**Registered Charity Number 1134878** 

# PLYMOUTH & EXETER METHODIST DISTRICT

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2022



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# **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022**

## **Objectives and activities**

#### Objectives

The objectives of the Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District are those as set out for the Methodist Church of Great Britain in the Deed of Union 1932 and the 1976 Methodist Church Act.

The aim of the Methodist Church is to proclaim and affirm its conviction of God's love in Christ, for us and for all the world, and to renew confidence in God's presence and action in the world and in the church.

The charitable objects of the Plymouth & Exeter District are the purposes of the Methodist Church and these are 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.

#### Activities

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission. We do this through:

Worship: to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love

Learning and Caring: to help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care

Service: to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice

Evangelism: to make more followers of Jesus Christ

#### The Charities Act 2011 and 'public benefit'

The Trustees of the Plymouth & Exeter District [in the meetings of the District Policy Committee] give attention to their responsibility to demonstrate 'public benefit', as defined by the Charities Act 2011. In undertaking this work, they follow the Commission's guidance, which sets out two key principles:

- the organisation must have an identifiable benefit.
- the benefit must be to the public or a section of the public.

The Trustees' particular contribution to the working out of the calling of the Methodist Church is to support and enable the churches and Circuits of the District to call, nurture, challenge and equip disciples to carry forward the work. This is achieved by supporting churches and Circuits across the District to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love;
- help people to learn and grow as Christians, through mutual support and care;
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice.

We consider that, for these reasons, the Plymouth & Exeter District meets the public benefit requirements.

In detail, the District contributes to the life of the churches and Circuits by:

#### Worship

- ✓ maintaining oversight of the number and distribution of places of worship in the District
- working with other Christian denominations in strategic plans for nurturing a Christian presence for worship and service across our region
- ✓ the work of the District Chair and Lay Stationing Representative, recruiting and placing ministers to the ministerial vacancies in the District
- working together with the Methodist Regional Learning Network to provide opportunities for those leading worship to develop their skills
- encouraging the development of patterns of worship which meet need, e.g. 'Messy Church' and worship which is accessible to those with particular needs

#### **Learning and Caring**

- ✓ working with the Regional Learning Network and others, we encourage and facilitate learning for people in many diverse church roles, both paid and voluntary, both supporting and holding them to account for the work undertaken
- ✓ providing opportunities for reflection, the learning and development of ordained ministers and overseeing the development of those exploring a call to ministry
- ✓ building our partnership with the Cuttack Diocese of the Church of North India to promote better understanding of, and co-operation within, the world-wide church community
- ✓ keeping people safe by ensuring that the Safeguarding training developed by the Methodist Church is rolled out and built upon in every church and providing professional support and expertise on Safeguarding matters
- promoting throughout the District national guidance on Health and Safety legislation, Employment Law and Data Protection.
- Continuing our relationship with a Human Resources company to provide human resource advice at a local level to supplement national advice.

#### Service

- contributing to the understanding and practice of ministry, with particular concern for rural areas
- encouraging community engagement, e.g. Christians against Poverty; involvement in Street and School Pastors and Foodbanks. We also commit to measures to combat climate change.
- promoting good stewardship and wider use of buildings, people, funds and other available resources
- helping to fund local community outreach initiatives
- supporting and encouraging awareness of the work of Action for Children, Methodist Homes, All We Can and other social action initiatives.
- Challenging injustice through involvement in national and international initiatives of the Methodist Church

#### Evangelism

- ✓ being a Christian presence alongside agricultural communities in our area through the work of our full time Agricultural Support Worker.
- ✓ providing continuing support to the *Transforming Conversation (formerly Christian Communities in Conversation) Project* which seeks to equip congregations to share their faith more readily and effectively in their everyday lives. This includes the funding of two new paid posts for the project.
- encouraging participation in the new national Growth and Evangelism initiative 'New Places for New People'.
- ✓ providing Seed Corn Grants for Circuits and Churches to respond innovatively to the challenges of coping with the aftermath of the Covid 19 pandemic

#### Achievements and performance

#### Achievements

During the Connexional year 2021-2022 our achievement of our objectives have still been hampered to a certain extent by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### In Worship

We have achieved our objectives in the following ways:

- continuing to encourage the development of 'online' opportunities for worship, for example 'Zoom' and YouTube services.
- reviewing the circumstances and opportunities where churches are threatened with closure to ensure best use of the resources available.
- ✓ we have responded to requests for help in reviewing and developing how individual congregations serve their local communities through worship and action.
- receiving reports from Ecumenical Officers and identifying local priorities and monitoring local ecumenical projects.

✓ where church buildings, either through very high maintenance costs or through a need for substantial investment costs cannot be sustained, encouraging and supporting worship in other public buildings or as house groups.

#### In Learning and Caring

- working in partnership with the Regional Learning Network to deliver a range of training opportunities for ministers, lay staff and office holders.
- ensuring the Ministerial Development Review arrangements are working well and providing an annual Ministerial Retreat.
- ✓ maintaining effective Supervision arrangements for Ministerial staff.
- ✓ supporting probationer Ministers in their initial appointments and reflecting with them on their development.
- ✓ aligning the work of the District Safeguarding Officer and District Safeguarding Group with developments led by the Connexional [national] Safeguarding Team.
- ✓ providing advice and guidance to those church communities faced with issues arising from Safeguarding.
- ✓ working together with the Cornwall District to identify areas of co-operation and benefit.
- ✓ work to implement the response to the General Data Protection Regulations, as led nationally by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes.

