

# APPLETON INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1198556

## Details

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Other names	AIM CHURCH
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2022-04-07
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	41 Weybridge Close Appleton Warrington WA4 5LZ
Phone	01925266182
Email	<a href="mailto:pastor@aimchurch.org">pastor@aimchurch.org</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.aimchurch.org">www.aimchurch.org</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN SUCH WAYS AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DECIDE.

**Activities:** The charity provides a place of Christian Worship, promotes the Christian Gospel and raises awareness of Christian beliefs in accordance with Biblical teaching. It also seeks to provide spiritual, physical and financial support as appropriate.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Warrington

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£65,258	£64,460	-	-
2023-12-31	£55,802	£57,379	-	-
2022-12-31	£0	£0	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Anthony Walter Scott</b>	Chair	2022-04-07
Alison Rachel Noble		2024-10-24
Catherine Beth Gibbons		2025-02-18
Dorothy Price		2023-02-25
Patricia McDowell		2022-04-07
Peter Michael Gleave		2022-04-07

**APPLETON INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1198556

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# Accounts

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Appleton  
Independent Methodist Church



Trustees' Report  
and Financial Statements  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

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The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 which have been prepared in following the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 1A) (effective 2 February 2016), applicable accounting standards and the Charities Act 2011. The church was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and all the assets, liabilities and activities of the unincorporated charity known as Appleton Independent Methodist Church were transferred into it on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. The trustees have prepared the accounts on the receipts and payments basis.

### **Reference and Administrative Information**

#### **Charity Name**

Appleton Independent Methodist Church known as AIM Church

#### **Charity Number**

1198556

#### **Charity Trustees**

Peter Gleave	Leader
Anthony Scott	Leader
Patricia McDowell	
Dorothy Price	
Alison Noble	(Appointed 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2024)

#### **Address**

C/O Mr P M Gleave  
41 Weybridge Close  
Appleton  
Warrington  
WA4 5LZ

#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank  
Horsemarket Street  
Warrington  
WA1 1TP

#### **Independent Examiner**

Eric Southwick BA(Hons) FCA FCIE DChA  
The Bungalow  
Earl Street  
Seaham  
Co Durham  
SR7 0DH

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

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### **Structure and Organisation**

#### **Objects**

The purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith.

#### **Public Benefit**

The trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The remainder of this report illustrates the activities undertaken to support the public benefit requirement.

#### **Organisation**

The Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), which was registered with the Charity Commission on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The assets, liabilities and operations of the unincorporated charity known as Appleton Independent Methodist Church were transferred to it on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. The Church operates according to its constitution with the trustees meeting regularly to consider the progress of the church, to consider its future direction and activities and to manage the church.

#### **Organisational Structure**

The church is led by the Leadership Team, detailed above, which meets monthly to consider the work of the Church. The Leadership Team is appointed annually from amongst the members of the Church by the members of the Church at their Annual Meeting.

#### **Risk Assessment**

The Leadership Team does not believe that the Church is subject to any substantial risks and has taken steps to mitigate those risks that it has identified. The Church takes very seriously its responsibilities to protect children and vulnerable adults making checks on workers and operating appropriate policies and procedures. Financial controls are operated to ensure that the assets of the Church are safeguarded.

### **Achievements and Performance**

#### **Review of the Period**

As we reflect on another year of service, we are humbled by God's goodness and provision throughout 2024. We give God all the thanks and praise for His continued guidance toward AIM Church as we have strived to proclaim the good news of the gospel in an ever-expanding mission field. The new year started and ended with new people joining us in fellowship, and we have been privileged to see them growing and integrating into Sunday Worship, Homegroups, and the Weekend Away.

Our Pastor has had an extremely busy year as we commenced a new series of ministry, "All In Mission," in the book of Acts, with 19 sessions in 2024. This has been a huge blessing but also challenging as we learned more about the early church and the mission of the first disciples. At Easter, we turned our focus to the Gospel of Mark, which was once again led by Peter and was a great blessing to the church. We looked in detail at the days leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus and the impact this had on the disciples and has on us today. We also hosted an Easter Praise evening, which was very well attended and a great opportunity for local churches to join with AIM to bring our praise to God at that very special time of year.

