THE METHODIST CHURCH - CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT Circuit No 34/09

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND TRUSTEES REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Registered Charity Number 1134390

The Methodist Church - Chelmsford Circuit is part of the Bedfordshire, Essex & Hertfordshire District of the Methodist Church Circuit reference 34/09

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TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Trustees Report

The Trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit are pleased to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the Methodist year ended 31 August 2020.

Governing document and objectives

The Circuit is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the deed of Union and the Model Trusts of the Methodist Church.

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 the 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

The Circuit has taken into account the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance on advancing a Charity's aims when carrying out its range of activities. The trustees consider that these provide benefit to those who worship in our Churches and to the wider community in the Circuit.

Activities

Our mission is to provide support, training and resources to the churches in the Chelmsford Methodist Circuit in order that they may fulfil their mission of bringing the love of God in Christ to the communities they serve. The Methodist Churches involved are Trinity, Moulsham Lodge and Hall Street all based in Chelmsford, Broomfield, Hatfield Peverel, Maldon, Witham and Halstead. Also included are five Local Ecumenical Partnerships in Braintree, Coggeshall, Great Notley, South Woodham Ferrers and North Springfield.

The Circuit acts as an umbrella organisation for these Churches and provides the staff to take services and care for members. It provides training and support to members of the Churches for mission to the communities around these Churches

Organisational Structure

Overall control rests with the Methodist Conference, The Connexional office implements decisions made by Conference and is also responsible for the stationing of Ministers to this Circuit. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District for regional implementation. This Circuit is part of the Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire District.

The District passes control down to Circuit level for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, supported by ministerial staff and Circuit stewards. Authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for the invitation to and appointment of Ministerial staff and lay employees. In addition to this, the Circuit meeting is charged with the care and maintenance of Ministerial housing and the agreement of the Circuit financial budget and the financial accounts. The Circuit meeting is also required to ensure all property and financial reports of the individual Churches are received in a timely fashion. All members of the Circuit meeting are Trustees to the Circuit and are listed at the end of this report.

Report for the Year

Aims for 2019/20.

 To provide a supportive environment into which the new Superintendent and family can settle in the Circuit

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

- To continue to develop the staff team of Presbyters and Lay Workers and, in co-operation with the Circuit Leadership Team, to consider how mission may be understood and implemented in a rapidly growing and changing county.
- To work with our Deacon to build on the work of the Lay Worker with families in Chelmsford over the five churches in the city and to encourage new initiatives.
- To recruit a replacement Circuit Safeguarding Officer and to provide further Safeguarding courses around the Circuit to ensure up to date training has been provided

Aims for 2020/21

- To support and encourage churches in developing strategies for recovery post Covid.
- To identify and to implement pastoral care for the community as it emerges from the pandemic and has to deal with some anticipated long term effects.
- To work towards an environmental strategy for all areas of the Circuit and to assist members.
- To continue to consider how mission may be understood and implemented in a rapidly growing and changing post Covid county.
- To continue to strive to provide a welcoming, safe and loving environment for all we come into contact with.

Church Development

This church year has been different to any in the past and has forced us all to look again at how we do "Church". The global Covid pandemic hit the UK in the early Spring of 2020 with an immediate lockdown which closed church buildings for all activities other than private prayer. YouTube and Zoom became new vehicles for communication for the Circuit and enabled worship and meetings to continue, albeit in a different way. Full risk assessments following government guidelines meant that a number of churches were able to reopen in the summer for a limited number of worshippers, whilst the on line YouTube Sunday services continued for those uncomfortable or unable to attend a church building. Circuit membership mercifully remained relatively constant over the year. Although the pandemic has made it difficult for people to attend physically, it has been encouraging to see viewing numbers increase for the on line services and meetings.

"Reality Church" at Hatfield Peverel was, like other churches, forced to close in the Spring and took the decision to become an on line presence for the remainder of the year. It is heartening that it now has a regular following from around the globe, as does the Chelmsford Methodist stream.

A Bible study on Ruth was conducted via YouTube and Zoom discussion in the early summer, attended by members from several of the local churches. The Circuit also joined the "Thy Kingdom Come" prayer initiative again on line.

Facebook prayers on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings have become a well loved and popular weekly event shared with many outside of our normal congregations.

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Before Covid intervened, initiatives such as Baby Basics, Open the Book, and Knit and Natter, to mention a few, were all gaining in momentum. Even after the restrictions placed by the pandemic, it was welcome to see so many churches acting and reacting to the needs of their members and associates in such a variety of ways and the willingness to adopt "new ways" of doing so.

Youth Participation

The 3Generate National Youth Conference in November 2019 was attended by a group of around 12 of young people who enjoyed what was on offer.

Messy church was actively pursued and enjoyed by both the children and the helpers, providing the opportunity to share the gospel with young people in a fun environment but sadly decided to close in its various locations with lockdown. Some on line opportunities were provided, with limited success.

Over the Christmas period events such as Carol Services both in churches and for schools again placed the church out in the community.

Staffing

The Circuit was delighted to welcome Revd. Mark and Sheridan Pengelly in September 2019, as Mark assumed the role of Superintendent.

