



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025

Charity name: Duke Street Methodist Church

Charity Registration number: 1210877

Objectives and Activities

The purposes of the Methodist Church are 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 to The Methodist Church.

Our aims and objectives in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts

The aim is to be a church that is welcoming to all, celebrates God's love and provides opportunities for anyone to explore the Christian faith through provision of worship, Christian education, Pastoral care, conducting Christian services such as funerals, marriages, christenings and raising awareness of the Christian faith.

The church fulfils its objectives by offering worship every Sunday Morning, this is also available to anyone housebound or ill via Zoom. These services are also recorded and available to anyone upon request. The evening services include a variety of styles. Holy Communion is administered approximately 2 or 3 times a quarter. Tea, Coffee & Biscuits is offered after each Sunday Morning service in the Hall for people to sit in a warm relaxed way to engage with each other. Once a quarter we join together as a Circuit, either at our church or one of the other churches within the South Molton & Ringsash Circuit to support and encourage each other by worshipping together.

The church supports a range of groups that offer both social and other events, including occasional Sunday lunches, weekly meeting for Ladies, two House groups; all of which encourage social interaction and spiritual development. The church has also facilitated the Alpha course.

The church employs a Children & Families worker who runs with a group of dedicated volunteers, three weekly groups – Baby Bears, Little Bears, Bigger Bears all of which are free Parent / Baby / Toddler Groups and open to anyone in the community and beyond. The Children & Families Worker also leads the Sunday Club for children.

Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have taken note of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and in particular their guidance on charities for the advancement of religion, when planning their activities. The actions taken by the church meet the requirements for there to be an identifiable public benefit or benefits and that such benefit is to the public or a section of the public.

The church also benefits the public through the provision of well-equipped buildings and facilities which are widely used and appreciated by the community.

The contribution of volunteers is essential to the work of the charity. Volunteers undergo DBS checks and Safeguarding Training where appropriate. Based on the National Churches Trust Social Value Calculator the Social Value of all the volunteers' contribution is £804,736.69.

During the period of this report, we have welcomed several new attenders to services and events.

- The Church has a good relationship with other churches in the Town and joins with them on some special occasions.
- Communication of the activities is provided through weekly notices available at the church but also sent via email to many of our members and adherents.
- Pastoral care is provided through Pastoral Visitors as well as the Minister and support given through visits and phone calls thus offering care, support and friendship. Communion is also offered by the Minister to anyone housebound or ill if requested.
- The weekly Women's Fellowship is well attended providing social interaction, warm space and spiritual development through a variety of speakers. This offers the more senior members a space to meet with others, many of whom live alone.
- The Church employs a Children & Families Worker who does an amazing work through three weekly Teddy Bear Baby & Toddler Groups supporting 72 families. A Holiday Club held over 2 weeks during the summer holidays for 5 – 11 year olds was a huge success, bringing together 15 adults from different churches to provide an ecumenical approach and a space to share strong Christian faith. There was maximum attendance on 3 out of the 4 days and a full church on Sunday as families, children and the congregation came together to celebrate. Overall 56 children benefited from the Holiday Club. An Art workshop in the Easter Holidays benefited 15 different families (25 children).
- Mentoring of two young people during the year has been an encouragement to the church.
- Toddlers from the Teddy Bear Groups, once old enough are signposted to the Girls and Boys Brigades which run weekly through term-time and continue to help Girls and Boys develop and learn about the Christian faith.
- The premises is very popular affording good space in a large Hall, two other smaller rooms, car parking and level access. This results in the premises being used extensively both by our own church based activities and by other regular community groups such as U3A various groups, Exercise groups, Pilates, Organ & Keyboard Club, Slim & Weigh, Singing groups, Art club for 11+ children as well as the occasional requests for e.g. Children's Birthday Parties (many of these are through contacts made from the Teddy Bear Groups).