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

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### **Review of the Period (Continued)**

Pastoral care has also been a key part of Peter's role. To support him properly and meet the demand for pastoral care, we created a pastoral team, bringing on board two other members to ensure the full range of needs of our fellowship is properly supported.

Another point of encouragement this year has been the growth of our leadership team with God's calling upon James Gleave to become a leader in the church. This has brought a new dynamic to the leadership team, and the church has benefited greatly from his God-given talents and enthusiasm in his new role.

The welcoming of those called by God into membership of the church is always a great privilege, and we have been greatly encouraged that Helen MacDonald and William Noble took up membership in AIM Church in July and August 2024. We thank God for their continued service in His name.

We have continued to hold quarterly trustees' meetings to ensure the charity meets our obligations and were blessed by the appointment of an additional trustee in September 2024. The trustees have continued to support and monitor Peter Gleave's position as Pastor/Church Planter, holding quarterly review meetings and weekly prayer meetings, which have been a great privilege to be a part of and have enabled us to share in the blessings of God's work in AIM Church.

As a result of our financial forecasting, we were able to proactively identify a need for increased funds to support our existing work. Being prompted by the trustees we prepared a "Vision & Finances Document," which was shared with the membership and wider congregation. In response to this, we saw an increase in regular and one-off giving, which made it possible to continue our work uninterrupted as well as continue employing our Pastor. We give thanks to God for His provision and for answered prayer in this regard.

The Bereavement Journey, a course to help those who have suffered the pain of loss and grief, commenced in April 2024. People from within and outside AIM Church enrolled after finding information about the course on the AIM Church website and the ataloss.org website. The course dealt with many issues, which were greatly appreciated by all those who attended. We were approached by Warrington BC about a potential joint project rolling out The Bereavement Journey across Warrington. Alison Noble attended a meeting, but we didn't progress it any further as the council wanted something they could run independently.

The Coffee Morning ("Coffee AIM") has continued to be a central part of our outreach work within the community of Appleton. At times, we have been blessed with numbers returning to pre-COVID levels, and those who regularly attend are always appreciative of the love and support they receive with many commenting how it is the highlight of their week. The team of people serving has changed, but the one constant is the Lord's blessing and provision for this work and the special times spent sharing and praying before the Coffee Morning commences each week.

Our Homegroup has been one of prayer and fellowship, with our Bible studies focusing on our planned preaching, especially the Acts series. This has provided the opportunity for more in-depth study of God's word, as well as allowing people to ask and clarify any issues. With numbers increasing, a second Homegroup commenced

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

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### **Review of the Period (Continued)**

in Grappenhall at James & Aimee's home in April 2024. This currently takes place on a bi-weekly basis, and they are looking to increase this frequency in the future. As a result of the start of our second Homegroup, we have rebranded the groups, with our original Homegroup being dubbed "Homegroup Central" and the new Homegroup "Homegroup East" due to their respective geographic locations. We are truly blessed by God's power and guiding hand in our Homegroups, and the openness to share and learn more about God's word is wonderfully encouraging.

The Appleton Cross Church Plant Project activity has significantly increased, especially toward the end of 2024. We have attended meetings at the Parish Hall, with the new MP for South Warrington, and have been in continuous contact with various organisations via email. We have remained focused on prayer, including prayer walks in the area. An answer to prayer has been the formation of the Appleton Cross Implementation Team (ACIT) with five members who meet weekly for prayer and to focus our resources on specific areas of the project to ensure we continue to promote the planting of the church in Appleton Cross. We thank God for the skills and abilities for the huge task ahead.

We continue to promote church activities through our website and social media, including weekly recordings of ministry and advertising special events. This makes us accessible to people beyond those who already attend the church. We have expanded the church WhatsApp groups into specific areas, enabling us to communicate more efficiently, highlight prayer needs for each other and church issues, and support one another better.

Men's and women's social events commenced in September and have included woodturning, cookery lessons, and a visit to the theatre. These have been well attended and of great benefit.

We have also had the opportunity to give financial support to several missionaries and many other charities, including our continued support of Barnabus in Manchester.

Our church weekend away was smaller than in previous years but was extremely well-organised, facilitating a very relaxed and blessed weekend. The ministry continued in the book of Acts and was delivered by our pastor. It was incredibly encouraging to see almost all of those attending being involved in some capacity, including leading meetings, being part of the music in worship, organising the social events, and leading the morning prayers. We look forward to our next time away as a church, especially experiencing the blessings of God's presence upon His people.