Revd. Sue King continued to look after our Halstead friends.

Revd. Barry Allen maintains his ministry of the Maldon Section.

Deacon Ramona Samuel works within the Chelmsford Section to support the Superintendent in ministry within the Chelmsford Section.

Sandie Hulbert was appointed as Family and Schools worker for the Maldon Section of the Circuit.

A new safeguarding officer was recruited in the late summer.

Training

Training for local preachers is on-going as part of the Local Preachers and Leaders of Worship quarterly meetings.

Representatives from the Circuit attended the District Synod in the Autumn of 2019 and on line in Spring of 2020.

The Circuit held a discussion day on "God in Love Unites Us.

Members of the Circuit Staff continue to attend on line Area Training events.

A number of people in the Circuit have engaged with Creating Safe Space - Advanced module training..

Support

Individual Circuit stewards attended Church Council meetings held throughout the year personally when permitted or via Zoom. They take note of issues raised at these meetings and report back to the Leadership team. The Circuit would normally offer encouragement and advice to local Churches on the many and varied projects undertaken in their local communities, although from March 2020 most of these projects have been on hold. A regular Circuit Newsletter is produced which has helped churches to share

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

what they have been able to do and to launch any new initiatives, such as the Circuit wide bible studies, again using Zoom.

Ministers are supported by the Circuit Stewards personally and in terms of the properties they occupy. This year focus for manses was routine upkeep to maintain the standards required of a modern manse.

Risk Management

The major risks are kept under review by the Circuit Leadership Team. Regular guidance has been issued to churches by the Connexion in response to the Covid pandemic about Covid related Health and Safety procedures and regulations.

Income and expenditure is monitored and compared with the approved annual budget. During the year, the effect of the Covid restrictions on individual churches income has been discussed with Church treasurers.

Safeguarding

The Circuit has adopted the Connexional Safeguarding Policy. The Circuit is committed to providing support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure they are clear and confident in their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

The provision of Safeguarding training is covered by the ongoing work of our Safeguarding Officer. The restrictions of the pandemic have made training difficult this year as has the inability to recruit a Safeguarding Officer until September 2020. The Safeguarding role has in the interim been carried out by the Superintendent Minister. Connexional guidance about best practice for safeguarding during on line church activities has been adopted.

Financial Review

The Circuit is responsible for

- The ministerial oversight and pastoral care of the thirteen local churches in the Circuit.
- The support of a ministry team of 3 Presbyters and lay workers (pastoral and administrative support)
- Payment of the Circuit contribution to the District and Connexion, of which a significant part is
 used to fund the work of the wider Methodist Church
- The maintenance of Circuit properties (3 manses & 1 investment property).

Under Standing Orders the Circuit must meet its financial obligations in relation to the support of its ministers and the maintenance of the manses. In addition the Circuit has a financial obligation to the District to meet a share of its budget.

The Circuit budget is reviewed annually and covers the costs of the above which are met by assessments from each church towards their share of the total cost. In 2019/20 the Circuit agreed to meet the cost of the salary of the Family & Schools Worker from the reserves, rather than from church assessments...

The total income of the General Fund in 2019/20 was £201,595 (2018/19 £ 215,987) and costs were £211,805 (2018/19 £353,970).

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Reserves Policies

General Fund-unrestricted

The General Fund is available to be used for any or all of the purposes of the Circuit. The purpose of this fund is:

- 1. To secure and sustain the Circuit's viability and future.
- 2. To give assurance to the general public that the Circuit, which is a charity, intends to use all the money coming into its care for the purposes of the Charity.
- 3. To enable the Circuit to fulfil its Mission Policy, which is to encourage and inspire local Churches by offering support, training and resources to enable them to fulfil God's Mission. This policy was approved by the Circuit meeting on 1st April 2009.

The Reserves Policy is to hold at least six months' expenditure to meet the District assessment and Circuit manse expenditure. This assumes that churches in the Circuit will continue to meet their agreed contributions to the Circuit Ministerial costs.

The balance of the General Fund at 31 August 2020 was £1,600,892 (2019 £1,610,698), of which £1,491,300 is the book value of the 3 manses and 1 investment property and £109,592 (2019 £119,388) is the value of free reserves.

Circuit Model Trust Fund-unrestricted

The value of the Circuit Model Trust Fund at 31 August 2020 is £52,846 (2019 £53,152). The fund holds cash and investments.

This fund derives from sales of chapels and manses and is restricted by the Conference. This restriction is an internal regulation though the fund can be used for a variety of purposes, and for the purposes of charity accounting this is an unrestricted fund. The Charity Commission have agreed that it is appropriate for the trustees to set a separate policy for the management of this fund as follows:

Money held in the Circuit Model Trust Fund that has not been allocated to any specific purpose can be retained for general Circuit purposes including property expenditure on the manses arising from Quinquennial Inspection Reports.

