

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Registered Charity – registration number 1207910

Weald of Kent Circuit no.36/19

Minister Rev Kirsty McGhee

Stewards Julia Bevis
 Vicky Homewood
 Annette Cammell
 Angela Harmer
 Shirley Pilbeam
 Judith Durrant
 Alison Farr Treasurer

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TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

INTRODUCTION

Included in this report are the aims of the Church and a commentary on the financial aspects of its work. This report has been prepared based on the activities and plans as they are known at the current time.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission at East Peckham Methodist Church is to worship Jesus: to share his love with each other, the community and the world.

Our location gives us a unique position as a church in the centre of the village at the heart of the community to show Gods love in action in a building that's open and accessible to all.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

These accounts show a surplus of general unrestricted funds of £18094 for the year which has been added to reserves. The building/restricted fund shows a deficit of £253105 for the year.

Income

General funds are primarily drawn from offerings, gift aid tax recovery and fund raising.

The Church premises are made available to a range of organisations who contribute letting income.

We are part of the Weald of Kent Methodist Circuit who are supporting our refurbishment plans and have provided grants of £183433 during the current financial year for this project.

Expenses

Payment of the Circuit Assessment, which covers the cost of Circuit ministers, and maintenance and utilities relating to the premises comes from general funds.

Building project expenditure is out of restricted funds.

Building Project

After many years of planning and discussions our building project began in earnest in the financial year 2023 to 2024. This has now been virtually completed, and we were able to open the whole building during August 2025. The building provides a large hall which can be used for various activities by the Church and hired out to the community. The building benefits from a new welcoming entrance leading to the Church and a smaller café area. There is also a kitchen garden and a forecourt which will become a dementia friendly peace garden.

Activities and Growth

Throughout the year new initiatives include Movie Mondays, Winter Warmer lunches and Summer Spaces alongside our usual coffee mornings both weekly and on the 1st Saturday of the month.

We have held "Messy Church" events alongside our weekly worship. Our services are friendly and welcoming, and we have seen our congregation increase in size.

The Church acts as host for the local Community Fridge held weekly. This initiative reduces food waste and helps anyone who is in need financially both locally and in the wider community. A warm welcome is extended to all, and refreshments are provided.

We support the local foodbank and have strong links with the local dementia care home which we visit to share worship on a regular basis. Residents from the care home also attend our weekly coffee mornings which are open to everyone.

The hall is also used by Boys Brigade.

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

FUND BALANCES

At 31 August 2025 the cash resources on the General Fund of the Church amounted to £55927. This is a high fund balance, but it is very difficult to predict our ongoing expenditure for the next year once the building is fully open. We have maintained additional surplus to meet these costs.

PLANS FOR 2025 – 2026

The Church financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that giving by members, which is largely by monthly standing order, will continue at a similar level and that Gift Aid continues as currently. With this income, the letting receipts and fund raising the trustees are satisfied that there will be sufficient income and reserves to meet the ongoing expenditure.

BASIS OF PREPARATION AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The Charities annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Accounting and Reporting for Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 as applicable to the Financial Reporting Standard 102.

Full name of Charity	East Peckham Methodist Church
Registration Number	1207910
Date of Registration	April 2024
Main communication address	East Peckham Methodist Church, East Peckham, TN12 5AU

The members of the East Peckham Methodist Church Council are the Charity Trustees. The full membership is shown in Appendix A to this report.

CHURCH MINISTER AND OFFICERS

Minister	Rev Kirsty McGhee	
Stewards	Julia Bevis	
	Vicky Homewood	
	Annette Cammell	
	Judy Durrant	
	Angela Harmer	
	Shirley Pilbeam	
	Alison Farr	Treasurer

The treasurer acts as the principal officer overseeing the day-to-day financial management and accounting for the Church during the year.

Independent Examiner	Trevor Lane, Director in M N Jenks & Co Limited
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EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

AIMS AND ORGANISATIONS

Charity objective is to act as the Methodist Church to its members and adherents within the East Peckham Area.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been since the Deed of Union the advancement of:

- The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church
- Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Church, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church
- Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.
- Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church
- The organisation and resourcing of regular acts of worship open to members of the Church and non-members alike.
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved.
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools.
- Facilitating the provision of food and other supporting services to the local community.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The governing document for the Church is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

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

Day to day management of the Church is undertaken by the Minister and the Stewards.