We supported two members of the church who felt called to serve the people of The Gambia with Amor Europe prayerfully, practically, and financially. They went to supply innovative water filter systems, train the recipients in their correct use, and raise awareness of hygiene and sanitation. The group felt truly blessed and humbled by the experience, and the impact on the physical and spiritual well-being of the people they reached has been immediate.

To reach out to the community in Appleton Cross, we suggested forming a Community Run Club and a Community Book Club. The Community Run Club commenced in December with a growing group meeting weekly. The fruits of this

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

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### Review of the Period (Continued)

means of outreach are already being seen, with one member of Run Club beginning to attend Sunday Worship. The Community Book Club has been advertised, with a planned start in January 2025.

The year ended with the season of Advent, beginning with a church Christmas meal. We supported Appleton Parish Council with their Christmas lights switch-on, held Christmas services, Pop-up Nativities, a Christmas Party for the Coffee Morning, and contributed to the Christmas Shoebox Appeal.

In summary, we have been humbled and amazingly blessed by God! We look forward to 2025 with anticipation, trusting in His calling and provision.

### Financial Review

At 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 the charity had funds totalling £24,095.90 (2023: £23,798.12) available for the trustees to use at their discretion having raised £64,145.28 (2023: £81,177.55), including funds from the unincorporated charity of £Nil (2023: £25,375.76) during the year and spent £63,847.50 (2023: £57,379.43).

### Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the Trustees to hold reserves which provide for the ongoing work of the charity whilst retaining financial stability and the potential to respond to new opportunities. At the 31 December 2024 the reserves held were £24,095.90 (2023: £23,798.12) available for the trustees to use at their discretion, the trustees consider this level to be adequate.

### Responsibilities of the Trustees

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period, which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are prudent and reasonable;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Peter Gleave

Anthony Scott

Patricia McDowell

Dorothy Price

Alison Noble

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2025

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

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### **Independent examiner's Report to the Trustees of Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, which are set out on pages 7 to 9.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Eric Southwick BA (Hons) FCA FCIE DChA  
The Bungalow  
Earl Street  
Seaham  
Co Durham  
SR7 0DH

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2025

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

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### Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b>Receipts</b>		
Freewill Offerings	3,163.50	3,236.50
Regular Donations and Standing Orders	19,535.00	15,375.00
Other Donations	9,112.00	4,537.00
Grants	25,000.00	29,000.00
Gift Aid Repayments	4,364.78	3,503.29
Conference	2,970.00	150.00
Received from unincorporated charity	-	25,375.76
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<u>64,145.28</u>	<u>81,177.55</u>
<b>Payments</b>		
Ministry	1,470.00	1,250.00
Coffee AIM / AIM +	3,967.80	3,832.19
Conference	2,915.00	630.00
Church Running Costs	11,634.19	10,565.29
Pastor / Church Planter	33,360.15	32,055.27
Donations	4,200.00	6,755.00
Appleton Cross	6,300.36	2,291.68
<b>Total Payments</b>	<u>63,847.50</u>	<u>57,379.43</u>
<b>Net Receipts / (Payments)</b>	297.78	23,798.12
<b>Funds b/fwd 1 January</b>	<u>23,798.12</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Funds c/fwd 31 December</b>	<u>24,095.90</u>	<u>23,798.12</u>

The notes on page 9 part of these financial statements.

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

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### Statement of Assets and Liabilities As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b>Monetary Assets</b>		
Bank current account	<u>24,095.90</u>	<u>23,798.12</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Independent Examiner's fees	<u>300.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>

The financial statements on pages 7 to 9 were approved on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2025.



Anthony Scott

The notes on page 9 part of these financial statements.

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

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**Notes to the accounts**

**1 Accounting policies**

In preparing the accounts the following accounting policies have been complied with:

- a) The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 1A) (effective 2 February 2016), applicable accounting standards and the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- c) Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.  
All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity receives the income.
- d) Expenditure is recognised on a payments basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

**2 Taxation**

The charity is exempt from taxation on its income and gains where they are applied for charitable purposes.