Restricted Fund

The value of the restricted fund at 31 august 2020 is £7,872. This represents the balance of a grant of £9,500 received in 2019/20 from the District Advance Fund. The grant is restricted to meeting the running costs (excluding salary) of the Schools & Family Worker project in the Maldon section of the Circuit. This project commenced in October 2019. Any unused funds at the end of the initial 2 year life of the project are repayable to the District, subject to a further extension of the project.

Endowment Funds - Harriet Walker Charity

The value of the endowment fund at 31 August 2020 is £22,321. This is a permanent endowment with the capital invested through TMCP. The income is to be used for the local Methodist ministry covering the village of Great Totham.

This is registered as a separate charity (charity registration number 222146), with trustees appointed by the Circuit. The income of the charity is transferred to the General Fund.

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Trustees' Recruitment

Whilst the appointment of the Trustees is determined in accordance with the Methodist procedures, it is the aim to ensure that the Leadership team have a broad experience to include pastoral, financial and property matters. Training for Circuit stewards is available at District level.

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees have:

- -Selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently.
- Prepared accounts on an accrual basis.
- Followed applicable accounting standards.
- Prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Circuit and enables them to ensure that the financial statements steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

So far as each of the trustees is aware, there is no relevant information that has not been disclosed to the independent examiner and each of the Trustees believes that all steps have been taken that ought to have been taken to make him aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner has been made aware of that information.

Approval

The Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements were approved by the Circuit Meeting on 25 February 2021.

Revd. Mark Pengelly Superintendent

Robert Griffin Circuit Leadership Team

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

The members of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

TRUSTEES OF THE CIRCUIT - year ended 31 August 2020

Circuit Ministers

Revd. Mike Pengelly (Circuit Superintendent Minister)

Revd. Barry Allen

Revd. Ramona Samuel

31 AUGUST 2020

Revd. Sue King (not a trustee)

Other Authorised Ministers and Supernumeraries

Revd. Tony Shrimpton

Revd. Olufemi Cole-Njie (not a trustee)

Revd. Guy Goodall (not a trustee)

Revd. David Dickens (not a trustee)

Circuit Stewards

David Drewett- Senior Steward (retired as Circuit Steward on 31 August 2020)

Robert Griffin- Senior Steward from 1 September 2020

Catherine de Bie – Treasurer

lan Armstrong

Peter Bigg

Jean Brown

Janis Croom

Church Representatives

Broomfield David Hodgkinson

Les Steed

Christ Church Braintree Esther Hume

Ian Hume

Christ Church Coggeshall

Peter Bigg

The Church in Great Notley

Lisa Scott

Hall Street

David Cushion

Peter Batey

Helen Catley

Halstead

Ann Johnson William Larty Keith Woods

Hatfield Peverel Reality Church Ro

Rosemary Bailey

Maldon

Julie Hill Diana O'Neill

Moulsham Lodge Martyn Edwards

Glenda Griffin Clive Pickett

North Springfield-St Augustine's

J Douglas Hayton
Jennifer Murphy

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

South Woodham Ferrers

Elizabeth Clements

Judith Radley

Tricia Tutin

Lynda Speak (from Sept 2020)

Trinity

Edward Cassels
Annie Chandler
Roger Fairclough
Pam French
Gillian Harrington

Carol Kellingray
Sheila Makumba
Nigel Murrell

Witham

Michael Thompson

Revd. Patrick Baxter (resigned)

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT TRUSTEES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Principal Office c/o Trinity Methodist Church Rainsford Road Chelmsford Essex CM1 2XB

Bankers

HSBC The Peak 333 Vauxhall Road London SW1V 1EJ

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church 9 Bonhill Street London EC2A 4PE

The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Central Buildings Oldham Street Manchester M1 1JQ

Circuit Independent Examiner

Mrs J Brace
Mayor Cuttle & Co
101 Lower Anchor Street
Chelmsford
CM2 0AU

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Name of Circuit: The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit No 34/09

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2020 have been prepared from the records of the Circuit and that they include all funds under the control of the Circuit meeting.

Signature of treasurer Date 16/04/2

Name and address of treasurer:

Catherine De Bie , c/o Trinity Methodist Church, Rainsford Road, Chelmsford CM1 2XB

Presentation to the Circuit meeting

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2020 were presented to the Circuit meeting held on 25 February 2021.

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting: Revd. Mark Pengelly

Date 25/2/2021

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Name of Circuit: The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit No 34/09

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit for the year ended 31 August 2020 set out on pages 16 to 24. As the Circuit'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 Circuit'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.

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; or
- the accounts do not comply with the applicable 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
- the trustees' annual report is not consistent with the accounts accounts.