- The congregation supports other various charitable activities through proceeds from Concerts, Brigades Christmas celebration and through envelope collections.
- The Minister has links with the local schools and is able to lead assemblies on a frequency determined by the schools.
- Two members of the church are a part of "One South Molton" which is a community-based organisation made up of many providers, living and working in South Molton. One South Molton works collaboratively to support the health and wellbeing of the community. Funded by One Northern Devon, it works alongside other One communities across Northern Devon and Torridge.
- Significant improvements work was achieved during the year with the provision of an additional kitchen facility off of one of the smaller rooms. This enhanced the provision for groups who meet in different parts of the building at the same time.
- Maintenance of the building is important to us and defects rectified as soon as they become evident along with refurbishment and restoration work; e.g. re-pointing with limestone mortar on areas where it was needed on the main church. Due regard is given to improving our carbon footprint and reducing heat loss and wasted energy mitigating the increase costs of utilities. A Property Committee is dedicated to ensure the building is well looked after.

Mitigation of Risks

These are considered by the Church Council and General Church meetings with a financial report and summary. During the course of the year any financial issues are brought to the attention of the congregation through the weekly notices. When deemed necessary a Gift Day is arranged for any part of the Church's work and mission as appropriate. Professional advice is taken as required.

There is a regular review process carried out by the Church Council to ensure that the Charity is fulfilling its objectives.

The Circuit; the umbrella body which oversees the Church, has adopted a Safeguarding Policy – covering both children and vulnerable adults, which ensures that all its local churches adopt similar policies. A local Church Safeguarding Policy is in place, overseen by a local Safeguarding Officer and reviewed annually. Safeguarding Training, both Foundation and Advanced is provided for those who need to do this dependent upon their role. Church members have also received Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Training where there is the requirement for them to do so according to the position they hold within the church.

Financial Review

During the year the Church had total receipts of £92,938 and payments of £95,923

The trustees of the Church oversee the income and expenditure of the church and monitor the contribution made to the Circuit budget £33,408

Trustees do not foresee any factors that will significantly adversely affect the financial performance or position in the next year or two.

The Church has the following source of funds:

- Offerings of the Congregation – either via the weekly offering at Sunday services, by Standing order or regular cheques.
- Rents from groups who use the premises
- Fund raising events and a Gift Day arranged as and when deemed needed
- Interest on investments

These sums are used to pay the Circuit assessment, to maintain the large church, hall and ancillary rooms, employ a Children & Families Worker, Cleaner and pay travelling expenses for preachers from beyond the Circuit who ably assist us with leading worship on some Sundays.

Reserves policies

General Funds held at 31st August 2025 £28,734

The Church aims to hold reserves amounting to approximately six month's average expenditure. We have considered our plans for the future and have decided that in order to meet our Circuit Assessment and cover our normal expenditure and repair and maintenance costs for the building, we will continue to arrange fund raising events from time to time.

Designated Funds held at 31st August 2025

a) Development Fund £27,418

Our Development Fund is held for the planned refurbishment of our buildings for community use and mission plans.

b) Families Fund £27,305

Our Families Fund is held for planned work with Children and Families.

We may also arrange further fund raising events in connection with the planned refurbishment of buildings, mission plans and work with Children and Families.

Restricted Funds (Benevolent) held at 31st August 2025 £237

Restricted funds are expended on the objectives for which the money was donated.

Endowment Funds (unrestricted) held at 31st August 2025 £39,927

Held by TMCP – Capital can be withdrawn if required. Income can be used for any purpose.

This is held for the planned refurbishment of our buildings for community use and for mission plans and work with Children and Families.

Endowment Funds (restricted) held at 31st August 2025 £2,910

Held by TMCP – Capital and accumulated income to be used for the renovation or renewal of a Piped organ at South Molton.

Governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document - The deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976) are the governing documents.

How the charity is constituted - Act of Parliament

Trustee selection methods - Elected by the annual meeting of Church members. Ministers are automatically trustees.