**3 Trustee and employee information**

- a) Trustee information  
One trustee received remuneration of £29,956.92 (2023: £29,234.99) during the year.
- b) Employee Information  
The church had one employee in the year.

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	29,956.92	29,234.99
Pension costs	894.48	869.05
	30,851.40	30,104.04

**4 Related Party Transactions**

There are no related party transactions, other than the one disclosed in note 3 above, which require disclosure.

**APPLETON INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1198556

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# Accounts

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Appleton  
Independent Methodist Church



Trustees' Report  
and Financial Statements  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

---

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 which have been prepared in following the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 1A) (effective 2 February 2016), applicable accounting standards and the Charities Act 2011. The church was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and all the assets, liabilities and activities of the unincorporated charity known as Appleton Independent Methodist Church were transferred into it on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. The trustees have prepared the accounts on the receipts and payments basis.

### **Reference and Administrative Information**

#### **Charity Name**

Appleton Independent Methodist Church known as AIM Church

#### **Charity Number**

1198556

#### **Charity Trustees**

Peter Gleave	Leader	Appointed 07 April 2022
Anthony Scott	Leader	Appointed 07 April 2022
Patricia McDowell		Appointed 07 April 2022
Dorothy Price		Appointed 25 February 2023

#### **Address**

C/O Mr P M Gleave  
41 Weybridge Close  
Appleton  
Warrington  
WA4 5LZ

#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank  
Horsemarket Street  
Warrington  
WA1 1TP

#### **Independent Examiner**

Eric Southwick BA(Hons) FCA FCIE DChA  
The Bungalow  
Earl Street  
Seaham  
Co Durham  
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# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

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### Structure and Organisation

#### Objects

The purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith.

#### Public Benefit

The trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The remainder of this report illustrates the activities undertaken to support the public benefit requirement.

#### Organisation

The Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), which was registered with the Charity Commission on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The assets, liabilities and operations of the unincorporated charity known as Appleton Independent Methodist Church were transferred to it on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. The Church operates according to its constitution with the trustees meeting regularly to consider the progress of the church, to consider its future direction and activities and to manage the church.

#### Organisational Structure

The church is led by the Leadership Team, detailed above, which meets monthly to consider the work of the Church. The Leadership Team is appointed annually from amongst the members of the Church by the members of the Church at their Annual Meeting.

#### Risk Assessment

The Leadership Team does not believe that the Church is subject to any substantial risks and has taken steps to mitigate those risks that it has identified. The Church takes very seriously its responsibilities to protect children and vulnerable adults making checks on workers and operating appropriate policies and procedures. Financial controls are operated to ensure that the assets of the Church are safeguarded.

### Achievements and Performance

#### Review of the Period

At the end of 2023 we can once again look back and reflect on the blessings we have received and give God all the thanks and praise for His continued goodness toward AIM Church. As a church we have experienced many of the fellowship suffering the pain from illness and sadly the loss of those who served the church for many years. However, we have always held onto to God's promises in His word that He will never leave us, nor forsake us.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Peter Gleave's employment as Pastor / Church Planter, God's continued love and strength, have been shown through the pastoral care we have received both in the fellowship and the wider community. The ministry has been a key part of the role the Pastor / Church Planter giving structure, teaching, and in-depth study of God's word throughout both Sunday Worship and our bible studies at Homegroup. The book of Joshua gave great insight on how God's people need to put their faith and trust in Him and Him alone, and our key verse Joshua 21:45 ***Not one of all the Lord's good promises to Israel failed; every one was fulfilled*** gave us focus throughout the whole book.

A further grant application for the position of Pastor / Church Planter has been submitted to the Independent Methodist Connexion for 2024.

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

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### **Review of the Period (Continued)**

Although we lost one of our long-standing members in 2023 we have also received 3 new members which is a great blessing.

We have continued to hold meetings quarterly as trustees to ensure the charity meets our obligations and we were blessed by the appointment of an additional trustee in February 2023. The trustees have continued to support and monitor Peter Gleave's position as Pastor / Church Planter, holding quarterly review meetings and weekly prayer meetings which have been a great privilege to be part of enabling us to share in the blessings of God's work in AIM Church.

