

Charity registration number: 1210622

# Dudley and Netherton Circuit

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

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## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Trustees' Report**

The Circuit Stewards present their report along with the financial statements of the Dudley and Netherton Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the attached accounting policies.

Full Name of Charity: **DUDLEY & NETHERTON CIRCUIT**

Registration Charity Number 1210622

Date of registration: 24 October 2024

Main communication address: 33 St James Road, Dudley, DY1 3JD

The members of the Dudley & Netherton Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Full membership is shown on pages 8-9 of this report.

#### **Circuit Ministers and Officers**

##### Active Circuit

Revd David Alford (Superintendent)

##### Circuit Lay worker

Richard French

##### Circuit Stewards:

Mr David Robinson, Roy Evans, Wendy Goodwin, Pamela Haden.

##### Circuit Officers:

Treasurer – Mrs Janette Robinson

Safeguarding – Mrs Wendy Goodwin

Property Team – Roy Evans with church property stewards

##### Independent Examiner:

Neil Westwood & Co, Chartered Accountants, 101 Dixons Green Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 7DJ.

##### Investment Bankers:

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees For Methodist Church Purposes

HSBC Bank plc

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

#### **Aims and Organisation**

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 discipline of The Methodist Church;
- b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local, or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

#### **Governance and Management**

The governing document for the Circuit 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 Circuit is undertaken by the Circuit Leadership Team along with the Local Preachers' meeting.

#### **Structure**

1. Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference
2. The Connexional Office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers in individual Circuits
3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation
4. The Districts pass the control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, Ministerial staff, Circuit Stewards and others. Authority can be delegated by the Connexion and District to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters
5. The Circuit Meeting passes control down to Church Councils for local implementation by the Minister, the Church Stewards and other officers. The Church Councils act as Managing Trustees.
6. The Superintendent has the responsibility for chairing meetings of the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) and the Circuit Meeting, which trustees are expected to attend. Policy decisions are taken at the Circuit Meeting which is the supreme body for deciding matters at Circuit Level. Some powers are delegated by the Circuit Meeting to the CLT and other groups.
7. Churches, Circuits and Districts are able to pass matters upwards for consideration, ultimately to the Conference, for consideration and implementation where appropriate.
8. The Methodist Connexional year runs from 1 September to 31 August.

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

The Dudley and Netherton circuit is a group of 6 churches situated mainly within the central area of the borough of Dudley with its border of Sandwell. It is proud of its industrial heritage being in the heart of the Black Country.

The mission statement of the Dudley and Netherton Circuit aims

- to connect with people of all ages and backgrounds
- to enrich spirituality in daily lives, study, fellowship and prayer
- and to grow a caring community that reaches out beyond the church walls with Christian love to all

The Circuit produces a bi-monthly preaching plan to ensure that regular acts of worship take place at each of the 6 Methodist Churches in its geographical area. The Dudley & Netherton Circuit is constituted to offer acts of worship in its church communities and to further the mission of the Church in central Dudley, Netherton bordering on Sandwell. With our primary internal function being that of Christian worship, we organise acts of worship in each of the 6 Circuit churches every Sunday morning with an evening service held in one of four of our churches on rotation. Our internal structure is based on a Circuit Meeting which meets twice a year; a Local Preachers' meeting which meets four times a year; Circuit Leadership Team meetings throughout the year, and Staff Meetings which formally meet quarterly with additional communication weekly. We endeavour to make our meetings more than just 'talking shops'; they are the place where important decisions are made and within them, we plan our strategies and fulfil our role as Charity Trustees.

#### **Public Benefit**

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

#### **Trustee Training**

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

#### **Related Parties**

The circuit is part of Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury District and is also accountable to the Methodist Conference.

The following Methodist churches are linked to the circuit: Central, Cole Street, Dixons Green, Knowle, St James (Pensnett) and Woodside.

#### **Review of the year**

Our staffing for the year has been one presbyteral minister and one part-time lay worker. The pastoral care of the members of all churches including a former church which closed in 2023 was forefront in the minds of staff and circuit stewards. One church holds a fortnightly circuit youth group with the young people attending 3Generate and Amplify. Another church hosts a food bank once a week along with an internet café. Five of the six churches let their buildings for the use of community groups; in addition, churches have regular activities run by members, for the benefit of both church members and non-church members.

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

#### **Financial Review**

A proposed balanced budget is produced each year. During the year, income exceeded expenditure due to less expenditure on an empty manse though there was increased maintenance on the occupied property. The unoccupied manse was put up for sale, the proceeds of which will be received in the next financial year.