#### **In Service**

Some of the District's service to the community was constrained by the effects of the covid pandemic but there is plenty of evidence across the District of continuing and innovative services to communities eg. support to Foodbanks and Food Hubs has increased. We have achieved our objectives in the following ways:

- through the District Grants Committee, making grants to enable:
  - the appointment of youth workers, children and family workers, an outreach worker, a university chaplain, a rural support worker and a Methodist Deacon
  - o property refurbishment
  - o the growth and development of the Christian Communities in Conversation Project
- ✓ joining with other denominations in the planning and growing of new Christian communities in major housing developments.
- ✓ growing our engagement with the Cuttack Diocese of the Church of North India as part of our investment in the world-wide Church.
- supporting the appointment of a growing number of lay employee posts within Circuits to support work with children and families; young people and pastoral ministry.
- ✓ working to improve communication across the District by a developing an improved website and better use of social media.

### **In Evangelism**

- ✓ responding to local requests to take stock of local churches activities and effectiveness
- ✓ growing the potential of the Messy Church network to support parents and children and where possible moving activity online.

- ✓ working together with the Connexional Evangelism and Growth Team
- ✓ developing the Christian Communities in Conversation Project giving particular attention to the online training and development of facilitators.
- ✓ starting to develop the Evangelism and Growth New Places for New People initiative

#### Performance

The District has supported substantial work in Churches and Circuits to respond to the constraints and opportunities offered by the impact of the COVID pandemic. At the year end it is difficult to gauge the impact of lockdown and other regulation but the District Executive Group maintain regular monitoring of the situation.

During the year we took steps to encourage and strengthen leadership, both at the District level and in Circuit Leadership Teams. The findings of the District Review commissioned by the Connexional Team continued to be used in discussions with other SW Districts. This was reinforced by the 2020 Conference decision to review the functions and boundaries of Districts and the District is now playing a full part in regional discussions with four other districts in the south west region.

Improvements to the District web site and use of Facebook has been maintained and proved particularly helpful in the circumstances of 2021-22.

In these ways the District Policy Committee seeks to demonstrate its accountability as a body of Trustees, on behalf of the District Synod.

#### **Financial Review**

The Trustees are pleased to report that during the year to 31st August 2022 the District received incoming resources totalling £415,701 (2021: £359,110). The financial support received from Connexional Funds were used to fund grants and expenditure of £315,030 (2021: £205,796).

More than half of the District funding has come from Circuit Model Trust Funds and the Connexional Advance and Property Fund. These amounts are received annually into our District Advance Fund. Although this is an unrestricted fund, the Plymouth & Exeter District has currently chosen to hold these funds solely for the purpose of making grants to projects to further the aims of the Methodist Church and not to use them for District administration and other more general purposes. This year we made grants from this fund totalling £31,000 (2021: £39.500) to churches and Circuits. A further £202,000 (2021: £173,000) has been granted to District projects.

Funding from Circuits has remained flat this year (2021 +0.4%). We continue to work towards the future, looking to ensure the District is adequately resourced but to also keep in mind the need for the contributions from Circuits to be affordable. In the year to 31st August 2022 the General Fund accumulated a surplus of £738. In view of the impact of COVID-19 on Circuit finances, it is intended to use District Funds to alleviate hardship, wherever possible. The anticipated reduction in Connexional Assessment, together with the consequential reduction in Circuit assessments did not materialise and the District is adjusting to the new circumstances by controlling costs where ever possible but also being mindful of our obligation to reward our valued employees appropriately. The Trustees continue to keep the finances of the District and related policies under review.

#### **Investment Policy**

To comply with Methodist Standing Orders, monies for long term investment are lodged with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP). TMCP acts as Custodian Trustee for all real estate held by Districts; all large (over £20k) bequests and for the proceeds of sale of any property formerly owned within the District. These sums are invested in unitised investments or held on deposit. The investment returns are close to tracking the movements in the FTSE100 index. The deposit income mirrors the deposit rates available elsewhere.

The Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District Trustees' investment policy is aligned with that of the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (CFB) and TMCP because these organisations take into consideration the social, environmental and ethical considerations (both negatively and positively) that make investments suitable for the Methodist Church. Short term deposits are lodged directly with the CFB and attract good rates of interest. There are no benchmarks for the expected returns or appreciation on investments at TMCP and CFB.

It is the District's policy to manage the cash and investment resources of the District so that a rate of return on investment - both by way of dividend and capital appreciation - is obtained at least as good as market rate, considering the District's low appetite for risk and its ethical preferences.

#### **Reserves Policy**

The Reserves of a charity are defined as that part of a charity's unrestricted funds that are freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes. This definition excludes Restricted Funds, although holding such funds may influence a charity's Reserves Policy. Reserves will also normally exclude tangible fixed assets such as land, buildings and other assets held for the charity's use. It also excludes amounts designated for essential future spending.

Our General Fund reserves are as follows:	<u>2021/22</u> £
Total General Fund value	716,792
Less Funds not freely available	
Land and Buildings held for District use	575,000
Freely available General Fund Reserves	141,792
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Our agreed General Fund Reserves Policy is to ensure that we maintain a reserve equal to six months anticipated average expenditure, including Manse maintenance and repair costs. The Trustees consider this the minimum level of Reserves needed to maintain the ongoing financial stability of the District. Based on our expenditure in 2021/22, this requires a reserve of £72,934.

The current General Fund Reserves exceed this amount by £68,858. This will be used in the coming years to alleviate increases in Circuit Assessments and further fund District projects.