The Bereavement Journey, a course to help those who have suffered the pain of loss and grief commenced in April 2023. People enrolled from within the church and from outside finding information about the course from the AIM Church website. The course dealt with many issues, and these were greatly appreciated by all those who attended.

The Coffee Morning ("Coffee AiM") has continued to be a central part of our work within the community of Appleton. Those who attend regularly comment that this is the highlight of their week. We are so thankful that God has protected this valuable work and those attending have really appreciated having the opportunity to meet together. Sadly, we have suffered the loss of some who attended, but we thank God for the opportunity to give support to those who were bereaved. One of the great blessings is the opportunity for those who serve at Coffee AIM is the chat we have before the work commences and the opportunity to pray for those in need at that particular time. This has given us great encouragement and a sense of God's peace that He is with us.

Our Homegroup has been one of prayer and fellowship with our Bible Studies focusing on our planned preaching especially the Joshua series with the opportunity for more in-depth study of His word and being able to ask and clarify God's word. The Homegroup has grown substantially throughout 2023 with those attending wanting to share fellowship, prayer and study of God's word which is a great encouragement, and we give God all the thanks for this growth.

We have held monthly members or leaders' meetings in person or online. A weekly prayer meeting has been held by the leadership for discussion and prayer. We have prayed, visited, and encouraged each other throughout the year.

The Appleton Cross Church Building Project has been fairly quiet throughout 2023 with no significant movement during the year. We have kept communication lines open with Homes England, Warrington Borough Council and Appleton Parish Council throughout the year, which we will continue in 2024. Prayer meetings have still been our focus as we seek God's guidance and blessing upon this project. In terms of actually planting a church, Christmas was a great opportunity to knock on doors within the area and give people personal invitations to our Community Carols and other services at Appleton Parish Hall. We had a very positive response with a small number enjoying, Carols, Hot Chocolate, Mince Pies and sweets. This has been good for getting to know people in Appleton Cross and starting to build relationships. We are aware that this is a long-term project, and we will continue to reach out and plans to do so are being worked on how we do this going forward.

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

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### **Review of the Period (Continued)**

We continue to update our website to promote our work and make us accessible to people beyond those who already attend the church. We have continued to use our church WhatsApp group which has enabled us to communicate and uphold in prayer those in need and therefore support each other. As a result of some of the prayer requests, new people are attending our Sunday service.

We have also had the opportunity to give financial support to missionaries and many other charities and we still have a close bond with Barnabus in Manchester.

In June, we hosted the King's Coronation afternoon tea, which was attended by people from both the Church and the community. We have held 2 Progressive Meals where we are treated to 3 different courses at 3 different venues.

We supported 3 members of the church prayerfully, practically, and financially who felt called to go to Gambia with Amor Europe they went to supply innovative water filter systems, train the recipients in its correct use, and raise awareness of hygiene, and sanitation.

The group felt truly blessed and humbled by the experience and some have already signed up to return in 2024.

The year ended with our advent series services which provided a great opportunity for outreach and we welcomed over 20 new people who joined the celebrations which included 2 rather unusual "Instant Nativities." We held a Christmas Party for the Coffee Morning and went Carol Singing at Appleton Cross. The Church also collected 31 Christmas Shoe boxes which were sent overseas.

In summary, we have been blessed and used by God! God has brought us closer together as a church community and has been with us throughout. He has entrusted His work to us, and we have been privileged to be part of it. God has accomplished much both in us, and through us, and we give Him all the praise and glory!

### **Financial Review**

At 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 the charity had funds totalling £23,798.12 available for the trustees to use at their discretion having raised £81,177.55, including funds from the unincorporated charity of £25,375.76 during the year and spent £57,379.43.

### **Reserves Policy**

It is the policy of the Trustees to hold reserves which provide for the ongoing work of the charity whilst retaining financial stability and the potential to respond to new opportunities. At the 31 December 2023 the reserves held were £23,798.12 available for the trustees to use at their discretion, the trustees consider this level to be adequate.

### **Responsibilities of the Trustees**

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period, which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently:
- make judgments and estimates that are prudent and reasonable:
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

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### Responsibilities of the Trustees (continued)

- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in existence.