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 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	2563 L

Name of independent examiner JOANNE BRACE

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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Name	Λt	tirm	•
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Mayor Cuttle & Co

Address:

101 Lower Anchor Street, Chelmsford CM2 0AU

Date 16/4/21

^{*} delete or circle as appropriate

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

	Notes to the accoun ts	General Fund Unrestrict ed	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrestrict ed	Restrict ed Fund	Endowme nt Funds	Total 2019-20	Total 2018-19
		£	£	·	£	£	£
Income							
Income from monetary investments		344	534	•	450	1,328	2,582
Income from investment properties	5	16,800	-	-	_	16,800	26,806
Assessments on Churches	6	181,212	-	-	-	181,212	184,197
Grants received	7	801	-	9,500	-	10,301	1,560
Other charitable income	8	2,438		-	-	2,438	2,144
Total income		201,595	534	9,500	450	212,079	217,289
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	9	_	-	-	-	0	1,000
Salaries and associated costs	10	133,566	•	704		134,270	129,166
Property maintenance & other costs	12	25,729		-	-	25,729	170,891
District Assessment & Levy	13	44,940		-	-	46,287	43,974
Office expenses & resources	14	5,079	,	924	-	6,003	2,924
Other outgoings	15	2,491	108	•	45	2,644	7,764
Total charitable expenditure		211,805	1,455	1,628	45	214,933	355,720
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	17	-	-128	•	-401	-529	366
Capitalisation of property improvement	16	-	-	.	- -	-	85,000
Net income/(expenditure)		-10,210	-1,049	7,872	4	-3,383	-53,064
Transfers between funds		404	•	ŕ	-404	0	0
Net movement in funds		-9,806	-1,049	7,872	-400	-3,383	-53,064
Total funds brought forward	•	1,610,698	53,895	0	22,721	1,687,314	1,732,009
Prior year adjustment re salary prepaid at 31.8.18		-	-	<u>.</u>	_	_	8,369
Total funds carried forward		1,600,892	52,846	7,872	22,321	1,683,931	1,687,314

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

		.	-	· · · · · ·	···-
	Notes to the accounts	General Fund Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund Unrestricted	Endowment Fund	Total 2018-19
		£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations and legacies		0	<u></u>		0
Income from monetary investments	·	1,280	626	676	2,582
Income from investment properties	5	26,806			26,806
Assessments on Churches	6	184,197		<u></u>	184,197
Grants received	7	1,560	<u> </u>	<u></u>	1,560
Other charitable income	8	2,144			2,144
Total income		215,987	626	676	217,289
Expenditure					
Grants and donations	9	1,000			1,000
Salaries and associated costs	10	129,166		i	129,166
Property maintenance & other costs	12	170,891			170,891
District Assessment & Levy	13	42,396	1,578		43,974
Office expenses & resources	14	2,924			2,924
Other outgoings	15	7,593	126	45	7,764
Total charitable expenditure		353,970	1,705	45	355,720
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments	17	0	89	277	366
Capitalisation of property improvement	16	85,000			85,000
Net income/(expenditure)		-52,983	-990	908	-53,064
Transfers between funds		631		-631	0
Net movement in funds		-52,352	-990	277	-53,064
Total funds brought forward		1,654,682	54,885	22,444	1,732,009
Prior year adjustment re salary prepaid at 31.8.18		8,369			8,369
Total funds carried forward		1,610,698	53,895	22,721	1,687,314

THE METHODIST CHURCH-CHELMSFORD CIRCUIT BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

<u> </u>	Notes to the Accounts	General Fund (Unrestricted)	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted)	Restricted fund	Endowment Funds	Totals 2019- 20	Totals 2018-19
Fixed Assets			·	_	<u> </u>		
Circuit Manses	16	1,250,000				1,250,000	1,250,000
Investment properties	16	241,300				241,300	241,300
Total fixed assets		1,491,300	0	0		1,491,300	1,491,300
Current Assets							
Investments with TMCP	17		52,846		22,321	75,167	76,616
Debtors & prepayments	18	17,305	<u> </u>			17,305	19,065
Cash at Bank	19	93,696	<u></u>	7,872		101,568	104,582
Total current assets		111,001	52,846	7,872	22,321	194,040	200,263
Current Liabilities							
Creditors (due in under 1 year)	20	1,409	_		-	1,409	4,249
Total current liabilities		1,409	0	0_	0	1,409	4,249
Net current assets		109,592	52,846	7,872	22,321	192,631	196,014
Total assets less current liabilities		1,600,892	52,846	7,872	22,321	1,683,931	1,687,314
Long term liabilities (due after more than one year)		<u>-</u>	-	-		_	-
Net assets		1,600,892	52,846	7,872	22,321	1,683,931	1,687,314
Funds of the Circuit							
General Fund (Unrestricted)	20,21	1,600,892			· •	1,600,892	1,610,698
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)	20,21	_	52,846			52,846	53,895
Total Unrestricted Funds		1,600,892	52,846		-	1,653,738	1,664,593
Restricted fund	20,21			7,872		7,872	
Endowment Funds	20,21	-		_	22,321	22,321	22,721
The notes on pages 17 to		1,600,892	<u></u>	7,872	22,321	1,683,931	1,687,314

The notes on pages 17 to 29 form part of these accounts

Approved by the trustees of The Methodist Church-Chelmsford Circuit and signed on their behalf

Revd. Mark Pengelly, Superintendent Minister

Note 1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance in accordance with the 2014 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102-the Charities SORP (FRS 102) October 2019 update.

Note 2 Funds

The funds held comprise:

Unrestricted General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit.

The Circuit Model Trust Fund which has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted.

