreciation charge for year (-)					0
Revaluations (+/-)					0
Disposals (-)					0
Transfers* (+/-)					0
Balance carried forward	0	0	0	0	

Brought forward	1,806,279	0	250,000	0	2,056,279
Carried forward	1,762,321	236,336	500,000	0	2,498,657

11. Analysis of debtors

	2021/22 £
<u>Due within one year</u>	
Trade debtors	5,840
Prepayments	15,592
Total	21,432

12. Analysis of creditors

	2021/22 £
<u>Amounts failing due within one year</u>	
Trade Creditors	205
Other Creditors	2,457
Prepaid Assessments	9,881
Total	12,543

Oldham Methodist Circuit
Notes to the Accounts
for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

13. Detailed analysis of individual fund movements

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted Fund Name	Combined Funds at date of merger (1 st September 2021)	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers & Reclassification	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
General	2,247,031	240,819	(281,795)	79,795	442,378	2,728,228	The general purposes of the Circuit
Model Trust Fund	231,871	253,899	(42,823)	(90,000)	(750)	352,197	Support for the mission of the Circuit
Totals	2,478,902	494,718	(324,618)	(10,205)	441,628	3,080,425	

Restricted Funds

Restricted Fund Name	Combined Funds at date of merger (1 st September 2021)	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Gain/(losses)	Closing Balance	Purpose of the fund
TMCP Investments	3,503	23	(10)		(266)	3,250	Various small bequests/gifts for specific purposes.
Internal Organisations	60,328	10,503	(56,449)	8,000		22,382	Christians Against Poverty
Pioneer missionaries project	13,186	1,139	(16,530)	2,205		0	Circuit project (ceased during 2021/22)
Salt Cellar Resource Centre	0	22,011	(4,760)			17,251	For the closure of the Salt Cellar Resource Centre
Other	0	827	(827)			0	Donations raised for specific purposes.
Totals	77,017	34,503	(78,576)	10,205	(266)	42,883	

Endowment Funds

Endowment Fund Name	How the capital is invested	The current value of the capital	Annual income	What the income was used for
James Cocker gift	TMCP (T1473)	29,209	0	
Totals		29,209	0	

Report of the Independent Examiners
To the Trustees of
Oldham Methodist Circuit

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:

	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021-22
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,498,657			29,209	2,527,866
Current assets	242,114	352,197	42,883		637,194
Current liabilities	(12,543)				(12,543)
Total	2,728,228	352,197	42,883	29,209	3,152,517

15. Related party transactions

During the year the Circuit received assessment income totalling £205,770 from the various churches within the Circuit.

The Circuit also incurred assessment costs of £71,518 payable to the District.

Salt Cellar Ltd is a related party of the Oldham Methodist Circuit. During the year the Circuit had the following transactions with Salt Cellar Ltd: funds received totalling £22,012 and direct costs payable of £4,300.

Report of the Independent Examiners
To the Trustees of
Oldham Methodist Circuit

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Oldham Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31st August 2022 which are set out on pages 8 – 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity'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 charity'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.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Leanne Nield ACA
Arc Accountancy Solutions Limited
51 Laverton Road
Lytham St. Annes
Lancashire
FY8 1EN

Date: 29/03/2023