#### **Income trends**

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the circuit churches. The rental income relates to the rental of a manse and income generated on the money invested at CFB. The withdrawal of funds from TMCP, which was considerably increased by the sale of a church in the previous year, is to cover the circuit's assessment to the district in the forthcoming year.

#### **Expenditure trends**

With the decrease in staffing, stipend expenditure decreased considerably though stipends continue to increase each financial year in line with conference approved increases with a similar percentage increase for our lay worker – this accounts for over 50% of the expenditure. In addition, a further 26% of expenditure is the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church. There has also been less use of visiting preachers and therefore a decrease in associated costs.

#### **Fund balances**

As at 31 August 2025, the net current assets of the circuit were approximately £190,000.00 a slight increase on the previous year.

#### **Plans for 2025/26**

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that the staff team is one full time ordained member; with an increase in hours for the lay worker; by withdrawing funds held at TMCP to cover the cost of the assessment to the district, it has been possible to decrease the assessment requested from each of the circuit churches. A different formula has been utilised which will be reviewed during the year in preparation for 2026-2027. The specific plans for the year include:

- To maintain statutory requirements on occupied manses
- To undertake renewal of the bathroom at St James Road manse, updating to ensure it is fit for purpose
- To consider the best use of the funds available following the sale of a manse
- To review staffing requirements for 2026-2027 and future years

#### **Reserves Policy General**

It is the Trustees' policy to maintain a balance of unrestricted and undesignated funds equivalent to around six months average unrestricted expenditure, plus six months district assessment and an extra £5K to cover unexpected requirements which may occur from time to time.

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

#### **Risk Management**

The major risks associated with the Circuit have been identified by the Circuit Leadership Team. A regular review process is in place and is recorded.

#### **Safeguarding**

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own 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.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.
- we will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.
- we will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.
- we will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.
- we will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.
- we will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.
- in all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognized good practice.

The Dudley & Netherton Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of the Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the circuit and in our churches, including carrying out enhanced DBS checks as required.

The Dudley & Netherton Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable. We adhere to the church's Safer Recruitment Policy.

Our Circuit Safeguarding Officer, Wendy Goodwin, continues to maintain regular contact with our Church Safeguarding Officers to ensure that best practice is being followed in our churches and that effective communication about Safeguarding matters continues. The Circuit's four priorities, as agreed by CLT and the Circuit Meeting, for this connexional year remain:

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

- to ensure the correct level of training is undertaken by our church members, depending on their role
- to ensure that DBS checks are carried out by our members, appropriate to their role
- to ensure that the principles laid out in the Safer Recruitment Policy are known and adhered to
- to support our Church Safeguarding Officers in their work

#### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material 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 business.

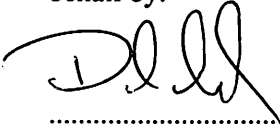
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees 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.

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Trustees' Report (continued)**

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 16 March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Reverend R D Alford  
Trustee



.....  
Mrs J Robinson  
Trustee

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Members of the Dudley & Netherton Circuit meeting**

#### Ministers

Revd David Alford

#### Lay-workers

Richard French

#### Local Preachers and Worship Leader Representatives

William Jones

#### Circuit Stewards

David Robinson, Roy Evans, Wendy Goodwin, Pamela Haden

#### Circuit Officers

##### Circuit Meeting Secretary

Tracy Rollason

##### Circuit Treasurer

Janette Robinson

##### Circuit Officers (Property)

Roy Evans

##### Circuit Safeguarding Co-ordinator

Wendy Goodwin

##### Circuit Representatives to Synod

Pam Haden

David Mountford

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Circuit Church Representatives**

#### **Central Methodist Church**

Ann Gallimore

Caroline Meldon

John Perkins

Peter Roberts

Shirley Tilston

#### **Cole Street Methodist Church**

Elizabeth Ralph

David Moss

Janet Sheppard

Sylvia Holyoake (Died 13 March 2025)

#### **Dixons Green Methodist Church**

Raymond Anstis

Janice Bartley

David Willetts

Edward Bartley (Died 8 May 2025)

#### **Knowle Methodist Church**

Elizabeth Hopwood

Elizabeth Morris

#### **St James Methodist Church, Pensnett**

Andrew Bagnall

Basil Cox

David Mountford

#### **Woodside Methodist Church**

Roy Evans

Brian Handy

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Dudley and Netherton Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2025.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of Dudley and Netherton Circuit 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 Dudley and Netherton Circuit's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

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

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

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

  
.....  
N A Westwood FCA  
Chartered Accountants  
Neil Westwood & Co.