Restricted funds are those held for a narrower purpose. The Circuit has one restricted fund, a grant received for the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section.

Endowment funds are those for which the capital is invested and the income may be used for specified purposes. The Circuit has one endowment fund.

Note 3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost or valuation as at 2015, except that investments (including a property) are shown at their market value at the end of the year. The accruals basis has been used to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities.

Income recognition

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

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102), the time of volunteers is not recognised

Expenditure

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

VAT

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

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. All properties are freehold and the estimated land component of all properties is indicated in note 16 to the accounts. Fixtures and fittings within the properties are not valued separately from the building value.

No depreciation is provided on buildings since the Trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings to be not less than their current value. Any depreciation would not be material.

Investment Property

The Circuit owns one residential property (formerly a manse) which is surplus to its normal staffing requirements. This property is currently let on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy and is classified as an

NOTES TO THE FINANCAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2020

investment property. The property is valued in the accounts at fair value, being open market value, net of estimated costs of disposal.

Monetary investment assets

The investment assets of the Circuit Model Trust Fund and the Endowment Fund are held are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP.

Debtors

Debtors include assessments due by the end of August and are stated at the amounts owed to the Circuit. The prepayment is the monthly ministerial stipends paid in advance to Methodist Church central payroll at the end of August, for stipends due on 1 September.

Creditors

Creditors include trade creditors and expenses incurred before the year end, at the amounts subsequently paid.

FRS 102

The Statement of Financial Affairs (SOFA) for 2018/19 is included in these accounts for comparison purposes.

Going concern

To the best of their knowledge and belief the Trustees confirm that there are no material uncertainties that would call into question the Circuit's financial viability for at least 12 months from the date of the approval of these accounts.

Consolidation

The Circuit has denominational regulatory oversight in respect of 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.

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement to make the grant without performance conditions or as and when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment if it is subject to performance conditions. When the grant to be accrued is recurrent over more than one year the balance payable in future years, discounted to net present value where the difference is material, is treated as a provision being released in future years in accordance with the originally agreed terms.

Ministers' manse costs

The Circuit is required to provide accommodation for each minister in the Circuit and their families and this is seen as a benefit to the Church. Ministers are expected to occupy the manse provided for them. The Circuit bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, buildings insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These figures are not separately disclosed as benefits-in-kind for ministers as HMRC does not apply any tax charge.

NOTES TO THE FINANCAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2020

Note 4 Glossary of terms

CFB: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church manages a Common Deposit Fund and a series of pooled investment funds for the Methodist Church in Great Britain and provides investment advice to those entities.

Church: a group of members relating to a specific Church

Circuit: a group of Methodist Churches near each other, and overseen jointly

Circuit Meeting: The trustees of the Circuit, most of whom are appointed by their local Churches and

others by virtue of a role they undertake for the Circuit and/or their local Churches.

CLT (Circuit Leadership Team): A group (comprising mostly, but not exclusively) of Circuit trustees

responsible for the day to day administration and policy formulation of the Circuit. Generally the CLT comprises the Presbyters (Ministers) and lay staff stationed within

the Circuit, the Circuit Stewards and the Circuit Treasurer

CMTF: Circuit Model Trust Fund

Connexion: The Methodist Church in Great Britain which includes the Head Office at Methodist

Church House, all Methodist Districts, Circuits and Churches in Great Britain.

Connexional Funds: The designated and/or Restricted Funds held and administered by the Connexion in

furtherance of its charitable and mission objectives.

District: a group of contiguous Circuits linked geographically.

DAF: District Advance Fund

FRS: Financial reporting Standard

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

Lay Employees: Personnel employed by the Circuit on generally accepted commercial employment

terms.

MMPS: Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme

NEST: Pensions and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Chelmsford Methodist

Church

Presbyters (including Superintendent): Probationer or Ordained Methodist Ministers who have pastoral

and administrative responsibility for the Churches within the Circuit

SOFA: Statement of Financial Activities

SORP: Statement of Recommended Practice

TMCP: Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, the legal owner and Custodian Trustee of all

Methodist Model Trust property, including Legacies, Endowments and Accumulated

Funds

Note 5 Income from Investment Properties

The trustees have determined that the property owned at 10 Wickfield Ash, Chelmsford is unlikely to be returned to use as a manse in the foreseeable future and have therefore classified it as an Investment property. In 2018/19 the manse at Rubens Gate was also let out for part of the year, prior to building an extension.

Note 6 Assessments on Churches

The Circuit comprises 13 churches and each is assessed for a contribution to meet the overall net costs of the Circuit. The Circuit aims to cover all its net core costs from the Assessment. The Assessment on Churches is determined annually and calculated as 50% on the membership of each Church and 50% on its income from offerings and Gift Aid. The amount due from the churches which are part of a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) is reduced if another denomination funds the Minister for that church.

