



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1st September 2024 Period start date to 31st August 2025 Period end date

Charity name: Layton Methodist Church

Charity registration number: 1194986

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>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</p> <p>b) any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, district, circuit, local or other organisation of the Methodist Church.</p> <p>c) any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution of ancillary to the Methodist Church</p> <p>d) any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church</p> <p>* in addition to the above our charity has formed the Forward Project a constituted group in the name of the church for its sole purpose of supporting the community.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The church delivers regular worship through weekly services, Bible study, Sunday Club and fellowship meetings. Pastoral care remains central, supporting individuals in homes, hospitals and hospices, helping people stay connected and supported. The church also hosts uniformed organisations, including the Guiding Association, engaging younger members of the community.</p> <p>Through the Forward Project, the charity operates as a community hub, bringing together local support and partnerships. Activities include drop-in coffee mornings, a parent and toddler group, and use of the</p>

		<p>building by organisations delivering health, wellbeing and skills support.</p> <p>In response to the cost-of-living crisis, provision includes a Warm Hub, free breakfast and lunch, cookery sessions and a surplus food initiative, helping families access affordable food and reduce waste. IT sessions support digital inclusion, and the Layton Larder will launch next period.</p> <p>Together, these activities reduce isolation, address poverty and strengthen community resilience.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>The objectives of the Trustees are to reflect both their faith and community aims and that the church building is open to all and all areas are easily accessible. These objectives are regularly reviewed by the Trustees to ensure that they continue to reflect these aims. In carrying out these reviews, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, in particular, its supplementary public guidance on the advancement of religion for public benefit.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	No grants are made or pursued so no policy is necessary
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	No investments are made or pursued so no policy is necessary.
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>The church follows the Safer Recruitment guidelines issued by the Methodist Church and all volunteers comply with DBS and Safeguarding regulations and training.</p> <p>Their support is greatly appreciated to enable the mission work of the church to continue.</p>
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Our charity has continued to strengthen its impact in addressing poverty and improving the health, wellbeing and social connectedness of local residents.</p> <p>Established provision, including our Warm Hub activity, social groups, and practical support such as cookery and IT/digital skills sessions, has helped individuals reduce isolation, build confidence, and better manage the cost of living.</p> <p>A key development has been the creation of the Oasis community café and coffee lounge, providing an affordable, welcoming space where individuals can access support and feel a sense of belonging.</p> <p>The charity has also championed partnership working to tackle poverty, increasing access to support, training and opportunities for residents.</p> <p>Overall, the charity's work has delivered clear public benefit by reducing the impact of poverty and improving access to support and wellbeing.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	<p>Our charity has continued to strengthen its role as a community hub, delivering a wide range of activities that reduce isolation, improve wellbeing, and build local resilience.</p> <p>Our Oasis Community Cafe provides a consistent daytime offer, creating a welcoming space where people can socialise, access informal support, and feel part of the community. This is complemented by activities in the main space, including craft sessions and social groups, encouraging participation and connection.</p> <p>A varied programme of support is delivered, including Warm Hub provision, Knit & Natter, seasonal community events, health and wellbeing sessions, digital inclusion support, and practical learning opportunities. The</p>
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		<p>space operates as an inclusive, community-focused environment, responsive to local need.</p> <p>The Forward Centre operates as a flexible education and skills hub, supporting training, digital skills sessions, cookery courses, and family-based learning, helping to build confidence, skills and independence.</p> <p>Food support remains a key priority. The weekly Surplus Food provision and the Big Food Truck provide access to affordable food while reducing waste, alongside volunteering opportunities that strengthen community capacity. The Layton Larder has been introduced as part of this offer, in August 2024 providing low-cost, practical food solutions for local families.</p> <p>Overall, activity has been aligned to this framework, with a clear focus on early intervention, partnership delivery, and improving outcomes for residents.</p>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	The church's charity status enables further grants to be applied for to enable the work on the vision of the Forward Project to continue alongside the church's mission in the community.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		N/A

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>Our charity remains in a sound financial position. Income has increased during the period, driven by continued giving and donations from Church members, alongside contributions from external organisations.</p> <p>Our charity relies on a combination of grants, fundraising activity and external income to sustain and develop its services. Grant applications are therefore actively pursued to support the ongoing vision and delivery of both the church and its Forward Project.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The church reserves policy is to hold enough funds to meet three months expenses. This sum is held in a separate account, to be accessed only in the instance of existing funds failing to meet the outgoings.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£10566
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The charity is reliant on continued giving from Church members, donations from individuals and businesses within the community, and the successful securing of grant funding. While this creates some uncertainty, the charity actively manages this through ongoing fundraising activity, strong community support, and a proactive approach to identifying and applying for funding opportunities.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<p>The church's principal sources of income for the church are regular giving from members, primarily through standing orders, together with weekly donations. Gift Aid is claimed where applicable to increase the value of these contributions and support the ongoing ministry and operations of the church.</p> <p>The Forward Project is supported primarily through grant funding from external bodies, alongside fundraising activities and donations from the wider community. These funds are used to deliver and develop its community programmes and services of our whole charity.</p>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity.	Para 1.46	<p>The charity's principal risk is that income from member donations and available financial reserves may not be sufficient to meet and sustain its ongoing financial commitments.</p> <p>Additional risks include reliance on successful grant funding and fundraising activity, particularly in supporting the delivery of community initiatives such as the Forward Project, where demand for services continues to grow alongside wider economic pressures.</p>
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		Charitable Trust
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Trust Deed
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Unincorporated

Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Appointed by proposals made and agreed at Church Council Meetings.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	To ensure that new trustees are made aware of their responsibilities under the Charities Act they are made familiar with the charity's Deed of Trust and the Charity's aims and Charity Commission publications/ notifications are issued to each trustee as received.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>The church works under the organisational structure of the Methodist Church.</p> <p>Under our Forward Project the church also works with other partnerships, local and national.</p>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	The church has good relationships at Circuit, District and Connexion levels and local churches of different denominations within the community.
Other		<p>The trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. Trustees meet twice or three times per year and are responsible for decisions related to the charity's day by day activities and are appointed at the Church Annual General Meeting. The church religious activities are delegated to the Church Stewards.</p> <p>During the year, one trustee was paid £2,700 (DH) for delivering craft sessions to our service users. She was selected due to her relevant skills and experience, and to meet a need at the time. This was payment for services, not for acting as a trustee, and the conflict of interest was declared and managed appropriately.</p>

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Layton Methodist Church
Other name the charity uses	Laton Methodist Forward Project Was previously known as Salem Methodist Church
Registered charity number	1194986
Charity's principal address	Westcliffe Drive, Layton, FY3 7DZ But contact person is Sandie Waddington 59 Patterdale Avenue, Blackpool FY3 9QR

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Marjorie Helen Jepson	Trustee		Layton Methodist Church Council
2	David Roger Leach	Trustee - Secretary		As above
3	Margaret Ruth Sellers	Trustee		As above
4	Elizabeth Margaret Crook	Trustee		As above
5	James Peter Crook	Trustee		As above
6	Amelia Lesley Walmsley	Trustee		As above
7	Kathryn Ellen Pritchard	Trustee - Treasurer		As above
8	Sandra Macaulay Waddington	Trustee – Finance and Property Secretary		As above
9	Joanne Alice Walmsley	Trustee		As above
10	Susan Leach	Trustee		As above
11	Mark John Walmsley	Trustee - Finance and Property Chair		As above
12	Rev Andrew Halstead	Trustee - Church Council Chair		As above
13	Diane Halstead	Trustee		As above
14	Hilary Holden	Trustee		As above

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

N/A

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Other optional information

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>A Halstead</i>	<i>D R Leach</i>
Full name(s)	Rev Andy Halstead	David Leach
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Layton Methodist Church Council	Secretary of Layton Methodist Church Council
Date	17 February 2026	

Signature(s)	<i>Mark Walmsley</i>	<i>S Waddington</i>
Full name(s)	Mark Walmsley	Sandra Waddington
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Forward Project reporting to Church Council	Secretary of Forward Project reporting to Church Council
Date	17 February 2026	

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS
(SHORT FORM)

LAYTON METHODIST CHURCH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

District / Circuit #

1 / 2

Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1194986

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

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev Andrew Halstead

Church Stewards:

MRS J WALMSLEY

MRS S LEACH & MR D LEACH

MRS M R SELLERS

MRS M JEPSON

MRS J BROOKS

MRS S HIND

Treasurer:

MRS. KATHRYN PRITCHARD

LAYTON METHODIST CHURCH

Short Form

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

SECTION A

a1	RECEIPTS	Note
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	
a3	Bank and CFB interest & investment income	
a4	Lettings	
a5	Other receipts (includes grants of £96586	
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	

This year's amount
to the nearest £

£
26,800
413
12,682
141,521
181,416

Last year's amount to the
nearest £

£
22,120
222
27,393
78,671
128,406

SECTION B

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

24,780
1,196
58,657
10,783
78,781
174,197

30,975
210
5,713
6,813
66,254
109,965

SECTION C

c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6 - b7)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	
c3	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	55408-89=55319 (c1 + c2)
c4	State here the total of any other assets of the Church	
c5	State here the total of any liabilities of the Church	
c6	State here the insured value of the Church premises and contents	

7,219

18,441

48,100 (c7)

29,659

55,319

48,100 (c7)

SECTION D ANALYSIS OF FUNDS

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

10,567
44,840
55,407

6,157
41,943
48,100

SECTION E

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

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

e1	Balance brought forward from last year			
e2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	1,541		1,465
e3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	1,453		1,465
e4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	89		

Name of Church

LAYTON METHODIST

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2025 have been prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the Church trustees.

Signature of treasurer



29th January 2026

Name and address of treasurer

MRS KATHRYN PRITCHARD
3 ALDER GROVE
POULTON-LE-FYLDE
FY6 8EJ

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on **17 February 2026**

Signature of the Chair of the meeting



Name of the Chair of the meeting:

Rev Andrew Halstead

on

17 February 2026

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of

LAYTON METHODIST CHURCH

Charity Number . 1194986

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the **LAYTON METHODIST CHURCH** for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages **1 to 2**. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

* delete or circle as appropriate

Name of Church: Layton Methodist

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

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

Signature of independent examiner



Name of independent examiner

Mrs Katharine Davies

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner: **Bookkeeper B.Sc in Statistics**

Name of firm (where appropriate) Not Applicable

Address: 8 Royal Troon Court
Kirkham

Post Code: PR4 2TF

Date : 27th January 2026

* delete or circle as appropriate