TRUSTEE TRAINING

A range of guidance is produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Church, specifically a leaflet "The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church" is given to all new Church Council members as induction to their role as trustees.

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

RELATED PARTIES

The Church is part of the Weald of Kent Circuit and is also accountable to the Southeast District and the Methodist Conference.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Major risks are identified, discussed and recorded by the Church Council. No significant risks have been identified during the financial year.

SAFEGUARDING

Every person has a value and a dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ.

Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

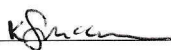
The Church commits itself to following the practice and policies as established by the Methodist Connexion, government legislation and safe practice in safeguarding matters. The Church is also committed to the provision of support, advice and training to lay and ordained people that will ensure they are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

RESERVES POLICY

The reserves policy of the Church for General Funds is to hold a minimum sum of twelve months expenditure excluding expenditure that is specifically covered by annual grants.

The reserves policy is agreed by all the trustees at Church Council and signed by the Chair Rev Kirsty McGhee.

Signed on behalf of trustees



Date

05/10/2025

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

		2025		2024	
RECEIPTS	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Receipts					
Collections-cash		6,670		6,670	5,120
Collections-standing orders		11,700		11,700	11,450
Gift Aid		4,195		4,195	5,422
Interest		133		133	168
Fund Raising		7,079		7,079	7,727
Donations		6,475		6,475	
Property lettings		7,492		7,492	6,652
Grants Rec'd	5	1,750	185,433	1,750	
Building fund income	5		3,651	189,084	404,500
Building fund interest	5		5,221	5,221	4,845
TOTAL RECEIPTS		45,494	194,305	239,799	445,884
PAYMENTS					
Assessment		(15,404)		(15,404)	(15,404)
Fees and Sundries		(4,339)		(4,339)	(1,129)
Cleaning		(1,225)		(1,225)	(1,061)
Heating/Lighting		(2,721)		(2,721)	(3,191)
Insurance premium		(2,408)		(2,408)	(2,086)
Repairs & Maintenance		(1,119)		(1,119)	(2,017)
Bank charges		(184)		(184)	(161)
Building expenditure	6		(447,410)	(447,410)	(358,099)
TOTAL PAYMENTS		(27,400)	(447,410)	(474,810)	(383,148)
NET RECEIPTS /PAYMENTS		18,094	(253,105)	(235,011)	62,736
Total funds brought forward		37,833	316,111	353,944	291,208
Total funds carried forward		55,927	63,006	118,933	353,944

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

**EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 AUGUST 2025**

	Note	General Fund	Restricted Fund	2025 Total	2024 Total
Tangible Fixed Assets					
Investments				4,937	4,931
Total Fixed Assets				4,937	4,931
Current assets					
Cash - HSBC		55,877	50,314	106,191	132,904
Deposit - Central Finance Board			25,566	25,566	225,345
Debtors		1,860		1,860	1,800
Total Assets		57,737	75,880	138,554	364,980
Deferred income		(720)		(720)	
Creditors		(1090)	(12,874)	(13,964)	(6,105)
Total Net Assets		55,927	63,006	123,870	358,875
Funds of the Church					
General Fund	3	55,927		55,927	37,833
Restricted Fund	3		63,006	63,006	316,111
TMCP Investments	4			4,937	4,931
Total Funds		<u>55,927</u>	<u>63,006</u>	<u>123,870</u>	<u>358,875</u>

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS102). East Peckham Methodist Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis

These accounts have been prepared using the accruals basis of accounts. They have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year.

Income and Expenditure

All income and expenditure items are included if they relate to the accounting period regardless of when they are received or paid. When cash has not been received or paid during the financial year, these are included as debtors/creditors in the accounts above.

VAT

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

Investments

Investments are valued in the balance sheet at the market value at the year end. Investment income is included in the accounts when received and any gains or losses on revaluation at the year end are shown on the SOFA.

Cash Flow Exemption

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement because, as a small charity, it has taken exemption for cash flow in accordance with FRS102.