101 Dixons Green Road  
Dudley  
West Midlands  
DY2 7DJ

17 March 2026

## Dudley and Netherton Circuit

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

|                                    | Note | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total<br>2025<br>£    |
|------------------------------------|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Income and Endowments from:</b> |      |                            |                          |                       |
| Charitable activities              |      | 81,822                     | -                        | 81,822                |
| Investment income                  | 3    | 17,580                     | 4,487                    | 22,067                |
| Other income                       |      | <u>1,506</u>               | <u>1,706</u>             | <u>3,212</u>          |
| Total income                       |      | <u>100,908</u>             | <u>6,193</u>             | <u>107,101</u>        |
| <b>Expenditure on:</b>             |      |                            |                          |                       |
| Charitable activities              |      | (99,653)                   | (4,701)                  | (104,354)             |
| Other expenditure                  | 5    | <u>(600)</u>               | <u>-</u>                 | <u>(600)</u>          |
| Total expenditure                  |      | <u>(100,253)</u>           | <u>(4,701)</u>           | <u>(104,954)</u>      |
| Net income                         |      | 655                        | 1,492                    | 2,147                 |
| Gross transfers between funds      |      | <u>27,000</u>              | <u>(27,000)</u>          | <u>-</u>              |
| Net movement in funds              |      | 27,655                     | (25,508)                 | 2,147                 |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds</b>     |      |                            |                          |                       |
| Total funds brought forward        |      | <u>834,781</u>             | <u>99,490</u>            | <u>934,271</u>        |
| Total funds carried forward        | 15   | <u><u>862,436</u></u>      | <u><u>73,982</u></u>     | <u><u>936,418</u></u> |

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above period.

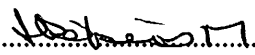
The notes on pages 13 to 22 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Dudley and Netherton Circuit**  
**(Registration number: 1210622)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025**

|                                                       | Note | 2025<br>£             |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                                   |      |                       |
| Tangible assets                                       | 10   | 615,000               |
| Investments                                           | 11   | <u>131,395</u>        |
|                                                       |      | <u>746,395</u>        |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                 |      |                       |
| Debtors                                               | 12   | 3,857                 |
| Investments                                           | 13   | 73,293                |
| Cash at bank and in hand                              |      | <u>127,975</u>        |
|                                                       |      | 205,125               |
| <b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b> | 14   | <u>(15,102)</u>       |
| <b>Net current assets</b>                             |      | <u>190,023</u>        |
| <b>Net assets</b>                                     |      | <u><u>936,418</u></u> |
| <b>Funds of the charity:</b>                          |      |                       |
| <b>Restricted income funds</b>                        |      |                       |
| Restricted funds                                      |      | 73,982                |
| <b>Unrestricted income funds</b>                      |      |                       |
| Unrestricted funds                                    |      | <u>862,436</u>        |
| <b>Total funds</b>                                    | 15   | <u><u>936,418</u></u> |

The financial statements on pages 11 to 22 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 16 March 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

  
.....  
Reverend R D Alford  
Trustee

  
.....  
Mrs J Robinson  
Trustee

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025**

#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

##### **Basis of preparation**

Dudley and Netherton Circuit meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

##### **Disclosure exemptions**

The entity satisfies the criteria of being a qualifying entity as defined in FRS 102. As such, advantage has been taken of the following disclosure exemptions available under paragraph 1.12 of FRS 102:

- (a) No cash flow statement has been presented for the entity
- (b) Disclosures in respect of financial instruments have not been presented.

##### **Consolidation**

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

##### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

##### **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

No significant estimates or judgements have been made by management when preparing the financial statements. The policies followed are shown below.

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)**

#### **1 Accounting policies (continued)**

##### **Incoming resources**

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

##### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

##### ***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

##### ***Grant expenditure***

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make a grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make a payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years is treated as a provision for future commitments in the Balance Sheet against the appropriate fund, the provision being released in future years as instalments are paid in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

##### **Irrecoverable VAT**

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

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1000. the freehold property is shown in the accounts at original cost. No depreciation is provided on the buildings because the trustees consider the residual value of the properties in their present condition to be not less than their current value, and in the absence of any evidence of impairment, any depreciation provision would not be material.

## Dudley and Netherton Circuit

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

##### Investment properties

Investment property is carried at fair value, derived from the current market prices for comparable real estate determined annually by external valuers. The valuers use observable market prices, adjusted if necessary for any difference in the nature, location or condition of the specific asset. Changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss.

##### Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments, are included at market value at cost.

##### Current asset investments

Current asset investments are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value / market value.

##### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

#### 2 Income from charitable activities

|                         | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Total<br>2025<br>£ |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Assessments on Churches | 81,822                                | 81,822             |

#### 3 Investment income

|                         | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Other investment income | 3,825                                 | 4,487                    | 8,312               |
| Income from rents       | 13,755                                | -                        | 13,755              |
| <b>Total for 2025</b>   | <b>17,580</b>                         | <b>4,487</b>             | <b>22,067</b>       |

## Dudley and Netherton Circuit

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

#### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

|                               | <b>Unrestricted<br/>funds<br/>General<br/>£</b> | <b>Restricted<br/>funds<br/>£</b> | <b>Total<br/>2025<br/>£</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Salaries and associated costs | 56,140                                          | -                                 | 56,140                      |
| District assessment and levy  | 26,683                                          | 2,465                             | 29,148                      |
| Property costs                | 12,511                                          | -                                 | 12,511                      |
| Other outgoings               | 4,319                                           | 2,236                             | 6,555                       |
|                               | <u>99,653</u>                                   | <u>4,701</u>                      | <u>104,354</u>              |

#### District assessment and levy

|                     | <b>Unrestricted<br/>General<br/>Fund<br/>2025<br/>£</b> | <b>Circuit<br/>Model<br/>Trust Fund<br/>2025<br/>£</b> | <b>Total<br/>2025<br/>£</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| District Assessment | 26,683                                                  | -                                                      | 26,683                      |
| District Levy       | -                                                       | 2,465                                                  | -                           |
|                     | <u>26,683</u>                                           | <u>2,465</u>                                           | <u>26,683</u>               |

#### Property costs

During the year, the Circuit was Managing Trustee for two properties. One former manse was being let out on renewable shorthold leases

|                                                            | <b>Unrestricted<br/>General Fund<br/>2025<br/>£</b> | <b>Circuit Model<br/>Trust Fund<br/>2025<br/>£</b> | <b>Total<br/>2025<br/>£</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Insurance, Council tax and utilities                       | 6,734                                               | -                                                  | 6,734                       |
| General maintenance on manses and other Circuit properties | 5,063                                               | -                                                  | 5,063                       |
| Professional fees                                          | 540                                                 | -                                                  | 540                         |
| Other costs                                                | 174                                                 | -                                                  | 174                         |
|                                                            | <u>12,511</u>                                       | <u>-</u>                                           | <u>12,511</u>               |

## Dudley and Netherton Circuit

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

#### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

##### Other resources expended

|                             | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total<br>2025<br>£ |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Bank charges                | 100                                   | -                        | 100                |
| Resources                   | 1,005                                 | -                        | 1,005              |
| Accountancy and payroll fee | 840                                   | -                        | 840                |
| Apprenticeship levy         | 227                                   | -                        | 227                |
| Connexion funds             | 810                                   | -                        | 810                |
| Telephone                   | 1,001                                 | -                        | 1,001              |
| Miscellaneous               | 336                                   | 1,923                    | 2,259              |
| TMCP Charges                | -                                     | 313                      | 313                |
|                             | <u>4,319</u>                          | <u>2,236</u>             | <u>6,555</u>       |

#### 5 Other expenditure

|                                         | Note | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Total<br>funds<br>£ |
|-----------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Independent examiner fees               |      |                                       |                     |
| Examination of the financial statements |      | <u>600</u>                            | <u>600</u>          |
| <b>Total for 2025</b>                   |      | <u><u>600</u></u>                     | <u><u>600</u></u>   |

#### 6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

Apart from the minister no member of the Circuit meeting was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the Circuit, although certain travelling and administration costs were reimbursed in particular cases.

## Dudley and Netherton Circuit

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

#### 7 Staff costs

|                                   | Unrestricted Circuit Model |            |               |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------|
|                                   | General Fund               | Trust Fund | Total         |
|                                   | 2025                       | 2025       | 2025          |
|                                   | £                          | £          | £             |
| Stipends, salaries and allowances | 45,110                     | -          | 45,110        |
| National Insurance                | 4,314                      | -          | 4,314         |
| Pension costs                     | 6,204                      | -          | 6,204         |
| Travel                            | 512                        | -          | 512           |
|                                   | <u>56,140</u>              | <u>-</u>   | <u>56,140</u> |

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

|             | 2025<br>No |
|-------------|------------|
| Presbyters  | 1          |
| Lay workers | <u>1</u>   |
|             | <u>2</u>   |

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year

#### Pensions

Most ordained Presbyters are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme, which is a defined benefit scheme. the Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers are not employees of the Church. For simplicity, however when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions, the terms "employer" and "employee" are used as they would be in an employing body.