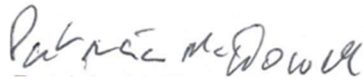
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



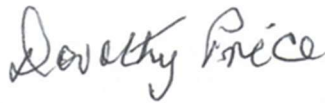
Peter Gleave



Anthony Scott



Patricia McDowell



Dorothy Price

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

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### **Independent examiner's Report to the Trustees of Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, which are set out on pages 7 to 9.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Eric Southwick BA (Hons) FCA FCIE DChA  
The Bungalow  
Earl Street  
Seaham  
Co Durham  
SR7 0DH

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

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### Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>
<b>Receipts</b>	
Freewill Offerings	3,236.50
Regular Donations and Standing Orders	15,375.00
Other Donations	4,537.00
Grants	29,000.00
Gift Aid Repayments	3,503.29
Conference	150.00
Received from unincorporated charity	25,375.76
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<u>81,177.55</u>
<b>Payments</b>	
Ministry	1,250.00
Coffee AIM / AIM +	3,832.19
Conference	630.00
Church Running Costs	10,565.29
Pastor / Church Planter	32,055.27
Donations	6,755.00
Appleton Cross	2,291.68
<b>Total Payments</b>	<u>57,379.43</u>
<b>Net Receipts / (Payments)</b>	23,798.12
<b>Funds b/fwd 1 January</b>	<u>-</u>
<b>Funds c/fwd 31 December</b>	<u>23,798.12</u>

The notes on page 9 part of these financial statements.

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

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### Statement of Assets and Liabilities As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>
<b>Monetary Assets</b>	
Bank current account	<u>23,798.12</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Independent Examiner's fees	<u>300.00</u>

The financial statements on pages 7 to 9 were approved on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024.



Anthony Scott

The notes on page 9 part of these financial statements.

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

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### Notes to the accounts

#### 1 Accounting policies

In preparing the accounts the following accounting policies have been complied with:

- a) The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 1A) (effective 2 February 2016), applicable accounting standards and the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- c) Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.  
All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity receives the income.
- d) Expenditure is recognised on a payments basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

#### 2 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its income and gains where they are applied for charitable purposes.

#### 3 Trustee and employee information

- a) Trustee information  
One trustee received remuneration of £29,234.99 during the year.
- b) Employee Information  
The church had one employee in the year.

	<b><u>2023</u></b>
	<b><u>£</u></b>
Wages and salaries	29,234.99
Pension costs	869.05
	<u>30,104.04</u>

#### 4 Related Party Transactions

There are no related party transactions, other than the one disclosed in note 3 above, which require disclosure.

**APPLETON INDEPENDENT METHODIST CHURCH**

England & Wales - Charity number 1198556

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# Accounts

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Appleton  
Independent Methodist Church



Trustees' Report  
and Financial Statements  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

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The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 which have been prepared in following the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 1A) (effective 2 February 2016), applicable accounting standards and the Charities Act 2011. The trustees have prepared the accounts on the receipts and payments basis.

### **Reference and Administrative Information**

#### **Charity Name**

Appleton Independent Methodist Church known as AIM Church (formerly known as AIM Christian Fellowship)

#### **Charity Trustees**

Peter Gleave	Leader
Anthony Scott	Leader
Patricia McDowell	

#### **Address**

Appleton Parish Hall  
Dudlow Green Road  
Appleton  
Warrington  
WA4 5EQ

#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank  
Horsemarket Street  
Warrington  
WA1 1TP

#### **Independent Examiner**

Eric Southwick BA(Hons) FCA FCIE DChA  
Eric Southwick & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
51 The Avenue  
Seaham  
Co Durham  
SR7 8NS

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

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### **Structure and Organisation**

#### **Objects**

The purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith.

#### **Public Benefit**

The trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit reporting in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The remainder of this report illustrates the activities undertaken to support the public benefit requirement.

#### **Organisation**

The Church is not a registered charity, being treated as excepted under the Charities Act 2011. It operates according to its constitution with the trustees meeting regularly to consider the progress of the charity, to consider its future direction and activities and to manage the charity. A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), Appleton Independent Methodist Church, was registered with the Charity Commission on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022, registration number 1198556. The assets, liabilities and operations of the unincorporated charity were transferred to the new CIO on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

#### **Organisational Structure**

The church is led by the Leadership Team, detailed above, which meets monthly to consider the work of the Church. The Leadership Team is appointed annually from amongst the members of the Church by the members of the Church at their Annual Meeting.