Note 6 continued -Assessment or share	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2019/20	2018/19
Broomfield	17,365	16,536
Christ Church, Braintree (LEP)	7,200	7,431
Christ Church, Coggeshall (LEP)	626	646
The Church at Great Notley (LEP)	1,926	1,831
Hall Street, Chelmsford	4,400	4,200
Halstead	8,060	9,158
Hatfield Peverel	3,268	3,047
Maldon	15,006	17,788
Moulsham Lodge	32,432	32,432
South Woodham Ferrers	10,500	11,340
St Augustine, Springfield (LEP)	2,400	2,400
Trinity, Chelmsford	63,582	63,170
Witham	14,447	14,280
Halstead- refund		-62
Total	181,212	184,197

These amounts are included in the accounts based on the due date of receipt by the Circuit. They include £7,926 (2019 £10,414) received after the year end, included in debtors on the Balance Sheet. Payment was received early in 2020/21.

Note 7 Grants & Donations received

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2019/20	2019/20	2018/19
The Rock Trust-for 3 Generate tickets DAF-for Family & School Worker	801	-	1,560
project		9,500	
Total	801	9,500	<u>1,560</u>

The Circuit received a grant of £9,500 from the District Advance Fund towards the running costs of the Family & Schools Worker project in the Maldon section. The District has agreed that the unspent balance of the grant can be carried forward to 2019/20.

Note 8	Other Charitable income	•	
		General Fund	General Fund
		(unrestricted)	(unrestricted)
		2019/20	2018/19
Solar energy	rebate	1,976	1,844
Other		462	300
Total		2,438	2,144
Note 9	Grants & Donations paid		
	- -	General Fund	General Fund
		(unrestricted)	(unrestricted)
		2019/20	2018/19
Maldon Chur	ch (2018/19)		1,000
Total			1,000

No grants or donations were paid in 2019/20.

Note 10 Stipends, salaries and associated costs

	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	General Fund (unrestricted)
Stipends & salaries	2019/20	2019/20	2018/19
Stipends-Ministers	81,678	0	74,317
Salaries -Lay worker & admin	19,028	0	20,164
Employers'pension contributions	19,707	0	20,152
Employers' N I contributions	7,108	325	7,715
Apprenticeship levy	450	0	574
Supernumerary fees	775	0	925
Total stipends & salaries costs	128,746	325	123,847
Associated costs			
Ministers' travel	4,130	0	3,203
Lay employees' travel	45	379	972
Other travel	165	0	654
Payroll fees	480	0	490
Total associated costs	4,820	379	5,319
Total stipends, salaries &	433 544	704	420.444
associated costs	133,566	704	129,166

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Stipends were paid to 4 Ministers (2 full-time Presbyters, 1 Deacon and a part-time supernumerary Presbyter) (2018/19-3 full-time). Salaries were paid to 3 part-time lay workers/administrative staff (2018/19 3 part-time).

A home telephone and broadband connection is provided for Ministers solely for use on Circuit business and travel costs incurred on Circuit business are re-imbursed against expense claims. The full-time Ministers' manses are provided by the Circuit and the Circuit maintains and insures the properties and meets the cost of Council Tax and water charges. The amounts are not regarded by HMRC as benefits in kind.

No employee received employee benefits totalling more than £60,000.

There is no accrual for holiday pay as it is immaterial, the holiday year ends on 31 August.

Pensions

All ministers are members of the Methodist Ministers' Pension Scheme (MMPS). This is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers (which term includes presbyters) 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.

The Connexion accounts for the MMPS pension scheme and shows the figure in the annual Methodist Church in Great Britain accounts. The MMPS is in deficit but a plan for removal of the deficit has been proposed and is being implemented.

The lay employees are eligible to join the pension scheme which the Circuit has arranged with NEST, a government scheme which allows for defined contributions. The Circuit contributes as an employer to this scheme.

Note 11 Payments to trustees

The Superintendent of the Circuit, the Presbyters and Deacon and the remaining members of the CLT are considered as Key Management Personnel. The Superintendent Minister and other presbyters undertake the primary executive roles within the Circuit. The Circuit Senior Steward chairs meeting of the CLT and the Superintendent chairs the Circuit Meetings. The members of the Circuit Meeting are the trustees of the Circuit.

No trustee received any remuneration for their role as trustee.

The Circuit policy is to reimburse members of the CLT and other trustees for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties, including where appropriate travelling expenses and reimbursement of purchases on behalf of the Circuit such as maintenance of the manses, or where they have been requested to undertake certain activities for the Circuit such as training.

During the year the sum of £8,448 was reimbursed in this regard to 6 trustees (2018/19 £17,158 to 5 trustees). Of this amount £2,313 related to manse refurbishments and £6,135 to travel and office expenses (2018/19 £11,996 for manse expenditure and £5,167 for travel and office expenses).

Note 12 Property Expenses	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
Property costs-manses	2019/20	2018/19
Insurance	2,250	2,179
Manse Council tax & water	10,025	8,421
Rent paid for manse	-	12,255
Maintenance-manses	9,916	15,995
Refurbishment & extension	-	124,991
Quinquennial inspection fee	650	1,560
Property costs-let properties		
Maintenance-let properties	870	1,848
Agents' fees	2,018	3,642
Total property costs	25,729	170,891

The Circuit is Managing Trustee for 3 properties used as manses throughout 2019/20, (two in Chelmsford, one in Maldon) and 1 property in Chelmsford let out on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy throughout the year. During 2018/19 one of the manses was refurbished and extended. During this period a property was rented for use as a manse.