Any lay workers of the Circuit would be contractual employees and would have the option of joining a pension scheme which the Circuit would arrange.

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)**

#### **7 Staff costs (continued)**

##### **Costs of Presbyters and Trustees**

The minister and Circuit Stewards are considered as Key Management personnel. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Minister are paid by the Circuit.

The manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains the properties. The value of the Council Tax and water charges are not disclosed here as HMRC does not recognise this as a benefit-in-kind in the hands of the minister.

#### **8 Independent examination fees**

|                                         | <b>2025</b>       |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                         | <b>£</b>          |
| Examination of the financial statements | <u><u>600</u></u> |

#### **9 Taxation**

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### **10 Tangible fixed assets**

|                       | <b>Land and<br/>buildings<br/>£</b> | <b>Total<br/>£</b>    |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Cost</b>           |                                     |                       |
| Additions             | <u>615,000</u>                      | <u>615,000</u>        |
| At 31 August 2025     | 615,000                             | 615,000               |
| <b>Depreciation</b>   |                                     |                       |
| At 31 August 2025     | <u>-</u>                            | <u>-</u>              |
| <b>Net book value</b> |                                     |                       |
| At 31 August 2025     | <u><u>615,000</u></u>               | <u><u>615,000</u></u> |

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)**

#### **11 Fixed asset investments**

##### **Investment properties**

|                                                                              | <b>Investment<br/>properties<br/>£</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Cost or Valuation</b>                                                     |                                        |
| Additions                                                                    | <u>131,395</u>                         |
| <b>Provision</b>                                                             |                                        |
| At 31 August 2025                                                            | <u>-</u>                               |
| <b>Net book value</b>                                                        |                                        |
| At 31 August 2025                                                            | <u>131,395</u>                         |
| There has been no valuation of investment property by an independent valuer. |                                        |

#### **12 Debtors**

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
|               | <b>2025<br/>£</b> |
| Other debtors | <u>3,857</u>      |

#### **13 Current asset investments**

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
|                  | <b>2025<br/>£</b> |
| Model Trust Fund | <u>73,293</u>     |

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund are held by TMCP in the Trustees Interest Fund on which interest is credited each month. TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property including legacies, endowments and accumulated funds.

#### **14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

|          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
|          | <b>2025<br/>£</b> |
| Accruals | <u>15,102</u>     |

## Dudley and Netherton Circuit

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)

#### 15 Funds

|                                   | Balance at<br>1<br>September<br>2024<br>£ | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Transfers<br>£  | Balance at<br>31 August<br>2025<br>£ |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>         |                                           |                            |                            |                 |                                      |
| <i>General</i>                    |                                           |                            |                            |                 |                                      |
| General                           | 494,781                                   | 100,908                    | (100,253)                  | 27,000          | 522,436                              |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>           |                                           |                            |                            |                 |                                      |
| Circuit Model Trust Fund          | 98,583                                    | 4,487                      | (2,778)                    | (27,000)        | 73,292                               |
| Circuit Young People's<br>Account | (85)                                      | 1,706                      | (1,923)                    | -               | (302)                                |
| Holiday at Home                   | 491                                       | -                          | -                          | -               | 491                                  |
| Saleem                            | 501                                       | -                          | -                          | -               | 501                                  |
| <b>Total restricted funds</b>     | <u>99,490</u>                             | <u>6,193</u>               | <u>(4,701)</u>             | <u>(27,000)</u> | <u>73,982</u>                        |
| <b>Total funds</b>                | <u>594,271</u>                            | <u>107,101</u>             | <u>(104,954)</u>           | <u>-</u>        | <u>596,418</u>                       |

#### 16 Analysis of net assets between funds

|                         | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total funds<br>at 31 August<br>2025<br>£ |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Tangible fixed assets   | 615,000                               | -                        | 615,000                                  |
| Fixed asset investments | 131,395                               | -                        | 131,395                                  |
| Current assets          | 131,832                               | 73,293                   | 205,125                                  |
| Current liabilities     | <u>(15,102)</u>                       | <u>-</u>                 | <u>(15,102)</u>                          |
| <b>Total net assets</b> | <u>863,125</u>                        | <u>73,293</u>            | <u>936,418</u>                           |

## **Dudley and Netherton Circuit**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025 (continued)**

#### **17 Related party transactions**

Related Parties include The Methodist Connexion, the Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District, Churches within the Circuit (listed below), CFB and TMCP.

Central Methodist Church

Cole Street Methodist Church

Dixons Green Methodist Church

Knowle Methodist Church

St James Methodist Church

Woodside Methodist Church