#### **Risk Assessment**

The Leadership Team does not believe that the Church is subject to any substantial risks and has taken steps to mitigate those risks that it has identified. The Church takes very seriously its responsibilities to protect children and vulnerable adults making checks on workers and operating appropriate policies and procedures. Financial controls are operated to ensure that the assets of the Church are safeguarded.

### **Achievements and Performance**

#### **Review of the Period**

At the end of 2022 we can give God all the thanks and praise for His blessings in AIM Church. Although 2022 has continued to be a difficult and challenging year, we have continued the ministry and outreach of AIM Church. As a church we have experienced the pain of illness, loss and yet, during it all, we can say that God has blessed us and protected us throughout the year.

One of the highlights of the year started in January as we employed a Pastor / Church Planter. Through much prayer and God's guidance the decision to employ a full-time worker has been of great benefit spiritually and pastorally for the church. A further grant application for the position of Pastor / Church Planter has been submitted for 2023. A recognition service was held in April to celebrate this appointment.

Also in April, after a long process our application as a Charity was approved. Following the appointment of Trustees, meetings have been held monthly to ensure we meet the charity guidelines.

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

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### **Review of the Period (Continued)**

Our Sunday Ministry has continued at the Parish Hall. The series ministry has continued with many people receiving blessings because of this ministry. We have continued 'Journeys with Jesus' in the Book of Luke, 'God Keeping Promises' in Joshua, and an Advent Series from Luke. We have continued to use the Facebook page, Instagram account and YouTube channel.

Our Coffee Morning has been a blessing to all who attend, and we are thankful that God has protected this valuable work and those attending have really appreciated having the opportunity to meet up once again. We celebrated one of our ladies 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in August. We also leafletted the community advertising it as a warm space. We also supported ROC with their Winter Coat project and people from the community and coffee morning dropped off coats.

Our Homegroup has been one of prayer and fellowship with our Bible Studies focusing on our planned preaching and more in-depth study of His word. We have kept in contact with those who we normally see at our events. We have held monthly members or leaders' meetings online and together. On a Friday morning the leaders' have met for discussion and prayer. We have prayed, visited, and encouraged each other throughout the year.

The Appleton Cross Church Plant Project has continued with various meeting throughout the year. Along with Steven Welch (Chartered Surveyor) we have met with the CEO and Director of Growth at Warrington Borough Council, both of whom showed positive support for the ApX Project. We have also made a presentation to Appleton Parish Council about our aims for ApX. As a result of that presentation, they invited Homes England to a subsequent Parish Council meeting to explain where they were up to in terms of the ApX neighbourhood centre, of which the church would be part. 13 people from AIM church turned up and sat in the public gallery to listen to the update and the questions from Parish Counsellors. On this occasion we were able to speak for 3 minutes and used that opportunity to reiterate our commitment to the project. Homes England said they would contact us as part of the consultation but have yet failed to do so. As a result, Stephen Welch has written to them again (January 2023) with copies to the CEO and Director at Warrington Borough Council. They have responded by noting our latest communication and interest in the project. We are now awaiting a response and praying that the Lord is moving in their hearts and minds in order that the church building can be realised, which would of course greatly benefit the church plant that we are working towards. In terms of planting a church we have held prayer meetings specifically for ApX. We have advertised and held a carol singing event on the estate, however, there was very little response and much less than even the previous years. We are aware that this is a long-term project, and we are prepared to continue reaching out and plans to do so are being worked on how we do this going forward.

Our ministry has supported other churches across the country. We continue to update our website. We have continued to use our church WhatsApp group which has enabled us to communicate and uphold in prayer those in need and therefore supporting each other. As a result of some of the prayer requests, new people are attending our Sunday service.

We have also had the opportunity to give financial support to missionaries and especially charities who have been on the front line of the pandemic such as Barnabus in Manchester.

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

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### **Review of the Period (Continued)**

In June, we worked with the Parish Council to host the Queen's Jubilee Afternoon tea, which was attended by people from both the Church and the community. We have held 2 Progressive Meals where we are treated to 3 different courses at 3 different venues.