Additional governance issues - None

Induction / Training

A range of guidance is produced by Methodist Connexion and documentation of 'The Role of a Trustee in The Methodist Church' is available for each Trustee.

Structure

South Molton Methodist Church is part of the South Molton & Ringsash Circuit, which is itself part of the South West Peninsula District and accountable to the Methodist Conference.

Related Parties - None

Reference and administration details

Charity Name: Duke Street Methodist Church

Registered Charity Number: 1210877

Charity's Principal Address: North Street South Molton EX36 3AW

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) *Reed A. Flindell*

Derek Summers

Full name(s) Reverend Anna Flindell

Derek Summers

Position Chair

Secretary

Date *25th February 2026*

Appended to this report is the Standard form of Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2025

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

SOUTH MOLTON (DUKE STREET)	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2025

SOUTH MOLTON & RINGSASH	Circuit	Circuit no.	37/22
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1210877

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

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

Minister:

REV ANNA FLINDELL

Church Stewards:

MR R KINGDON
MR D PEYTON
MR D SMITH
MR K RODULSON
MR M BLACKMORE
MR R GOVIER

Treasurer:

MISS W M SUMMERS

**SOUTH MOLTON
(DUKE STREET)**

Church

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	71,139	133	71,272	89,878
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	4,055	84	4,139	4,013
a4	Lettings	6,192		6,192	7,020
a5	Other receipts	11,335		11,335	17,072
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	92,721	217	92,938 (a7)	117,983

SECTION B					
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	33,408		33,408	30,744
b3	Donations	550		550	550
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	22,142		22,142	14,003
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	11,326		11,326	10,502
b6					
b7	Other payments	28,274	223	28,497	26,843
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	95,700	223	95,923 (b9)	82,642

SECTION C					
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)	(2,979)	(6)	(2,985)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	86,436	1,222	87,658 (c6)	52,317
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	83,457	1,216	84,673
c4	Transfers and adjustments				(c7)
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	83,457	1,216	84,673 (c8)
					87,658 (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	864	1,228
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	864	1,228
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID		
	(d1+d2-d3)		

SOUTH MOLTON (DUKE STREET) Church

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 Printing & Stationery	3,005	2,864	141		2,296	2,437
e2 Womens Fellowship	1,209	1,247	(38)		1,015	977
e3 Children & Families Groups	370	579	(209)		243	34
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds	4,584	4,690	(106)		3,554 (e11)	3,448 (e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	92,938 (a7)	95,923 (b9)	(2,985)	(c7)	87,658 (c6)	84,673 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	97,522	100,613	(3,091)		91,212 (x)	88,121 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2025

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand		
f2 Bank Current Account	4,914	4,869
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	81,840	78,825
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	904	979
f6 Other funds		
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	87,658 (c6)	84,673 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	3,554 (e11)	3,448 (e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	91,212 (x)	88,121 (y)

SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
g1 Investments (include Endowments)	41,781	41,858
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	3,724,051	3,854,451
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church . SOUTH MOLTON (DUKE STREET)

No 37/22

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 WM Summers Date..... 1/10/25

Name and address of treasurer MISS W M SUMMERS

SOUTH MOLTON METHODIST CHURCH OFFICE, NORTH STREET, SOUTH MOLTON, DEVON
Post Code EX36 3AW

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 29.10.25

Signature of the Chair of the meeting [Signature]

Name of the Chair of the meeting Deacon Ruth Riches Date 29/10/2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

SOUTH MOLTON (DUKE STREET) Church

Charity Number 1210877

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the SOUTH MOLTON (DUKE STREET) Church for the year ended 31 August 2025 set out on pages 1 to 5. 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 SOUTH MOLTON (DUKE STREET)

No 37/22

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

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

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

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner IAN HUGGETT

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FCA

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 3 Buckland Cottages, North Buckland

..... Braunton Post Code EX33 1HY

Date 24/10/25

* delete or circle as appropriate