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

3. FUNDS

The funds held constitute:

General Funds held for any purpose of the Church which are unrestricted.

Restricted Funds consist only of the Building Fund and can only be used for the prescribed purpose of that fund.

	2025 Unrestricted	2025 Restricted
Balance b/fwd from 1 September 2024	37,833	316,111
Surplus/Net payments for the year	18,094	(253,105)
Balance as at 31 st August 2025	55,927	63,006

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

Investments are held by TMCP (Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes) and are valued at market value at year end.

	2025
Balance b/fwd from 1 September 2024	4,931
Realised gain from revaluation	6
Balance as at 31 st August 2025	4,937

Interest of £133 was received during the year and is shown in SOFA.

5. GRANT INCOME

	General Funds	Building project grants(restricted)
Weald of Kent Circuit Methodist Church		183,433
Friends of Kent Churches		2,000
 Southeast District Methodist Church	 1,000	
TMBC	750	
Total	1,750	185,433

The Grants in General funds were used towards providing Winter Warmer lunches, and Summer Spaces for families.

Building fund grants were used for the ongoing building project. Building fund income comprises individual donations towards the project £3,651. Building fund interest amounted to £5,221

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

6. BUILDING FUND EXPENDITURE

	2025	2024
Demolition	6,102	
Contingencies	5,156	5,859
External works	73,093	7,980
Fees	1,994	26,387
Fixtures and fittings	110,034	62,128
Preliminaries	1,250	2,717
Substructure	249,781	253,031
Total	447,410	358,102

7. PAYMENTS TO TRUSTEES

There were no payments to trustees for the current and previous year.

8. BANK BALANCE

Funds are held by Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (CFB) and HSBC Plc on behalf of the Church.

9. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Church has no ongoing capital commitments at 31 August 2025. The Church had ongoing capital commitments of £7,434 in relation to the building project as at August 2024. No contingent liabilities were identified.

10. DETAILED ANALYSIS OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

All of the restricted funds are in relation to the building project, a breakdown of these have been detailed in notes 5 and 6 above.

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The following schedule shows the related party transactions for the year. The Weald of Kent Circuit and other Methodist organisations are considered related parties for the purpose of determining related party transactions.

	2025	2024
Weald of Kent Circuit		
Assessment paid	15,404	15,404
Grants received	183,443	350,000
South East District Methodist Church		
Grant received	1,000	
Methodist Church Organisations		
Deposit - Central Finance Board	25,565	225,345

12. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There are no post balance sheet events to report.

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH

DECLARATIONS

TREASURER

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year end 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 *A Farr*

Date *5.10.25*

Name of Treasurer Alison Farr

PRESENTATION TO THE CHURCH TRUSTEES

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2025 were presented to the meeting of the Church Trustees held on *5.10.25*

Signature of Chair of meeting *Kirsty McGhee*

Name of Chair of meeting Rev. Kirsty McGhee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH

I report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts for the Charity for the year ended 31 August 2025.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As Trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of your Charity accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

The Charity's gross income does not exceed £250,000 and I am appointed to undertake the examination by the Church Trustees.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Activities.
2. The accounts do not accord with those accounting records.
3. The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirement concerning form or content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Signed:

T. Lane, Director in MN Jenks & Co Ltd

Name of Examiner: Trevor Lane – Director in M N Jenks & Co Ltd

Qualifications: Chartered Accountant

Address: 72 Commercial Road
Paddock Wood
TONBRIDGE
Kent
TN12 6DP

Date: 5 February 2026

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT ON FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

EAST PECKHAM METHODIST CHURCH

APPENDIX A

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

Rev Kirsty McGhee
Margaret Barnden
Julia Bevis
Mary Bothwell
Emily Cammell
Netty Cammell
Martin Cammell
Chris Durrant
Judy Durrant
Alison Farr
Andy Foster
Eileen Hayward
Vicky Homewood
Eddy Keily
Janice Morgan
Peter Morgan
Lynn Otto
Carol Sansom
John Sansom
Shirley Pilbeam
Ron Taylor
Margaret Townsend
Mary Westerman
Angela Harmer