The year ended with our advent series Journeys with Jesus in the Gospel of Luke which once again proved to be a great blessing and the celebrations also included 2 rather unusual Instant Nativities. We held a Christmas Party for the Coffee Morning and went Carol Singing at Appleton Cross.

The Church collected 29 Christmas Shoe boxes. Also, we were able to hold a Carol Service in a Nursing Home that we had not visited for a few years. In short, we have been blessed and used by God! And God has rewarded us. God has brought us closer together as a church community. So yes, it has been a challenging year, but God has been with us throughout. He has entrusted His work to us, and we have been privileged to be part of it. God has accomplished much both in us and through us and we give Him all the praise and glory!

### **Financial Review**

At 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 the charity had funds totalling £25,375.76 (2021: £28,705.53) available for the trustees to use at their discretion having raised £59,255.61 (2021: £29,748.86) during the year and spent £62,585.38 (2021: £26,358.81).

### **Reserves Policy**

It is the policy of the Trustees to hold reserves which provide for the ongoing work of the charity whilst retaining financial stability and the potential to respond to new opportunities. At the 31 December 2022 the reserves held were £25,375.76 (2021: £28,705.53) available for the trustees to use at their discretion, the trustees consider this level to be adequate.

### **Responsibilities of the Trustees**

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period, which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently:
- make judgments and estimates that are prudent and reasonable:
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in existence.

**Appleton Independent Methodist Church**  
**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

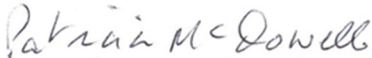
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**Responsibilities of the Trustees (continued)**

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



Peter Gleave



Patricia McDowell



Anthony Scott

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

# **Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

## **Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

---

### **Independent examiner's Report to the Trustees of Appleton Independent Methodist Church**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, which are set out on pages 7 to 9.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Eric Southwick BA (Hons) FCA FCIE DChA  
Eric Southwick & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
51 The Avenue  
Seaham  
Co Durham  
SR7 8NS

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

---

### Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>		
Freewill Offerings	3,141.00	1,200.48
Regular Donations and Standing Orders	18,850.00	15,400.00
Other Donations	2,119.00	8,085.00
Grants	25,000.00	-
Gift Aid Repayments	5,170.61	4,122.05
Other Gifts	-	941.33
Conference	3,975.00	-
Appleton Cross	1,000.00	-
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<u>59,255.61</u>	<u>29,748.86</u>
<b>Payments</b>		
Ministry	660.00	640.00
Coffee AIM / AIM +	3,380.15	864.97
Conference	4,529.40	-
Church Running Costs	9,254.88	12,155.08
Pastor / Church Planter	31,256.86	-
Donations	10,100.00	7,800.00
Appleton Cross	3,404.09	4,898.76
<b>Total Payments</b>	<u>62,585.38</u>	<u>26,358.81</u>
<b>Net Receipts / (Payments)</b>	( 3329.77)	3,390.05
<b>Funds b/fwd 1 January</b>	<u>28,705.53</u>	<u>25,315.48</u>
<b>Funds c/fwd 31 December</b>	<u>25,375.76</u>	<u>28,705.53</u>

The notes on page 9 part of these financial statements.

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

---

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b>Monetary Assets</b>		
Bank current account	<u>25,375.76</u>	<u>28,705.53</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Independent Examiner's fees	<u>300.00</u>	<u>300.00</u>

The financial statements on pages 7 to 9 were approved on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023



Anthony Scott

The notes on page 9 part of these financial statements.

# Appleton Independent Methodist Church

## Trustees' Report and Financial Statements 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

---

### Notes to the accounts

#### 1 Accounting policies

In preparing the accounts the following accounting policies have been complied with:

- a) The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 1A) (effective 2 February 2016), applicable accounting standards and the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.
- c) Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.  
All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity receives the income.
- d) Expenditure is recognised on a payments basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

#### 2 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its income and gains where they are applied for charitable purposes.

#### 3 Trustee and employee information

- a) Trustee information  
One trustee received remuneration of £26,745 during the year (2021: £ Nil).
- b) Employee Information  
The church had one employee in the year (2021: Nil).

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	26,745	-
Social security costs	656	-
	<u>27,401</u>	<u>-</u>

#### 4 Related Party Transactions

There are no related party transactions other than the one disclosed in note 3 above which require disclosure.