Unrestricted funds are also held in the District Advance Fund. These designated funds are currently used to make grants in support of personnel and property projects of our churches, Circuits and the District. Where a grant has been approved, the full amount made available is treated as a liability of the District until it is paid. There is no requirement to hold Reserves in this fund. Where there is an amount unallocated at the end of any year, this is carried forward to the next year.

#### Structure, Governance and Management

The District is an unincorporated association and is governed by the Methodist Church Act 1976, the Deed of Union and the Model Trust Deeds of the Methodist Church and was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 12th March 2010.

#### Structure

Circuits are the coordinating charities for local groups of churches; Circuits pay the stipends of the ministers and employ lay staff to serve the churches in the Circuit; most decisions are made at - or ratified by - the half yearly Circuit Meeting. A District is the coordinating charity for a group of contiguous Circuits and makes its decisions at the half yearly Synods. The Methodist Conference meets once each year as the supreme denominational body for all Methodist churches.

1. Overall regulatory authority rests with the Methodist Conference.

2. The Connexional Team implements decisions made by the Conference and is also responsible for the oversight of the stationing of presbyters and deacons (collectively known as 'ministers') in individual Circuits within the District.

3. Connexional decisions are passed to the Chair of the District and the appropriate Officers of the District, for implementation.

4. The District passes control to Circuits for local implementation by the Superintendent Minister, ministerial staff and Circuit Stewards. Authority is delegated to the Circuit Meeting for certain matters.

5. The Circuit Meeting passes regulatory control to Church Councils for local implementation by the presbyter, Church Stewards and other Officers. This regulatory authority is then exercised by Church Councils as Managing Trustees of their charity.

#### **Purpose of the District**

The District is an expression, over a wider geographical area than any Circuit, of the Connexional character of the Methodist Church.

The purposes of the Methodist Church are and shall be deemed to have been, since the date of the union, the advancement of:

a. the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and the discipline of the Methodist Church, and

b. any charitable purposes for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local church or other organisation of the Methodist Church, and

c. any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or Institution subsidiary or ancillary to the Methodist Church, and

d. any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary of the Methodist Church.

The primary purpose of this District is to advance the mission of the Church in the Plymouth & Exeter District by:

i. providing opportunities for Circuits to work together and support each other

ii. offering to Circuits resources of finance, personnel and expertise.

The District serves the local churches and Circuits and the Conference in the support, deployment and oversight of the various ministries of the Church and in programmes of training.

#### Governance

The District operates within a statutory framework of regulation and seeks to ensure that it follows Methodist Standing Orders. It relies on the Connexional Team at Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR to provide guidance on changes that could affect the District.

The members of the District Policy Committee (DPC) are annually appointed by a vote of the Synod for a continuous term not normally exceeding six years. The Chair of District is *ex officio* chair of the DPC. When a position becomes vacant on the DPC, nominations are invited from ministers and lay members of Circuits within the District. The Chair of the District then shares information with nominees as to what the role involves. If a person wishes to be considered for a role, their name and a reasoned statement are considered by the DPC and the District Synod for appointment.

The District Policy Committee normally meets three times per year and deals with routine and exceptional matters. It oversees the work of:

- The District Executive
- The District Treasurer
- The District Safeguarding Group
- The District Property Committee
- The District Grants Committee
- Manses Committee
- Chair's Manse Committee
- The Ecumenical Officers
- CCiC/Transforming Conversations Project Management Committee
- The Rural Support Worker's Management Committee
- The Regional Candidates' Committee
- The District Probationers' Committee
- Local Preachers
- The World Church Committee
- Rural Issues
- The Lay Employment Committee
- Methodist Women in Britain
- Joint working with the Regional Learning Network

#### The responsibilities of the District Policy Committee

i. to formulate and promote policies which will advance the mission of the Methodist Church in the Circuits and local churches and, in particular, to oversee the use of resources of personnel, property and finance and to assist churches and Circuits who may be experiencing exceptional problems

ii. to encourage inter-Circuit and ecumenical co-operation

ili. to act in an executive capacity in matters remitted by the Synod

iv. to keep within its purview all District concerns not dealt with elsewhere

v. to contribute and respond, as the case may be, to the development of Connexional policies as reflected in the work of the Conference and the Methodist Council, and to carry out its other responsibilities with any such development in mind

vi. constantly to be aware of the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission

#### **Recruitment and Training of Trustees**

New Trustees are appointed from within the membership (ordained and lay) of the Methodist churches and Circuits of the District. In making each appointment, care is taken to ensure the new Trustee has the skills and experience needed to fulfil the responsibilities of their role and safer recruitment procedures are followed. Appointments are made by the District Synod following nomination by the District Policy Committee, after a recruitment process has taken place.

During the year, 2020-2021, the District appointed Revd Dr Daniel Haylett to be the District Chair from September 2022. This was approved by the Methodist Conference in June 2021. During the year 2021-2022 he shadowed the then Chair of District Revd Graham Thompson.

Please see the Trustees list below.