With the exception of the let properties, the Circuit is responsible for the payment of Council Tax, water rates, insurance and maintenance.

Note 13 Connexional & District Assessment and Levy

	General Fund - unrestricted	General Fund - unrestricted
	2019/20	2018/19
District Assessment	44,940	42,396
	CMTF Fund - unrestricted	CMTF Fund - unrestricted
	2019/20	2018/19
District Levy	1,347_	1,578

The District Assessment is calculated relative to the proportion of church members, and staffing (Presbyters and Mission staff only) of all Circuits in the Beds, Essex & Herts District. 50% of the overall cost is calculated using relative membership proportions and 50% using relative staffing proportions. The assessment is mainly a contribution to Connexional costs for national support services, discipleship and mission but also includes funding towards the costs of the District office and staff.

The levy for the District Advance Fund is calculated on a sliding scale percentage of the Circuit's CMTF Account balance as at 31 August in the previous accounting period.

Note 14	Office expenses and Resources	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	General Fund (unrestricted)
		2019/20	2019/20	2018/19
Telephone	& internet	2,139	-	1,307
-	oostage & stationery	1,449	-	440
IT costs		461	-	1,014
Use of off	ice	500	-	-
	& sundry resources	530	924	163
Total		5,079	924	2,924

Other Outgoings Note 15 **CMTF** Fund Endowment **General Fund** Total Total Fund (unrestricted) (unrestricted) 2018/19 2019/20 2019/20 2019/20 2019/20 108 220 220 Training 5,401 Relocation costs 1,560 1,512 1,512 Youth events 524 39 39 Gifts & sundries Independent 720 720 examiner's fee 153 171 45 108 TCMP admin. fee 7,764 2,644 45 2,491 108 Total

Note 16	Fixed Assets	-Manses and C	ther Properties			
		Manse Land	Manse buildings	Investment property	Total	Total
					2019/20	2018/19
Balance bro forward	ought	510,000	740,000	241,300	1,491,300	1,406,3000
Improveme	ents 2018/19	-	-	-	-	85,000
Disposals	_	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		
Balance ca	rried forward	510,000	740,000	241,300	1,491,300	1,491,300

Note 16 (continued)

Schedule of Manses and Investment Property

Property	Туре	Cost	Valuation 1	Γotal
30 Park Ave Chelmsford	Manse	425,000		425,000
4 Rubens Gate Springfield Chelmsford	Manse	475,000		475,000
11 Mirosa Drive Maldon	Manse	350,000		350,000
10 Wickfield Ash Chelmsford	Investment		241,300	241,300
Total		1,250,000	241,300 1	,491,300

There are 3 manses (3 - 2018/19) in use, 2 located in Chelmsford and 1 in Maldon, which are valued at cost as defined by FRS102. The manse at Park Avenue, Chelmsford was stated at deemed historic cost as at August 2014 in accordance with FRS102. The manse at Maldon is valued at purchase cost in June 2015. The property at Rubens Gate, in North Springfield Chelmsford is valued at purchase cost in October 2014 plus the capital cost of improvements net of impairment in 2018/19.

The property at Wickfield Ash, currently surplus to our requirements, continues to be let on a short term basis. As it is unlikely that this property will be required in future as a manse it is valued as an investment property at the potential net sale proceeds receivable by the Circuit of £241,300. This is based on a trustees' market valuation of £380,000, less the potential costs of sale (£6,700 professional fees and £132,000 due to the Connexional Priority Fund Levy).

No depreciation is being provided for the manses in use as the trustees consider the current residual value of the properties in their present condition to be not less than their brought forward cost and, in the absence of any impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the properties would be immaterial. The Circuit has made use of the deemed cost option on transitioning to FRS102 as outlined above.

Note 17 Monetary Investment Assets

Investments held by Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)

Year end valuation	2019/20 CMTF fund	2019/20 Endowment fund	2018/19 CMTF fund	2018/19 Endowment fund
Common investment funds Trustees'Interest Fund	7,101 45,745	22,321	7,228 46,666	22,721
Total	52,846	22,321	53,894	22,721

Note 17 Monetary Investment Assets (continued)

Change in investment values	CMTF fund	Endowment fund
Investments held in common investment funds	2019/20	2019/20
Carrying (market) value at beginning of year	7,228	22,721
Net loss on revaluation	-127	-400
Carrying (market) value at end of year	7,101	22,321

The funds that support the Circuit Model Trust Fund are held by TMCP in Trustees' Interest Fund on which interest is credited to the accounts each month. These are regarded as medium term investments.

TMCP is the legal owner and custodian trustee of all Methodist model trust property, including legacies, endowments and accumulated finds. Trust property is held for and on behalf of local managing agents who are responsible for the day to day management of trust property. TMCP ensures that, through providing guidance and acting under their direction, the managing trustees comply with charity law and Methodist law and policy as determined by the Methodist Conference.

