

THE METHODIST CHURCH
STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Willington Open Door	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

West Durham	Circuit	Circuit no.	1312
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1203431

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:

Reverend Bruce Sawyer

Church Stewards:

Helen Pryce
Veronica Rowe
ELIZABETH THOMPSON

Treasurer:

Paul Gollightly

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	13894		13894	9854
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	2962		2962	2784
a4	Lettings	30496		30496	37217
a5	Other receipts	30957	100873	30957	64080
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	78310	100873	179183 (a7)	113935

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	21278		21278	20655
b3	Donations	200		200	
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	8064		8064	24517
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	10692		10692	10005
b6					
b7	Other payments	4600	120177	124778	132363
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	44834	120177	165012 (b9)	187540

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR (a6-b8)	33475	(19304)	14171	(73605)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	68138	53979	122117 (c6)	195721
c3	Sub total (c1+c2)	101613	34675	136288	122116
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR (c3+c4)	101613	34675	136288 (c8)	22116 (c6)

SECTION D		£	£
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year		
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	474	
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	474	
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID (d1+d2-d3)		

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page


Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS		Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1							
e2							
e3							
e4							
e5							
e6							
e7							
e8	Sub total of Internal Organisations funds						
e9	Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	179183	165012	14171		122117	136288
e10	TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	179183	165012	14171	0	22117	36288
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward		TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

Name of Church Willington Open Door Methodist No.....

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  Date 21/10/25

Name and address of treasurer PAUL SOLIS
52, LOV WILKINSON DURHAM Post Code DL15 0BD

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 21/10/25

Signature of the Chair of the meeting 

Name of the Chair of the meeting BRUCE SAWYER Date 21/10/25

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

..... Willington Open Door Methodist Church

Charity Number 1203431

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages ... to 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 WILKINGTON OPEN DOOR No

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

I ~~have~~/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 [Signature]

Name of independent examiner Laura Marriott

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner CA

Name of firm (where appropriate) -

Address 138, WOODLAND ROAD, DARLINGTON

..... Post Code DL3 9LR

Date 12.10.12026

* delete or circle as appropriate

**WILLINGTON OPEN DOOR METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1203431**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW
2024/25**

Mission Statement

"Our mission as The Willington Open Door Methodist Church is "To seek to express as fully as possible the love of Christ for all, through the whole life of the church in this community and neighbourhood."

2024/25 Financial Review

In support of the above Mission Statement and in line with the stated aims of the charity Willington Open Door Methodist Church utilises its funds in accordance with its aims and purpose as well as integrating those of the wider Methodist Church organisation.

Within its accounts the church also includes all grant income and expenditure associated with the Our Confident Community Project which is a community centred project overseen and accountable to the managing trustees.

The financial accounts for 2024/25 detail all funds held and overseen by the Church Meeting the membership of which constitutes the Managing Trustees of the Willington Open Door Methodist Church Charity.

The Reserves Policy relates to the general (unrestricted) funds which are freely available to be used for any of the purposes of the Church. Restricted Funds held in the general account are specifically earmarked for the Our Confident Community Project.

Other funds including monies held at the Central Finance Board as part of the general funds total are also included for clarity and openness and to show that the Church has a policy for the management of all its resources not simply those that are defined as reserves.

The financial aims of the Charity are:

- (1) To secure and sustain the Church's viability and future;
- (2) To give reassurance to the general public that the Church, which is a charity, intends to use all of the money coming into its care for the purposes of the charity;
- (3) To ensure all funds associated with the Our Confident Community Project are apportioned accordingly incorporating staffing costs.

Church Financial Policy

Essentially provides for:

- a) The revenue costs associated with the running of Willington Open Door Methodist Church and its building;
- b) The support of the Our Confident Community Project and its associated activities including the employment of support staff and overheads;
- c) The ongoing repairs, maintenance and improvement to its building asset.

Financial Management

The Church finances are reviewed annually and covers the annual revenue costs including the costs of (a) to (c) above and the requirement to fulfil church assessments payable to the West Durham Methodist Circuit.

Provision is made for property maintenance and any fluctuations in current or future staffing levels.

The trustees have established their mission aims taking in to account all of the resources available in terms of people, property and money.

The Church Fund (General Account)

The total amount held in the Church Fund General Account at the end of the year was £136,228. This includes £84,479 held in the Methodist Church Central Finance Board Account. During the year in addition to general church revenue and expenditure, £100,873 was received in support of the Open Door Our Confident Community Project and £120,177 was expended largely on costs associated with staffing, overheads, activities and community support help and advice initiatives.

There remains a critical physical and financial inter-dependency between Church and Project.

Approximately £8,064 was spent on building improvements.

Escalating cost of living is a significant factor for our overall financial position. For example, electricity charges have increased by c. £2,000 p.a. in the last year. Without the solar panels this increase would be even higher.

We have introduced a number of ways to mitigate the risk and sustain the financial security of the Church, such as:

- Promoting donations at OCC activities;
- Looking into a small admin fee to cover food project overheads;
- Reviewed rental charges for all facility users;
- Prioritisation of building maintenance requirements;
- Making flexible use of the CFB account to maximise interest income.

During the year total income received was £179,183 and total expenditure was £165,012. Year to date income has exceeded expenditure by £14,171. While this is positive, it is not an indication that the financial trend of the last three years has changed. Approximately £20k of income relates to one-off events. A more realistic assessment would be of moving towards sustaining a break-even position on the basis of all other factors (such as grant funding) remaining the same.

Consequently, building in 12 months reserve costs would be prudent to reflect the evolving diverse use of the building and revenue costs, together with continuing challenging cost of living increases. We also have a number of identified unique, essential and significant building maintenance and repair work alongside our drive for sustainable greener energy.

Use of Designated Funds 2025/26 and Reserves

The Charity Commission requires that Trustees set a policy for the management of the Church Funds. The total funds held at the end of the year (August 2025) were **£136,288** and have been earmarked as follows:

Reserves Fund	- £65,000 12 Month Revenue Costs
General Fund (restricted)	- £34,675 Our Confident Community Project
General Fund	- £10,000 Transitional Grant Reduction
General Fund	- £26,613 known essential maintenance and repair

Managing Trustees
Willington Open Door Methodist Church