## **Reference and Administrative Details**

The name of the Charity	Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District
Charity registration number	1134878
Principal Office	The District Office, The Mint Methodist Church, Fore Street, Exeter EX4 3AT
Chair of the District	Revd Dr Daniel Haylett
Secretary of the Synod	Ms. Jane Allin
Secretary of the Presbyteral Synod	Revd Paul Smith
District Treasurer	Mrs. Marianne Barrett Rogers

#### Names of Trustees:

The Trustees who served during the period and to the date of this report are:

E Jane Allin Marianne P Barrett Rogers Paul Booth Susan M Bolt David A Clitheroe - resigned 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 Margaret J Fogarty Daniel Haylett - appointed 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 Kevin P Hooke Sharon A Hurlow - appointed 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 Stuart A Innalis Simon H Leigh Mary L McNaughton Roy G Mitchell Michael Parsons - resigned 31st August 2022 Graham Thompson - resigned 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022 Andrew T Vidamour

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The Managing Trustees for the District are the members of the District Policy Committee. No Trustee claims exemption from disclosure of his or her name here.

#### Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd. 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

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

# Independent Examiner

Mr. D. Cresswell ACA Thomas Westcott Chartered Accountants, 47 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 1SQ

### Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on the date below and is signed on their behalf by:

**Revd Dr Daniel Haylett** District Chair

Date: N June 2023

Mrs Marianne Barrett Rogers District Treasurer

# Declarations

I confirm that these accruals-based accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 have been prepared from the records of the District and that they include all funds under the control of the District Policy Committee.

Signature of Treasurer

Name of Treasurer Address Mrs Marianne Barrett Rogers Lower Buckland Lodge, Poundsgate, Newton Abbot TQ13 7NU

Date: // June 2023

# **Presentation to the District Policy Committee**

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2022 were presented to the District Policy Committee on 25th February 2023.

Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair

**Revd Dr Daniel Haylett** 

Date: 11 June 2023

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District

The District's trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 August 2022 present a true and fair view of the District's income and expenditure for the year and of its assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The trustees consider that an audit is not necessary for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011
- ✓ follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.
- ✓ state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of Independent Examiner's Report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items, in nature or scale, or disclosures in the accounts, seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

Since the Charities gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011 have not been met,
- (2) or that the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities,
- (3) or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### **Plymouth Exeter Methodist District** Registered Charity Number: 1134878

(4) I 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.

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.

#### Signature of independent examiner

Name of independent examiner Relevant professional qualification: Name of firm Address

Westrotts (SL) LLP

David Cresswell FCA Chartered Accountant Westcotts (SW) LLP 47 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 5SQ

Date

26/6/23

# Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) For the year ended 31st August 2022

		General Fund (Unrestricted)	District Advance Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds (Restricted)	Total 2021/22	Totai 2020/21
	Notes						
		£	£	£	E	É	£
Income from:							
Donations and legacles		4,348	-	800	22,463	27,611	56,585
Charitable activities							
Investments		1,246	2,049	-1	120	3,415	1,774
Olher							
Assessments on Circuits	4	95,237	-		-	95,237	95,228
From Circuit Model Trust Funds			243,664		•	243,664	160,973
Contribution to the cost of the Chair	5	42,740				42,740	42,152
Contributions to other staff costs		12	-			÷.,	
Grants from Connextonal Funds		-		1.00		-	
Other income	6	3,034				3,034	2,400
Total		146,605	245,713	800	22,583	415,701	359,110
	10						
Contraction of the second se						*	
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	7	4,535	31,000	19,250	5,927	60,712	5,128
Salaries and associated costs	8	90,815		60,872	28,165	179,852	155,240
Property		5,875		14,638	.•	20,513	10,761
Office expenses		5,556	14	1.	188	5,744	4,998
Synods, meetings and Conference		6,468	17			6,468	5,229
Other outgoings			-				
Travel expenses		4,762	•	Ū.	5,588	10,350	9,508
Depreciation		-			1.7		-
Ecumenical contributions		4,056			. •.	4,056	3,656
Training and Supervision		38	*		(i <b>-</b> )	-	ũ
Professional and Administration fees		7,186	659	2,640	9,293	19,977	10,078
Other costs	-	6,865	-	10	495	7,360	1,198
Total Expenditure	÷	136,118	31,869	97,400	49,654	315,030	205,796
Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments		10,488	213,854	(96,600)	(27,071)	100,671	153,314
Gains/(Losses) on investment assets					(1,664)	(1,664)	(215)
Net Income (expenditure)		10,488	213,854	(96,600)	(28,735)	99,007	153,099
Transfers between funds	10	(9,750)	(202,000)	186,750	25,000		
Other Gains or losses						(*	
Net movement in funds		738	11,854	90,150	(3,735)	99,007	153,099
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		740 054	40.070	005 101	10		
Total funds carried forward	2	716,054	13,375	263,421	133,692	1,126,543	973,444
Total funds carned forward		716,792	26,229	353,571	129,957	1,225,550	1,126,543

# Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District

# BALANCE SHEET

# AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	General Fund Unrestricted £	District Advance Fund Unrestricted £	Designated Funds Unrestricted	Restricted Funds Restricted £	TOTAL 2021/22 £	TOTAL 2020/21 £
Tangible Fixed Assets	11						
Manse		575,000				676,000	575,000
Investments	12				15,016	15,016	16,676
Total Fixed Assets		575,000		-	15,016	590,016	591,676
Current Assets							
Debtors and Prepayments	13	0	(#)	5 <b>4</b> 1		0	4,358
Central Finance Board and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Deposits		57,756	88,229	353,571	114,941	614,497	601,063
Cash at Bank and in hand	_	107,971				107,971	14,026
Total Current Assets		185,727	88,229	353,571	114,941	722,468	619,447
Current Liabilities Creditors and Accruats (due in under 1 year)	14	23,935	37,000			60,935	50,581
Net Current Assets		141,792	51,229	353,571	114,941	661,633	568,866
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		716,792	51,229	353,571	129,957	1,261,550	1,160,542
Long term Liabilities							
Grants payable	14		26,000			26,000	34,000
Net Assets		716,792	25,229	353,671	129,967	1,225,550	1,128,542
Funds of the District							
General Fund		716,792		370	•	716,792	716,055
District Advance Fund			25,229	3 <b>7</b> 5		25,229	13,375
Designated Funds	15			353,571	<i>(</i> *)	353,571	263,421
Total unrestricted funds		716,792	25,229	353,571	197	1,095,592	992,851
Restricted Funds	15	16.			129,957	129,957	133,692
Endowment Funds			-	×			(*)
Total Funds	1	716,792	25,229	353,571	129,957	1,225,560	1,128,543

# Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### 1 Accounting framework and accounting policies

#### I Accounting framework

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) (2019) and in accordance with the 'true and fair override' provision contained therein.

#### il Public benefit entity

The Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) below.

#### iii Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at their market value at the end of the year, on the accruals basis to show a true and fair view of the District's financial position and activities.

#### iv Content

The financial information presented is relevant, reliable, comparable and complete. Where estimates are used these are based on experience, research and judgement. The accounts are expressed in £Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

#### v Going concern

Based on the monetary assets and human resources available at 31 August 2022, the trustees believe that the District is a going concern. Despite the COVID pandemic the Circuits have managed to meet the allocated assessments and early indications suggest that the same will be true in the coming year.

#### vi Consolidation

The District oversees the work of ministers and lay workers in Churches and Circuits within the District but does not have control over those Circuits or Churches, ministers or lay workers except in extreme circumstances, none of which were applicable. For this reason, the financial statements of the Churches and Circuits within the District are not consolidated into these financial statements.

#### vii Income recognition

Income is brought into account when it is more likely than not that the economic benefit of the income will accrue to the Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District. No attempt is made to measure the value of services donated by volunteers. Details of how the contribution to the cost of the District Chair has been determined appears in Note 5. A similar figure appears in the Expenditure at Note 8.

Individual amounts categorised as Other income in the SOFA will be shown separately if they are considered material.

The District acts as agent in four matters:

- 1. the collection of quarterly assessments from circuits which are paid to the Methodist Church Fund
- 2. the payment of expenses of delegates from the District to the Methodist Conference
- 3. the collection taken at the spring synod on behalf of the Methodist Minsters' Children's Relief Fund
- 4. the cost of ministerial health checks recovered from Circuits

In all these matters the transactions are not reflected in the SOFA because there is no obligation on the District to make up any shortfall in assessments from Circuits. Sums received as Circuit assessments cannot be recognised as income in the District as they are the income of the MCF.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) (2019), the time of volunteers is not recognised.

#### viii 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 District to pay out resources.

#### ix Grants

Grants are recognised in full when the award is made once the District accepts that there is a legal or constructive obligation to make the payment and that such payment is probable.

Where it becomes clear that a payment is possible, not probable, then a liability for the commitment is not recognised and the funding commitment is disclosed as a contingent liability.

#### x VAT

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

#### xi Tangible fixed assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost at least £1,000. The freehold property is shown in the accounts at 2015 deemed value, of which the land component is deemed to be £275,000. No depreciation is provided on the building because the trustees consider the current residual fair value of the manse buildings (on the assumption that It had reached the end of its useful economic life by the year-end) to be not less than its current value. Any depreciation would not be material. The property has been reviewed for impairment.

#### xii Investments

The investments of the Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District are held by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) as custodian trustees. The valuations, at market value, are those provided by TMCP. The unrealised gains arising on investments at the end of the year are shown in the SOFA and in Note 12. below.

#### xiii Debtors and creditors; bank and cash

Debtors are stated at the amounts owed to the District or prepaid. Creditors are initially recognised at settlement amount after any trade discounts, where normal credit terms apply, or amount advanced to the District. Subsequently creditors that are current liabilities are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid. The liquid funds of bank balances and deposit account balances are shown at the realisable values.

#### xiv Loans

Where concessionary loans (*i.e.*, free of interest) are made to (or received by) the District to further its charitable purposes, and are repayable after more than one year, they are initially recognised at the amount paid (or received), with the carrying value adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest, adjusted for any impairment, if necessary.

#### xv Methodist Church Fund

The District acts as agent for the Methodist Church Fund (MCF) by collecting its assessments on Circuits and does not, therefore, include the assessments in the SOFA. If a Circuit Is late in paying its MCF assessment to the District but such sum is received before the quarterly transfer to the MCF, the amount paid late will be shown as a debtor in the District's accounts.

#### xvii Ministers' manse costs

The District is required to provide accommodation for our ministerial Chair and his / her family. The District bears the cost of repairs, maintenance, building insurance, Council Tax and water charges. These costs are not shown separately as benefits-in-kind for Ministers as HMRC does not seek to tax these receipts in the hands of the Ministers.

# 2 Comparative Figures

The financial statements on pages 16-17 only show the total comparative figures for 2021. To enable better understanding of the District's financial reporting the Statement of Financial Activity and Balance sheet for 2021 have been reproduced, in full below.

#### Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) For the year ended 31st August 2021

		General Fund (Unrestricted)	District Advance Fund (Unrestricted)	Designated Funds (Unrestricted)	Restricted Funds (Restricted)	Tolei ZOZD/21	Total 2019/20
	Notes						
		E	E	£	R	£	2
Income from:							
Donations and legacies		274	×	250	56,061	50,585	15,847
Charitable activities							
Investments		359	1,290		125	1,774	9,096
Other							
Assessments on Circults	4	95,226	0 <b>8</b> 1	-	-	95,226	94,838
From Circuit Model Trust Funds			160,973			160,973	155,126
Contribution to line cost of the Chair	5	42,152	() <b>+</b> :		-	42,152	41,161
Contributions to other staff costs					-	-	
Grants from Connexional Funds				-		•;	
Other income	6	2,400			la se de la seconda	2,400	26,568
Total		140,411	162,263	250	66,186	369,110	342,656
					- good state		
Expenditure							
Grants and donations	7		(13,500)	12,000	6,628	5,128	124,110
Selaries and associated costs	8	91,632		35,840	27,768	155,240	150,408
Property		5,207		6,554	-	10,761	10,138
Office expenses		4,221	12	545	232	4,998	5,724
Synods, meetings and Conference		512	-	105	4,612	5,229	4,098
Other outgoings		-		64		-	
Travel expenses		2,766		186	6,576	9,508	13,503
Depreciation		-,		100	0,070		101000
Ecumenical contributions		3,656				3,656	4,056
Training and Supervision		0,000				0,000	3,108
Professional and Administration lees		4,084	638		5,356	10,078	3,793
Other costs		4,004	0.00	41	508	0000000	9,607
			-	Contraction of the local distribution of the		1,199	
Total Expenditure		112,728	(12,862)	54,251	51,660	205,797	328,743
Net Income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments		27,683	175,125	(64,001)	4,506	153,313	13,913
Gains/(Losses) on Investment assets					(215)	(215)	105
Net income (expenditure)		27,683	472 402	124 0041			
	10	-	175,125	(64,001)		163,098	14,018
Transfers between funds	10	(11,690)	(173,000)	159,750	24,940	-	
Other Gains or losses		48.000		405 5 15		-	
Net movement in funds		15,993	2,126	105,749	29,231	163,098	14,018
Personalitation of hundre							
Reconciliation of funds:		700 004	44 555		404.404	070 444	0.00 100
Total funds brought forward		700,061	11,250	157,672	104,461	973,444	959,426
Total funds carried forward		716,064	13,375	263,421	133,692	1,128,542	973,444

# Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	General Fund Unrestricted £	District Advance Fund Unrestricted £	Designated Funds Unrestricted	Restricted Funds Restricted £	TOTAL 2020/21 £	TOTAL 2019/20 2 £
Tangible Fixed Assets	11						
Manse		575,000				575,000	575,000
Investments	12	•			16,676	16,676	16,890
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		575,000			16,676	591,676	591,890
				4			
Current Assets							
Debtors and Prepayments	13	4,285	•	73		4,358	6,075
Central Finance Board and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes Deposits		125,324	95,375	263,348	117,016	601,063	557,526
Cash at Bank and in hand	-	14,026	•	<u>}_</u>		14,026	23,673
Total Current Assets	-	143,636	95,375	263,421	117,016	619,447	587,274
Current Liabilities Creditors and Accruals (due in under 1 year)	14	2,581	48,000			50,581	121,720
Net Current Assets	4	141,055	47,375	263,421	117,016	568,867	465,554
Total Assets less Current Llabilities		716,055	47,375	263,421	133,692	1,160,642	1,057,444
Long term Liabilities							
Grants payable	14	-	34,000			34,000	84,000
Net Assets		716,055	13,375	263,421	133,692	1,126,542	973,444
Funds of the District							
General Fund		716,055		-	- <del>10</del>	716,055	700,061
District Advance Fund			13,375		÷	13,375	11,250
Designated Funds	15	4		263,421		263,421	157,672
Total unrestricted funds		716,055	13,375	263,421		992,851	868,983
Restricted Funds	15	÷	2	-	133,692	133,692	104,461
Endowment Funds		-	-	-			-
Total Funds		716,056	5 13,375	263,421	133,692	1,126,542	. 973,444

### **3** Assessments on Circuits

The assessment on each Circuit is annually determined by the District. This includes the amount each Circuit in due to pay to the MCF and is calculated by reference to the number of staff in the Circuits and the number of Church members but may also take into account a Circuit's ability to pay.

The District is made up of the following Circuits:

Circuit Name	Circuit No	Circuit Name	Circuit No
Plymouth and Devonport	24/01	Tiverton and Wellington	24/16
Plymouth Methodist Mission	24/02	South Petherton and Crewkerne	24/18
Exeter, Coast and Country	24/03	Ilfracombe and Barnstaple	24/20
Tavistock	24/07	South Molton and Ringsash	24/22
Torbay	24/08	Torridge	24/23
South Devon	24/10	West Devon	24/24
Bude and Holsworthy	24/11	West Somerset	24/25
Taunton Deane and		Ringsash	24/27
South Sedgemoor	24/15	Teignbridge	24/28

# 4 Contribution to Methodist Church Fund (MCF)

In addition to the assessments on the Circuits to fund the costs of running the District, the District acted as agent for the Methodist Church Fund which levied assessments on the Circuits in this District totalling £470,271 (2020/21: £486,905) all of which were collected or shown as debtors at the end of the year and paid over to the MCF in the year. No balance was held at the end of the year; no fee is received for this service which is performed at nearly nil cost to the District. These sums collected for and remitted to the MCF do not appear elsewhere in these financial statements.