Note 18 Debtors and prepayments

	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
	2019/20	2018/19
Debtors		
Assessments due	7,926	10,414
Insurance claim-Wickfield Ash	462	
Prepayments		
Ministers' stipends in advance	8, <u>917</u>	8,651
Total debtors & prepayments	17,30 <u>5</u>	19,065

The prepayment relates to Minister's stipends for September, paid in advance at the end of August.

Note 18	Bank & Cash Balances	General Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	General Fund (unrestricted)
Çen	itral Finance Board	2019/20 37,632	2019/20 - 7,872	2018/19 98,079 6,503
	Cash at bank Total	56,064 93,696	7,872	104,582

The monetary balance held at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church is available on demand without loss of interest. Interest is credited monthly. The HSBC account is used for the receipt of income from Churches and rentals and payment of salaries and other revenue costs.

Note 19	Creditors & accruals
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NOLE 17 CICCIL	ors a accraats	General Fund (unrestricted)	General Fund (unrestricted)
		2019/20	2018/19
Assessments receive	ed in		450
advance Trade creditors & e	ypenses	- 689	153 4,096
Accruals-independe	•		, , , , ,
examiner's fee		720	
Total		1,409	4,249

Note 20 Funds

General Fund -unrestricted

The purpose of this fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit and which have not been designated for other purposes. The year end balance is £1,600,892 (2019 £1,610,698). Of this amount £1,491,300 (2019 £1,491,300) is

held in freehold property. The remaining balance of free reserves is £109,592 (2019 £119,398)

Circuit Model Trust Fund (CMTF)-unrestricted

The purpose of the fund is for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Circuit. Its main source of income is legacies and formulaically determined contributions from the sale of manses and church buildings in the Circuit.

Although this is technically an Unrestricted Fund under the control of the Circuit Meeting, prior approval is still required from the District to utilise these funds. Methodist Standing Orders 930, 931 and 917(2) are applicable.

The year end balance is £52,846 (2019 £53,895).

Restricted Fund

The restricted funds comprise a grant received from the District Advance Fund to support the running costs, excluding salary, of the Schools and Families worker project within the Maldon section of the Circuit. The District has given permission for these funds to be used for the initial two years of the project, which started in October 2019. Any funds not used for this project will be due to be returned to the District.

The year end balance is £7,872 (2019 Nil)

Endowment Fund

The Circuit is the trustee for a permanent endowment fund arising from a legacy given by Mrs H Walker. The income can only be used for local religious purposes.

The year end balance is £22,321 (2019 £22,721).

Note 21 Summary of fund movements

	Balances as at 31/08/19	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Unrealised losses	Balances as at 31/08/2020
General Fund	1,610,698	201,595	-211,805	404	-	1,600,892
CMTF	53,895	534	-1,455	-	-128	52,846
Restricted	-	9,500	-1,628	-	-	7,872
Endowment	22,721	450	-45	-404	-401	22,321
Total	1,687,314	212,079	-214,933	0	-529	1,683,931

Note 22 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August are represented by:

	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total
	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20
Tangible fixed					
assets	1,491,300	-	-	-	1,491,300
Current assets	111,001	52,846	7,872	22,321	194,040
Current liabilities	-1,409	<u>-</u>		<u> </u>	-1,409
Net assets	1,600,892	52,846	7,872	22,321	1, <u>683,931</u>
	General Fund (unrestricted)	CMTF Fund (unrestricted)	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total
					Total 2018/19
Tangible fixed	(unrestricted)	(unrestricted)	Fund	Fund	2018/19
Tangible fixed assets	(unrestricted)	(unrestricted)	Fund	Fund 2018/19 -	2018/19 1,491,300
<u> </u>	(unrestricted) 2018/19	(unrestricted)	Fund 2018/19	Fund	2018/19 1,491,300 200,263
assets	(unrestricted) 2018/19 1,491,300	(unrestricted) 2018/19	Fund 2018/19 -	Fund 2018/19 -	2018/19 1,491,300

Note 23 Related Parties

None of the Circuit trustees made donations direct to the Circuit during the year or in the preceding year. All of the Circuit trustees are members of one of the Churches within the Circuit and may be trustees of their Churches.

Related parties include the Methodist Conference, the BE&H District and Churches within the Circuit, CFB and TMCP. Two trustees have related party connections to 3 suppliers, Cedric Calmeyer Ltd, Anglia Heating and Maintenance Engineers Ltd and Martin & Co. The trustees declare that they have received no special benefits through these connections. Circuit payments to these suppliers were £6,017, £1,215 and £1,934 respectively. The first two companies carry out maintenance work on the properties, and the third manages the lettings of the properties at Wickfield Ash.

Note 24 Volunteer Contribution

Every entity (Connexion, District, Circuit and Church) within the Methodist Church in the UK is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the Church. In this Circuit the principal contribution is by serving on committees of the Circuit that deal with the mission, manses, finance, policy, grants and training. We are grateful to all of them for their help and commitment. No attempt has been made by this Circuit to value the non-monetary contributions to the Circuit in monetary terms.

Note 25 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There are no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31 August 2020 (2019 Nil).