### 5 Cost of Chair and Trustees

The Chair of District chairs meetings of the District Policy Committee (DPC). The members of the DPC are the trustees of the District. The stipend, employer's NIC and employer's pension contributions of the Chair of District are paid by the Methodist Connexion. The Chair's other costs are met by the District.

	2021/22	2020/21
	£	£
Stipend to Chair	32451	32074
Employer's National Insurance Contribution	3342	3050
Apprenticeship levy	163	162
Employer's pension contribution (defined benefit scheme)	6947	6866
Cash cost paid by the Connexion (see, SOFA, line 7)	-42740	-42152
Notional estimate of cost of providing Manse	21,000	21000
Chair's expenses	9177	7484
Total cost	30340	28484

Since the stipend-related costs above of £42,740 (2020/21 £42,152) are borne by the Connexion, they appear both in the Income of the District and the Expenditure of the District (See Note 8). The Chair of District is the sole paid key management person but is supported by members of the DPC.

It should be noted that the chair is required to occupy the District manse. The manse is provided by the Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District and the District maintains the property. The sum of £21,000 was determined by enquiry of a local property surveyor in 2017/18. The trustees to not consider that this has changed materially since 2017/8 and so remains unchanged this year. This figure does not appear elsewhere in these accounts.

No accrual is made for the Chair's entitlement to a sabbatical as his / her functions are undertaken jointly by the Deputy Chairs at minimal extra cost to the District.

### **Payment to Trustees**

It is District policy to offer to reimburse members of the District Policy Committee (DPC) and others involved in the administration of District affairs for expenditure properly incurred in carrying out their duties.

The Chair of the District undertakes the primary executive role within the District. Apart from the Chair, no-one on the DPC was in receipt of any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the District, although certain travelling and administration costs were reimbursed whenever this was requested.

Most trustees are not employees of the District. Expenses have been reimbursed to 1 (1 in 2020/21) volunteer trustee(s) (members of the DPC) who, in aggregate, have received the following:

	2021/22	2020/21
Travel on District business	589	142
Administration and other re-imbursed expenses	972	235
	1561	377
The following expenses were paid to the District Chairman, and 2 othe	r trustees who were also District e	employees:

Travel and hospitality on District business		1287	949
Administration and other re-imbursed costs		8153	6535
		9440	7484
Total expenses paid to trustees	and the second se	11001	7861
Total number of trustees paid expenses		4	2

#### 6 Other income

The District does not currently undertake any fundraising. The "Other Income" shown on the SOFA relates to the use of part of the district office by another local charity.

# 7 Grants, donations and related Support costs

Grants and donations totalling £60,712were made during the year (2020/21: £5,128) as shown in the table below.

		2021/22	2020/21
Unrestricted:			
- From DMTF	To Church projects	4535	0
	To Circuit projects	38250	39500
	Returned unused from projects	0	-53000
	To Circuits for projects with other partners	12000	12000
Sub total	the set of the set of the second set of the	54785	-1500
Restricted:			
- From Cuttack Appeal Fund	To Church of North India	5177	6178
- From Emergency Fund 1	To individuals	750	450
Sub total	the second second second	5927	6628
Total		60712	5128

In addition, funds were made available from the DAF to support District projects and funds as follows:

Total	165000	125000
- Transforming conversations	90000	0
- New Places for New People	50000	50000
- Rural chaplaincy project	25000	25000
- Seed Com Project	0	20000
<ul> <li>District Evangelism Enabler</li> </ul>	0	30000
Unrestricted		

The Rural Chaptaincy project is under the oversight of the DPC and has been consolidated into these accounts. The Grants Committee is aware that Grant applications must demonstrate public benefit.

The support costs for grant-making to third parties are not significant and so are not separately disclosed.

#### 8 Salaries and associated costs

The salaries and associated costs paid to our chair, two other full time and three part time employees over he last two years were as follows:

	2021/22	2020/21
Gross pay	121519	98544
Employer's pension contribution to defined contribution scheme	6113	5913
Employer's National Insurance contribution	8991	8138
Apprenticeship levy	489	493
	137112	113088
Cost of Chair (see Note 4)	42740	42152
Total staff costs	179852	155240

Registered Charity Number 1134878

#### Average weekly contractual hours of Staff members

Most ordained ministers are members of the Methodist Ministers Pension Scheme (MMPS) which is a defined benefit scheme. The Supreme Court held in 2014 that Methodist ministers are not employees of the church. However, for simplicity, when dealing with National Insurance Contributions and pension contributions the terms "employer" and employee are used as they would be if the church were an employing body.

The Connexion accounts for the MMPS pension scheme and shows these figures in their annual financial statements. This scheme is currently in deficit but a plan to correct this is in place and is being implemented. Details of the scheme can be found in the Consolidated Annual Report and Accounts of the Methodist Church of Great Britain.

Other District employees have the option to join our lay employee scheme administered through the Pensions Trust. This is a defined contribution scheme to which both the employee and District contribute.

# 9 Fees for independent Examination of the accounts

750 .	750
750	750

## 10 Transfer between funds

The following transfers were made to /( from) the District Designated Funds during the year to 31 August 2022:

				9750
50000	90000	50000	12000	202000
50000	90000	50000	12000	211750
	50000	50000 90000	00000 00000	50000 90000 50000 12000

The equivalent amounts in the previous year to August 2021 were:

	Manse	New Places for new people	DEE	Cuttack	Cranbrook	Seed Corn	Total
From General Funds	9750			2000			11750
From / ( To) DAF		50000	30000		48000	20000	148000
Total transferred	9750	50000	30000	2000	48000	20000	159750

# **11 Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Manse	Other land & buildings	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
		7 yr SL	5 yr SL	
Cost or deemed value				
As at 1 September 2021 and 2022	575000	98064	5990	679054

165

Registered Charity Number 1134878

# Accumulated depreciation

As at 1 September 2021 and 2022		98064	5990	104054
Net Book Value brought forward				
and carried forward	575000	0	0	575000

The Manse was revalued on 31 August 2015 to fair market value and this is the deemed value included in these accounts. Prior to this the Manse was valued at £313,811 which was it's insurance value as at 31 August 2015.

The land component included within the current deemed Manse value is £275,000.

## **12 Investment Assets**

The following investments are held in the Trustees for Methodist Purposes (TMCP) CFB Managed Fixed Interest Fund and the Trustees Interest Fund. These collective investments were revalued on 31 August 2022

	Units	2021/22	2020/21
Trustees interest Fund		5501	5501
CFB Managed Fixed Interest Fund	5251	9515	11175
Total	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	15016	16676
Income earned on Investments for the year		120	125
Change in the carrying value of Investments:		2021/22	2020/2021
Carrying value brought forward		16676	16890
Additions/ disposals and income less expenditure			0
Unrealised net (loss) gain on revaluation		-1 <b>660</b>	-214
Carrying value carried forward at 31 August 2019	15016	16676	
13 Debtors and prepayments Debtors were made up as follows:		2021/22	2020/21
Assessments from Circuits		0	3314
Other debtors		0	1044
Total (net)		0	4358
14 Creditors and accrued expenses		A.,	
Amounts due in less than 12 months		2021/22	2020/21
Accrued Expenses		23935	2397
Grants payable to third parties		37000	48000
Other Creditors			184
		60935	50581

Amounts due in more than 12 months Grants payable to third parties

26000 34000

**Registered Charity Number 1134878** 

# 15 Funds in detail

	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	. Transfers & adjs	Closing Balance
Designated Funds Manse Fund		2			
Running costs, maintenance and repair of the District Manse <i>Rural Chaplaincy Fund</i>	14363	800	-14638	9750	10275
To Fund the rural chaplaincy co- ordinator project	50000	0	0	25000	75000
DEE Fund					
To fund the post of District Evangelism Enabler	77004		-63512	-13492	0
Cuttack Fund To tacilitate the Cuttack Diocese partnership Youth Fund	11000	D	0	0	11000
Ongoing support of youth work and	5054	0	-500	0	4554
Cranbrook Project To support the local ecumenical project in the new Cranbrook	36000	0	-12000	12000	36000
Seed Corn Project					
To support post Covid initiatives	20000	0	-6750	0	13250
New Places for New People					
To facilitate bringing the Gospel of Christ to as many people as possible.	50000	0	0	60000	100000
Transforming Conversations	2				
To support the work the New Places for New People project	0	0	0	103492	103492
		*		11	
Total Designated Funds	263421	800	-97400	186750	353571

## **Restricted Funds**

133692	22583	-51319	25000	129957
57554	9613	-34330	25000	57837
9303	0	0		9303
13232	0	0	0	1 <b>3</b> 232
y Vocation (ED	EV)			
16674	120	-1712	-67	15016
-				
14344	555	-3990	67	10976
40	12295	-5177	0	7158
1828	0	0	0	1828
E.				
20717	0	-6110	0	14607
	1828 40 14344 16674 13232 9303 57554	1828       0         40       12295         14344       555         16674       120         Vocation (EDEV)       13232         9303       0         57554       9613	1828       0       0         40       12295       -5177         14344       555       -3990         16674       120       -1712         Vocation (EDEV)       13232       0       0         9303       0       0         57554       9613       -34330	1828       0       0       0         40       12295       -5177       0         14344       555       -3990       67         16674       120       -1712       -67         Vocation (EDEV)       13232       0       0         9303       0       0       0         57554       9613       -34330       25000

The general fund of £679,606 includes £261,189 as a result of the uplift in the Manse valuation when the property was revalued on 31 August 2015.

ų,

# 16 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at the end of the year to 31 August 2021 . (Also none at the end of the previous year).

# 17 Connected organisations and related parties

All of the District trustees are members of both a Methodist church and Circuit within the District and may be trustees in those organisations.

Connected organisations include the Methodist Connexion, Circuits and churches within the District, other Methodist Districts within the United Kingdom, CFB, and TMCP. All of these entities have their own trustees or directors and autonomous administration such that the Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District has no significant influence over them, nor they over the Plymouth& Exeter Methodist District. They are therefore not considered related parties.

There were no related party transactions.

#### **18 Volunteer Contributions**

Every entity within the Methodist Church in the United Kingdom is heavily reliant on volunteers who contribute their skills, time and money in the furtherance of the work of the church. In the District this contribution is principally serving on committees that deal with mission, manses, finance, policy, property, grants, training, discernment and development. We are grateful to all our volunteers for their help and commitment.

### **19 Post Balance Sheet events**

The trustees of the District are aware of the effect of the COVID 19 virus. Most particularly, church attendance, having been reduced is, slowly increasing. This has had an impact on the income of churches and Circuits who financially support this charity. Currently there are no indications from Circuits that the assessments, which support the general activities of the district, will not be met in full to the end of 2022/23.

The district also holds sufficient designated funds to support their project workers for at least 12 months and sufficient reserves to fund the general expenditure for at least six months. The trustees will be keeping this under review, as will all the churches, Circuits and other entities that make up the Methodist Connexion.

